MEETING OF THE GOVERNOR AND CABINET
AS HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY
AND MOTOR VEHICLES
December 18, 2007

AGENDA

Agency Contact: Lee Ann Korst, (850) 617-3100

1. Respectfully submit the Minutes for September 19, 2007, Cabinet meeting.
   Attachment #1.
   Recommend.

2. Respectfully submit the Minutes for October 2, 2007, Cabinet meeting.
   Attachment #2.
   Recommend.

3. Respectfully submit the new state of Florida license plate, Protect Florida Springs.
   Attachment #3.
   For Information.

http://www.hsmv.state.fl.us/agenda
ATTACHMENT 1
THE CABINET
STATE OF FLORIDA

Representing:

DIVISION OF BOND FINANCE
FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION, OFFICE OF
FINANCIAL REGULATION
FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION, OFFICE OF
INSURANCE REGULATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES, INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT TRUST FUND
STATE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION

The above agencies came to be heard before
THE FLORIDA CABINET, Honorable Governor Crist
presiding, in the Cabinet Meeting Room, LL-03, The
Capitol, Tallahassee, Florida, on Wednesday, September
19, 2007, commencing at 9:00 a.m.

Reported by:
JO LANGSTON
Registered Professional Reporter
Notary Public

ACCURATE STENO TYPE REPORTERS, INC.
2894 REMINGTON GREEN LANE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32308
(850) 878-2221
APPEARANCES:

Representing the Florida Cabinet:

CHARLIE CRIST
Governor

CHARLES H. BRONSON
Commissioner of Agriculture

BILL McCOLLUM
Attorney General

ALEX SINK
Chief Financial Officer

* * *
### DIVISION OF BOND FINANCE
(Presented by BEN WATKINS)

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DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES
(Presented by DAVID WESTBERRY)

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES, INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT TRUST FUND
(Presented by MICHAEL SOLE)

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STATE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION
(Presented by COLEMAN STIPANOVICh)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

|     |     | 116 |
GOVERNOR CRIST: Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.

MR. WESTBERRY: Good morning, Governor, Cabinet members.

GOVERNOR CRIST: How are you? We’ve got some license plates today.

MR. WESTBERRY: We do. We do. It is my privilege to kind of pinch hit for our executive director this morning, who is unable to be with us. But we do have one item of information for you, as we bring you three of the newest specialty license plates that were passed by our Legislature this past spring.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Yes, sir.

MR. WESTBERRY: We have the Corrections Foundation, the NASCAR plate and the Support Our Troops plate. These are three of the five plates that were approved by the Legislature this spring, and each of these plates have met all of the necessary statutory requirements that are necessary for us to go ahead and put them into production.

So, Governor, with the Cabinet’s acceptance of these, we’ll go ahead and introduce a few guests that we have with us today.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Sure. Why don’t we take care of the motion. Is there a motion to approve these plates?
COMMISSIONER BRONSON: Motion on Item 1.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Is there a second?

CFO SINK: Second.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Moved and seconded. Show it approved without objection.

MR. WESTBERRY: Great. Thank you, sir. First and foremost I think it would be incumbent upon me to recognize Representative Alan Hays, who is with us today, the sponsor of the House version of the bill that was passed that includes all of these plates in here. And we do want to thank him for the work that he has done in bringing all these to fruition.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Thank you, Representative, very much. Appreciate you being here, sir.

MR. WESTBERRY: First with us today we have, on behalf of the Corrections Foundation, the president of that foundation, Mr. Louie Wainwright.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Secretary, how are you this morning?

MR. WAINWRIGHT: Fine, sir.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Good to see you again, Louie.

MR. WAINWRIGHT: Governor, members of the Cabinet, I'm honored to stand before you this morning as president of the Corrections Foundation. As you know, the Corrections Department has 27,000 employees. And
the Corrections Foundation was established in 1996, under the organization, under the administration of Secretary Harry Singletary, and we celebrated our tenth year just a few months ago.

We are organized, the foundation was established in 1996 as a nonprofit, direct support organization of the Department of Corrections, pursuant to Chapter 944.804 Florida Statutes. And we are governed by a board of 11 members at this time, appointed by the secretary, and the secretary also appoints the president of the foundation.

The board is very diligent. We have sole support from the board. One of the board members is here, Mr. Woody. The secretary is here, who gives us strong support. The deputy secretary is here, who also gives us strong support. And we have had excellent cooperation and support from the Department of Highway Safety.

And we are pleased that we have been able to assist DC employees in their cases of disaster, house burnings, deaths, injury on duty and so forth. And the Attorney General mentioned the hazardous duty of the Highway Patrol and the sheriffs' offices and the police departments.

I remind you that the corrections staff,
particularly those at the institutions, are dealing
with felons 24 hours a day. And they also perform
great assistance during emergencies, hurricanes. They
sometimes have to move inmates from one institution to
another.

In addition to that, they go into the community
and help rebuild and clean up the communities, and they
never get credit for it. The Highway Patrol, police,
sheriffs and medical techs and so forth get the credit,
but they forget about the Highway Patrol (sic).

And we are very pleased that we have had the tag
established by the Legislature. And we think that it
will be helpful in our fund-raising efforts of the
foundation for the coming years.

Since the foundation has been organized, we've
spent $2 million for 1,900 DC employees and staff
members who have been -- had disasters in the family,
house burnings, killed on duty or otherwise. And we
greatly appreciate your support. We hope you will
approve the tag.

And we think it will serve a two-fold purpose.
Number one, it will help us fund the program. And,
number two, hopefully it will help the press and the
Legislature and others recognize the corrections
personnel when they're recognizing other parts of the
criminal justice system, and I hope that it will accomplish that.

GOVERNOR CRIST: I'm sure it will. Thank you, Secretary.

MR. WESTBERRY: Thank you, Mr. Wainwright, appreciate that. Governor, with your permission also, next from the folks from NASCAR, we have their president, Mr. Mike Helton.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Good to see you, Mike. Love that plate.

CFO SINK: Yeah, it's great.

MR. HELTON: Thank you. We do, too. Governor and the Cabinet, I want to take this opportunity on behalf of the France family, all of NASCAR, as well as the NASCAR Foundation, for your approval of this plate, and also, Representative Hays, for your action and all the folks that helped bring this together.

This plate gives NASCAR fans who are residents of Florida the opportunity to show their enthusiasm for a sport that was founded here in Florida in 1948 by the France family and still operates its home office in Daytona Beach, Florida today. So thank you very much for your support and approval of this tag.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Well, thank you for yours. And if I might, you know, the sport that you're involved in...
is one of the most, if not the most popular sport in
our country. And, you know, you're building tracks all
over the place, and your success has been
extraordinary.

And we are very proud of the fact that you're
based here in the sunshine state and that you have
several great races that you continue to house here in
Florida, both at Daytona and Homestead. I'm a fan. I
was first introduced to NASCAR by a good buddy of mine
named Scott Brantley, who played at the University of
Florida, was a great linebacker there, and then he
played for the Buccaneers, my home team, in Tampa Bay
for a long time, and still does radio sports.

And he called me one July 4th a long time ago and
asked what I was doing and I said, "Hanging out." And
he said, well, we're doing a show, radio show over at
the then Firecracker 400. He said, "Why don't you come
along and see what you think of it." And I've been
addicted ever since, and it's great, and we appreciate
what you do. And we really appreciate the France
family.

COMMISSIONER BRONSON: Governor, maybe we can get
the president to tell us if -- I don't even know if the
press conference has been held yet, but what number is
Junior going to be running and who is the sponsor.
MR. HELTON: Since Dallas is on Central Time, I may have to wait just a second.

GOVERNOR CRIST: We won't preempt it then. Thank you very much for being here.

MR. HELTON: Thank you.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Thank you, sir. Please give our good wishes to our friends in Daytona.

MR. WESTBERRY: Thank you, Mike, appreciate it.

Governor, last and certainly not least, from the Support Our Troops organization, their president, Mr. Martin Boire.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Good morning.

MR. BOIRE: Good morning, Governor, members of the Cabinet and the press. It is actually quite simple. When we ask our neighbors to leave their families at home to go off and look out for our families, we take upon ourselves the moral obligation to look out for their families with the same dedication and sincerity that they're off looking out for ours.

This plate is part, a simple part of the answer to that moral obligation. It does two things. It allows people to stick up for those who stick up for them, and it aggregates patriotic private money that can then be used to look out for the families of those who are looking out for ours.
This plate is simply our gift from our families to their families. Now in every project --

GOVERNOR CRIST: That's a beautiful plate, by the way.

MR. BOIRE: Thank you. Of all those involved, it always comes down to the fact and hinges on the actions of a single individual. And here that individual is Representative Alan Hays. If you'd stand, please, sir.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Thank you, Representative.

MR. BOIRE: He met every challenge, fought every battle. Without his true grit, this resource would not be. And all honor and glory for its existence is due him. Your reporters that are here today became such because you, like I, believe in the power of the pen to spread the word about right and to inform the public about good things.

And please let me suggest that this is one of those moments where if you take this upon yourself to significantly inform the public about this great new resource for our neighbors, the troops are simply our neighbors who have left their homes, great good can come of it.

And my assistant has some CDs with textual matter and high res jpegs of this that could be used for media purposes. And she can be found in the small gray
sweatshirt seated in the middle there. If you raise
your hand, she will diligently hunt you out.

And if at some point we could get a picture with
the plate, I would be grateful. Thank you.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Sure, would be happy to. In
fact, that was the last of the three? Would you like
to get a picture with the Cabinet?

MR. WESTBERRY: Certainly.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Why don't we -- if you have a few
words to say, we'll wait for the CFO to get back.

MR. WESTBERRY: Great. Thank you. And, again, I
appreciate the work of the representative and really
all the groups that are represented here today, I think
that they have done a great job of working with the
Department and putting their resources together to make
this a reality.

We know there are a lot of folks who are greatly
anticipating these. We hope to see these in the
offices, available to the public. There are a number
of different mechanisms that they can use to acquire
these, including some new things that the Department
has done with gift certificate programs for specialty
plates. So I think it's going to be exciting to see
the marketing efforts proceed from here.

And with your permission, we'll go ahead and start
getting ready for some photo ops.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Sure. Why don't we start getting ready for that.

MR. WESTBERRY: Thank you, Governor, appreciate it.

GOVERNOR CRIST: We'll take a couple of minutes.

(Photographs taken)
ATTACHMENT 2
THE CABINET
STATE OF FLORIDA

Representing:
DIVISION OF BOND FINANCE
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT TRUST FUND
STATE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION

The above agencies came to be heard before
THE FLORIDA CABINET, Honorable Governor Crist presiding,
in the Cabinet Meeting Room, LL-03, The Capitol,
Tallahassee, Florida, on Tuesday, October 2, 2007,
commencing at approximately 9:11 a.m.

Reported by:

MARY ALLEN NEEL
Registered Professional Reporter
Registered Florida Reporter
Notary Public

ACCURATE STENOTYPE REPORTERS, INC.
2894 REMINGTON GREEN LANE
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Commissioner of Agriculture

BILL McCOLLUM
Attorney General

ALEX SINK
Chief Financial Officer

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# INDEX

**INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE AGENCY FOR ENTERPRISE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

Vote
Approved

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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE**

Vote
Approved

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**DIVISION OF BOND FINANCE**
(Presented by BEN WATKINS)

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**DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE**
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**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**
(Presented by ADMIRAL LEROY COLLINS, JR.)

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**DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES**
(Presented by ELECTRA BUSTLE)

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES, INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT TRUST FUND
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STATE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION
(Presented by COLEMAN STIPANO维奇)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER 42

MS. BUSTLE: Good morning. Thank you, Good morning.

Before I get started, if I could just take a moment to introduce our interim director with the Florida Highway Patrol, Colonel John Czernis. He is a 30-year veteran of the Florida Highway Patrol who started his career in 1974 with the Vero Beach Police Department and shortly thereafter in 1977 started with the Florida Highway Patrol. He started as a trooper, worked his way up until his promotion to lieutenant colonel in 2003. He has either worked in or supervised almost every division within the patrol, including field operations, investigations, and the training academy. We are lucky to have his depth and breadth of knowledge and experience at the helm, and I thank him for taking on this new role. We are in the process of looking for a permanent director and will have an inclusive process, but I want to thank him and introduce him to you all.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Colonel, would you like to say a word?

COLONEL CZERNIS: Sure.
GOVERNOR CRIST: You're from Vero Beach?

COLONEL CZERNIS: Yes, sir, I sure am. That's where I grew up, and I served on the city police department there for two and a half years.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Very good.

COLONEL CZERNIS: Governor and members of the Cabinet, it's sincerely a pleasure to stand before you today representing the members of the Highway Patrol. Our troopers, Florida's troopers are patrolling the highways and responding to calls for service day in and day out, 365 days a year. I'm so proud of them and so proud of the work that they do, and it's just a honor to serve in this interim capacity. I certainly appreciate you and the Cabinet for the direction and support that you give us. It's a team, and we work together as a team to make Florida a better place. Thank you for allowing me a few moments to speak to you.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Thank you, Colonel.

Appreciate your good work.

MS. BUSTLE: Thank you very much. Thank you, Colonel.

Now to our agenda. We have three agenda items. Our first item is the minutes of the July 31st Cabinet meeting.
GOVERNOR CRIST: Is there a motion on the minutes?

CFO SINK: Move it.

COMMISSIONER BRONSON: Second.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Moved and seconded. Show them approved without objection.

MS. BUSTLE: Our second item is our June 30, 2007 annual performance report and our contracts and purchases over $100,000.

Last year we patrolled 31.6 million miles of highway, served 12.6 million customers around the state, and had many successes, as reflected in the report that we've provided you. We met the majority, 86 percent of our performance measures. We're working hard to continue that trend.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Excellent. Is there a motion to approve?

COMMISSIONER BRONSON: So move.

ATTORNEY GENERAL McCOLLUM: Second.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Moved and seconded. Show it approved.

CFO SINK: Governor?

GOVERNOR CRIST: CFO. Pardon me.

CFO SINK: Let me just -- I have just a couple of little questions here.
First of all, compliments on the performance report. It was very well done, and more importantly, there's a lot of good statistics in there.

But one of the things that I picked up on here was this factoid that says drinking drivers in crashes. Twenty-one-year-old drivers have the highest involvement rate in all crashes and in fatal crashes. One-eighth -- am I correct in interpreting this is just one age group, people who are the age of 21? Is that right, Electra?

MS. BUSTLE: I believe that is a range.

Mr. Westberry, is -- I think that's a range. Is that 18 through 21, or just 21-year-olds?

MR. WESTBERRY: Eighteen through 21.

MS. BUSTLE: Eighteen through 21.

CFO SINK: Okay. Because -- well, it just leads me to conclude that if we could have some very targeted communications, particularly on college campuses, where many of these 21-year-old drivers are reaching legal drinking age, that perhaps we could have some impact in reducing the fatalities from drinking drivers, because it's obvious that they're mostly occurring within this younger age group, as we all know.
MS. BUSTLE: I think that's an excellent point, CFO. And to target education to prevent that from happening rather than having to come to the crash, I mean, that is an excellent point, and working with the universities would be an excellent initiative.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Good point, CFO. Thank you. General, did you have a --

ATTORNEY GENERAL McCOLLUM: I don't, no.

Thank you.

MS. BUSTLE: Our last legislative -- our last item on the agenda is our legislative budget request. The issues listed -- I'm sorry. I've just been given a note, which is always important. I need to withdraw Item Number 3 from the agenda.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Is there a motion to withdraw Item 3?

CFO SINK: Move it.

ATTORNEY GENERAL McCOLLUM: Second.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Moved and seconded to withdraw. It's withdrawn.

MS. BUSTLE: Thank you. The issues listed in our legislative budget request revolve around our strategic efforts in workforce development, improved service delivery, performance management,
and improved communications internally and externally. We also took into account our current efforts to reduce the state budget and focus on core mission critical functions in our request.

As you can see in our legislative budget request, our number one agency priority is the trooper recruitment and retention pay plan. These men and women play a critical role in the safety and security of our highways and our citizens, and you all have been very supportive of their needs. Last year you supported and the Governor recommended the same pay plan to assist with our compression efforts and to start to make the Florida Highway Patrol competitive with city and county law enforcement agencies and assist in our recruitment and retention efforts.

But we continue to have a high vacancy rate of 12 percent in June 2007, and we have carried on average 200 vacancies for the last five years. Of 83 troopers surveyed who left the agency last year, 41 percent of them noted pay as the reason for leaving.

And just to give you an example, here in Leon County, the starting salary of a Leon County sheriff's deputy is 10 percent higher than the
Florida Highway Patrol starting salary, and the Tallahassee Police Department is even higher than that. We looked at statistics, and it takes an average trooper at least five years to get to the starting pay of the Tallahassee Police Department, and you can see that trend statewide.

I can recall speaking to a trooper on the Turnpike, a rest area, and he was a corporal, a traffic homicide investigator ten years, making $40,000 a year, and the starting pay for Tallahassee is 39,200. So we have work to do, and I know you all have focused on that, and I would ask again this year for your support on that issue.

We are also looking at recruitment and retention of our customer service positions in our driver's license offices. They also have had an exponential increase in responsibilities since September 11, 2001, performing many duties like reviewing documents from Immigration, Customs and Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security, to determine if folks are here legally in our state.

We have a five-year facility improvement plan in there for the first time. We've actually assessed a five-year plan rather than come to you yearly. And it is based on the Department of
Management Services facilities assessment.

So you will see overall the request focuses around our strategic issues, and we would ask for your support. I'm happy to answer any questions you have.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Any questions?

COMMISSIONER BRONSON: Yes, please.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER BRONSON: Thank you. Electra, you probably have received some of the same information we have on the fact that not only are we going through these cuts now, but we're probably going to be looking at the potential for more come March. And I know this is designed toward this next year's budgetary process.

I support the compression issue that you have. I've got the same issue that I would imagine that every law enforcement agency in state government, including fire --

CFO SINK: We have it.

COMMISSIONER BRONSON: -- have compression.

I've got it with my -- we lose almost 25 percent of our firefighters every year, or every two years, to local community fire departments. So those issues have to be addressed. We've put them off, but the
budget is going to create some problems for us.
Capital outlay is another issue with every agency.
And I hope that -- while you're asking for the
support for those issues, which I certainly
support, that may not come at the end of the
budgetary process, because I did notice that you
were up about 29 total percent. That's counting
the compression issue for your officers. So I
certainly can support that as a Cabinet member, but
I'm not sure we're going to get there.

MS. BUSTLE: Understood. I appreciate your
comments.

ATTORNEY GENERAL McCOLLUM: I have one too,
Governor. I just notice in the budget items this
effort to try to get the customer queuing system or
lining-up system more automated. And having been
in these offices, I know, and I know many of our
citizens have, that would be a very valuable thing,
if I'm reading it right. Would you explain that a
little bit to us, how that works, Electra?

MS. BUSTLE: Sure, General. Many offices, tax
collectors also do driver's license work for us,
and they have what's called a queuing system. It's
an electronic system where a customer comes in and
is immediately given a ticket, and that ticket is
tracked all the way through when they actually get
to the examiner or the customer service specialist.

It not only tracks the numbers, but it also
tracks skilled-based needs. For instance, if a
customer has a driver's license issue rather than
maybe a financial responsibility issue, it's able
to say that person needs to go to this particular
customer service specialist. It has a reporting
ability that is unbelievable. You can actually be
in a county, and, for instance, we could be here in
Tallahassee, and I could be looking at Miami
driver's license offices and on a dashboard be able
to see that the wait times are beyond an acceptable
rate, and we can work towards adding resources.
It's a resource management tool.

So all the way around, it provides us accurate
and real-time information where we can make
management and resource decisions. And it will
also provide you all a better opportunity to see
the numbers of customers coming in and the types of
work we are doing. As I said, tax collectors
already have it in their offices, and they have
shown great success in customer service
improvements as a result of putting that in there.

ATTORNEY GENERAL McCOLLUM: Well, I'm really
pleased to see this in here, and I'm glad you
explained it, because I think, while we all focus
on the Highway Patrol, and the department you run
is safety conscious, and I'm much that way myself,
this is a great public service. You have to meet
the public, and this is important.

Thank you.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Thank you, General. CFO?

CFO SINK: Yes. Thank you, Governor.

Would you review with us what the proposed
cuts might be from this year's budget? Obviously,
we don't know yet until the Legislature takes
action, but what is on the table in terms of cuts,
and how does that reconcile with your request then
to add 60 more troopers for the next fiscal year
after that?

MS. BUSTLE: I don't have the list. I'll go
off the top of my head for just a little bit. I
know that most of the cuts are off of our
recommended --

GOVERNOR CRIST: You mean the reductions of
the increases?

MS. BUSTLE: Yes. I'm sorry. The reductions
are off of the list that we had provided. There
are some that were excess budget authority and
things to that effect. So they were very careful in what I understand to adhere to looking at keeping service and public safety and seeing where we can create efficiencies.

As it relates to the Highway Patrol, there is approximately 57 positions on the list of reductions, all vacancies, and not all troopers. Some are in supervisory positions.

What we did with the 60 positions, this is a -- it's a plan that was actually initiated two years ago through a formalized process to determine how many troopers we need on the road. And understanding that we are in a mode of reducing our expenses, we really felt it was important to continue to have that plan at least on the table for discussion, understanding where we are budgetarily. And if we are able to get some compression and some pay changes, we can bring that 200 vacancies down, and then we're not looking at all these vacant positions. So it's a balancing act.

So we are looking at some reductions, but they're not necessarily all trooper positions. It's all throughout the ranks, and we feel like we can do that without impacting service at this
point.

CFO SINK: And, Governor, I do want to share Commissioner Bronson's concern about the very large pay disparities between our sworn law officers across state government. I think at some point, it would be good to have the Department of Management Services perhaps do a survey across state government similar to what the Highway Patrol has done, comparing their pay rates and grades with other comparable law enforcement agencies. We desperately need to have that happen just so that we know where we are in state government and that we don't then start to have huge disparities between Highway Patrol, Insurance Fraud, Fish and Wildlife. All of these classes of jobs really need to be addressed, I believe, in kind of one package.

COMMISSIONER BRONSON: Governor, if I might follow up on that, the thing that I come back to all the time is, you know, it's great to have great trained law enforcement and firefighters in the state, but if the State is the one doing all the training and spending the money and the expense to train them so local agencies can get them without having to pay for that training, they're getting a great deal.
And for a few percentages of salary costs, we're losing our shirts on this deal, because it costs us quite a bit of money to have everybody trained, our officers and agents, especially officers and agents that handle issues that most law enforcement don't even handle, because we concentrate on those, and it takes a lot of training to do that. Our firefighters are trained for both forest and structural fires, so when a local agency picks them up, they get a trained person and forest fire training that they normally wouldn't pay for in their normal processes.

So it's costing the State insurmountable amounts of money to do this and keep having that turnover every couple of years. It's just killing us. And we really do need to have a quality report done on what it's really costing us by not being able to meet some minimum salaries that would work for us in compression and so forth.

MS. BUSTLE: Agreed.

GOVERNOR CRIST: I think I have some hopeful thoughts for you --

CFO SINK: Good.

GOVERNOR CRIST: -- along those lines, with what I believe the Legislature will do shortly, as
Senator Jeff Atwater would describe it, conduct an
intervention into local governments that we compete
with for these fine officers, and I think they're
going to do that shortly.

But I think that it will also benefit our
ability to greater reward law enforcement officers
at the state level, because I think with the
reduction in those property taxes, there will be
more spending of disposable income by our fellow
Floridians, which will end up in increased sales
tax revenue for the State Treasury, so we can
compete better and keep more of these officers that
are at the state level and be more competitive with
our friends in local government.

Any other questions?

MS. BUSTLE: That's all I have.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Thank you. Good job.

MS. BUSTLE: Thank you. Thanks.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Mike Sole, Board of Trustees.

Secretary, how are you?

MR. SOLE: Doing well, Governor.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Good.

MR. SOLE: Good morning, Cabinet members.

Item number 1 is submittal of the minutes for the
July 31st, August 14th, and August 28th Cabinet
meetings.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Oh, hold on, Mike.

MR. SOLE: Sure.

GOVERNOR CRIST: I made a mistake. We needed to vote on that. But before we -- the last item, Electra. I don't know that you need to come back up, but --

CFO SINK: She's probably gone.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Probably gone, so you don't need to at all. But I'm not going to vote on it. I can't. But first, is there a motion?

CFO SINK: Well, I move it.

ATTORNEY GENERAL McCOLLUM: Second it.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Moved and seconded. Wait. Just give me a second. Okay. So it has been moved and seconded. Is there any objection?

CFO SINK: No.

GOVERNOR CRIST: Okay. Great. Florida law requires the Governor to independently submit a budget proposal. Accordingly, I am abstaining from the vote on that item. Therefore, the record should reflect that this item is approved with one abstention. That was Item Number 4 for the last agenda.
PROTECT FLORIDA SPRINGS

Bill Number: Senate Bill 1900

Sponsored By: Representative D. Alan Hays
Senator Carey Baker

Additional Fee: $25 Annual Use Fee
$  2 Processing Fee

Fees Distributed to: Wildlife Foundation of Florida, Inc.

Purpose: The annual use fees shall be distributed to the Wildlife Foundation of Florida, Inc., a citizen support organization created pursuant to s. 372.0215, which shall administer the fees as follows:

1. Wildlife Foundation of Florida, Inc., shall retain the first $60,000 of the annual use fees as direct reimbursement for administrative costs, startup costs, and costs incurred in the development and approval process.

2. Thereafter, a maximum of 10 percent of the fees may be used for administrative costs directly associated with education programs, conservation, springs research, and grant administration of the foundation. A maximum of 15 percent of the fees may be used for continuing promotion and marketing of the license plate.

3. At least 55 percent of the fees shall be available for competitive grants for targeted community-based springs research not currently available for state funding. The remaining 20 percent shall be directed toward community outreach programs aimed at implementing such research findings. The competitive grants shall be administered and approved by the board of directors of the Wildlife Foundation of Florida. The granting advisory committee shall be composed of nine members, including one representative from the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, one representative from the Department of Environmental Protection, one representative from the Department of Health, one representative from the Department of Community Affairs, three citizen representatives, and two representatives from nonprofit stakeholder groups.

4. The remaining funds shall be distributed with the approval of and accountability to the board of directors of the Wildlife Foundation of Florida, and shall be used to support activities contributing to education, outreach, and springs conservation.

Approval: Legislative and law enforcement approval letters on file.

Production and Sales Availability: If approved, the plate will go into production and be available for purchase within six months.

Initial Order: 12,000