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| 1 | the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but truth? | 1 | interviews of members of the senior leadership team, |
| 2 | THE WITNESS: I do. | 2 | we've identified a number of areas of interest that may |
| 3 | MR. NINS: Great. Thank you, sir. | 3 | not appear to be relevant to you, but just work with me |
| 4 | THE WITNESS: Yes. | 4 | and -- |
| 5 | MR. NINS: Have any promises, threats, or | 5 | A Sure. |
| 6 | inducements of any nature whatsoever been made by | 6 | Q -- I think you'll see where we're going. |
| 7 | me in order to obtain your consent to this | 7 | So I'm only here -- I asked you here to answer |
| 8 | statement? | 8 | the questions, tell us what you know. We're only |
| 9 | THE WITNESS: No, sir. | 9 | interested in what you know. We ask that you be as |
| 10 | MR. NINS: Great. | 10 | complete and obviously truthful as you can be. |
| 11 | Do you understand this recorded interview will | 11 | If I ask a question that is perhaps a bit off |
| 12 | be subject to public disclosure pursuant to Public | 12 | base because of my lack of familiarity with the inner |
| 13 | Record Law and of the laws of the State of Florida? | 13 | workings of JEA in relationship to the different team |
| 14 | THE WITNESS: I am now. | 14 | members and so on, I'd appreciate it if you'd straighten |
| 15 | MR. NINS: Thank you very much, sir. | 15 | me out on that, and that may help us get to where we're |
| 16 | THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. | 16 | going a little more efficiently. |
| 17 | DERYLE CALHOUN, | 17 | As well, if we get to the end of this and |
| 18 | having been produced and first duly sworn as a witness, | 18 | there are areas that we haven't -- I haven't explored |
| 19 | testified as follows: | 19 | with you that you think would be pertinent to the |
| 20 | EXAMINATION | 20 | investigation, we would ask that you share those with |
| 21 | BY MR. POWELL: | 21 | us |
| 22 | Q Good morning, Mr. Calhoun. | 22 | Keep in mind that the end result of this is to |
| 23 | A Good morning. | 23 | inform the board of directors as to the events of the |
| 24 | Q Good morning. Thank you for coming in bright | 24 | last year or so. And anything that you as a vice |
| 25 | and early on a Monday. As I introduced myself earlier, | 25 | president and general manager of JEA would personally |
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| 1 | I'm Steve Powell. I'm with the Office of General | 1 | want to inform the board of with respect to Mr. Zahn and |
| 2 | Counsel. I've been here for quite some time, and most | 2 | his performance as CEO, we would -- we would invite you |
| 3 | recently have been serving as the chief of the tort and | 3 | to share that information. |
| 4 | employment litigation department. | 4 | Are we good? |
| 5 | We're here today -- I'm sorry. Let me just -- | 5 | A Absolutely. Thank you. |
| 6 | one other preliminary. | 6 | Q Do you have any questions before we get going? |
| 7 | You're here today pursuant to direction of the | 7 | A No, I don't. |
| 8 | interim CEO Melissa Dykes; correct? | 8 | Q All right. So I have a little brief |
| 9 | A Correct. | 9 | background on you from a document that was produced by |
| 10 | Q And you have been provided with a Garrity | 10 | the McKinsey \& Company. So let me just make sure it's |
| 11 | statement of rights -- | 11 | correct and I'm understanding where you're coming from. |
| 12 | A Correct. | 12 | Unlike virtually everybody else on this list, |
| 13 | Q -- which you have signed and I have signed? | 13 | you are what I call career JEA; right? |
| 14 | I appreciate that. And I'll make a copy of | 14 | A Correct. |
| 15 | this for you before we get out of here. | 15 | Q I know that you were with the City's water |
| 16 | A Okay. | 16 | group before it was transferred to JEA, but -- so you've |
| 17 | Q All right. So our purpose here this morning | 17 | been with JEA since 1997? |
| 18 | is in connection with our office's assignment of about | 18 | A Correct. |
| 19 | ten days ago to conduct an investigation into the tenure | 19 | Q All right. When did you become vice president |
| 20 | of Aaron Zahn to determine whether grounds exist for his | 20 | and general manager of the water and wastewater systems? |
| 21 | termination or the termination of his employment | 21 | A July of 2018. |
| 22 | contract with cause. That is really all that we're | 22 | Q Who was your predecessor? |
| 23 | trying to work through. | 23 | A Brian Roche, R-O-C-H-E. |
| 24 | As we have been reviewing materials and | 24 | Q Mr. Roche had, likewise, been with JEA for |
| 25 | talking to people, and we've conducted a number of | 25 | some time, had he not? |


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| 1 | A Yes. | 1 | Do you recall that? |
| 2 | Q What was your working relationship with | 2 | A Yes, sir. |
| 3 | Mr. Roche before he departed and you moved into his | 3 | Q Were you present at that board meeting? |
| 4 | position? | 4 | A As a director, I may have been. Brian |
| 5 | A I had a great relationship with Brian. He was | 5 | sometimes asked that we attend. I don't recall |
| 6 | challenging, but a good relationship. | 6 | specifically if I was at that one. |
| 7 | Q Was he your boss? | 7 | Q And do you remember the -- what I have just |
| 8 | A Yes, sir. | 8 | described to you sound correct to you? |
| 9 | Q Suffice it to say that the transition for you | 9 | A Yes. Recently I saw that recalled in the |
| 10 | to his position was relatively seemless because of the | 10 | news. |
| 11 | time you had been there working with him and your | 11 | Q Do you remember what the -- in your -- so at |
| 12 | familiarity with the area? | 12 | that time you were the director of -- |
| 13 | A Correct. He had been in the role since ' 13 or | 13 | A Treatment. |
| 14 | so, and so we worked closely together. | 14 | Q -- water -- of treatment? |
| 15 | Q Do you remember your first introduction to | 15 | A Yeah, the treatment side of the business. |
| 16 | Aaron Zahn? | 16 | Q Okay. In that position, did you -- were |
| 17 | A Well, he stepped in during the interview | 17 | you -- were you privy really to the discussions that |
| 18 | process. That's probably the first time in his | 18 | might have led up to this resolution? Did you |
| 19 | capacity. It was Melissa, Angie -- actually, he was -- | 19 | understand where that was coming from or have any |
| 20 | he may have been in the room the whole time. I can't | 20 | history with it? |
| 21 | remember. It all fades. But he definitely came in. I | 21 | A No. My relationship with Brian was business. |
| 22 | remember him asking what the JEA core values were. That | 22 | You know, I ran my group. He didn't let me know the |
| 23 | was one of the questions he asked. But that's probably | 23 | inner workings of the 16th floor at that time. That's |
| 24 | the first time. | 24 | not -- that wasn't my relationship. |
| 25 | Q Had you had any interaction with him when he | 25 | Q All right. So prior to May or June of '18, |
|  | Page 10 |  | Page 12 |
| 1 | was on the board? | 1 | you don't recall having any discussions with Mr. Roche |
| 2 | A No. | 2 | about the privatization of JEA, the sale of JEA, |
| 3 | Q So not until he was off the board and pursuing | 3 | anything along those lines? |
| 4 | the CEO position that you met him? | 4 | A Not that I recall. Now, if you've got |
| 5 | A Yes. Like I said, he was on the interview | 5 | something that says that I did, I mean, if you've -- if |
| 6 | team. I don't recall prior to that -- | 6 | you've got something from Brian that says there was a |
| 7 | Q He was on the interview team or -- | 7 | conversation at a staff meeting, then we'll have |
| 8 | A When I interviewed for the position. | 8 | something to talk about that. But I don't recall |
| 9 | Q I see. | 9 | specifically that. |
| 10 | A Sorry. Yes. | 10 | Q I appreciate that -- |
| 11 | Q Let me back that up then. I am confused. | 11 | A Yeah. |
| 12 | So when you interviewed for your position -- | 12 | Q -- what you just said, and let me just back |
| 13 | A Yes. | 13 | up. |
| 14 | Q -- he was on the interview team? | 14 | A Yeah. |
| 15 | A Correct. | 15 | Q I'm not here to trap you with a document -- |
| 16 | Q And at that point was he already interim CEO? | 16 | A Okay. |
| 17 | A I would assume so. I'd have to go back and | 17 | Q -- or an email. I don't -- |
| 18 | look at the dates, but this -- I interviewed in June. | 18 | A Okay. |
| 19 | Q Of '18? | 19 | Q -- have anything along those lines. |
| 20 | A Yes. I don't remember when he was made | 20 | A Yeah. |
| 21 | interim. | 21 | Q I'm simply trying to understand who was saying |
| 22 | Q In May of '18, the board of directors, by | 22 | what to whom -- |
| 23 | resolution of Council Member Cumber, effectively put the | 23 | A Right. |
| 24 | brakes on any work at JEA having to do with the | 24 | Q -- along with what is actually a very tight |
| 25 | privatization of the agency. | 25 | timeline. |

## A Yes.

Q All right?
You, because of your tenure and the timing of your promotion to vice president --

A Right.
Q -- and continuing through, present to us a
fairly unique source --
A I gotcha.
Q -- of --
A History.
Q -- history.
A Gotcha.
Q So --
A Yeah.
Q And I will make this representative to you. I
will not ask you about a document --
A Oh, good.
Q -- that I don't show you before I ask you about it. Is that okay?

A That's perfectly fine.
Q All right. Good. I just want to clear the air there a little bit.

A Look, it's -- Brian, there's no doubt had disagreements with that -- with the group, and he -- as I said before, he could be difficult. And so to the

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extent he may have said he disagreed with that or this, it's very possible. That's the only place I was going with that.

Q Okay.
A Because if he's provided you with information that says I warned or I told, then that's where I was going with my pushback because I don't specifically remember any conversation with Brian.

And as I said, the Cumber thing was in the news recently, and, you know, I did remember that happening. I don't remember if I was at the board meeting when it occurred.

Q All right. Did you have any -- do you remember talking to Mr. Roche about that resolution after it passed?

A No, I do not recall that.
Q Were you ever present in a meeting with
Mr. Roche and Mr. Zahn prior to Mr. Roche's departure?
A Yeah. Yeah.
Q What kind of things would you meet with Mr. Zahn about?

A Well -- oh, no. I had one specific meeting
where we met when he was still with BCR.
Q Okay.
A But as a JEA person, I don't recall being in a
meeting with Brian and Aaron. I would have to go back and look at my calendar. Do not recall.

Q All right. Well, let's move forward to the -to a point in time where you are the vice president and general manager of water and wastewater systems and Mr. Zahn is at least the interim CEO.

A Okay.
Q Okay?
When he and you -- I think you mentioned that he was on the interview team when you got promoted?

A Yeah.
Q He asked you about the core values of JEA.
Do you remember anything else from that
initial introduction to him that strikes you as
significant or --
A No.
Q -- substantive?
A No.
Q So let's move ahead. You've got the
promotion. He's in the job. You're in the job. Did he invite you in to have a get to know one another type meeting and have a discussion about the future of your business line?

A No. I never had a "let's talk business." I had one lunch meeting with him a number of months ago;

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how's it going, you know, what do you see as your future, that kind of a discussion. It was nothing about, you know, the company or the privatization issue. It was about where I saw myself going. I kind of took it as a, you know, get-to-know-you, personal-type outreach thing, team building.

Q Would you say that Mr. Zahn -- let me ask that more open ended.

How did Mr. Zahn approach your side of the business in terms of his interest in what was going on in water and wastewater systems and where that business was going?

A Yeah, so, you know, he came from a wastewater background so he obviously knew at least the biosolid process very well.

Q Can you -- I'm sure she didn't catch that.
A I'm sorry. Biosolid, B-I-O-S-O-L-I-D-S. It's the leftovers after wastewater treatment.

And so he came from that background. So his -- his thinking on our business line was we may not be where energy is today in terms of cutbacks to sales and efficiencies and all that, but as the water business continues to evolve, we may see more recycling on site which reduces sales, and we certainly have a water resource issue coming. You know, there's only so much
we can pull from the Florida aquifer. And as our service territory continues to grow, you know, we're going to face our own challenges. It's just a different timeline than the energy side of the business.

Q Did you-all -- did he express anything specific about the eventualities or the timeline in terms of years?

A No. The work that came out of the McKinsey efforts, you know, kind of -- if you look at that, that kind of gives you an idea on our timeline.

Our consumptive use permit comes up for renewal in 2031, and we don't expect to get additional allocations from the water management district to pull from the aquifer. So that's why we're going down this purified water or alternative route -- or alternative water route looking for different ways to serve the population than just pulling it from the aquifer.

So there's a timeline built into that discussion based upon that permit.

Q You mentioned the McKinsey report, and I understand that process. And ultimately the end product was just delivered this month; right?

A Yes.
Q Can you just summarize for us what the McKinsey report does say about water and wastewater?

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A Yes. So basically it dealt with the water resource issue. It dealt with our rising operational costs each year versus sales. You know, we're -- we're growing. Although not great, we are growing each year. We're adding meters.

It spoke to operational efficiencies, to cut back on operational cost increases. Using things like artificial intelligence to drive better decision-making for our asset base; reduce trucks rolls; better procurement of engineering and material services. You know, cost savings around things that like.

Q Did the McKinsey report come up with anything that you hadn't thought about it?

A I mean, that's --
Q I know that's a big question --
A Yeah.
Q -- but fundamentally?
A Fundamentally, no. I mean, I'd have to go back and really dig through it. We had -- it was some good debate. You know, McKinsey is no slack firm. Their -- you know, they have a lot of benchmarking.

Q Well, it's always a healthy process to go --
A Absolutely.
Q -- outside and get another look at things, isn't it?

A Absolutely.
Q And is that essentially how you viewed the McKinsey effort?

A That's exactly how I viewed it.
Energy obviously faces a different set of challenges than water and wastewater, but, you know, at the end of the day, as you said, a fresh set of eyes looking at data differently or looking at your business and questioning you, you know, just makes you stronger long term.

Q So how do you see the -- when I say the near term, can we say 5 years?

A Yes.
Q And medium term, 15 to 20? Is that how you think of things? And then a long term, maybe 40 years?

A Yeah. I mean, water supply issues are certainly at the further end of that scale, but closer -- closer in. That's fair, 5, 10 years.

Q So how do you, as you're sitting here today in the job you're in with the responsibilities you have, see the near- and medium-term forecast for JEA as it concerns water and wastewater?

A Yeah. I think we're healthy. As I said,
we're growing for now. You know, since the recovery, we're about 2 percent growth in meters per year. We

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have room in our consumptive use permit, but ultimately that room is going to go away. And so if you're smart, you're starting to plan for it now, you know, what does it look like.

If we are going to go with purified water, you know, you've got the public education to do to say it's coming out of the back end of the wastewater plant. It's going to get cleaned up sufficiently to go into your water system. There's a lot of legwork to do between now and when that becomes a reality in terms of public education and getting the infrastructure right to be able to serve.

Q Thank you. That was helpful to me.
A Good.
Q So you used the words "healthy" --
A Yeah.
Q -- that your area is healthy --
A Yes.
Q -- in the near term. Tell me when I get it wrong --

A Yeah.
Q -- in the near term.
Would you agree healthy into the medium term provided, as you say, you are smart and you plan and you prepare?

A Probably fair characterization. I'm not going to make characterizations about the financials because that's not my side of the business. I don't do projections in terms of that kind of thing.

But in terms of just the sheer delivery of the product and the ability to treat both water and wastewater, yeah --

Q And keep the water coming out of the faucets, sort of like Caren Anders was telling me the other day, keeping the --

A Keeping the lights on.
Q -- lights on.
So -- and I -- you and Ms. Anders are the people, as I understand it, that are at the top of the two principal missions of JEA. Would you agree with me?

A Yeah, that's correct --
Q All right.
A -- operationally.
Look, you know, a lot's been made of the whole recapitalization, privatization, whatever you want to call it. It was a look at -- you can argue timelines. As I said, energy's got a different perspective than I do. We've shut down SJRPP. We've raised rates, all those things.

To the extent water and wastewater could tag
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along to that recapitalization effort and bring in that private capital, it was an interesting discussion from my perspective, you know, coming strictly from an operational background for all these years.

So all that financial piece, that's not what I do for a living. But that's kind of where I was -- my group -- or my business was kind of tagging along with Caren and this whole -- or Caren's business in this whole discussion about where does JEA go in the future.

Q I appreciate that. That doesn't surprise me either.

Would you -- it sounds like you would not agree or be of the view that the business -- your side of the business is in peril?

A Peril. No. I mean, if you -- again, if you are growing 2 percent meter base a year over the last number of years, you know, we have service territory to expand into. So I wouldn't call that peril.

Q All right. Short of capital, and I understand --

A Yes.
Q Well, I'm not a finance guy either. I don't particularly understand the big numbers of money and investment and all that, but I understand what money is and capital.

A Yeah.
Q But apart from that, is there anything that you as the general manager of water and wastewater systems would want to do to plan and prepare for the future?

Is there anything that you cannot do within the current structure of JEA?

A Raise rates is how -- you know, you can raise rates to respond to operational price increases, and the same with capital. You know, we have -- we have cash coming from our customers and we have bonding capability
which obviously they -- and they pay the bonds on.
Q I'm not talking about the money.
A Okay.
Q I'm talking about the operational --
A Oh, oh.
Q -- the operational needs of JEA on your side of the business.

A Okay.
Q My question --
A Yeah.
Q -- probably wasn't well put. So qualifying it to that, is there anything that you as the general manager of this business line would want to do -- let's just take in the near term -- that you cannot do at JEA

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as it's currently structured? In other words, as a governmental agency.

A Yes. That's a wide berth question. My gut would be to say no, there isn't a restriction. It's, you know, as I mentioned before, artificial intelligence, machine learning, things of that nature. We have a lot of assets.

So just thinking through, you know, there's -there should not be anything restricting us from working towards that end, aside from the cash to do it. And that's where I was going back with the cash piece of the answer. That's all I can think of at the moment.

Q Did you and Mr. Zahn at any point in -- up until April or May of this year essentially have the discussion that you and I just had, about your side of the business, your view of where it was going in the near and medium term, and that with the exception of cash and who -- everybody can always use more money to do things -- that you had all the tools you needed in order to deliver water and plan for the future for the folks that are in -- for your customers?

A I never had any one-on-one with him about, you know, whether there were any restrictions on my business or not. We had through a number of workshops -- you know, I went back and looked at my calendar a little bit

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| 1 | to just kind of get my timeline. You know, we had a | 1 | the different scenarios. That was in a message that |
| 2 | number of workshops. We talked through the McKinsey | 2 | went out to all employees. |
| 3 | materials, thinking about the future. | 3 | In July of '19, there was an email that went |
| 4 | The short term was really not the focus of the | 4 | out, a strategic planning video. And, you know, we had |
| 5 | effort. It was about, you know, as I said, where are we | 5 | our workshops that we did in April of '19, June of '19, |
| 6 | going in terms of the ability to change the business. | 6 | and then two in August, back to back, on the 19th and |
| 7 | I'll give you a for instance. We had a water | 7 | 20th. |
| 8 | softening company that wanted to partner with us, and, | 8 | So that's how we kind of worked our way all |
| 9 | you know, I was told we couldn't -- we can't share -- we | 9 | the way through from the strategy to involving the |
| 10 | can't have those kind of agreements under our current | 10 | employees and rolling it out. |
| 11 | structure. | 11 | Q Where were the August 19 and August 20 |
| 12 | Q Who told you that? | 12 | workshops? |
| 13 | A Wannemacher was in the meeting. We met with | 13 | A In Ponte Vedra. |
| 14 | the company. But the ability to evolve the business was | 14 | Q Both Ponte Vedra? |
| 15 | more the focus of the meetings with Aaron. But no, | 15 | A Yeah. |
| 16 | no -- no one-on-ones, what do you need that's in the | 16 | Q Did you participate in a workshop at the |
| 17 | charter restricting you right now. | 17 | Club Continental property in early July? |
| 18 | Q And he never sought out your input along those | 18 | A I was not there. |
| 19 | lines? | 19 | Q Are you aware that it occurred? |
| 20 | A Not that I recall. | 20 | A I think I heard that. I think I was at |
| 21 | Q Other than through your general participation | 21 | running camp with my daughter at the time before I took |
| 22 | in these workshops that you -- you're talking about -- | 22 | the job. That was in mid-July, accepting the job. I |
| 23 | are you talking about the workshops related to the | 23 | don't remember the specific date. |
| 24 | McKinsey report? | 24 | Q Mid-July accepting the job? |
| 25 | A Yeah, the strategic planning work that we did | 25 | A Yeah. |
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| 1 | over the months. | 1 | Q This was '19. |
| 2 | Q Do you recall when those -- well, you said you | 2 | A Oh, gosh. No. No. |
| 3 | reviewed your calendar. | 3 | So this Club Continental in '19, I don't |
| 4 | Do you recall offhand when -- not offhand, | 4 | recall that at all. It didn't -- and it didn't show up |
| 5 | when that process began? | 5 | on my calendar. |
| 6 | A Yeah, so I just went back and looked. It was | 6 | Where's Club Continental? |
| 7 | summer of '18 we started talking about the community, | 7 | MR. EDWARDS: Orange Park. |
| 8 | the CFEC. | 8 | Q It's over in the Orange Park area. |
| 9 | Q The what? | 9 | A Oh, where they have the weddings and stuff. |
| 10 | A Our acronym, our four measures of value. | 10 | Q Correct. |
| 11 | Started talking with personnel about the | 11 | A No. No, I never went to a meeting over there. |
| 12 | development, you know, of the strategy. We had the | 12 | Q Did you ever hear about it? |
| 13 | July -- the board chair letter to the mayor and council | 13 | A No. |
| 14 | which identified the work on our strategic plan. | 14 | Q Okay. August 19 and August 20 of 2019. So |
| 15 | We then started going out and talking to the | 15 | we're about a month after the July board meeting where |
| 16 | folks. We called them the "Listening Tours". You | 16 | all kinds of things happened; right? |
| 17 | probably heard of those. We were calling it the year of | 17 | A Right. |
| 18 | innovation. JEA was not for sale was part of the -- was | 18 | Q Were these two meetings the entire senior |
| 19 | part of the discussion. Went through our core values. | 19 | leadership team? |
| 20 | We opened the floor for, you know, discussion with the | 20 | A We may have been missing one or two. I don't |
| 21 | employees, that kind of thing. | 21 | know the head count, but that's who was invited. |
| 22 | We started doing our status quo work in | 22 | Q But everybody was invited? |
| 23 | April of '19. There was a message to all employees in | 23 | A Correct. |
| 24 | June of '19 that talked about the work we had been doing | 24 | Q Were there agendas for these meetings? |
| 25 | since October of '18, planning for the future, including | 25 | A What I had on the 20th was, it was from 8:00 |


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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | to 1:00, and it says: Adding Sherry Hall, Lynne Rhode, | 1 | purchase that you were never in meetings with either |
| 2 | and removed Angie Hiers. The first part of the meeting | 2 | Mr. Zahn or Mr. Vinyard or Mr. Wannemacher about the |
| 3 | would be to review fiscal '19 performance and discuss | 3 | valuation and -- well, the valuation of the performance |
| 4 | fiscal '20 goals. | 4 | unit -- long-term performance unit plan and how it would |
| 5 | The second part of the meeting was a | 5 | play out into the future? |
| 6 | McKinsey-led discussion of strategy and business plan. | 6 | A That's correct. I've never had any part of |
| 7 | Q And what about the 19th? | 7 | the discussion of the thing or how it would be |
| 8 | A The 19th, I don't have anything. It was just | 8 | structured. My whole understanding was, it was about |
| 9 | an all day, again, more strategy work. The one from | 9 | the long-term financial trajectory of the company. And |
| 10 | April, June, and August '19 I didn't have any -- there | 10 | there was never any discussion about -- in staff |
| 11 | were no notes in the body of the invite. | 11 | meetings or anything, about if it sold, it's worth X. I |
| 12 | Q Okay. And you attended both of the workshops? | 12 | never heard any of that. It was about -- |
| 13 | A Yes. | 13 | Q Was your -- was your first information about |
| 14 | Q At any point either in the formal discussion | 14 | that when it hit the news after the City Council auditor |
| 15 | or side discussions, and if your answer is yes, we'll | 15 | report? |
| 16 | work our way back and find out who was involved, but at | 16 | A There was -- yeah. Well, yes. And in my head |
| 17 | any point during those two days, any discussions about | 17 | I'm thinking how is it going to work if this company is |
| 18 | the performance unit plan? | 18 | sold because the long-term plan was, it was a three-year |
| 19 | A I don't recall. I just remember the strategy | 19 | plan, right, and if we're going to be doing something |
| 20 | work, and in particular at one point -- I think it was | 20 | differently prior to that three-year expiration, then |
| 21 | the Ponte Vedra meeting -- where we -- where we started | 21 | how do you -- how do you value the value of the company? |
| 22 | ticking through the restrictions on the charter, how | 22 | It hasn't evolved for three years. |
| 23 | long it looked like it would take to go through | 23 | So I'm certainly, you know, thinking through |
| 24 | statutory changes for those Florida statutes that might | 24 | that kind of thing in my head, but I didn't know |
| 25 | be restrictive. | 25 | anything about them going to a firm to say, manage this |
|  | Page 30 |  | Page 32 |
| 1 | If you've seen the slide, you know what I'm | 1 | thing and only include, you know, people making over |
| 2 | talking about. There's check marks and Xs in some cases | 2 | 150. Never heard any discussion like on the floor. |
| 3 | about things we could do with the business and some of | 3 | It was always, this is a long-term thing for |
| 4 | the restrictions that were in place. That's what I | 4 | all employees -- I went back and searched my inbox for |
| 5 | recall, was kind of here are the things that are going | 5 | "PUP" and "performance" and things of that nature. |
| 6 | to keep us from evolving the business both charter and | 6 | Didn't find anything where anything had gone out to |
| 7 | statutory related. | 7 | employees. |
| 8 | Q And was the tenure of that discussion, as you | 8 | I did ask the four directors that work for me |
| 9 | understood it, driving toward a sale of JEA? | 9 | directly, independently so I didn't sully their |
| 10 | A Looking at another alternative, that was | 10 | recollection. But two of them did remember a management |
| 11 | definitely on the table, no question about that. | 11 | meeting that, I think they said Aaron -- I can't |
| 12 | Q Were you ever informed prior to it being | 12 | remember now, but spoke of the long-term performance |
| 13 | canceled, I guess last week -- or excuse me, canceled in | 13 | plan. |
| 14 | early November, how many performance units you would | 14 | We actually changed the name of that meeting |
| 15 | have been eligible to purchase? | 15 | from management meeting to leaders meeting. So there's |
| 16 | A No. There was a -- there was a staff meeting. | 16 | a good chance the union leaders were there. Those |
| 17 | I think it was Melissa who said Aaron would be coming to | 17 | agendas are obviously preserved. I didn't go find out. |
| 18 | see us all one-on-one about the performance plan. I | 18 | But for the two directors to have said they |
| 19 | never had that one-on-one with him about that. | 19 | remember the performance unit being discussed, it was |
| 20 | Q Do you remember when that staff meeting was | 20 | obviously at that -- at that leaders meeting. |
| 21 | with -- | 21 | Q Would you think that had there been any |
| 22 | A I do not. I'm assuming it was after the board | 22 | discussion even at those meetings about details of the |
| 23 | passed the plan. | 23 | plan and its values and -- projected values and |
| 24 | Q Can I assume from the fact that you didn't | 24 | projected values of the performance units, numbers of |
| 25 | even know how many units you would be eligible to | 25 | units that various levels of employees, including |


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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | managers, would be able to purchase that that would have | 1 | MR. POWELL: I apologize. Let's go off the |
| 2 | gotten to you eventually -- | 2 | record for a second. |
| 3 | A Yeah. | 3 | (Discussion off the record.) |
| 4 | Q -- through your directors? | 4 | BY MR. POWELL: |
| 5 | A Yeah. I was, you know -- as I said, I was | 5 | Q You were -- you've prepared obviously for this |
| 6 | expecting there to be some type of, here's the plan, | 6 | discussion and I appreciate it, and you at least |
| 7 | here are your -- the way I understand it, talking to | 7 | summarized some calendar notes on the sheet of paper in |
| 8 | some of those guys -- as you said, I'm a career person. | 8 | front of you. You've been referring to it as we go |
| 9 | So I've never had the opportunity to buy stock in a | 9 | along. |
| 10 | company. | 10 | Do you have any objection if I get a copy of |
| 11 | But it's not uncommon the higher up you go in | 11 | that -- |
| 12 | the chain, the more shares you're allowed to buy. So I | 12 | A No. |
| 13 | was anticipating there would be something along that | 13 | Q -- so that I can -- it will help me. |
| 14 | line, but I never saw any document or there was never | 14 | Can I have a look at it now? |
| 15 | anything told to me that, hey, here's the way it's going | 15 | A Yeah. Absolutely. I've got a second one. |
| 16 | to work. | 16 | MR. EDWARDS: Can I -- Steve, can I just look |
| 17 | Q And you had no input into the development of | 17 | at it real quick just to make sure -- |
| 18 | the plan before it was presented to the board on | 18 | MR. POWELL: Sure. Of course. |
| 19 | July 23? | 19 | MR. EDWARDS: You didn't put anything on here |
| 20 | A No, sir. | 20 | about meetings between you and me; correct? This |
| 21 | Q You said that at the August 20 workshop, | 21 | is just your -- |
| 22 | 2019 -- August 20 of 2019 -- | 22 | THE WITNESS: Yeah, that's just my calendar |
| 23 | A Yeah. | 23 | and inbox and stuff, yeah. |
| 24 | Q -- workshop at Ponte Vedra that -- I think | 24 | MR. EDWARDS: Okay. That's fine. Thank you. |
| 25 | almost -- for sure privatization was on the -- was an | 25 | MR. POWELL: Before we get done, we need to |
|  | Page 34 |  | Page 36 |
| 1 | option that was out there. | 1 | put you -- identify you for the record. I forgot |
| 2 | A It was -- let me clarify. It was at one of | 2 | to take care of that up front. Happy to have you. |
| 3 | those four. I don't remember which one it was. I just | 3 | MR. EDWARDS: While he's looking at that, |
| 4 | remember Herschel talking about the different | 4 | Tom Edwards -- Thomas S. Edwards, Junior. |
| 5 | restrictions in the charter. I don't know if it -- if | 5 | MR. POWELL: And you're here as counsel for -- |
| 6 | Lynne was there or not, but it was my first exposure to, | 6 | MR. EDWARDS: Correct. |
| 7 | here are the things that would have to change in order | 7 | MR. POWELL: -- Mr. Calhoun and his witness |
| 8 | to allow us to get into different lines of business, | 8 | under the -- |
| 9 | et cetera. It was one of those four. I know for a fact | 9 | MR. EDWARDS: Yeah. |
| 10 | it was Ponte Vedra. | 10 | MR. POWELL: -- all right -- directive? |
| 11 | Q Okay. Were all four at Ponte Vedra -- | 11 | BY MR. POWELL: |
| 12 | A Yes, sir. | 12 | Q The note about adding Sherry Hall and |
| 13 | Q -- April, June, and the two August? | 13 | Lynne Rhode, adding them and removing Angie Hiers, what |
| 14 | A Yes, sir. | 14 | were they being added to -- |
| 15 | Q Okay. | 15 | A They were -- |
| 16 | A Yeah. | 16 | Q -- and removed from? |
| 17 | Q So you can't say for sure -- | 17 | A I'm assuming that was between the June meeting |
| 18 | A Which one? | 18 | and August -- it must have been -- when Angie departed |
| 19 | Q -- when you first heard -- | 19 | and Sherry and Lynne joined us. I'm sure that's what |
| 20 | A Correct. | 20 | that was. |
| 21 | Q -- the privatization/sale of JEA discussed | 21 | Q I see. So just -- |
| 22 | among the senior leadership team at meetings led by | 22 | A Yeah. |
| 23 | either Mr. Zahn or Mr. Wannemacher or Mr. Vinyard? | 23 | Q -- as members of -- |
| 24 | A Correct. I don't remember which one it was. | 24 | A Yeah. |
| 25 | It definitely -- it definitely came up. | 25 | Q -- the discussion group? |

- 

A Yeah. It was typed into --
Q Okay.
A -- the meeting invite.
Q I've asked you about meetings with Mr. Zahn.
Can I ask you to respond -- you're sitting down with Mr. Zahn talking through these issues, getting their -getting input from you, sharing your view of your business line.

Can I ask you to -- would it be fair to say -how about similar meetings with Mr. Vinyard?

A None. I mean, I don't -- as I said before, I didn't have one-on-ones with Aaron nor -- and you just asked about Herschel. No, I don't have one-on-ones with Herschel.

Q And the same with respect to Mr. Wannemacher?
A No. The only dealings with him are strictly financial.

Q Let me just take a quick look and we might be done.

In the course of the McKinsey work, did you have any direct contacts with McKinsey -- well, did you -- were you asked by them to supply information or data and you kicked it back to them along the way?

A No. It was more -- there may be some data passed in their direction. It was more them to me. And

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yes, I did have one-on-ones with reps from McKinsey outside of our workshop-type settings where we discussed, you know, some of their goals they had for my areas and that sort of thing.

Q Do you remember who your principal contact or contacts were at McKinsey?

A There are a few. I'd have to go back and look at the calendar. Honestly, the names don't stick in my head, but they're all in my calendar.

Q All right. How about the Willis Towers Watson group?

A No interaction with them.
Q Do you know what they were doing?
A Those were the ones working on the PUP maybe? I don't know. I mean, I think that's what I read in the media, Willis Towers. Towers Watson also does -- if it's the same one. I don't recall the Willis part. But Towers Watson does the benchmarking as I recall.

Q And that was just out of your zone?
A That's not me, correct.
Look, Aaron, spoke about the short-term salary, medium-term compensation -- one year our performance that we can have -- and then long term. That was well known. He was working on those three parts.

Q From the get-go?
A Pretty much, yep.
And don't ask me dates, because I don't recall, but he was very consistent about there are three components to compensation and we need to work on all three. And, you know, he went out and was talking to employees, had his challenge coin and talked long term, you know, about the business.

Q If you wouldn't mind, what are those three components?

A Well, it's -- compensation, you get salary, which Towers Watson does our -- you know, we put -- we get our pay bands and we try to be at the 50 percent mark, 50 percent top. So that's salary --

Q And that's public utilities, correct, or all utilities?

A You know, I don't know what they benchmark against honestly. I've been through this before in hiring, you know, going through the hiring process. This is my rudimentary understanding.

They look at the curve, and they try to be at the 50th percentile for hiring someone unless someone comes in off the street with, you know, just incredible years of experience or some really diverse -- you know, you might be able to push them up to that higher 70th,

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80th percentile, something like that.
Then you have the one-year compensation,
our -- meeting our annual goals, that kind of thing. We've never had a long-term compensation. That was the third leg of the stool that he was working on.

But as I said, I didn't have anything to do with the development or the discussion about how that would go. I'm just saying those were the three components he was clear about.

Q What did you understand about the long-term component of Mr. Zahn's thinking?

A That's what I was getting at earlier is if -if we ended up getting sold -- and as I recall, it was a three-year look. If we ended up getting sold or recapitalized or whatever word you want to use, different business, you know, how would you -- where would you draw the line in the sand. If it's at 18 months or at 2 years, you know, how would you close the books on that and do the payout?

Q So when you were at the August -- when you were at the August 2019 Ponte Vedra workshops, you were aware of the PUP plan at that point, weren't you?

A By that point, we should have, absolutely,
because it went to the board in July.
Q And you were previously aware of and heard
these long-term incentive discussions; yes?
A Yes.
Q Did you understand that the long-term incentive had become the PUP?

A I don't remember the -- I don't remember when the acronym came about. It may have already been used at the July meeting. I don't remember. But "performance unit plan" is what it was called, and there was going to be a certain number of shares sold, that kind of thing.

Q All right. And also at the August meeting, there's at least on a list of alternative strategies, selling JEA?

A At one of those four and I don't remember which, yeah.

Q All right. Did -- and I think you earlier had expressed a question about how does that -- how do you reconcile the two; right?

A Absolutely.
Q And has that ever been explained to you?
A No.
Q By Mr. Zahn or Mr. Vinyard or Mr. Wannemacher?
A No, sir.
Q Did you at any of these workshops put up your
hand and say, help me out here, what -- I'm not saying

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you should or shouldn't have -- help me with this, what I see as a disconnect here? Anybody -- did you put your hand up and say, please explain this to me, Mr. Zahn?

A No.
Q Did any of the other members of the senior leadership team do that?

A Not that I'm aware of. They may have behind the scenes or they may have gotten their personal meetings with Aaron; I didn't.

Q And you didn't have any -- thank you. Because I really sort of neglected this -- any discussions with your fellow senior leadership team members about these issues?

A There's -- you know, everybody's wondering how it's going to work, you know, that kind of thing. You know, could there have been a conversation about, hey, is -- you know, is this thing going to pay out based on the recapitalization? Probably.

Q All right. Let me make sure I've got the lay of the land --

A Right.
Q -- clear.
The senior leadership team, at least until a couple weeks ago --

A Yeah.

Q -- was Aaron Zahn, Melissa Dykes, Ryan Wannemacher, Herschel Vinyard, Lynne Rhode, Kerri Stewart, Jordan Pope, Paul Steinbrecher --

A I don't know why Jordan's listed there.
Q He's a director; right?
A Yeah. He's a real estate director.
Q All right. So we'll put a question mark there, because I agree with you, I had seen that and wondered why he was on that list as well. Paul Steinbrecher?
A Yes.
Q Shawn Eads?
A Yes.
Q Ted Hobson, Jon Kendrick, Caren Anders, yourself, and John McCarthy?

A Yeah, sounds right.
Q But wasn't there really a subset of this group under Mr. Zahn that I have -- in my way of thinking, I called it the senior senior leadership team --

A Correct.
Q -- of Mr. Zahn, Melissa Dykes,
Mr. Wannemacher, and Mr. Vinyard?
A Absolutely. It's Herschel and Melissa and -well, Shawn Eads now, report directly to the CEO. And Wannemacher, excuse me. Yes, you're right. It was

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Julio Romero before Shawn. Shawn used to work for Julio, and then Julio departed. Shawn's fairly new. But yes, that's fair.

Q Because you reported directly to Melissa Dykes?

A Correct.
Q Was there -- and when you came into the job, had the direct reports been changed by Mr. Zahn so that when you started, your direct -- you were directly reporting to Melissa Dykes?

A Yes. I've always reported to Melissa. I don't think Herschel was here yet. No, I know he wasn't. When I got the job in July of '18, he was not here yet.

Q But there was never a time -- excuse me.
There was never a time when you reported directly to the CEO, whoever it was?

A No.
Q Okay.
A Yeah, my recollection is everybody reported to Melissa who then reported to Aaron.

Q So, for example, Mr. Roche reported directly to Mr. McElroy?

A Correct. Roche did, yeah. That's correct.
Q And you worked closely with Mr. Roche during

|  | Page 45 |  | Page 47 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | that time; correct? | 1 | Q That's interesting. You're the second person |
| 2 | A Yes. | 2 | to say 10,000 . |
| 3 | Q Do you have any impressions, through | 3 | A I've heard that number. It's stuck in my |
| 4 | experience, of the difference between those two | 4 | head. |
| 5 | structures as it related to you doing -- getting your | 5 | Q Have you not heard -- |
| 6 | job done? | 6 | A I'm sorry. 100,000. |
| 7 | A Well, the way it was explained was Aaron was | 7 | Q 100,000. |
| 8 | going to have the outward facing responsibilities and | 8 | A 100,000 times 10 is a million bucks. |
| 9 | Melissa would focus internally on the operational piece. | 9 | Q Okay. All right. All right. |
| 10 | That's distinct in my brain. I don't know whether | 10 | A Yeah, yeah. Sorry. |
| 11 | there's any advantage one over the other. | 11 | Q And have you heard something about 30,000 in |
| 12 | Q And that's exactly my question -- | 12 | the first year, $30-\mathrm{-}$ |
| 13 | A Yeah. | 13 | A Yeah, that's true. There had been some talk |
| 14 | Q -- so in your experience working closely with | 14 | about meting them out and the board was -- if I'm |
| 15 | Mr. Roche, reporting to Mr. McElroy -- | 15 | remembering correctly -- the board was going to decide |
| 16 | A Right. | 16 | as to how many per year. Yeah, I do remember something |
| 17 | Q -- then when you got Mr. Roche's job, you were | 17 | like that. |
| 18 | now reporting directly to Melissa Dykes, one step short | 18 | Q But nothing about how many you would be -- |
| 19 | of the CEO. | 19 | A No. |
| 20 | A Right. | 20 | Q -- eligible -- |
| 21 | Q It was what it was. You don't know whether it | 21 | A No. |
| 22 | made an operational or -- | 22 | Q -- to purchase? |
| 23 | A Difference -- | 23 | A Now, you mentioned Steve earlier and so -- |
| 24 | Q -- planning difference one way -- | 24 | Q Steve? |
| 25 | A I've seen it different ways over the years. | 25 | A McInall. |
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| 1 | We used to have the wastewater and water and power | 1 | So he and I sit next to one another, and yes, |
| 2 | plants under one EVP and pipes and wires under another | 2 | we did have a chuckle about how much these things would |
| 3 | EVP. So we've been through just about every structure | 3 | be worth and how is it going to be valued if we were |
| 4 | you can -- you know, every one has -- every one has its | 4 | sold. So yeah, as I said, it's rolling around in your |
| 5 | advantages and disadvantages I suppose. I understood | 5 | head, because if you're sold, you haven't hit the |
| 6 | it. | 6 | three-year mark, so would they pull the rug on the thing |
| 7 | You know, Aaron wanted to be facing outward | 7 | or would it be prorated? You see what I mean? |
| 8 | and doing that work. I don't -- you know, as I said, I | 8 | Q Yeah. |
| 9 | don't know if there's any advantage or not, but my | 9 | A But we never -- |
| 10 | dealings were with Melissa. | 10 | Q Let me ask you this. Did you ever have any |
| 11 | Q So all the way through August and September | 11 | discussions among the members of the senior leadership |
| 12 | and October, after the PUP had been approved by the | 12 | team? You mentioned Steve McInall as an example and of |
| 13 | board in July, rolling through all that time, you get to | 13 | course, I know that you didn't have any discussions with |
| 14 | the end of October, you still really don't -- you | 14 | Mr. Zahn or Mr. Vinyard or Mr. Wannemacher about it |
| 15 | have -- the PUP hasn't been explained to you. You | 15 | because there's like nothing; right? You have zero |
| 16 | haven't been told how many shares you would be eligible | 16 | conversation -- |
| 17 | to purchase. | 17 | A I don't meet with them. |
| 18 | How -- did you even know how many shares were | 18 | Q Right. So back among the members of the team, |
| 19 | going to be in the PUP? | 19 | up through October, did you-all ever have a discussion |
| 20 | A I can't -- it's all starting to run together. | 20 | that would have ranged as far as, well, gosh if JEA is |
| 21 | I don't know if I heard the 10,000 units in-house or in | 21 | sold and the City nets $\$ 4$ billion, that each PUP might |
| 22 | the media, to be honest with you. But I never got | 22 | well be worth $\$ 3,000$. |
| 23 | anything where I could say, here's how much it's going | 23 | A No. I never had a $\$ 3,000$ conversation, but |
| 24 | to cost me, here's how many I will have an opportunity | 24 | that's what I'm saying. I knew that it was going to |
| 25 | to buy. | 25 | be -- if the company now has a value to it, right, how |


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| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | does that work in relation to -- the plan originally was | 1 | was -- I think I read in the -- in one of the media |
| 2 | you drive the value of the company through -- | 2 | sources, there was a nondisclosure attached, or would |
| 3 | Q Through -- | 3 | have been attached to it. I never heard there was going |
| 4 | A -- goals or -- | 4 | to be a nondisclosure, which maybe that's the norm in |
| 5 | Q -- work? | 5 | the private sector. I don't know. It seems awkward. |
| 6 | A Work, exactly. So on one hand, you've got | 6 | Q And -- okay. Let me lay this predicate, or |
| 7 | here's how much someone is willing to pay. On the other | 7 | make sure I'm working okay here. |
| 8 | hand, you're going to have these goals to work towards | 8 | Did you -- did you ever have the occasion to |
| 9 | to increase the value of the company. How do you match | 9 | present to the board? |
| 10 | the two up, that was the discussion. | 10 | A I do operational reporting. I've done a |
| 11 | Q All right. Were you aware that the PUP was on | 11 | couple since Melissa's been tied up with the -- with the |
| 12 | a timeline to roll out in December of 2019? | 12 | ITN. |
| 13 | A No, I don't recall that. | 13 | Q All right. And the occasion to ask -- bring |
| 14 | Q All right. You were never aware that there | 14 | something to the board that you needed their approval |
| 15 | was -- I'm sorry. Did you ever see -- you have the | 15 | of? |
| 16 | email notice called Currents? | 16 | A No. |
| 17 | A Yes. | 17 | Q No? |
| 18 | Q Did you ever see a Currents -- | 18 | A Just presenting operational information. |
| 19 | A Suspending. | 19 | Q Ever any -- ever any participation in any |
| 20 | Q No, about -- yes, that's true. But anything | 20 | presentation to the board that required their approval, |
| 21 | announcing the PUP? | 21 | whether it was just yours or as a member of a team or |
| 22 | A No. That's what I said earlier, in my inbox | 22 | anything else? |
| 23 | search the other day I searched on "PUP" and | 23 | A The only presentations I recall in this role |
| 24 | "performance". I didn't find anything, but -- and I | 24 | was Melissa had me address utility damages back in the |
| 25 | thought that was strange because I knew we had been | 25 | spring, and then a couple of times I've presented |
|  | Page 50 |  | Page 52 |
| 1 | talking about it and that's why I went and asked the | 1 | operational data that normally she presents, but she's |
| 2 | directors, hey, what do you recall? | 2 | been tied up on the ITN. |
| 3 | One of them did recall a Currents. She went | 3 | Q Even with that, you would -- I would --- would |
| 4 | back and searched, but she couldn't find it. So maybe | 4 | you ever present data or information to the board of |
| 5 | there was a Currents and I just -- and my search | 5 | directors that you had not fully vetted? |
| 6 | function didn't work, but we talked about it at the | 6 | A No. I would hope I wouldn't do something like |
| 7 | leaders meeting. | 7 | that knowingly. I mean, that's -- |
| 8 | Q Take me at my word, okay -- | 8 | Q And why is that? |
| 9 | A Yeah. | 9 | A Your job is to provide them factual |
| 10 | Q -- that the rollout was -- would have been | 10 | information on which they can make decisions. |
| 11 | December. | 11 | Q In fact that's right, because the board relies |
| 12 | A Okay. | 12 | on information from its senior management to be accurate |
| 13 | Q And that employees would have been required to | 13 | and researched so that they can make good decisions; |
| 14 | sign up before the end of December -- | 14 | correct? |
| 15 | A Okay. | 15 | A Correct. |
| 16 | Q -- or miss that first opportunity. | 16 | Q Along those lines, would you have expected |
| 17 | A Okay. | 17 | that the PUP would have been fully developed and |
| 18 | Q What's your reaction to that timeline, given | 18 | understood by at least the senior senior leadership |
| 19 | the fact that you as the vice president and general | 19 | team, of the four that we've talked about, when it was |
| 20 | manager of one of the two core business lines of JEA had | 20 | presented to the board in July of 2019? |
| 21 | no information -- virtually no information whatsoever | 21 | A You're asking me to get into Aaron's brain or |
| 22 | about this plan? | 22 | senior senior leadership team's brain -- |
| 23 | A Interesting to say the least. And if we | 23 | Q No, no. I am not. |
| 24 | haven't done any homework with the employees, you know, | 24 | A -- I don't -- |
| 25 | that's even going to be stranger. I didn't know there | 25 | Q No, no, that's not my question. |


|  | Page 53 |  | Page 55 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | A Okay. | 1 | were going to be $\$ 10$ ? |
| 2 | Q Forget whether -- forget the personalities. | 2 | A Yes. |
| 3 | A Yeah. | 3 | Q You didn't know how many you could purchase -- |
| 4 | Q You got four members who are the executive | 4 |  |
| 5 | group of the senior leadership team, however you want to | 5 | A Yeah. |
| 6 | talk about it. | 6 | Q -- correct? |
| 7 | A Right. | 7 | But I mean, even if you could only purchase |
| 8 | Q But they are, within the four driving, big | 8 | ten, a $\$ 100$ becomes \$30,000? |
| 9 | planning, big decisions. I'm not trying to marginalize | 9 | A I thought it was 300 bucks -- I can't |
| 10 | you or any other members of the senior leadership team, | 10 | remember -- |
| 11 | but you're providing input. But it is true, is it not, | 11 | Q Whatever the math is. |
| 12 | that the management of JEA during Mr. Zahn's tenure was | 12 | A Yeah, whatever the math is. |
| 13 | principally conducted by those four people? | 13 | Q It went from \$10 a unit to \$3,000 a unit -- |
| 14 | A That's correct. Caren and I were told to run | 14 | A Or even 300. It was a big gain, yes. |
| 15 | our business, and yes, you're not demeaning us. That's | 15 | Q And -- well, qualify that gain for me. How |
| 16 | what we -- | 16 | does it -- in your mind, what is that gain? |
| 17 | Q You're referring to Caren Anders? | 17 | A It's a big number in a short period of time. |
| 18 | A Caren Anders, yeah. | 18 | Q When you saw those numbers, did it make any |
| 19 | We were told to run our business and, you | 19 | sense to you? |
| 20 | know, that's what we do. | 20 | A No. |
| 21 | Q Provide information when you were asked for | 21 | Q Did you have -- did you have -- was there any |
| 22 | it? | 22 | thinking that ran through your mind of, like, oh, my |
| 23 | A That's correct. | 23 | God, how could the board of directors have approved such |
| 24 | Q All right. So forget the personalities. | 24 | a plan? |
| 25 | A Yes. | 25 | A It would have been embarrassing. I don't |
|  | Page 54 |  | Page 56 |
| 1 | Q As somebody who's been at JEA since 1997, | 1 | think the payout would have actually occurred, or at |
| 2 | that's your career, and you have risen to the -- about | 2 | least I would have hoped it wouldn't have occurred, |
| 3 | as far as you can go, would you agree? | 3 | because it would have not, in my mind, been a true earn, |
| 4 | A Yes. | 4 | if you want to think of it in terms of that. |
| 5 | Q All right. Not suggesting that you wouldn't | 5 | Again, we were thinking of a three-year grow |
| 6 | be a great CEO, but it doesn't seem to me -- | 6 | the business mentality. That's the way it was |
| 7 | A I'm good. | 7 | introduced to us. And so, you know, something shorter |
| 8 | Q -- like that's in your plan. Okay. | 8 | term like that with a massive payout would not have made |
| 9 | A Go ahead. | 9 | sense. It would have been -- it would have been |
| 10 | Q So wouldn't you have expected that the -- that | 10 | horrible press. |
| 11 | the executives running JEA would have fully understood | 11 | Q It would have been a horrible outcome? |
| 12 | the details and ramifications of this long-term | 12 | A Absolutely. |
| 13 | incentive performance unit plan before it was presented | 13 | Q To the agency and the city and the customers? |
| 14 | to the board of directors for approval? | 14 | A Correct. |
| 15 | A Yes. | 15 | Q Mr. Calhoun, I really appreciate your time |
| 16 | Q Did there come a time that you learned, either | 16 | this morning and your candor and your help with -- |
| 17 | through the press or other sources, that a valuation of | 17 | A Absolutely. |
| 18 | these PUPs, performance units, excuse me, in the event | 18 | Q I'll make a quick copy of that. So let me |
| 19 | of a sale that netted \$ 4 billion to the City, could be | 19 | just ask the wrap-up question. |
| 20 | as high as \$3,000 a unit? | 20 | Given all that has transpired that you have |
| 21 | A Yeah, it was definitely in the press, and as I | 21 | seen and that you've been a party to and observed the |
| 22 | said before, I'm already thinking these kind of things | 22 | performance of Mr. Zahn over the year or so, whenever it |
| 23 | ahead of time, but I don't know numbers that well | 23 | was that he was CEO, apart from anything we've talked |
| 24 | financially, so -- | 24 | about today, are you aware of any other conduct or |
| 25 | Q So you knew it started at \$10? You knew they | 25 | decisions by him as CEO of JEA that would warrant his -- |



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