

## **Transcript of JRWA Public Meeting March 11 2020**

This meeting was held at 9am on March 11, 2020, at the Spring Creek Clubhouse in Zion Crossroads, VA. As you can tell from the recording, despite notice that there would be a large public attendance, there was minimal adjustments to the room to allow for audibility. However, we hope this transcript helps provides insights into the concerns held by the individuals attending the meeting.

Male: Good morning.

Female: Good morning.

Male: [Unintelligible 00:00:07] and we're going to start [unintelligible 00:00:08]. Before the meeting we would ask you to join us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag [Pledge of Allegiance]. [unintelligible 00:00:41] authority and [GAI] [unintelligible 00:00:49].

Male: Could you please speak up?

Female: Is there a microphone?

Male: There's not a microphone.

Female: [Unintelligible 00:01:02] so could you please louder than you have been?

Male: Yes, so what we did is we added additional budgets, budget allocations in GAI Consultants and we added that under action items after action item A.

Male: [Unintelligible 00:01:23].

Male: Speak up.

Female: Can't hear anything back here.

Male: Sorry, we normally don't have microphones in this room, so we'll try to speak up. I appreciate your consideration. What we did is just adopted the agenda with that addition.

Male: Okay, good morning. Now we'll open the floor up for public comments. Public comments will be limited to issues that are not the subject of public hearing. [unintelligible 00:01:55] for the public to give input relevant to the issues that concerning the JRWA. Speakers each will have three minutes, and as you approach your three minutes we will give you a timeout. Anyone wishing to address the board will stand, give your name, and home address. Any questions? Any comments from the public? I'm sorry, Ms. Barbara Seay.

Ms. Barbara Seay: How do you do?

Male: Name and address please.

Ms. Barbara Seay: My name is Barbara Seay. I live at Point of Fork and the land in question, Rassawek. I hope you can hear me. I have no prepared remarks. I just want to say that since 1956 my father, Dr. Russell Snead, bought [unintelligible 00:03:03] and since that time I have not felt like. I've owned it. I feel like it owns me and I'm the caretaker of the land. I remain the caretaker of the land my husband, Vincent, and I. And we ask you to be very careful in your comments and in your thinking about what should be done with this hallowed ground. Enough words have been said. Enough information has been put out there that if anybody's truly interested they can follow that in the news media. Gentlemen I know that you are trying to do your due diligence. I ask you and beg you to back another site for this project.

Male: Yeah.

Ms. Barbara Seay: Because this is hallowed ground. It was on John [clapping] [unintelligible 00:04:08] of the Monacan Indians. I don't care what you say and how you try to make us prove exactly where it is. The air, the land, and the water and my husband and I shall continue to be caretakers of this area if you will let us. We promise that to all Fluvanna and to everybody. Find another site. You have it in your ability to do that. Find another site. Thank you [clapping].

Male: We will try to not botch this name. It is Kenneth Branham.

Chief Kenneth Branham: I'm a stand right here so everybody can hear me.

Male: Name and address Mr. Branham.

Chief Branham: I'm Kenneth Branham. I live over in Amherst County. I've been the chief of the Monacans over 18 years now. Can everybody hear me?

Male: Yes.

Female: Yes.

Chief Branham: Because too much been kept a secret here. So I want everything that I say, everybody to hear it. This is the major capital of the Monacan people. It's our history. It's our culture. It's my ancestors. And there are rumors that we're trying to raise the money that the tribe will get for reburial. That is the biggest lie that I have ever heard, and it's so disrespectful for someone to even suggest that. And I am appalled at who have started that. We will not take any amount of money to let you go through there and destroy our ancestors homelands. There are ancestral remains in that area. I had did a major reburial once before and I do not want to do that again. You can move that site.

We found three routes and we going to propose another route today. We're doing your job for you. We don't have a problem with water. Everybody needs water, but you started in 2003. You contacted the Monacans in

2015. If we hadn't received federal recognition two years ago you would probably be building that already on that site. It's time that stuff like that is stopped. You have taken our land. You've taken our religion. You've taken our language and it's time to stop. I don't think you can find a person here that'll agree that that's the right place to put that pump station. You're supposed to be working for these people, do your job and put it somewhere where everybody will be happy with it.

Or at least don't be putting it in the middle of our major city. And that's been on the maps since the first Europeans drew the first map of Virginia. It's Virginia history too folks, not just mine. It's y'all's and the people in Fluvanna County. I would love to come and talk to y'all Board of Supervisors and tell them what this place means to me. I got a shirt on. We've started a website, Save Rassawek. And on the back it's got a quote from the first Monacans that came in contact with you, with Captain John Smith. When they asked why did the shoot arrows at him, he said "because we heard you were a people from beneath the world, to take our world away."

Male: Thank you Mr. Branham [clapping]. [Luis Oyala].

Luis Oyala: Good morning everybody. Good morning members of the water authority. Can everybody hear me?

Female: No.

Luis Oyala: Good morning everybody.

Male: Good morning.

Female: Good morning.

Luis Oyala: My name is Luis Oyala. I am a resident of [unintelligible 00:09:20] in Fluvanna County. I am here to show support for the Monacan Nation and their rightful claim to Rassawek and their demand to the water authority that they reject the proposal to build the pump station and the pipeline through this sacred land. It is all too often that the burdens of pollution, the spoils of colonization are put on the lands of the indigenous. And it is all too often that when the indigenous do the work of trying to mitigate that damage that they are not heard. So I am here to show my unwavering support [unintelligible 00:10:07] and I demand of you that you listen to the alternatives and that you reroute and consider and don't desecrate this sacred land. Thank you [clapping].

Male: [Terry Clouthier].

Terry Clouthier: Good morning everyone. My name is Terry Clouthier. I'm the Cultural Resource Director for the Pamunkey Tribe. My office supports the Monacan Nation's request for an alternative route to be chosen for the proposed undertaking. I'd like to thank the court for requiring the

alternative analysis review. However, given the circumstances surrounding investigations at this location, the court should conduct an independent analysis review for accountability and not rely solely on the contractors [unintelligible 00:11:04] due to potential conflicts of interest inherent with such review. The court must acknowledge that the Monacan nation possesses specialized expertise in assessing the eligibility of historic properties that may possess religious and cultural significance to them consistent with 36 CFR 800.4(b)(2)(c).

And therefore that information possessed only by the tribe must be given equal if not greater weight than the archeological study conducted on this site in determining significance and potential consistent with 36 CFR 800.4(e) and 800.5 and 800.6. My office supports the Monacan nation's assertion that additional studies at this site would constitute a section 110(k) violation of the National Historic Preservation Act as it would be anticipatory demolition as the site significant does not need further analysis. As the specialized expertise of the Monacan nation has already established the significance consistent with 36 CFR 800.4(b)(2)(c). This undertaking and its likely effects to a significant site is a textbook example of how the Army Core's use of 36 CFR 325 Appendix C in lieu of the 36 CFR 800 regulations to account for effects to historical properties fails to achieve its desired goal.

The court should not issue any permit which will affect the site despite the results in the vote here today as they would be negligent in mitigating adverse effects to a [unintelligible 00:12:38] site consistent with 36 CFR 800.6. The primary obstacle to considering alternative routes should not be predicated on a preferred route by the Monacan nation. Rather, it should be predicated on the fact that the Monacan nation has consistently stated numerous times that the preferred route by JRWA is unacceptable. A preferred route for the alternative is essentially irrelevant defined in such terms when all of the alternative routes would be considered preferable to the preferred route currently chosen by the JRWA.

My office rejects the statements allegedly made by lawyers for JRWA and the counties of Louisa and Fluvanna that the client's hands were tied by the inability of the Monacan nation to select a preferred route. [telephone ringing] claim on the inability to set an alternative route incorrectly on the Monacan nation and [unintelligible 00:13:39] that this is whole process is not being conducted in good faith for all concerned parties. This enforces our recommendation to the Army Core of Engineers that an independent and alternative analysis of routes should be undertaken. My office encourages JRWA and ACOE to collaborate with the Monacan Nation to establish a preferred route such as the Forsyth alternative.

Male: Mr. Clouthier thank you so much [clapping]. [Walt Heineke].

Walt Heineke: Hi my name is Walt Heineke. I live in Charlesville, Virginia. I work with a group called Indigenous Studies at UVA, but I do not speak for them here today nor do I speak for the university with any comments that I make. I

wanted to say that I'm opposed to any construction at the current planned site and I don't believe that getting water for the community requires the destruction of Monacan cultural heritage or the disturbance of Monacan ancestral remains. I urge the water authority to more seriously consider the Forsyth alternative and in order to do so encourage the water authority to defer its vote today and accept the tribe's offer of good faith collaboration. I also request that the water authority make its alternative analysis public.

This vote is a major decision that risks taxpayer dollars. The public should be able to review the analysis for itself and rather than rely on the limited PowerPoint presentation that you all give, put together and present [it entirely] by the water authority. I'm particularly concerned that the water authority has not in good faith considered the true cost of the proposed site. For example, we know that the calculation for the current site does not take into account any archeological studies, any potential litigation costs that are coming, or any costs associated with project delays. Lastly, these decisions that you make are part of a chain of historical decisions that go back hundreds of years to the 1600s, right? It's not some little bureaucratic decisions that you're making now.

You're reinforcing a chain of decisions that have been made by white settlers in this country for hundreds of years. It's not a little thing that you're doing here. You should have respect. My god, what this country has done to Native American populations for generations of genocide and displacement. My god, you should have respect for what they're asking you to do, to consider thinking about these alternatives that they're asking you to think about. Please think about the history that you're involved with here when you're making this decision. Thank you [clapping].

Male: I can't make out the name, but I will do the address. It's [redacted] in Charlottesville.

Giselle Jouthari: Hello everyone. My name is [Giselle Jouthari] and I reside in Charlottesville. I have a very, very quick note here as professor at the University of Virginia teaching [unintelligible 00:17:18] me and my students have kind of been immersed in the exercise of kind of understanding [unintelligible 00:17:26] historical erasure of Native Americans and, you know, it's not surprising to us that as Mr. Heineke mentioned the kind of erasure of indigenous people by this type of urban infrastructure project by all means is not an isolated event. And this has been going on for over 400 centuries. And in continuation of what Mr. Heineke mentioned I would like to invite you to go back and read the treaties that the Virginia government has made with Native Americans.

Go back and read the treaties which have been misinterpreted and completely broken and the [unintelligible 00:18:13] of such projects is right at the center of these broken treaties. We can't continue like this. Thank you [clapping].

Male: Lisa [Draine].

Lisa Draine: Hi, my name is Lisa Draine. I'm here from Charlottesville and I'm here just to support the Monacan Nation and urge you to find an alternative site so that you're not destroying historical burial grounds. And as again, perpetuating sort of this narrative of white supremacy coming in and destroying indigenous lands. Thank you [clapping].

Male: Nicholas McCarthy.

Nicholas McCarthy: Hey y'all. My name's Nick. I don't really have a prepared remark, but I just want y'all to really consider what y'all are doing. I mean you've heard very articulate and passionate people speak on behalf of the Monacan nation, and I think they've made excellent points. There are alternative sites that you have been considering so far, but there are new alternative sites. And I think that folks have really been going out of their way to show you that there are other ways you can do this. And I'm sort of shocked that you're still going with it as is. I request that you defer the vote, take more time to consider the new alternatives. Because it's just disgusting if you guys go through with this like you've been doing, absolutely disgusting. It's an act of genocide, an act of genocide. It really is. Just because you're not killing people doesn't mean you're not doing something that's an act of genocide. Thank you [clapping].

Male: [Lynn Townsend].

Lynn Townsend: Lynn Townsend on [Goldsboro] Farm. I actually live in Richmond. I hadn't prepared anything, but just listening to the Chief and the other speakers, well done and well said. Anything I would say is redundant. I think the Indians have been displaced, disgraced, and to go forward with this is just furthering more of what's been done to them in the past. And I would hope and pray that you would reconsider where you're going to locate this spot and [unintelligible 00:21:08], and I want to thank everyone that's spoken. It was from the heart. God bless everyone. Thank you [clapping].

Male: [Kylara Miene].

Kylara Miene: I'm Kylara Miene. I live in [unintelligible 00:21:27] Virginia. I [unintelligible 00:21:29]. I feel like I have read in the newspapers a false dichotomy that's been created where people are having a choice between destroying a sacred cultural site and spending more taxpayer money. And I think that we are in this position because we have been lied to and manipulated. We have been lied to by the people performing alleged archeological investigations. The lies are many. We've also been manipulated because we have been put into a position where it will take more taxpayer money to build the infrastructure in one place then another place and this is not the fault of the taxpayers.

This is the taxpayers being blackmailed into choosing a certain outcome that would be advantageous to certain people. It is not what is

advantageous for the most of us. And there is no reason that we should be blackmailed in this way or that we should give up our ethics to do what these people want. Alternative sites must be considered [clapping].

Male: [Kirk Bowers].

Kirk Bowers: Good morning. My name is Kirk Bowers. I'm a licensed professional civil engineer, retired. I speak today as conservation chair of the Piedmont Group/Sierra Club and I represent around 1500 members in the area. The proposed water intake home station pipeline would have serious impacts on significant historic, cultural, and archeological resources in the area including on Rassawek, the historic capitol of the Monacan Indian Nation. In addition the archeological resources associated with the Native American history at this location [where] extensive impacts with resources which are part of the United States, [Monacan] Nation, at the Point of Fork [Arsenal], at the Point of Fork plantation and the [unintelligible 00:23:49].

The project and its impacts will alter the historic settings in the area and negatively affect [unintelligible 00:23:58] the area's historic, cultural, and archeologic resources. An important issue is the Corps of Engineers requiring an individual permit [unintelligible 00:24:09] which requires meeting National Historic Preservation Act requirements and [unintelligible 00:24:15]. I just went through more than five years of managing the pipeline projects with the Sierra Club and [state] and they've had a lot of problems with [unintelligible 00:24:26] takes a long time, cost a lot of money. So I wanted to point that out to y'all. Corps permitting regulations including comprehensive analysis of whether issuing a permit will be [unintelligible 00:24:43].

But I seriously believe the alternative analysis that you all did was not sufficient. You did not really seriously consider alternative sites or routes. From my experience as a civil engineer for over 30 years I have seen this over and over again where cost became a major factor in making a decision. Since taxpayers in part are funding then part of the requirements for consideration cost has to be considered. However, in this case, it is not in the public's best interest to seek the lowest cost as the cost and destruction of historic resources are not measurable. The value of our cultural [unintelligible 00:25:35] and resources simply outweigh the value gained from building a pump station at [unintelligible 00:25:42] Rassawek.

It's also, as I mentioned before, significant risk proposed location will not be approved by federal agencies. You will continue to see litigation also, and I'm going to offer today to bring forward our [unintelligible 00:26:01] law program attorneys to see if they want to jump into this case. So in conclusion, we urge the James River Water Authority to defer its vote, to [unintelligible 00:26:15] to check alternatives to the Rassawek location and seriously consider other alternatives. And one quick note is my family came to this country in 1622. We have a lost invested in this state. This is part of our history too. So we want to make sure it's preserved. Thank you very much for your time [clapping].

Male: [Donna Shaughnessy].

Donna Shaughnessy: Yes, hi. I'm Donna Shaughnessy. I live in Charlottesville. I'm the chair of the Piedmont group of the Sierra Club. And I just want to echo what all the other speakers have said. There should be no desecration of this historic site when there are other feasible options. As a country we have a terrible record of destroying native cultures. It's time for that to stop and it's time that we all just took a deep breath and did the right thing [clapping].

Male: [Julia Griffin].

Julia Griffin: Hi there. My name is Julia Griffin. I live at [redacted] and I'm here to speak in defense of the Monacan capitol city of Rassawek against the Point of Fork location and in favor of the Forsyth alternative. So I don't know if you all have read the sworn testimony of [Eric Mai]. It is horrifying for the water authority to blatantly flaunt the National Historic Conservation Act hiring a deeply unqualified and intentionally negligent contractor, Circa, to conduct an archeological investigation is not just incompetent but obviously malicious. The internal investigation is clearly lacking [unintelligible 00:27:59], and failed to even interview the whistleblower, Eric Mai. The Circa director, Tyrer, herself told the water authority that the possibility of human remains on the site was medium to high.

So I'm highly aware that this board is made up of elected officials. So look around the room. Louisa and Fluvanna Counties are pretty small. If the board approves this permit application, that would be the fastest way to generate grass roots opposition for the members of this board. Imagine what hundred people canvassing for your opponents could do. Thank you [clapping].

Male: [Unintelligible 00:28:46]. What's the name?

Male: [Wade Brue] lives in Richmond on [redacted]—

Male: That's me [laughter].

Greg Werkheiser: My name is [Greg Werkheiser] [laughter]. That's more a comment on my handwriting than anything [laughter]. It's my honor to be the lawyer for the Monacan Indian Nation. And y'all are so impressive that I'm going to do something you've never seen before. As a lawyer I'm going to cede my time back to you and sit down. Thank you [clapping].

Male: In which case I arrived late because of doctor's appointment and I will accept that [seeded] time [laughter]. My [unintelligible 00:29:37] Allen. I'm an enrolled member of the Pascagoula River Choctaw Tribe in Pascagoula Point, Mississippi. I have lived for 33 years on the Monasukapanough village summer camp site out in [unintelligible 00:29:52] Virginia. I am very deeply aware of the history of the Monacans.



I may look like a white skin, but I am a red man at heart. I have canoed the entire James River. I have camped at the Rassawek site. I have felt the vibrations of that place just as I have felt them and you gentlemen are free to come out on [unintelligible 00:30:18] Rd and feel them in the huge buffalo meadows of the Monasukapanough town, the second largest town.

The town that [unintelligible 00:30:27] put on the map and it's called Charlottesville, Virginia today. You can come out and feel those vibrations. You mean have spirit bodies. You're able to go down and stand in Rassawek and breath and feel and stop this nonsense. Please, you know better than this. Nathaniel Bacon started a revolution back in the 1600s. He made inroads into this gigantic Monacan Nation that owned half, that occupied half of what we call Virginia today. And he genocided them with illnesses, sicknesses like this coronavirus that we're worried about. There is a sickness onboard right now and it sounds like it's called by the elected water board virus and gentlemen I want to ask you to quarantine your own spirits, [elder] yourselves as the Quakers say and move to an alternative site. Thank you [clapping].

Male: [Kay Ferguson].

Kay Ferguson: I'm Kay Ferguson. I'm with [Artemis] in Virginia and clearly the route through this sacred site is the wrong thing to do, immoral thing to do. But I just want to talk about it for a minute in terms of money. Like if you push through this you're running a risk of costing the taxpayer extensive court costs, long delays and the likelihood that you will still have to pay the extra money that you're claiming is needed for the alternative route. So I know your job is to get water to people that's clean and safe with the least amount of fuss and the least amount of money. Well clearly this isn't the least amount of fuss [laughter] [clapping]. It's the money either and the other thing is the economy of the Commonwealth of Virginia is hugely involved with tourism.

It's one of the sources of wealth and growth that we have that actually doesn't actually poison our water and it has many benefits. So I'm here to tell you that increasingly current audience of Virginia tourism and even more with the future audience for Virginia tourism, interest in these stories. Interest in the story of the indigenous people that we have not fully ever heard that we have silenced and in some cases destroyed will be a big draw. And also in the future some of your big tourism sites on the coast are going to be lost to rising sea. So here you have this opportunity for an inland site, close to Monticello and then you're going to alienate the very people who have the wisdom to help you develop that into something that's rich and provides income and good vibrations for this region.

No, that's not [unintelligible 00:34:06]. That's giving up a great opportunity which has real [mathematical] value. And as far as the [sacred] thing and the right thing, that math doesn't get done now, but it does get done on the Judgement Day [clapping].

Male: [Sue Marcus].

Sue Marcus: Hello again. My name is Sue Marcus. I am Fairfax, Virginia but I'm representing a regional Quaker group, the Baltimore Yearly Meeting, and I'm [unintelligible 00:34:48]. We range from Pennsylvania to the North Carolina border. I have prepared more which I will give you, but I'm going to select some parts of that. I'd like a show of hands, how many of us in this room would like to see the evaluations that the water authority conducted on other sites other than Rassawek? I don't know that those have been public. Okay, so that's one point. Also I'd like to note that if Rassawek had contained the graves of [unintelligible 00:35:34] or early slaves, or our families would they be disturbed?

Female: No.

Male: No.

Sue Marcus: Another issue, on the water authority's website because I was looking last night, it says that the Army Core of Engineers is presently engaging in consultation with Virginia Historic Preservation, interested tribes of the consulting parties. And it goes on, this is quote, given the historical context and sensitive archeological nature of this project, the James River Water Authority is making every effort to be respectful of and sensitive to everyone's input during this project. Aside from the fact that I'm not sure about the sensitivity and respect, I've actually spoken with ACE directly. Contacted them in [unintelligible 00:36:29] and they said they have no consultation at all going on right now. They are out of it until there's [a] request for permit.

So I find that information on the website to be at least misleading. I would also wonder whether you really believe that honestly you have been sensitively and respectfully engaging the tribe. As a former federal agency tribal liaison on national level, and I've dealt with tribes. The chief of the tribe is equivalent frankly to the president of the country. They were the head and sovereign government. And I heard today that Chief Branham was not treated as a chief and I find that offensive. He is the head of the government above you. He has at least [clapping] [unintelligible 00:37:39] can talk, but they can talk, the chief can talk to anyone he'd like. So I personally find that offensive as well. So I ask that you delay the vote [clapping].

Male: [Jeff Hantman].

Jeff Hantman: I'm Jeff Hantman. I'm from Charlottesville and recently retired from the University of Virginia Department of Anthropology. I'll be quick because you've all said things that I second. I wanted to respond to a statement written by the JRWA attorney and representing the James River Water Authority's position less than a few weeks old. And I think it's a justification for proceeding with excavation, stated careful excavation at Rassawek. But it doesn't hold up. The language is completely deceptive in

my mind and to save time I'll be specific to word choice. "No known Monacan burials will be disturbed" [laughter]. Of course not, because the Monacan people as you all know, it's not for lecture, did not use headstones, did not leave a marker.

Any burials encountered will be a disturbance of that burial. But that's okay because the statement from the association says really assertions that burials will be disturbed are speculation. Now no one in the science of archeology, and I'll represent that side for a moment, we don't use that term. We don't speculate. We look at 100, 120 or more years of knowledge gained through the Smithsonian's work, through amateur archeological societies, through the [unintelligible 00:39:52] many of you know at VCU. We don't speculate. We look at the pattern and the patterns are clear. Monacan burials are associated with chief's villages. They are commonly found in villages and towns along the river. And to say that it's speculative that you might encounter burials as you constantly assert this is just a guess.

You don't know what's happening, it's huge speculation. That's just ignorance, not how archeology proceeds to your consultants, for your own interpretation of your consultant's explanation is deceptive. It's not speculative. It's a pattern, it's a known pattern. It's been published and it should be reflected in your writing. So personally I'm disturbed by that reference of speculation. You don't know, you may encounter human remains. I hope you've listened carefully to a representative from the Pamunkey tribe because there's a lot of laws that are going to protect those remains now. Secondly, there's a concept in the JRWA statement that I can't imagine where this comes from.

But it asserts that there's been prior disturbance to the site that we call Rassawek and there hadn't. But that prior disturbance was used to justify continued disturbing and I find that absurd.

Male: Thank you so much [clapping]. [Julie Verdix].

Julie Verdix: Pass.

Male: [Aaron Hackett].

Aaron Hackett: Everyone my name is Aaron Hackett. I live in Charlottesville. And I've been looking into the discussion recently and it seems to me very obvious that at least some further consideration is due after listening to all of these very professional speakers here today. It seems like there's a lot of information that's come to light just recently and at the very least further consideration of these very important facts is due. So I implore you all to look into what has been presented to talk to these people and receive their perspective and indeed their hard facts. And proceed with logic, so thank you [clapping].

Male: [Jess Vegas].

Jess Vegas: Good morning. I'm Jess Vegas with World Peace Love Liberty through Standardsville, VA and I sincerely ask you to reconsider the location of this water pump. Look at this room. This is a room full of uncertain faces and every body hair on my body is standing up because I can feel this energy. This would be a tragic mistake. I mean if this was any other gravesite or this was a colonial gravesite or even a gravesite of a Baptist church we wouldn't even be considering this. I mean look at this room, please, take these thoughts into consideration sincerely. This is a matter of respect for the land that was built on conquest and the future and what we define. We're making history. We define the future, so please take that into consideration. And leave something that's respectable. Thank you for your time [clapping].

Male: [Miranda Elliott Rader].

Miranda Elliott Rader: Good morning gentlemen. My name is Miranda Elliott Rader. I live in Charlottesville, VA and I'm here to speak because I think this issue affects all of us in the whole region, not just Fluvanna and Louisa Counties. I encourage you to listen to what the Monacan Nation is asking you to do and it affects all of us. It's a historical resource for everybody in the whole region. I raised kids in this area [unintelligible 00:44:41] and you have the opportunity right now to make a very important decision to preserve that historical site. And to spend a little extra time now to work with the Monacan nation, to follow the site that they recommend. They've been doing a lot of work for you.

I think the current recommendation from your lawyers is the Forsyth alternative and even though it might seem like it's not quite the bottom line right now. You should build what they recommend and not [unintelligible 00:45:14]. Thank you [clapping].

Male: [Winston Barham].

Winston Barham: Greeting friends. I'm Winston Barham. I live at [redacted] here in Zion Crossroads in Louisa County. I have [unintelligible 00:45:37] for three years. I draw my water from the aquifers underneath us and my tax bill bottom line funds the work that you do. I hereby pledge whatever it takes to protect this cultural resource that is in question. [We] would not build on a civil war battlefield. We would not bulldoze a churchyard cemetery. A couple weeks ago I took the Jamestown Ferry which makes a [unintelligible 00:46:04] and turns right near the historic site of Jamestown which has been lovingly protected for many years by the public interest of Virginia.

Rassawek is much older and I argue is much more culturally significant and it deserves at least the same amount of respect that we afforded to these other cultural sites [unintelligible 00:46:27]. Thank you [clapping].

Male: [Suzie Bee], Suzie?

Female: Morris?

Male: Is that? OK. [unintelligible 00:46:49] Suzie.

Suzie Morris: I'm Suzie Morris. I live at [redacted], Palmyra, VA. And I followed this water situation which has been going on now for 20 to 24 years. It started back in the last 1990s and I know when it started it up again, the question I asked Joe Hines from Timmons was "When did you choose Point of Fork?" Oh that's been the number one choice since 1996. I never saw it in anything when I looked and read Timmons' reports in the late 1990s. I never saw Point of Fork as such mentioned. I will not repeat all the things which have been said today which I totally agree with. Things such as the secrets which have been kept for a time, the lack of transparency, the lack of trust and consideration for the taxpayers of these counties.

Supposedly after the late 1990s, this died down as [unintelligible 00:48:17]. But it continued I'm sure to be bubbling under the surface and it's been trickling under the table. The real dilemma began in October of 2013 with the interjurisdictional agreement that was passed by the James River Water Authority. Progress is fine, but progress should be transparent. It should be open. It should be honest, and the people should really be listened to. I feel that if these boards had listened to the citizens originally, had been open long before we were given any public hearings. That they would never have selected Rassawek in Point of Fork. It would've been a total catastrophe, a total mistake.

But unfortunately things are done for progress, in the name of progress nowadays and you forget things which are ethical, things which are considerate and give to government by the people and of the people and for the people a chance. I wonder how much has been spent already and how much time has been lost in all the stop gates and all the bumps that all this progress supposedly for water has gone through. There are environmental concerns there. There are archeological concerns. There are human concerns. There are historical concerns and these things all matter. Instead of asking why don't the Monacans show, tell us exactly and prove that Rassawek is there and where it is, why don't we ask the James River Water Authority to prove that it's not there [clapping] archeological digs and so forth. Give the people credit [clapping].

Male: [Millie Brasel].

Millie Brasel: Hi. My name is Millie Brasel and I'm a resident of Louisa County. I oppose construction of the water intake facility at the planned site. Hubris has led us to this point, but it's not too late to make the right decision. I urge you to collaborate with the Monacan nation and fully explore the Forsyth alternative. Casting a vote to move ahead the planned site will not only threaten an area sacred to the Monacan nation, but also lead to years of delays and litigation potentially costing Louisa and Fluvanna residents millions more dollars, billions more dollars. As a Louisa County taxpayer I

ask you to avoid yet another ill-advised decision. Please collaborate transparently and in good faith with the Monacan nation by exploring an alternative site [clapping].

Male: [David Nisma].

David Nisma: I am [a descendant of] white settlers. Our ancestors raped and murdered the ancestors of native peoples. Our ancestors committed genocide against them. Our ancestors sold their lands. We stand on stolen land. We live on stolen land. We reap the rewards of our ancestors' violence. Then you, the James River Water Authority continue their legacy. Your hand ringing and excuses do not [unintelligible 00:52:04] this. Your manipulations are designed to force this pump station to be built on top of Rassawek. Stop [clapping].

Male: [unintelligible 00:52:18].

Male: Pass.

Male: [Amy Hamburger].

Amy Hamburger: I'll make it brief. I live in Louisa.

Male: Name please and addresses.

Amy Hamburger: Amy Hamburger, [redacted], Louisa, VA. I support what everyone said and the Monacan Nation. And I just keep hearing over and over again in the brilliant ways that people are speaking from their hearts that there's a moment of a choice here. There is a choice to keep pushing forward and coming up against the opposition over and over again or to admit the mistake and to change. There's a chance right now to do things differently for you, and I hope you take it. Thank you [clapping].

Male: [Edwin Frost].

Edwin Frost: My name Edwin Frost. I live in Louisa County in the Shannon Hill area. I'm here to oppose the construction of the pumping station at Rassawek. I'm here to support Monacan Nation and Chief Branham and I'm going to continue to do everything I can to oppose and stop the pumping station from being built. I think there's a lot of people here who feel similarly. I think it's going to be impossible to get that pumping station built in that setting. I know that I'm going to do everything I can to stop it and I think a lot of people feel the same [clapping]. And then the other thing I wanted to say is y'all have made a mistake and there's a chance to stop that and change course and recognize that it's a mistake and do something different.

And I really urge you to do that instead of, you know, the other path is to just double down on the mistake and then the denial and the confusion. And I ask you to not do that. I ask you to take the path of recognizing and

owning up to the mistake that's been made and doing better. I think we're all challenged to do that. And you, the water authority is facing a big challenge to do that right now and I hope you [unintelligible 00:55:00] that challenge [clapping].

Male: [Carroll Courtenay] with the Southern Environmental Law Center.

Carroll Courtenay: Hi.

Male: I'm sorry.

Carroll Courtenay: That's alright. I'm Carroll Courtenay from the Southern Environmental Law Center. SELC is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization headquartered in Charlottesville that works to protect natural and cultural resources throughout Virginia and [southeast]. SELC does not challenge the counties need for a new water source, but we are opposed to [unintelligible 00:55:34] the James River water supply problem [unintelligible 00:55:36]. Quite simply this is the wrong place for the pump. The area and the confluence of the James [unintelligible 00:55:42] rich mix of historical, cultural, and archeological resources. These resources highlight the regions complex and diverse past. Point of Fork, as you've heard is the location of Rassawek [unintelligible 00:55:55].

In addition to the Native American resources there are [unintelligible 00:56:01] resources. Point of Fork is an important site in revolutionary and civil war history as well as in the area of important [unintelligible 00:56:08] history. The density and diversity of resources and [noise] make it an ill-suited site for the water supply project. This area should be protected, not destroyed. The alternative analysis process offers the water authority the opportunity to reassess the location of the project. Among other things, preliminary information about the alternative analysis has revealed a potential alternate location for the project that has the initial support of the Monacan Indian nation and landowners. For all of these reasons we strongly urge the authority to use this process to select another site for the water supply project [clapping].

Male: [Ellie Gale]?

Ellie Gale: Hello. My name is Ellie Gale, longtime resident of Virginia on the water very close to Jamestown and Williamsburg. My registered voting address is Charlottesville, [redacted] and I live at the Center for Healthy Living and I speak on behalf of them and the class contemporary indigenous worlds at the University of Virginia who unanimously recently doing projects have all agreed that Indian nations and indigenous peoples have not been allowed to fully express their culture. Which is a relationship to the environment that they have their [unintelligible 00:57:39] on. Their relationship to their ancestors for whom they live and themselves for whom they live, and the next seven generations for whom they live.

And they are acting on behalf of them and we, all of us here are also acting on behalf of them. I request the James River Water Authority defer its vote today in favor of a more respectful way of handling the situation which is to speak with this Monacan nation and speak with their elders who they believe to respect them and respect this [unintelligible 00:58:18] relationship and this culture and instead defer vote so they can collaborate with them. Alternative sites are clearly there. There are clearly ancestors and bodies that are very important, dead people, people who lived who were oppressed, who were killed because of our lack of handling this nation with respect and treating them as people.

And you have the option to change that today. Many other facts have been stated so I'll just speak as a woman and a Virginia resident, long time. I want to have a family in Virginia. Many others do also. I've grown up in a high school in Mathews County, VA where there's a lot of taxpayer dollars by second homes and a lot of people buying first home where they can't afford to buy the nicer second homes that are above sea level and I've had to not be able to go to school many times because the water levels have risen to the point of covering the roads. So as my family exists in the next 15 years or so and sea levels have already risen much more by then, it's supposed to be three feet in the next century.

So a little bit above three feet is going to cover our roads. We won't be able to go to as many tourist destinations and many other people either, so wanted to site Jay Ferguson's remarks in that regard. So thank you and god bless [clapping].

Male: [Mary Kranz]. Am I pronouncing it right?

Mary Kranz: Hello, this is Mary Kranz. I've lived in Louisa for almost 50 years and you guys represent me and thank you. I do appreciate that you have worked on this long and hard and I'm sure this is entirely frustrating, but I'm sorry you're in this position that you are. There's a magnet on my refrigerator that says that when you dig a hole too deep sometimes the only way out is to keep on digging. I wanted you to hear that. Every time an obstacle comes by it seems you can say you can get around this just keep going. When Timmons notified you several years ago that the Department of Historic Resources was [unintelligible 01:01:15] on this you thought you could get around it on and on, and on and on.

And it's just really time to stop digging and to find another route. Yes, it'll cost money, but it'll be worse if you keep [unintelligible 01:01:32]. Appreciate your time. Hope you make the right choice [clapping].

Male: [Sally Thomas].

Sally Thomas: Gentleman I have –

Male: Name please ma'am.



Sally Thomas: I'm sorry. Sally Thomas and I'm a resident of [Charlottesville]. So I actually have sat similar to where you're sitting today, and I appreciate your [unintelligible 01:02:20]. I also want to tell you a short story of [when I was on the Board of Supervisors].

Female: Speak up [unintelligible 01:02:27].

Sally Thomas: A proposal to destroy a [unintelligible 01:02:31] a town second in size to Rassawek to the Monacan's history. And the supervisors told them to stop [unintelligible 01:02:43]. We were at the phase with a room full of angry soccer kids which [unintelligible 01:02:49] [laughter]. And they did not like to [unintelligible 01:02:54]. It's not entirely comparable, but I just want to tell you that of all the things I did in the [Board] one of the things I'm most proud of is saving that village. And you have a chance to be [proud] [clapping].

Male: [Suzanne Keller].

Suzanne Keller: Hi, I'm Suzanne Keller. I'm the [unintelligible 01:03:34]. I bring greetings today from [unintelligible 01:03:39] committee on behalf of the Peace and Social Concerns Committee in solidarity with the Monacan Nation. We ask that you respect the sacred ground at Rassawek and that you defer the vote supporting [unintelligible 01:03:53] [clapping].

Male: [Robin Patton]

Robin Patton: Hi everybody. My name is Robin Patton and I live at [redacted] in Louisa, VA. Guys the public tide is turning on issues related to erasure of cultural history, Native Americans, and other people of color. I stand in agreement with all of the comments that have been made today in support of selecting an alternate site that does not disturb what is a national treasure. I've been watching this train wreck unfold for 25 years. I think I remember that you guys are appointed by board of supervisors members. You're not elected, so I know there is a [unintelligible 01:05:19] that was in place in your respective counties before you started on this mission. So like the other two recent speakers said, you have inherited a difficult position.

There's no doubt, but as Ms. Thomas said you also have inherited an opportunity to do something significant. I was at the first meeting where Louisa County considered rezoning the land that we're on for a 400 house subdivision. I objected then because this location, Zions Crossroads, is at the top of three watersheds. It's difficult to get water here. It's difficult to dispose of wastewater because you have no ability to dilute your discharge, and I'm retired from the Department of [Environmental Quality]. Nobody listened to me then [laughter], and because it's the Louisa way, they have continued to make decision after bad decision throwing good money after bad and spending enormous amounts of taxpayer dollars for something that was originally rezoned for water and sewer to be provided by the developer.

Everybody in this room that pays taxes in Louisa County has poured millions into things that could've been schools, that could've been better roads, that could've been equipment for your fire companies. All of those things. When this issue of uncredentialed professionals appeared, every locality that I have had experience to work with and granted it's been some of the bigger cities down in the southeast Virginia region, would have run screaming from this project. And pointed at the consultants and said my god how did this happen. We are no longer working with these people. We are going to turn and do the right thing. but you didn't do it. Today you can correct and as a public citizen, because I know a lot of these things turn on administrative procedure I would like to object to several situations about this public hearing.

Number one it is within a gated community [clapping]. [Owned by a] benefactor of the project. Number three it is inadequate space. Number four, hearing is difficult and there is no recording for citizens to retrieve later. Five, there's no option to know who you are and what your position is in this process, and I'd like to know who the eyerolling guy is over there [laughter] [clapping]. And six, there's a failure to provide documents essential to the public review process [clapping] [shouting].

Male: [Amanda Welch].

Amanda Welch: My name is Amanda Welch. I live three miles from here in Louisa. I've lived here for 30 years. I was at this meeting [unintelligible 01:09:04]. I agree with everything she said. Stop it [clapping].

Male: [David Copper]. David you live on Ridgeway Dr?

David Copper: Yeah, yeah, yeah. I'm David Copper. I heard so many good things here. Thank you so much. [unintelligible 01:09:45]. To me it just sounds like business as usual. Although I'd like to compliment on your water [unintelligible 01:09:59]. Water is a problem, will always be a problem in this country as it is used and abused by the powers that be. Nothing new here. West coast to the east coast we're constantly raping and destroying people like you and me, business as usual. You know we need to build something, so let's see is there a black neighborhood? Is there a white native American neighborhood that we can build our infrastructure on whatever we need to build? It's happened over and over again from Louisiana to Minnesota and Michigan. It's nothing new.

Female: Union.

David Copper: It's all union built. It's right here. It's happening now and if we don't do something now. If we don't have a change of conscious that we have a chance to do. You have a chance to do that today for whenever you make a decision. This needs to be deferred, and if you don't defer this thing won't be built one way or another [clapping].

Male: Look like [Mack Derry].

Mack Derry: Good morning. My name is Mack Derry. I've lived for more than 40 years on Route 6 in Fluvanna County. It's very near Rassawek. Try to be brief. I urge the board to make a different decision, not build at Rassawek. This meeting is about respect and I don't think we intend to disrespect members of the board. We would like you to make a decision that is more respectful of Monacan tribe, Virginians in general, and make a better decision. Charlottesville built on the Rivanna River. Palmyra built on the Rivanna River. Rassawek [is at the] confluence of two rivers. Zion Crossroads, confluence of two roads. Can't cook your dinner with a road [laughter]. Thank you, please make a different decision [clapping].

Male: [Karen Corcoran].

Karen Corcoran: My name is Karen Corcoran. I'm the owner of the historic property of Boswells Tavern. I'm a taxpayer. I would like to say as a taxpayer I do not want a single dollar of my money to go to the desecration and destruction of cultural and religious sites [snapping]. I think it's a disgrace and an abomination that we consider desecrating this land. There're alternative sites. I'm here to demand the investigation and analysis of the alternatives and I'm here to say to you that Native American history is our American history. It's our human history, and please stand with me in saying no to the board. Please stand [clapping].

Male: Can't read the name, but the address is legible. 720 –

[Gabe Engle]: That's me. My name is Gabe Engle. I live at [redacted] in Crozet. I was born in Fluvanna. I really don't have much to say. There's been just every point and emotion has been covered. I'm just one more person in support of moving the location, deferring the vote. It's time to listen to the Monacan people and clearly pretty much all people right now. Thank you [clapping].

Male: [Suzanne Chambers].

Suzanne Chambers: That's me. Good morning.

Female: Good morning.

Suzanne Chambers: My name is Suzanne Chambers. I live at [redacted] at the foot of Bear Mountain in Amherst County. Come today representing the Amherst County democrats, small but feisty group [laughter] that make a difference. A very feisty group of women in Amherst County. We both unanimously voted to support our friends and neighbors, the Monacan peoples. What you do today affects heritage, history, culture, and most importantly dignity. This is not 1620. It's not 1720. It's not 1820. It's not 1920. It is 2020. This history is sad, and we have, you have a chance to change that. And, you know, I have gone to many public hearings. I get that you have them in the middle of the workday on the weekday.

But I have never, this is the first, pledged allegiance to a golf course [laughter] or attended a public meeting on a private golf course. When [my GPS] asked me to a residents only entrance, I turned around in circles to get in here. The guard flustered because there was 15 members of [unintelligible 01:15:57] trying to get into here. Because the workers [unintelligible 01:16:00]. Told me to follow the car in front of me if I was going to the meeting. That person was going home [laughter]. So I'm in another cul-de-sac [again]. Sir this is not a public forum [snapping]. There would be a flag if it were. There would be respect and it wouldn't be at 8:45 in the morning. Thank you [clapping].

Male: [Abby Strickland].

Abby Strickland: Hi y'all. I'm Abby Strickland. I'm a lifelong Louisa County resident. I'm just here to echo everything everybody else is saying in support of Monacan Nation. I really honestly don't understand why this is even a choice. Every way you look at it, it is a mistake. Listen to us. Listen to the Monacan nation. Have some respect for them. Make a different decision. Defer the vote and be more transparent. Thank you [clapping].

Male: [Zoey Edgecomb].

Zoey Edgecomb: I'm Zoey Edgecomb. I live in Charlottesville on [redacted] which is between [unintelligible 01:17:17] and Louisa and on Lindsay [unintelligible 01:17:20]. My parents still live there so I'm here representing them. They can't be here for health reasons. I am supporting the Monacan Nation and I reiterate the irony of having this meeting here on a weekday on a golf course, one of the most water intensive uses of land [laughter]. And rather than reiterating a lot of what other people have said I just want to say that the Monacan Nation should not have to be paying for the shortsightedness and the failure to live within your means in this county. Like Ms. Patton said, we're at the top of three watersheds. You knew the water wasn't here. There are ways to deal with that. One would be conservation. One would be smart development.

Another one would be offers from developers so that they could be paying. They're making fortunes from this place. Why can't they pay for their own d\*\*\* infrastructure. Excuse my language. That's what I have to say. Thank you [clapping].

Male: [Debra Kushner].

Debra Kushner: I'm Debra Kushner. I live in Stanton, Virginia and I [unintelligible 01:18:44] 100% of the comments that have been made today in opposition to this pumping station. And I just urge the board to consider the meaning of sacred. If not in your own experience, for another culture. And a culture that we have trod upon for very far too long since we came. This proposal is wrong in every way. And I urge you to defer it or outright reject it. Thank you [clapping].

Female: I'll take the rest of Debra's time. My name is [Caroline] and I'm from Keswick. I just wanted to say I can't believe the audacity in telling the Monacan people if you don't want us to build on your site, you tell us where to go. Because that was never the responsibility [snapping]. If that's not [your job] I don't know what your job is [clapping]. [So I'm going] to say this is just another example of environmental racism. We've seen it in [Union Hill] and we've seen it for the past 100 years in various legal precedent to revoke permits that have been founded on environmental racism. And that is what is going to happen if you make this decision today [clapping].

Male: [Graham H]. I can't make out your last name.

Graham Evans: Graham Evans.

Male: Okay.

Graham Evans: Good morning gentlemen. My name is Graham Evans. I live in Charlottesville, VA. I represent [unintelligible 01:20:22] small business needs in the area. And I also represent at least a dozen other people that would be here today if it wasn't held at 9 am [unintelligible 01:20:32]. And I guarantee, who else here has five or ten other people who would be here today if it wasn't a workday.

Female: In, school. They're in school.

Graham Evans: Yeah, a lot more people that would be here with us if they had the opportunity. What I'd like you consider is compassion [unintelligible 01:20:46]. I'm out of ten generations of people who've lived in [unintelligible 01:20:52]. And at this moment I'm thinking about my grandmother, Josephine Evans. She is buried here in Virginia in Red Hill Church. And I want you think about your favorite [grandparent]. What I'm thinking about right now is in another ten generations, we've been here for ten generations. We'll hopefully be here for another ten generations. When I go to visit her grave, it's only been 25 years, but the headstone is starting to wear away.

It's harder to see what was written there. And in another hundred or 200 years that headstone may be gone. And peoples' needs at that time may be to use the land and the church where she's from. We don't know. We can't predict what's going to happen in a hundred years. We are in the position a few hundred years or a few thousand years since this was a [unintelligible 01:21:40]. And I want you to think about your favorite grandparent, somebody who held you when you were a baby. [unintelligible 01:21:46] and I want you to think about them in 200 years and their graves and that sacred place where you visited. And somebody coming in and wanting to tear that out for their [use]. Please take a moment to think, just right in this moment to think about that.

That may happen. It makes me livid with rage when I think about that happening to [Josephine]. I don't know how you feel, but I [unintelligible 01:22:27] change of heart. Please look to the dozens of people that are here and the dozens that couldn't come. Know that there's another alternative will you please [clapping]?

Male: [Earl Evans].

Earl Evans: Good morning.

Female: Good morning.

Earl Evans: Earl Evans, I'm from Hollister, North Carolina, former vice chairman of [Haliwa-Saponi] tribe and a tribal delegate for several tribes [unintelligible 01:23:19]. Thank you gentlemen for having me here this morning. My ancestors were from this place. I'm here in support of the Monacan and their position [unintelligible 01:23:30]. I came to the hearing that you had before and I don't know if you recall, but I brought my children Kaylee who's 12, my son [Dylan] 13, and my niece [Lindsay] who's 10. So in the event that all of this conversation has not convinced you of the right [unintelligible 01:23:55] I thought you'd enjoy hearing what I heard in the backseat on the way back. Because I learn so much from children.

But one of the things that I do with my kids is I take them around to places that their relatives are buried. So that they can remember who they are and how [unintelligible 01:24:16]. Where we live, [unintelligible 01:24:18] now, they know their relatives back for five great generations. So their fifth great grandparent they know exactly where they are, where they're buried. There's no headstones in some places, but they know where they are. Prior to that our ancestors have been various places throughout what's now known [unintelligible 01:24:37]. But the different places we've had to go to because of colonization which [unintelligible 01:24:43].

So with knowing what they heard here and the discussion about Rassawek and going to some of these places that they've also been such as [unintelligible 01:24:55] or other places that we have access to that are in the earth there. Conversation with my daughter, she's the more inquisitive type, always asking questions. You know what harm does it do? The graves are there, why do they have to disturb them? My son, he's very pragmatic, very common sense and Lindsay is the little spitfire. So my daughter's asking all of these questions about why, why, why? And my son says Kaylee it's simple. There's more bigotry, there's more racism. The colonizers are still colonizing [clapping] [snapping].

And then Lindsay she said well, if that's the way they are then, if they're going to do that to people who are alive, people who are dead. Then they'll probably be waiting at the gates of heaven, to kick us out of there too. That was their thoughts on the way back. Children pay attention. This is not just affecting the people who are here today, people who are here now. People like us have to explain to our kids and it's hard to answer that question. If

this is the way they treat our ancestors who are deceased, people who are dead, people who can't harm them. Then what do they think of me a living, breathing person. We're descendants of [unintelligible 01:26:17] created.

That's where our ancestors [unintelligible 01:26:21] came from. We teach our kids that [unintelligible 01:26:25] they're to treat themselves and others with respect and courtesy even in death. So it's hard to translate how that respect and courtesy cannot be provided to the ancestors who are resting peacefully [unintelligible 01:26:42] [clapping].

Male: [Mya Stewart-Silver].

Mya Stewart-Silver: Thank you for your time. Thank you all for your time. I am incredibly touched and inspired by all the work –

Male: Mya can you introduce yourself to the others please?

Mya Stewart Silver: Pardon?

Male: Introduce yourself.

Mya Stewart Silver: Oh I'm [unintelligible 01:27:29]. I'm Maya Stewart Silver. I live in Crozet, Virginia and [unintelligible 01:27:33] resident since [unintelligible 01:27:35]. I am very, very shocked. And I know that this is very common for business as usual. And as Caroline said this is an incredibly [clear] environmental racism issue. And as Jay Ferguson said, this is not going to work out. If you try to make the water pump here it would cost so much in delays and uproar in the community that it's going to need to be rerouted no matter what. This is not going to happen [snapping]. And I really very, very strongly urge that you make the decision now.

I understand this is a hard position you're in to try to save money for the taxpayers and not want to create any more money for them to spend. But there are so many more people who would want to be here like it was stated. And the times are changing and we're at [unintelligible 01:28:51] edge and I just so strongly recommend that you are on the right side of history right now. And that you don't need to go through all the pain that is going to take to reroute in the future and to pull back later. So in the best interest of you, the Monacan Nation, all here, and the rest of this community that's my strong recommendation for we cannot have a water pump here.

I mean I get that this could be the best location. It's just so shocking because I would argue that it's the very worst location [clapping]. I mean the fact that we would murder, kill, steal Native American and Monacan people and then choose a site where it's the ancestral burial grounds of some of those same people is just incredibly outrageous to me. And I can't imagine that now that you've heard a really good alternative site, that you would chose this site. I only can imagine that you would do the right thing,

that you want to go to sleep at night and know that you are taking into consideration the choices that you're making. I know for me ever since I was a child and I heard about the situation that my ancestors had on Native Americans I felt so much responsibility and pain around that.

And I imagine that you will all make the right decision. Thank you very much for your time and for your care.

Male: Thank you [clapping]. [Tom Lever].

Tom Lever: Hi. My name is Tom Lever. I'm a resident of Charlottesville, VA in the Fry's Spring neighborhood. I think I want to be brave today and say that I have worked in past as an assistant project manager on [water pipeline] projects in Fluvanna County and on [unintelligible 01:31:14] County. I am very much in support of the Monacan nation and I guess I want to rate my experience first. You need [to create] good will with your neighbors when you're building in construction. Another thing is that while these projects have a [grave] footprint that they impact initially. From my experience the actual pieces of infrastructure are very modular and very small. And when we relocated up onto [unintelligible 01:31:52] Mountain, for example, at a very high point.

They don't need to be located on burial grounds or next to the river. I guess another point I'd like to make is that one of the projects I had the privilege of working on was the rehabilitation of the Blue Ridge Tunnel as a historical site in Nelson County. Nelson County board of supervisors is strongly supported by their people. And the project is going to be a tourist site. It's going to be a pedestrian walkway and interfaced with Shenandoah National Park. And there are reams of historical data and stories about that location. The history of the tunnel, the fact that it employed slaves unfortunately, and was fairly unjust in its actual creation. But I guess I bring that up to say there's a way to engage with the public to meet your infrastructure water needs and wants and make it something our community can be proud of.

And also to leave a set of documents that is enriching to the community after the fact. I guess this could even be what with all of these wonderful people here, the site eventually could provide a testament to what we've been speaking of here today. Could acknowledge that on an information stand for example. Could be a public interface of some kind, so I guess I'm definitely wanting this project to move and also bringing my perspective that it's easy to move. It's going to be really hard to build this. Please do so, thank you [clapping].

Male: James River Water Authority would like to thank all of you for your comments [unintelligible 01:34:22].

[Randy Holladay]: Could I speak? I'm sorry I didn't sign up.

Male: What's your name?



Randy Holladay: My name is Randy Holladay. I live on [redacted] in Louisa. And I'd like to say to you guys I appreciate your being here. I've been involved in some of Louisa politics for a while and the work of people on boards like this that are trying to do their public duty. I appreciate it. Most of you guys aren't getting paid. I know Christian, you're kind of at work right now. But the rest of you have volunteered for this so I appreciate it. The kind of problem I see though is that you made a good sale. The James River Water Authority when I started seeing that in the newspaper I thought it was a statewide board.

Female: Yep.

Randy Holladay: And I'm wondering did Newton County, Lynchburg City, Richmond, Henrico did they give you the authority to detail what goes on with the James River? Because it certainly goes by there. So the name was a deception from the start by the Louisa County, perhaps Fluvanna too board of supervisors to get what they wanted which was a water line that they've been trying to push through for years and years and years. Because they got this here in a bad place and it's kind of been the board. And again I appreciate your efforts, but the whole board has been kind of a scam and a sham from the get go. Just the name of it, authority, you're not the James River Authority.

There's other people that might be considered that, but it's certainly not you guys, sorry. You've hired a consultant, Timmons, to tell you what you wanted to hear. That's all you hired him for. You've hired him again at Shannon Hill. Don't get me started on that [laughter]. The problem in this century is going to be and already is water. We're going to end up with a lot more salt water and a lot less fresh water. That's what's happening this century. Your grandkids' grandkids are going to have some major issues with water. And sucking it out at one place and pumping it into another watershed is not a real good long-term solution. We are using antiquated systems from the past to build into the future, and it's not going to work for long. It just isn't going to work.

And again, thank everybody for coming. I understand why you have it scheduled here and why you scheduled the time. Because you guys have to take your time out to come here. It does make it difficult for others, but the idea that you're building something on a site that obviously would not be happening if there'd been a civil war battle there is insane. And there are alternatives and please look at them. Other people have done the due diligence that Timmons didn't and that perhaps you didn't to get an alternative site. Let's go with something like that. We need the water, but let's do it in a practical way. thank you again and thank everybody [clapping].

[Renee O'Leary]: My name's Renee O'Leary. I live at Old Raptor Farm, a couple miles up the road in historic Green Springs. There is no moral equivalency between destroying a centuries old landmark and pumping water to Louisa County

so that we can have more [rooftops] and the scrawl that Northern Virginia has. Thank you [clapping].

[Ali Calimonte]: My name is Ali Calimonte. I live at [redacted] in Richmond, VA. And I just want to say that we are in the middle and in the midst of an ecological disaster, manmade ecological disaster. Specifically made by white capitalists. The same white capitalists, white supremacy that colonized Turtle Island, that colonized Monacan land and it is those very same systems of oppression that resulted in colonization that has also resulted in the ecological disaster we're experiencing now. That is because indigenous nations, Monacan nations have been stewarding this land for a time in memorial and they somehow didn't cause massive ecological collapse.

That is on us. That is on white people. That is on white supremacy and so right now when we're talking about addressing climate change. When we're talking about addressing how do we ethically distribute water? How do we ethically distribute resources, we need to be talking at a minimum about giving the land back. Giving land stewardship back to indigenous people [snapping] because they are ultimately the people that know this land. This land is theirs. Anything less than that is white supremacy. If they are saying that this water pump station needs to be moved, then it needs to be moved end of discussion [clapping].

Male: Again, thank you for the comments –

Chief Branham: I got one more thing I would like for y'all to do for everybody here today. Start with this gentleman over here. Would each of you stand up and give us your name? Because I don't know –

Male: Name and address [laughter].

Chief Branham: I don't know the names, and I'd like to start with this gentleman here. If he's one of y'all I don't know.

[Justin Curtis]: You will hear from me in a moment. My name is Justin Curtis and [unintelligible 01:40:28] for the James River Water Authority.

Male: Address?

Brendan Hefty: My name is Brendan Hefty. I'm the general council to the James River Water Authority.

Male: And where do you live? We've all been doing it.

Female: Yeah, we've all been doing it.

Female: Really, [unintelligible 01:40:49]. We all have to do it.

Male: We weren't even allowed to speak without doing it.

Male: You're publicly speaking.

Female: We're not even a real [unintelligible 01:40:57]. It's a public hearing sir.

Male: Unwilling to speak. Write it down.

[George F. Server]: I'm George F. Server. I am representing [Fluvanna] County.

Female: Again, your address.

George F. Server: Fluvanna County.

[DB Watson]: I'm DB Watson Serve as a chair and I represent Louisa County.

Christian Goodwin: My name is Christian Goodwin and I'm a Louisa County administrator. I live in Louisa County, met many of you before. Thank you for being here today.

Mark Dunning: Good morning. I'm really impressed with your turnout. My name is Mark Dunning. I'm on the board. I'm vice chair of the JRWA. I live in [unintelligible 01:41:45] VA.

Eric Dahl: My name is Eric Dahl. I'm a Fluvanna County administrator and I live in Fluvanna County.

Female: You guys have a form for this?

Male: Thank you. Again thank you. We will continue with our board meeting and our [independent] motion to accept [unintelligible 01:42:08] second minutes from our February 25th regular meeting. Do you accept it? All in favor?

Male: Aye.

Male: Aye.

Male: [unintelligible 01:42:25].

Male: Could you speak up?

Male: One bill on [unintelligible 01:42:52]. To the 41,000 previous balance [unintelligible 01:43:12].

Male: That number again?

Male: [Unintelligible 01:43:16].

Male: Just to repeat to make sure that everybody heard this is the consideration of bills that the authority pays on a monthly basis. The three bills

[unintelligible 01:43:28] 9,960 and one to GAI Consultants for \$14,920.02 and one to [Hamburg Holbert] who is our bond counsel for \$1,800.

Male: Thank you.

Male: I will make a motion that we approve the [unintelligible 01:43:41].

Male: I move to second that the bills [unintelligible 01:43:45] and be paid. All in favor?

Male: Aye.

Male: Aye.

Male: No opposed. Special information [unintelligible 01:43:53] action item, any new editions for the budget?

Male: I think actually the [unintelligible 01:44:00] application.

Male: Alright [unintelligible 01:44:03]. Justin.

Justin Curtis: Mr. Chairman, members of board good morning.

Male: Good morning.

Male: In the [unintelligible 01:44:14].

Justin Curtis: So just a quick update on the status of the Core of Engineers permits. [unintelligible 01:44:24]. So just to [unintelligible 01:44:28]. We met here two weeks ago on February 25th. At that time, the project consultant team presented to you the preliminary look at the [unintelligible 01:44:38] analysis. Just to reiterate there were eight different alternative pump station locations along the James River from [unintelligible 01:44:45] all the way down to [unintelligible 01:44:46]. Among those eight pump station sites there were 12 different alternative routes I considered. In reiterating the [unintelligible 01:44:58] logistical constraints for the construction on the [unintelligible 01:45:04]. The consultant looked at ensuring there's an adequate quantity and quality of water to meet the needs of the [unintelligible 01:45:17].

And obviously we did look at cost [unintelligible 01:45:21]. Looking at all the facts and the figures [unintelligible 01:45:32]. So looking at all the facts and laying them out and following the typical process of procedures that you [unintelligible 01:45:38] for analysis. We discussed that [unintelligible 01:45:46]. The end result was that [bill alternative six] which is the current site is the only practical alternative [unintelligible 01:46:01] for that exercise. So again that was provided to you two weeks ago. Now just a couple other updates. [unintelligible 01:46:10] of the revised supplemental information materials and [unintelligible 01:46:16] Core of Engineers [unintelligible 01:46:19]. Those are [background noise].

We are in the [unintelligible 01:46:29]. So we understand there are a lot of eyes looking at this and need to make sure all of our Ts are crossed [unintelligible 01:46:39].

So as I informed the board yesterday the counsel of the Monacan Indian Nation did provide a letter to the chair of [unintelligible 01:46:58] as well as Louisa County [unintelligible 01:47:01]. That letter, I believe you heard a lot about it today, offered discussion on one of the alternatives that [we looked] at which was labeled the Forsyth alternative. More specifically they [unintelligible 01:47:17]. They said they've had communications with the landowner of the pump station site, and they've offered to [unintelligible 01:47:27] discussions about that site. As I said in my email to the board yesterday, my recommendation well let me back up a second. We have had many conversations over the last year and a half with counsel from the Monacan Indian Nation.

The door has always been open. In the last attempt [unintelligible 01:47:49] to discuss these issues with them was [unintelligible 01:47:54]. But I believe my recommendation we should always sit down with them if they're willing to and we should [hear them out] [unintelligible 01:48:03]. As far as the alternatives analysis before the board, we believe that board action would be appropriate. So let me clarify one thing. The recommendation is for the board to approve a new [report] submitting supplemental information materials to the Core of Engineers as soon as soon as that information is [unintelligible 01:48:36]. I assume that'll be in the next few days. There have been a number of requests as you've heard today to defer that decision and not make a decision today. I would suggest to you that there is no reason to do that and here's why. So what the next steps are, so this is supplemental information material.

The Core of Engineers needs to process our existing [unintelligible 01:49:07] as an individual [unintelligible 01:49:10]. The next step is that we'll use that application to verify that it's completed, has all the information that they need to proceed. And then it goes out for public notice. And that actually begins another, there have been many, this is going back to [unintelligible 01:49:28] referenced that this project has been going on for years and years. But that will trigger another round of public review and comment and engagement. So this is the not the end of the process or the final decision. It is preliminary steps along the way and my suggestion [unintelligible 01:49:47] is there's no reason to defer that step at this point.

That doesn't prejudice our ability to continue discussions with the Monacan Indian Nation, but it does advance [unintelligible 01:49:57] this pending permit application as you all know. It has been pending since 2014. We had a number of [unintelligible 01:50:06] and hurdles we work through and this is just one of the steps in the process. So I would suggest move forward with [unintelligible 01:50:14] [hissing]. Those are my recommendations to the board. Myself and some of the [unintelligible

01:50:21] project team are in attendance today [unintelligible 01:50:23] answer your questions.

Male: Okay. Mr. Curtis thank you for being here today. Can you tell us a little bit more about the Forsyth alternative. Do you have a presentation [unintelligible 01:50:42]? And how that alternative had some reasons that it wasn't preferable and wasn't practical [unintelligible 01:50:49]?

Justin Curtis: Yeah, absolutely. So the Forsyth alternative is one of the 12 routing alternatives that the project team reviewed very closely. Again, just referring back that was 1-C in the information [unintelligible 01:51:08] that you have. A couple things are important to realize about that site. The water line route is roughly four times the length for the proposed line [unintelligible 01:51:19]. So we [would] encounter additional costs just by virtue of having [unintelligible 01:51:24].

Female: How much are we talking about?

Justin Curtis: The project team believes that probably it's four miles [unintelligible 01:51:37] and also adds to the cost. That process or that particular route is [coughing] located above utilities. It's mostly in virgin areas, so that presents additional environmental challenges. We are, of course, in this process solely because when [unintelligible 01:51:56] Army Core of Engineers [unintelligible 01:51:58] that particular alternative route would increase our [unintelligible 01:52:03] by a factor of five. So that is an issue [unintelligible 01:52:06] moving forward that we would have to give very serious consideration to [unintelligible 01:52:11] locations. As a matter of cost, the current estimate [unintelligible 01:52:19] about 85% more costly than the proposal.

The letter of course mentioned working with one or two of the landowners and that would certainly potentially bring down some of the costs. But [unintelligible 01:52:37] acquisition costs in the grand scheme would be relatively small. That alternative will add, I believe we've identified 26 separate landowners who would have to negotiate easements from to get the line [unintelligible 01:52:52] through that Forsyth property [unintelligible 01:52:53].

Male: If the board is [unintelligible 01:53:06]. What would that do to the timeline of the project? What would that do as far as looking at proposed [unintelligible 01:53:15] alternative?

Justin Curtis: So deferring this would [unintelligible 01:53:22]. There are [background noise] restrictions [unintelligible 01:53:30]. So there are reasons to try to move forward and try to wrap up permitting [unintelligible 01:53:45] judicially so we don't get ourselves in a situation where [unintelligible 01:53:48]. So it would push back the timeline months, and that would be the only [unintelligible 01:54:00]. Otherwise it wouldn't affect our ability voting. Whether the board defers this today or acts today doesn't affect the ability to consider moving forward [unintelligible 01:54:14].

Male: Just the [unintelligible 01:54:18] change route [unintelligible 01:54:19]?

Justin Curtis: We would have to modify [unintelligible 01:54:25]. We'd have to modify the routes and [unintelligible 01:54:32]. There are a number of alternatives [unintelligible 01:54:34] modify an existing route [unintelligible 01:54:40] potentially modifications or new applications. We of course have [unintelligible 01:54:50] water and also it impacts state water. We also have a permit from the [unintelligible 01:54:59]. Those permit processes would have to be restarted [unintelligible 01:55:09].

Male: Performed an extensive river analysis at the current location. Make sure the flows in that area of the James are sufficient to meet the needs of Fluvanna and Louisa County. So has that analysis been performed at the Forsyth location?

Male: [Are] you referring water quantity or the actual location of the intake?

Male: Quantity.

Male: To my knowledge that has not been. Moving the intake uptake upstream it would shrink your drainage area. It would be a marginal change. I don't think it would be significant. [unintelligible 01:55:48]. You'd have less water [unintelligible 01:55:50]. At the Forsyth property there is one other consideration, that is the [unintelligible 01:55:58]. So there are many potential reasons locations in low flow conditions [unintelligible 01:56:06]. That is an issue if we had to permit this again [unintelligible 01:56:13] quality it'd [unintelligible 01:56:15]. Someone mentioned earlier about the use of the water from the river and who has the rights. So [unintelligible 01:56:25] is the agency on the permit side and they have to evaluate your impact on all the users downstream, all aquatic life, all water [unintelligible 01:56:35], all recreation. So all [unintelligible 01:56:37] downstream [year to year].

Male: Can we simultaneously move forward with the application process as well as consult with Monacan Indian nation on the alternative they're proposing? Is that what I understood you to say earlier?

Justin Curtis: Yes, absolutely. So the application process there is time [unintelligible 01:57:03] portions of review materials. Then there's [unintelligible 01:57:11] call of notice. So there's probably a 30- or longer-day total [grace] period. And there's a [unintelligible 01:57:20] period. [unintelligible 01:57:22] National Historical Preservation Act consultation process. So there are [two other] permitting process [unintelligible 01:57:31].

Male: Thank you [unintelligible 01:57:40]. I'm going to recommend that the board enter a motion to have Mr. Dahl and Mr. [unintelligible 01:58:01] sign a supplement of information and material and have the board

[unintelligible 01:58:06] and to present that to the US Core of Engineers [unintelligible 01:58:11].

Male: I second that.

Male: By [unintelligible 01:58:24] you authorize [background noise]. Also [unintelligible 01:58:35] to continue to discuss with the Monacans counsel so that we'll have better relationships moving forward if that's possible.

Female: Can you just state the motion so we can hear it? We don't know what that was?

Male: We recommend the board action is to authorize Mr. Dahl who is the administrative for Fluvanna County and Mr. [unintelligible 01:59:04] who is the administer for Louisa County to move forward and [unintelligible 01:59:10] authorize Timmons to submit [unintelligible 01:59:13] to the US Core of Engineers in the next [unintelligible 01:59:16].

Female: They are willing to go forward.

Male: Don't do it.

Male: Bulls\*\*\*.

Male: Horse s\*\*\* [hissing].

Female: Can they ignore all of us?

Female: This is such a shame.

Female: Shame.

Male: Shame on all of y'all.

Female: Shame.

Male: Shame.

Female: Travesty.

Female: Shame.

Female: Shame.

Female: Liars.

Female: Shame.

Male: Shame.



Female: May I ask a clarifying question?

Male: You may.

Female: I think I heard that [unintelligible 01:59:44] say that permit would go through and at that point you would engage the public again and my understanding of that is that at that point you could all say no. And that'd be [unintelligible 01:59:58] authority could also say no. So this is not the end.

Male: Nope.

Female: This is part of the process to get to no.

Female: Yes.

Female: That's the way I'm reading this. This is part of the process to get to no. So I think we need to listen to what's being said here.

Male: Thank you ma'am.

Female: Could you repeat that?

Female: [unintelligible 02:00:19] because you're taking this bad solution forward and so when you have to go back and do these other public hearings, you'll have to go back and [unintelligible 02:00:32] by this.

Female: Say no now.

Female: You've got an attorney. [unintelligible 02:00:36] you think about the permitting process that I know are [unintelligible 02:00:41]. You're getting bad advice though.

Male: [unintelligible 02:00:43] to work with the Monacan for an alternate. Everything within your power?

Male: We just mentioned that.

Female: They haven't before. There's no guarantee they will again. They haven't from the very beginning they've done nothing but deal in lies. They've told property owners lies. They've told the Monacans lies. They've printed lies. They're not standing up for the people.

Male: Thank y'all so much. We're very appreciative –

Female: You're not appreciative [snapping].

Male: Respectful then.

Female: No.

Female: And you're not respectful.

Female: Talk to the Monacan people first before you submit the application. Why submit it now.

Female: This has been [unintelligible 02:01:30].

Female: We all told you that's not what we want.

Female: This is going to [end up] getting national focus. I'm telling you.

Female: Did you hear [unintelligible 02:01:37] today.

Female: No, they didn't listen.

Male: They only listened to that fellow over there, the eye rolling guy.

Female: Peace now.

Male: [unintelligible 02:01:44] review our board meeting on the budgetary amendment [unintelligible 02:01:49].

Male: I didn't hear that motion go through.

Female: It did.

Male: It did go through.