

**Ways &  
Means Committee  
Regular Meeting Minutes**

**DATE & TIME:** July 21, 2020 – 5:30  
**LOCATION:** Powered by Zoom Meeting by dialing 1-646-558-8656, Meeting ID 945 1641 6942  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Lynn Archer, Chairwoman  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Natalie Kelder, Amber Feaster, and Jay Mahler  
**PRESENT:** Legislators Kenneth J. Ronk, Jr., Tracey Bartels, John Gavaris, Heidi Haynes; Mary Beth Maio, and Eve Walter  
**ABSENT:** None  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes  
**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Legislators Albert Bruno, Brian Cahill, and Laura Petit; Legislative Counsel Christopher Ragucci; Minority Counsel Nicholas Pascale; Deputy County Executives Marc Rider, and Evelyn Wright; Comptroller, March Gallagher; Deputy Comptroller Chris Quirk; Director of Planning Dennis Doyle; Patricia Doxsey, Daily Freeman

- **Chairwoman Archer called the meeting to order at 5:32 PM**

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**Motion No. 1: To discuss Resolution No. 191** – Establishing A Policy For Funding Non-County Organizations – Ulster County Legislature

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution adopts a Policy for Appropriating Funding to Non-County Organizations, and resolves that any non-county organization with funding appropriated by the Ulster County Legislature shall adhere to accountability standards and procedures set by the Legislature and as required by law, including compliance with applicable financial, performance measurement, and any additional reporting requirements, deadlines, and deliverables stated in the County contract.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Maio

**Discussion:** Legislator Ronk stated agreement with postponing for another month, noting that they have received a number of suggested changes, some of which he agrees with and some of which he does not, asking that Committee members make any further suggestions within this timeline in preparation next month. Legislator Petit vocalized agreement with postponing for another month. Legislator Bartels asked for all changes to be circulated. Clerk Fabella noted that the red-lined copy is in the caucus packet.

**Motion No. 2: To postpone Resolution No. 191 – Establishing A Policy For Funding Non-County Organizations – Ulster County Legislature**

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution adopts a Policy for Appropriating Funding to Non-County Organizations, and resolves that any non-county organization with funding appropriated by the Ulster County Legislature shall adhere to accountability standards and procedures set by the Legislature and as required by law, including compliance with applicable financial, performance measurement, and any additional reporting requirements, deadlines, and deliverables stated in the County contract.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Haynes

**Discussion:** None

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Archer, Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, Maio, and Walter  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 7  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Approved

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**Motion No. 3: To approve Resolution No. 196 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – The Trustees Of Columbia University In The City Of New York – Department Of Health**

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with The Trustees of Columbia University in the City of New York to increase funding from the Healing Communities Grant from April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2023 for an additional \$501,853.26, making the contract total \$791,503.26

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Haynes

**Discussion:** Chairwoman Archer noted that the Resolution will be required to be amended on the floor at Session from a total contractual value of \$791,503.26 to \$696,148.26.

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Archer, Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, Maio, and Walter  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 7  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Approved

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**Motion No. 4: To approve Resolution No. 208** – Amending The 2020 Ulster County Budget To Accept HEALing Communities Study Funding And Create Positions – Department Of Health

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution amends the 2020 Ulster County Budget to create and fund three new positions and to fund the Professional Services Other line in the amount of \$90,156.00, and to increase Other Health Department Income Revenues, for a total budgetary increase of \$376,390.00.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Haynes

**Discussion:** None

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Archer, Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, Maio, and Walter  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 7  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Approved

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**Motion No. 5: To approve Resolution No. 238** – Establishing A Policy Regarding Legislative Access To Ulster County’s Municipal Uniform Information System (MUNIS)

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution authorizes the Legislature to have direct and unimpeded access to the County’s MUNIS platform, as detailed therein.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Bartels

**Discussion:** None

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Archer, Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, Maio, and Walter  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 7  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Approved

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**Motion No. 6: To discuss Resolution No. 240** – Requesting The New York State Legislature Introduce, And The Governor Sign, An Amendment To Article 31 Of The New York State Tax Law To Permit The County Of Ulster To Adopt A Local Law To Impose, Collect And Retain A Tax On Real Estate Transfers

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution requests the New York State Legislature and Governor pass legislation amending Article 31 of the New York State Tax Law, adding subdivision “H”, permitting the County of Ulster to adopt and amend a local law imposing in the County of Ulster a tax on each

conveyance of real property or interest therein when the consideration exceeds five hundred dollars, at the rate of one dollar for each five hundred dollars or fractional part thereof.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Bartels

**Discussion:** None

**Motion No. 7: To postpone Resolution No. 240** – Requesting The New York State Legislature Introduce, And The Governor Sign, An Amendment To Article 31 Of The New York State Tax Law To Permit The County Of Ulster To Adopt A Local Law To Impose, Collect And Retain A Tax On Real Estate Transfers

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution requests the New York State Legislature and Governor pass legislation amending Article 31 of the New York State Tax Law, adding subdivision “H”, permitting the County of Ulster to adopt and amend a local law imposing in the County of Ulster a tax on each conveyance of real property or interest therein when the consideration exceeds five hundred dollars, at the rate of one dollar for each five hundred dollars or fractional part thereof.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Bartels

**Discussion:** None

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Archer, Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, Maio, and Walter  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 7  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Postponed

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**Motion No. 8: To approve Resolution No. 249** – Amending The 2020 Ulster County Budget To Adjust The Annual Salary Of The Public Defender In Order To Be Consistent With A Full-Time Position

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution amends the Public Defender position to be held on a full-time basis, requiring the Public Defender to devote 100% of his or her full working time to their duties of the office, and increases the annual salary to \$120,916.00. Furthermore, this Resolution increases the Regular Pay line in the Public Defender office by \$14,305.00, and the Social Security line by \$1,095.00, and reduces the Other Misc. Contractual Expense line by \$15,400.00.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Bartels

**Discussion:** None

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Archer, Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, Maio, and Walter  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 7  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Approved

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**Motion No. 9: To approve Resolution No. 253** – Authorizing The Replacement Of The Culvert On Wittenberg Road In The Town Of Woodstock, In And For The County Of Ulster, New York, At A Maximum Estimated Cost Of \$62,000.00, And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$62,000.00 Bonds Of Said County To Pay The Cost Thereof

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution authorizes the issuance of \$62,000.00 bonds for Capital Project No. 572 – Wittenberg Road Culvert, to replace the outside span between girders which collapsed on June 25, 2020 which is to be performed with in house labor.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Bartels

**Discussion:** None

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Archer, Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, Maio, and Walter  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 7  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Approved

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**Motion No. 10: To approve Resolution No. 263** – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Enter An Agreement For A Cybersecurity Remediation Grant Program With The NYS Board Of Elections – Ulster County Board Of Elections

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to execute a grant agreement in the amount of \$113,628.00, and any amendments thereto, with the NYS Board of Elections to obtain Elections Cybersecurity Remediation Grant Program Funds.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Bartels

**Discussion:** Legislator Ronk noted that the Board of Elections again ignored the Legislature’s process for submitting late resolutions and that his vote is a statement of opposition towards the continued disregard for the Legislature’s policies.

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Archer, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, Maio, and Walter  
**Voting Against:** Legislator Ronk  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 6

**No. of Votes Against:** 1  
**Disposition:** Approved

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**Motion No. 11: To approve Resolution No. 264 -** Setting A Public Hearing On The Sale And/Or Transfer Of Lands Owned By Ulster County Located At Golden Hill, City Of Kingston To A Local Development Corporation To Be Held On Tuesday, August 11, 2020 At 6:20 PM

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution sets a public hearing on the Sale And/Or Transfer Of Lands Owned By Ulster County Located At Golden Hill, City Of Kingston to a Local Development Corporation to be held on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 At 6:20 PM.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Haynes

**Discussion:** None

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Archer, Ronk, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, and Walter  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes Abstained:** Legislator Gavaris  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 6  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**No. of Votes Abstained:** 1  
**Disposition:** Approved

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**New Business:** None

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**Old Business:** None

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Chairwoman Archer asked the members if there was any other business, and hearing none;

### Adjournment

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Bartels  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 7  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0

**Time:** 5:45 PM

**Respectfully submitted:** Amber Feaster  
**Minutes Approved:** August 11, 2020

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Regular Meeting Transcript**

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**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Lynn Archer, Chairwoman  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Natalie Kelder, Amber Feaster, and Jay Mahler  
**PRESENT:** Legislators Kenneth J. Ronk, Jr., Tracey Bartels, John  
Gavaris, Heidi Haynes; Mary Beth Maio, and Eve Walter  
**ABSENT:** None  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes  
**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Legislators Albert Bruno, Brian Cahill, and Laura Petit;  
Legislative Counsel Christopher Ragucci; Minority Counsel  
Nicholas Pascale; Deputy County Executives Marc Rider,  
and Evelyn Wright; Comptroller, March Gallagher; Deputy  
Comptroller Chris Quirk; Director of Planning Dennis  
Doyle; Patricia Doxsey, Daily Freeman

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**Chairwoman Archer:** Everybody to the June 21st Ways and Means meeting. It is 5:32.  
Natalie, could you call roll?

**Natalie Kelder:** Archer?

**Chairwoman Archer:** Here

**Natalie Kelder:** Ronk.

**Legislator Ronk:** Here.

**Natalie Kelder:** Bartels.

**Legislator Bartels:** Here.

**Natalie Kelder:** Gavaris.

**Legislator Gavaris:** Present.

**Natalie Kelder:** Haynes

**Legislator Haynes:** Here.

**Natalie Kelder:** Maio  
and Walter

**Legislator Walter:** Here.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Okay. All right. Let's look at resolutions for July 21, 2020. The first Resolution is 191, establishing a policy for funding non-county organizations. I'll have a motion to move.

**Legislator Ronk:** I'll move it for discussion.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Second?

**Legislator Haynes:** I'll second.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Thank you. Legislator Ronk.

**Legislator Ronk:** Thank you. I don't know it's Legislator, is Legislator Petit on?

**Chairwoman Archer:** Yes, she is.

**Legislator Ronk:** Um, so I, I believe I, I know that I'm in favor of postponing this for one more month. I know that we have proposed some changes some of which I agree with and a couple of which I don't. You know, I do think it's important for us to move this forward obviously with all of the changes to the contract agencies we have this month you know, for this year's budget, I think it's important for us to take a hard look at this I know that Legislator Walter had sent in some comments to Legislator Petit and I, if anybody else has any before next month so we can you know, sort of button this up and get this passed that mean that's really what I'm looking for here.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Yeah, I believe Legislator Petit, do you want to fill everyone in? We spoke about it at caucus.

**Legislator Petit:** Yeah, can you hear me okay?

**Chairwoman Archer:** We can, thank you.

**Legislator Petit:** Okay. All right. Yes. What we, we are doing is we've considered some of the recommendations that Legislator Walter had made. I mean, they, they were I, I made some revisions, but in all fairness that was done over the weekend, and it wasn't sent to the Clerk until Monday. So I am in favor of postponing it. Give people time to take a look at the changes. And I believe that a Republican Counsel may have a few more and then we can discuss it next month.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Great. Legislator Bartels.



**Legislator Bartels:** Thank you. I, I appreciate both your willingness to hold it for another month. I think it's important work. Is there any way, you said it was sent, Legislator Petit, to the Clerk on Monday. I don't see it in the, in our Ways and Means packet, can we circulate the changes so that then I'll look at the changes. And if I have any additional comments, I'll provide them to you both.

**Legislator Petit:** Oh, great. Yeah, I, I will send you what I've done. And you know, again, I believe that Republican Counselor was going to make some more changes as well.

**Legislator Ronk:** It looks like Vicky was going to say something, just FYI.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Do, do we have a redline copy?

**Clerk Fabella:** I made it and it's, it should be in the packet.

**Legislator Petit:** Oh, Okay, thank you, Vicky.

**Chairwoman Archer:** But it doesn't have, it doesn't have Laura's latest changes as she has it.

**Clerk Fabella:** Yes it does.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Oh, it does. Okay, so everyone could take a look at it for, for next month.

**Legislator Bartels:** You're saying it's in the Ways and Means packet?

**Clerk Fabella:** No, it's in the caucus packet.

**Legislator Bartels:** Okay, because I'm looking at the Ways & Means packet and I don't see it.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Okay, so what does somebody we have a motion to postpone?

**Legislator Ronk:** I move we postpone it until our next meeting.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Okay, second?

**Legislator Haynes:** I'll second it, Heidi.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Thank you. All in favor?

**Group:** Aye.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Opposed?

So moved. All right, Resolution 196. The approving of the contract for the Trustees of Columbia. This is the Heal, we will be making an amendment to the total value of the contract, which went from \$791 and change to \$696,148.26.

**Legislator Ronk:** Moved by Ronk.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Second?

**Legislator Haynes:** Second, Haynes.

**Chairwoman Archer:** All in favor?

**Group Aye.**

**Chairwoman Archer:** Opposed? So moved.  
Resolution 208, this is the Heal project creating the positions for the Department of Health.

**Legislator Ronk:** So moved.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Second?

**Legislator Haynes:** Haynes.

**Legislator Bartels:** Bartels.

**Chairwoman Archer:** For discussion. Yes, Deputy Rider.

**Deputy County Executive Rider:** Wait, can I just back up? Did you vote on the amendment and the resolution? Or?

**Legislator Ronk:** It's reso, it's the day of our Legislative meeting. We can't amend resolutions in committee on the day of the

**Deputy County Executive Rider:** Gotcha, Okay, Sorry.

**Chairwoman Archer:** It will be amended on the floor.

**Deputy County Executive Rider:** I missed that part. Okay, I'm good.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Okay. Do we have, did we take about on 208? We have it moved and seconded. Who and Heidi you seconded, right?

**Legislator Haynes:** Yeah.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Okay. All in favor?

**Group:** Aye.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Opposed? So moved.

Resolution 238. This is establishing a policy regarding legislative access to the Ulster County Municipal Information System.

**Legislator Ronk:** I'll move it.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Second?

**Legislator Bartels:** I'll second it, Bartels.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Okay. Any discussion? Any questions? Okay, all in favor?

**Group:** Aye, Aye.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Opposed? So moved.

Resolution 240, requesting the state of New York Legislature introducing to the Governor sign and amendment to Article 31 of the New York state tax law to permit the county of Ulster to adopt a local law to impose collect and retain a tax on real estate transfers.

**Legislator Ronk:** I'll move it for discussion.

**Legislator Bartels:** I'll second it for discussion.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Second. Yeah, I believe this is being referred. I'm sorry, this is being postponed so that we could have a special meeting for discussion. I think the intent of the chair was to put it out there for discussion as a revenue opportunity and that there's some conversation and work that needs to be done before this is ready to be voted on.  
So Legislator Ronk.

**Legislator Ronk:** Thanks, I just want to make everyone aware. You know, while we're here that I don't believe after doing some extra research that minority council agrees that we could, through the Home Rule process, accomplish the goals set out by some members of this committee last week, and that we would probably need some sort of special state legislation if we were going to do something of that nature. So I just want everyone to keep that in their minds before we, you know, take this to a special meeting.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Okay, is there, did we vote for a postponement?

**Legislator Ronk:** I move that we postpone this until the night until a special meeting to be set by the Chair.

**Chairwoman Archer:** A second?

**Legislator Bartels:** I'll second that.

**Chairwoman Archer:** On the postponement All in favor?

**Group:** Aye. Aye.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Opposed, so moved.

Resolution 249 amending the 2020 Ulster County budget to adjust the annual salary of the Public Defender in order to be consistent with a full-time position.

**Legislator Ronk:** I'll move it for discussion.

**Legislator Bartels:** I'll second it.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Second. Legislator Bartels.

**Legislator Bartels:** So, I circulated the proposed amendments that I'd like to make on the floor tonight. I don't know if everyone got a chance to look at it. I don't know if anyone has any questions.? Okay. Can I assume that it'll be a friendly amendment then? On the floor?

**Legislator Ronk:** I've got no opposition.

**Legislator Bartels:** Okay. Okay, so, um, thank you. And we'll offer it on the floor.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Okay. All in favor?

**Group:** Aye.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Opposed? So moved.

Resolution 253 authorizing the replacement of the culvert on Wittenberg Road in the town of Woodstock. And in for the County of New York at a maximum estimated cost of \$62,000.

**Legislator Ronk:** I'll move it.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Second?

**Legislator Bartels:** I'll second it, Bartels.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Any questions on this? All in favor?

**Group:** Aye.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Opposed? So moved.

Resolution 263, authorizing the Chair of the Ulster County legislature to enter in agreement for a cybersecurity remediation grant program with New York State Board of Elections.

**Legislator Ronk:** I'll move discussion.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Second?

**Legislator Bartels:** I'll second it for discussion.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Okay. legislator Ronk.

**Legislator Ronk:** Thanks. Thanks, Madam Chair. I'm gonna be a no on this. In committee tonight and on the floor tonight. It's more of a protest vote than anything. You know, as I said in Laws and Rules last night, this is the third time in four months that the Board of Elections has completely ignored our legislative process for late resolutions. You know, in fact, the Deputy Commissioner on the Democratic side of the Board of Elections, and I believe the Commissioner, had said that, you know, although they got an email about the grant, you know, in order to, you know, in time to make the resolution timely, that they didn't receive the hard copies of the contract until after resolution deadline, trying to say that that's why this would qualify as a late because they didn't get it ahead of our resolution deadline. I spoke to the Clerk of the Legislature today, and she said that the email that was provided as part of the backup of the resolution that was received by the Board of Elections on June 9, had the contract attached to it. So they may have gotten in the mail the contract, you know, after resolution deadline, but they had been in receipt of the contract prior to resolution deadline. And I just, you know, at some point, this Legislature is going to have to stand up and demand of the Board of Elections, the same things that we would demand of the Executive's Office. And I'm sure I'm the only one who cares. But I that's why I'll be voting no. tonight. I really think that you know, our rules and processes are there for a reason. And if we're not going to follow them, we should just abolish them.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Anybody else? Okay, all in favor?

**Group:** Aye.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Opposed?

**Legislator Ronk:** No.

**Chairwoman Archer:** One no, Legislator Ronk. Resolution 264. Setting a public hearing on the sale and or transferred lands owned by Ulster County located at Golden Hill to a local development court to be held on Tuesday, August 11, 2020, at 6:20.

**Legislator Ronk:** I'll move it.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Second?

**Legislator Haynes:** I'll second Hayes.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Thank you. Any discussion? Any questions?

**Legislator Ronk:** Long overdue.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Okay, all in favor?

**Group:** Aye.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Opposed? So moved.

**Legislator Gavaris:** I'm going to be abstaining. Lynn, I'm going to be abstaining for purposes of employment.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Thank you, John. Legislator Gavaris is abstain, is an abstention. Okay, any new or old business anyone would like to bring up? Okay, Legislator Ronk.

**Legislator Ronk:** Do we have a plan for a, another special meeting on the budget analysis?

**Chairwoman Archer:** Yes, I've I think we've gotten all the outstanding, Amber and I spoke about that we should be sending something out in the next day or so.

**Legislator Ronk:** Okay, thank you.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Yep. Anybody else?

**Legislator Ronk:** I move we adjourn.

**Chairwoman Archer:** Okay, I'll take a motion to adjourn. Legislator Ronk. Second?

**Legislator Bartels:** Second, Bartels.

**Chairwoman Archer:** All in favor?

**Group:** Aye.

**Chairwoman Archer:** All right. Thank you, everyone.

**Legislator Bartels:** Thank you.