



Board of County Commissioners

Dear Mike:

As you know, the Board is taking the action to terminate your employment with the County, effective immediately. While we appreciate your commitment and the public charisma you brought to the job, the majority of this Board has significant concerns about the way fiduciary responsibilities have been carried out during your tenure such that the lack of credibility and accountability created will interfere with the discharge of your official duties.

The recent process of purchasing and financing the ACN property illustrates these issues. As you know, the County agreed to purchase the ACN property for \$42 million and presented a \$58 million appraisal to the Local Government Commission ("LGC"). However, what was not disclosed to the LGC was the existence of a \$24 million appraisal.

Emails from your direct report at the time suggest failing to disclose this appraisal was a conscious decision as a potential "dealbreaker" to the LGC.

Failing to disclose this appraisal to the entity responsible for assessing and approving financing for local governments damaged the credibility of the County in applying for its financing in this project. Indeed, LGC staff recommended denying the County's application and three members agreed with the staff's recommendation and voted against financing the project. In the October 2024 meeting of the LGC, even those who voted for the financing, in their debate in open session, indicated that their vote was based on the need of the mental health facility. Regardless of the outcome of the vote on the financing, the entire process-- both the aforementioned lack of transparency in regard to the appraisal and the continued attempt to utilize draw financing despite feedback from the LGC-- cast a long shadow upon the County's transparency and brought disrepute in local media coverage on the matter and in open meetings of the LGC.

Either you were directly involved in failing to disclose the \$24 million appraisal to the LGC or you lacked oversight and accountability over the deputy county manager involved. In either event, this shows a critical failure to perform your duties as County Manager and creates a credibility issue in your ability to move forward as such.

There have also been issues with disrespectful staff communication with elected officials and an unacceptable lag in responding to requests from myself and others for even the simplest public information.

Therefore, we thank you for your service, but please be advised that your employment is hereby terminated with just cause.

Sincerely,

Christopher Measmer,
Chairman
Board of Commissioners