

**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY  
FINAL OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES  
Board of County Commissioners  
Committee of the Whole**

**Board of County Commissioners**  
Stephen P. Clark Government Center  
Commission Chambers  
111 N.W. First Street  
Miami, Florida 33128

September 16, 2009  
As Advertised

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**CLERKS SUMMARY AND OFFICIAL MINUTES  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 16, 2009**

The Board of County Commissioners met as a Committee of the Whole in the County Commission Chambers on the Second Floor of the Stephen P. Clark Government Center, 111 NW First Street, Miami, Florida at 2:00 p.m., September 16, 2009, there being present upon roll call: Chairman Dennis C. Moss, and Commissioners Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Audrey Edmonson, Carlos A. Gimenez, Sally A. Heyman, Barbara J. Jordan, Joe A. Martinez, Dorrin D. Rolle, Natacha Seijas, Katy Sorenson, Rebeca Sosa and Javier D. Souto; (Commissioner Bruno A. Barreiro was late). The following staff members were present: Mayor Carlos Alvarez, County Manager George Burgess, County Attorney Robert Cuevas, Assistant County Attorney Lee Kraftchick, Office of Strategic Business Management (OSBM) Director Jennifer Glazer-Moon; Commission Auditor Charles Anderson, and Deputy Clerks Diane Collins, Doris Dickens and Alan Eisenberg.

Chairman Moss expressed appreciation to Commissioner Martinez for the slide presentation depicting that last Friday was the 7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States, which was a reminder of the importance of public safety.

Chairman Moss called the meeting to order and the Board convened in a moment of silence, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Moss expressed appreciation for the staff support provided by the offices of the Mayor and the County Manager, the County Attorney, the Clerk of the Board, and the Commission Auditor. He noted the purpose of today's meeting was to discuss any proposed savings, efficiencies, and other recommendations that may assist in restoring some of the County services targeted for reduction/elimination in the Mayor's proposed budget. Chairman Moss said during today's meeting, he would distribute copies of straw votes taken at yesterday's (9/15) Committee of the Whole meeting, along with a form listing the additional services approved yesterday. He asked that each commissioner use this form to establish priorities by indicating which programs/services they wished to restore or fund for FY 2009-10. Once priorities were identified by each commissioner, votes of the entire Committee would be tallied to identify a list of top 10 to 15 priorities for the entire Board.

Commissioner Seijas noted her priorities involved changes in assignments or the shifting of funding already in the Budget. She asked that she be recognized when that process began.

Chairman Moss noted he would recognize Commissioner Seijas following a tally of the votes on the vetted numbers reductions.

Commissioner Diaz suggested Committee members start the process by taking a tally of the vetted numbers reductions and try to reach a consensus on what and how much to cut.

Commissioner Jordan noted the process laid out by Chairman Moss was one option; however, she felt the Committee should proceed by using the same process used yesterday to determine what programs/services should be reduced or eliminated. After the different sources and recommendations were identified by individual commissioners, and after staff commented on the ramifications of each proposal, the Committee could develop a list of priorities for vetted reductions.

Commissioner Sosa noted she concurred with Commissioner Jordan.

Commissioner Martinez noted although he would yield to the Chairman's lead, it was his recommendation that the Board proceed by taking straw votes of Committee members preferences to develop a consensus of priorities based on the Mayor's proposed budget.

Commissioner Gimenez noted he would also yield to the Chairman's lead, but he felt it was important to go through the list of sources/recommendations already voted on by Committee members first and reach a consensus on those proposals by taking straw votes, and setting priorities based on those sources/recommendations that receive at least seven (7) affirmative votes.

Following further clarification regarding the parliamentary procedures and the process to be followed during today's meeting, Chairman Moss noted the sentiment of the Committee members was to begin by taking straw votes on the vetted proposal list submitted by the Commission Auditor in cooperation with the Office of Strategic Business Management first, followed by the unvetted list. He asked the Commission Auditor to explain the difference between the vetted and unvetted items.

Mr. Charles Anderson, Commission Auditor, said he and his staff met with members of the Administration and discussed the vetted numbers restorations and the vetted numbers reductions. He noted he developed a list of vetted numbers reductions, vetted numbers restorations, and unvetted numbers reductions, which were included as attachments 1, 2, and 3 to his memorandum dated September 14, 2009. On the vetted restorations, Mr. Anderson noted he agreed with the Administration on all items, except Item No. 18, involving furloughs. He noted he basically disagreed with members of the Administration on which employees could be furloughed or were able to be furloughed. Also, unlike members of the Administration, Mr. Anderson noted he felt a mechanism was in place that would allow exempt employees to be furloughed for one day.

County Manager George Burgess clarified that although he and the Mayor (the Administration) agreed with the Commission Auditor in many instances, vetted did not necessarily mean that the Commission Auditor and the Administration agreed on savings/reductions. He noted unvetted meant that the Administration and the Commission Auditor had not discussed or had any dialogue on the proposal.

Chairman Moss welcomed County Mayor Carlos Alvarez.

The Chairman noted all Committee members received copies of a September 16, 2009 memorandum entitled "Recap of September 15, 2009 Straw Votes" and a "Ballot to Determine Priorities for Restoring County Services". He indicated that for today's meeting, commissioners could use either the Commission Auditor's memorandum entitled "FY 09-10 BCC Preliminary Recommendations", dated September 14, 2009 or the County Manager's memorandum, which contained the same information on page 1 of 4 under the Vetted Numbers Reductions.

The members proceeded to discuss the reductions and restorations contained in the Commission Auditor's memorandum entitled "FY 09-10 BCC Preliminary Recommendations", dated September 14, 2009, and to take straw votes on the following proposals.

### **VETTED NUMBERS**

#### **Vetted Proposal Number 1: Reduction of 15-percent to the Board of County Commissioners Budget**

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that the Board of County Commissioners' (BCC) budget be reduced by 15-percent. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Sorenson.

Commissioner Gimenez explained the intent of his motion, noting he was proposing a 15-percent reduction for the BCC since he would be voting on similar reductions to the Office of the Mayor and the Administration.

Commissioner Martinez noted he did not support this motion, particularly since the Mayor proposed to eliminate each Commissioner's District Discretionary Fund, which was \$100,000. He pointed out that the elimination of the Discretionary Fund, combined with the 5-percent across-the-board reduction in salaries, was equivalent to a 25 to 28-percent reduction in the BCC's budget.

Commissioner Diaz concurred, noting the resources available to the BCC were already limited.

Commissioner Jordan noted she supported the proposal to reduce the budgets for all County Departments by 10-percent; however, she did not support the proposal to reduce them by 15-percent.

Commissioner Sorenson said reductions to the BCC budget were necessary if other departmental budgets were reduced.

Commissioner Heyman suggested efforts be made to reduce operating expenses and salaries in all departments; including those under the BCC such as the Sergeant-at-Arms and Office of Intergovernmental Affairs.

Ms Jennifer Glazer-Moon, Office of Strategic Business Management (OSMB) Director, noted in the Budget Book, a 10-percent reduction was reflected to each activity, which would be applied at the Board's discretion.

Commissioner Heyman spoke in support of the foregoing motion, noting members of the Board must lead by example.

Hearing no other questions or comments, the Board voted on the motion to reduce the BCC's budget by 15-percent. This motion, upon being put to a vote, resulted in a 6-6 tie vote (Commissioners Gimenez, Heyman, Seijas, Sorenson, Sosa and Chairman Moss voted "yes;" Commissioners Diaz, Edmonson, Jordan, Martinez, Rolle, Souto voted "no;" and Commissioner Barreiro was absent).

County Attorney Robert Cuevas advised that a tie vote usually meant "No Action Taken;" however, he would research to confirm this determination.

Commissioner Jordan asked Commissioner Gimenez whether he would accept an amendment to reduce the BCC's budget by 10-percent rather than 15-percent.

It was moved by Commissioner Jordan to reduce the BCC's budget by 10-percent. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Edmonson.

In response to Commissioner Gimenez' inquiry regarding budget recommendations, County Manager Burgess noted the proposed FY 09-10 budget recommended a 10-percent reduction to the Offices of the BCC, the Mayor, the County Manager and the County Attorney.

Commissioner Gimenez said that the total reduction to the BCC budget would be approximately 20-percent when including the recommended 10-percent reduction along with the \$100,000 reduction to the District Discretionary Fund reserve.

Commissioner Sosa suggested the budgets for all County departments be reduced across-the-board and that adjustments be made by each department as necessary.

Following further clarification regarding the motion, the Committee proceeded to vote on this motion to reduce the BCC's budget by 10-percent. The motion, upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 11-1 (Commissioner Sorenson voted "No;" Commissioner Barreiro was absent).

**Vetted Proposal Number 2: To eliminate one federal, State and local governmental coordinator in OIA**

It was moved by Commissioner Heyman that three positions: one federal, one State, and one local governmental coordinator be eliminated from the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (OIA). This motion was seconded by Commissioner Diaz.

Commissioner Jordan inquired whether the County would pay to relocate Ms. Misty Brown to Washington and whether her salary would be commensurate with Mr. Eric Olafson's. She expressed concern that without these changes, the budget would be inaccurate.

Commission Auditor Charles Anderson, in response to Commissioner Diaz' question, noted the elimination of three positions from the OIA as proposed by Commissioner Heyman, would be over-and-above the proposed 10-percent reduction across-the-board.

Commissioner Rolle echoed the sentiments expressed by Commissioner Jordan. He requested clarification on the specific positions that would be eliminated and the corresponding budget implications.

Commissioner Heyman said that the \$440,000 reduction represented an average of salaries for commensurate positions. She noted the local coordinator position could be relocated to Washington and the local position could remain vacant. Commissioner Heyman pointed out that Miami-Dade County had more lobbyists than other major municipal governments; including the County of Los Angeles. She noted that as proposed, the motion would result in efficiencies, and the relocation expenses could be addressed later.

Commissioner Rolle noted he would not support the motion unless it included a cost-of-living adjustment for the individual(s) assigned to the Washington office.

Chairman Moss recommended members of the Board make a decision today on the proposal to eliminate the three positions, and consider the additional expenses later.

Commissioner Rolle noted he would support the motion with this stipulation.

Commissioner Martinez noted he could not support the motion, particularly considering the discussion was related to a specific employee rather than overall Departmental staffing.

Mr. Joe Rasco, Director, Intergovernmental Affairs, responded to Commissioner Sosa's request for clarification about the current departmental staffing. He said that the Department currently had eight employees: one local, two State; two federal; one administrative; one director; and one State Delegation member.

Commissioner Sosa noted she concurred with Commissioner Martinez and that she would support this reduction if it was linked to a position rather than a specific individual.

Commissioner Seijas clarified that Commissioner Heyman was proposing to eliminate three positions: one each at the federal, state, and local levels.

Mr. Rasco said that the proposal would reduce the Department's budget by a total of 44 percent; and would reduce the base budget by 34-percent in addition to another 10-percent across-the-board.

Following further discussion regarding the impact of eliminating three positions from the OIA, Committee members proceeded to vote on the foregoing motion to eliminate three positions: one each at the federal, state, and local levels. This motion, upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 10-2, (Commissioners Heyman and Sorenson voted "Yes;" Commissioners Barreiro, Diaz,

Edmonson, Gimenez, Jordan, Martinez, Rolle, Seijas, Souto, and Chairman Moss voted "No;" and Commissioner Sosa was absent).

It was then moved by Commissioner Jordan that one governmental coordinator position be eliminated from the OIA. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Edmonson and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 13-0.

**Vetted Proposal Number 3: Reductions to the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs Federal Lobbying Contract**

Commissioner Heyman said based on the outcome of the workshop on lobbying contracts; she supported the reduction of the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (OIA)'s budget at the federal level to a maximum of \$750,000.

It was moved by Commissioner Heyman that the OIA's budget for federal lobbying contracts be reduced to a maximum of \$750,000. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Gimenez, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 9-4, (Commissioners Gimenez, Heyman, Martinez, Rolle, Sorenson, Sosa, Souto, Diaz and Chairman Moss voted "Yes;" Commissioners Barreiro, Edmonson, Jordan, and Seijas voted "No").

**Vetted Proposal Number 4: Eliminate the Office of the Commission Auditor**

Commissioner Gimenez said that the Office of the Commission Auditor (OCA) was created pursuant to the County Charter and could not be eliminated.

It was moved by Commissioner Barreiro that the budget recommended for the OCA be adopted as amended to reflect a reduction from \$3.259 million to \$500,000. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Seijas.

Commissioner Diaz suggested that a vote on this motion be deferred, pending further discussion regarding the feasibility of creating a Budget and Policy Department.

Commissioner Souto questioned the practicality of reducing the OCA's budget and establishing a new Budget and Policy Office.

Commissioner Sosa spoke in support of the motion. She suggested the focus of the OCA be audit functions rather than legislative research. She noted the OCA was dependent upon the Finance Department to provide its data.

Chairman Moss clarified that the role of the OCA was to audit, not to develop budgets. He noted the OCA was responsible for reviewing the records of others and determining the accuracy of operations in accordance with acceptable accounting standards.

Commissioner Gimenez said that according to County Charter, the OCA's responsibility includes but was not limited to providing the County Commission with independent budgetary, audit management, and revenue forecasting; as well as providing the Board with fiscal analysis

of policy, services, and contracts. He noted this Office would be the County's future institutional knowledge base and unlike elected officials who come and go, this office would remain intact. Commissioner Gimenez noted; however, that the OCA spent too much time on legislative analyses and needed to refocus his efforts on budgetary issues.

Commissioner Martinez said he did not support the reduction. He questioned whether the OCA had the authority to be the custodian of records.

County Attorney Cuevas advised that the OCA had the authority to direct questions to staff and access information. He noted that County departments designated a custodian of public records to a specific office according to State of Florida Public Records Law.

Commissioner Martinez asked County Attorney Cuevas to determine whether the County Commission was authorized under Florida Statutes to designate the OCA as the custodian of records.

In response to Commissioner Sorenson's inquiry regarding information that was not accessible to the OCA, County Manager George Burgess noted to his knowledge, the OCA had access to all information and that information provided to the auditor was accurate.

Commission Auditor Charles Anderson noted his office had access to systems that contained data; however; in many instances it was necessary to speak directly with department directors to clarify that data.

Mayor Carlos Alvarez inquired why the OCA could not formulate an opinion solely on the basis of data.

Mr. Anderson explained that the quality of the information he provided to members of the Commission was largely dependent on his accessibility to information through the Administration. He noted he had developed a good working relationship with Ms. Jennifer Glazer-Moon; however, his ability to access information needed to respond to Commission members was impeded because the information had to be channeled through the Mayor's Office first.

Mayor Alvarez explained that all department directors reported to him to prevent misinformation.

Commissioner Jordan noted the OCA needed to obtain unfiltered information. She noted information provided to the County Commission should be channeled through the OCA. She also noted the legislative functions were beneficial and that a newly established budget office could be a separate entity of the Board. She noted she did not support any reduction in the OCA's budget.

Following additional comments by Commissioner Sosa regarding the primary function of the OCA and by Commissioner Barreiro regarding the intent of the motion, the Board proceeded to vote, and the foregoing motion, upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 9-4, (Commissioners

Barreiro, Seijas, Sorenson and Sosa voted "Yes;" Commissioners Diaz, Edmonson, Gimenez, Heyman, Jordan, Martinez, Rolle, Souto and Chairman Moss voted "No".

It was then moved by Commissioner Edmonson that the FY 2009-10 budget for the Office of the Commission Auditor be reduced by 10-percent. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Diaz and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 12-1 (Commissioner Barreiro voted "No").

**Vetted Proposal Number 5 : Reduce the Legislative Analysis staff (6) from OCA**

Commissioner Heyman noted legislative analysis was not a priority of the Office of the Commission Auditor (OCA). She suggested that six legislative analysis positions be eliminated in order to achieve the 10-percent budget reduction. Commissioner Heyman suggested that the focus needed to be on auditing functions and the savings realized be used to increase the number of audit staff.

It was moved by Commissioner Heyman that the number of legislative analysts positions for the Office of Commission Auditor be reduced from eight to two. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Sorenson.

Commissioner Jordan pointed out that Commissioner Heyman was proposing to eliminate six positions in addition to the proposed 10-percent in the departmental budget.

Commissioner Gimenez spoke against the motion, and suggested the funding remain in the Office of the Commission Auditor if the Board intended to expand the scope of this Office. Commissioner Heyman withdrew the foregoing motion due to a lack of support.

**Vetted Proposal Number 6: Eliminate the remaining legislative staff (2) in the OCA**

(See Report under Vetted Proposal Number 5.

**Vetted Proposal Number 7: Reduce Sergeant-At-Arms Positions**

It was moved by Commissioner Barreiro that the number of Sergeant-At-Arms position(s) assigned to the County Commission Office of the Chair be reduced to one position.

This foregoing motion died for a lack of a second.

Commissioner Sorenson recommended that two Sergeant-At-Arms positions be assigned to the Office of the Chair.

It was then moved by Commissioner Barreiro that the number of Sergeant-At-Arms position(s) assigned to the County Commission Office of the Chair be reduced to two positions. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Sorenson.

Commissioner Seijas said that two Sergeant-At-Arms positions was insufficient based on the size of the County and traffic conditions.

Chairman Moss noted he had already reduced the number of Sergeant-At-Arms positions.

Commissioner Barreiro noted during his tenure as Chair, he transferred the Sergeant-At-Arms positions to the Office of Chair to ensure full disclosure.

Hearing no other questions or comments, Committee members proceeded to vote, and the foregoing motion, upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 9-4 (Commissioners Barreiro, Gimenez, Seijas and Sorenson voted "Yes;" Commissioners Diaz, Edmonson, Heyman, Jordan, Martinez, Rolle, Sosa, Souto, and Chairman Moss voted "No").

**Vetted Proposal Number 8: Reduction to the County Attorney's Office budget by 15-percent**

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that the FY 2009-10 budget for the County Attorney's Office (CAO) be reduced by 15-percent. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Heyman.

Commissioner Martinez recommended the funding level for the CAO not be reduced to avoid losing legal expertise.

Responding to Commissioner Martinez' question, County Attorney Cuevas noted the beginning salary for an Assistant County Attorney was \$90,000.

Commissioner Diaz agreed with Commissioner Martinez, noting the need for legal expertise would increase in the future. He spoke in support of a 10-percent reduction to the CAO.

Commissioner Sosa noted expenses for all departments needed to be reduced across-the-board, including the County Attorney's Office.

Commissioner Sorenson noted it would not be feasible to eliminate positions from the County Attorney's Office, particularly considering the number of lawsuits filed against the County.

Commissioners Jordan and Souto noted they did not support a 15-percent reduction; however, Commissioner Jordan said she would support a 10-percent reduction.

Commissioner Edmonson stated that she would support a 5-percent reduction. She suggested that once a reduction was determined, no further reductions be required so that the standard of the County Attorney's Office would not be compromised.

Commissioner Heyman spoke in support of the motion reduce expenditures for the CAO by 15-percent, which she suggested be derived from a combination of reducing salaries, executive benefits, car allowances, or other incentives. She noted a reduction in excess of 10-percent was warranted because salaries in that office were recently increased.

Commissioner Gimenez noted the County Attorney's budget, with 138 employees was larger than the County Commission's budget, with 189 employees. He noted the County Attorney needed to make the same sacrifices as all other departments.

The Board proceeded to vote on the foregoing motion that the proposed FY 2009-10 budget for the County Attorney's Office (CAO) be reduced by 15-percent. This motion, upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 9-4 (Commissioners Barreiro, Gimenez, Heyman and Sosa voted "Yes;" Commissioners Diaz, Edmonson, Jordan, Martinez, Rolle, Seijas, Sorenson, Souto, and Chairman Moss voted "No").

It was then moved by Commissioner Diaz that the proposed FY 2009-10 budget for the County Attorney's Office (CAO) be reduced by 10-percent. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Jordan, and upon being put to a vote, the motion passed by a vote of 12-1 (Commissioner Martinez voted "No").

**Vetted Proposal Number 9: Reduction to the County Executive Office budget by 15-percent**

It was moved by Commissioner Sorenson that the proposed FY 2009-10 budget for the County's Executive Offices be reduced by 15-percent. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Gimenez, and upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 7-6 (Commissioners Barreiro, Gimenez, Heyman, Seijas, Sorenson and Sosa voted "Yes;" Commissioners Diaz, Edmonson, Jordan, Martinez, Rolle, Souto, and Chairman Moss voted "No").

**Vetted Proposal Number 10: Reduction to the County Executive Office budget by 25-percent**

Commissioner Gimenez withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Vetted Proposal Number 11: Reduction to the County Executive Office budget by 45-percent**

It was moved by Commissioner Edmonson that the proposed FY 2009-10 budget for the County's Executive Offices be reduced by 45-percent. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Heyman and upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 10-3 (Commissioners Barreiro, Edmonson and Heyman voted "Yes;" Commissioners Diaz, Gimenez, Jordan, Martinez, Rolle, Seijas, Sorenson, Sosa, Souto and Chairman Moss voted "No").

It was moved by Commissioner Diaz that the proposed FY 2009-10 budget for the County's Executive Offices be reduced by 20-percent. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Heyman and upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 8-5 (Commissioners Barreiro, Diaz, Heyman, Jordan and Rolle voted "Yes;" Commissioners Edmonson, Gimenez, Martinez, Seijas, Sorenson, Sosa, Souto and Chairman Moss voted "No").

It was moved by Commissioner Edmonson that the proposed FY 2009-10 budget for the County's Executive Offices be reduced by 10-percent. This motion was seconded by Chairman

Moss and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 9-4 (Commissioners Barreiro, Heyman, Martinez, Rolle, Seijas, Sorenson, Sosa, Souto and Chairman Moss voted "Yes;" Commissioners Diaz, Edmonson, Gimenez, and Jordan voted "No").

**Vetted Proposal Number 12: Reduction of 5 percent across the board on top of Proposed Budget (excluding the Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD), the Miami-Dade Fire and Rescue Department (MDFRD), the Solid Waste Management Department (SWMD), the Miami-Dade Transit Agency (MDT); and the Public Works Department (PWD)).**

Commissioner Diaz noted this proposal was submitted by Commissioner Sosa, not by him as reflected in Attachment 1 of the Commission Auditor's memorandum, dated September 14, 2009, page of 1 of 4, Vetted Numbers Reductions; and should be corrected.

Commissioner Sosa noted a 5-percent reduction was excessive to some departments. She suggested that rather than a 5-percent reduction; that a 2.5-percent reduction be considered across-the-board in expenditures for all departments; excluding the MDPD, the MDFRD, the SWMD, the MDT, and the PWD. She noted this would result in a savings of \$30.427 million.

County Manager George Burgess agreed with Commissioner Sosa that a 2.5-percent reduction across tax supported funds would save \$30 million, but noted the reductions must be made across-the-board in all departments. He also noted the impact of this reduction would translate into service consequences including \$12 million at 2.5-percent or about 81 sworn and 41 civilian positions. He suggested staff be given an opportunity to continue to analyze departments and identify other potential savings.

Commissioner Sosa said that she did not wish to propose any reduction that would impede a department's ability to provide direct services. She asked County Manager Burgess to identify departments that received significant budget reductions over the last two years and to develop recommendations to ensure that these departments would not be impacted at the same level as those that had not received reductions.

County Manager Burgess responded to Commissioner Diaz regarding the projected \$145.571 million to be realized by the 5-percent reduction in employee's salaries across-the-board. He said this number was taken from a spreadsheet prepared by the Commission Auditor and could not be validated; however, this figure reflected a 5-percent pay reduction from all County departments; including both tax supported and enterprise operations.

Commission Auditor Charles Anderson noted the \$145.571 million was used by the Administration to determine the vetted information.

Budget Director Jennifer Glazer-Moon noted the \$102.567 million "Other" amount was for the proprietary departments and the total \$145.571 million included all departments.

Commissioner Martinez noted that to maintain a balanced budget, all departments needed to work within their appropriated amounts.

Ms. Glazer-Moon stated that the proposed budget was balanced; and that the \$400 million gap between revenues and expenditures was closed.

Commissioner Martinez said that departments were instructed to operate within 95-percent of their proposed budgets.

County Manager Burgess noted revenue was budgeted at 95-percent pursuant to State law, and expenditures were budgeted at 100-percent of the projected 95-percent. He also noted departments were asked to maximize savings this year and to maximize revenue carry-over into the following year.

Commissioner Martinez noted the gap in the proposed budget would decrease if expenditures were reduced by 5-percent upfront rather than later in the year. He noted departments tended to spend more at the end of the fiscal year including overtime and advertisements to avoid losing any unused monies in their budget.

County Manager Burgess noted significant reductions were made to spending including layoffs, salary reductions, etc., in order to close the budget gap, and additional across-the-board reductions would have consequences, particularly considering the depth of the reductions made thus far.

In response to Commissioner Martinez, County Manager Burgess stated that the \$102.567 million "Other" funding was associated with enterprise operations. He noted reducing enterprise operations would not benefit property tax supported revenues.

Commissioner Gimenez noted he needed to know the impact of the reduction and more importantly, the extent of employee layoffs and reductions in service levels before supporting this proposal.

Commissioner Sosa suggested the County Manager determine whether any additional reductions could be made from departmental operations to prevent any additional reductions in salaries.

It was moved by Commissioner Sosa that expenditures for all County departments be reduced by 2.5-percent. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Barreiro and upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 11-2 (Commissioners Barreiro and Sosa voted "Yes;" Commissioners Diaz, Edmonson, Gimenez, Heyman, Jordan, Martinez, Rolle, Seijas, Sorenson, Souto and Chairman Moss voted "No").

(Note: Vetted Proposal Number 12 was reconsidered later in the meeting).

**Vetted Proposal Number 13: Reduction of 5-percent to salaries for those over the Median income of the County**

Commissioner Sorenson noted the intent of the foregoing proposal was to support a tiered salary structure. She suggested employees earning under the median income level would not be subject

to the recommended 5-percent salary reduction. Commissioner Sorenson noted additional information was needed and she would withdraw this proposal, pending further review.

Commissioner Gimenez spoke in support of the proposed 5-percent across-the-board salary reduction, noting the reduction was needed to balance the budget unless other savings were identified. He also noted he supported a tiered salary structure where higher paid employees would receive a larger reduction.

Commissioner Heyman noted she requested figures relating to tiered salary reductions, which she had not received and this information was not on the vetted list. She noted she supported a reduction in salaries; however, she did not support a 5-percent across-the-board salary reduction because she felt that the lowest compensated employees should not be affected.

Ms. Ines Beecher, Budget Coordinator, Office of the Commission Auditor, said that an analysis of tiered salary reductions was presented on line 122, page 6 of the unvetted reductions.

Chairman Moss said that the majority of County employees earned less than \$50,000 and this group needed to be factored into the equation in order to achieve the projected \$106 million savings.

Commissioner Heyman said that she supported higher tiered salary levels for the highest compensated employees with greater disposable income.

Commissioner Martinez suggested that employees earning over \$100,000 receive a 5-percent reduction; that those earning up to \$200,000 receive a 6-percent reduction; and those earning over \$200,000 receive a 7-percent reduction.

Commissioner Jordan suggested the Board determine whether it supported the \$106 million and that the specific methods of accomplishing this objective be determined later.

It was moved by Commissioner Jordan that employee salaries be reduced to yield a total savings of \$106 million. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Sorenson, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 7-6 (Commissioners Gimenez, Heyman, Jordan, Rolle, Sorenson, Souto and Moss voted "Yes;" Commissioners Diaz, Barreiro, Edmonson, Martinez, Seijas, and Sosa voted "No").

Following comments by Commissioners Diaz and Martinez regarding whether or not exempt employees could opt to take a furlough in lieu of salary reductions, County Attorney Cuevas said they could.

Commission Auditor Charles Anderson responded to Commissioner Edmonson's inquiry regarding the total savings from a five-day furlough. He said that the savings would be \$3.691 million per day excluding those employees who could not be furloughed.

Commissioner Gimenez said that the end result could be a combination of salary reductions and furlough days. He noted that a 5-percent salary reduction for employees with salaries between

\$40,000 and \$70,000 resulted in a \$50 million savings which was approximately one-half of the total amount needed. Commissioner Gimenez said that difficult decisions were necessary and savings to offset salaries had not been identified.

Commissioner Sosa suggested that executive benefits should be added to the salary reduction and benefits consideration. She said that a 5-day furlough represented \$18.453 million; whereas a 15-day furlough represented \$55.361 million.

Following additional comments by Commissioner Edmonson regarding the importance of reductions being applied across-the-board to all employees, Chairman Moss responded to Mayor Alvarez that instituting furloughs was a method to realize the \$106 million savings.

#### **Freezing of COLA raises, merit raises, longevity raises and bonuses**

It was moved by Commissioner Sosa that all increases including COLA, merit, longevity, and bonuses be frozen as proposed in the Mayor's budget. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Diaz and upon being put to a vote, the motion passed by a vote of 13-0.

#### **Vetted Proposal Number 14: Reduction to Executive Benefits**

The proposal was withdrawn by Commissioner Edmonson.

#### **Vetted Proposal Number 15: Reduction of 20-percent to Executive Benefits**

It was moved by Commissioner Edmonson that executive benefits be reduced by 20-percent. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Gimenez.

Commissioner Heyman said that the reduction should be associated with salaries rather than a percentage reduction. She noted that additional savings would be obtained through Item #16.

Commissioner Diaz suggested it was unnecessary to reduce executive benefits considering the other salary reduction.

Commissioner Sosa noted she did not support a 20-percent reduction; that E6 & E7 benefits should be eliminated to save \$296,880. She suggested E1, E2, and E3 benefits be reclassified and limited to designated employees in order to save \$3,043 million.

Commissioner Sorenson noted she supported a 20-percent reduction in executive benefits, but she did not support the proposal to eliminate them.

The foregoing motion, upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 9-4 (Commissioners Barreiro, Edmonson, Gimenez and Sorenson voted "Yes;" Commissioners Diaz, Heyman, Jordan, Martinez, Rolle, Seijas, Sosa, Souto, and Chairman Moss voted "No").

**Vetted Proposal Number 16: Eliminate Executive Benefits to employees earning over \$60,000.**

It was moved by Commissioner Martinez that Executive Benefits for all employees earning over \$60,000 be eliminated. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Heyman.

County Mayor Carlos Alvarez pointed out that the effect of this motion would eliminate Executive Benefits to everyone, with the exception of the County Commissioners.

Commissioner Heyman noted that according to the Commission Auditor, the greatest percentage of employees received salaries less than \$50,000 and Executive Benefits for these employees were limited to MetroRail passes or parking.

Commissioner Gimenez said that he was not supportive since the Board should be leading by example and receive reductions along with everyone else.

The foregoing motion, upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 11-2 (Commissioners Heyman and Martinez voted "Yes;" Commissioners Barreiro, Diaz, Edmonson, Gimenez, Jordan, Rolle, Seijas, Sorenson, Sosa, Souto, and Chairman Moss voted "No").

**Vetted Proposal Number 17: Elimination of Flexible Benefits**

It was moved by Commissioner Edmonson that flexible benefits for all employees be eliminated. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Sosa.

In response to Commissioner Gimenez's inquiry, County Manager George Burgess explained that Flexible Benefits were established in the 1990's upon the County converting from Metropolitan Life Insurance to BlueCross BlueShield Insurance. He noted that along with a reduction in insurance premiums, flex benefits were negotiated to compensate employees for a reduction in benefits. County Manager Burgess said that employees received between \$1,000 and \$1,200 per year that were used to offset employee benefit payments. He noted that flexible benefits were a negotiable benefit.

Commissioner Sorenson noted that since the reduction was a fixed dollar amount for all employees, it would have a disproportional affect on those employees who were paid lower salaries.

The foregoing motion, upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 8-5 (Commissioners Barreiro, Diaz, Edmonson, Gimenez, Martinez, Sosa, Souto, and Chairman Moss voted "Yes;" Commissioners Heyman, Jordan, Rolle, Seijas, and Sorenson voted "No").

**Vetted Proposal Number 18: Furlough**

Chairman Moss indicated that the foregoing proposal on furlough issues would be addressed later along with the discussion on tiered salaries for employees.

**Vetted Proposal Number 19 & 20: Furniture**

Commission Auditor Charles Anderson noted that the foregoing proposals were included in the unvetted items and suggested that they be addressed at that time.

**Vetted Proposal Number 21: Eliminate Premium Pay for all Departments**

It was moved by Commissioner Diaz that Premium Pay for all Departments be eliminated. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Edmonson.

Budget Director Jennifer Glazer-Moon responded to Chairman Moss's request for an explanation about Premium Pay. She said that Premium Pay was negotiated as part of collective bargaining agreements as the result of pay adjustments that were awarded to police and fire employees. She said that a total of 21,175 County employees received \$50 bi-weekly supplements and non-bargaining unit employees were included.

The foregoing motion, upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 10-3 (Commissioners Barreiro, Diaz, Edmonson, Gimenez, Heyman, Jordan, Rolle, Sosa, Souto, and Chairman Moss voted "Yes;" Commissioners Martinez, Seijas and Sorenson voted "No").

**Vetted Proposal Number 22: Elimination of Publication and Subscriptions for all Departments.**

Commissioner Gimenez noted publications and subscriptions were a luxury, not necessity.

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that publications and subscriptions be eliminated for all departments. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Sosa.

Commissioner Sorenson said that certain publications such as Florida Statutes and Code regulations were required and included in this proposal for elimination. She requested information on the amount necessary to fund the continuation of these required publications.

In response to Commissioner Sorenson, Budget Director Jennifer Glazer-Moon responded that the majority of the requested funding was for required items needed by the County Attorney and Code Enforcement Officers.

County Attorney Robert Cuevas responded to an inquiry from Commission Jordan that the West Law subscription for computerized database necessary for legal research was \$156,000.

Commissioner Sosa said that departments should utilize reference materials they currently have so that funding could be allocated to direct services to the community.

Commissioner Jordan asked Commissioner Gimenez whether he would amend his motion to allow funding for the West Law subscription.

Commissioner Gimenez said that the recommended budget reduction would not eliminate the entire FY 09-10 budget and that \$270,000 would remain available under this line item after the proposed reduction.

Commissioner Barreiro asked the County Manager to provide a list of mandatory publications and subscriptions that were required for the County to conduct business and to maintain necessary certifications.

This foregoing motion that publications and subscriptions be eliminated for all departments was amended to exempting the County Attorney's subscription to West Law in the amount of \$156,000 and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 11-2 (Commissioners Barreiro, Diaz, Edmonson, Gimenez, Heyman, Jordan, Martinez, Rolle, Sosa, Souto, and Chairman Moss voted "Yes;" Commissioners Seijas and Sorenson voted "No").

#### **Vetted Proposal Number 23: Elimination of Travel**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

#### **Vetted Proposal Number 24: Elimination of Travel**

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that travel expenses be reduced to \$2,500,000 for all Departments. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Heyman.

Commissioner Gimenez noted that it would not be practical to entirely eliminate travel from the budget.

Budget Director Jennifer Glazer-Moon noted for the record that all departments requiring travel submitted allocation requests. She noted that travel was required to conduct police investigations and for other business related purposes and was not necessarily for educational purposes.

Commission Auditor Charles Anderson responded to Commissioner Seijas' inquiry about travel funding. He recommended that travel expenditures be reduced to an amount as suggested by Commissioner Gimenez. Mr. Anderson noted the total travel budget of \$3.866 million (Number 23) was vetted; however, the reduced amount of \$2.5 million being considered by the foregoing motion was unvetted.

The foregoing proposed motion, upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 11-2 (Commissioners Barreiro, Diaz, Gimenez, Heyman, Jordan, Martinez, Rolle, Sorenson, Sosa, Souto, and Chairman Moss voted "Yes;" Commissioners Edmonson and Seijas voted "No").

#### **Vetted Proposal Number 25: Tuition Reimbursement**

It was moved by Commissioner Heyman that tuition reimbursement be eliminated. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Edmonson

Commissioner Seijas noted that employees were encouraged to obtain a higher education in order to advance in their careers. Based upon the limited savings that would be realized, Commissioner Seijas said that she would not support the reduction of this important employee benefit.

Commissioner Diaz asked whether employees that were already enrolled would receive reimbursement for the current semester's tuition since the course would not be completed until after the FY 09-10 budget was effective.

Chairman Moss asked Budget Director Jennifer Glazer-Moon to clarify tuition reimbursement procedures. Ms. Glazer-Moon said payment for tuition reimbursement was budgeted in the year that the reimbursement was made. Tuition reimbursement would be eliminated effective October 1, 2009; therefore, those employees who were currently enrolled would not be eligible for any further reimbursement, should the foregoing motion be adopted, said Ms. Glazer-Moon.

Commissioner Martinez requested that the foregoing motion be amended so that employees who were currently enrolled would receive reimbursement for the current semester. The amendment was accepted by Commissioner Heyman, the maker of the motion.

This foregoing motion that tuition reimbursement be eliminated was amended to provide reimbursement for employees enrolled in the current semester, upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 8-5 (Commissioners Diaz, Edmonson, Gimenez, Heyman, and Sorenson voted "Yes;" Commissioners Barreiro, Jordan, Martinez, Rolle, Seijas, Sosa, Souto and Chairman Moss voted "No").

**Vetted Proposal Number 26: 15-percent Salary Reduction for salaries \$200,000 and above**

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that salaries be reduced by 15-percent for employees with salaries \$200,000 and above.

The foregoing motion died due to the lack of a second.

**Vetted Proposal Number 27: 10-percent Salary Reduction for salaries \$150,000 - \$200,000**

Commissioner Sorenson noted additional discussion was necessary on a viable tiered salary structure and suggested that this item be deferred.

**Vetted Proposal Number 28: 7.5-percent Salary Reduction for salaries \$100,000 - \$150,000**

The foregoing proposal was deferred.

**Vetted Proposal Number 29: 15-percent Reduction to the Audit and Management Services Department**

Commissioner Heyman noted a scrivener's error existed and that the total department reduction should be 50-percent.

It was moved by Commissioner Heyman that the Audit and Management Services Department budget be reduced by 50-percent.

The foregoing motion died due to the lack of a second.

**Vetted Proposal Number 30: Eliminate furniture for the Audit and Management Services Department**

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that \$125,000 for Capital Outlay Reserve (COR) project furniture purchases in the Audit and Management Services Department be eliminated. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Diaz.

In response to Chairman Moss' inquiry, Budget Director Jennifer Glazer-Moon said that \$27,000 of \$127,000 allocation in FY 08-09, had been spent, leaving \$100,000 that could be recaptured from the COR budget. She noted that these funds were reflected incorrectly in the vetted numbers and should have been listed under "countywide," rather than "other."

Commissioner Gimenez amended the motion to state that \$100,000 be eliminated.

Ms. Glazer-Moon responded to Commissioner Jordan's inquiry whether the department was in the process of relocating or if it would need this funding. She said the original allocation was the result of a previous departmental relocation and for additional staff positions designed to strengthen the department's level of service. Additional furnishing would not be necessary in FY 2009-10, due to the proposed elimination of positions, said Ms. Glazer-Moon.

Commissioner Sosa said that a total savings of \$1.942 million could be obtained by freezing furniture expenditures countywide for all purchases other than those that would be necessary for capital projects.

This foregoing proposed motion, upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 13-0.

**Vetted Proposal Number 31: Contracting all 2,268 Head Start and 230 Early Head Start slots to delegated agencies**

Commissioner Jordan noted she would withdraw the foregoing proposal which should not be considered, because it appeared on the restorations list.

**Vetted Proposal Number 32: Elimination of Transportation Services in the Community Action Agency**

Commissioner Jordan noted she would withdraw the foregoing proposal which should not be considered, because it appeared on the restorations list.

**Vetted Proposal Number 33: Transfer Office of Community Advocacy to the Office of the Chair**

Commissioner Gimenez noted the Office of Community Advocacy (OCA) had five or six employees who supported five Boards which met once per month. He suggested that the OCA be transferred to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) and that the budget allocated in the amount of \$420,000 would provide approximately \$150,000 for the BCC Chair to oversee this function.

Chairman Moss noted these positions were reinstated at yesterday's meeting.

Commissioner Jordan said that the Commission on Human Rights (CHR), currently under the OCA, was being proposed to be moved to the Office of Fair Employment Practice (OFEP). The removal of the Director and the relocation of the CHR would severely cripple the County's ability to deal with housing discrimination and investigations, said Commissioner Jordan. She noted that the OFEP was not involved with housing issues and the CHR needed to be placed within Community Advocacy or another housing related agency.

Chairman Moss said that additions were not being considered today.

Commissioner Diaz noted that although these were important boards, the current staffing was excessive and did not warrant an Executive Director.

Commissioner Martinez noted efficiencies would be associated with the transfer to the BCC Chair.

Commissioner Jordan commented that four program officer positions were reinstated yesterday. She noted that the Budget Director was to calculate the funding necessary to accommodate the reinstatements and provide this information to the Committee.

Budget Director Jennifer Glazer-Moon responded to Commissioner Jordan stating that six positions were eliminated in the amount of \$788,000 and that \$570,000 was necessary to reinstate the four program officer positions.

Commissioner Jordan said that it was important to retain the OCA and to make sure that its Boards continued to be adequately covered with the ethnicities that they served in the community.

Chairman Moss said that it would be beneficial to transfer the OCA to the BCC Chair. He noted that the OCA Boards required independence; however, they also needed leadership to insure they functioned properly. Chairman Moss said that sufficient funding resources needed to support the transfer and believed that the transfer would contribute to additional reductions to the County budget.

Commissioner Gimenez said that his intention was for \$150,000 to be transferred to the BCC Chair from the \$820,000 savings.

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that \$150,000 be transferred to the BCC Chair to provide oversight for five Community Advocacy Boards. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Martinez and upon being put to a vote, the motion failed by a vote of 7-6 (Commissioners Barreiro, Diaz, Gimenez, Heyman, Martinez, and Sosa voted "Yes;" Commissioners Edmonson, Jordan, Rolle, Seijas, Sorenson, Souto and Chairman Moss voted "No").

**Vetted Proposal Number 34: Provide funding for Agricultural Manager from Beacon Council or another source**

It was moved by Commissioner Barreiro that funding be provided for the Agricultural Manager from the Beacon Council or another source. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Diaz.

Commissioner Sorenson asked County Attorney Robert Cuevas to determine whether it would be an acceptable use of funds for the Agricultural Manager position to be placed under the Beacon Council.

Commissioner Barreiro deferred the foregoing motion pending information from the County Attorney.

**Vetted Proposal Number 35: Postpone the hiring of 151 New Officers in the Corrections and Rehabilitation Department and associated costs for training and hiring of new officers**

Commissioner Martinez said the hiring of 151 corrections officers would add an additional \$2.2 million to the budget. He noted the prison population was declining according to a memorandum from the County Manager. Commissioner Martinez also noted that corrections officers might not be hired and trained within FY 09-10; therefore, projected overtime savings might not be obtained. He further questioned the necessity of hiring staff during a period when the County was laying off employees.

It was moved by Commissioner Martinez that the hiring of new Corrections Officers, except for 40, be postponed and that hiring of 11 civilian positions be eliminated. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Seijas.

Budget Director Jennifer Glazer-Moon responded to Commissioner Diaz's inquiry about the necessity to hire the 151 positions in order to eliminate overtime costs. She said there were currently 151 posts that were permanently staffed on overtime and these new positions would save the County more than \$10 million. She noted the budget assumed a phase-in of new positions and a phase-out of overtime. Ms. Glazer-Moon said that this created an employment opportunity for County employees who were subject to layoffs. She noted the full effect of the savings would be realized in FY 10-11.

Commissioner Heyman supported hiring one class under the County's existing training structure. She noted that sworn officers assigned to civilian positions and not directly serving inmates needed to be reassigned in order to address overtime issues.

County Mayor Carlos Alvarez responded to Commissioner Sorenson's inquiry whether the recommendation suggested by Commissioner Heyman could be implemented. He said that lateral hires from the State were being considered to fill positions and that they were already certified and would only require an expedited training program.

Mayor Alvarez asked Mr. Timothy Ryan, Director, Miami-Dade Corrections and Rehabilitation Department to address the 11 positions and their impact on operations. Mr. Ryan said the 11 positions consisted of seven training officers and three civilian support positions. He said that the Department normally hired approximately 180 people annually and this request for an additional 151 staff was necessary in order to positively address overtime needs.

Commissioner Sorenson noted her support, considering the budget savings and the potential for continued employment for County employees.

County Manager George Burgess commented that this proposal would generate over \$10 million in savings annually. He noted this was a real opportunity for the County that should not be missed.

Mr. Ryan responded to Commissioner Jordan's concern about liability issues related to insufficient staffing to handle the current prison population. He said that the population had decreased over the past year from 7,500 to 6,000 inmates, due to court and criminal justice system efforts. Mr. Ryan said that there were currently 6,300 to 6,400 inmates and the number appeared to be increasing. He noted that the Department's capacity was 5,645 inmates; that they were currently 15-percent over capacity; and that conditions were crowded. Mr. Ryan said that the Department was also subject to a current federal investigation.

In response to Commissioner Jordan's request for clarification regarding whether the County was adhering to acceptable staff to inmate ratios, Mr. Ryan noted a 1:4 to 1:5 staff to inmate ratio was an industry standard. He said the County was currently at 1:9 to 1:13, ratio which was considered high in comparison to national standards. Mr. Ryan noted the lack of sufficient relief staffing created the need for overtime and that additional staff was necessary in order to further reduce the ratio.

Mr. Ryan responded to Commissioner Jordan's inquiry about the effect that the required overtime had on staff. He said that officers were monitored closely and that there was a cap on the number of overtime hours that could be worked.

Responding to Commissioner Gimenez' comment that 144 corrections officers were not currently assigned to care, custody or control responsibilities, Mr. Ryan noted that approximately 60 officers were assigned to administrative functions in areas including internal affairs (17 officers) and training (40 officers).

Commissioner Gimenez asked County Manager Burgess and Mr. Ryan to transfer the 144 correctional officers from classification duties to operations functions in order to reduce overtime. He suggested that vacancies created be filled with County employees whose positions were being eliminated.

Mr. Ryan responded to Chairman Moss's request to explain classification and the numbers of individuals they served on a daily basis. He said that classification was a process where, after an arrest, a medical screening and assessment was conducted to determine a safe and secure placement of inmates within the facility. Mr. Ryan said that classification staff worked 24/7 in order to accommodate booking of over 300 individuals on a daily basis, and that approximately 118,000 individuals were booked during the previous year.

Chairman Moss said that the savings would be phased-in over a two year period as overtime requirements were eliminated. He inquired about the status of current rehabilitative services and counseling staff in relation to the mental health component that was being requested as part of the proposed budget.

Responding to Chairman Moss' staffing inquiry regarding a 50-percent budget reduction requiring the layoff of 21 employees, Mr. Ryan noted that mental health and new facility utilization needs would be addressed at the upcoming Public Safety Committee meeting. He said that it was anticipated that 60-80 corrections officers would occupy two floors in the new facility.

Mr. Ryan responded to Commissioner Martinez's inquiry about new officer training. He noted there would be three training classes of 45 recruits per cycle for the officers necessary for overtime replacement. Mr. Ryan also said there would be another three training classes to accommodate the 180 new officers that would be hired to cover attrition needs.

In response to Commissioner Martinez's inquiry relating to whether the staff to inmate ratio would improve by hiring the additional 151 officers, Mr. Ryan stated that full time officers on regular assignment were included in the staff to inmate ratio, and full time staff working overtime assignments were not included in the ratio calculation.

Responding to Commissioner Martinez' request, Mayor Alvarez noted that any additional staff would assist in the reduction of overtime. He concurred that the ratio would be improved by replacing 151 overtime positions with 151 permanent positions.

Commissioner Martinez noted that overtime within the Department had not decreased for many years. He suggested the Department move forward with the replacement of the 180 positions related to normal attrition and to reassign current staff from administrative to correctional responsibilities, to solve the overtime issue.

Mr. Ryan responded to Commissioner Diaz's request for information on whether the 11 newly hired positions would be retained. Mr. Ryan noted law enforcement and corrections training was now being provided at the Metropolitan Police Institute rather than Miami-Dade College. He said that seven of the new positions were to replace officers that were borrowed from operations to provide training.

Mr. Ryan responded to several questions presented by Commissioner Gimenez. He noted that overtime hiring was necessary for post positions and security purposes. Mr. Ryan also noted that

overtime positions were not included in the staff to inmate ratios based upon acceptable industry practices.

Commissioner Gimenez inquired about the rationale behind overtime staffing when overtime was not included in the staff to inmate ratios.

Mr. Ryan responded to Commissioner Gimenez that overtime was necessary for the safety and security of the operation. He noted that contractual obligations dictated that additional staffing was necessary based upon increased inmate populations.

Manager Burgess further clarified, advising the objective was to reduce overtime consumption. He noted that ratios were a measurement of manned posts.

Commissioner Gimenez asked Manager Burgess to provide copies of the Corrections Officer Contractual Agreement and overtime requirements in order to assist in the establishment of an effective method to determine inmate to correctional officer ratios.

Upon being put to a vote, the motion to postpone the hiring of 151 New Officers in the Corrections and Rehabilitation department and associated costs for training and hiring of new officers passed by a vote of 8-5 (Commissioners Barreiro, Edmonson, Gimenez, Heyman, Martinez, Seijas, Sosa and Souto voted "Yes;" Commissioners Diaz, Jordan, Rolle, Sorenson, and Chairman Moss voted "No").

**Vetted Proposal Number 36: Bill Fire Service to Miccosukee Tribe, Everglades and Coast Guard**

Commissioner Heyman noted an ordinance would be drafted to allow billing for fire services and withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Vetted Proposal Number 37: Eliminate two civilian positions in the Fire Department**

Commissioner Heyman withdrew the foregoing proposal and requested the Fire Chief review civilian positions with salaries in excess of \$180,000 per year.

**Vetted Proposal Number 38: Reduce the Public Information Officer staff from 9 employees to 2**

Commissioner Heyman withdrew the foregoing proposal and requested the Fire Chief consider an additional reduction to one position in order to further reduce District expenses.

**Vetted Proposal Number 39: Move Employee Recognition back to the Department of Human Resources**

Commissioner Barreiro noted the Department of Human Resources would be an appropriate area to accommodate employee recognition activities at a savings of \$161,000, since the Department was already responsible for generating employee data.

It was moved by Commissioner Barreiro that the Employee Recognition program be placed in the Department of Human Resources. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Jordan and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 12-1 (Chairman Moss voted "No").

**Vetted Proposal Number 40: Move the International Trade Consortium (ITC) to the Beacon Council and eliminate the GF position**

Commissioner Jordan noted concerns regarding the implementation of this proposal.

Commissioner Heyman noted the County funded the Beacon Council and various Chambers of Commerce and the International Trade Consortium (ITC), and stated the responsibility could be assigned to those areas.

Commissioner Sorenson said that the transfer would result in a \$878,000 Countywide General Fund savings and \$395,000 in other savings which could be allocated to the Beacon Council to offset its expenses associated with implementing this program.

It was moved by Commissioner Heyman that the International Trade Consortium (ITC) be transferred to the Beacon Council. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sorenson.

Commissioner Seijas noted that this proposal was similar to the earlier deferral on Proposal 34 related to the Agricultural Manager position being funded by the Beacon Council.

In response to Chairman Moss's inquiry of whether an acceptable use of funds had been determined, County Attorney Robert Cuevas referred to a Florida Statute requirement that business surtax funds be utilized for economic development programs. He said the Beacon Council needed to voluntarily agree to provide the requested additional services, rather than be mandated.

Commissioner Sorenson noted the Beacon Council's involvement in international trade efforts. She said that in order to avoid a duplication of services, and to eliminate sunshine law issues, it would be advantageous for the Beacon Council to assume these responsibilities.

County Manager Burgess responded to Commissioner Sorenson's inquiry, advising her that funding was obtained from the Seaport and the Convention and Visitors Bureau, not the Airport.

Chairman Moss noted the Beacon Council was involved in the enhancement of local business, whereas the ITC concentrated on expanding international trade relationships. He said that these relationships needed to be nurtured or they would be lost to other cities.

Commissioner Gimenez indicated that he participated in a successful trade mission to bring business to Miami-Dade County, sponsored by the Beacon Council. He requested further clarification over the differences between the missions of the ITC and the Beacon Council.

Commissioner Diaz said that the mission of the Beacon Council was to keep business and bring new business into the community. He noted the ITC mission was related to two-way trade; trade relationships; and trade agreements.

Commissioner Souto noted that the Beacon Council and ITC complimented each other.

This foregoing motion to move the International Trade Consortium (ITC) to the Beacon Council and eliminate the GF position, upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 11-2 (Commissioners Heyman and Sorenson voted "Yes;" Commissioners Barreiro, Diaz, Edmonson, Gimenez, Jordan, Martinez, Rolle, Seijas, Sosa, Souto, and Chairman Moss voted "No").

**Vetted Proposal Number 41: Eliminate Juvenile Services**

Commissioner Barreiro noted that the County provided many services that should be funded by the State.

It was moved by Commissioner Barreiro that the Juvenile Services Department be eliminated.

The foregoing motion died due to the lack of a second.

**Vetted Proposal Number 42: Eliminate Employee Advertisement**

Commissioner Gimenez noted it was not his intention to eliminate all employee advertisement. He noted that a \$200,000 advertisement budget would remain after the reduction of \$200,000 from the General Fund and \$100,000 from UMSA.

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that employee advertisement be reduced by \$300,000. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Sosa and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 13-0.

**Vetted Proposal Number 43: Elimination of Management Consulting**

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that management consulting be eliminated. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Martinez.

Budget Director Jennifer Glazer-Moon responded to Commissioner Seijas's request for information relating to management consulting issues. She noted that the Management Consulting Services Pool included services provided through Florida International University and other entities based upon work orders and projects determined throughout the year by various departments. Ms. Glazer-Moon noted consulting services were available to proprietary departments,

The foregoing motion upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 13-0.

**Vetted Proposal Number 44: Outside Legal Services**

It was moved by Commissioner Heyman to reduce outside legal services to \$1 million. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Sorenson.

Commissioner Jordan requested clarification on whether these funds were necessary for the County Commission or County Attorney to hire outside legal support.

Budget Director Jennifer Glazer-Moon responded that the \$1.9 million budget included funds necessary for lobbying, outside legal services and settlement payments. She noted that this account was used for the \$1.1 million RGN settlement and funds were also used for outside legal services in FY 08-09.

Commissioner Jordan noted concern that the County needed these funds available if necessary.

Mr. Joe Rasco, Director, Intergovernmental Affairs, responded to Commissioner Sosa's inquiry that the County currently paid \$1,250,000 in lobbying expenses.

Commissioner Sosa noted that funds needed to be set aside for potential legal settlements to avoid a deficit. Commissioner Sosa suggested a ten percent reduction to lobbying expenses was needed for her to support this proposal as presented.

Commissioner Heyman inquired whether the funding for lobbyists was built into any other areas of the budget.

Ms. Glazer-Moon explained that the outside legal services included both the lobbyists' funding and legal reserve funding.

Commissioner Heyman noted it was not her intention to interfere with legal services funding.

Chairman Moss noted that he would not support this reduction since it included necessary lobbyist funding. He said that specific line items needed to be established in the future that would break out budget requests according to specific activities.

Commissioner Heyman withdrew her motion to reduce outside legal services.

**Vetted Proposal Number 45: African Heritage Cultural Center**

Chairman Moss indicated that this proposal was already addressed and reinstated.

**Vetted Proposal Number 46: Eliminate Office of Community Healthcare Planning**

Commissioner Barreiro noted that Jackson Health Systems (JHS) had appropriate resources and should provide the services of the Office of Community Healthcare Planning (OCHP), at a savings of approximately \$734,000.

Commissioner Martinez stated that OCHP was essential and since the County did not have direct authority over JHS, he would not support the foregoing proposal.

Commissioner Jordan noted OCHP was removed from JHS to achieve more autonomy. She said shifting OCHP back to JHS would create an additional burden on JHS's budget.

Chairman Moss noted he did not support the foregoing proposal and that OCHP was a valuable asset to both to the County and the community.

It was moved by Commissioner Barreiro that the Office of Community Healthcare Planning be eliminated. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Souto and upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 11-2 (Commissioners Barreiro and Souto voted "Yes;" Commissioners Edmonson, Gimenez, Heyman Jordan, Martinez, Rolle, Seijas, Sorenson, Sosa, Vice Chairman Diaz and Chairman Moss voted "No").

Following further discussion Commissioner Gimenez proposed an amendment, providing that rather than eliminating the Office of Community Healthcare Planning, its funding be reduced.

Following further discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that funding for the Office of Community Healthcare Planning be reduced by \$55,000 from the General Fund for FY2009-10. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Sosa and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 11-0 (Commissioners Edmonson and Jordan were absent).

#### **Vetted Proposal Number 47: Police Department Furniture**

It was moved by Commissioner Sosa that a \$1.942 million savings be realized by deferring furniture acquisitions for non-capital projects including: the Administration, the Office of the Courts; Animal Services; Audit Management; Building; and Customer Services; She suggested that furniture acquisitions for capital projects be set aside and that these allocated expenditures remain funded. These projects included: South Miami Cultural Arts; Station 10 - 6916; Training Complex; New Trade Shop Facility at the Overtown Tower II; Domestic Violence Center; and the CSI Bureau expansion of the Northside Station.

Commissioner Sosa noted that the County spent \$22,000 per day on furniture purchases when considering an average over the previous two years. She said that this motion would freeze expenditures for any purchases that were not a necessity or had already been approved.

This foregoing motion died due to the lack of a second.

#### **Vetted Proposal Number 48: Why not have ADA within the Building Department?**

Commissioner Barreiro inquired about the Office of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordination's budget and its purpose.

In response to Commissioner Barreiro's inquiry, Budget Director, Jennifer Glazer-Moon, stated that the total budget for the ADA Coordination Department was \$1,080,000.

Responding further to Commissioner Barreiro's inquiry, Ms. Heidi Johnson-Wright, Director, ADA Coordination, noted the purpose of the ADA Coordination Office was to bring Miami-Dade County buildings/departments into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and, at the same time, heighten awareness of disability issues.

Commissioner Barreiro suggested the Building Department insure that County buildings were compliant with ADA regulations. He noted that ADA Coordination was a good program, but it added extra services.

It was moved by Commissioner Barreiro that the ADA Coordination Office be integrated into the Building Department.

This foregoing motion died due to the lack of a second.

**Vetted Proposal Number 49: Why is the Procurement Department separate?**

Commissioner Barreiro inquired about the Procurement Department's annual budget. Responding to Commissioner Barreiro's inquiry, Ms. Miriam Singer, Director, Procurement Management, said the proposed budget of the Procurement Department was \$11,432,000.

Commissioner Heyman noted that consolidation of procurement operations would prevent duplicity, cut overhead costs and curtail administrative salary expenses. She expressed her support of the foregoing recommendation and asked the County Manager, through the newly established Performance and Efficiency Committee, to determine whether procurement operations could be consolidated with the Department of Procurement Management, in order to streamline operations and reduce expenses.

Commissioner Gimenez noted that many jurisdictions had individual procurement operations. He suggested that Administration explore alternatives to combine and centralize procurement operations for consideration next year.

Commissioner Sosa noted that she was not in support of the foregoing proposal.

Commissioner Barreiro withdrew this foregoing motion.

**Vetted Proposal Number 50: Outsourcing: labor, printing, maintenance, vehicle repairs, and furniture moving**

Commissioner Heyman asked the County Manager, through the newly established Performance and Efficiency Committee, to evaluate Department of Procurement Management procedures relating to outsourcing services, including labor, printing, maintenance, vehicle repairs, furniture moving and office supply purchase.

Commissioner Heyman said that this proposal was included as a statement item and did not require a vote, whereupon she withdrew the foregoing proposal.

Chairman Moss noted that he advocated GSA receiving specific departmental funding rather than charging departments for its services.

**Vetted Proposal Number 51: Operating expenditures for Capital Projects in the Parks & Recreation Department**

Commissioner Martinez withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Vetted Proposal Number 52~Delay Capital Projects**

Commissioner Barreiro inquired whether there were any capital projects that could be delayed.

In response to Commissioner Barreiro's inquiry, County Manager Burgess noted the Capital Outlay Reserve was a combination of debt service payments and "pay as you go" capital projects. He noted that Administration was evaluating all projects to determine whether any projects could be deferred in the capital outlay reserve; however, capital project funding was restricted.

Commissioner Barreiro asked Mr. Burgess to identify specific capital projects funded through general revenues that could be delayed and the total cost savings.

Commissioner Gimenez asked Mr. Burgess to transfer revenues from operations to reserves for delayed projects so that capital project funding would be readily available as the need arose. He also asked Mr. Burgess to identify unnecessary budget allocations and to reallocate the \$6 million helicopter allocation to other needed areas.

**Vetted Proposal Number 53: Operating Expenditures for Public Service Outreach in the General Services Administration**

No action was taken on the foregoing proposal.

**Vetted Proposal Number 54: Operating Expenditures for new North Dade Government Center**

In response to Commissioner Seijas' inquiry regarding the operating expenditures for the new North Dade Government Center, Ms. Glazer-Moon noted this center was scheduled for construction in the multi-tiered capital plan; however, the operating expenditures for this project were not yet budgeted.

No action was taken on the foregoing proposal.

**Vetted Proposal Number 55: Employees to pay for their new employment physicals**

Commissioner Sosa noted this proposal assumed that a savings of \$1.3 million would be realized if each applicant seeking employment with the County were required to pay for the physical examination during the hiring process.

Ms. Glazer-Moon noted a total of \$1.3 million was budgeted for physical examinations for all employee physicals, including new employees.

Commissioner Sosa asked that Committee members proceed with the vote on this proposal and that the County Manager's staff calculate the potential savings by separating the costs of physical examinations for newly hired employees from those required for existing employees and to submit this information to her tomorrow (9/17).

In response to Commissioner Seijas' inquiry regarding the cost of administering a physical to a new employee, Ms. Angela Maher, Director, Human Resources, noted the cost for standard physicals, excluding the drug test, was \$39 and \$83.70 for special risk/ high stress physicals.

In response to Commissioner Barreiro's inquiry, Ms. Maher noted an additional charge would be added if an employee needed to be retested.

In response to Commissioner Diaz' inquiry regarding why new employee drug tests were not conducted by Jackson Memorial Hospital (JMH), County Manager Burgess noted that JMH did not bid on the contract to perform new employee drug tests.

Ms. Maher responded to Commissioner Gimenez' inquiry that pre-employment physicals were performed soon after the employment offer was provided to the prospective employee.

Commissioner Gimenez indicated that pre-employment physicals should be paid directly by the prospective employee as the final condition of employment process.

Responding to Commissioner Jordan's inquiry whether there was an additional expense if the potential employee did not pass the physical, Ms. Maher noted the job offer was contingent upon the employee passing the physical examination.

Chairman Moss noted he supported this proposal.

Hearing no other questions or comments, the Chairman called for a motion. It was moved by Commissioner Sosa that newly hired employees be required to pay for physical examinations. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Diaz, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 11-1 (Commissioners Barreiro, Diaz, Edmonson, Gimenez, Heyman, Jordan, Rolle, Sorenson, Sosa, Souto and Chairman Moss voted "Yes;" Commissioner Seijas voted "No;" Commissioner Martinez was absent).

### **Discussion on Tiered Salaries**

In response to Chairman Moss' inquiry, County Manager Burgess noted the estimated figure for current vetted reductions was approximately \$25 million in tax supported funds. He noted some of the proposals discussed applied to proprietary operations.

Commissioner Jordan suggested Committee members take a straw vote on whether to reduce salaries for all employees across-the-board or reduce them based on a tiered salary structure. She

noted the County Manager would have to come back with a proposal to realize \$106 million in savings by reducing salaries on a tiered level.

Commissioner Sorenson suggested the Committee allow the Unions the opportunity to propose specific methods to accommodate the necessary salary reductions.

Assistant County Attorney Lee Kraftchick noted it was required to negotiate with union representatives before reaching an agreement; however, the BCC could advise the Administration of its preference to tier salaries and for the Administration to make that proposal in the negotiation process.

Commissioner Sorenson asked the County Manager to analyze tiered options to accommodate employee salary reductions.

Commissioner Gimenez suggested the Committee continue its review of unvetted numbers; to set the salaries at \$106 million; and to allow the bargaining unions the opportunity to determine how to reach that figure.

Commissioner Edmonson agreed with the vetted salary reduction of \$106 million, and requested the County Manager to provide a recommendation to reduce salaries based on a tiered structure.

In response to Commissioner Edmonson's question regarding the process should unions and management not reach a decision by October 1, Assistant County Attorney Kraftchick responded that until an agreement was made, employee salaries would not be reduced. He further responded that if the unions and management were unable to reach an agreement, the Administration would present the Commission with a resolution requesting additional reductions necessary to realize sufficient savings. Mr. Kraftchick noted that hearings were currently being scheduled for each of the bargaining unions that had declared impasse, and the three AFSCME Unions agreed to waive the special magistrate hearings, and come before the BCC at any time scheduled.

Mr. Kraftchick responded to Commissioner Edmonson's inquiry about the appropriate action should no agreement be reached by December 2009. He noted that all impasses had been declared, and hearings were required before a special magistrate expeditiously, indicating that the Administration should be back before the BCC within 30-90 days. Responding further to Commissioner Edmonson's inquiries, Mr. Kraftchick noted should monetary savings required not be accomplished through the negotiation process, additional layoffs might be necessary; however, pursuant to the statutory procedures, the negotiation process could not be delayed very long and the Administration should make a recommendation within 90 days.

Commissioner Barreiro noted that he did not support tiered salaries.

It was moved by Commissioner Jordan that the Committee vote on whether tiered salaries be adopted and, if so, the County Manager be directed to negotiate tiered salary reductions. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Edmonson and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 9-3 (Commissioners Edmonson, Gimenez, Heyman, Jordan, Rolle, Sorenson, Sosa, Souto

and Chairman Moss voted “Yes;” Commissioners Barriero, Diaz, and Seijas voted “No;” Commissioner Martinez was absent).

## **UNVETTED NUMBERS**

### **Unvetted Proposal Number 1: Eliminate \$2.4 endowment to PACT**

Commissioner Heyman noted the possible availability of funds from a non-operational facility and/or another identified source that could be re-assigned to the Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts Center (Arsht PAC) endowment fund rather than obligate the General Fund.

Commissioner Gimenez noted the \$2.4 million funding for the Arsht PAC for an endowment fund as listed on page 94, Volume 1 of the Budget Book, should be recaptured and returned to the General Fund to assist in funding CDT eligible and cultural programs.

County Manager Burgess suggested Administration review accumulated funds in the South Dade PAC project and make recommendations for utilizing these funds for CDT eligible and cultural programs.

After expressing concern that the Committee would not be able to accomplish their desired amount of buy backs, Commissioner Sorenson suggested the Manager conduct a further review and return with recommendations.

Chairman Moss noted it would still be productive to determine the buy back priorities that were supported by the Committee.

In response to Commissioner Heyman’s question regarding unvetted budget numbers, Chairman Moss noted the number may be a valid amount; however, it was not vetted between Administration and the County Auditor.

It was moved by Commissioner Heyman that the \$2.4 million endowment fund to the Arsht Performing Arts Center PAC be eliminated. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Gimenez, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 11-2 (Commissioners Barreiro, Diaz, Edmonson, Gimenez, Heyman, Jordan, Martinez, Rolle, Seijas, Sosa, and Souto voted “Yes;” Chairman Moss and Commissioner Sorenson voted “No”).

Commissioner Barreiro later noted that he voted “Yes” for a certain amount reduction, if not for the full \$2.4 million being proposed.

### **Unvetted Proposal Number 2: Cat License (Revenue-Reduce GF Exp)**

Commissioner Edmonson withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 3: Reduce Audit and Management Services Budget by 50-percent**

Chairman Moss said that the foregoing proposal had already been addressed.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 4: Reduce Audit and Management Services by 25- percent in GF-UMSA**

Chairman Moss said that the foregoing proposal had already been addressed.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 5: Reduce Audit and Management Services by 25- percent - CW**

Chairman Moss said that the foregoing proposal had already been addressed.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 6: Reduce CW portion of BCC budget to 85-percent of FY 08-09 budget**

Chairman Moss said that the foregoing proposal had already been addressed.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 7: Reduce USMA portion of BCC budget to 85-percent of FY 08-09 budget**

Chairman Moss said that the foregoing proposal had already been addressed.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 8: Reduce Capital Outlay Reserve (COR) selected projects**

Commissioner Seijas suggested Administration review the list of selected COR projects for discussion later today.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 9: Delay Capital Outlay Reserve (COR) capital projects**

Commissioner Diaz suggested that the meeting be adjourned to allow Administration the opportunity to review the complete unvetted item list and follow-up with the Committee prior to tomorrow's budget meeting.

Commissioner Gimenez preferred that the Committee continue discussions; otherwise, tomorrow's Budget Hearing could be contentious. He noted these numbers, though not vetted, were not far off from the source, and were necessary for the Manager to provide updated budget information.

Following further discussion, Chairman Moss advised the Committee that tonight's discussions would continue. He noted that the numbers could be verified even though they were unvetted.

In response to Commissioner Edmonson's request regarding commercial advertisements, Ms. Ines Beecher, Commission Auditor's Office, noted the FY 08-09 budget for radio, television, and cable advertisement was \$750,000 and the budget had been overspent by \$68,000.

County Manager Burgess indicated that the current advertising program had virtually been shut down. He noted this was a contemplated program that was budgeted and logical at one time, but has since ceased.

Ms. Judy Zito, Director, Government Information Center (GIC) explained the advertising allocations. She noted \$300,000 was allocated in FY 09-10 for radio advertising, and another \$300,000 for the Community Periodical Program, if restored. She said that no television advertisement funding was included in the budget for FY 09-10.

Ms. Zito said that \$1.7 million was budgeted in FY 08-09 year for advertisement, of which 51-percent was allocated for community periodicals; 32-percent was allocated for radio; 12-percent was allocated for community newspapers and 5-percent was allocated for television.

In response to Commissioner Barreiro's inquiry pertaining to legal advertisement funding, Ms. Jennifer Glazer-Moon noted this was included in the non-departmental budget in the amount of \$600,000. She further noted that legal advertisements were required to be placed in a subscription based newspaper of major circulation with a certain number of copies distributed.

Commissioner Barreiro suggested legal advertisements be placed on the Web at a savings of \$600,000.

#### **Unvetted Proposal Number 10: Recapture Capital Outlay Reserve**

Chairman Moss said that the foregoing proposal had already been addressed.

#### **Unvetted Proposal Number 11: Recapture unspent GF from committed carryover in Capital Outlay Reserve**

Chairman Moss said that the foregoing proposal had already been addressed.

#### **Unvetted Proposal Number 12: Reduce Administrative GF Cost in the Community Action Agency to last year's level**

In response to Commissioner Sorenson's inquiry regarding the operational impact of this recommendation, Ms. Glazer-Moon noted that she could not explain the operational impact since it was an unvetted number.

It was moved by Commissioner Souto that the Administrative General Fund expense be reduced to the FY 08-09 level for the Community Action Agency (CAA). This motion was seconded by Commissioner Martinez, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 7-4 (Commissioners Barreiro, Diaz, Gimenez, Heyman, Martinez, Sosa, and Souto voted "Yes;" Commissioners Edmonson, Jordan, Sorenson and Chairman Moss voted "No;" Commissioners Rolle and Seijas were absent).

**Unvetted Proposal Number 13: Reduction in Community Action Agency Administration (GF CAC \$1.798 million)**

Commissioner Gimenez noted a reduction of approximately 500 positions in the Community Action Agency (CAA), but only one Administrative position was reduced. He also noted an increase in the Countywide GF contribution to CAA in the amount of \$500,000. Commissioner Gimenez recommended recapturing \$1.3 million by reducing the Administration Budget 75-percent from \$1.738 million to \$430,000 in proportion to the 75-percent reduction in CAA positions, which would yield a \$1.3 million savings in the Countywide GF.

Commissioner Jordan noted the Committee voted to restore 416 CAA positions upon funding availability. She noted this proposal was not necessary based upon priorities established at last night's meeting.

Commissioner Gimenez noted the Committee needed to pass this item if it supported the premise that the Administration should be cut proportionally to departmental cuts. He noted if the Committee later decided to restore the CAA positions; it could reconsider this proposal.

Commissioner Moss noted that it was his understanding that administrative responsibilities would remain in CAA even with the reduction of the 416 positions.

Commissioner Gimenez noted that remaining Head Start employees would be responsible for these administrative responsibilities and that the numbers now needed to be vetted.

Commissioner Jordan pointed out that many of the CAA positions were linked to the restored elderly, transportation and the centers' services.

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that the Administrative GF Cost be reduced by 75-percent in the amount of \$400,000 and recapture \$1.3 million. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Heyman, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 7-5 (Commissioners Diaz, Gimenez, Heyman, Martinez, Rolle, Sosa, and Souto voted "Yes;" Commissioners Edmonson, Jordan, Seijas, Sorenson and Chairman Moss voted "No"; Commissioner Barreiro was absent).

Commissioner Martinez noted as a point of clarification that Proposal Number 12 was no longer necessary since Proposal Number 13 was adopted.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 14: Bring five Community Advocacy Advisory Boards under the BCC**

Chairman Moss said that the foregoing proposal had already been addressed.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 15: Eliminate four Community Advocacy positions, including Director and move Advisory Boards under the BCC Chair**

Chairman Moss said that the foregoing proposal had already been addressed.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 16: Postpone the hiring of 151 new Corrections and Rehabilitation Officers.**

Chairman Moss said that the foregoing proposal had already been addressed.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 17 – Reduce Custody Support Services by 5-percent**

Commissioner Sorenson requested information on the number of positions the foregoing proposal would impact.

Ms. Glazer-Moon noted these were unvetted numbers and the Administration had not confirmed or determined the service impact.

Commissioner Martinez suggested this would be an opportunity to reassign officers to fill the 151 vacant positions.

It was moved by Commissioner Souto that Custody Support & Service be reduced by 5-percent. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Martinez, and upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 3-8 (Commissioners Gimenez, Martinez and Souto voted “Yes;” Commissioners Rolle, Sorenson, Sosa, Edmonson, Heyman, Jordan, Diaz and Chairman Moss voted “No;” Commissioners Barreiro and Seijas were absent).

**Unvetted Proposal Number 18: Reduce Inmate Programs by 25-percent**

Commissioner Sosa asked staff to define the Inmate Programs listed on page 33, Volume #2 of the proposed Budget Book.

Ms. Glazer-Moon noted these were unvetted numbers and the Administration had not determined the service impact.

Mr. Timothy Ryan, Director, Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation responded to Commissioner Sosa’s inquiry about the program and noted he was not aware of specific program details; however, they involved resources associated with the Inmate Welfare Fund and Rehabilitative Services.

Commissioner Sosa asked if those programs were linked to facility safety or inmate entertainment.

Mr. Ryan noted the programs were important to the safety and security of Department operations. He noted the Department needed to provide recreational services to the inmates to keep them from being immobile.

Commissioner Diaz asked if these were inmate rehabilitative programs or inmate work programs in the community. Mr. Ryan noted a small portion of the programs recommended for elimination involved industry work and would impact about 10-15 employees. He noted staff would need to further evaluate specific programs for elimination.

It was moved by Commissioner Souto to reduce Inmate Programs by 25-percent. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Martinez, and upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 2-9 (Commissioners Martinez and Souto voted "Yes;" Commissioners Rolle, Sorenson, Sosa, Edmonson, Gimenez, Heyman, Jordan, Diaz and Chairman Moss voted "No;" Commissioners Barreiro and Seijas were absent).

**Unvetted Proposal Number 19: Reduce Management Services by 20-percent in the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation**

It was moved by Commissioner Martinez that Management Services be reduced by 20-percent in the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Heyman.

Commissioner Martinez noted management needed to make priorities based upon safety considerations.

Commissioner Sorenson noted the reduction of management in an organization that required structure needed to be closely evaluated.

Budget Director Jennifer Glazer-Moon responded to Commissioner Jordan's request relating to the definition of Management Services. She noted that a description was located in Volume II, page 39 and the bottom of that page showed the reductions that had already been made.

Commissioner Jordan noted that it was the County's obligation to protect the employees and provide them with the necessary resources required for their jobs. She said that services needed to be available to facilitate both corrections and rehabilitation functions of inmates. Commissioner Jordan said that although individuals had made a mistake and were in prison, they should not be mistreated. She was concerned that the County would be deemed negligible and liable for its lack of providing adequate corrections and rehabilitation funding.

Ms. Glazer-Moon responded to Commissioner Rolle's request about budget reductions. She noted there was not an across-the-board budget reduction to all departments of ten percent being recommended by the County Mayor.

Commissioner Heyman noted that there was not any direct delivery of services between a corrections officer and an inmate included in Management Services according to the Department Director. She said that this reduction would only affect Administration.

Commissioner Martinez said that according to Appendix C of the County Mayor's budget, the Department only lost 2.61-percent which was less than any other department. He noted that a five-percent reduction (item #12) netting \$34.6 million failed earlier.

The foregoing motion, upon being put to a vote, resulted in a tie vote of 6-6 (Commissioners Diaz, Gimenez, Heyman, Martinez, Sosa, and Souto voted "Yes;" Commissioners Edmonson, Jordan, Rolle, Seijas, Sorenson, and Chairman Moss voted "No;" Commissioner Barreiro was absent).

## **Other Discussion**

Commissioner Sosa asked the County Manager to determine the total savings and percentage reduction from a uniform reduction to every County department.

Commissioner Gimenez asked the County Manager to provide information on the source of increase to the self funded health benefits plan surplus from \$96 million to \$118 million.

## **Unvetted Proposal Number 20: Reduce Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Office of the Director in the amount of \$2.481 million**

It was moved by Commissioner Heyman that \$2.481 million be reduced from the Office of the Director for the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Souto.

Mr. Timothy Ryan, Chief of Corrections, Miami-Dade Corrections and Rehabilitation Department, responded to Commissioner Rolle's request about the affect this reduction would have on the Department. He said that reductions would affect Internal Affairs, the monitoring of Correctional Health Services, the K-9 and inspections units. Mr. Ryan noted concern that these budget reductions would be scrutinized by the US Department of Justice in connection with the ongoing Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act (CRIPA) investigation.

Commissioner Heyman said the 77 employees in the Office of the Director and up to 146 employees in Management Services were excessive. She noted that civilians needed to be placed in administrative positions to reduce costs and that credentialed officers needed to be returned to service related duties.

Commissioner Sosa noted that she was opposed to the foregoing proposal. She said that it was the obligation of the BCC to insure the safety of the community and to rehabilitate inmates.

County Mayor Carlos Alvarez reminded the Committee of the pending US Department of Justice investigation pertaining to inmate care, facility conditions, and health care. He said that among those arrested, 70-percent had not been adjudicated and therefore innocent. Mayor Alvarez suggested the Committee remember that it was the County's obligation to provide inmate care. He noted that many of the areas being recommended for reductions were in fact service related functions such as internal review and K-9.

Commissioner Souto said that these funds could be reallocated to support elderly services or meals programs rather than provide additional prison support.

Commissioner Sorenson noted that the custody of inmates was a serious responsibility of the County and must be funded appropriately. She said that the County needed to be careful to avoid unnecessary media attention while under federal investigation.

Commissioner Martinez said that the Department budget had recently increased from \$8.1 million with 68 employees to \$10.4 million with 77 employees. He noted that \$5.121 million

was being requested for inmate programs and \$9.145 million for alternatives to inmate incarceration that was not included in the FY 08-09 budget.

Commissioner Gimenez said the Corrections Department Director was adding nine administrative positions at a cost of \$2 million. He noted that he would not support the foregoing proposal since the requested additions were not supporting direct services.

Budget Director Jennifer Glazer-Moon responded to Commissioner Gimenez about the additional administrative positions. She said that activities had been re-named in order to differentiate services being provided. She noted page 32 of volume II, showed the Office of the Director decreased by three positions and outlined administrative and direct services.

Commissioner Martinez pointed out an increase from 77 to 82 positions identified on page 582, Appendix C of volume II.

Ms. Glazer-Moon offered to prepare Commissioner Martinez with a crosswalk to explain the redistribution of activities and positions from FY 08-09 to FY 09-10. She noted that the table presented on page 32 was currently the most accurate description and detailed specific administrative and direct services functions.

The foregoing motion, upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 8-4 (Commissioners Gimenez, Heyman, Martinez and Souto voted "Yes;" Commissioners Diaz, Edmonson, Jordan, Rolle, Seijas, Sorenson, Sosa and Chairman Moss voted "No;" Commissioner Barreiro was absent).

**Unvetted Proposal Number 21: Reduce Physical Plant Maintenance by 25-percent in the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 22: Reduce Training by 25-percent in the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 23: Reduce Countywide portion of the budget to 85 percent of FY 08-09 Budget of \$14.559 million to \$12.375 million in the County Attorney's Office**

Chairman Moss said that the foregoing proposal had already been addressed and was resolved in an earlier discussion pertaining to the County Attorney's Office.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 24: Reduce USMA portion of the budget to 85 percent of FY 08-09 Budget of \$6.24 million to \$5.304 million in the County Attorney's Office**

Chairman Moss said that the foregoing proposal had already been addressed and was resolved in an earlier discussion pertaining to the County Attorney's Office.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 25: Reduce Countywide portion of the budget to 85 percent of FY 08-09 Budget of \$6.383 million to \$5.426 million in the County Executive Office**

Chairman Moss said that the foregoing proposal had already been addressed and was resolved in an earlier discussion pertaining to the County Executive's Office.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 26: Reduce Art in Public Places funding and reallocate to cultural programs**

Commissioner Heyman suggested that \$4.4 million in funding dedicated to capital improvements and construction could be reallocated to other cultural programs including the cultural arts grants program that was being reinstated.

County Manager George Burgess responded to Commissioner Heyman that Art in Public Places required a one and a half-percent set aside for public art. He noted that utilization of these funds for any other purpose would be a violation of the use of County funds and an amendment to the County Code would be necessary.

It was moved by Commissioner Heyman that Art in Public Places funding be reduced and reallocated to other cultural programs. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Sosa.

Commissioner Sosa stated that the intent was to modify the Code for a one year period in order to utilize arts funding for alternative arts programs. She asked the County Attorney whether there was any method to legally accommodate this request.

County Attorney Robert Cuevas said that Arts in Public Places utilized bond funding and that funding must be used for capital projects. He noted it would require the enactment of legislation for any alternative use of that funding source.

County Manager Burgess responded to Commissioner Sosa regarding her inquiry as to whether there were any capital projects that could utilize Arts in Public Places funding and make these funds available elsewhere. He said that the Arts in Public Places program could not be suspended for one year when allocations for those capital projects were spread over several years.

Commissioner Sosa said that it would be difficult for the community to accept the County spending \$4.443 million for Arts in Public Places when funding was not available for other essential services.

Chairman Moss noted that the foregoing proposal could not be accomplished and a vote would be unnecessary.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 27: Reduce funding for the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center and use savings for other cultural arts restorations**

Commissioner Gimenez said that an expenditure of \$5.325 million was allocated to the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center operation account. He noted that these funds would not be necessary since the Center was not scheduled to open until December 2010 which would be in FY 2010-11.

Chairman Moss supported the reallocation of resources that were not being utilized.

County Manager George Burgess noted the reallocation of resources would be appropriate; however, some funding needed to remain available to incur pre-opening operational costs and prepare for the first year operation.

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that \$1.3 million be reallocated from the Department of Cultural Affairs Operations Fund designated for the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center for other Cultural Arts community programs. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Sosa and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 12-0 (Commissioner Souto was absent).

**Unvetted Proposal Number 28: Reduce General Fund funding for Department Administration by 25-percent in the Enterprise Technology Services Department.**

Commissioner Heyman noted that although the Department reduced 16 Customer Service positions, it added 19 administrative, 5 Data Center administrative, and 5 Office of the Director administrative positions.

It was moved by Commissioner Heyman that funding from the General Fund for the Department of Enterprise Technology Services Administration be reduced by 25-percent.

This motion was seconded by Commissioner Gimenez.

Commissioner Sorenson requested administration respond to Commissioner Heyman's observations about Departmental staffing changes.

Mr. Angel Petisco, Interim Director, Enterprise Technology Services Department (ETSD) clarified that the 16 Customer Service positions was a reassignment of personnel to the Customer Administration division. He also noted that the addition to the Director's office was a relocation of personnel from the Office of Cyber Security. Mr. Petisco noted the Department currently had 597 employees and was adding four new positions as a result of converting contractual to permanent positions at a \$110,000 savings.

Commissioner Diaz inquired whether the Department received the 10-percent across-the-board reduction under the County Mayor's budget recommendation.

Budget Director Jennifer Glazer-Moon responded to Commissioner Diaz that ETSD was cut by approximately \$6 million from the tax supported portion of the budget. She noted that ESTD revenue was also reduced due to service level agreement reductions from County departments.

Ms. Glazer-Moon further responded to Commissioner Diaz's inquiry about the percentage budget reduction received by ETSD. She noted that budget reduction calculations did not compare the FY 08-09 to FY 09-10 budgets. She said that budget reductions considered the budget that was required to deliver the same level of service. Ms. Glazer-Moon noted that a budget percentage reduction was not the method utilized to determine department budgets. She noted that results oriented budgeting was used where departments analyzed each line item and determined specific activities that would no longer be performed.

Commissioner Diaz commented he now understood there was not a ten-percent across-the-board reduction and every department was considered independently.

Commissioner Gimenez asked the County Manager to provide the definition of a departmental cut and a comparison between last year's budget and the projected budget.

Commissioner Gimenez said that ETSD did not take a 10-percent reduction and they primarily provide internal services rather than serve the community. He noted his support for the motion along with an additional \$2 million reduction.

The foregoing proposed motion, upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 7-4 (Commissioners Barreiro, Edmonson, Gimenez and Heyman voted "Yes;" Commissioners Diaz, Jordan, Martinez, Rolle, Seijas, Sorenson, and Chairman Moss voted "No;" Commissioners Sosa and Souto were absent).

**Unvetted Proposal Number 29: Reduce Countywide General Fund funding for Department Administration by 40-percent in the Enterprise Technology Services Department**

Chairman Moss said that the foregoing proposal would not be considered as a result of the failure to adopt proposal number 28.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 30: Reduce USMA funding for Department Administration by 45 percent in the Enterprise Technology Services Department**

Chairman Moss said that the foregoing proposal would not be considered as a result of the failure to adopt proposal number 28.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 31: Transfer Countywide subsidy from Enterprise Technology Services**

Chairman Moss said that Commissioner Seijas had requested to defer the foregoing proposal until later.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 32: Reduction in Administration in the Office of the Director, Enterprise Technology Services**

Chairman Moss said that the foregoing proposal would not be considered as a result of the failure to adopt proposal number 28.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 33: Reduce Department Administration in the Finance Department**

It was moved by Commissioner Heyman that the Department of Finance's Administration be reduced by \$750,000 (to the minimum level of FY 08-09). This motion was seconded by Commissioner Gimenez and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 8-4 (Commissioners Barreiro, Diaz, Edmonson, Gimenez, Heyman, Martinez, Seijas, and Sosa voted "Yes;" Commissioners Jordan, Rolle, Sorenson, and Chairman Moss voted "No;" Commissioner Souto was absent).

**Unvetted Proposal Number 34: Consolidate the R&D Unit in the Fire and Rescue Department**

**Unvetted Proposal Number 35: Internal Affairs**

**Unvetted Proposal Number 36: Light Duty for training and airport watch**

**Unvetted Proposal Number 37: Overtime**

**Unvetted Proposal Number 38: Put Supervisors "online" in service once a month**

**Unvetted Proposal Number 39: Eliminate pay adjustments for certification except for "in-field" personnel**

Commissioner Heyman noted that these items were the result of Fire and Rescue Department employees' and union representative's suggestions for efficiencies that would support maintaining salaries, direct services, and equipment. She requested that administration consider these suggestions.

Commissioner Heyman responded to Commissioner Seijas's inquiry that the information that she presented was provided to her by fire personnel and/or union representatives.

In response to Commissioner Seijas, Chief Herminio Lorenzo, Director, Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department, said that this information was not provided by the Department and was provided individually by members of the bargaining unit. He noted these suggestions would be considered.

In response to Commissioner Seijas, a fire union representative noted that some of these ideas were discussed and approved by the Union while others were not.

Chairman Moss noted that these comments were for the record and that a vote on the foregoing proposals was not necessary.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 40: Air Rescue Units**

Commissioner Gimenez noted the air rescue unit consisted of four helicopters and responded to a total of 1,628 calls in FY 07-08 (981 calls from Kendall-Tamiami Airport and 643 calls from Opa-locka Airport). This was an average of 1.76 calls per day, said Commissioner Gimenez. He noted that the County, with a population of 2.5 million people had one air rescue unit per 1.25 million people, whereas Los Angeles County with a population of 9 million people, had one air rescue unit per 3 million people. Commissioner Gimenez said that a savings of approximately \$3.8 million could be obtained through a reduction to one unit. This would leave \$6.784 million remaining in the budget that would allow for call back pay and additional units to be placed in service on an as needed basis. Based upon the number of calls, response time and time between calls, Commissioner Gimenez said that action needed to be taken to reduce costs.

Deputy Fire Chief Alfredo Suarez, Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department, responded to Commissioner Gimenez's inquiry about charging for air rescue services. He said that the County charged for services at the inception of the program 26 years ago and that FAA regulations related to air rescue operations required that this practice be eliminated.

Chief Herminio Lorenzo, Director, Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department, further clarified that passenger for hire classification requirements under Part 135 of FAA rules considered pilot schedules, aircraft maintenance, pilot training and other criteria.

Commissioner Gimenez asked Chief Lorenzo to provide the necessary requirements to comply with Federal Aviation Administration guidelines that would allow the County to charge for air rescue services along with an estimate of projected revenue and costs necessary to comply.

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez to reduce \$3.854 million from the air rescue unit.

This foregoing motion died due to the lack of a second.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 41: Special Project Pay**

See notes under proposal numbers 34-39.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 42: Operating expenditures for the new North Dade Government Center**

Commissioner Martinez withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 43: Operating expenditures for public service outreach**

Commissioner Martinez withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 44: Outsource various services (labor, printing, maintenance, vehicle repairs, furniture moving)**

Commissioner Diaz inquired about the method used to determine the \$75 million reduction.

Commissioner Heyman noted that the Department had an annual budget in excess of \$200 million for in-service work. She noted inflated charges by GSA to departments was a result of including a recapture of rent, personnel and other operational expenses in its billing. Commissioner Heyman said that the \$75 million was a random figure.

Chairman Moss and Commissioner Heyman asked the County Mayor to evaluate whether the General Services Administration could be funded as though it was a County department; not charge other departments for providing its services; and to provide services through its current budget and/or allow departments to opt out of in-house services to obtain costs savings.

Chief Herminio Lorenzo, Director, Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department responded to Commissioner Martinez's inquiry about the efficiencies created through the transfer of heavy fleet service from GSA to the Fire and Rescue Department. He said that a monetary savings had been realized on equipment maintenance during the first two years after the transfer. Chief Lorenzo noted it was more convenient to perform the services in-house as they were better able to schedule and control operations.

Ms. Wendi Norris, Director, General Services Administration, responded to Commissioner Gimenez about vehicle preventative maintenance (PM) procedures. She noted there were three levels of PM service based upon mileage. Ms. Norris said that County maintenance was provided every 4,000 miles and consisted of oil and filter changes and checking of vehicle systems.

County Manager George Burgess further explained that a report was provided to BCC members on September 3, 2009 that compared County charges to several independent providers' charges. He noted the report indicated the County prices were less and it was advantageous to perform these services in-house.

Ms. Norris also noted that the County received warranty reimbursement for in-house repairs since its mechanics were certified. She said that GSA did not charge County departments for warranty work; that dealer reimbursements for warrant work went to GSA, not the department; and that reimbursements were incorporated into the rate structure.

Commissioner Diaz noted internal costs were excessive and inquired whether there had been any study performed to determine alternative solutions.

County Manager Burgess responded that the County constantly compared its costs with the private sector. He said that a paid consultant was unnecessary for this type of review and that a variety of in-house studies were available.

Commissioner Sosa said that GSA had been forced to become self-sufficient. She noted that a change of this magnitude could not be made today and that the Efficiency and Policy Review Committee could review the department's structure and make recommendations.

Budget Director Jennifer Glazer-Moon responded to Commissioner Gimenez' request as to whether GSA charged on a line-item or work order basis. She noted that line-item charges were submitted to departments only for the specific services that were performed. Ms. Glazer-Moon noted the cost effectiveness of consumption driven budgeting that allowed the user to pay for services. She noted that departments were provided with estimates to assist them in developing their budgets. Ms. Glazer-Moon said that at the end of the fiscal year, any funds remaining in a proprietary department budget would be retained by the department, and remaining funds would be retained in the General Fund for all other departments.

It was moved by Commissioner Heyman that the funding for GSA to outsource various services (labor, printing, maintenance, vehicle repairs, moving furniture) be reduced by \$75 million. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Martinez and upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 10-3 (Commissioners Diaz, Heyman and Martinez voted "Yes;" Commissioners Barreiro, Edmonson, Gimenez, Jordan, Rolle, Seijas, Sorenson, Sosa, Souto and Chairman Moss voted "No").

**Unvetted Proposal Number 45: Reduce General Services Administration Department by 40-percent in CWGF**

Chairman Moss said that the foregoing proposal had already been addressed.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 46: Reduce General Services Administration Department by 45-percent in USMA**

Chairman Moss said that the foregoing proposal had already been addressed.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 47: Replacement of Vehicle Purchases in the amount of \$6,177,000**

Commissioner Gimenez noted he had received a listing of vehicle purchases and recommended that vehicle purchases be placed on-hold.

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that \$5 million be taken from GSA's \$6.177 million budget for Replacement Vehicle Purchases and be spread out among several funding sources to be determined. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Martinez.

Commissioner Jordan asked that the General Services Administration Director provide information on vehicle lifespan and the need for new vehicles.

Ms Wendi Norris, Director, General Services Administration, indicated that County guidelines specified vehicle replacement at ten years or 100,000 miles. She said that as vehicles were

serviced, the Department considered the amount of the repair in relation to the value of the vehicle at that time.

Ms. Norris responded to Mayor Alvarez that police vehicles were not included in the above replacement recommendations.

The foregoing proposed motion, upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 8-4 (Commissioners Barreiro Diaz, Edmonson, Gimenez, Heyman, Martinez, Seijas, and Sosa voted "Yes;" Commissioners Jordan, Rolle, Sorenson, and Chairman Moss voted "No;" Commissioner Souto was absent).

### **Non-Agenda Item**

Commissioner Seijas requested that services provided by the Department of Human Services that were eliminated in the proposed budget be restored. These countywide cuts found on pages 619 and 612 of volume II, to the Division of the Elderly, Disabled and Veteran Services totaled \$11.825 million and the Community Action Agency Self Help Division was reduced by \$5.931 million for facilities and transportation, said Commissioner Seijas. She requested that \$10 million be restored to the Department of Human Services and \$3 million to the Community Action Agency. Commissioner Seijas presented an itemized list of suggested budget adjustments where the \$13 million necessary for these restorations could be obtained to the County Manager for consideration.

### **Motion to Adjourn**

Commissioner Rolle inquired whether the County Manager could develop recommendations on the remaining items and provide a follow-up report tomorrow to the Committee of the Whole. These recommendations would be based upon the direction the Committee had already provided on items addressed up to this point, said Commissioner Rolle.

County Manager George Burgess responded to Commissioner Rolle that staff would undertake this task and present recommendations to the best of their ability considering the timeframe.

It was moved by Commissioner Rolle to adjourn tonight's meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sosa.

A discussion ensued on whether to adjourn the meeting, and if so, at what time the Committee would reconvene tomorrow.

County Manager George Burgess said that yesterday's restorations were approximately \$106 million and today's reductions were approximately \$35 million leaving a gap of approximately \$70 million.

County Attorney Robert Cuevas responded to Commissioner Martinez's request regarding the timeframe required to adopt the budget. He said that Statute provided for a recess of the Budget Hearing where circumstances were beyond the control of the Board.

The foregoing proposed motion, upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 10-3 (Commissioners Edmonson, Rolle and Sorenson voted "Yes;" Commissioners Diaz, Barreiro, Gimenez, Heyman, Jordan, Martinez, Seijas, Sosa, Souto, and Chairman Moss voted "No").

**Unvetted Proposal Number 48: Reduction of 20-percent to Administrative Support in General Fund Subsidized Departments**

Commissioner Martinez inquired whether any reductions to administrative support would be able to be achieved.

County Manager George Burgess responded to Commissioner Martinez's inquiry that 450 administrative positions had been identified in the proposed budget for elimination and another 340 positions had been identified. County Manager Burgess noted unintended consequences for any further across-the-board reductions. He suggested that the Administration be allowed to review operations to determine whether any additional savings could be obtained that would allow further restoration of services. County Manager Burgess noted having an extremely low administrative to operating ratio of six-percent.

Commissioner Martinez said that tremendous reductions had been made to departments; however, administration had remained the same. He noted that since reductions had not been agreed upon from budget areas, the only remaining place to cut would be salaries and fringe benefits which was the largest percentage of operation expenses. Commissioner Martinez said that reductions needed to be found or the requested restorations would not be viable.

County Mayor Carlos Alvarez responded to Commissioner Martinez that administration was recommending against any additional across-the-board reductions due to severe consequences. He agreed that specific departments could be evaluated for further administrative reductions.

Commissioner Martinez withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 49: Reduce Government Information Center by 40 percent in CWGF**

Chairman Moss said the foregoing proposal was already addressed.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 50: Reduce Government Information Center by 45 percent in UMSA**

Chairman Moss said the foregoing proposal was already addressed.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 51: Reduce budget for Executive Office in Grants Coordination**

Chairman Moss said the foregoing proposal was already addressed in the buy back discussion.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 52: Reduce Executive Office Budget in Grants Coordination**

Commissioner Gimenez noted that the Office of Grants Coordination was reduced 72- percent from 38 to 11 employees. He noted that the general fund contribution for the Executive Office was increased by \$300,000 with one additional employee. Commissioner Gimenez suggested that the Executive Office funding should be reduced by 72 percent consistent to the reduction within the overall Department.

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that the funding for the Executive Office budget in the Grants Coordination Office be reduced by 72-percent (\$1.178 million savings). This motion was seconded by Commissioner Heyman.

Commissioner Seijas noted that grants were providing necessary funding for the County. She asked for Administration to report on the status of current grant applications.

Mr. Daniel Wall, Director, Office of Grants Coordination, responded to Commissioner Seijas. He said that the Department had submitted over \$400 million in Stimulus funded grant applications and noted that an additional \$100 million would be submitted by the end of September. Mr. Wall noted that 50 percent of the requested funding had already been awarded to the County and that the remaining amount submitted was pending award.

Commissioner Seijas requested Mr. Wall comment on the impact of the recommended budget reductions to the Department.

Mr. Wall responded that he would be the only remaining administrator in the Department should the requested reduction be approved. He noted the Department was created last year by the Board; it was a relatively small department; and that staff often multi-tasked in order to accomplish its goals. Mr. Wall also noted that the increase in one staff position was a reassignment from another area.

The foregoing motion, upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 10-3 (Commissioners Gimenez, Heyman and Souto voted "Yes;" Commissioners Diaz, Barreiro, Edmonson, Jordan, Martinez, Rolle, Seijas, Sorenson, Sosa, and Chairman Moss voted "No").

#### **Unvetted Proposal Number 53: Reduce Human Resources Department by 25- percent**

Commissioner Gimenez stated that the number of employees in the Department of Human Resources Director's Office increased from six to seven positions along with an additional \$100,000.

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that the funding for the Director's Office of the Department of Human Resources be reduced by \$100,000 (to the same level as FY 08-09). This motion was seconded by Commissioner Souto and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 10-3 (Commissioners Barreiro, Diaz, Edmonson, Gimenez, Heyman, Martinez, Rolle, Seijas, Sosa, and Souto voted "Yes;" Commissioners Jordan, Sorenson and Chairman Moss voted "No").

**Unvetted Proposal Number 54: Reduce UMSA portion of GF subsidy in Human Resources**

It was moved by Commissioner Souto to reduce the UMSA portion of GF subsidy.

The foregoing motion died due to the lack of a second.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 55: Reduce budget for the Office of the Director in Human Resources**

Chairman Moss said the foregoing proposal was already addressed.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 56: Transfer responsibilities to HR and eliminated Department of Human Rights & Fair Employment Practices**

Commissioner Heyman requested that the County Mayor consider consolidation of departments with parallel interests. She referenced a memorandum dated September 3, 2009 from the Commission Auditor entitled "Span of Control Analysis" that showed the number of staff assigned to supervisors and noted these ratios required review.

Commissioner Heyman withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 57: Eliminate treatment alternatives to street crimes**

Chairman Moss said that the foregoing proposal was intended as a directive requested by Commissioner Seijas that was already addressed.

Commissioner Seijas withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 58: Eliminate Community Services Intake & Treatment**

Chairman Moss said that the foregoing proposal was intended as a directive requested by Commissioner Seijas that was already addressed.

Commissioner Seijas withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 59: Reduction in Administration in Human Services**

Commissioner Gimenez withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 60: Eliminate funding for Legal Aid**

Commissioner Gimenez withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 61: Reduce personnel in the Metropolitan Planning Organization**

Commissioner Heyman withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 62: Eliminate accidental death insurance**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

In response to Commissioner Sosa's inquiries about employee accidental death and long-term disability insurance, Ms Wendi Norris, Director, General Services Administration, said that accidental death insurance premiums were paid by the County and that long and short term disability insurance premiums were paid by the employee. She also noted the beneficiary of an accidental death insurance policy was designated by the employee.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 63: Eliminate accidental death insurance**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 64: Eliminate employee awards CW**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 65: Eliminate employee awards UMSA**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 66: Eliminate employee physicals CW**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 67: Eliminate employee physicals UMSA**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 68: Eliminate general publicity cost CW**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 69: Eliminate general publicity cost UMSA**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 70: Eliminate long term disability insurance CW**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 71: Eliminate long term disability insurance UMSA**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 72: Eliminate Management Consulting**

Chairman Moss said the foregoing proposal was already addressed.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 73: Eliminate SF Regional Planning Council funding from UMSA**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 74: Recapture Contingency reserve – CW**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 75: Recapture contingency reserve – UMSA**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 76: Reduce Employment Advertisement by 75-percent**

Chairman Moss said the foregoing proposal was already addressed.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 77: Recapture Employment advertisement – CW**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 78: Recapture employment advertisement – UMSA**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 79: Recapture management consulting costs – CW**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 80: Recapture management consulting costs – UMSA**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 81: Recapture miscellaneous operating refunds – CW**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 82: Recapture miscellaneous operating refunds – UMSA**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 83: Recapture outside printing costs – CW**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 84: Recapture outside printing costs – UMSA**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 85: Recapture tax equalization reserve – CW**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 6: Recapture tax equalization reserve - UMSA**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 87: Reduce CW Reserve for employee physicals by \$500,000**

Chairman Moss said the foregoing proposal was already addressed.

**Unvetted Proposal Number #88: Reduce employee training – CW**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 89: Reduce employee training – UMSA**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 90: Reduce municipal mitigation reserve – UMSA**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 91: Reduce the CW allocation to South Florida Regional Planning Council**

Commissioner Seijas withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 92: Reduce the CW Grant Match Reserve**

Commissioner Seijas withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 93: Reduce Wage Adjustment, FRS, Separation, and Energy Reserve – CW**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 94: Reduce Wage Adjustment, FRS, Separation, and Energy Reserve – UMSA**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 95: Outside Legal Services**

Chairman Moss said the foregoing proposal was already addressed.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 96: Outside Legal Services - CW**

Chairman Moss said the foregoing proposal was already addressed.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 97: Outside Legal Services - UMSA**

Chairman Moss said the foregoing proposal was already addressed.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 98: Take Home Vehicles**

It was moved by Commissioner Diaz that all County employees utilizing take-home vehicles be charged \$100 per pay period. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Sosa and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 7-5 (Commissioners Barreiro, Diaz, Edmonson, Gimenez, Heyman, Jordan and Sosa voted “Yes;” Commissioners Martinez, Rolle, Seijas, Sorenson and Chairman Moss voted “No;” Commissioner Souto was absent).

It was moved by Commissioner Jordan that the foregoing motion be reconsidered. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Seijas and upon being put to a voice vote; Chairman Moss announced this motion to reconsider failed by a 6-6 tie vote.

Commissioner Seijas noted the motion would require Commissioners to pay the County \$100 per pay period from their \$6,000 annual salary.

In response to Chairman Moss’s inquiry as to whether a straw vote could be changed, County Attorney Robert Cuevas said that a vote could be changed on any item before the next item was voted upon.

Chairman Moss responded to Commissioner Sosa’s inquiry that this motion applied to everyone, including Commissioners, Mayor, Manager, Attorney, and all employees.

Commissioners Edmonson and Jordan requested that their votes be changed from “Yes” to “No;” whereupon, the motion that all County employees utilizing take-home vehicles be charged \$100 per pay period failed by a vote of 7-5 (Commissioners Barreiro, Diaz, Gimenez, Heyman, Sosa

voted "Yes;" Commissioners Edmonson, Jordan, Martinez, Rolle, Seijas, Sorenson and Chairman Moss voted "No;" Commissioner Souto was absent).

**Unvetted Proposal Number 99: Reduce Office of Film and Entertainment funding**

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that the funding from the Countywide General Fund contribution to the Office of Film and Entertainment be reduced by \$100,000, leaving \$375,000 in the Department's budget. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Seijas.

Commissioner Diaz said that this Office contributed to an industry that was vital to the economic success of the community.

In response to Commissioner Diaz's request for additional information about the Office, Mr. Jeff Peel, Director, Office of Film and Entertainment responded. He said that the Office provided support to the industry similar to that performed by the Office of Sports Commission and Trade Consortium. Mr. Peel said that an economic impact to the community of \$130 million dollars was generated over the past year as a result of the Office and approximately 60,000 room nights were generated over the past two years. He noted that the Office would need to assume an additional burden in the future to promote the industry due to pending cutbacks at the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau, the City of Miami and the City of Miami Beach. Mr. Peel said the Mayor's proposed budget would reduce the Department by 29-percent and any additional reductions would further reduce the ability to promote Miami-Dade County to the film and entertainment industry.

Commissioner Heyman said that the Office was a money making entity. She noted concern that among three administrative staff positions, the position dealing with direct services (marketing position) was being eliminated.

Commissioner Gimenez noted that the Department would have a budget of \$375,000 after the reduction.

The foregoing motion, upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 7-5 (Commissioners Gimenez, Heyman, Martinez, Seijas, and Sosa voted "Yes;" Commissioners Diaz, Barreiro, Edmonson, Jordan, Rolle, Sorenson and Chairman Moss voted "No;" Commissioner Souto was absent).

**Unvetted Proposal Number 100: Eliminate Office of Film and Entertainment; reinstate marketing position at partial salary under the CEO**

Commissioner Heyman withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 101: Eliminate the Countywide General Fund allocation to the Office of Sustainability**

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that the countywide allocation in the amount of \$516,000 to the Office of Sustainability be eliminated. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Heyman.

Commissioner Sorenson noted the Office was primarily funded through a \$12 million grant. She noted the intent of the Office was to ensure efficiencies were created throughout all areas of the County. Commissioner Sorenson said that the current Departmental structure needed to be addressed for the Department to become more effective. Commissioner Sorenson asked the County Manager to comment on the support that the Office of Sustainability received from the General Fund.

County Manager George Burgess responded to Commissioner Sorenson that the Office of Sustainability was becoming more of a priority for the County. He said that the General Fund contributed 12-percent of the Department's budget. County Manager Burgess noted that an overall strategic plan was currently being developed by the Office of Sustainability for the County and that the Office was partnering with other jurisdictions including the City of New York.

Commissioner Sosa noted her support for the Office; however, indicated that the grant funding should be utilized and that the 12-percent from the General Fund should be recovered. She also noted that salary adjustments were necessary for employees who were transferred into this Office from other higher paid positions.

Commissioner Seijas stated that the Office was not newly created and that the name might have changed. She noted that the County had already realized substantial cost reductions through the efforts of this Office.

Budget Director Jennifer Glazer-Moon clarified that the Office had been in existence for several years. She noted that the General Fund subsidy requested for FY 09-10 was 10-percent below the subsidy received from FY 08-09. Ms. Glazer-Moon said that without the subsidy, the Office would not be able to implement all of the sustainability activities that it had planned and would be limited to only the energy related initiatives that were funded by the grant.

The foregoing motion, upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 9-3 (Commissioners Gimenez, Heyman and Sosa voted "Yes;" Commissioners Diaz, Barreiro, Edmonson, Jordan, Martinez, Rolle, Seijas, Sorenson, and Chairman Moss voted "No;" Commissioner Souto was absent).

**Unvetted Proposal Number 102: Eliminate Office of Sustainability and transfer responsibilities to Planning and Zoning**

Commissioner Martinez withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 103: Reduce overhead by transferring the Office of Sustainability to DERM**

Commissioner Moss said the foregoing proposal would not be considered.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 104: Substitute CDT for GF at the MetroZoo**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 105: Substitute CDT Funding for General Funds for Miami-Dade Metro Zoo**

It was moved by Commissioner Martinez to replace the \$10 million from the General Fund used to fund Metro Zoo, with \$2.4 million in funding from the CDT under Proposal Number 1. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Heyman.

In response to Chairman Moss' inquiry regarding whether \$10 million was available in CDT, County Manager Burgess responded no and reminded the Committee members of the financing plan, which consisted of a reserve account that would eventually total \$45 million before encumbering those monies on new obligations. He noted this plan was adopted by the BCC and was being followed in order not to incur new obligations.

Commissioner Martinez noted this motion was a replacement of funding, rather than a new obligation. He also noted this motion was appropriate because funding was being used from the General Funds for the Metro Zoo, which was eligible for CDT funding that had money saved for the ballpark. Commissioner Martinez pointed out that the ballpark would be impacting the General Fund.

Commissioner Seijas asked what funds were available from the CDT funding.

County Manager Burgess pointed out that the Metro Zoo was always subsidized from General Funds. He noted staff recommended not using the ballpark finances; not to take existing obligations off; and not add new obligations until the total reserve account for the ballpark reached \$45 million. County Manager Burgess said that adding new CDT obligations would lessen the CDT reserve account which was needed to pay the ballpark debt. He noted the CDT reserve account current balance totaled approximately \$25 million, and the length of time it would take to reach \$45 million was based on the function of bed tax performance over a period of seven years. County Manager Burgess did not recommend adding any new obligation into the CDT so that adequate reserves could be established. He stated discussion on the accumulated funds for South Dade and the Performing Arts Center allocation set-aside were not new obligations.

Responding to Commissioner Seijas' inquiry regarding the downside of using \$5 million of the CDT funds for the Metro Zoo, County Manager Burgess noted it would lessen the reserves in the event there were no recoveries. He noted this year's projections were better than expected, but \$45 million would take years to build, and the need to avoid the risk of having less available

money if needed, in order to pay off existing debt obligations. County Manager Burgess also noted the need to be careful in putting money into recurring obligations against an existing revenue stream because the risk was too great. He noted he felt the better decision was to continue to subsidize the Metro Zoo with the General Funds.

Commissioner Gimenez noted if the reason for building a reserve account was to not touch the General Fund, then why not use it now, if needed, but hopefully after recovery it would be a better year since capacity was there.

Responding to Commissioner Gimenez' question regarding the amount of money that would be added to the reserve account this year, County Manager Burgess said he was uncertain, but it would take a number of years to build up the reserve account, which was based on the performance of the bed tax. He also noted there was a scheduled period when money would be withdrawn from the reserve account and then for it to begin being built up again. County Manager Burgess suggested that additional reserve funds not be withdrawn and noted that the reserve account currently totaled approximately \$22 million.

Commissioner Martinez amended his motion to provide that \$2.4 million from the endowment be utilized, and on a one-time basis, to use \$2.6 million as a substitute from CDT Funds in addition to \$5 million from the General Fund for the Metro Zoo.

Mayor Alvarez noted for the record that he strongly opposed using the money from CDT because he was a proponent of the stadium and the residents were told that the General Funds would not be obligated. He also noted the actions taken were in a prudent and conservative manner in an effort to build up the reserve account and this would be irresponsible. Mayor Alvarez noted since he was an architect of the stadium, he didn't want to hear later that the General Funds were used to build the Marlins Stadium.

In response to Commissioner Martinez' inquiry regarding the commitment made in using the CDT Funds to build the Marlins Stadium, County Manager Burgess noted a coordinated decision was made and presented the plan to the BCC. He also noted that rating agencies were advised that the County was committed to build up the reserve account before any new obligation was incurred.

The foregoing motion, upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 7-5. (Commissioners Gimenez, Heyman Martinez, Seijas and Souto voted "Yes;" Commissioners Barreiro, Diaz, Edmonson, Jordan, Rolle, Sosa and Chairman Moss voted "No;" and Commissioner Sorenson was absent).

**Vetted Proposal Number 12: Reduction of 5-percent across-the-board on top of the Proposed Budget**

It was moved by Commissioner Sosa that a 2-percent across-the-board reduction be adopted on top of the Proposed Budget after a review of each Department by the County Manager. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Jordan.

Chairman Moss noted this 2-percent reduction would yield approximately \$32 million.

In response to Commissioner Heyman's inquiry regarding departments with larger reductions, Commissioner Sosa noted that the County Manager agreed to provide the Committee with revised adjustments for departments that already had reductions.

Following the discussion, County Manager Burgess expressed concern regarding arbitrary across-the-board reductions. He suggested that each department be individually evaluated to identify the potential for any additional reductions.

Mayor Alvarez responded to Commissioner Rolle's inquiry relating to his position on departmental reductions. He noted that he did not support across-the-board reductions and was in agreement with the evaluation of individual departments.

Commissioner Sosa noted that she asked County Manager Burgess to identify departments that received significant budget reductions over the previous two years and to ensure that additional reductions to these departments would result in less of an impact than those who have not received prior reductions.

County Manager Burgess emphasized that staff did not support the 2-percent across-the-board reduction and would individually evaluate each department to determine appropriate reductions. He noted the results might not reach the desired 2-percent reduction and a 2-percent reduction would result in an approximate \$21 million dollar savings countywide.

In response to Commissioner Sorenson's question regarding the additional number of lost jobs, County Manager Burgess noted it was difficult to determine; however, a flat 2-percent across-the-board reduction would represent approximately 400 additional positions. He clarified that the 2-percent reduction would apply to the operating departments only.

Commissioner Seijas pointed out this was a directive and she felt there was no reason for a motion if the directive to County Manager Burgess was to identify departments that had already received significant budget reductions.

Commissioner Sosa noted her desire to save money for the County and whether or not the administration agreed, the BCC was responsible to make the final decisions relating to County employees.

Chairman Moss noted he was not prepared to support this recommendation until the County Manager provided the Committee with further information.

The foregoing motion, upon being put to a vote, failed by a vote of 11-2. (Commissioners Barreiro and Sosa voted "Yes;" Commissioners Diaz, Edmonson, Gimenez, Heyman, Jordan, Martinez, Rolle, Seijas, Sorenson, Souto, and Chairman Moss voted "No").

#### **Unvetted Proposal Number 106: Operating Expenditures for Capital Projects**

Commissioner Martinez withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 108: Reduction in Administration in Property Appraiser's Office**

Commissioner Gimenez noted the Property Appraiser's Office added two administrative staff positions and increased its budget by \$900,000.

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that the Property Appraiser reduce its FY 09-10 budget by 10% from FY 08-09 budget. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Sosa.

Commissioner Gimenez noted this reduction would yield an additional \$502,000 in savings above the elimination of the \$900,000 budget increase with a total savings of \$1.402 million to the countywide General Fund.

Chairman Moss asked the County Manager to explain the timeframe for the Property Appraiser's Office to present its budget and the appeals process.

Mr. Pedro Garcia, Property Appraiser noted that Commissioner Gimenez received the information regarding the budget approximately ten days ago and Mr. Lazaro Solis, Assistant Property Appraiser, would provide further details.

Mr. Lazaro Solis explained that the Property Appraisers Office was required to submit its budget to the Department of Revenue by July 15, 2009. He noted the Department worked in conjunction with the County's Budget Office to determine those numbers. Upon an analysis, it was determined that 27 additional positions were needed primarily due to the workload related to Value Adjustment Board appeals, said Mr. Solis. He also noted there was an additional statutory requirement that required the verification of sales information.

Mr. Solis indicated the budget was submitted to the Department of Revenue based on information shared with the Office of Strategic Business Management (OSBM). He noted the only recourse after adoption of the budget by the Department of Revenue was an appeal to the State of Florida Governor by the Property Appraiser or the BCC Chairman.

Following the discussion, Assistant County Attorney James Kracht noted the procedure was a statutory requirement by the Department of Revenue and applied to all Property Appraisers. He noted the review mentioned by Mr. Solis was the appellate process provided in the statute.

Commissioner Seijas reminded the Commissioners of the numerous foreclosures and property owners that were requesting property value adjustments. She noted this was the highest period of the year for property owners making appeals to the Value Adjustment Board.

Mr. Lazaro Solis noted that the 2008 appeals received in the Property Appraisers Office exceeded more than any projections initially done. When the original budget was submitted for the Fiscal Year 2008-09, estimated growth was at 18-percent; however, the actual numbers resulted at 56-percent.

Commissioner Seijas noted the Property Appraiser was a newly elected position that started in January 2009 and had to present a budget within six months.

Commissioner Gimenez withdrew his motion, and noted he would review the Property Appraiser's salary structure to ensure it was appropriate and that costs were contained.

Mr. Solis clarified Commissioner Martinez's question about the growth in the Department's budget. He said the way the numbers were illustrated in the line item was not clear in the budget book, and the line item that appeared under administration included the entire IT cost. There were a series of contracts that were established and items that were removed from operation under administration because it was department wide, therefore, the increase appeared to be larger than the actual number, he noted. Mr. Solis noted the funded items from the previous year that were transferred from operation and placed under administration.

Chairman Moss asked Mr. Lazaro Solis, Assistant Property Appraiser, to provide a more detailed itemization of operational and administrative costs in future budgets in order to avoid any confusion.

Commissioner Barreiro asked Mr. Lazaro Solis, Assistant Property Appraiser, to provide a detailed analysis of property tax appeal data after the September 18, 2009 application deadline.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 109: Reduce Administration & Traffic Signals Budget in the Department of Public Works**

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that \$80,000 be recaptured from the countywide contribution to the General Fund due to the decreased staff positions from 32 to 30 in the Public Works Administration Division. He also moved that funding for the Traffic Signals Division be based upon FY 08-09 level and to recapture \$3.08 million savings from the countywide contribution.

Commissioner Gimenez noted that the Traffic Signals Division increased staff by five positions, but the General Fund countywide contribution increased by \$3 million.

This foregoing motion died due to the lack of a second.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 110: Fund ITC and Sister Cities from Seaport funding**

Chairman Moss said that the foregoing proposal was already addressed.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 111: Reduce Seaport promotional funding**

Commissioner Heyman withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 112: Transfer UAP funds to Small Business Development**

Commissioner Heyman withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 113: Eliminate USMA GF subsidy for Management, Planning & Performance**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 114: Reduce countywide subsidy to Strategic Business Management Department**

Commissioner Souto withdrew the foregoing proposal.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 115: Reduction to paratransit, customer service and Director's Office-Transit**

Commissioner Gimenez noted a \$6 million increase (15-percent) in the Paratransit budget from \$36 million to \$42 million. He noted a reduction of seven staff positions in the Customer Service Division and a budget increase of \$900,000 which needed to be recaptured along with the additional \$100,000 from the Personnel reduction. Commissioner Gimenez also noted there was a \$50,000 increase from the Director's Office that needed to be eliminated, which could result in the savings of \$7.05 million.

Commissioner Gimenez asked staff to explain why the Paratransit Division had a \$6 million budget increase.

Director Harpal Kapoor of Miami-Dade Transit noted \$42 million was the actual cost in order to provide the same services as last year.

In response to Commissioner Gimenez' question regarding last year's Paratransit budget, Mr. Kapoor noted the budget for the Paratransit Division totaled \$41 million.

Commissioner Gimenez noted last year's Paratransit budget was \$36 million, yet Mr. Kapoor stated the budget was \$41 million. He expressed concern for the need to monitor and control costs because there was a 15-percent increase each year.

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that the budget for Paratransit, Customer Service and the Director's be reduced by \$1 million to contribute to the countywide General Funds.

This motion failed due to the lack of a second.

**Unvetted Proposal Number 116: Restrict STS to Federally mandated corridor**

Commissioner Gimenez withdrew the foregoing proposal.

Responding to Commissioner Barriero's question regarding STS being a federally mandated corridor, Commissioner Gimenez explained that Miami Dade Transit (MDT) exceeded the amount of service that was mandated by the Federal Government. He noted if Paratransit service

was provided at the same level required by the Federal Government, MDT calculated a cost savings of \$1.036 million within the year.

### **Unvetted Proposal Number 117 Cellular Phones**

Commission Auditor Charles Anderson advised that the \$4.7 million budgeted for cell phones was vetted by the Administration; however, Item 117 to reduce cell phones was not a vetted number.

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez to eliminate 800 cellular phones and provide a \$40 monthly allowance for cellular phone usage. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Heyman.

Commissioner Sorenson asked the County Attorney if private phone usage would become public record if employees accepted subsidies for use of their private cellular phones.

County Attorney Robert Cuevas replied that public business conducted on cellular phones would become public record. He noted that this process was similar to that utilized for email communications where personal emails were not considered public records and could be redacted.

Commissioner Martinez pointed out the problem was determining the cost of retrieving public records from personal cellular phones.

Commissioner Sosa suggested that the County evaluate whether alternative cellular phone plans or service providers would provide cost savings.

Upon being put to a vote, the motion failed by a vote of 8-5 (Commissioners Gimenez, Heyman, Martinez, Sorenson and Souto voted "Yes;" Commissioners Barreiro, Diaz, Edmonson, Jordan, Rolle, Seijas, Sosa, and Chairman Moss voted "No").

### **Unvetted Proposal Numbers 118, 119, & 120: Furlough**

Chairman Moss noted that the foregoing proposals were already addressed by advising Administration to review the collective bargaining process, which included furlough, tiering, and other options.

Commissioner Gimenez noted that the Committee had not addressed furloughs for additional savings.

### **Unvetted Proposal Number 121: Reduce GF subsidized Departments by 5 percent**

Chairman Moss noted the foregoing proposal was already addressed under Proposal Number 12, which was reduced to 2-percent and the motion failed.

## **Budget and Policy Office**

Vice Chairman Diaz requested to go back to the discussion regarding the issue of the Budget and Policy Office.

Chairman Moss noted that this item was not on the agenda and an ordinance was needed. He asked the County Attorney for an opinion.

County Attorney Robert Cuevas noted that he understood the question was related to creating funding to perform a function.

Vice Chairman Diaz said that the Commission Auditor was authorized through the County Charter to perform budget functions. He proposed that 50-percent of the County Manager's operations funding for the existing Budget office be reallocated to the Commission Auditor.

Commissioner Edmonson spoke in support of Commissioner Diaz's proposal and noted the need for the BCC to have bottom line figures when needed.

It was moved by Vice Chairman Diaz that the Commission Auditor have budget operations through the Charter. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Edmonson.

Commissioner Barreiro noted he has been an advocate for 11 years to have the BCC prepare the budget. He spoke in support of the foregoing motion.

Mayor Alvarez clarified that the proposal was to transfer 50 percent of the budget office to the Commission Auditor.

Responding to Mayor Alvarez' inquiry regarding the responsibility of administration if they had 50-percent less resources, County Attorney Cuevas noted the responsibility to prepare the County budget according to the Charter was a function of the Mayor. He noted the BCC was required to fund this function appropriately to allow the Mayor to reasonably perform his responsibilities. County Attorney Cuevas said he understood the BCC desired that the Commission Auditor also receive funding to perform his function under the Charter.

Mayor Alvarez noted he had the responsibility to submit a County budget that needed to be approved by the BCC, and the Florida Statute indicated that this function must be funded appropriately.

Commissioner Edmonson said that the BCC was responsible for approving the entire County budget solely on information provided by Mayor's Office. She expressed concern regarding the number of special meetings the BCC required in order to develop the County budget and the delay in receiving information that was needed. Commissioner Edmonson spoke on the difficulties in making budgetary decisions without its own budget department.

Mayor Alvarez questioned whether the Office of Strategic Business Management (OSBM) was being blamed for the difficulty in determining the budget this year and that if the budget office was transferred to the Commission Auditor, this would not have happened.

Responding to Mayor Alvarez' comment, Commissioner Sorenson noted the difficulty of explaining why two budget departments with duplicate services were needed. She explained that this year's budget process was difficult because there were more needs and wants than available resources. Commissioner Sorenson pointed out that a new department would not provide more information than that had already been received.

Commissioner Martinez inquired about the specific County departments that were required to be funded according to Statute or Charter.

County Attorney Cuevas responded that the Mayor's office needed to be funded at a reasonable level for the Mayor to perform duties under the Charter.

Commissioner Martinez he did not believe that it was reasonable to transfer 50-percent of the Mayor's budget to fund the Commission Auditor.

In response to Commissioner Martinez' inquiry regarding a reasonable level of funding, County Attorney Cuevas noted the BCC would decide that level in the course of the budget process. He said the Charter specified the following departments that had to be funded: Department of Personnel; Department of Planning and Zoning; Miami-Dade Police Department; Miami-Dade Fire Department; Finance Department; and the Water and Sewer Department. County Attorney Cuevas noted the preparation of the County budget, was within the purview of the Mayor according to the Charter. He also noted when referring to the budget, it was more in terms of the function rather than the department.

County Attorney Cuevas advised that Florida Statute required County Budget Officers and usually the BCC would have the option of appointing that Officer; however, if the officer was not appointed, by law it would be the Clerk of the Circuit Court. He noted the Charter provided that the function was under the jurisdiction of the Mayor and the option to designate a different budget officer under the Florida Statute, similar to other County Commissions, the Charter for Miami-Dade County limited the function to the Mayor's side in the operation of government.

Discussion ensued regarding the requirements in order to have an additional County Budget Officer.

Commissioner Martinez noted he opposed the idea of transferring the 50-percent of the budget. However, he agreed with the necessity for more than one budget office similar to other government operations.

Commissioner Gimenez concurred with Commissioner Martinez who opposed the proposal to transfer 50-percent of the County budget. He noted the process required the Mayor to formulate and administer the budget once analyzed and approved by the BCC. Commissioner Gimenez said that the BCC needed to strengthen its position in the process. He suggested that 50-percent

of the budget office's funding be determined and the BCC direct administration to cut by that equivalent amount across the entire administration rather than just the budget department.

Chairman Moss noted for the record that this proposal was not the appropriate action to take tonight. He suggested the BCC needed to meet and review the process in order to decide how to proceed.

Commissioner Rolle said he was not prepared to vote on adding another budget department, but he wanted to respond to the Mayor's question regarding who was responsible for the difficult time the BCC had in deciding on the budget. He noted he felt the OSBM was not to blame and a second budget office was not needed; however, he felt there needed to be a more collaborative effort made between the Commission Auditor and OSBM. Commissioner Rolle further noted the reason this Committee meeting was prolonged was because more money was needed to supply all the needs of the community than was available.

Commissioner Jordan stated information was power and noted the need for more communication. She spoke of an incident during last year's budget hearing that prevented staff from attending the budget hearing and hindered the BCC from moving forward during the budget process. Commissioner Jordan noted the importance of receiving information in order for the BCC to fulfill its responsibility regarding the budget. She noted during the Committee budget process, she met with Commissioners Sorenson, Edmonson, Heyman and Gimenez, questions were asked, and due to administration being uncomfortable, County Manager Burgess was called in. Commissioner Jordan further noted that County Manager Burgess told the Commission that he was delivering a message from the Mayor, that if this County Commission continued the meeting in that manner, then the administration would be removed. She noted the need for mutual respect among all parties involved and as a Commissioner, she felt information should be available in order to carry out responsibilities.

In response to Commissioner Jordan's inquiry whether the Commission Auditor (CA) attended departmental budget hearings and was able to question department directors, CA Charles Anderson answered affirmatively. He noted these 63 budget hearings took place prior to April and were primarily informational meetings. Mr. Anderson said that much of the budget process was not completed and made available until mid-July.

Commissioner Jordan reflected on a statement made by the CA yesterday, regarding not having freedom to go directly into departments to retrieve information. She acknowledged the possibility of duplication with two budget departments, but the Commission needed to be able to function to carry out its responsibility. Commissioner Jordan expressed her concern regarding the decrease in communication, which was harming the BCC, in terms of functioning. She noted support for the method of funding recommended by Commissioner Gimenez for the additional budget office and expressed the need for the BCC to have independence to gather information and to get the job done.

Commissioner Sosa noted she was also in support of Commissioner Gimenez' recommendation, but she felt that today was not the appropriate time to make a decision. She noted the urgency to

utilize the remaining time to finalize budget decisions and for the budget office to address the BCC's suggestions and provide updated data.

Responding to Vice Chairman Diaz' inquiry regarding the right time to address this issue, County Attorney Cuevas noted the BCC could address the item of an additional budget office either through the budget process or through a supplemental budget amendment process.

Vice Chairman Diaz expressed concern regarding the need for his colleagues to understand the urgency in approving his proposal. He emphasized that he was not blaming the Mayor's Office, but the issue was about obtaining the information needed and making the best decisions. Vice Chairman Diaz noted his respect for the Mayor's Office and the need to work together. He mentioned there were budget cuts and that next year those cuts could increase. Vice Chairman Diaz noted the need to have accurate information. He said that after hearing the Mayor's comments, he agreed the Mayor needed to have the proper funding to operate the budget office; however, he was in support of Commissioner Gimenez' recommendation.

County Attorney Cuevas noted that the Charter provision limited the ability of the Commissioners to deal directly with staff other than for constituent inquiries and during Board deliberations. He noted other communications with administrative staff had to go through the Mayor or County Manager. County Attorney Cuevas advised that one exception was for purposes of public records where a Commissioner could directly make a request for the record from the custodian of the record.

Vice Chairman Diaz reiterated the importance of having access to this information and he would prefer to be able to obtain information concerning the budget from someone in their own domain.

Mayor Alvarez noted he was not opposed to the BCC augmenting the staff of the C A. He further noted he was making a point that through the Charter, his staff was responsible for preparing the County budget and if 50-percent of his staff was transferred, it would be difficult to fulfill this obligation.

Commissioner Souto recommended the Board reconvene as a Committee of the Whole after the budget process to address Charter issues regarding the budget.

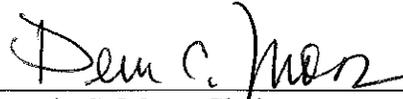
Chairman Moss reiterated that today was not an appropriate time to discuss this issue because the Committee of the Whole members needed to discuss this issue further before taking any action.

Vice Chairman Diaz withdrew the foregoing proposal. He noted that he would meet with the Commission Auditor and present a new item at tomorrow's meeting.

### **Motion to Adjourn**

Chairman Moss asked that the Commissioners turn in their priority list in order to determine the tally.

Hearing no further questions or comments, the meeting was adjourned at 1:23 am.



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Dennis C. Moss, Chairman  
Board of County Commissioners