

MEMORANDUM

GOE

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3(Q)

TO: Honorable Chairperson Barbara Carey-Shuler, Ed.D. **DATE:** April 20, 2004
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Robert A. Ginsburg
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the
County Manager to create a
think tank to analyze
availability of fresh water
from the Biscayne Aquifer

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of
Commissioner Rebeca Sosa.



Robert A. Ginsburg
County Attorney

RAG/bw



MEMORANDUM
(Revised)

TO: Hon. Chairperson Barbara Carey-Shuler, Ed. D. **DATE:** March 2, 2004
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Robert A. Ginsburg **SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No.
County Attorney

Please note any items checked.

- "4-Day Rule" ("3-Day Rule" for committees) applicable if raised**
- 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing**
- 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing**
- Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget**
- Budget required**
- Statement of fiscal impact required**
- Bid waiver requiring County Manager's written recommendation**
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing**
- Housekeeping item (no policy decision required)**
- No committee review**

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No.
3-2-04

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE COUNTY MANAGER TO CREATE A THINK TANK TO ANALYZE AVAILABILITY OF FRESH WATER FROM THE BISCAYNE AQUIFER AND RECOMMEND ACTIONS TO MEET FUTURE FRESH WATER DEMANDS

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) calls for a major reuse plant in Miami-Dade County at the South District Waste Water Treatment Plant; and

WHEREAS, according to the CERP, the reuse water produced by the plant would end up recharging Biscayne Bay; and

WHEREAS, there is opposition expressed by environmentalists for reuse to supply the water needs of the Bay; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of the Interior prefers to receive fresh water from the Biscayne Aquifer to recharge the Bay; and

WHEREAS, the conversion of brackish water or wastewater to fresh potable water is very expensive, costing hundreds of millions of dollars; and

WHEREAS, the computer models of the South Florida Water Management District predict damage to portions of the Everglades ecosystem if pumpages from the wellfields in Miami-Dade County and Broward County are increased significantly to meet future water demands; and

WHEREAS, restricting the use of the Biscayne Aquifer and reliance upon alternative water supplies would cause significant economic hardship to the residents of Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade County WASD will be applying to expand its Water Use Permits for its plants in the year 2004,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board hereby authorizes and directs the County Manager to create a think tank, comprised of stakeholders and community leaders, to analyze the problems existing with the availability of fresh water from the Biscayne Aquifer and recommend to this Board the best course of action for Miami-Dade County to follow to meet future water demands.

The foregoing resolution was sponsored by Commissioner Rebeca Sosa and offered by Commissioner _____, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Dr. Barbara Carey-Shuler, Chairperson

Katy Sorenson, Vice-Chairperson

Bruno A. Barreiro

Betty T. Ferguson

Joe A. Martinez

Dennis C. Moss

Natacha Seijas

Sen. Javier D. Souto

Jose "Pepe" Diaz

Sally A. Heyman

Jimmy L. Morales

Dorrrin D. Rolle

Rebeca Sosa

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 2nd day of March, 2004. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

PST

Peter S. Tell