

# Memorandum



**Date:** September 9, 2004

**To:** Honorable Chairperson Barbara Carey-Shuler, Ed.D.  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**From:**   
George M. Burgess  
County Manager

**Subject:** Agricultural Practices Study Advisory Board: Filling Vacant  
At-Large Position

Agenda Item No. 7(N)(1)(F)

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**This item was amended at the July 20, 2004 Government Operations and Environment Committee to include a ballot.**

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners select one member from the slate of nominees recommended by the County Manager to fill the At-Large seat on the Agricultural Practices Study Advisory Board.

### **Background**

One vacancy currently exists on the Agricultural Practices Study Advisory Board (the Agricultural Board), for the at-large seat, recommended by the Agricultural Board itself. The vacancy is due to the resignation of the present at-large member, Mr. Stephen T. Garrison. Section 2-932, Code of Miami-Dade County, requires that vacancies occurring on the Agricultural Board be filled by the Board of County Commissioners from a slate of nominees selected by the County Manager, through a selection process implemented by the Department of Planning and Zoning. The Agricultural Board has submitted three nominees to fill the new term for the at-large position with a recommendation that Mr. James Humble be selected as the at-large representative.

According to the attached résumés, Mr. Humble graduated from the University of Miami in 1976 and has owned Pita Groves in South Miami-Dade County since 1978. He was Vice President, Chief Executive Officer, and a shareholder of the South Dade Land Corporation that owned 5,000 acres of South Dade farmland from 1987 to 1996. Mr. Humble has served on numerous professional and civic boards and committees. He currently is a member of the Water Resources Advisory Committee to the South Florida Water Management District Governing Board, the Advisory Committee to the Combined Structural Operations Plan for the Modified Water Deliveries project, and the Florida Avocado Administrative Committee, among others.

Mr. Forrest B. Gordon is the owner, president, and chief executive officer of Underwater Specialties, Inc., an underwater inspection and construction firm located in Homestead. He was previously the General Manager of C-Brand Tropical, Inc., located in Goulds, where he was responsible for accounts, collections, purchasing, and overseeing repair and servicing of packing equipment, from 1998 to 2002. He has previously been associated with several underwater and

Honorable Chairperson Barbara Carey-Shuler, Ed.D.  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners  
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above-ground construction firms in Florida and elsewhere. Mr. Gordon purchased Penfor Grove in Homestead, which also serves as his home, in September 1995. Mr. Gordon is a certified professional diver, a diving instructor for the Y.M.C.A., is an honorably-discharged veteran of the United States Air Force, and was a member of the Redland Area Municipal Advisory Committee.

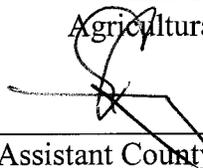
Mr. Sam Accursio Jr. has been president and owner of Sam S. Accursio & Sons Farms, Inc. since 1980. The firm, a grower, packer, and shipper of Southern vegetables primarily recognized for pickles, distributes vegetables along the East Coast from Miami to Portland, Maine, was named in the top 100 growers in the United States for several years running, and employs 250 workers for daily operations during the growing season. Mr. Accursio has worked in farming his entire adult life and has been involved in every aspect of the business including plowing land, planting, spraying, fertilizing, harvesting, packing, and shipping. Mr. Accursio is a member of the Board of Directors for Committee Against Redland Incorporation (CARI), and a former member of the Advisory Board to the First National Bank of South Florida as well as the Board of Directors of the Dade County Farm Bureau.

After reviewing the qualifications of these three nominees and considering the recommendation of the Agricultural Board, I am recommending Mr. Humble for the vacant At-Large position. Attached are the summaries of the qualifications of all candidates.

Attachments (4)

Résumés for James Humble, Forrest Gordon, and Sam Accursio Jr.

Agricultural Board resolution



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Assistant County Manager



# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

**DATE:** September 9, 2004

**FROM:** Robert A. Ginsburg  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 7(N)(1)(F)

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. 7(N)(1)(F)  
9-9-04

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION FILLING A VACANCY ON THE  
AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES STUDY  
ADVISORY BOARD

WHEREAS, Sections 2-931, 2-932 and 2-933 of the Code of Miami-Dade County provide for the creation, composition, terms, purpose, and duties of the Agricultural Practices Study Advisory Board (APSAB); and

WHEREAS, a vacancy on the APSAB has occurred due to resignation of the At-Large representative; and

WHEREAS, Section 2-932 of the Code of Miami-Dade County directs that vacancies on the APSAB are to be filled by the Board of County Commissioners from a slate of nominees selected by the County Manager through a process to be implemented by the Department of Planning and Zoning (DP&Z); and

WHEREAS, the County Manager identifies the following slate of nominees (résumés attached) to the APSAB: James S. Humble, Sam Accursio, Jr. and Forrest B. Gordon,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that \_\_\_\_\_ is hereby appointed to the Agricultural Practices Study Advisory Board as the At-Large representative.

The foregoing resolution was 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	Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Betty T. Ferguson	Sally A. Heyman
Joe A. Martinez	Jimmy L. Morales
Dennis C. Moss	Dorrin D. Rolle
Natacha Seijas	Rebeca Sosa
Sen. Javier D. Souto	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 9<sup>th</sup> day of September, 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.



Craig H. Coller