



MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item 15(C)1

To: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez, and
Members, Board of County Commissioners

Date: February 21, 2012

From: Honorable Harvey Ruvin, Clerk
Circuit and County Courts

Subject: Appointment of Dr. Steven Ritter
to the Environmental Quality Control
Board (EQCB)

Christopher Agrippa, Division Chief
Clerk of the Board Division

It is recommended that the Board consider the appointment of Dr. Steven Ritter to the Environmental Quality Control Board (EQCB). He will be replacing Dr. Robert Pope who desires to resign from the Board.

Chapter 24-7 of the Code of Miami-Dade County provides that members of the EQCB be appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. The Permitting, Environment and Regulatory Affairs Department (PERA) has recommended the appointment of Dr. Ritter to serve on the EQCB.

Attached for your review and information is a copy of Mayor Carlos Gimenez's memorandum, Interim Director Charles Danger's request and the resume of Dr. Steven Ritter.

CA/sm
Attachment

Date: January 26, 2012
To: Honorable Harvey Ruvin
Clerk, Circuit and County Courts
From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor 
Subject: Appointment to the Environmental Quality Control Board by the County Commission

Please find attached one (1) resume for Dr. Steven Ritter for consideration by the Board of County Commissioners (Board) for appointment as a member of the Miami-Dade County Environmental Quality Control Board (EQCB). Members of the EQCB are appointed by the Board pursuant to Sec. 24-8 of the Code of Miami-Dade County (Code).

The EQCB is a quasi-judicial board created by Ordinance No. 69-30 that convenes monthly to hear cases for variances or time extensions from the requirements of the Environmental Protection Ordinance (Chapter 24 of the Code). The membership, terms of office, organization, duties and powers, and procedures which govern the EQCB are set forth in Chapter 24 of the Code.

EQCB member Dr. Robert Pope has given notice of his desire to resign from the EQCB upon appointment of a new board member. Upon Dr. Ritter's appointment, he would replace Dr. Pope.

The five (5) EQCB members serve staggered, three (3) year terms. Due to the highly scientific and technical nature of the matters which the EQCB reviews, Chapter 24 of the Code requires the five (5) members of the EQCB to have advanced scientific or engineering qualifications as follows:

- a) Two (2) members shall possess Ph.D. degrees in biology;
- b) One (1) member shall possess a Ph.D. degree in biochemistry;
- c) Two (2) members shall be professional engineers with experience in the field of sanitary engineering, who may be recommended by the Miami Chapter of the Florida Engineering Society.

Dr. Ritter was awarded a Ph.D. in biology and his resume is attached. He is recommended for appointment of a three (3) year term to the EQCB.

Please schedule his appointment for the County Commission agenda as soon as possible.

- c: Jack Osterholt, Deputy Mayor
Charles Danger, Interim Director, PERA
Lee Hefty, Assistant Director, PERA

Attachments

Date: January 13, 2012
To: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor
From: Charles Danger, P.E., Interim Director
Permitting, Environment and Regulatory Affairs



Subject: Appointment to the Environmental Quality Control Board by the County Commission

Please find attached one (1) resume for the proposed appointment of Dr. Steven Ritter as a member of the Miami-Dade County Environmental Quality Control Board (EQCB). Members of the EQCB are appointed by the Board of County Commissioners pursuant to Sec. 24-8 of the Code of Miami-Dade County (Code).

The EQCB is a quasi-judicial board that primarily hears cases for variances or time extensions to the requirements of the Environmental Protection Ordinance (Chapter 24 of the Code). The membership, terms of office, organization, duties and powers, and procedures which govern the EQCB are set forth in Chapter 24 of the Code.

Further details of this appointment to the EQCB are included in the attached memo for your signature.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

CURRICULUM VITA

Steven Ritter
29NW 105 Street
Miami Shores, FL 33150
305-757-3404

Education

- A.S. Biology, Mercer County Community College, 1977
B.S. Animal Science, Rutgers University, 1980
M.S. Agriculture, Northwest Missouri State University, 1981
M.S. Horticulture, Rutgers University, 1988
Ph.D. Biology, Florida International University, 1997

Work Experience

- 1997-present Instructor, Miami-Dade Community College, Miami, Florida. Design and teach classes in Biology, Microbiology, Anatomy and Physiology, and Environmental Science lecture and laboratory classes.
- 2002-2003 Hillel Community Day School, North Miami Beach, Florida. Teach high school courses with laboratories in biology, AP Environmental Science, Marine Biology, and Honors Anatomy and Physiology. Laboratory coordinator.
- 1998-2000 Instructor, Ozarks Technical Community College, Springfield, Missouri. Design and teach life science, environmental science, and biology lecture and laboratory classes for majors and non-majors. Coordinated 9 adjunct faculty members.
- 1994-1998 Horticultural Consultant, South Florida. Residential and commercial horticultural consulting including pest and plant identification, plant pathology, proper cultural practices and integrated pest management.
- 1993-1997 Teaching Assistant, Florida International University, Miami, Florida. Set-up, teaching, and grading of laboratory classes in Biology, Botany, Human Biology, and Microbiology.
- 1987-1994 Extension Agent, Dade-IFAS Cooperative Extension Service, Homestead, Florida. Urban Horticulture/Commercial Turf. Develop and implement educational programs that are based upon the needs of the community. Prepared and taught classes on subtropical and tropical botany. Coordinated over 50 volunteers and their 1000's of volunteer hours.
- 1986-1987 Quality Control Specialist, Newark, Delaware. United States Department of Agriculture, Federal Crop Insurance Corporation. Training personnel, insurance adjustment spot checks, and public relations.
- 1985-1986 Research Assistant, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J. Department of Horticulture. Field and laboratory work in rootstock evaluation, inking in peaches, pathogen culture and foliar nutrition of fruit trees.
- 1983-1984 Laboratory Technician, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J. Department of Plant Pathology. Controlled atmosphere usage to inhibit the growth of latent and incipient infections in many fruit and vegetable crops. Pathogen isolation and identification performed.
- 1981-1983 Greenhouse Manager, Country Florist and Greenhouse, Inc. Hightstown, N.J. Managing and maintaining a greenhouse operation, advising customers, and maintaining landscape and interior plants at large business establishments.

1981 Soil Conservationist, Soil Conservation Service, Red Oak, Iowa. Work with area farmers to improve the efficiency of their land through technological measures.

Teaching Experience

1. Full-time instructor at Ozarks Technical Community College, Springfield, Missouri. Responsibilities include the setup, design, implementation, ordering supplies, and teaching of life science, environmental science, and general biology courses. Nine adjunct faculty members were in my immediate supervision.
2. Part-time instructor at Miami-Dade Community College and Florida International University, Miami, Florida. Responsibilities include the setup, design, implementation, and teaching of environmental science and general biology courses respectively.
3. Teaching assistant at Florida International University, Miami, Florida. Responsibilities include teaching, laboratory set-up, writing and grading of exams in biology, human biology, horticulture, botany, plant science, and microbiology.
4. Master Gardener instructor and coordinator for the Dade-IFAS Cooperative Service. Responsibilities included recruiting, teaching, and training of 100-120 students yearly. The course covered all aspects of horticulture including botany, entomology, soil science, plant pathology, and all aspects of tropical horticulture.
5. Instructor for the U.S.D.A Federal Crop Insurance Corporation. Trained agency personnel and private adjusters on proper techniques of appraising claims and losses.
6. Teaching assistant at Northwest Missouri State University, Maryville, Missouri in plant science and entomology. Responsibilities included teaching, laboratory set-up, and grading of exams.
7. Guest lecturer for garden clubs and professional organizations in Florida. Topics covered include integrated landscape management, all topics in horticulture, botany, plant pathology, and entomology.
8. Instructor for the Dade and Monroe Counties of Florida turf industry (golf courses, parks, lawn maintenance services) on proper lawn care, mowing, fertilization, watering, small engine repair, maintenance and safety.
9. Hosted the Florida Education Channel television series "Backyard Gardening" and "Question the Extension". They were one-hour live call-in horticultural shows where viewers could call in and get their horticultural questions answered on the air.
10. Hosted a series of horticultural self-help instructional videotapes. Topics covered included pruning, vegetable gardening, pathology, entomology, botany, and many other horticultural topics.
11. Hosted an early morning 3 hour radio series on WIOD. It was a live call-in talk show where listeners would call in and get their horticultural questions answered on the air.
12. Trainer for Restricted Use Pesticide Applicators for Dade and Monroe Counties in Florida. Over 1400 people were trained and tested with a success rate of over 90%.
13. Conducted several all day workshops for the Dade County Florida Parks Department, Department of Transportation, U.S. Forestry Department, and Everglades National Parks Employees on tropical and subtropical botany and horticulture.
14. Wrote a weekly question and answer horticulture column for the Sunday edition of "The Miami Herald" newspaper. Circulation exceeds 5000 readers, worldwide.
15. Missouri great teacher award. Granted a 1-week seminar for excellence in teaching.

Awards

1. Graduate assistantships at Florida International University, Northwest Missouri State University and Rutgers University in teaching and research.
2. A scholarship to attend the University of Florida International Programs Spanish Institute. A 1-month intensive Spanish course designed to familiarize the student with Spanish language and customs.
3. A \$4,000 grant from the South Florida Water Management District to aid in the establishment of a learning center in Dade County Florida.
4. A yearly \$500 grant from the Horticulture Study Society toward graduate education.
5. A \$14,000 grant from the U.S. Forestry Department to be used to purchase CD ROM computers for use by the Dade County Florida Master Gardener program.
6. A \$49,760 award from F.F.M.A. to reestablish the landscape learning center at the Dade IFAS Cooperative Extension Service.
7. Miami-Dade County distinguished service award for exemplary service in the months following Hurricane Andrew.

Professional Publications

1. Dooryard Carambola Survey
Proc. Interim. Soc. Trop. Hort. 33:100-107.
2. Salinity and Seedling Emergence of Carambola, Key Lime, Papaya, and Passionfruit
Proc. Interim. Soc. Trop. Hort. 34:153-158
3. Dooryard Fruit Crop Survey
Proc. Interim. Soc. Trop. Hort. 35: 98-102
4. Seasonal Variation in the Successful Propagation of *Spondias purpurea* Hardwood Cuttings
Proc. Interim. Soc. Trop. Hort. 37:136-137
5. Life Sciences Laboratory Manual.
McGraw Hill Publishing Company. August 1999.

University of Florida Publications

1. Flowering Ornamentals of South Florida, 1988
2. Fruiting and Flowering Dates of Tropical Fruits, 1988
3. Timely Garden Tips: Turf and Ornamentals, 1989
4. Timely Garden Tips: Fruit and Vegetables, 1989
5. Timely Garden Tips: Houseplants, 1989

References

Dr. Frank Shepard Ozarks Tech. Community College, Springfield, MO 65802 (417)895-7080
Marianne Crocker Ozarks Tech. Community College, Springfield, MO 65802 (417)895-7005
Dr. Mary Lamberts Dade Co. Coop. Extension Service, Homestead, FL 33033 (305)248-3311
Dr. Gale Lang Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL 33431 (954)981-9874
Lucy Spence, Miami-Dade College, Miami, FL 33167 (304)237-1475