

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(30)


TO: Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: January 21, 2015

FROM: R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution urging Congress to
approve President Barack
Obama's grant proposal of \$75
million over the span of three
years to match state and local
funding for police officer body-
worn cameras

The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Chairman Jean Monestime and Co-Sponsor Commissioner Sally A. Heyman.



R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

RAC/jls



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Jean Monestime
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: January 21, 2015

FROM: 
R. A. Cuevas, Jr.
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(30)

Please note any items checked.

- "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
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- No committee review
- Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's ____, 3/5's ____, unanimous ____) to approve
- Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(30)
1-21-15

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO APPROVE
PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA'S GRANT PROPOSAL OF
\$75 MILLION OVER THE SPAN OF THREE YEARS TO
MATCH STATE AND LOCAL FUNDING FOR POLICE
OFFICER BODY-WORN CAMERAS

WHEREAS, 76 percent of Americans believe that police officers should be required to wear body cameras, according to a 2014 NBC Marist Poll; and

WHEREAS, an increasing number of police departments have adopted the requirement that its police officers wear body cameras, according to a 2014 report by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, United States Department of Justice ("DOJ report"); and

WHEREAS, some police chiefs report that police officer body-worn cameras help build and improve positive police-community relationships, according to the DOJ report; and

WHEREAS, such relationships improve because police officer body-worn cameras help defuse tensions during police officer encounters with the public, according to the DOJ report; and

WHEREAS, police officers wearing body cameras had a 60 percent reduction in use of force incidents, according to a 2013 study of the Rialto, California Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the Rialto study reported that police officers not wearing body cameras experienced twice as many use of force incidents; and

WHEREAS, according to the DOJ report, police officer body-worn cameras greatly benefit police officers by shielding them from unfounded citizen complaints; and

WHEREAS, police officers wearing body cameras experienced an 88 percent decline in the total number of complaints, according to the Rialto study; and

WHEREAS, a 2013 study of the Mesa, Arizona Police Department also reported a decline in complaints, with 40 percent fewer complaints for police officers wearing body cameras; and

WHEREAS, police officers not wearing body cameras experienced nearly three times more complaints than police officers wearing body cameras, according to the Mesa study; and

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama announced a grant proposal of \$263 million for police training and police officer body-worn cameras; and

WHEREAS, within the \$263 million grant proposal, a total of \$75 million over the span of three years would be used for police officer body-worn cameras, helping pay for more than 50,000 body cameras; and

WHEREAS, the \$75 million funding would provide a 50 percent match to state and local law enforcement agencies that purchase police officer body-worn cameras; and

WHEREAS, this Board's Fiscal Year 2014-15 budget includes \$1 million for the purchase of police officer body-worn cameras for use by Miami-Dade County police officers; and

WHEREAS, the implementation and use of police officer body-worn cameras has been delayed until the Miami-Dade County Mayor provides a report on the benefits and concerns associated with such cameras; and

WHEREAS, concern over the relationship between police and minority communities has led to recent discussions of the advantages and disadvantages of police officer body-worn cameras; and

WHEREAS, President Obama held a series of meetings with law enforcement personnel, civil rights leaders and Cabinet members to discuss methods of improving the relationship between police and minority communities; and

WHEREAS, the funding of police officer body-worn cameras is an effective method of improving such relationships, not only for the public, but also for law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, Congress should approve President Obama's grant proposal for police officer body-worn cameras,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board:

Section 1. Urges Congress to approve President Barack Obama's grant proposal of \$75 million over the span of three years to match state and local funding for police officer body-worn cameras.

Section 2. Directs the Clerk of the Board to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to members of the Florida Congressional Delegation.

Section 3. Directs the County's federal lobbyists to advocate for the legislative action set forth in Section 1 above, and authorizes and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to amend the 2015 Federal Legislative Package to include this item.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Chairman Jean Monestime and the Co-Sponsor is Commissioner Sally A. Heyman. It 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:

Jean Monestime, Chairman
Esteban L. Bovo, Jr., Vice Chairman

Bruno A. Barreiro	Daniella Levine Cava
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	Audrey M. Edmonson
Sally A. Heyman	Barbara J. Jordan
Dennis C. Moss	Rebeca Sosa
Sen. Javier D. Souto	Xavier L. Suarez
Juan C. Zapata	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 21st day of January, 2015. This resolution shall become effective upon the earlier of (1) 10 days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the County Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board, or (2) approval by the County Mayor of this Resolution and the filing of this approval with the Clerk of the 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.

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