MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
FINAL OFFICIAL MINUTES
Health and Public Safety Committee

Board of County Commissioners
Stephen P. Clark Government Center
Commission Chambers
111 NW 1st Street
Miami, Florida 33128

Thursday, August 23, 2007
As Advertised

Harvey Ruvin, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners

Kay Madry Sullivan, Director
Clerk of the Board Division

Scott Rappleye, Commission Reporter
(305) 375-5108

Stephen P. Clark
Government Center
111 N.W. 1st Street
Miami, FL 33128

FINAL OFFICIAL

Meeting Minutes

Health and Public Safety Committee

Dennis C. Moss (9) Chair; Rebeca Sosa (6) Vice Chair; Commissioners Jose "Pepe" Diaz (12), Carlos A. Gimenez (7), Sally A. Heyman (4), and Javier D. Souto (10)

Budget Workshop

Thursday, August 23, 2007 | **2:00 PM** | **COMMISSION CHAMBERS**

Members Present: Carlos A. Gimenez, Dennis C. Moss, Rebeca Sosa, Javier D. Souto.

Members Absent: Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Sally A. Heyman.

Members Late: None.

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent County Business: None.

1 MINUTES PREPARED BY

Report: *Scott Rappleye, Commission Reporter, (305) 375-5108*

1A INVOCATION

Report: *Chairman Moss called the meeting to order at 2:21 pm. He explained that the Committee would vote to set the budget priorities for each department within its jurisdiction following presentations from the Commission Auditor and Department directors.*

1B PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1C ROLL CALL

Report: *The following staff was present: Assistant County Manager Alina Hudak; Assistant County Attorneys Valda Clark Christian and Jess McCarty; and Deputy Clerk Scott Rappleye.*

2 REPORTS

2A

072456 **Report**

DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET PRESENTATIONS: ***Presented***

1) CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITION
2) MIAMI-DADE POLICE
3) MIAMI-DADE FIRE RESCUE
4) JUVENILE SERVICES
5) MEDICAL EXAMINER
6) PUBLIC HEALTH TRUST
7) EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/HOMELAND SECURITY
8) ANIMAL SERVICES
9) OFFICE OF COUNTYWIDE HEALTHCARE PLANNING
10) INSPECTOR GENERAL
11) INDEPENDENT REVIEW PANEL
12) COMMISSION OF ETHICS AND PUBLIC TRUST

Report: *The following Departmental Budget Presentations were presented:*

1) Corrections and Rehabilitation

Mr. Charles Anderson, Commission Auditor, provided a brief overview of the Corrections and Rehabilitation Department's proposed budget for fiscal year (FY) 2007-08; followed by a presentation by Mr. Tim Ryan, Director, Corrections and Rehabilitation Department.

Discussion ensued regarding Commissioner Sosa's question concerning the long term vacant positions (LTVP) in the Corrections and Rehabilitation Department.

Commissioner Sosa suggested that the LTVP be eliminated from the budget to provide the necessary funding for Boot Camp. She spoke in support of the Mayor and County Manager identifying ways to lower Boot Camp costs. She noted the Boot Camp was the only alternative to help young inmates become productive citizens.

Following further discussion regarding the County providing funding for Boot Camp and the Corrections Department's overtime budget, Commissioner Sosa asked Mr. Ryan to identify ways to reduce the proposed overtime expense in the Corrections Department budget from $29 million to $24 million and to prepare a report for the County Commission of his findings.

In response to Commissioner Sosa's question

regarding reducing overtime pay by 50 percent, Mr. Ryan noted the department could reduce overtime in the following ways:
• by working with the Courts to issue an administrative order that would enable the County to place more people in pre-trial services;
• by working with the Courts to convert the work weekender program into a community service program;
• by working with the State Attorney's Office to process complaints more efficiently;
• by working with local law enforcement to increase the use of failure to appear citation notices; and
• by working with the community to develop a reentry program.

Discussion ensued regarding the proposed budget increase for the Corrections Department and the proposed budget increase for Employee Services.

Responding to Commissioner Gimenez's concern regarding the $1.95 cost per meal for inmates, Ms. Nancy Vinock, Assistant Director, Corrections Department, noted that the County was conducting a survey that compared the County's cost per meal with other correctional departments. She stated that the County was updating the Memorandum of Understanding with Food Services and that the County was considering other options.

Following further discussion between Commissioner Souto and Mr. Ryan regarding the cost of food services, Commissioner Souto questioned the Boot Camp program population.

Ms. Marydell Guevara, Deputy Director, Corrections Department, explained that the population was approximately 170; and that the program serviced approximately 200 inmates yearly.

Commissioner Souto asked Assistant County Manager Alina Hudak to provide a report regarding the change in the County's population change from 1995 to 2007. He expressed concern regarding the County population increasing and the Boot Camp population not increasing.

Commissioner Gimenez asked Mr. Ryan to prepare a report indicating the inventory of light fleet and take-home cars in the Corrections Department and the amount of funds the Corrections Department transferred to the General Services Administration for each car.

Following discussion regarding the availability of General Obligation Bond funding for the Correction Department's capital expenditures, Commissioner Gimenez asked Ms. Jennifer Glazer-Moon, Budget Director, Office of Strategic Business Management, to provide a report regarding the possibility of using Revenue Bonds to fund the Corrections Department's projects listed on handwritten page 8 of the Departmental Budget Presentations.

Following discussion between Chairman Moss and Mr. Ryan regarding the recidivism rate of Boot Camp participants and the average annual cost per participant, Chairman Moss asked Committee members to discuss their priorities that were excluded from the County Manager's proposed budget and possible funding sources.

It was moved by Commissioner Sosa that the Corrections Department Boot Camp program be set as a budget priority. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Gimenez, and upon being put to a vote, passed 4-0 (Commissioners Diaz and Heyman were absent).

It was moved by Commissioner Sosa that funding the Corrections Department Boot Camp be set as a budget priority; that the County Administration be allowed to identify and present funding sources for Committee approval, including to reduce overtime pay and the number of correctional sergeants and officers to be hired. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Souto, and upon being put to a vote, passed 4-0 (Commissioners Diaz and Heyman were absent).

Commissioner Gimenez asked Assistant County Manager Alina Hudak to provide a report regarding what the General Services Administration charged County departments annually for a County vehicle, including the basic charge per car and the usage charges, and what services were covered by each charge.

Commissioner Gimenez asked Mr. Charles Anderson, Commission Auditor, to prepare a report on the budget priorities, including the cost/savings realized by each priority. He also asked Mr. Anderson to include this information in the memorandum outlining the Committee's budget priorities that would be forwarded to Chairman Barreiro and the Budget Conference Committee.

Discussion ensued regarding the potential impact of Commissioner Gimenez's proposal to reduce the Corrections Department Administration by 15 percent, and that those savings be reinvested into additional resources for Inmate Custody Control and Inmate Intake Classifications.

Chairman Moss asked Mr. Ryan to provide a report concerning the impact of Commissioner Gimenez's proposal.

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that reducing the Corrections Department Administration by 15 percent and reinvesting that $3 million savings into additional resources for Inmate Custody Control and Inmate Intake Classifications be set as a budget priority; and to instruct the County Administration to minimize layoffs to the greatest extent possible through attrition and retraining employees to fill essential positions currently vacant, and that future vacancies should be evaluated for retraining opportunities. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Souto, and upon being put to a vote, failed to carry by a vote of 2-2 (Chairman Moss and Commissioner Sosa voted "no") (Commissioners Diaz and Heyman were absent).

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that reducing the Corrections Department's light fleet by 10 percent be set as a budget priority; that the funds saved from this priority be considered as savings; and that this reduction should not include hybrid vehicles. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Souto, and upon being put to a vote, passed 4-0 (Commissioners Diaz and Heyman were absent).

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that identifying other revenue sources such as General Obligation Bonds or available Revenue Bonds, to provide the $11.185 million for the projects listed on handwritten page 8, PS1-1, be set as a budget priority. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Souto, and upon being put to a vote, passed 4-0 (Commissioners Diaz and Heyman were absent).

Commissioner Sosa expressed concern regarding Commissioner Gimenez's suggestion that the County privatize food services for the Corrections Department. She noted that food service provided an opportunity for the Corrections Department to rehabilitate inmates.

Following further discussion regarding the County's responsibility to ensure the safety of inmates and the outcome of the last attempt to privatize food services, Commissioner Gimenez asked Mr. Ryan to evaluate the Corrections Department's use of County employees to provide food services and determine whether adjustments could be made to ensure the use of County employees was more cost effective than privatizing food services.

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that reducing the proposed food services funding from $17.809 million to $16.494 million be set as a budget priority; and that the County Administration evaluate alternative, cost effective methods for providing food services, including methods that would allow County staff to continue providing this service. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Souto, and upon being put to a vote, passed 4-0 (Commissioners Diaz and Heyman were absent).

2) Miami-Dade Police

Mr. Charles Anderson, Commission Auditor, provided a brief overview of the Police Department's proposed budget for FY 2007-08, followed by a presentation by Mr. J. D. Patterson, Jr., Assistant Director, Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD).

Commissioner Sosa expressed concern regarding the proposal to reduce the total positions in Police Services and to increase the Police Administration budget. She questioned whether or not the funding for Enhance Enforcement Initiatives (EEI) was being cut.

In response to the explanation from Ms. Jennifer Glazer-Moon, Budget Director, Office of Strategic Business Management, that EEIs were funded by overtime pay. Commissioner Sosa asked Ms. Glazer-Moon and the MDPD Director to prepare a report regarding possible funding methods for police patrolling and Enhance Enforcement Initiatives with regular hourly pay.

Chairman Moss asked the MDPD Director to provide a report regarding how MDPD resources could be reallocated to fund community policing programs and to ensure their effectiveness.

Commissioner Souto asked the MDPD Director to

provide a report regarding the progress on the 2006-07 budget line items for community policing at Westchester, Winston Park, and Fountainbleu. He expressed concern regarding the increased graffiti and vandalism and the lack of police presence.

Following discussion between Commissioner Souto and Mr. Oscar Vigoa, Assistant Director, MDPD, regarding the department's use of horse patrols, Commissioner Souto asked the MDPD Director to increase the visibility of police officers by increasing the number of officers on horses and bicycles.

Discussion ensued between Commissioner Gimenez and Mr. Patterson regarding the classification of Police employees.

Responding to Commissioner Gimenez's inquiry regarding the number of police officers patrolling the street at that moment, Mr. Patterson estimated that approximately 400-500 police were patrolling the streets.

Commissioner Gimenez asked the MDPD Director to provide a report regarding the number of police officers patrolling the streets at any one time.

Following discussion regarding Law Enforcement Trust Funds (LETF) accounting for the large increase in department reserves, Commissioner Gimenez questioned how many vehicles were in MDPD's fleet.

Ms. Joy Stewart, Fiscal and Planning Bureau, MDPD, noted that MDPD had 3,886 vehicles (2147 marked vehicles, 1263 unmarked vehicles, 338 rentals, and 138 miscellaneous vehicles). She explained that MDPD utilized General Services Administration (GSA) shops one through three; and had shops located at all district stations operated by GSA. Ms. Stewart noted that MDPD provided their own loaner vehicles, and had approximately 10-12 loaner vehicles at each GSA repair location. She stated that MDPD had 194 spare vehicles.

Following further discussion, it was moved by Commissioner Sosa that community policing and EEI's be set as a budget priority. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Souto, and upon being put to a vote, passed 4-0 (Commissioners Diaz and Heyman were absent).

In response to Commissioner Gimenez's inquiries regarding the 200 County police officers who provided service to Doral and Miami Gardens, Mr. Patterson explained that MDPD would provide for their return through normal attrition and reducing the number of new officers.

Commissioner Souto asked the MDPD Director to provide a report on the police patrol officers per capita for the County compared to the per capita for Chicago, New York City, and other large communities in the Country.

Commissioner Gimenez clarified he defined administrative costs as the following: "All managerial and support personnel and costs that are not directly involved with delivering services to our citizens."

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that reducing MDPD's administrative costs by $5 million, redistributing those funds to Police Services, and assigning additional officers to patrol the street be set as a budget priority; and to instruct the County Administration to minimize layoffs to the greatest extent possible through attrition and retraining employees to fill essential positions currently vacant, and that future vacancies should be evaluated for retraining opportunities. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Souto.

Following further discussion regarding the existing vacant positions in the Police Department, the Committee proceeded to vote, and the foregoing motion failed to carry by a vote of 2-2 (Chairman Moss and Commissioner Sosa voted "no") (Commissioners Diaz and Heyman were absent).

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that reducing the Police Department's non-contractual vehicles by 10 percent be set as a budget priority; that the funds saved from this priority be considered as savings; and that this reduction should not include hybrid vehicles. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Souto, and upon being put to a vote, passed 4-0 (Commissioners Diaz and Heyman were absent).

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that reducing the "Other Operating" line item under Operating Expenditures Summary by $5 million and directing the Police Department to compensate for that reduction with Reserve funds

be set as a budget priority.

Mr. Alex Alfonso, Police Lieutenant, Police Department, apprised the Committee on the restricted uses of the LETF. He stated that the LETF accounted for the majority of the Reserve funds.

Commissioner Sosa asked the MDPD Director to submit a request to the Committee in charge of the LETF to use LETF for EEIs and to provide a report to the County Commission of the Committee in charge of LETF's decision.

Commissioner Gimenez amended his motion to reduce overtime spending by $5 million and that MDPD replenish those funds, if desired, from the Reserve funds.

Ms. Glazer-Moon noted she would prepare a report clarifying the permitted and prohibited uses of LETF.

Following further discussion, Commissioner Gimenez withdrew his motion.

Pursuant to Commissioner Souto's recommendation, Chairman Moss noted this Committee, at a future meeting, would discuss regular reporting parameters for each department under its jurisdiction.

Discussion ensued regarding possible funding sources for community policing and EEI's.

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that directing the Police Department to identify $5 million for administrative and support functions, and that those funds be reallocated to patrol and community policing enhancement be set as a budget priority. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Souto.

In response to Commissioner Sosa's concern regarding the legality of the foregoing motion, Assistant County Attorney Jess McCarty advised that he thought the motion concerned funding and functions within the Police Department, and was within the County Commission's purview.

Discussion ensued regarding how MDPD personnel who provided contracted service to Doral and Miami Gardens would be absorbed into departmental vacancies.

Commissioner Gimenez asked Ms. Glazer-Moon to provide a detailed report regarding the number of additional County police officers that would provide service to municipalities as part of the enhanced municipality service contracts.

Ms. Glazer-Moon noted she would provide Commissioner Gimenez a detailed report concerning the contract expenses for each of the five (5) municipality police service contracts; and would justify the reported $57 million of projected revenue from these contracts.

Commissioner Sosa asked the MDPD Director to provide a report clarifying whether the number of additional Investigated Services positions being proposed was 20 or eight (8) (six (6) financial investigators and two (2) victim services) for fiscal year 2007-08.

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that reallocating $5 million from the Police Department's administrative costs to police services be set as a budget priority. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Souto, and upon being put to a vote, failed to carry by a vote of 2-2 (Chairman Moss and Commissioner Sosa voted "no") (Commissioners Diaz and Heyman were absent).

3) Miami-Dade Fire Rescue

Commissioner Sosa questioned what changes were proposed regarding Fire Rescue's positions, carryover, and reserves.

Mr. Herminio Lorenzo, Fire Chief, Fire Rescue Department, noted the total proposed personnel for fiscal year 2007-08 was 2,555 employees, including 2,028 sworn firefighters (1,980 were assigned to the field, and 48 were command and administrative positions).

In response to Commissioner Sosa's question regarding how overtime expenses could be reduced, Mr. Lorenzo noted that overtime was caused by vacancies in a rank and by the specialty units.

Responding to Commissioner Sosa's concern regarding the increase in carryover revenue, Mr. Lorenzo explained that it was a cautionary measure to ensure the Fire Rescue Department could continue to provide the same service level in future years.

Discussion ensued regarding the use of carryover and reserve funds.

Following further discussion regarding the use of pre-hired employees to provide transportation services, Commissioner Gimenez expressed concern regarding the $13 million increase in fees per service revenue.

Mr. Lorenzo noted the $13 million increase would result from 14 new transport service units.

Following further discussion between Commissioner Gimenez and Mr. Lorenzo concerning transport services, Commissioner Gimenez questioned the size of the Fire Rescue Department's light fleet.

Mr. Lorenzo noted the light fleet was 437 vehicles.

Discussion ensued regarding Commissioner Gimenez's concern regarding the different Employee Overtime projections from the Commission Auditor and the County Administration.

Mr. Lorenzo noted he would meet with the Commission Auditor to address Commissioners Gimenez and Sosa's concern regarding Employee Overtime spending, and to reconcile any differences between the Commission Auditor's figures and the County Administration's figures.

Chairman Moss noted he thought the Fire Rescue Administration should identify additional efficiencies and prepare for future operational needs.

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that creating an additional rescue unit with 13 sworn Fire Rescue employees in administrative or support positions be set as a budget priority. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Souto, and upon being put to a vote, failed to carry by a vote of 2-2 (Chairman Moss and Commissioner Sosa voted "no") (Commissioners Diaz and Heyman were absent).

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that reducing the Fire Rescue Department's light fleet by 10 percent be set as a budget priority; that the funds saved from this priority be considered savings; and that this reduction should not include hybrid vehicles. This motion was seconded by

Commissioner Souto, and upon being put to a vote, passed 4-0 (Commissioners Diaz and Heyman were absent).

4) Juvenile Services

Commissioner Sosa expressed concern regarding the 364 percent increase in Juvenile Services' reserve funds.

Ms. Wansley Walters, Director, Juvenile Assessment Center, explained the carryover increase resulted from the merger of Teen Court into Juvenile Services.

In response to Commissioner Sosa's inquiry regarding overtime, Ms. Walters noted Juvenile Services used overtime 1) to fill vacancies, 2) to provide training, and 3) to provide safety and efficient processing during peaks in incarceration.

10) Inspector General

It was moved by Commissioner Sosa that no budget reductions to the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) and the Commission on Ethics and Public Trust, including the proposal to transfer from the OIG the funding for three positions that were added in fiscal year 2006-07 to Audit and Management Services, be set as a budget priority. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Souto, and upon being put to a vote, passed 4-0 (Commissioners Diaz and Heyman were absent).

11) Independent Review Panel

Commissioner Sosa asked Assistant County Attorney Jess McCarty to provide a legal opinion regarding the impact of House Bill 123 on the Independent Review Panel; and whether or not any budget reductions would be necessary due to a lighter work load.

12) Commission on Ethics and Public Trust

See Report Under Departmental Budget Presentation 10) Inspector General.

Chairman Moss noted the Committee would schedule another meeting during the week of August 27-31, 2007, to hear the presentations from the other departments.

3 ADJOURNMENT

Dennis C. Moss, Chair