



**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
FINAL OFFICIAL MINUTES
Health and Public Safety Committee (HPSC)**

Board of County Commissioners

Stephen P. Clark Center
Commission Chambers
111 N.W. First Street
Miami, Florida 33128

April 17, 2008
As Advertised

Harvey Ruvlin, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners

Kay Sullivan, Director
Clerk of the Board Division

Mary Smith-York, Commission Reporter
(305) 375-1598





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

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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)

Thursday, April 17, 2008

2:00 PM

COMMISSION CHAMBERS, SPCC

Members Present: Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Carlos A. Gimenez, Sally A. Heyman, Dennis C. Moss, Rebeca Sosa, Javier D. Souto.

Members Absent: None.

Members Late: None.

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent County Business: None.

1 MINUTES PREPARED BY:

Report: *Mary Smith-York, Commission Reporter*
(305) 375-1598

1A INVOCATION

1B PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1C **ROLL CALL**

Report: *The following staff members were present:
Assistant County Manager Alina Hudak, Assistant
County Attorney Valda Clark Christian, and
Deputy Clerks Jovel Shaw and Mary Smith-York.*

*Chairman Moss called the meeting to order and
following his remarks welcoming Committee
members, staff, and everyone in attendance, he
established the order of today's meeting.*

*Assistant County Attorney Clark Christian read
into the record the requested changes to today's
agenda from the County Manager's Memorandum
entitled "Requested Changes to the Health and
Public Safety Committee Agenda," as follows:*

*Additions: Items 1D1, 3I, 3J, 7B, 7C, and 8A1;
and*

Withdrawals: Items 3E and 3G.

*It was moved by Commissioner Heyman that
today's agenda be accepted with the changes
requested by the County Manager as noted by
Assistant County Attorney Clark Christian. This
motion was seconded by Chairman Moss, and
upon being put to a vote, passed by a unanimous
vote of those members present.*

1D **CITIZEN'S PRESENTATION(S)**

1D1

081187 Citizen's

CITIZEN'S PRESENTATION: MR. MANNY GOMEZ;
CONCERNS FOR JACKSON MEMORIAL
REHABILITATION CENTER

Presented

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Clark Christian introduced the foregoing citizen presentation into the record.*

Mr. Manny Gomez, retired Police Officer, appeared before the Committee and noted his concerns regarding the Jackson Memorial Rehabilitation Center. He referenced a letter he wrote regarding problems at the center and highlighted the following issues:

- Insufficient or non-existent linen supply for patients' rooms;*
- Credit card usage by employees to purchase equipment;*
- Litter and graffiti in elevators;*
- Lack of onsite elevator maintenance personnel;*
- Lack of proper security;*
- Shortage of therapists;*
- Transportation needed; and*
- Lack of maintenance throughout the facility, including bathrooms.*

Mr. Gomez noted he would address his concerns before the full Commission prior to meeting with the President of Jackson Health Systems. He displayed a container allegedly given him by an anonymous person from the clinic, and expressed concern with possible exposure to toxic substances. Mr. Gomez attributed the current state of the JHRC to lack of funds and low morale. Following additional comments on less than favorable conditions at the center, he asked what the Commissioners would do about it.

Commissioner Heyman thanked Mr. Gomez for his presentation and noted several Committee members had prioritized the reconstruction of a new Rehabilitation Center at Jackson. She concurred with Mr. Gomez that conditions at Jackson were problematic and noted some issues were being addressed through recent legislation authorizing the Public Health Trust Foundation to raise services and funds as an outside money source, which included support services for the Rehabilitation Center. She pointed out that 77 percent of Jackson's budget was charitable care.

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Commissioner Sosa referenced her visits to Jackson Hospital made while serving as Chair of the Public Safety Committee, and noted numerous problematic areas that needed attention. She stated many of those problems were corrected, including opening a wing within 24 hours of becoming aware of the issue. Commissioner Sosa recommended Mr. Gomez communicate his concerns to the members of the Public Health Trust, since the Commission had no jurisdiction over the daily operations at the center.

2 COUNTY COMMISSION

2A

080272 Ordinance

Rebeca Sosa,

Dennis C. Moss, Carlos A. Gimenez

ORDINANCE RELATING TO COUNTY BOARDS;
AMENDING SECTION 2-11.39.2 OF THE CODE OF
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, BY DELETING
PROVISIONS WHICH PROVIDE THAT THE
COMMISSION MAY BY RESOLUTION EXEMPT
DESIGNATED COUNTY BOARDS FROM THE
PROVISIONS OF THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND
CODE OF ETHICS ORDINANCE; PROVIDING
SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN
EFFECTIVE DATE

*Forwarded to BCC with a favorable
recommendation*

Mover: Sosa

Seconder: Diaz

Vote: 6-0

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Clark Christian read
the foregoing ordinance into the record.*

*Chairman Moss opened the public hearing and the
following individual(s) appeared in support:*

- 1) Mr. Brian Mulheren, 10245 Collins Avenue,
Bal Harbour;*
- 2) Ms. Lynne Bloch-Mullen, 10150 Collins
Avenue, Bal Harbour; and*
- 3) Mr. Neil Alter, 9801 Collins Avenue, Bal
Harbour.*

*There being no other individuals to appear, the
public hearing was closed.*

*Commissioner Sosa provided a brief overview of
the purpose of the foregoing ordinance to amend
the code to apply the "Code of Ethics Ordinance"
to all County Boards, including the 19 Boards
whose members were exempt by resolution from
the application of Conflict of Interest and Code of
Ethics.*

*Commissioner Diaz spoke in support of this
ordinance and noted his research found that many
County Boards were exempt from the Sunshine
Laws. He advised that he would prepare a
recommendation to eliminate all unnecessary
Boards in the County and asked to be listed as a
co-sponsor of this ordinance.*

*Commissioner Heyman expressed her
appreciation to those citizens present today from
Bal Harbour and noted she believed public
officials should be held to a higher standard. She
expressed concern with handwritten page 5 stating
that this applied specifically to County Boards,
and read into the record the following excerpt*

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from Section 2-11.1 of the Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Ordinance: "...the conduct and behavior of all municipal officials, autonomous personnel, quasi judicial personnel, advisory personnel, departmental personnel, and employees of municipalities in the County, insofar as their relationships with their own municipal governments are concerned..." Commissioner Heyman emphasized there was existing code to address conflicts within municipalities.

Chairman Moss and Commissioner Diaz asked to be listed as co-sponsors of this ordinance.

There being no further questions or comments, the Committee proceeded to vote.

3 DEPARTMENT

3A

080987 Resolution

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH URS CORPORATION, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,260,012.00, FOR THE PRE-TRIAL DETENTION CENTER RENOVATION AND EXPANSION PROJECT; AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXERCISE ANY AND ALL OTHER RIGHTS CONFERRED THEREIN (General Services Administration Department)

Forwarded to BCC with a favorable recommendation

Mover: Heyman

Seconder: Gimenez

Vote: 6-0

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Clark Christian read the foregoing resolution into the record.*

There being no discussion, the Committee proceeded to vote.

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3B

081117 Resolution

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COUNTY MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH 2C MEDIA, INC. FOR THE PRODUCTION OF A BROADCAST "PITCH REEL" AND "PILOT EPISODE" BASED ON THE OPERATION OF MIAMI-DADE FIRE RESCUE FIRE BOATS, AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MAYOR TO EXERCISE ANY AND ALL OTHER RIGHTS CONFERRED THEREIN (Miami-Dade Fire and Rescue Department)

Forwarded to BCC with a favorable recommendation

Mover: Souto

Seconder: Heyman

Vote: 6-0

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Clark Christian read the foregoing resolution into the record.*

There being no discussion, the Committee proceeded to vote.

3C

081118 Change Orders

CHANGE ORDER FOR TRAIL FIRE RESCUE STATION NO. 61 – PROJECT NO: DB04-FIRE-01; CONTRACT NO: MDFR-DB-09 WITH PINO KAوبا & ASSOCIATES, INC. (Miami-Dade Fire and Rescue Department)

Forwarded to BCC with a favorable recommendation

Mover: Souto

Seconder: Sosa

Vote: 6-0

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Clark Christian read the foregoing change order into the record.*

In response to Commissioner Diaz' inquiry of whether this was a final change order, Chief Herminio Lorenzo, Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Department, advised that this change order related to time only. He pointed out that there was no money involved in this change order.

There being no additional questions or comments, the Committee proceeded to vote.

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3D

081119 Resolution

RESOLUTION APPROVING IMPLEMENTING ORDER 2-8 ESTABLISHING EXPEDITED PROCESS FOR DISPOSITION OF ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF ETHICAL CAMPAIGN PRACTICES ORDINANCE (Commission on Ethics)

Forwarded to BCC with a favorable recommendation

Mover: Sosa

Seconder: Gimenez

Vote: 6-0

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Clark Christian read the foregoing resolution into the record.*

There being no discussion, the Committee proceeded to vote.

3E

081120 Resolution

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC HEALTH TRUST TO DEMOLISH THE URGENT CARE CENTER BUILDING IN ORDER TO CLEAR THE LAND FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW BED TOWER IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE APPROVED JACKSON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL FACILITIES MASTER PLAN (Public Health Trust)

Withdrawn

Mover: Heyman

Seconder: Moss

Vote: 4-0

Absent: Souto, Diaz

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Clark Christian read the foregoing resolution into the record.*

There being no discussion, the Committee proceeded to vote.

3F

081121 Resolution

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC HEALTH TRUST TO DEMOLISH PROPERTY DESCRIBED AS TWO ABANDONED RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS AND ONE STORAGE SHED LOCATED AT 20201 N.W. 37TH AVENUE, WITHIN THE JACKSON NORTH COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER PROPERTY (Public Health Trust)

Forwarded to BCC with a favorable recommendation

Mover: Gimenez

Seconder: Heyman

Vote: 6-0

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Clark Christian read the foregoing resolution into the record.*

It was moved by Commissioner Gimenez that the foregoing proposed resolution be forwarded to the BCC with a favorable recommendation. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Heyman, followed by discussion.

In response to Commissioner Diaz' inquiry, Mr. Doug Maddox, Director Capital Projects, Jackson Memorial Hospital (JMH), explained the intent of this resolution was to demolish two single-story structures that existed on the Jackson North Community Health Center property. He advised three structures on this property when purchased by the Public Health Trust in 2003; were not being utilized; and currently represented health hazards.

Commissioner Sosa pointed out that these structures had been abandoned for the past six (6) years.

There being no further questions or comments, the Committee proceeded to vote.

3G

081122 Resolution

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC HEALTH TRUST TO DEMOLISH THE MEMORIAL HALL BUILDING IN ORDER TO CLEAR THE LAND FOR EXPANSION OF THE AMBULATORY CARE CENTER WEST IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE APPROVED JACKSON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL FACILITIES MASTER PLAN (Public Health Trust)

Withdrawn

Mover: Heyman

Seconder: Moss

Vote: 4-0

Absent: Souto, Diaz

3H

081116 Resolution

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MIAMI-DADE FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT TO PURCHASE ANTI-VENIN SERUM FROM ANY SOURCE WORLD-WIDE; WAIVING COMPETITIVE PROCESS PURSUANT TO SECTION 5-03 D OF THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CHARTER AND SECTION 2-8.1 OF THE CODE OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; FINDING SUCH WAIVER TO BE IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OR HIS DESIGNEE TO EXECUTE ANY NECESSARY AGREEMENTS (Miami-Dade Fire and Rescue Department)

Forwarded to BCC with a favorable recommendation

Mover: Heyman

Seconder: Sosa

Vote: 6-0

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Clark Christian read the foregoing resolution into the record.*

It was moved by Commissioner Heyman that the foregoing proposed resolution be forwarded to the BCC with a favorable recommendation. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Sosa, followed by discussion.

Chairman Moss noted he took part in the Venom Week activities at Metro Zoo and encouraged his colleagues to support this extraordinary service. He noted the anti-venom program was unique and emphasized that it was provided by only a few entities throughout the country.

Commissioners Diaz and Gimenez expressed support for this resolution and noted this was a much needed program.

In response to Commissioner Gimenez' question regarding whether the department received reimbursement for this program, Mr. Al Cruz, Chief Fire Officer, MDFR, stated the Venom Unit received approximately 90% reimbursement each year. He noted over \$200,000 was generated last year for the County.

Commissioner Sosa commended Mr. Cruz for his hard work and dedication to this program, and noted he was instrumental in the County being able to obtain funding last year, from the State Legislature, for the first time. She also recognized Honorable Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, State Representative, for assisting with the efforts to secure funding for this year.

Chief Herminio Lorenzo, Director, MDFR, provided an overview of his experience when accompanying Mr. Cruz on a call to deliver anti-

venom, and commended Mr. Cruz for his efficiency and effectiveness.

In response to Commissioner Diaz' question regarding the status of the boa issue in the Everglades, Mr. Cruz noted legislation was enacted last year providing that to house any large pythons or anacondas, a person must be at least 18 years old, obtain a permit, pay a \$100 fee and have a \$1,000 or greater bond. He noted these large constrictors were in the Everglades and would be difficult to capture. Mr. Cruz further noted owners and breeders of large constrictors were required to have a chip inserted and if found in the wild, the owner would be fined. He advised Florida had very strict laws regarding venomous snakes, which were monitored and enforced by the Florida Fish and Game Commission.

There being no further questions or comments, the Committee proceeded to vote.

31

081211 Resolution

RESOLUTION REJECTING ALL PROPOSALS RECEIVED FOR THE ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE HIGHLAND OAKS FIRE RESCUE STATION AND THE CRANDON PARK OCEAN RESCUE FACILITY, PROJECT NO. A06-FIRE-02-GOB, CONTRACT NO. MDFRD-T26/MDFRD-T28 (Miami-Dade Fire and Rescue Department)

*Forwarded to BCC with a favorable recommendation
Mover: Gimenez
Seconder: Heyman
Vote: 6-0*

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Clark Christian introduced the foregoing resolution into the record.*

There being no discussion, the Committee proceeded to vote.

3J

081210 Resolution

RESOLUTION APPROVING APPOINTMENT OF INITIAL DIRECTORS OF MIAMI-DADE ANIMAL SERVICES FOUNDATION, INC. (Animal Services)

Forwarded to BCC with a favorable recommendation

Mover: Heyman

Seconder: Gimenez

Vote: 6-0

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Clark Christian read the foregoing resolution into the record.*

It was moved by Commissioner Heyman that the foregoing proposed resolution be forwarded to the BCC with a favorable recommendation. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Gimenez, followed by discussion.

Dr. Sara Pizano, Director, Animal Services Department, noted a Board of Directors needed to be established before the Foundation could be eligible for 501(c)3 status. She advised the Board was now in place and the process to establish 501(c)3 status underway. Dr. Pizano clarified that the goal for the establishment of the Foundation was to set up programs countywide.

Commissioner Heyman asked Assistant County Attorney Clark Christian to ensure the process to establish the Miami-Dade Animal Services Foundation, Inc. as a 501(c)3 entity was expedited.

Commissioner Diaz asked the Director of Animal Services Department to consult with representatives of the Comcast Corporation regarding the use of digital imaging to display animals for adoption on the On Demand site.

There being no further questions or comments, the Committee proceeded to vote.

4 COUNTY MANAGER

5 COUNTY ATTORNEY

6 CLERK OF THE BOARD

6A1

081073 Report

SUMMARY OF MINUTES FOR HEALTH AND PUBLIC
SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING OF MARCH 13, 2008

Approved
Mover: Diaz
Seconder: Sosa
Vote: 6-0

7 REPORTS

7A

081138 Report

ORAL UPDATE ON DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
PROCESS (Corrections & Rehabilitation Department)

Report Received

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Clark Christian introduced the foregoing report into the record.*

Mr. Timothy Ryan, Director, Corrections and Rehabilitation Department, noted that on April 2, 2008, the United States Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, notified the department of its intent to conduct an investigation of the Miami-Dade County Corrections and Rehabilitation Department, and particularly the Miami-Dade County Jail System sites and operational entities. He stated this investigation would be conducted under the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act (CRIPA, 1997). Mr. Ryan emphasized that the mutual focus was on the protection of inmates from harm and noted this review was welcomed. He highlighted the following components of this investigative inquiry:

- The CRIPA investigators were obligated to determine whether systemic violations in the conditions at Miami-Dade County jails with the U.S. Constitution and/or federal laws;*
- Miami-Dade is not the only jail that had or will be reviewed;*
- The department is unsure of the reason it was selected, however, a belief existed that this was a follow-up from a complaint being filed;*
- There were no limitations on where investigators could go or what they could examine;*
- The CRIPA investigators would consider the County's efforts to mitigate any areas of concern; and*
- CRIPA investigations could take from six months to a year or more to complete.*

Mr. Ryan advised that the C&R Department would fully cooperate with the Department of Justice throughout the entire investigation. He advised that the letter identified six areas of special focus that might involve Constitutional expectations, including suicide prevention. Mr. Ryan noted the National Institute of Corrections was used to conduct a review of the department's actions surrounding suicide prevention in the fall of 2007. He stated the report found the County had most of the national expectations in place; however, others were being addressed in specialty training

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with the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Program, and collaborative training with the nurses, correctional officers, and counselors. Mr. Ryan further noted the National Commission on Correctional Health had completed its audit on the department's medical, clinical, dental, and hospital services, which was being discussed with CHS for the implementation of a response plan. Pertaining to the facilities issues, he advised a master plan was forthcoming next month (May), which would bring beneficial solutions to space, operational, and sanitation issues for the long-term. Mr. Ryan pointed out that the possibility of deficiencies existed due to the challenges of operating such a large system, and noted the first meeting with the DOJ was scheduled for April 30, 2008, in Washington, D.C.

Committee members commended Mr. Ryan for his professional leadership and expressed their confidence in his ability in addressing any issues resulting from this investigation. Chairman Moss asked Mr. Ryan to advise the Committee of any assistance it could render regarding this matter.

7B

081205 Report

**MENTAL HEALTH DIVERSION PROGRESS ORAL
REPORT (County Manager)**

Report Received

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Clark Christian introduced the foregoing report into the record.*

Dr. Carolina Montoya, Mental Health Services Coordinator, General Services Administration (GSA), appeared and provided a brief overview of the status of the establishment of the Mental Health Diversion facility. She advised that approximately 20% of the inmates in the County's jails received psychiatric medications and had severe and acute mental illnesses, which was beyond the national average of one percent for schizophrenia and six percent for depression. Dr. Montoya noted two major issues being addressed by the criminal justice system were: 1) the lack of, or inadequate treatment for, individuals in the system, and 2) the arrests of individuals who should be housed in other settings. She noted these inmates were being housed in non-therapeutic conditions and noted the objective of the Diversion Facilities Subcommittee was to identify a facility to eliminate this problem. She further noted in 2006 the South Florida Evaluation & Treatment Center's facility was identified for purchase with General Obligation Bond (GOB) funds; however, plans were now to lease the facility. Dr. Montoya noted the proposed lease would be presented before the County Commission in mid-May, and advised the County would assume control of the facility sometime in June. Dr. Montoya provided further details regarding the planned retrofitting of this facility for use by the County's criminal justice system and noted operations should commence in 2009. She informed Committee members that nationally recognized mental health forensic facility expert, Dr. Joel Dvoskin, Ph.D. A.B.P.P., had met with all the local stakeholders last fall; his final report would be incorporated into the scope of services.

Commissioner Gimenez asked Ms. Eloisa C. Montoya, Mental Health Services Coordinator, General Services Administration (GSA), to provide him with a report regarding the number of inmates with mental health issues in Miami-Dade County compared to other jurisdictions. He asked that this report also identify what percentage of those inmates could also be classified as homeless.

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Chairman Moss asked that he be provided with a copy of the report requested by Commissioner Gimenez, and that this report identify whether the analysis was done by comparing inmate to inmate or inmate to the general population.

7C

081206 Report

ORAL REPORT BY DR. YOGI HERNANDEZ-SUAREZ
REGARDING THE MEDICAL CENTER AT THE
STEPHEN P. CLARK CENTER (Public Health Trust)

Report Received

Report: *Assistant County Attorney Clark Christian introduced the foregoing report into the record.*

Dr. Yolangel Hernández-Suárez, Associate Chief Medical Officer, Jackson Health System (JHS), appeared and provided a brief overview on the transition of the Downtown Employee Medical Office (DEMO). She stated the transition had been smooth, no exodus of patients had transpired, and the doctors on staff had a near complete docket of patients. She introduced Mr. Nathan Anspach, Vice President for Physician Services, JHS, and noted he was present to answer any questions.

In response to Commissioner Heyman's concern regarding the change in personnel at the DEMO, Dr. Hernandez-Suarez explained that the primary difference was the compensation structure that existed for the positions that were currently in the office. She added that the intent was to enhance, rather than cut services in this office.

Ms. Maggie Perez, Local Affairs Coordinator, Jackson Memorial Hospital, appeared on behalf of Mr. Marvin O'Quinn, President and Chief Executive Officer, JHS, and responded to Mr. Gomez' comments. She advised the JHS staff was receptive to Mr. Gomez' comments and addressed issues brought forth by him in a timely manner. She acknowledged Chairman Moss' request and noted in addition to the requested report, she would also provide a list of improvements already implemented at the JMRC in response to Mr. Gomez' concerns.

Chairman Moss asked that the President of the Public Health Trust prepare a report to the Committee addressing the issues presented earlier today by Mr. Manny Gomez in his presentation concerning problems at the Jackson Memorial Rehabilitation Center (JMRC).

8 DISCUSSION ITEM(S)

8A1

081183 Discussion Item

Rebeca Sosa

"MIAMI-DADE BLUE RIBBON ADVISORY COMMITTEE. BREAKING THE CYCLE: REHABILITATION AND JOB TRAINING IN COUNTY JAILS"

Presented

Report: *Chairman Moss relinquished the chair to Vice Chairwoman Sosa during consideration of this item.*

Assistant County Attorney Clark Christian introduced the foregoing discussion item.

Vice Chairwoman Sosa provided a brief overview of the foregoing discussion and recalled the Commission's approval to create the Blue Ribbon Advisory Committee. She described the cycle of inmates serving time, being released, and returning again, which led her to meet with Chief Judge Farina and State Attorney Katherine Fernandez-Rundle to discuss her strategy to create the Blue Ribbon Committee. Vice Chairwoman Sosa recognized the following members and other contributors: Mr. Carlos Manrique, Chair, Blue Ribbon Task Force; Mr. Jose Arroyo, Chief Assistant State Attorney; Mr. Carlos Martinez, Chief Assistant Public Defender; Director Timothy Bryan, Corrections & Rehabilitation Department; Mr. Roderick Beasley, Chair/Executive Director South Florida Work Force; Mr. Bill Riley, Business Manager of Union; Chief Anthony Dawsey, Corrections & Rehabilitation Department, and Assistant County Manager Alina Hudak. She made a special recognition of Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Alvarez for his support and efforts in bringing these recommendations before the committee in a timely fashion. Vice Chairwoman Sosa noted the Council of State Governments Justice Center was proud of President Bush for signing the "Second Chance Act" in 2007. She noted this was the first legislation of its kind that would authorize issuance of different grants to government agencies and not-for-profit groups, to provide employment assistance, substance abuse treatment, housing, family programming, mentoring, victims support, and other services that would help reduce repeat offenders and probation/parole violators. Chairwoman Sosa explained that she would present legislation to this committee requesting the removal of barriers restricting employment, reduction of housing

barriers for ex-offenders, and funding for services for the mentally disabled. She provided additional information on the benefits to the entire community gained from providing job training, patient treatment, and transitional programs. Commissioner Sosa expressed her pleasure in making this presentation.

Mr. Carlos Manrique, Chair, Blue Ribbon Task Force, appeared before the Committee and provided a brief historical overview of the creation of the Blue Ribbon Advisory Committee. He noted Commissioners Gimenez and Sosa had visited the Montgomery One-Stop facility and emphasized the importance of including the workforce sector of the community inside the correctional facilities.

Mr. Rick Beasley, Executive Director, South Florida Workforce, expressed his appreciation to the Committee for creating the task force. He noted it provided the opportunity to observe and assess the process of a person's entering the penal system to his/her exit. He noted he was excited to participate with the preparation of this report on training methods and with researching ways of implementing these initiatives.

Chief Anthony Dawsey, Corrections & Rehabilitation Department, appeared and expressed his pleasure in working with this collaborative effort. He noted he had the opportunity to work with the implementation team at the Juvenile Assessment Center previously, adding that he worked many years encouraging youth not to become repeat offenders. Chief Dawsey emphasized the importance of believing people had the ability to change and this program would provide individuals with the tools they need to succeed.

Mr. Timothy Ryan, Director, Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, noted he was thrilled and excited for this opportunity. He noted the department had looked into the Second Chance Act for approximately three years, and stated the timing and appropriateness of this initiative was outstanding. Mr. Ryan commended the Commission, and particularly Commissioner Sosa for having the foresight to bring this opportunity forward. He commented that this taskforce and the "Breaking the Cycle" initiative provided a roadmap to make it possible to return persons into the community, safer and better prepared, with an opportunity for change.

Commissioner Sosa submitted to the Committee members, the recommendations of the Miami-Dade County Blue Ribbon Advisory Committee, and advised she would follow-up with legislation for the Committee's feedback.

Commissioner Diaz commended Commissioner Sosa for her leadership and congratulated Mr. Manrique and Task Force members on their accomplishments.

Commissioner Gimenez noted he toured the Montgomery County Correctional Facility and it was extremely clean and gave the impression that it would make a difference in the lives of those incarcerated there. He stated that facility provided the tools that would enable inmates to obtain jobs once released into society, such as training. He congratulated Commissioner Sosa and expressed his support of this worthy initiative.

Chairman Moss congratulated Commissioner Sosa and the members of the Task Force, and expressed his support for the concept of rehabilitating and giving people a second chance to become productive members of society.

Following further discussion, Commissioner Sosa presented plaques to individual Task Force members and expressed her sincere thanks for their hard work.

8 ADJOURNMENT

Report: There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:17 p.m.



Dennis C. Moss, Chair