



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FINAL OFFICIAL MINUTES COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Board of County Commissioners

Stephen P. Clark Government Center
Commission Chamber
111 NW 1st Street
Miami, Florida 33128

Meeting Date:

Thursday, December 21, 2006
10:30 A.M. Commission Chambers

Prepared by:

Harvey Ruvin, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners

Kay Madry Sullivan, Director
Clerk of the Board Division

Reporter:

Alicia Stephenson, Commission Reporter
(305) 375-1475



**CLERK'S SUMMARY AND OFFICIAL MINUTES
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
DECEMBER 21, 2006**

The Board of County Commissioners convened as a committee of the whole in the Commission Chambers at the Stephen P. Clark Government Center, 111 Northwest First Street, at 10:30 a.m., on December 21, 2006, there being present Chairman Joe A. Martinez, Vice Chairman Dennis C. Moss, and Commissioners Bruno A. Barreiro, Jose "Pepe" Diaz, Audrey M. Edmonson, Carlos A. Gimenez, Sally A. Heyman, Barbara J. Jordan, Dorrin D. Rolle, Natacha Seijas, Katy Sorenson, and Javier D. Souto (Commissioner Rebeca Sosa was absent); County Manager George M. Burgess; County Attorney Murray A. Greenberg and First Assistant County Attorney Robert A. Cuevas; and Deputy Clerks Diane Collins and Alicia Stephenson.

Chairman Martinez noted today's meeting was called pursuant to Rule 4.01 of the Rules of Procedure of the County Commission, in order to present ideas to the Chairman elect regarding the commission committee system. He noted the swearing in of the Chairman elect and Vice Chairwoman elect was scheduled to take place at 11:00 a.m.

Chairman Martinez called the meeting to order at 10:57 a.m.

Chairman-elect Barreiro noted the biggest issue to surface in the sunshine meetings he had held so far, was regarding a statement in the rules of procedure that the maximum number of Commission Committees would be six. He noted he proffered a change to this rule eliminating this restriction in order to give flexibility to the Chair. He noted he had to proffer a structure at the beginning of January, 2007 that would provide guidelines for the next two years of committee structure and that he would like feedback from fellow commissioners regarding a committee structure of more than 6 committees.

Vice Chairman Moss commented on the need for a special rule to in order to achieve a quorum when the Commission previously had 13 Committees. He noted that because of the special issues existing in this community, six committees was inadequate, however, 12 or 13 committees would be too many. He further noted he hoped the Chairman elect would pursue some balance of the number of Committees in order to create opportunities for collegiality among members of the Commission.

Chairman Martinez noted he had primarily based the structure of the existing committee system on the County Manager's table of organization. He noted each committee needed at least 6 members and that having committees comprised of three members would not work. He further noted that committee members had voted for items in committee and argued against it on the full Board. Chairman Martinez noted if a committee was comprised of three commissioners, ten other commissioners would have to repeat deliberation on an item. He noted the establishment of three-member committees would bog down the system and not carry out the people's business.

**Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners
Committee of the Whole and Installation Ceremony
Meeting of December 21, 2006**

Following the December 21, 2006 Committee of the Whole meeting, an installation ceremony was held.

Chairman Martinez called the Installation Ceremony to order at 11:02 a.m.

Presentation of Colors

Chairman Martinez asked that everyone present stand for the Presentation of Colors by the Miami-Dade Corrections & Rehabilitation, Fire Rescue, and Police honor guards.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Martinez asked that everyone present join the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation

Chairman Martinez asked that everyone present join the Board in the Invocation. The invocation was made by Reverend Abraham Thomas.

OATH OF OFFICE

Judge David Young, 11th Judicial Court of Florida, administered the Oath of Office to Chairman-elect Bruno Barreiro.

Mayor of Florida City Otis Wallace administered the Oath of Office to Vice-Chairwoman-elect Barbara Jordan.

Presentation of Election Certificates

Clerk of the Board Assistant Director Diane Collins presented election certificates.

District 5

Chairman-elect Barreiro acknowledged his parents, his wife, and other family members and noted they had motivated him to seek office. He welcomed Mayor Carlos Alvarez and other elected officials present today (12/21). The Chairman-elect thanked County Manager George Burgess, County Attorney Murray Greenberg, and County employees for their hard work and service. In addition, he thanked his colleagues for their confidence in selecting him to lead the Board as its Chairman. Chairman-elect Barreiro recognized Dr. Barbara Carey-Shuler and Commissioner Joe A. Martinez as his predecessors. He congratulated Commissioner Seijas on not being recalled at the special election held in County Commission District 13 on December 19, 2006.

The Chairman-elect noted the County was currently experiencing unprecedented growth and had to grow responsibly. He noted the Urban Development Boundary (UDB) had to be carefully managed to ensure sufficient land was available to provide housing, parks, schools, and other structures needed to support this community. He also noted over 600 square miles of the County located inside the Everglades had to be protected. Chairman-elect Barreiro further noted affordable housing had to be a focus and that he wanted to bring national best practices to the housing agency. He added that models such as Townhomes on Capitol Hill and First Ward Place in Charlotte, North Carolina should be looked at. Furthermore, he noted that increased oversight

and strict accountability had to be brought to this area of government. The Chairman-elect commented that he wanted to focus on transportation and made note of the People's Transportation Plan and Golden Passport program. He described improvements in Miami-Dade Transit since 2002 and noted he would continue to work with the Citizens Independent Transportation Trust and his colleagues to take to Tallahassee, Florida and Washington, D.C. initiatives proposed as part of the comprehensive transportation plan. He also noted he would work with Broward and Palm Beach counties to find ways to make Tri-Rail more effective and he would coordinate with them in order to plan more efficiently. Chairman-elect Barreiro added that he looked forward to working with the County Administration and staff to improve the delivery of services to County residents. He also added that he would like the data generated by the 311 Answer Center to be reviewed and organized in an accessible manner. He commented that the County should be able to look through the 311 Answer Center as the eyes and ears of the community and decide how to use resources effectively.

District 1

Vice Chairwoman-elect Barbara Jordan noted she was grateful to Chairman-elect Barreiro and her colleagues on the Commission for their support. She acknowledged Chairman Martinez and Vice Chairman Moss for their exemplary leadership. She noted she looked forward to serving the residents of the County and working more closely with everyone, including Mayor Carlos Alvarez. She acknowledged the presence of Senator Frederica S. Wilson at today's (12/21) meeting. She noted she was committed to working with the Chairman-elect and she shared many of the priorities he outlined. She extended her appreciation to the County Manager, the County Attorney, and the staff for the professionalism and level of support they provided to the Commission. She commented that all must work together and address public safety, transportation, affordable housing, healthcare, and other quality of life issues. Vice-Chairwoman-elect Jordan acknowledged her family, staff, and members of the Greater Miami Service Corps. She noted she was excited about projects and initiatives including the Metrorail expansion, contingent Airport and Seaport development, hosting Super Bowl in 2007 and 2010, development of a special site in District 1, workforce housing initiatives, and responding to the Building Better Communities Bonds program. She suggested that accountability be improved. She spoke in support of a more effective poly-service oriented administration at all levels, taking the County to its full potential, and delivering excellence everyday.

Remarks

Commissioner Seijas thanked everyone who had supported her. She spoke about the history of Miami-Dade County government. She noted she thought an effort should be made to contact all citizens who had served on Charter Review Committees in the last 50 years in order to honor them. She also suggested that a summit of all cities be called to plan for the remainder of the 21st century. Commissioner Seijas thanked Mayor Carlos Alvarez for coming forward and shaking her hand.

Commissioners commented on the responsibilities of the elected Chairman and Vice Chairwoman, congratulated Commissioner Seijas on not being recalled, commended Chairman Martinez and Vice Chairman Moss on their leadership, commented on the challenges facing the Chairman-elect, the Vice-Chairwoman elect, all commissioners, and the community, noted unity

**Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners
Committee of the Whole and Installation Ceremony
Meeting of December 21, 2006**

was needed in order to improve the community, expressed support of the Chairman-elect and Vice-Chairwoman elect, conveyed they were ready to proceed with business and wished everyone happy holidays.

Commissioner Diaz noted that many issues needed to go to Tallahassee.

Commissioner Souto noted Miami-Dade County was very blessed to have had the dedicated State and County government predecessors. He noted Miami-Dade County had become the jewel of Florida and the United States. Commissioner Souto commented on his recent trip to Medellin, Colombia on behalf of the County and noted other countries were expecting Miami-Dade County to continue being an example of good government.

County Manager George Burgess congratulated Commissioner Seijas and the upcoming Chairman and Vice-Chairwoman. He read a message from Commissioner Sosa in which she noted with every challenge was an opportunity to make beneficial changes to County government and provided a quote on courage from Sir Winston Churchill on success, failure and courage.

Commissioners Edmonson and Gimenez expressed their hope that the County's Charter would be changed with regard to special elections.

Vice Chairman Moss thanked his colleagues for electing him as Vice Chair for the term of 2005-2006, and for working with him.

Chairman Martinez acknowledged government officials present at today's (12/21) meeting and ceremony. He noted he was thankful that he had been allowed to serve as Chairman during the current term.

Benediction

Reverend Joseph E. Nicholas, Ph.D., Pastor, Prince of Peace Moravian Church and Father Albert Cutié, President & General Director, Pax Catholic Communications, performed the benediction.

The installation ceremony was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Bruno A. Barreiro, Chairman



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Board of County Commissioners
December 21, 2006

Prepared by: Nelson Diaz

EXHIBITS LIST

NO.	DATE	ITEM #	DESCRIPTION
1	12/21/2006		Installation Ceremony-Program
2	12/21/2006		Memorandum from Chairman Martinez re: BCC Committee of the Whole
3	12/21/2006		Memorandum from Commissioner Sosa re: Out of the Office
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Carlos Alvarez
Mayor

Board of County Commissioners

Joe A. Martinez, *Chairman*
Dennis C. Moss, *Vice-Chairman*

Barbara J. Jordan
District 1

Dorin D. Rolle
District 2

Audrey M. Edmonson
District 3

Sally A. Heyman
District 4

Bruno A. Barreiro
District 5

Rebeca Sosa
District 6

Carlos A. Gimenez
District 7

Katy Sorenson
District 8

Dennis C. Moss
District 9

Sen. Javier D. Souto
District 10

Joe A. Martinez
District 11

José "Pepe" Diaz
District 12

Natacha Seijas
District 13

Harvey Ruvín
Clerk of Courts

George M. Burgess
County Manager

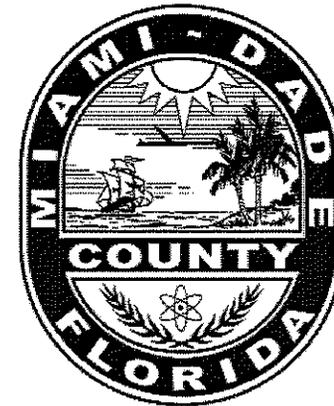
Murray A. Greenberg
County Attorney

*Miami-Dade County provides equal access and equal opportunity
in employment and services and does not discriminate on the basis of disability.*

*"It is the policy of Miami-Dade County to comply with all of the
requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act."*

Installation Ceremony
The Honorable Bruno A. Barreiro
Chairman

The Honorable Barbara J. Jordan
Vice-Chairwoman



December 21, 2006
11:00 a.m.

Stephen P. Clark Center
Commission Chambers
111 N.W. 1st Street, 2nd Floor
Miami, Florida

Exhibit



CLERK OF THE BOARD

2006 DEC 18 PM 4:14

CLERK, CIRCUIT & COUNTY COURTS
DADE COUNTY, FLA.
#1

OFFICE OF THE CHAIR
JOE A. MARTINEZ, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DISTRICT 11

Memorandum

To: Honorable Vice-Chairman Dennis C. Moss and
Members of the Board of County Commissioners

From: Joe A. Martinez, Chairman 
Board of County Commissioners

Date: December 18, 2006

Re: BCC Committee of the Whole

Pursuant to Rule 4.01 of the Rules of Procedure of the County Commission (hereinafter "Commission Rules") provides that the County Commission is required to convene as a committee of the whole within 30 days of the date of the election of the Commission Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson to make recommendations to the Chairperson regarding the committee system. The Commission Rules further provide that within 30 days of the Chairperson's receipt of the recommendations of the committee of the whole, the Chairperson is required to: establish the number of standing County Commission committees; determine the jurisdiction of each committee, the number of members on each committee as well as the number of committees on which a Commissioner may sit. To this end, I have scheduled said meeting for Thursday, December 21, 2006, at 10:30 A.M.

This forum will serve as a tool that will enable Chairman-Elect Barreiro to understand our concerns as it relates to the committee process and provide an avenue for him to implement a functional committee system that will work efficiently to address the needs of this government and those we serve.

By copy of this memorandum, I am asking the Clerk of the Board and the County Manager to properly advertise said meeting.

If you should have any questions, please contact my Chief of Staff, Javier I. Marques at (305) 375-5511.

JM/jim

Cc: Honorable Mayor Carlos Alvarez
Honorable Harvey Ruvin, Clerk of the Courts
Kay Sullivan, Clerk of the Board
George Burgess, County Manager
Murray Greenburg, County Attorney
Paula Musto, Director, Miami Dade Communications Department

Exhibit - 12/21/2006

CLERK OF THE BOARD

2006 DEC -1 AM 11:11



CLERK, CIRCUIT & COUNTY COURTS
DADE COUNTY, FLA.
#1

AS

MEMORANDUM

Miami-Dade County Commissioner

Rebeca Sosa

District 6

TO: The Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez
and Members of the Board of County
Commissioners

DATE: 11/29/06

FROM: Rebeca Sosa
County Commissioner

RE: Out of the Office

I will be traveling out of the country on December 11, 2006 on personal business. Therefore, I will be absent from the Community Outreach Safety Healthcare Administration Committee (COSHA), Regional Transportation (RTC), and Internal Management and Fiscal Responsibility (IMFR) Committees for the week of December 11, 2006. In my absence, I have asked Senator Javier D. Souto, Vice Chair of the (COSHA) Committee to Chair the meeting on December 13, 2006. Furthermore, I will be absent from the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) and Zoning meetings for the week of December 18, 2006. Therefore, I respectfully ask that you please defer any of my items only if there are any questions and/or concerns with them. I would like to get the opportunity to address them upon my return.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this important matter.

Cc: George Burgess, County Manager
Murray Greenberg, County Attorney
Kay Sullivan, Clerk of the Board
Diane Davis, Agenda Coordinator
Commission Reporter Unit