



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FINAL OFFICIAL MINUTES

Board of County Commissioners Committee of the Whole

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

December 18, 2014
As Advertised

Harvey Ruvin, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners

Christopher Agrippa, Director
Clerk of the Board Division

Maryse Fontus, Commission Reporter
(305) 375-4906



CLERK'S SUMMARY AND OFFICIAL MINUTES
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
December 18, 2014

Upon a motion duly made, seconded and carried, Chairwoman Sosa convened the Board of County Commissioners Committee of the Whole meeting of December 18, 2014. She called the meeting to order at 11:24. There being present: Chairwoman Sosa, and Commissioners Monestime, Heyman, Levine Cava, Souto and Diaz.

In addition to the Board members, the following staff members were also present: First Assistant County Attorneys Abigail Price-Williams; Assistant County Attorney Jess McCarty; Clerk of the Board, Division Director Christopher Aggripa; and Deputy Clerks Maryse Fontus and Nelson Diaz.

Chairwoman Sosa noted each Chair had to develop the structure of the Committees based on his/her experience. She said that before she became Chair, there were six committees; however, she decided to create eight committees because she believed that it would be easier to separate the big issues. Commissioner Sosa pointed out that at the end of the day, Chair-elect Monestime would decide how many committees there would be, noting she would follow his leadership.

Commissioner Diaz expressed his agreement with Chairwoman Sosa's comments. He reminded Chair-elect Monestime that commissioners served the County on a part-time basis and also had full-time careers. He asked him to take this into account when making his decision regarding Committee assignments.

Commissioner Souto extended his assistance to Chair-elect Monestime and stated that he wished to help address the issues which the Country was facing. He also said that he wished to provide assistance to Chair-elect Monestime's country of origin, specifically with regard to issues of food security, by sharing the County's know-how gained through the Agriculture and Cattle Show.

Commissioner Levine Cava noted she concurred with her colleagues' comments, and would defer to Chair-elect Monestime's leadership. She suggested that the names of the committees be kept as simple as possible to facilitate the public's understanding. She also asked that there be as few committees as feasible, and that they be made more meaningful and valuable to help streamline the County Commission meetings.

Commissioner Heyman said she concurred with the comments expressed by her colleagues. She stated that her priority was Public Safety, and she hoped to remain engaged with that topic. She noted the Public Safety and Animal Services Committee was dealing with long-term projects, and the County's program for the mentally ill in detention was still under a Consent decree with the Department of Justice. Commissioner Heyman pointed out that the County's public housing projects were being supervised by the federal government; therefore, this area deserved particular focus. On a personal note, she said that she usually works at her office in the morning, and would prefer to be assigned to a committee that meets in the afternoon.

Chairwoman Sosa said that she had always tried to accommodate the commissioners' schedules. She also stated that if a commissioner had to come to the Government Center to attend a meeting in the morning, she had tried to have him/her attend another meeting in the afternoon; therefore, the commissioner would only have to be at the Government Center for one day and a half. Chairwoman Sosa noted the reason she decided to have eight committees was to help the public be more involved in government. She said she was available to help Chair-elect Monestime, and wanted him to succeed. She noted she was glad that her tenure as Chair ended with Commissioner Monestime's election, because he made history.

Chair-elect Monestime expressed his appreciation for his colleagues' comments and recommendations. He promised to take them into consideration as he made his decisions regarding the committee structure. He said that his doors were wide open if anyone wanted to make additional recommendations, and he looked forward to hearing from more commissioners. He suggested that commissioners forward their recommendations to him.

First Assistant County Attorney Abigail Price-Williams advised that the commissioners should forward their recommendations and suggestions to the Clerk's Office, copying all of their colleagues.

Chair-elect Monestime commended Chairwoman Sosa for doing a wonderful job. He noted she led the County Commission with grace, and the meetings moved forward fluidly. He said that he would seek to emulate her style. Chair-elect Monestime stated that he looked forward to two exciting years, and he hoped that the next two years would help the County Commission strengthen the County's diversity and solidify Miami's status as a major metropolis. He said that it would be his pleasure to serve.

Chairwoman Sosa thanked everyone who helped her, especially her staff.

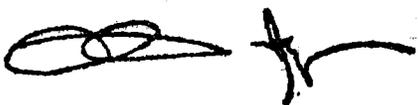
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee of the Whole, the meeting adjourned at 11:36 a.m.



Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa

ATTEST: HARVEY RUVIN, Clerk

By: 

Christopher Agrippa, Deputy Clerk



**Board of County Commissioners'
Committee of the Whole
December 18, 2014**

Prepared by: Maryse Fontus

EXHIBITS LIST

NO.	DATE	ITEM #	DESCRIPTION
1	12/18/14		Memorandum from Commissioner Zapata regarding his absence
2	12/18/14		Memorandum from Commissioner Jordan regarding her absence
3	12/18/14		Memorandum from Commissioner Barreiro regarding his absence
4	12/18/14		Memorandum from Commissioner Bovo regarding his absence
5	12/18/14		Memorandum from Commissioner Moss regarding his absence
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MEMORANDUM
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Commissioner Juan C. Zapata, District 11

DATE: December 17, 2014

TO: Honorable Rebecca Sosa, Chairwoman, Board of County Commissioners and the
Members of the Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Commissioner Juan C. Zapata, District 11

RE: Absence from the December 18, 2014

Please pardon Commissioner Zapata's absence from the December 18, 2014 zoning meeting.

We apologize for any inconvenience. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office at 305-375-5511.

CC: Members of the Board of County Commissioners
Robert A. Cuevas, Jr., County Attorney
Christopher Agrippa, Division Chief Clerk of the Board
Eugene Love, Agenda Coordinator



Memorandum
COMMISSIONER BARBARA J. JORDAN
111 N.W. First Street, Suite 220
Miami, Florida 33128-1963

To: Honorable Rebeca Sosa, Chairwoman
Board of County Commissioners

Date: December 17, 2014

From: Barbara J. Jordan, Commissioner
District 1

Subject: Absence from Board of County
Commissioners Zoning Meeting

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara J. Jordan".

Please be advised that I will be unable to attend the Board of County Commissioners Zoning meeting scheduled for December 18, 2014. I apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

c: Members, Board of County Commissioners
Robert A. Cuevas, Jr., County Attorney
Christopher Agrippa, Division Chief, Clerk of the Board



MEMORANDUM
BRUNO A. BARREIRO
Miami-Dade County Commissioner
District 5

TO: Honorable Chairperson Rebecca Sosa and
Members of the Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Commissioner Bruno A. Barreiro
District 5

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruno Barreiro #5".

SUBJECT: Absence from Zoning Meeting – December 18, 2014

DATE: December 17, 2014

Please be advised that I will not be present at the Board of County Commissioner's Zoning Meeting on Thursday, December 18, 2014. I apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at (305)643-8525.

CC: Christopher Agrippa, Division Chief, Clerk of the Board

BAB/ma



MEMORANDUM

From the Office of

**Commissioner Esteban Bovo, Jr.
District 13**

To: Rebeca Sosa
Chair, Miami-Dade County Board of Commissioners

From: Commissioner Esteban Bovo, Jr.

Date: December 18, 2014

Re: Absence – Zoning and MPO meetings – December 18, 2014

I regret that I will be unable to attend either of today's regularly scheduled meetings. I appreciate your anticipated cooperation and understanding. I apologize for any inconvenience my absence may cause. If you have any questions please feel free to contact my legislative director, Alex Annunziato at (305) 375-1678.

Cc: Clerk of the Board
County Attorney's Office



MEMORANDUM

OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER DENNIS C. MOSS

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Downtown Office
111 NW 1st Street, Suite 220
Miami, Florida 33128
(305) 375-4832 | Fax (305) 372-6011

District North Office
10710 SW 211th Street, Suite 206
Miami, Florida 33189
(305) 234-4938 | Fax (305) 232-2892

District South Office
1634 NW 6th Avenue
Florida City, Florida 33034
(305) 245-4420 | Fax (305) 245-5008

Date: December 18, 2014

To: Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa
Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners

From: Honorable Commissioner Dennis C. Moss
Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners

Re: Notice of Absence

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis C. Moss".

Please be advised that I will be absent from the following meetings scheduled for today:

- BCC Carry Over
- BCC Committee of the Whole
- Zoning
- MPO

I apologize for the inconvenience and thank you for your attention to this matter.

Cc: R. A. Cuevas, Jr., County Attorney
Abigail Price-Williams, First Assistant County Attorney
Eugene Love, Agenda Coordinator
Christopher Agrippa, Clerk of the Board
Charles Anderson, Commission Auditor