

# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 8(L)(10)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners


**DATE:** December 12, 2023

**FROM:** Geri Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution reappointing Thomas  
(Tommy) Vick to the  
Agricultural Practices Advisory  
Board

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The accompanying resolution was prepared by the Regulatory and Economic Resources Department and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor PortMiami, Resiliency, and Sustainability Committee.

  
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Geri Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

GBK/ks


MDC001

# Memorandum



**Date:** December 12, 2023

**To:** Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**From:** Daniella Levine Cava   
Mayor

**Subject:** Appointment of One Agricultural Practices Advisory Board Member

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## **Recommendation**

The Dade County Farm Bureau, pursuant to Section 2-933 of the Code of Miami-Dade County (Code), recommends Thomas (Tommy) Vick be reappointed to the Agricultural Practices Advisory Board (APAB) as the vegetable industry representative. Section 2-935 of the Code requires that the Board of County Commissioners (Board) fill vacancies occurring on the APAB. Pursuant to Section 2-934 of the Code, members of the APAB serve four-year terms commencing upon appointment by the Board.

## **Scope**

The recommendations and actions of the APAB have a countywide impact.

## **Delegation of Authority**

The proposed resolution does not delegate authority to the County Mayor or County Mayor's designee.

## **Fiscal Impact/Funding Source**

There is no fiscal impact to the County.

## **Track Record/Monitor**

The Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, Planning Division, monitors the Agricultural Practices Advisory Board.

## **Background**

The APAB consists of thirteen (13) members representing a variety of agricultural industries:

- Two (2) representatives from the Tropical Fruit Crops Industry of Miami-Dade County, one (1) recommended by the Florida Avocado Committee, and one (1) recommended by the Tropical Fruit Growers of South Florida, Inc.;
- Two (2) representatives from the nursery industry, recommended by the Miami-Dade County Chapter of the Florida Nursery Growers & Landscape Association;
- Two (2) representatives from the vegetable industry, recommended by the Dade County Farm Bureau;

- One (1) representative of the aquaculture industry, recommended by the Ornamental Aquaculture Association of South Florida;
- One (1) representative of a citizens' association supportive of agriculture, recommended by the Redland Citizens' Association;
- One (1) representative of allied agribusiness recommended by the Dade Agri Council;
- One (1) representative of agri-banking, agri-financial consulting, or agri-lending recommended by the (South Dade) Chamber of Commerce;
- One (1) representative of Farm Labor, recommended by Coalition of Florida Farmworkers Organizations;
- One (1) representative of the South Dade Soil & Water Conservation District, recommended by the South Dade Soil & Water Conservation District; and
- One (1) at large representative recommended by the Miami-Dade Agricultural Practices Advisory Board.

Pursuant to Section 2-933 of the Code, each designated organization shall submit, for Board review, at least one nominee for their vacant position(s), including the nominee's resume and the minutes of the organization's meeting at which the nominee was selected. The required documentation for Mr. Vick is attached as Exhibit A.

#### Vegetable Industry Representative

Mr. Tommy Vick was nominated by the Dade County Farm Bureau as its nominee for reappointment. Mr. Vick is the owner of V&B Farms and is the previous owner of Tom Vick Farms. Mr. Vick began gaining experience in farming as a 4-year-old with Vick Farms Palms, and over the years worked for Daigle Farms, Super-Six Farms and Richard Borek Farms prior to owning Tom Vick Farms from 1994 to 2009. He has participated in the Homestead Florida City Chamber of Commerce's "Green Committee" event, the Miami International Agriculture & Cattle Show, and the Homestead Centennial Celebration, and has been a member of the Dade County Farm Bureau, Dade County Agri-Council, and Future Farmers of America. Mr. Vick is a 2001 graduate of South Dade Senior High School. Mr. Vick's resume and the minutes of the meeting at which he was selected are attached as Exhibit A.



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Jimmy Morales  
Chief Operations Officer

**Tommy Vick, V & B Farms**

**Education/Certifications**

1998-2001 High School Diploma- South Dade Sr. HS  
4/17/2012 Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) Food Safety Program (V&B Farms, LLC)

**Awards/Accomplishments**

1998-2001 Member of Future Farmers of America (FFA)  
1998-2001 Agriculture Ambassadors for Dade County Fair & Expo  
1999-2001 Junior Board Member of Dade County Agri-Counsel  
2001-2007 Board Member of Dade County Agri-Counsel  
2010 Dade County Farm Bureau Agriculture Advocate Award  
2010-present Director of Dade County Farm Bureau  
2011-present Dade County Board of County Commissioners Ag Practices Committee Member

**Community Involvement**

2001 –present Donate time and materials to promote FFA at South Dade Sr. HS  
2001 –present Various donations to Not-For-Profit Organizations such as Agape Women’s Center,  
Redlands Community Church Pantry & First United Methodist Christian School  
2013-February Homestead Centennial Celebration agricultural display  
2011- 2013 Miami International Agriculture & Cattle Show agricultural display  
2013- August Homestead Florida City Chamber Green Committee event “Meet the Grower”

**Experience**

1987-1996 Vick Farms Palms (4-yrs old) – pulled weeds in the nursery  
1994-1996 Daigle farms (potatoes)  
1996-2000 Super Six Farms – tractor driver (corn, beans, tomatoes)  
2001-2008 Richard Borek Farms – General Manager (corn, beans, tomatoes)  
1994-2009 Tom Vick Farms, Owner  
2009-present V&B Farms, Owner

**Crops Grown**

Sweet Corn  
Green Beans  
Wax Beans  
Cranberry Beans  
Zucchini squash  
Crookneck squash  
Straight-neck squash  
Sunburst squash

Round tomatoes  
Grape tomatoes  
Plum tomatoes  
Strawberries  
Sweet onions  
Cucumbers  
Pickles  
Seedless cucumbers  
Cantolope melon  
Honeydew melon  
Jalapeno pepper  
Longhot pepper  
Red,yellow,green bell pepper  
Sweet peas snow peas  
Okra  
Bok choy  
Baby bok choy  
Sugarcane  
Broccoli  
Cauliflower  
Green & Red Cabbage  
Lettuce  
Carrots  
Italian eggplant  
Chinese eggplant  
Indian eggplant  
Thai eggplant  
Potatoes  
Basil  
Mint  
Rosemary  
Thyme  
Lemon Thyme  
Sage  
Oregano  
Dill  
Chives  
Curly parsley  
Flat parsley  
Lychee  
Longan  
Avocado

Mango  
Palm trees



**Dade County Farm Bureau**

**Executive Committee Special Meeting Minutes**

**Friday, January 13, 2023 at 10:30 AM via phone conference**

President: Barney Rutzke Jr called an special meeting to respond to a Miami Dade County request to reappoint Tom Vick as the Vegetable Industry representative on the Miami Dade County Agricultural Practice's Advisory Board, as his term expired on 12/31/2022.

Also, to confirm Sam Accursio Jr's representation on the (APAB) should also be renewed.

Executive Board members present: President Barney Rutzke Jr., Secretary Steve Hoveland, Treasurer David Hanck, Larry Dunagan, Vice President Heather Moehling, Past President Sal Finocchiaro and State Director Mark Wilson.

Executive Board members absent: Tom Rieder, Hal Arve

Others present: none

President's Report: Barney Rutzke Jr.

Barney discussed the need to respond to Miami Dade County's request prior to Tuesday, January 31, 2023 on Tom Vick's reappointment to (APAB) as the Vegetable Industry Representative and confirming Sam Accursio Jr's representation on the (APAB) should also be renewed.

All Executive Board members present were in unanimous agreement to reappoint both Tom Vick and Sam Accursio Jr to Miami Dade County Agricultural Practices Advisory Board (APAB).

Meeting was adjourned at 11:02 AM



**MEMORANDUM**  
(Revised)

**TO:** Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** December 12, 2023

**FROM:**   
Gen Bonzon-Keenan  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item No. 8(L)(10)

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
- Statement of social equity 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 present \_\_\_\_, 2/3 membership \_\_\_\_, 3/5's \_\_\_\_, unanimous \_\_\_\_, CDMP 7 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) \_\_\_\_, CDMP 2/3 vote requirement per 2-116.1(3)(h) or (4)(c) \_\_\_\_, or CDMP 9 vote requirement per 2-116.1(4)(c)(2) \_\_\_\_ ) 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. 8(L)(10)  
12-12-23

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING THOMAS (TOMMY) VICK TO  
THE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES ADVISORY BOARD

**WHEREAS**, this Board desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference; and

**WHEREAS**, sections 2-931 through 2-936 of the Code of Miami-Dade County provide for the creation, composition, terms, purpose, and duties of the Agricultural Practices Advisory Board; and

**WHEREAS**, section 2-933 of the Code of Miami-Dade County specifically provides for the designated organizations to recommend at least one nominee; and

**WHEREAS**, the Dade County Farm Bureau has recommended the reappointment of Mr. Thomas (Tommy) Vick to serve as one of two Vegetable Industry representatives on the Agricultural Practices Advisory Board; and

**WHEREAS**, section 2-935 of the Code of Miami-Dade County directs that vacancies on the Agricultural Practices Advisory Board shall be filled by the Board of County Commissioners,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**, that Mr. Thomas Vick is hereby reappointed as the Vegetable Industry representative on the Agricultural Practices Advisory Board to serve a four-year term beginning on the effective date of this resolution.

The foregoing resolution 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:

Oliver G. Gilbert, III, Chairman	
Anthony Rodríguez, Vice Chairman	
Marleine Bastien	Juan Carlos Bermudez
Kevin Marino Cabrera	Sen. René García
Roberto J. Gonzalez	Keon Hardemon
Danielle Cohen Higgins	Eileen Higgins
Kionne L. McGhee	Raquel A. Regalado
Micky Steinberg	

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2023. 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

JUAN FERNANDEZ-BARQUIN, CLERK

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.



Cristina M. Rabionet