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CLERK OF THE BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 8(L)(6)

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

DATE: May 2, 2023

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution reappointing Erik
Tietig to the Agricultural
Practices Advisory Board

Resolution No. R-410-23

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.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/jp

MDC001

Memorandum



Date: May 2, 2023

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

From: Daniella Levine Cava
Mayor 

Subject: Appointment of One Nursery Industry Representative to the Agricultural Practices Advisory Board

Recommendation

The Miami-Dade County Chapter of the Florida Nursery Growers and Landscape Association, pursuant to Section 2-933 of the Code of Miami-Dade County (Code), recommends Erik Tietig be reappointed to the Agricultural Practices Advisory Board (APAB) as one of two nursery industry representatives. 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. Tietig is attached as Exhibit A.

Nursery Industry No. 1 Representative

Mr. Erik Tietig was nominated by the Miami-Dade County Chapter of the Florida Nursery, Growers and Landscape Association as its nominee for reappointment. Mr. Tietig is Vice President of Pine Island Nursery & Tree Farm, Inc. and is a former president of Florida Nursery, Growers, and Landscape Association. He has also served on various agricultural boards including the Tropical Fruit Growers of South Florida, the Dade County Farm Bureau, and the University of Florida Tropical Research and Education Center Advisory Committee. Mr. Tietig has a bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Florida and has also been awarded the Florida Nursery, Growers, and Landscape Association Young Nursery Professional of the Year (2006-07) and the Southern Nursery Association Young Professional of the Year (2006-07). The Florida Nursery, Growers and Landscape Association recommended the reappointment of Erik Tietig at its January 24, 2023, board meeting. Mr. Tietig's resume and the minutes of the meeting at which he was selected are attached as Exhibit A.



Jimmy Morales
Chief Operations Officer

Erik Tietig
16300 SW 184th Street
Miami, FL 33187

PH: (305)233-5501
FX: (305)233-5610
etietig@gmail.com

Education:

1994-1998 University of Florida

I graduated with a bachelor's degree in political science with an emphasis on international relations, U.S. government, western European politics, Sub-Saharan African politics, and hegemony and culture.

Work Experience:

1995-1998 W.T. Riley Construction Company

Working as a laborer I gained experience in residential and commercial building construction, building materials, and heavy equipment operation.

1998-1999 Law Offices of Edward C. Tietig P.A.

Working as a paralegal I gained experience in constitutional property law with emphasis on government takings, Harris Act claims, and civil rights litigation.

1999-present Pine Island Nursery, Inc.

I currently act as the Vice President of the company which specializes in the production of tropical fruit, nut, and spice trees.

2012-present Miracle Fruit Farm, LLC

I act as the owner and CEO of the farm which specializes in miracle fruit and it's biomedical applications.

Trade Associations and Civic Organizations:

Florida Nursery Grower's and Landscape Association

Dade Chapter FNGLA Director	2000-2002
State FNGLA Director and Chapter State Representative	2002-2006
Dade Chapter FNGLA First Vice President	2005-2006
Dade Chapter FNGLA President	2006-2007
Dade Chapter FNGLA Tournament Committee Chair	2001-present

Dade County Farm Bureau

Director	2002-2009; 2011-present
Secretary	2003-2004
Treasurer	2004-2005

Tropical Fruit Growers of South Florida

Treasurer	2004-2007
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Rotary Club of Homestead

President	2005-2006
Assistant Governor	2008-2010
Member	2000-present

2002-2006 Miami-Dade County Agriculture and Rural Areas Study

Citizens Advisory Committee Member- County Commission Appointment

2006-present Community Bank of Florida

Executive Advisory Committee Member- Board of Directors Appointment

2006-present University of Florida Tropical Research and Education Center Advisory Committee

Committee Chairman- Center Director Appointment

2006-present Miami-Dade County Agricultural Practices Advisory Board

Nursery Industry Representative- County Commission Appointment

Awards

2005-2006 Presidential Citation awarded by Rotary International

2006-2007 FNGLA Young Nursery Professional of the Year

2006-2007 Southern Nursery Association Young Nursery Professional of the Year

2010 Miami-Dade Chapter FNGLA Babe Greer Award

2013 National Outstanding Young Farmer



January 31, 2023

Stephen M. Dorsey
Principal Planner
Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources
Planning Division, Metropolitan Planning Section
111 NW 1st Street, 12th Floor
Miami, Florida 33128-1927

Dear Mark:

Please accept this letter on behalf of the Miami-Dade FNGLA Board of Directors as its intention to reappoint Erik Tietig to the Agricultural Practices Advisory Board as its nursery industry representative.

This reappointment was affirmed by vote at our regular BOD meeting held on January 24, 2023. A motion was made by board member Ivonne Alexander, seconded by board member Barney Rutzke, Jr. and the vote was unanimous in its decision.

Please see draft minutes attached validating the proceedings and let me know if anything else is needed to affirm his appointment.

As always, thanks for all you, your team and the APAB does for our industry. It is truly appreciated.

Thank you,
Sincerely,

Jeffrey DeMott
Miami-Dade County Chapter FNGLA President

DADE FNGLA BOARD MEETING

January 24,2023

CALL TO ORDER

President Jeff Demott called the meeting to order at 12:20 January 24, 2023

Present

Jeff DeMott
Mary Philcox
Robin Burr
Ivonne Alexander
Felix Deque
Barney Rutzky
Amanda
Julia Romero
Mick Gnagey
-

Introduction of Guests

Charles Lapradd Miami Dade County Agricultural Manager
Dr. Gilly Evans Center Director TREC
Dr. Alexandra Revynyhi Entomology and Nematology TREC
Dr. Romina Gazis Plant Pathology TREC
Dr. Xingbo Wu Environmental Horticulture
Mary Schneider – Dade FNGLA outreach

GOVERNMENT

Charles Lapradd is working with State FNGLA Jim Spratt to prevent any issues of bathroom facilities, septic tanks and portapotty facilities that may encumber ag businesses. These issues go as far as having a septic tank for barns and other additional rules such as a port a potty not being allowed for over 120 days. In addition, venues that had used port a potty may be forced to have bathrooms, meaning additional septic tanks in the county, including in areas where they are forbidden, creating a contradictory legal issue.

Ivonne reported information on The Fair calling on members and anyone available to support AI and Mary's volunteer efforts and support. Fair was noted as being March 16 – April 9 and anyone able to help/assist please reach out to Mary. Discussion was had regarding agriculture education in our county school system is lacking. Ivonne will express concerns shared with MDPS, community concerns, Miami-Dade FNGLA BOD concerns etc.

Approval of November Minutes motion made by Julie, Seconded by Mick Unanimous board vote for approval.

TREC REPORT

Welcome was given by Dr. Gilly Edwards. FNGLA expressed thanks for invitation to TREC and appreciation for renewed focus on the primary agriculture crop in Miami Dade County – the nursery industry. Under Gilly's leadership, many positive things have been accomplished to aid the industry. Dr. Alexandra Revynthi reported that a pest Thrips parvispinus has been found in South Florida necessitating studies on this pest. She has applied to NHF and FDACS for funding. She was very appreciative of the letters of recommendation for these monies from the local FNGLA members. Thanks was expressed by the board for the research efforts made by Alexandra. Jeff suggested a committee should be formed, similarly how the Hibiscus Bud-Weevil committee operated last year, and chaired by Barney, other names discussed and suggested were Mike Merida from Costa, Jackie Torres from Alpha Foliage and Antoine from Florida Tuxedo. Jeff will reach out to members to form this ad-hoc committee and appoint said members. The objective is to put them in direct contact and communication with Alexandra and TREC as needed

Dr. Romina Gazis reported that the clinic handled 1,830 samples this year which reached clinic capacity. She has an excellent lab manager. She is asking that the capability of the lab be increased by a new facility as the current one was a house built in the 1940's. This small, understaffed facility handles the second largest number of samples in the state and is in the epicenter of pathogen entrance to Florida. The board expressed thanks to her outstanding efforts with great appreciation. She also announced a workshop March 3, 2023 at TREC for the study of a new aroid pest present in the landscaping.

TREASURER's REPORT

Julie reported that she, Jeff, Lynda, Al and Mary met and eliminated many extraneous accounts with the books' Chart of Accounts. Julie's goal is to make the report very readable to the board. Board appreciation was expressed. Julie asked to accept financials from October, November and December. Ivonne made the motion to approve for October, seconded by Felix. Board vote was unanimous. Ivonne made a motion to approve the November financials. Mary P seconded. Board vote was unanimous. Mary P made a motion for the financials be approved for December. Ivonne seconded. The question was called and the vote was unanimous.

OLD BUSINESS

Botanical Auctions/Seedbank: Jeff advised all is going well and issues are, seemingly, more user related. System has been performing well these past couple of months. Stated that this week's auction may be a record with sales due to sheer amount of items for auction. Jeff mentioned he believed the BOD approved payment be issued to PlantAnt for invoice from Summer, 2022 but check had not been issued. Unable to observe this vote in previous minutes he called for a motion to 're-affirm' said vote to pay this open invoice regarding server migration and site development from Early-Mid, 2022. Motion made to issue payment for invoice for \$5,100 by Barney, seconded by Julie, board vote was unanimous. Appreciation was extended to Jeff for his handling of the site.

Nursery Report/Foliage Guide: Jeff asked Robin to arrange for committee meeting to put together formal proposal for BOD as soon as possible. Proposal should include amounts to charge for ads, structure of book, pricing estimates, etc. If possible and timely, book could be prepared in time for FNGLA TLS this Fall, but ultimate goal would be to produce annually and distribute at FNGLA TPIE.

Office Committee: Jeff advised he would like office committee to look into vendors (namely AT&T) to see any cost saving measures that may be taken. Do we need multiple phone lines, etc.? Decided best to table this discussion and will discuss next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

As Erik Tietig's term on the Agricultural Practices Board is to expire, the board made a motion to renew Erik's next term as FNGLA representative on the Agricultural Practices. Ivonne Alexander made the motion, seconded by Barney Rutzky. Board vote was unanimous.

The Buster DeMott Family Fishing Tournament was a roaring success. We are planning a scholarship dinner for May 15. It is expected to award four scholars with \$2,500 scholarships. Mary has begun distributing applications.



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: May 2, 2023

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 8(L)(6)

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)(6)
5-2-23

RESOLUTION NO. _____ R-410-23

**RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING ERIK TIETIG 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 Florida Nursery Growers & Landscape Association has recommended the reappointment of Mr. Erik Tietig to serve as one of two Nursery Industry representatives on the Agricultural Practices Advisory Board; and

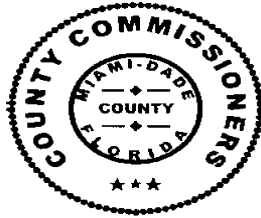
WHEREAS, section 2-935 of the Code of Miami-Dade County directs that vacancies on the Agricultural Practices Advisory Board shall be filled by the Board of County Commissioners,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that Mr. Erik Tietig is hereby appointed as the Nursery Industry Representative No. 1 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 **Eileen Higgins**,
who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Marleine Bastien**
and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 2nd day of May, 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

LUIS G. MONTALDO, CLERK AD INTERIM

Basia Pruna

By: _____
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

Cristina M. Rabionet