

MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 8(L)(1)

TO: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: July 1, 2025

FROM: Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Resolution appointing Salvatore
Finocchiaro to the Agricultural
Practices Advisory Board

Resolution No. R-667-25

The accompanying resolution was prepared by the Regulatory and Economic Resources on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Danielle Cohen Higgins.



Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

GBK/ks

Memorandum



Date: July 1, 2025

To: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Daniella Levine Cava *Daniella Levine Cava*
Mayor

Subject: Appointment of One Agricultural Practices Advisory Board
Member Salvatore "Sal" Finocchiaro

Recommendation

The Dade County Farm Bureau, pursuant to Section 2-933 of the Code of Miami-Dade County (Code), recommends that Salvatore "Sal" Finocchiaro be appointed to the Agricultural Practices Advisory Board (APAB) as one of two vegetable 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;

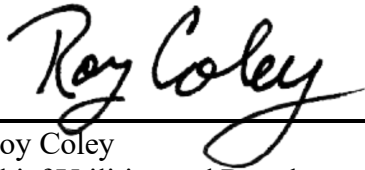
- One (1) representative of the aquaculture industry, recommended by the Ornamental Aquaculture Association of South Florida;
- One (1) representative of a citizens' association supportive of agriculture, recommended by the Redland Citizens' Association;
- One (1) representative of allied agribusiness 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. Finocchiaro is attached as Exhibit A and Exhibit B.

Vegetable Industry Representative

Mr. Salvatore "Sal" Finocchiaro has been a partial owner and officer of several agricultural businesses since 1989. He is a partial owner and president of S&S Tree Farm, Inc. (Homestead) March 2023-present, where he is responsible for the management of 120 acres of field grown landscape trees, as well as day-to-day operations of the company. He is a partial owner and president of S&L Beans, Inc. (Homestead) 1989-present, and is similarly responsible for day-to-day operations; partial owner and vice president of F&T Farms (Homestead) 1991-present; partial owner and secretary of L&S Krome Properties (Homestead) 2004-present; partial owner and president of BKLS Inc. (Homestead) 2004-present; partial owner and secretary of Horseshoe Picking, Inc. (Homestead) 2006-present; and a partial owner of FT&T Bean Line (Homestead) 1997-present. He was a partial owner and CDBO [community-based development organization] of Skynet360, LLC (Homestead) 2004-2010, where he was responsible for the oversight and management of marketing development and promotional activities. He is an active member of the First National Bank Board of Directors, Dade County Farm Bureau Past President, Florida Farm Bureau State Trade Board, Agri-Council, the Florida Dade Corrections Prison Board, and the Future Farmers of America. Mr. Finocchiaro graduated from South Dade Senior High School in 1988. His resume is attached as Exhibit A and the minutes of the meeting at which he was selected is attached as Exhibit B.

Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez
and Members, Board of County Commissioners
Page No. 3

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Roy Coley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

Roy Coley
Chief Utilities and Regulatory Services Officer

Salvatore Finocchiaro
18270 SW 288 Street
Homestead Florida 33030
Sal@snstreefarm.com

WORK EXPERIENCE:

S&S TREE FARM, INC. Homestead (305)205-0760

Partial Owner, President

March 2023-Present

As President I am responsible for management of 120 acre field grown landscape trees. I also play a key role in the administration of critical corporate matters and day to day operations of the company.

S & L BEANS, INC., Homestead (305) 247-0806

Partial Owner, President

1989-Present

S & L Beans Inc is an agricultural farm located in South Florida. As president and owner of S & L Beans Inc I was responsible for the day to day operations of all farm related business. This includes, but is not limited to, creating production schedules, planting schedules, picking schedules, fertilizing schedules, watering schedules, overseeing all mechanical repairs and purchases, overseeing the management of all departments, incoming payables, outgoing receivables, etc. S&L Beans stopped farming May, 2019.

F & T Farms, Homestead (305) 247-0806

Partial Owner, Vice President

February 1991-Present

F & T Farms Inc is an agricultural farm located in South Florida. As Vice President and partial owner of F & T Farms Inc. I was responsible for the day to day operations of all farm related business. This includes, but is not limited to, leasing available land, farming available land, managing all employees, overseeing the management of all departments, incoming payables and outgoing receivables, etc.

L & S Krome Properties, Homestead (305) 247-0806

Partial Owner, Secretary

March 2004-Present

L & S Krome Properties Inc. is rental income company of a commercial property. As Secretary I serve as a focal point for communications between the company and all other parties. I also play a key role in the administration of critical corporate matters. I manage all day to day operations of the company.

BKLS Inc, Homestead (305) 247-0806

Partial Owner, President

June 2004- Present

BKLS Inc. is a rental income company. As President I preside over all decisions made regarding the company. I am also the focal point for day to day business related to the company.

Horseshoe Picking Inc, Homestead (305) 247-0806

Partial Owner, Secretary

October 2006-Present

Horseshoe Picking Inc is a personal payroll company. This company is managed in part by myself and by my partner and is used to manage payroll for our other companies.

FT & T Bean Line, Homestead (305) 247-0090

Partial Owner

October 1997-2013

FT & T Bean Line is a packing facility for the management of packaging and transport of production of S & L Beans Inc (listed above). I also played a key role in the administration of critical corporate matters. I aided in the management of all day to day operations of the company.

SKYNET360 LLC, Homestead (786) 349-2000

Partial Owner, CDBO

April 2004-2010

As CDBO I was responsible for the oversight and management of all marketing development and promotional activities related to SKYNET360 LLC. I was also responsible for the oversight of the sales team and all incoming business.

Memberships & Board Positions

I am an active voting member on the following local boards:

First National Bank Board of Directors

Dade County Farm Bureau Board of Directors, Past President

Florida Farm Bureau State Trade Board

Agri-Council

Florida Dade Corrections Prison Board

Local Contributor

I am an active local contributor to the following organizations:

FFA: The National FFA Organization operates under a charter granted by the 81st congress of the United States and is an integral part of public instruction in agriculture. The US Department of Education provides leadership and helps set direction to FFA as a service to state and local agricultural education programs.

Dade County Farm Bureau: Comprised of local dedicated members of agriculture, Dade County Farm Bureau provides an active local voice to members of Dade County agriculture on various issues affecting the community.

EDUCATION:

South Dade Sr. High Graduate
1988

Bi-lingual: Spanish, English, Italian
References available upon request.



DADE COUNTY FARM BUREAU

1850 Old Dixie Hwy., Homestead, FL 33033 • Tel. 305-246-5514 • Fax 305-245-9170



Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

August 13th, 2024 @ 11:30 AM

1. TREC Report: No TREC report this meeting.
2. Call to order: - President, Barney Rutzke, Jr. called the meeting to order @ 12:04 PM
3. Pledge of Allegiance: – Larry Dunagan led the board in reciting the pledge.
4. Ag Patrol Present: Alex Angulo- Discussed 9 Illegal dumping cases, 71 cases, 23 arrests, there was also a stolen skid steer, 1 warrant. He advised they have mold in their new trailer, he also advised there has been a big down tick in the south end and they have been more focused in the north end.
5. Guests: - Miami- Dade Public School Board candidate for District 7, Javier "Javi" Perez came to meet the board and share a little about his history.

South Dade Senior High School Agriculture teacher and teacher who handles the FFA program, Robby Cox also attended with an ask for the board. They had a need for funds to purchase 35 textbooks through the State FNGLA (The Horticulture Professional- totaling \$ 4,375.00)

which is not on the county school board's list of approved textbooks, so the county would not cover the costs, even though the content is approved and would be content to help the students gain a certification through FNGLA's Industry Certification Program. Jeff DeMott said he had spoken to Tal with the State FNGLA to possibly help split the cost of the textbooks. Margie motioned to purchase the textbooks in full, with the possibility of 50% reimbursement from the State FNGLA. Mark W. seconded the motion. The board approved.

Guests dismissed for Regular Roll Call.

6. Board Member's Present: - President, Barney Rutzke, Jr.; Vice President, Heather Moehling; Secretary Steve Hoveland, Treasurer, David Hanck; Jeff DeMott; Pedro Sifuentes; Jorge Zamora; Erik Tietig; Margie Pikarsky; Larry Dunagan; Hal Arve; Sam Accursio Jr; Tom Rieder, Kim Sue Hosang; Phil Marraccini; David Torbert; Paul Wiggins Mark Wilson; Ivonne Alexander; Mark Philcox; Mick Gnaegy; Kevin Uzquiano; Kern Carpenter, Bobby Shekels.
7. Board Member's Absent: - Sam Accursio III; Sal Finocchiaro; Peter Schnebly and David Kaplan.
8. Other's Present: - Exec. Dir. Jocelyn Guilfoyle; Exec. Assist., Joanne Dean; Florida Farm Bureau Assist. Dir. of Gov. & Comm. Affairs, Jake Fojtik; Miami Dade Ag Manager, Charles LaPradd; FDACS- Reg. Dir. for Ag. Comm.- Wilton Simpson, Jorge Abreu.
 - President's Report: -Barney discussed that the Governor had vetoed the farmworker housing bill. He said he would like to have Tom Macvicar attend the September Board meeting to provide an update. He would also like to have UF/IFAS attend the September Board meeting to discuss the Mite Resistant research and present them with a check for Mite Resistant research with 10% of net proceeds from BBQ. He also shared the information regarding the Mind Your Melon Survey and requested the board to look into and take the survey. He also mentioned that the Executive Committee had discussed possible advertising in the form of some sort of billboard, but that it be discussed in a sub committee and then brought back to the full board.
 - Secretary's Report: Steve motioned to approve the meeting minutes from the June 4th board meeting, Heather seconded, and board approved.
 - Treasurer's Report: - David Hanck went through the July financials and discussed the Proposed 2024-2025 Budget– Ivonne Motioned to approve the July financials and the proposed 2024-2025 budget Jeff DeMott seconded, and board approved.
 - Miami- Dade Ag Manager's Report: - Charles LaPradd mentioned the issues with the potholes and the roads were still being worked on. Funding available is \$ 54,000. Barney recommended sending a letter to all commissioners regarding the issues with the potholes. He also mentioned Farmworker Health Fair 9/19/24 at Harris Field, Free, no ID's required. He also mentioned EPA change to chemical labels.
 - FDACS update- Jorge Abreu: Nothing to report at this time.

9. Old Business

- N/A

10. New Business-

- Pay increases- Joanne, 3 CSR's and Receptionist- The Executive Board recommended a \$1.00 an hour increase. Sam motioned to increase the increase to 6% for Joanne and 3 CSR's. Receptionist to stay at \$ 1.00 per hour increase and there was discussion to increase office cleaning pay. Margie seconded board approved.
- Sponsorships-Homestead Rodeo Association \$ 2,000 and One Night in the Tropics- Mark W. motioned to approve the sponsorships of these two events, Heather seconded, board approved.
- Officer and Board Positions- Heather Mohling to move to President, David Torbert to move to Vice President everyone else stays in the same position. Ivonne A. motioned to approve the position changes, Phil M. seconded, and board approved.
- Farm Family of the Year Recipient- the Executive Committee recommended the Sifuentes Family, Ivonne A. motioned to approve the Sifuentes Family, Bobby S. seconded the motion. Board approved.
- The Executive Board recommends 10% Net BBQ profits be put towards Mite Resistant Research- Margie P. motioned to approve the recommendation, Mark W. seconded the motion, and the board approved.
- OSHA Inspections- Barney discussed that several local nurseries have had OSHA visits. Some of the visits are being accompanied by third parties linked to special interest groups. Jorge Z. advised he can put together a Best Practices document to help business owners have a guideline of their rights. Also mentioned having a Third-party access joint letter with rights of owners.
- Amendment to May 15th meeting minutes regarding Sal F. as secondary for County Ag Practices Position. This was in the meeting notes but was inadvertently not put in the meeting minutes. Jeff D. motioned for the correction of the 5/15/24 meeting minutes to reflect Sal F. as secondary, Mark W. seconded the motion, and the board approved. Barney also advised that Tom Vick would be stepping down from the Ag Practices board and there would be an open position that DCFB would need to fill. Jeff D. motioned for the position to be filled by Sal F. and have Lenny Cavalero as a secondary back up, Margie P. seconded the motion, and the board approved.
- Money for FFA Ag Books- (Board approved above)

- Office Maintenance- To have trees trimmed, paint touch ups and outside shutters done. Mark Wilson motioned to approve the maintenance, Mark P. seconded, board approved the motion.
- Donation to Envirothon- Last year we donated \$250.00 to the Envirothon. We received a request for continued support this year. Mark Wilson motioned to approve a \$ 250.00 donation again this year. Mark P. seconded; the board approved the motion.

Updates

- a. Executive Director- Jocelyn Guilfoyle – Discussed Youth Speech Contest – Sophia Lopez will attend the District Youth Speech Contest which has been rescheduled for September 4th, 2024, at the Broward UF/IFAS Extension office. She advised the This Farm CARES ceremony honoring Erik & Heather Tietig & Pine Island Farm will take place at the DCFB/ FNGLA Holiday Party and Toy Drive. (Dec. 12th, 2024). She discussed the district 9 meeting being held 8/23 & 8/24 in Clewiston, the DCFB Annual Meeting will be held Oct. 1st, 2024, at RGCC. The FFBF Annual meeting to be held in San Destin, FL Oct 30th- Nov. 1st, 2024. She mentioned the Annual Turkey Drive, the FFBF Advisory Committee appointments (Applications due by Aug. 30th, 2024). She advised Hal's retirement party will be held at RGCC on Dec. 5th, 2024.
- b. Field Representative- Sam Phares- was not present. Report attached.
- c. FFBF Assist. Dir. Of Gov. & Comm. Affairs- Jake Fojtik- Discussed Lake Okeechobee Operational signed 8/12/24.
- d. Agency Manager- Hal Arve discussed auto insurance sales are slow. It is expected to be an active hurricane season. There is an increase on Homeowner's & Nursery Insurance rates. They are writing insurance for homes 2002 or newer with a roof 6 years or newer. There are multi- policy discounts available.
- e. State Representative- Mark Wilson- Discussed Florida Farm Bureau's rebranding to include a new logo, nothing has been confirmed. He also advised the last storm Debby had 202 claims. The CAP Grant submission deadline is Nov. 1st. He also advised there will be a CAP Grant for food assistance that the board may want to consider using towards purchasing the students livestock at the county fair.

Open Discussion- Margie P. advised that they would not be having the Tropical Heritage Harvest Festival this year but asked that we be present to show support for a different event that may take its place.

11. Committee Reports –

- a) Membership- Hal Arve-
- b) Government Affairs- Heather Moehling – Heather Moehling is hoping to have a meeting 8/20/24.
- c) Website & social media- Heather Moehling
- d) BBQ- Larry Dunagan-
- e) Fundraising- Larry Dunagan
- f) Scholarship Committee- Jocelyn Guilfoyle-
- g) Education Committee- Jocelyn Guilfoyle-
- h) Woman's Committee- Evelyn Guilfoyle
- i) Marketing & Promotions- Jocelyn Guilfoyle
- j) Long Range Planning- Sal Finocchiaro-
- k) PAC Report- Peter Schnebly/ Heather Moehling-

12. Next Meeting Date: September 3rd, 2024

13. Motion to adjourn: Steve H. motioned to adjourn; Margie P. Seconded board approved adjourned 2:41 PM

Upcoming Dates: August 23rd & 24th - District 9 Meeting (Clewiston), September 2nd – Labor Day- Office Closed, Oct 1st -DCFB Annual Meeting.



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

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

DATE: July 1, 2024

FROM: 
Gen Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 8(L)(1)

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)(1)
7-1-25

RESOLUTION NO. R-667-25

RESOLUTION APPOINTING SALVATORE FINOCCHIARO
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,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that Salvatore Finocchiaro is hereby appointed as one of two Vegetable Industry representatives 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 **Raquel A. Regalado**, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Marleine Bastien** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

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

The Chairperson thereupon declared this resolution duly passed and adopted this 1st day of July, 2025. 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: Basia Pruna
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "CMR", is written over a horizontal line.

Cristina M. Rabionet