

Summary of Discussion
Broward County Charter Review Commission
Wednesday, January 30, 2008
Broward County Governmental Center
115 South Andrews Avenue Room 430
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Members Present:

Mayor Lori Moseley, Chair
Commissioner Hazelle Rogers, Vice Chair
Commissioner Hayward J. Benson, Jr.
Michael L. Buckner, Esq.
Mayor Debby Eisinger
Ms. Maggie Davidson
Mr. David Esack
Ms. Patricia Good
H.K. "Petey" Kaletta
Mr. Mark Ketcham
Dr. Mark Lieberman
Commissioner Ted Mena – *Departed during the course of the meeting*
Burnadette Norris-Weeks, Esq. – *Departed during the course of the meeting*
Dr. Irv Rosenbaum
Ms. Jodi Jeffreys-Tanner
Mr. Wil Trower
Richard J. Weiss, Esq.

Members Absent:

Joseph Maus, Esq.
Bruce Rogow, Esq.

Others Attending:

Devin Avery, Broward County Office of Economic Development
Joe Benavides, Broward County Council of Professional Firefighters
Kareen Boutros, Executive Director, Broward Workshop
Jon Burstein

Rhonda Calhoun, Executive Director, Broward League of cities
Mayor Joy Cooper, Hallandale Beach
Jim Cummings, Broward Workshop
Mark Curran, Coral Springs Fire Department
Edward Curran, President, Fire Chiefs Association of Broward County
Fire Chief Dave Donzella, Lighthouse Point Fire Rescue
Chedley Etienne, Administrative Assistant, CRC
Nancy Fear, Administrative Coordinator, District 6
Ellen Feld, Esq.
Ken Fink
Walter Dix, Broward Fire Fighters and Paramedics (IAFF Local 4321)
Chief Duncan Foster, City of Coral Springs Police Department
Dan Glickman, Deerfield Beach, FL
Breanne Gilpatrick, Miami Herald
Samuel Goren, Esq., General Counsel
Yolanda Grooms, Administrative Specialist, CRC
Maria Gross, Assistant Director, CRC
Alan Hooper, Broward Workshop / DDA
John Jurgle, Assistant Chief, Pompano Beach Fire Rescue
Phyllis A. King, Transcriber, PKING Consulting
Dan Lindblade, President / CEO, Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce
Mark McCormick, President, Broward Workshop
John McNamara, Broward County Council of Professional Firefighters
Chief Robert Pudney, Plantation Fire Department
Robin Rorapaugh, Hollywood, FL
Chief Daniel Sullivan, Hallandale Beach Fire Rescue
David Tolces, Esq., Assistant General Counsel
Lisa Vondrak, News Abstracts
Mel Wilson, Esq., Special Counsel, CRC

(A copy of the sign-in sheets identifying those present is filed with the supplemental papers to the summary of this Public Commission Meeting.)

A meeting of the Broward County Charter Review Commission ("CRC," "Board," or "Commission") was held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 30, 2008 at the Broward County Governmental Center Room 430, Fort Lauderdale, FL.

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

The Chair Lori Moseley called the meeting to order at 10:13 a.m. and requested the roll call by Phyllis A. King, PKING Consulting, Inc. Upon completion of the roll, the Chair recognized the presence of a quorum.

II. Housekeeping Items

1. Approval of Summary of Discussion from 12/5/2007 Public Safety Subcommittee Meeting

Mr. Benson MOTIONED to approve the Public Safety Subcommittee December 5, 2007 Summary of Discussion, Dr. Rosenbaum SECONDED. The Chair called for all in favor, I's were stated, and the motion PASSED unanimously.

2. Approval of Summary of Discussion from 12/10/2007 Transportation Subcommittee Meeting.

Ms. Tanner MOTIONED to approve the Transportation Subcommittee December 10, 2007 Summary of Discussion, Ms. Good SECONDED. The Chair called for all in favor, I's were stated, and the motion PASSED unanimously.

III. Approval of January 9, 2008, CRC Summary of Discussion

Ms. Tanner MOTIONED to approve the full Charter Review Commission January 9, 2008 Summary of Discussion with correction as requested by Ms. Kaletta, Ms. Eisinger SECONDED. The Chair called for all in favor, I's were stated, and the motion PASSED unanimously.

IV. Chair & Assistant Executive Director's Report

The Chair advised the CRC that Ms. West is doing very well post-operatively as she is already up and around and should return in a few weeks.

The Chair informed the Commission that she has spoken with Park Place, St. Charles Place, and the Democratic Club of Pembroke Pines with regard to the Charter Review Commission.

She is also scheduled to speak at a League of Women Voters' luncheon on February 28, 2008, and suggested that CRC members encourage participation from concerned parties.

Charter Review Commission Public Hearing Meeting Dates

The Chair stated for the record that the CRC Public Hearings will be held on the following dates:

- ***Wednesday, March 12, 2008 at 5:00 p.m.***
- ***Wednesday, April 9, 2008 at 1:00 p.m.***

Both meetings will be held at the Broward County Governmental Center in Commission Chambers, Room 422.

In light of the shortage of Commission members at the end of the last full CRC meeting and the potential affect on voting, the Chair requested that CRC members stay until the end of the meetings, she also requested keeping discussions on point and not overly repetitive, in the essence of the time.

Mr. Ketcham asked the Chair if the CRC will be taking input from the public at the Public Hearing on new items or just the items the CRC is proposing.

The Chair advised that the CRC will take input from the public on items that have already been written up by General Counsel.

Mr. Goren: The objective is to submit what you proposed, to be a proposed final document at that time, subject to additional tweaking.

The Chair stressed the importance of completing each task given that the CRC work needs to be done by the end of February, before the Public Hearings. There is no time to bring up entirely different items.

Ms. Rogers advised that while attending a recent meeting; she provided an explanation with regard to the proposed language of the current CRC going directly to the voters. Ms. Rogers requested clarification from Legal Counsel ***for the record*** as to why the language being proposed must go directly to the voters.

Mr. Goren: Under Section 6.02 of the Charter which was amended several years ago; Subsection (C) specifically says that:

“The County Commission shall place the Charter Review Commission's proposed amendments and/or revisions with the associated ballot language approved by the Charter Review Commission on the general election ballot at the next general election.”

Two components, one of which is the mandatory, “shall” place on the ballot, as well as the ballot language. There was in a prior Charter Review Commission’s Review discussion regarding the language which could effectively be vetted or changed, to some extent, before it got onto the ballot through the County Commission’s filter. That filter is essentially just a transfer or conduit which now requires transition to the ballot directly under that provision.

Ms. Rogers asked if it is okay for CRC members to speak to groups on the current CRC issues if invited.

The Chair stated that it was decided to funnel speaking engagement requests through the Chair and Executive Director for consistency. She explained that the hardest task is not to give personal opinions and if a CRC member is speaking on behalf of the CRC, it is not for anyone to advocate a position other than the position that the CRC has taken or voted on.

Ms. Rogers pointed out that there have been times where she was in attendance at a meeting as an Elected Official, and questions have been asked in regards to the Charter Review Commission.

The Chair advised Ms. Rogers that this scenario would be different from a formal speaking engagement and the information could be delivered.

Assistant Executive Director’s Report – Ms. Maria Gross

Ms. Gross provided an overview of items in the Commission folders:

- ***Resolution 2008-015 (Composition of County Commission)***
- ***Resolution 2008-012 (Public Safety)***
- ***A letter from Hallandale Beach regarding Fire Fighters’ Pension Trust Fund***

- ***A letter from the Broward League of Cities regarding Resolution 2008-012 (Renaming Broward County Fire Rescue Council, Increasing its Membership and Responsibilities, and Minimum Standards)***
- ***Resolution 2008-013 (Public Records – Via Internet will be handled at the CRC level not at the subcommittee level.)***
- ***CRC Public Hearings Press Release***

Ms. Gross advised that the Public Hearings will follow the regularly scheduled CRC meetings and asked if the CRC members could confirm their attendance via email. She stated that the Press Release has been drafted.

The Chair moved to the next order of business, and requested Mr. Goren to provide a brief overview.

V. Composition of County Commission (Resolution 2008-015)

Mr. Goren: This document reflects the conversion of this Charter Review Commission in December, as well as comments that were offered by the Broward Workshop. It essentially, in 25 words or less, creates a nine (9) plus two (2) variety, which requires nine (9) Single-member Districts and two (2) At-large Districts: one of the two At-large Districts being a Mayor elected for a four (4) year term. It provides for consistency with the County Charter as well. It is separate however, from the method by which Re-districting would occur. That's a separate item as you know, 2008-014 which we will discuss later today. In the standpoint of this proposal, this was the only item that emerged from the Board's discussions and reflects at that time your direction for us to draft given the appropriate number of votes, and turn the table for others to consider in whatever fashion you deem appropriate.

The Chair opened the floor for discussion.

Dr. Rosenbaum advised that yesterday's property tax vote was shocking and is one of the most important things that have happened. He stated that in looking at the property tax issue, Broward County needs to move to a *regional government* and probably needs an *Elected Mayor*.

Dr. Rosenbaum suggested considering a *Straw Vote* on the ballot rather than putting the specifics that he does not want to put something on the ballot that will look as though it is going in the wrong direction. He stated that Broward County government needs time to evolve and that he has a bad feeling in terms of the political environment and putting Resolution 2008-015 on the ballot at this time.

Mr. Trower advised that his concern is that the CRC had an agreement that the language which is proposed was sufficient and met the needs for Broward County going forward. He stated that the language was discussed by a prior CRC and did not go anywhere; he advised that the CRC has purposed a Resolution....

Mr. Goren: *For the record:* the full Board actually directed by the appropriate vote count to draft, and that is where it sits.

Mr. Trower stated it is important for the CRC to send the resolution forward for the populous to take a look and make a decision.

Mr. Buckner agreed with the Committee members but advised that he is purposing an alternative to Resolution 2008-015; which is included in Commission folders.

The Chair advised the Commission that what Mr. Buckner purposes is different from what the Commission has already decided.

Mr. Buckner advised the Chair that after his comments, he will make a Motion to Amend Resolution 2008-015 in order to have his alternate plan considered.

The Chair stated that Mr. Buckner's amendment changes the resolution completely.

Mr. Buckner advised that under Robert's Rule of Order he can make a motion.

The Chair agreed.

Ms. Norris-Weeks questioned the procedure by which the proposed item of amendment submitted by Mr. Buckner came before the full Commission.

The Chair advised that there is another proposal on the table which the Commission did not vote to discuss.

Mr. Buckner explained that he wrote out his proposed amendment/motion in order to better explain his proposed language. He expressed concern with being penalized for doing due diligence.

The Chair gave Mr. Buckner the floor to make his proposal prior to moving forward.

Mr. Buckner stated that he believes yesterday's election reveals that the public is concerned about the cost of government, however he believes the public is also interested in change in government and actually getting the government to actually accomplish something and not just talk. He advised that his proposed amendment will amend Resolution 2008-015 and instead of having a second At-large seat being a Commission seat, change it to a Public Advocate seat elected At-large. He referred to Counties who have systems similar to his proposal. Mr. Buckner advised that the Public Advocate seat would address some of the concerns that the general public has in terms of efficiency and how the government operates, as well as having someone who is actually speaking for them at all times.

Mr. Buckner referred the Commission to page 4, Section 2.05 of his amendment and explained that it lays out the duties and responsibilities of this Public Advocate. He stated that the Public Advocate would answer complaints about Broward County resident's problems with County government, request that the County Auditor investigate ineffective agencies and programs – propose solutions that make government more efficient, and help communities gain better access to government. He stated that these are some of the issues that the general public is also expressing, in addition to property Tax Reform and all other economic crisis issues.

Mr. Buckner advised that his proposal along with what was discussed in previous meetings, and what the Broward Workshop has brought forward would actually bring forth the added change that the public is wanting. He stated that his proposal also includes various other minor enhancements to the Mayor's duties as well as making all elected positions, from the Mayor, to the County Commissioners, non-partisan.

Mr. Buckner MOTIONED to amend the current Resolution 2008-015 with his Alternate Plan for proposed Resolution 2008-015 to have an At-Large Mayor and an At-Large Public Advocate; Mr. Mena SECONDED.

The Chair advised that the issue to her is more far reaching than minor changes. She stated that Mr. Buckner's amendment is a "totally different animal" than what is being discussed.

Mr. Buckner stated that he believes it is improper for the Chair to discuss the merits of the proposal while it is on the floor before the Commission members have had a chance to discuss the merits. He reminded the Chair that she is supposed to moderate the discussion.

Mr. Goren: Under Rule 6.1.1 which you have adopted, all perspective Charter Amendments shall be presented to the Commission by a Motion to Discuss, to determine whether such perspective amendments merit consideration by the Commission, to become proposed amendments. Any Motion to Discuss, which I presume Michael's motion is too do; must be supported by an affirmative vote of 10 or greater of all Commission members; which shall be subject to consideration by the Commission. Any Motion to Discuss a perspective amendment failing to be supported by an affirmative vote of 10 or greater of all Commission members, shall not be subject to further consideration by the Commission except upon a successful Motion for Reconsideration and a renewed Motion for Further Consideration; supported by 10 or greater of all Commission members. Any Motion to Discuss supported by an affirmative vote of 10 or greater of all Commission members shall be considered by the Commission.

Mr. Benson MOTIONED to discuss Mr. Buckner's Alternate Plan for proposed Resolution 2008-015 to have an At-Large Mayor and an At-Large Public Advocate; Ms. Good SECONDED.

The Chair called for a roll call vote at 10:42 a.m.

Commissioner Hayward Benson	No	Dr. Mark Lieberman	Yes
Michael Buckner, Esq.	Yes	Joseph Maus, Esq.	Absent
Mayor Debby Eisinger	Yes	Commissioner Ted Mena	Yes
Mr. David Esack	No	Mayor Lori Moseley, Chair	No
Ms. Patricia Good	No	Burnadette Norris-Weeks, Esq.	No
Ms. H.K. "Petey" Kaletta	Yes	Ms. Maggie Davidson	No
Mr. Mark Ketcham	No	Commissioner Hazelle Rogers	Yes

Bruce Rogow, Esq.	Absent	Mr. Wil Trower	No
Dr. Irv Rosenbaum	Absent	Richard Weiss, Esq.	No
Ms. Jodi Jeffreys-Tanner	No		

Motion FAILED on a roll call vote of 6 YES to 10 NO.

Mr. Goren: *For the record*, then procedurally the Motion to Discuss on the alternate proposal 2008-015 is essentially off the table and the only item before the Commission now is the proposal which you requested.

Ms. Good agreed with Mr. Trower, that the resolution should go to the voters for a decision. She pointed out the fact that each Commissioner has three (3) Aides which has a great impact on Broward County’s budget. Ms. Good called for discussion of the financial aspects of proposed Resolution 2008-015.

The Chair advised that there is a budget amount set for each Commissioner.

Ms. Good stated that the financial impact of the current proposal on the County budget could be a gray area. She asked if it says anywhere that each Commissioner must have three (3) Assistants or could it be less.

Mr. Goren: That kind of issue is drilling down fairly deeply into the operational aspects of County Commission and County Commission control to the extent that you may consider – and I am going to venture this educated pathway. Certainly in the context of the question, if you were to make an attempt to regulate that issue; regulate the number of Aides or the number of Support Staff, certainly it could be an item that could be put to the voters in that question as a adjunct to the overall question. Whether it is wise or not; that’s not my decision to make.

Ms. Good advised that she is not looking to micro-manage County government. She again asked where it is written that the County has to designate three Assistants to each Commissioner, and if it wouldn’t be more feasible to minimize the number of Aides that the Commissioners have.

The Chair replied that County Commissioners receive a lump sum for their office, and the Commissioners get to use those funds as they see fit.

Ms. Good advised that for CRC members to say that passing the proposed Resolution would be a financial impact is not exactly accurate either.

Mr. Goren: Under the current Charter there is actually a specific section which talks about the Mayor having the prerogative to recommend support staff conditioned upon County Commission approval, so it does recognize the need to make independent decisions. It also subjects the financial impact of that to the full County Commission itself; in the Charter currently. That was considered by the last Charter Review Commission as a component, as it were, enhancing the Mayors responsibilities.

Ms. Eisinger advised that she believes that yesterday's vote will have a major impact. She stated that she is an advocate of a Mayor At-large; and believes that it is very important. Ms. Eisinger stated that the CRC needs to find out what the financial impact of adding two (2) new positions is, because she believes the CRC has a responsibility of addressing that issue. She asked to know what it costs before the CRC votes on the issue and moves it forward.

The Chair advised that there is supporting documentation. She requested staff locate it while the Commission continues its discussion.

Mr. Esack requested more information regarding putting forth a Straw vote.

Mr. Goren: A Straw Ballot is a unique process in Florida law where an item is placed on the ballot as if it were binding – but it is clearly a ***non-binding referendum*** on a subject that is only taking the pulse barometer of the public. It has no legal effect except to ask what people might think about a particular topic.

Mr. Benson agreed with Dr. Rosenbaum's position and advised that the CRC needs to begin to look at the concepts of the expenditure of County government. He stated that Amendment 1 suggested very clearly that the voters wish to see some reductions, and believes it is coldhearted to put forth a concept that is in total opposition to what the people are saying. Mr. Benson encouraged the CRC not to restructure the County government to the extent of adding the additional positions, and to try move looking at what is in place now and how that can be strengthened. He advised that the Straw Ballot is an interesting concept, and he does not see anything wrong with the idea. Mr. Benson stated that from his perspective the CRC should not move to increase the size of the County Commission.

Ms. Rogers advised that she believes the CRC has come a long way and has a responsibility to do something. She also believes that the vote yesterday clearly signifies that taxpayers want relief, not more bureaucracy and expenses. Ms. Rogers advised that she has issues with how the County Commission goes about selecting the Mayor as she does not believe it is an objective process, as a person could be on the County Commission but not be offered the opportunity to become a Mayor; because the Charter does not provide for any succession, or how the Mayor is selected.

Ms. Rogers explained how she was approached by someone from Dade County who informed her that they were watching the CRC meetings and reading the minutes of the CRC, who questioned how and why she made a particular statement therefore, she is being cautious in her statements. She suggested electing a Mayor that does not have a vote on the Commission. She stated that the current resolution is the only comprehensive document with all of the CRC member's thoughts and she does not believe it is final because instructions were given to Legal Counsel to capture all CRC member thoughts in the best way possible. If the Body agreed then it could be amended in order to come up with something that the public could support; taking into consideration the cost and efficiency of the position.

Ms. Rogers advised that the CRC needs to listen to the voters, because they're saying that we are spending too much and as is, the current proposal will create additional cost. She advised that she does not remember the CRC discussing in detail the cost for increasing government.

The Chair advised that the CRC agreed to look into an Elected Mayor; she suggested having 7:2 and not changing the structure from 9:11.

Ms. Kaletta advised that she believes the comments of why the electorate voted for Amendment one is incorrect. She stated that everyone she has ever discussed the issue with said the Mayor situation in Broward County is not effective. Ms. Kaletta suggested leaving the structure at 9 Commissioners and re-districting to 7 when the time comes; with 2 County-wide elected seats.

Ms. Norris-Weeks stated that she appreciates the efforts of the Broward Workshop and others who are supporting a regional form of government. She advised that up until last night, she was a reluctant supporter of Resolution 2008-015; and had some other issues, whether it would dilute minority representation, etc. However in terms of a compromise, she believes that

Resolution 2008-015 was her compromise. She stated that having seen what happened with the electorate she was amazed; and she believes that the voters have to some extent spoken on this issue. To propose something that would increase government and raise expenses, she does not know if it is necessarily prudent for the CRC to do so. Ms. Norris-Weeks suggested exploring the suggestion that Dr. Rosenbaum voiced; which was to have a Straw Ballot, in order to see what the will of the public would be on an issue such as this. She stated that the next Charter Review Commission in its wisdom, after having possibly reviewed the outcome of the Straw Ballot could make some changes. She advised that at this time, after seeing the vote last night she cannot support the current Resolution 2008-015.

Mr. Buckner advised that he believes some of the committee members are overplaying the outcome of the votes from last night. He stated that he believes it is important to listen to the voters, however, part of the frustration of the voters is that they don't believe the County government is effective. They don't believe that the County government is representing everyone in Broward County. He stated that he believes there needs to be consistent political leadership in this County. Mr. Buckner advised that the residents are concerned with the current 9 collectively of Broward County; and if the CRC wants to listen to the voters then they need to listen to what they are really trying to tell them. The voters are trying to tell us that the County government is inefficient, ineffective, and overtaxing them. He advised that to cut through all the mess that is out there; you must have consistent strong political leadership; and that's what an At-large elected Mayor will do.

Mr. Buckner stated that there have been polls taken and the public wants some type of consistent elected Mayor County-wide; he asked why the CRC should let this opportunity pass by. He suggested that the Commission not allow the establishment to dictate to keep the current County government; he advised that the CRC has an opportunity to do something special.

Ms. Eisinger advised that regardless of the thought processes of the voters; they voted for Amendment One, and the bottom line is that there will be less money for operation of government. She stated that there needs to be a Mayor and a Vice-Mayor both At-large. Ms. Eisinger advised that she supports leaving the County government structure at 9 members. She reminded everyone that from what the numbers are projecting, Broward County is rapidly becoming a majority-minority County. She referred to Commissioner Wasserman-Rubin's comments in which she expressed her interest in supporting At-large positions. She advised

that she would be a strong advocate of sticking with 9 members on the Commission and having 7 Districts with 2 member's At-large. Ms. Eisinger stated that there should be legal input on the issue. She reminded the Commission of then Mayor Eggelation's comments advising of the legal implications of reducing districts. Ms. Eisinger stated that this also happened to be an issue at the Administrative Issues/Governance Subcommittee.

The Chair asked Mr. Goren how the Re-districting would take affect; including minority representation, neighborhood breaks and boundaries, and other issues could be added to the proposal if it were changed to 7:2 as opposed to 9:2 to ensure that it follows the rules of Re-districting. The Chair asked if this would make the Resolution a double-subject item.

Mr. Goren: You may remember that the Governance subcommittee studied the issue carefully and actually drafted several iterations of various proposals regarding 8:1 or 7:2, any number of different configurations with a matrix that showed you the transition from the current circumstance to what was otherwise being asked in the ballot question. Something very important happened at this Commission level this past month; which was the division of the question between the Re-districting Proposal and the issue of how you get there; and how you actually employ an outside third party Consultant to analyze, evaluate, recommend, and essentially bind the Commission to several options; which is currently not in the Charter. The current Charter provides that the County Commission, which still is the case, legally is obliged to in fact reapportion itself. The component which this Board has been debating and discussing provides a very significant mechanism to get there. I think Professor Rogow and Michael Buckner accurately consider this to be a separate issue however. With that being said, I would be happy to listen to the Board and be directed by your guidance, but I believe that the issue is divided. To add the question of a mechanism by which to get there into the proposal might create some legal challenges. It is a matter of course from a timing perspective. They can both stand alone; and that's where the risk may come larger. than not; which is if the method by which we reapportion would occur, if the Re-districting Consultant component doesn't pass and the other one does then you have one link which is somewhat missing or is not there.

The Chair confirmed that even with the mechanism in place legal parameters would still be required.

Mr. Goren: Correct.

Ms. Good stated that being a part of the Administrative Issues/Governance Subcommittee this is one of those topics that the subcommittee discussed at length. She advised that one of the biggest issues of concern to her was the issue of minority representation and having the current Commission modified to include two At-large seats would greatly minimize the likelihood of a minority representative on the Commission. She also reminded the Commission that they too discussed the same topic. Ms. Good stated that the issue of financial impact vs. the issue of inclusion of diversity on the Commission is a key and very important component.

Ms. Norris-Weeks suggested proceeding cautiously. She explained that there was a lot of input and discussion including an expert opinion on the matter provided by Mr. Kurt Spitzer. Ms. Norris-Weeks stated that Mr. Spitzer's opinion was that he believed the alternate Ms. Eisinger mentioned, would dilute minority representation and it is not something she (Ms. Norris-Weeks) would support.

Ms. Eisinger stated that she does not believe Mr. Spitzer was concerned about the legal challenges of her suggestion.

Ms. Norris-Weeks clarified her comment and advised that she did not say that Mr. Spitzer was concerned about the legal challenges. She stated that he did however testify that the alternate would dilute minority representation.

Ms. Eisinger questioned what the specific cost of each new Commission member.

The Chair replied that the cost would be \$702,000; it is broken down.

Ms. Good pointed out the assumption that each Commissioner had three (3) assistants.

The Chair opened the floor for Public Comment.

Public Comments Related to Resolution 2008-015 – Recommendation

Mr. Alan Hooper - Broward Workshop / DDA / Resident of Broward County

Mr. Hooper: Amendment One; I am not sure illustrated what some of you think it did yesterday. What it illustrated was that voters want a say on things such as property taxes or electing a Mayor. Had it been left to the government, Amendment One would have failed yesterday; so I think voters are just expecting an opportunity to have a say on issues such as this one, and

what they want is leadership in Broward. Reducing government is not what Amendment One said. What we want is more efficient government. I think good direction and good leadership creates better efficiency and will save money. If you were running a business, you would not sacrifice your CEO in order to save money. If you are in government, you would not remove your Mayor from a city for the sake of saving money. You know big government is wasted money; that's what people think of when they hear big government. How much would a Straw Ballot cost? If we're talking about money; how much would it cost for the Charter Review Committee to go over this one more time? I mean if we're talking about saving money; how much are those refreshments over there?

We have to think about efficiency, we have to think about good leadership, and I think the voters yesterday said, "We want an opportunity to speak, and to have a say in government;" and I think it's the responsible thing for this Board to move forward with what they voted on in December. Move forward. Give the voters a chance to say whether or not they want to spend a little more money to save a lot more money by being more efficient. Thank you.

Mr. Dan Glickman – Deerfield Beach Florida

Mr. Glickman: One word I have not heard so far is "accountability." The public wants to have elected officials accountable. If you had a County-wide Mayor and At-large at least they can say whether you should or should not be responsible County-wide, those two are – they will be: that's very important. I concur with the first speaker that the public wants to have some input, and really it's more than just voting every four years, but at least every four they will have that opportunity to either keep the wonderful people in or throw the rascals out, so to speak. The idea of having a Straw vote should not be considered; and the reason it should not be considered is twofold. Number one, your job as the Charter Review Commission is not to pre-judge whether the voters will or will not vote, yah or nay. Your job is to say, "Is there a form of political leadership which can be better that the public thinks they may want?", then let the public decide. You should not decide one way or the other as far as what you think the public will decide as far as economics or non-economics is concerned, that's why we have hundreds of thousands of people who weigh the pros and cons. For a Straw Vote to take place, follow the logic, if it does pass you're then faced with a situation that nothing can happen. Whoever heard of that in County government before, or any form of government?

If I had the opportunity to vote for a Public Advocate; I'll tell you something, as a member of the public I could not say no. I would ask whether it be one member or several members to consider or re-consider amending this resolution, not a substitute resolution; but amending this resolution, that a public advocate; it doesn't have to have any great powers, duties, or responsibilities. That could even be left up to the Commission if they so choose. The idea of having a Public Advocate – I would not vote no on a Public Advocate, I think it was mentioned in New York City, I believe it's still in effect, I am not sure, but I believe it's there and has good utilization and effect.

The last thing to mention is that there are hundreds and thousands of people. Do not substitute your judgment for what you think the public will weigh pros and cons for this. I am in favor of this; I am in favor of a Public Advocate as a substitute for the second County-wide elected official. Thank you.

Mayor Joy Cooper - Mayor of Hallandale Beach, FL

Mayor Cooper: First of all, I need to before I publicly speak – I am not speaking as the Mayor of Hallandale Beach nor am I speaking as the Broward League of Cities President. I am here to speak as a resident on this issue, and I have spoken before as a resident in years past on an elected form of government as a Mayor. Historically, I've sat through some of these Commissions and I'm here to say – you want to focus on leadership.

Historically speaking, from my experience over the past years we've had great the County Commissioners. In fact I think many of them and within them they're great leaders that could in fact be an Elected Mayor. Some of the problems with the current system are the lack of continuity. To go through issues on an annual basis is an ineffective period, I am telling you from experience and going over and over and having to change a hat every year. I think this is the right way to go; I would be opposed to reducing the amount of the numbers. I think that in a County this size is warranted; we do not want to dilute the representation certainly of our residence, and expand the duties of each Single district.

I am shocked. In my travels around the United States; there are even cities that have larger Governing Boards than this County does currently to affectively address business. I agree with the comments that I think you're mixing apples and oranges when it comes to Amendment One. I personally have concerns about efficiency and cost effective leadership when it comes to

running offices and operations. Mark my words I think that in light of what happened with Amendment One – as County leaders, they have to start looking at salary cost and employees. I'm not saying that those employees aren't effective, or that they're not doing their jobs. We all need to look at how we govern ourselves.

I as a leader in a community have looked at this even as far as our staffing and what we need to do to be affective and answer those calls. I'm concerned as well, the comments about minority leadership and the dilution of some of the minority districts; I would be very concerned about that. Again, I think you shouldn't mix apples and oranges; it's time for this County to have an Elected position as a Mayor. I know the Broward League will be discussing this. The Board of Directors and the cities will be starting to discuss this because of focus on other issues like Amendment One. It's time to have continuity in leadership that somebody can direct this County and lead the County Commission. Thank you very much for your time.

Dan Lindblade – President/CEO of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Lindblade: I've listened to all your comments and thought that this is a very provocative conversation you're having; some I think the Chamber would concur, others maybe not. Our take on the Property Tax Amendment was, it was just a reaction to some tax policy that had out lived its time. I guess our position continues to be at this point that we think you have probably the most passable proposal you're going to have in front of you right now. Our business community is not as concerned about the expense of added government employees, but we are concerned about the potential loss of revenues for the community if we don't have a Mayor in place for continuity sake. We would encourage you to continue to not react to the vote yesterday as something that suggests that we have too much government in place, but more a reaction to bad tax policy. Thank you.

Mark McCormick – President, Gold Coast Magazine / Member of the Broward Workshop

Mr. McCormick: A lot of the things that you've talked about today were very well thought out, but they'd already been thought out by the Broward Workshop before we pushed forward this proposal. Our concern with going from 9 to 11; believe me we are fiscal conservatives. There's nobody who wants to see this County spend more money in the Broward Workshop. It's a theme that came up and we continuously debated that, but there's a bigger issue there and I look around this table and there's ample representation from this area. We were more

concerned about minority representation and diluting that. We didn't think increasing the County's budget; which is already at \$3.5 billion, and taking it up another \$500,000, and then potentially diluting minority representation; that's not a worthwhile sacrifice on our part. That does not make any sense; you're talking about a much bigger issue for a tiny compromise in terms of the overall budget. Not to say that we are even going to be compromising with that; as I'll go through another point.

We talked about 9:7 and we don't think it's politically feasible; if you want to make sure it doesn't happen try to go to 9:7, the whole Re-districting thing that you'll take on; will open enough cans-of-worms that you will kill the thing. You'll have the greater good that will have gotten pushed out, and potentially you would dilute minority representation. There are too many minorities at this table to let that happen to be honest, and you've got to take care of that.

The second thing I'd like to talk about is yesterday's vote here, which seems to be changing some people in terms of the perception. One of the things that we look for in our government leaders is we don't want knee-jerk reactions. That's one of the reasons we want an Elected Mayor is that you've got strong leadership. We had 16 votes and 4 against a month ago. We have something that came out of the blue yesterday and everybody is interpreting a different way. Leaders don't react that way. They take a look at the big picture of what we are trying to get done and they don't have knee-jerk reactions. They're looking at something that can change and make the County more efficient for the next 20 to 25 years. They're not going to let something that happened 9 hours ago suddenly change that direction. That's what we are looking at as citizens from this group and the same thing we are looking for from the County Commission. Also, yesterday everybody that I know was concerned about portability. We talked about it and they weren't voting on smaller government. They're voting because they're stuck. Everybody is stuck in their house. I am stuck in the house; you're stuck in the house; we are all stuck in the house that we've got and that was the real issue.

The other issue, and it was being driven by very big dollars, was that it was an economic issue, because real estate is stuck. When there are no transactions happening, Realtors don't make any money so, Realtors in order to get back in business, what do they drive? Well, they drive Kevin Koenig's business at City Furniture he's stuck because when homes aren't being transacted you're not getting people who are buying furniture; and people aren't moving in and out. This is a move in and out of economy. People coming from the North coming here; they're coming from here and they're going somewhere else. It's a lifelong economy of transients. If

you stop the transients, you've killed it; and enough people realize on portability that that's what was happening and we've got to bring that back to life. So, that is what you were seeing yesterday.

A couple more things I'd like to talk about here is; we talked about this being fiscally irresponsible to add a \$500 thousand or maybe \$700 thousand to the County budget. This is a County Commission that's taken us a billion dollars higher in the last 7 or 8 years; I don't know what the exact figure is but we're \$3.1 billion. How much more danger is it to continue what we are doing and add another billion dollars over the next 7 years; I mean that a number that far dwindle our \$500, \$600, or \$700 thousand. If fiscal responsibility is the message that the people want; the whole concept of having an elected Mayor is because he's going to keep you on target. Mayor Cooper brought up the agenda thing; the agenda flipping every year doesn't work; that's the issue. The agenda is a fiscal responsibility and that's what the people want. Somebody to be able to hold that agenda for four (4) years; possibly hold it for eight (8) years could save this County \$50 million a year over four years; maybe \$200 million. So, for \$500 thousand we save \$200 million, for \$500 thousand we protect minorities; and I think that those are two very important things.

The last thing in terms of this Public Advocate position, I think it's very well intended; but for me as a citizen, I consider all eleven (11) *hopefully* of these County Commissioners to be my Public Advocate. I am not letting anyone off the hook to have one guy who says that they're the Public Advocate. I want all 11 of them to be the Advocate for their minority representation and then for the County Mayor for the County as a whole and for the regional issues. That's my Public Advocate; and I think I've got all my topics. Thank you for your time because I know you've spent a lot of time on this and I like process.

[Applause from Public]

Robin Rorapaugh – Public Speaker / Hollywood, FL

Ms. Rorapaugh: I've been attending the meetings of the subcommittee and the Committee since August. I also watched the CRC six (6) years ago. I ran the campaign that defeated the Strong Mayor back in 2000, so I am very well aware of all the different issues that you all are facing. The proposal that you all are voting on today; that you supported 16 to 3 last time, is the closest to what you all will agree to; plus what the voters want. As the Broward Workshop,

we've done extensive polling and we have been going out into the community for the last three months speaking to people about what they want to see in a Mayor, what powers they want in a Mayor, and that they would support. It's now time to let the voters decide. If you guys move to start looking at a 7:2 again, I can guarantee you nothing will come out of this CRC. It just won't happen. You guys have spent over a year on this issue, and you are very close to moving forward; which is what the voters want. Let them make the decision, and I think that you will be very pleased with the discussion that takes place both in the Public Hearings and moving up towards the November election; if we have something to look at that's actually going to go on the ballot. You guys are so close and you are the third Charter Review Commission who has looked at a Mayor; and you are the closest to actually delivering what Broward County residents want. An elected Mayor that we have a say in, not just the politicians, an elected Mayor who will be accountable, and an elected Mayor that would bring better government leadership to Broward County. Thank you.

Jim Cummings – Broward Workshop

Mr. Cummings: I've attended just about all of these meetings relative to this issue and first I would like to say thank you to Mark McCormick, who is one of the rising stars of the Broward Workshop. I think we all appreciated your comments Mark, they were right on track there. I'd also like to say, Mike Buckner that I have appreciated all the work you've done on this Committee. What I've appreciated even more was your ability to change your position when your issue has failed and realize that the greater good would be to pass an initiative that would allow for an Elected Mayor County-wide. I think that shows excellent leadership.

I'd also like to comment on the Straw Ballot, because quite frankly in my opinion; that shows no leadership. A Straw Ballot will do nothing but defer this for another 6 years. As someone who pays a lot of taxes and has lived here for a long time; that's not the kind of leadership we want. We want a decision, and we want the people of Broward County to have an opportunity to make that decision. You know there's a lot of concern about the \$707,000 which is the amount of money that this reportedly would cost. You know it's not so much the money as it is what you get for the money. It's kind of like hiring a Lawyer. You can hire one for \$25 an hour but if he doesn't know the law; it could cost you millions. My point is this; at least the person has the opportunity to make that selection. It's important that you allow the voters of Broward County the opportunity to make that selection. Believe me, if they see an issue that will provide them a

more responsible government, they will step up to the plate and they will fund those required to support; that's what we are looking for here.

Advocates, as Mark said, I consider all the Commissioners Advocates for my concerns. I don't just go to one person. I wouldn't go just to the Mayor, I wouldn't go to the Vice-Mayor; I'd go to all the Commissioners. As a matter of fact, in many case the Commissioner that represents my district, we don't see eye to eye all the time, but I still expect all Commissioners to respond to all their constituents. I don't care where they live. If they live in Broward County then they're responsive to all the members and the citizens of Broward County.

I would ask that you take this opportunity to vote for the initiative unchanged as it was presently presented by Mr. Goren. I think you have enough votes to pass it. But, you know what? If you don't – you don't. We in the business community, and I'm representing the business community as well, we would like to see it go to the voters. We would like to see you allow the voters the opportunity to vote, and believe me the business community will step up to the plate and help educate our community, so we can have a better government. Thank you.

Ms. Rogers asked Mr. Cummings if he had anything negative to say about resolution 2008-015.

Mr. Cummings: There isn't a con they are initiatives, and the way we've laid it out they have the same responsibilities they have by the Charter now. They don't have any additional responsibilities, they don't have any additional power but what they do have is continuity. You know what you have been doing in the State Legislature, you know what term limits did; I was just up there last week, and there's no continuity and that's the problem we've got here in Broward County. Believe me it was strips of this proposal that far out weigh any weakness; it should be passed. Thank you.

Ms. Rogers asked Mr. Cummings if he would consider the current 9 Single-member districts and an elected Mayor without the added At-large Commissioner.

Mr. Cummings: Here's the problem with that ,that gives you 10, we need an odd number. In the minority community where we've talked to people – even those that are represented in all organization they've all said, "Do not diminish our influence," and we think if you tried to do that it would diminish that. You will also have a conflict where you would come up with who the Commissioner is that is going to step down and run County-wide.

I think as Mr. Goren said; if you left it at 9 and said two of these run County-wide, when will you do that 2011, when you have the census, when you do the Re-districting? I think it creates more problems than it does benefits. We debated this long and hard. I have been before the County Commission in Dade County; I don't like it with so many people. I'd like to have five, but unfortunately we have 9 and we do well representing the districts with the Single-member districts and the various ethnic groups within those districts. We don't want to diminish that, the polling we've taken shows that if we go to 11, it will pass. If we try to keep it at 9, we will have many repercussions and it will possibly not pass the initiative. So, we chose the better good, the greater good to go with the additional two Commissioners and let it pass for the betterment of Broward County.

[End of Public Comment]

Ms. Kaletta referred to a comment Mayor Wexler made in a previous meeting, which was, nobody generally knows who she is in the County and of the last five Mayors only two, Lieberman and Jacobs, are recognized for their experience as Mayors because Hurricanes occurred during their tenure gave them a lot of public exposure. She asked how many people really remember Mayor Graber and Mayor Eggelation. Ms. Kaletta advised that unless there's some Natural Disaster the public doesn't know who the Mayors are because of the single term. She stated that she believes that the key is having someone County-wide for four years, so they have the longevity and the time to be able to accomplish and represent this County well.

Mr. Buckner thanked the members of the public; and stated that he was impressed with their opinions and believes that if the CRC listens to their comments it would provide much insight on the issue. Mr. Buckner suggested having a real Straw Vote by election and sending the proposed Resolution to the voters to allow them to actually decide.

He advised that it seems as if the CRC wants to replace and limit the choices of the voters and he does not believe that is appropriate. Mr. Buckner stated that every since the last Charter Review Commission passed the current Mayoral form, the County has had numerous Mayors whom have all done good work both through disasters and normal times. He advised that each Mayor has had their own projects and issues that they felt were very important to them. Mr. Buckner advised that this has unfortunately created an inconsistent type of leadership; not necessarily wrong leadership, but inconsistent leadership. Each of those Mayors was not

accountable for the issues that they purposed, and were working on during that year; because at the end of their term it went to another Mayor.

Mr. Buckner mentioned how Mayor Eggelletion began the Public Transit talks during his term and pointed out that he does not believe that this is a strong issue of the current Mayor Wexler. He advised that Mayor Wexler has very valid issues on her agenda this year, but he asked what happened to the Mass Transit discussions. He pointed out that without the Mayor pushing the issue, whether it be environment, regionalism, or economic development; whatever issue that Mayor is talking about pushing; if there is no follow-through and no one to be accountable over a four year period, then Broward County and the residents are going to suffer. Mr. Buckner advised that hopefully the CRC will pass Resolution 2008-015.

Mr. Benson asked Mr. Goren if the present structure stays in place, could the CRC recommend that the Mayoral position be rotated every 2 years.

Mr. Goren: Legally yes.

Mr. Benson confirmed that his statement is an option that the CRC could discuss.

Mr. Weiss advised that he is opposed to Resolution 2008-015 because he believes it is a poor compromise; that adding 2 people to the Commission does not accomplish anything. He advised that under the current proposal, the Mayor is not responsible for anything, and he does not believe it is fair to the Mayor; because the Mayor can't do anything. Mr. Weiss stated that he believes the proposal is misleading, and is a poor compromise which doesn't solve anything.

Mr. Weiss advised that there is a specific sentence that was added to the Charter stating that a Mayor could be elected for additional terms. He agreed with Dr. Rosenbaum that Broward County is moving more toward a regional government, and if it were not for his sensitivity to the minority issues, he would go back to a system where all the County Commissioners were elected County-wide. He stated that he is certainly not purposing it, but if Broward County is moving towards a more regional government where local services are handled locally,, then County Commissioners should be elected County-wide representing the entire County. From where the County is going, it is a better form of government, however, he does not believe Broward County is ready for it yet. Mr. Weiss stated that most of all he believes that putting something on this ballot is a bad compromise which puts the Mayor in a position where they are

being held accountable for things that they do not have responsibility for. For these reasons, Mr. Weiss advised that he will be voting against the resolution.

Ms. Eisinger advised that she still feels strongly about the Mayor At-large and going to 7 districts with 2 At-Large. She reminded the Commission that it was discussed and voted down in Subcommittee, therefore never discussed at the full CRC. Ms. Eisinger asked if it were possible to make a motion to have the full CRC discuss that proposal for consideration.

Mr. Goren: On the table obviously is Resolution 2008-015; which is before the full Board. If it be the wish of any member of the Board here to relate back to your rule and ask for an alternate suggestion certainly this is the time. You need 10 votes to get there it actually is a substitute and great detail for what's currently before the Board.

Ms. Eisinger advised that the Broward County School Board is structured similarly and there is minority representation as well.

The Chair advised that procedurally she will continue through the queue, but asked Mr. Goren if 7:2 could be an amendment from 9:2 and voted on as an amendment.

Mr. Goren: Yes conceptually, but a lot of other written support would have to occur to legally support what is being requested.

Ms. Eisinger asked if she could place the motion on the floor to see if there is a second for discussion.

The Chair suggested continuing with the queue to allow everyone a chance to speak on the current proposal.

Mr. Goren: The 7+2 concept is a substantively different concept than 9+2, and I am going to urge you to consider 10 votes to get there; because to get there requires substantial redrafting of what's currently before as well; it's materially different.

The Chair advised Ms. Eisinger that she did not wish to stop Ms. Eisinger from putting the motion on the floor for consideration if she wished.

Ms. Eisinger MOTIONED to DISCUSS consideration to amend Resolution 2008-015 to reflect 7 Commission Districts with 2 At-large a Mayor and Vice Mayor; No SECOND.

There being no second the MOTION DIED.

Mr. Benson read from the **Broward County Charter Page 8 Section 2.03 Subsection (A); Commission Election of Mayor and Vice-Mayor:**

“The County Commission shall elect one (1) Commissioner to the position of Mayor by a majority vote. The election of the Mayor shall occur on an annual basis, during the County Commission’s annual organizational meeting, which shall take place no earlier than the third Tuesday of each November and no later than the third Tuesday of each December. The County Commission may remove the individual from the position of Mayor by a majority vote. The Mayor may serve consecutive terms.”

Mr. Benson proposed changing the election of the Mayor from an “*annual basis*” to “*every 2 years*”, paying particular attention to the notion that the Mayor may serve consecutive terms.

Mr. Benson stated that he believes making this revision would greatly diminish the one year and continuity issues, because it would enable a person to potentially be Mayor for four consecutive years and possibly beyond if it be the will of the majority of the County Commission. Mr. Benson reminded the CRC that the ability to get rid of the Mayor if that person stumbles still exists.

Mr. Esack referencing the conversation between Ms. Rogers and Mr. Cummings with regard to pros and cons of the position and the public’s concerns, advised that a lot of fingers have been pointed towards Dade County which he wished to mention, comes across as more of a con than a pro.

Mr. Mena advised that he is concerned that members of the previous Charter Review Commission who were a part of that discussion are still talking about they are not going to vote for the resolution for whatever their reasons are. He stated that he is concerned with going back to doing nothing, and he can’t understand why members would want to stay in the status quo. Mr. Mena stated that Broward County has grown since the last time the Charter Review Commission met, but current CRC members seem to be thinking back to the year 2000. He encouraged CRC members to be a little more open-minded and flexible to the needs of the County today. He stated that he hopes that the Commission will not be influenced by one or

two individuals constantly pushing to leave things the way they are, and saying they're not broken as he disagrees with those people.

Mr. Mena stated that he does not believe that Broward County government is broken; however it does need some changes. He suggested that CRC members look at the future of Broward County and the minorities that are going to be the larger population very soon. He expressed concern regarding why something cannot be done; and warned that a "Band-Aid" is not going to be the answer to the Mayor At-large. Mr. Mena advised that he is opposed to a Strong Mayor form of government, because of the politics involved; but agrees that something needs to be done.

Ms. Rogers referred to the method by which the Mayor is currently selected; she does not believe it is a very objective process. She advised for that reason, she will not support Resolution 2008-015 unless there are specific guidelines for selecting that person because if you are not on the right side of the Commission, you will never be given the opportunity to lead the County. Ms. Rogers suggested that if an alternative is considered, there be a Super Majority Vote to vote someone in and out of the seat. Ms. Rogers suggested leaving the 9 Single-member districts and Elected Mayor who does not have a vote on the Commission and that Mayor will hold all of the powers that he currently holds in the Charter today.

Ms. Good stated that she has come full circle. She was very apprehensive on supporting anything to do with another position as Mayor but that she has been greatly educated by the general public. Ms. Good commended the general public on all the research they've done and for participating. She advised that the number of individuals on the Commission is very important. Ms. Good stated that as an Hispanic, she is not represented on the School Board and has not been so for quite some time.

Ms. Good stated that she believes it is key to keep the current composition in place; and if the CRC is considering adding 2 At-large positions then the CRC should venture forward and step to the plate and bring something to the voters. She believes to just have a Straw Vote is not really taking a stand. CRC members were placed on the Charter Review Commission to make a decision and debate the issue. Ms. Good stated that she is somewhat surprised that in the time between the last meeting on January 9th and the current meeting that such change has occurred. She stated that some have been consistent in their views; some have been always opposed and some have been supporting it.

Ms. Good stated that she believes the issue with Amendment One as Ms. Kaletta and Mr. Buckner mentioned, is the difference between apples and oranges. She believes that a large part of what the public said yesterday was dealing with real estate issues and being able to move from one home to another and as a homeowner she can understand their concerns.

Ms. Good stated that there is room for accountability; just supporting the measure does not mean that we don't want the Commission to be accountable for their budgets and for what they do on the Commission. She stated that it has been debated at great length and the CRC should move forward with something to bring forward to the general public for their consideration.

Mr. Trower advised that he agreed with Ms. Good and the comments Mr. Buckner made earlier. He thinks it is important for the CRC to take something to the voters and that there is a real sense of urgency. The Commission has to act in order to get something to the attorney for drafting so that it can be placed in the queue for the ballot. Mr. Trower cautioned the Commission on repetitive efforts in reviewing things. Mr. Trower stated that he attended many subcommittee meetings simply to get better informed. He advised that, his point is because of the urgency, the CRC needs to move ahead with the resolution. If there needs to be more meetings to discuss some of these alternatives, he would certainly be there; but he reminded the Commission that many of the alternatives have been discussed and debated. The issue of dilution was a key concern at the subcommittee meeting he attended and is a concern of his; trying to get it down to the 9 total would in fact be harmful and a problem open to challenge.

Mr. Trower stated that Mr. Benson's suggestion of expanding the terms of Mayor in the Charter he believes lacks one issue; which that of an Elected Mayor; someone who can represent the whole County. He explained that by rotating the Mayor among seated Commissioners as Ms. Rogers pointed out; there are internal issues that occur in terms of that Mayor's real representation of the entire County. Mr. Trower advised that he believes an Elected Mayor, County-wide solves that. Mr. Trower strongly urged the CRC to take those incremental steps today; because by deferring the proposal and going through a Straw Ballot would kill the issue. He advised that he believes it is important for the CRC to take something to the voters.

Ms. Kaletta agreed with Mr. Trower and Ms. Good's comments. She advised that she believes the CRC should take what has been done and move it forward. However she personally would prefer 9 instead of 11, but has been convinced that the way to go is to do the 11.

Dr. Rosenbaum asked Mr. Goren if there were a Straw Ballot if it would have to wait for the next Charter Review Commission for something to occur or could the County Commission indicate some sort of process.

Mr. Goren: The short answer is yes.

Dr. Rosenbaum asked if the County could then work out a process that will work out all the details including the legalities involved in assuring minority representation.

Mr. Goren: That's correct.

Dr. Rosenbaum then pointed out that Straw Ballot would not cause a 6 year wait. He advised that a Straw Vote is an incremental step and it is getting the County to where it needs to be. If Resolution 2008-015 goes on the ballot, it will slow progress. He stated that he does not feel that it is a very attractive thing at present. Yesterday's message from the voters was clearly about government revenue. He suggested that the CRC move the process along in support of an Elected Mayor with a Straw Ballot.

Mr. Buckner provided a "History lesson" in response to members of the Commission who wish to remain with the current system. He stated that George Washington was not the first President of the United States. He stated that the first few Presidents were Presidents elected by newly Independent States from Great Britain under the Articles of Confederation. Each State elected a President from amongst its members of then, the Congress. Mr. Buckner explained that there was a problem with the Articles of Confederation because it showed the lack of consistent leadership; which is one of the many reasons why the United States went to a new Constitution; to create an At-Large, Elected President of the United States.

Mr. Buckner stated that right now Broward County has Articles of Confederation where instead of States we have Single-member Districts, and the Commissioners from Single-member Districts are electing amongst themselves a Mayor. It is time for Broward County to move from the Articles of Confederation style government toward more of a Federal Constitution type government, mainly having a Mayor elected At-Large.

Mr. Buckner commented on Mr. Weiss' concerns. He definitely respects those concerns that the current proposal with the Elected Mayor does not have sufficient powers. In order to address Mr. Weiss' concern to slightly enhance the proposed Elected Mayor's powers by

allowing the Mayor to only set the County Commission Agenda, the County Administrator must consult with the elected Mayor on all Department Head nominations, and the Mayor has appointment Power to all Boards and Commissions with the consent of the majority of the County Commission; excluding certain Boards such as the CRC, MESC and Planning Council. Mr. Buckner advised that with these enhancement to the Mayoral position it would make the Mayor, not Strong, but a Mayor with slightly enhanced powers to stand above the other Commissioners, and would provide him with some accountability.

Ms. Tanner thanked everyone for their hard work; she advised that she is not in favor of a Strong Mayor or Elected Mayor. She does agree with expanding the Mayors term to more than one year, two or even more, and if all else fails enhance the Mayor’s duties and responsibilities by adding, strengthening, etc.

Ms. Norris-Weeks agreed with Ms. Tanner and suggested calling the question.

Ms. Norris-Weeks MOVED tocall the question; Ms. Tanner SECONDED

The Chair called for a roll call vote at 12:07 p.m.

Commissioner Hayward Benson	No	Mayor Lori Moseley, Chair	Yes
Michael Buckner, Esq.	Yes	Burnadette Norris-Weeks, Esq.	No
Mayor Debby Eisinger	Yes	Ms. Maggie Davidson	No
Mr. David Esack	No	Commissioner Hazelle Rogers	No
Ms. Patricia Good	Yes	Bruce Rogow, Esq.	Absent
Ms. H.K. “Petey” Kaletta	Yes	Dr. Irv Rosenbaum	No
Mr. Mark Ketcham	No	Ms. Jodi Jeffreys-Tanner	No
Dr. Mark Lieberman	Yes	Mr. Wil Trower	Yes
Joseph Maus, Esq.	Absent	Richard Weiss, Esq.	No
Commissioner Ted Mena	Yes		

Motion FAILED on a roll call vote of 8 YES to 9 NO.

Dr. Rosenbaum MOTIONED to have a Straw Ballot and if the item passes to place a two (2) year limitation on the County Commission addressing same.

Mr. Goren: You're looking at a springing obligation that would require some future action?

Dr. Rosenbaum responded yes.

Mr. Goren: I think you could do that.

The Chair asked how Straw Ballots are paid for.

Mr. Goren: It's on the same Ballot so there is no additional cost.

Multiple responses advised that there is no cost; it would be on the November ballot.

The Chair called for a Second on the motion.

Mr. Esack SECONDED.

Mr. Weiss asked for clarification of exactly what will appear on the ballot as being proposed by Dr. Rosenbaum.

Dr. Rosenbaum explained that his proposal does not deal with the composition of the Commission or any of the technical details. **Dr. Rosenbaum advised that his proposal is just to ask the voters if they want an Elected Mayor County-wide, Yes or No**, not a Strong Mayor.

Mr. Goren: Now procedurally you are at the point and time where you are having a **Motion to Discuss**, you need 10 votes to discuss, just for the record. You have no document before you to dwell on, so you are now in the discussion stage.

Ms. Norris-Weeks asked Mr. Goren for clarification on what is being proposed.

Mr. Goren: To the extent that I can know what Dr. Rosenbaum is thinking, I will make every effort to investigate that, but from the standpoint of what I think he is saying, he is asking that we draft hypothetically a resolution which would essentially asked the voters if they would like to have an Elected Mayor with some coordinated obligation for the County Commission, if it is

passed, to implement the Straw Ballot, in some fashion or highly consider it at some time within two years.

Ms. Norris-Weeks inquired if it would be with the same powers that the Mayor currently has.

Mr. Goren: The problem is you should just remember the inherent nature of a Straw Ballot. It doesn't require legally anything to happen except to take the temperature of the voters.

The Chair asked if there were any other questions for the actual Motion and Second on the floor.

Mr. Trower asked for further clarification on what the Commission's actions would be. He asked if the Commission would have to go through a Charter Amendment in order to establish an Elected Mayor.

Ms. Rogers expressed confusion.

The Chair explained that Commission members are trying to get legal clarification of what Dr. Rosenbaum is motioning and whether it can be as a motion the way it appears.

Dr. Rosenbaum MOTIONED TO DISCUSS the Straw Ballot with regard to the Composition of the Elected Mayor; Mr. Esack SECONDED.

The Chair called for a roll call vote at 12:11 p.m.

Commissioner Hayward Benson	Yes	Mayor Lori Moseley, Chair	No
Michael Buckner, Esq.	No	Burnadette Norris-Weeks, Esq.	Yes
Mayor Debby Eisinger	Yes	Ms. Maggie Davidson	No
Mr. David Esack	Yes	Commissioner Hazelle Rogers	No
Ms. Patricia Good	Yes	Bruce Rogow, Esq.	Absent
Ms. H.K. "Petey" Kaletta	Yes	Dr. Irv Rosenbaum	Yes
Mr. Mark Ketcham	No	Ms. Jodi Jeffreys-Tanner	No
Dr. Mark Lieberman	Yes	Mr. Wil Trower	Yes
Joseph Maus, Esq.	Absent	Richard Weiss, Esq.	No
Commissioner Ted Mena	Absent		

Motion FAILED on a roll call vote of 9 YES to 7 NO.

Mr. Benson referred to a suggestion he made regarding the CRC making amendments to Page 8 2.03 (A) and (B) of the Charter with regard to the term length; and it was confirmed the CRC could.

Mr. Goren: The legal answer still is yes.

Mr. Benson suggested that the CRC discuss that particular paragraph and make recommendations to change the method by which the Mayor and Vice Mayor are elected and then hopefully extend the Mayors term in office.

Mr. Benson MOTIONED to discuss Commission Election of Mayor and Vice-Mayor; Page 8, Section 2.03, Subsections (A) and (B) of the Charter and make recommendations to change the method by which the Mayor and Vice Mayor are elected and extend the Mayor's term in office. Dr. Rosenbaum SECONDED.

Ms. Good pointed out that the Mayoral terms could not be extended any more than two years because of the way that the terms are staggered.

Ms. Kaletta advised that the Mayors will still be representing their own district and therefore they are not County-wide elected.

The Chair restated the motion on the floor.

Mr. Benson MOTIONED to discuss Commission Election of Mayor and Vice-Mayor; Page 8, Section 2.03, Subsections (A) and (B) of the Charter and make recommendations to change the method by which the Mayor and Vice Mayor are elected and extend the Mayor’s term in office. Dr. Rosenbaum SECONDED.

The Chair called for a roll call vote at 12:16 p.m.

Commissioner Hayward Benson	Yes	Mayor Lori Moseley, Chair	No
Michael Buckner, Esq.	Absent	Burnadette Norris-Weeks, Esq.	Yes
Mayor Debby Eisinger	Yes	Ms. Maggie Davidson	No
Mr. David Esack	Yes	Commissioner Hazelle Rogers	Yes
Ms. Patricia Good	Yes	Bruce Rogow, Esq.	Absent
Ms. H.K. “Petey” Kaletta	No	Dr. Irv Rosenbaum	Yes
Mr. Mark Ketcham	No	Ms. Jodi Jeffreys-Tanner	Yes
Dr. Mark Lieberman	Yes	Mr. Wil Trower	Yes
Joseph Maus, Esq.	Absent	Richard Weiss, Esq.	Yes
Commissioner Ted Mena	Absent		

Motion PASSED on a roll call vote of 11 YES to 4 NO

Ms. Kaletta stated that the reason she would be opposed the Mr. Benson’s suggestion is that she believes the problem the County has now is with the Mayor being a representative of a single district and then becoming Mayor. She added that they still have the responsibilities for their individual district and they do not have any County-wide representation. She does not believe changing the Mayors term would accomplish what the CRC intends.

[The Chair called for a 25 minute lunch break – 12:20 p.m.]

The Chair reconvened the CRC meeting at 12:46 p.m.

The Chair advised that her desire was to have an At-Large Elected Mayor; she stated that she would have a problem with disenfranchising the voter.

Ms. Rogers advised that she strongly believes that if the CRC is considering a Mayor, that the Mayor should be elected. If the CRC is going to go with the method by which the Mayor is selected, she would not be in support of the process because it is not objective. She again suggested creating guidelines to steer the Commission through the selection process.

Mr. Ketcham reminded Ms. Rogers that the way it works is the person who gets the most votes is the one who gets it. He advised that right now in Charter it says that the Mayors may succeed themselves.

Mr. Goren: You can have consecutive terms.

Mr. Ketcham then reminded the CRC that the County Commission has the option to keep the Mayor if they so choose, as the option is already in the Charter.

Ms. Rogers advised that she does not want to debate, but advised the Commission members that she hopes they see that the Mayoral process is not an objective process as there are Commissioners who have not been given an opportunity to be a Mayor in Broward County. They have been sitting on the County Commission with more tenure than some that have strong leadership skills also and have not been given an opportunity. She asked how this process is open and objective.

Mr. Ketcham advised that the voting booth has the same outcome.

Ms. Rogers stated that she loves when her voters decide to terminate or support her.

Ms. Tanner advised that Mr. Benson's alternative could work.

Dr. Rosenbaum advised that he is in support of the alternate, and believes it is an excellent way to move forward.

Mr. Buckner stated that the current proposal still does not address the issue that the subcommittees inquired about, which was political leadership and accountability of that political

leadership. No matter if it is 2, 3, or 4 years the County is still going to have a situation where they are not going to reward leadership which is what you would do with an At-large electoral system.

Mr. Buckner stated that right now in the current Charter the Mayor can run more than one term, but that has not happened yet and that is because the County Commission has decided that they were going to rotate the Mayor position; sometimes it is not rotated among every County Commissioner. Mr. Buckner advised that Broward County needs to have the opportunity to elect someone who is going to run on a platform for the entire County and he does not think that expanding the Mayors term is going to solve that.

Ms. Kaletta believes the suggestion is an insult to the population of Broward County. Everyone she has spoken with has felt there is a need, and they wish to be able to elect a Mayor County-wide. She stated that she will be embarrassed to be on the CRC and put the item on the Ballot.

Mr. Trower stated that he does not support the Mr. Benson's proposal as he does not think much can be gained by it; he would vote against it. That is one of the main reasons why the voters are not electing the Mayor and that is really what the CRC was trying to accomplish with Resolution 2008-015. Mr. Trower stated that he hopes someone from the prevailing party could come up with some other type of model that would work.

The Chair advised that she too will be voting against Mr. Benson's proposal, she is very uncomfortable with it because it will dilute minority representation.

Mr. Benson advised that he made the proposal because he believes there is a need to try to address the issues that were raised in regards to a Mayor who will be in position to carry an agenda forward beyond a one year stance. If the CRC were to identify a person who is going to be a Mayor through the process of being selected here, that person in his opinion, tends to gravitate toward a global view of what Broward County would be about. Mr. Benson stated the fact that a person comes from a given district, he does not see the difference between that and someone who's elected County-wide because in effect that person would be coming from a district from within Broward County.

Mr. Benson advised that continuity would be established based on a two year term. The CRC could decide how the selection process is done, as all kinds of iterations could be identified.

While it is still ceremonial, that person still has the ability to articulate the concerns, and that person would in fact have a global view. He reminded the Commission that all positions have term limits, so irrespective of the fact that the person will be there for the term identified. Mr. Benson advised that he would support it, it is something that addresses some of the concerns that have been raised by the Broward Workshop and others. He advised that he would encourage members to rethink their positions and hopefully move forward.

The Chair stated for clarification that the motion to discuss passed, but no other motion is on the floor.

Ms. Norris-Weeks advised that she supports Mr. Benson's proposed revision to the Charter. She referred to a conversation she had with Mayor Wexler regarding the Sterling Measurement Standard which came out of the Management and Efficiency Study Committee. She stated that she believes this is also something that came from the previous Mayor and lends to the conversation of continuity. She stated that by the nature of the vote taken regarding Amendment One, Broward County is going to be forced to deal with a regional type of government. Ms. Norris-Weeks advised that she does support the suggestion. She believes that it is an incremental step that would make a big difference and provide some of the continuity and other desired measurements.

Mr. Trower advised that he is still not convinced that the proposed change is the right thing to do in light of the existing Charter language that allows for successive terms as Mayor.

Mr. Benson MOTIONED to change the term of the Mayor and the Vice Mayor as defined in Charter section 2.03 (A) and (B), make recommendations to change the method by which the Mayor and Vice Mayor are elected, and extend the Mayors term in office. Ms. Norris-Weeks SECONDED.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Dan Glickman – Public Speaker / Deerfield Beach, FL

Mr. Glickman: You choose not to have any significant form of County-wide elected Mayor. You now have a presentation whereby Commissioners would choose among themselves according to mandate for at least two years possibly longer. It is hard for me to remonstrate with you, because that's neither my function nor your problem. Given what I thought to be the

original 16:3 to have at least language brought forth for a County-wide election, and to see it, forgive the expression, but *deteriorate* – not just this motion by the way, I am not speaking to this motion in that sense; but to what is ineffectual perturbs me to no great end. I don't know about anybody else who's watching on television, but I can easily understand their huge perturbation at this process heretofore. My own feeling is two years of one mandated selected Commissioner to be Mayor does little to do anything of significant note, and I would not be in favor. Thank you.

Mayor Cooper: Good afternoon again, not as Mayor of Hallandale Beach, nor Broward League of Cities; but as a citizen. First of all, I never like to say that anything is dead, because I am hearing fluctuations and Straw Votes and considering this and considering that. I implore you no matter what, to try to reconsider. I agree and I think a lot of people are sitting back and saying we need to go forward, not move backwards, not take baby steps but take a leadership position in electing a leader. You're talking about an appointed, selected person. This isn't about somebody that has been given the duty elected by the residents based on their platform presented and agreed upon in an elected process. It might be their wish list; it might be a good wish list, but it's not coming from the residents saying, "I am selecting Mayor X because their platform and their agenda for the next four years are going to be this." I implore those of you that can and have the ability to reconsider the proposal that you started out with today to possibly bring that back. I agree this is not going to do anything to lead Broward County forward, and again I am going to reiterate, on a national level to take it up to the plate that it should be.

Mr. Trower asked if a motion could be made.

The Chair responded no.

Mr. Goren: Just for the record to clarify you moved initiatively into the discussion mode, you kind of passed that process now.

Ms. King (Transcriber) advised that there was a Motion and Second on the floor.

The Chair advised that she was correct. Mr. Benson Motioned and Ms. Norris-Weeks Seconded. Mr. Benson advised that he motioned to have the two year Mayoral term and it was seconded by Ms. Norris-Weeks.

Mr. Goren: Which by its terms would mean directing me to draft for you what you have yet to vote on?

Dr. Lieberman asked Dr. Rosenbaum if he has now reconsidered his position with regard to the Straw Ballot and the way the conversation is going.

Dr. Rosenbaum advised that he wishes to see where the current item goes first.

Mr. Trower questioned the process and whether it is possible to have a later motion to refer the item back to the Administrative Issues / Governance Subcommittee to take in effect all issues discussed and recast the item. He explained not to bring back 2008-015 but to bring back some other alternative.

Ms. Norris-Weeks WITHDREW her SECOND.

Mr. Benson WITHDREW his Motion and requested to send Section 2.03 “Commission Election of Mayor and Vice Mayor” to the Administrative Issues/Governance Subcommittee for review and discussion.

Mr. Trower requested sending the selection process of the Mayor back to the Administrative Issues/Governance Subcommittee and come back with a new proposal including 2008-015.

Mr. Benson responded that 2008-015 was a dead issue.

Mr. Trower explained that he is looking for an alternative from the Administrative Issues/Governance Subcommittee based upon the concerns that people had over 2008-015.

The Chair advised that the full CRC took the issues back from the Administrative Issues/Governance Subcommittee because they were deadlocked on the issue.

Mr. Benson advised that he hopes in issue clarification, the subcommittee is not being asked to revivify Resolution 2008-015.

The Chair stated that this would not be logical because someone from the prevailing side would have to bring the issue back.

Mr. Benson again explained that he would have no problem with the Administrative Issues/Governance Subcommittee looking at tweaking Section 2.03.

Ms. Rogers stated **FOR THE RECORD** that the subcommittee can look at the selection process and explained that her concern is how the Commission selects the colleague from amongst themselves. She again advised that she does not feel it is an objective process.

Mr. Weiss advised that he is concerned with the words "Selection Process." He asked to reword it to the, "*selection process by which the Commission chooses the Mayor amongst themselves.*" He would be happy to have it go back to the Administrative Issues/Governance Subcommittee.

Mr. Esack advised that there appears to be hope that someone from the prevailing party will step forward and stated that the 16:3 vote was specifically to allow language to be brought forth back to the CRC. He pointed out that originally the language never made it past the subcommittee and suggested that the Commission be constructive; move on from 2008-015 and be constructive to what is being put forth.

Mr. Benson MOTIONED to send Section 2.03 "Commission Election of Mayor and Vice Mayor" to the Administrative Issues/ Governance Subcommittee for review and comment; Dr. Rosenbaum SECONDED.

The Chair called for a roll call vote at 1:19 p.m.

Commissioner Hayward Benson	Yes	Dr. Mark Lieberman	Yes
Michael Buckner, Esq.	No	Joseph Maus, Esq.	Absent
Mayor Debby Eisinger	Absent	Commissioner Ted Mena	Absent
Mr. David Esack	Yes	Mayor Lori Moseley, Chair	No
Ms. Patricia Good	No	Burnadette Norris-Weeks, Esq.	Yes
Ms. H.K. "Petey" Kaletta	No	Ms. Maggie Davidson	No
Mr. Mark Ketcham	No	Commissioner Hazelle Rogers	Yes

Bruce Rogow, Esq.	Absent	Mr. Wil Trower	No
Dr. Irv Rosenbaum	Yes	Richard Weiss, Esq.	No
Ms. Jodi Jeffreys-Tanner	Yes		

Motion FAILED on a roll call vote of 7 YES to 8 NO.

Ms. Kaletta asked if the CRC could go back and address the original proposal or Mr. Buckner’s proposal if someone from the prevailing side wished to.

Mr. Goren: That is correct.

Ms. Kaletta asked if there was anybody who would be willing to bring Resolution 2008-015 back to the committee members for discussion.

Mr. Goren: FOR THE RECORD, changing seats.

The Chair confirmed that the Re-districting vote was done.

Ms. Rogers explained that if both proposals were allowed to be sent back to the Administrative Issues/Governance Subcommittee, since she is on the prevailing side she would consider it. She thinks the way the Mayor is selected today needs to be fixed. She explained that if the Committee wants to discuss both proposals someone from the prevailing side must motion to bring the issue back for discussion and since she is on the prevailing side, she will be wiling to do so.

The Chair asked for clarification on the topics of this discussion.

Ms. Rogers stated that she was referring to the proposal sent by Michael and the proposal from Mr. Benson.

Discussion ensued regarding who can do the MOTION.

Mr. Goren: The motion must be from the prevailing side, not the second, **it is important for the record** to clarify what it is that the maker of the motion is actually moving.

Ms. Rogers MOTIONED to Reconsider the MOTION to Discuss Mr. Buckner’s Alternate Plan for proposed Resolution 2008-015 to have an At-Large Mayor and an At-Large Public Advocate; Mr. Trower SECONDED.

Mr. Goren: In a sense it was a motion to discuss that item.

The Chair asked if Ms. Rogers’ motion is a Motion to discuss or to send it back to the Administrative Issues/Governance Subcommittee.

Ms. Roger’s advised that she is motioning to send the proposal back to the committee.

Mr. Weiss stated that once the motion is moved to reconsider then it could be sent back to the committee or killed.

The Chair explained that the motion on the floor needs to be voted on before allowing another motion.

Mr. Weiss asked what the outcome was of the motion regarding the Elected Mayor.

Mr. Goren: Eight was in favor and nine were against.

Mr. Weiss advised that five people would have to change their minds in order to add the proposal to the ballot.

Ms. Kaletta advised that she feels the choice is being taken away from the people.

The Chair advised that there is a motion and a second on the floor to reconsider Mr. Buckner’s proposal.

Mr. Goren: It is purely the motion for reconsideration.

The Chair called for a roll call vote at 1:28 p.m.

Commissioner Hayward Benson	No	Mr. David Esack	No
Michael Buckner, Esq.	Yes	Ms. Patricia Good	Yes
Mayor Debby Eisinger	Yes	Ms. H.K. “Petey” Kaletta	Yes

Mr. Mark Ketcham	No	Commissioner Hazelle Rogers	Yes
Dr. Mark Lieberman	Yes	Bruce Rogow, Esq.	Absent
Joseph Maus, Esq.	Absent	Dr. Irv Rosenbaum	Absent
Commissioner Ted Mena	Absent	Ms. Jodi Jeffreys-Tanner	No
Mayor Lori Moseley, Chair	Yes	Mr. Wil Trower	Yes
Burnadette Norris-Weeks, Esq.	No	Richard Weiss, Esq.	No
Ms. Maggie Davidson	No		

Motion PASSED on a roll call vote of 8 YES to 7 NO.

Mr. Weiss stated that in order for the reconsidered motion to pass it will take 10 CRC members to vote yes on it, and there are not 10 present to vote on it. He advised that the Elected Mayor never had 13 votes and was never close to 13 votes and needs to end.

Mr. Goren: Procedurally it's back on the table for consideration and needs 10 votes to get beyond that point.

Mr. Weiss MOTIONED to send Mr. Buckner's proposal back to the Administrative Issues/Governance Subcommittee for drafting; Mr. Ketcham SECONDED.

The Chair called for a roll call vote at 1:31 p.m.

Commissioner Hayward Benson	No	Joseph Maus, Esq.	Absent
Michael Buckner, Esq.	Yes	Commissioner Ted Mena	Absent
Mayor Debby Eisinger	Yes	Mayor Lori Moseley, Chair	Yes
Mr. David Esack	No	Burnadette Norris-Weeks, Esq.	No
Ms. Patricia Good	No	Ms. Maggie Davidson	No
Ms. H.K. "Petey" Kaletta	Yes	Commissioner Hazelle Rogers	Yes
Mr. Mark Ketcham	No	Bruce Rogow, Esq.	Absent
Dr. Mark Lieberman	Yes	Dr. Irv Rosenbaum	No

Ms. Jodi Jeffreys-Tanner	No	Richard Weiss, Esq.	No
Mr. Wil Trower	Yes		

Motion FAILED on a roll call vote of 7 YES to 9 NO.

Ms. Kaletta MOTIONED to reconsider language in Section 2.03 (A) and (B) of the Charter; Mr. Rosenbaum SECONDED.

The Chair called for a roll call vote at 1:33 p.m.

Commissioner Hayward Benson	Yes	Mayor Lori Moseley, Chair	No
Michael Buckner, Esq.	No	Burnadette Norris-Weeks, Esq.	Yes
Mayor Debby Eisinger	No	Ms. Maggie Davidson	No
Mr. David Esack	Yes	Commissioner Hazelle Rogers	Yes
Ms. Patricia Good	No	Bruce Rogow, Esq.	Absent
Ms. H.K. "Petey" Kaletta	Yes	Dr. Irv Rosenbaum	Yes
Mr. Mark Ketcham	No	Ms. Jodi Jeffreys-Tanner	Yes
Dr. Mark Lieberman	Yes	Mr. Wil Trower	No
Joseph Maus, Esq.	Absent	Richard Weiss, Esq.	No
Commissioner Ted Mena	Absent		

Motion FAILED on a roll call vote of 8 YES to 8 NO.

[The Chair called for a five minute break 1:36 p.m.]

The Chair reconvened the CRC meeting at 1:41 p.m.

The Chair advised that the Committee needs to discuss the meeting hours because the 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. is not working as the quorum is now down to 14 members; the timeframe is working. The Chair suggested holding the CRC meetings from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. She believes an adjustment is needed and asked for suggestions. Following a brief discussion, it

was determined that hours would remain as is and members would be encouraged to stay the duration of the meetings.

The Chair asked if there was a MOTION to remove item VI from the table.

VI. Tabled Public Safety Resolution 2008-012 – Renaming Broward County Fire Rescue Council, Increasing its Membership and Responsibilities and Minimum Standards – Chair, Dr. Mark Lieberman

Mr. Benson MOTIONED to remove agenda item VI from the table and open for discussion, Ms. Eisinger SECONDED.

The Chair called for a roll call vote at 1:47 p.m.

Commissioner Hayward Benson	Yes	Mayor Lori Moseley, Chair	No
Michael Buckner, Esq.	Yes	Burnadette Norris-Weeks, Esq.	Absent
Mayor Debby Eisinger	Yes	Ms. Maggie Davidson	Yes
Mr. David Esack	Yes	Commissioner Hazelle Rogers	Yes
Ms. Patricia Good	Yes	Bruce Rogow, Esq.	Absent
Ms. H.K. “Petey” Kaletta	Yes	Dr. Irv Rosenbaum	Yes
Mr. Mark Ketcham	Yes	Ms. Jodi Jeffreys-Tanner	Yes
Dr. Mark Lieberman	Yes	Mr. Wil Trower	Yes
Joseph Maus, Esq.	Absent	Richard Weiss, Esq.	No
Commissioner Ted Mena	Absent		

Motion PASSED on a roll call vote of 13 YES to 2 NO.

The Chair stated For the Record Mel Wilson has joined the Committee members in place of Mr. Goren.

Dr. Lieberman expressed concern with the number of members remaining and asked that everyone keep an open mind.

Dr. Lieberman provided a brief whiteboard demonstration.

Dr. Lieberman: This is all the stuff that each city does that puts money into Fire Rescue, whether it's manpower, equipment, whatever it is. There are State Standards, minimum standards and let's say they're right about here – okay that's the State Standards. There are minimum standards set by the state, and all the Chief's have said that we're well above the standards, and I believe that. Let's say Cooper City is up here, Coral Springs is up here and let's say some other cities go back and forth and one city comes down here – so we're way above the State Standards, okay.- so now we're proposing that the new Public Safety Council looks at minimum standards for Fire and Rescue.

Let's say their standards are here – and in actuality there standards could be anywhere from here to there. They may come up and say that the State Standards are fine. I'm not sure if the State Standards are good enough for the people of Broward County but that's the minimum standard that's in place right now. So now, let's say we get the 13 votes and it goes on the ballot, the public has the ability to vote for this and it passes, then the Committee, and The Public Safety Council, comes up with this minimum standards recommendation on this, and they make a recommendation to the County Commission. The County Commission can decide if they want to go through with the minimum standards or not and they can make the recommendations or tweak it however they decide, based on all the testimony of people here and the public.

There are two questions, there's the budget, and then there's an unfunded mandate – well, first of all this is not a mandate. In the letter from the League of Cities Mayors that was talking about unfunded mandates. First of all it's not a mandate, but all the Committee is doing is making recommendations to the County Commission, plus it has no power over the cities or municipalities, so it's not a mandate at all. The cities can decide if they want to comply or not. There's no power over this if the County Commission goes forward with the recommendation. Again, the recommendations may be at the State level. No one can predict where that's going

to go. The other issue is budget and money; I'm concerned about budget and money too. What happens when you start cutting services? Where are they going to cut? This is 2007, this is where we are now. Everyone's above State Standards and now we propose this minimum standard; and a couple of cities are below the minimum standards. I'm not sure how much money this is going to cost to bring them above, but then, let's say it's 2010, Cooper City is looking pretty good up here. Some of these other ones, you know maybe, well I don't say below State Standards, but they're going to be coming down because there's nothing holding them back really. You know the public... Legally, I guess, it's a State standard. It is the minimum standard. So the question is when you vote, is the State standard good enough for the people of Broward County? When things change and times get bad; is that what we want? Is that what the Citizens of this County want? Is to have some of the cities going to the States minimum standards, is that good enough? I'm not sure if that's the answer or not.

I think it's up to this new Public Safety Committee to look into that and decide. Is the State standard where we should be for this County? Or is there something we need to do and if that something is one or two changes, then we've done something for this County. If it's at the State Standards, then so be it.

The same people who voted down this proposal from the Fire Rescue Council, we're going to be on the Public Safety Council deciding what these minimum standards would be after all the testimony and discussion. That's the real question here, are the State Standards good enough and why can't another body look into the standards and make recommendations to the County Commission on minimum standards? So that's my demonstration. I'm sorry if I'm a little nervous up here.

Mr. Buckner asked what specifics are being referred to when mentioning minimum standards, i.e. training, response time, staffing, and equipment.

Dr. Lieberman: It's the whole gamut.

Mr. Buckner asked why Palm Beach County went to such a system and what has been the result of the nine-member Fire Rescue Level Service Committee and did Palm Beach County go through the same types of discussions that are going on in Broward County?

Dr. Lieberman: We were aware that Palm Beach County passed the minimum standards for Fire Rescue. They are very minimal; I mean they may be this much above the State Standards.

They weren't very significant and some of the Fire Rescue folks could probably speak better on that. I don't know the specifics of what differences there were, but they do have minimum standards. We wouldn't be the first; I mean we didn't invent this.

Ms. Tanner asked why the County Commission would be the body to determine what the standards are. She suggested leaving it to the professionals. She stated that she does not believe it should be left to the County Commission to claim that they know that and that she feels confident that Broward County is okay with minimum standards right now; they go way above the minimum standards for level service.

Ms. Kaletta stated that from everything she has heard, Broward County is probably one of the top Counties in the Country, however there is always room for improvement. She advised that when she was on the MESC, she spent a lot of time with Firemen. In spending time with them, they were the ones who brought the issue forward. She pointed out that all she has seen at the CRC meetings are the Fire Chiefs, etc., and that the men who ride the trucks, who work as EMT's etc., are the persons who the CRC should be listening to. She suggested that people need to listen to that voice and not the ones who are trying to protect the status quo. She explained that the question should be, "Why wouldn't this do anything more than just improve on an already excellent situation?"

The Chair stated that this is adding to the FRC and it is being amended to the PSC, which would include Policemen. She referenced Section 5.04 (D) of the proposed resolution, "*The Council shall recommend to the County Commission minimum standards identifying desired levels of service for public safety services,*" and stated that it should not be assumed that they were only talking Fire. She stated that as part of the historical perspective, this was formed from the public outcry that we couldn't communicate with each other and how the communication commitment was going to be paid for and how individuals could be able to talk to each other. She believes to set a blanket standard other the State standard, takes away the individuality of a community and the Community to be able to set their own standards. In light of the Property Tax Proposal, taxes are going to have to decrease. She stated that she has a concern with adding the police to the Council; it's a whole different animal. She asked if Service Aides were going to be excluded and explained that she doesn't know what the minimum standards are for police. It concerns her that she is going to do legislation and doesn't know the other side.

Ms. Kaletta stated that to say, "I meet minimum standards," is bothersome to her. By adding the police or the Sheriff's Department only makes sense if discussing Public Safety, so that there is coordination between everything. She stated as far as the vote on Amendment One, she does not believe it equates. She advised that the voters voted to make sure they got portability and the lowering of the taxes was secondary.

Mr. Ketcham asked Mark Lieberman if Broward County had Volunteer Fire Departments.

Dr. Lieberman: Just in Plantation.

Mr. Ketcham asked if the minimum standards would force them to not be volunteers.

Dr. Lieberman: I don't know. Obviously, they're meeting the State Standards, I don't know if anything would change.

Mr. Ketcham asked if some communities have three people on the truck and others have two could they be required to put three on, he asked if this is that part of the issue.

Dr. Lieberman: We didn't look at specific issues of manpower or how many people are on a truck.

Mr. Ketcham asked if that was one of the things that a minimum standard might do.

Dr. Lieberman: That might be something that they'll look at, but whether they're going to recommend any changes from State Standards, anyone could guess that.

Mr. Wilson: Currently you're correct; there is only one City in the County with a Volunteer Fire Rescue Department. If you recall, this Committee was considering at the last meeting the proposal which the Public Safety Subcommittee decided not to make this proposed resolution enforceable against the cities. Now, that is our opinion by interpretation. If you also recall at the last meeting it was suggested by one of the Commissioners to make it clear. If you want to remove any potential ambiguity you would actually state in the resolution; which you can do, that the cities will not be bound by any proposed minimum standards.

Ms. Good asked if that was stated in the resolution already.

The Chair responded no it's not in here yet, and then asked Mr. Wilson for confirmation.

Mr. Wilson: That's correct

Ms. Kaletta stated that she feels it's important to have a group of colleagues who do the job whether it is Police, Fire, or EMT's, that they look at and find some standards that would help the whole County become better.

Ms. Good asked, in reference to 5.04(D) of the proposed resolution, what the County Commission is expected to do with the recommendation.

Dr. Lieberman: These are just recommendations. They can approve them, they can alter them, and they could completely ignore them. It's just their will.

Ms. Good asked what the point is if the mandate is not enforceable.

Dr. Lieberman: It would be enforceable to the County. It wouldn't be enforceable to the Municipalities. Municipalities would have to look to themselves and say, maybe they're on the right path with district changes, and we need to come up to that standard. Probably, most of them are above that standard. Probably a few that would be below that standard may have to look at themselves and say, you know what, maybe we need to make these changes or they may say we're good where we are. It's not enforceable, it's not a mandate, but at least it brings up the question.

Ms. Good asked if the County could impose it on itself whatever services they are providing to their unincorporated areas.

Dr. Lieberman: This is a question, If BSO is in Parkland, should they be under the Parkland rules or BSO rules? I don't know.

Mr. Wilson: Is the question whether or not the Broward County Fire and Rescue would be under any local municipality jurisdiction in terms of providing services.

The Chair responded that if that municipality contracts with them.

Dr. Lieberman: If they're providing the services for that city are they under the rules of the County or the rules of the City? I think they would be under the City, but I don't know the answer.

Mr. Wilson: I think they would first be obligated to comply with the County requirements as it relates to a particular contract. The contract, while not maybe all of the provisions, may be something that would probably need to be looked at to make sure that it is clarified. Answering the question directly, if the County sets minimum standards and there may be a question as to whether or not the BSO could contract for lower standards, then would the County provide? I would think not.

The Chair asked for clarification on think not or know not.

Mr. Wilson: I would say no.

Dr. Lieberman: Unless it was in their contract with the County.

Mr. Wilson: The BSO would be with the County.

Dr. Lieberman: I mean with the City, they contract with the City.

Mr. Wilson: Again, I would say that it would probably be very difficult to contract below the lower standards than what the County would be required by law to provide.

Ms. Good advised that if certain standards were set, it's a tremendous legal issue for someone contemplating that, although the City is above and beyond certain standards an individual can sue thinking that the standards should be higher, similar to the Public Safety Council. She does not see the need to change it in such as fashion. She's concerned with not having police representation present and it would be good for the CRC to hear from them.

Mr. Buckner stated that he is very sensitive to the work done by the subcommittee and advised that he is struggling because he does not feel he has sufficient information to make an informed decision. He asked if the subcommittee identified any types of lawsuits, events, or stats from various agencies that lead to adding this to the proposal, in terms of minimum standards.

Dr. Lieberman: No, we didn't have any of that.

Mr. Buckner asked why the law enforcement element was added to the resolution.

Dr. Lieberman explained that it was one of the arguments of the people that were against the proposal; he is not in agreement with adding the Police.

Ms. Eisinger stated that thorough discussions took place in regards to adding the Police it is a factor of public safety. She advised that they were sensitive to the fact of respecting home-rule, but a city is not obligated to follow the recommendation. She informed that she supports it as is and it is more a factor of are the residents of Broward County being protected. She responded to the question regarding contractual services with cities, "I think there is a minimum that you are required;" some cities warrant more depending on the make-up of the City.

Ms. Tanner stated that the professionals present are representatives of the men and women providing the services. She advised that the communication issue came up 6 years ago because there was no communication between the cities. She stated that she is looking forward to asking questions and getting public input on the National Fire Protection Agency setting standards.

Mr. Benson referred to 2008-012 Section 5.04A 10-13 and Item B. He stated that the preamble suggests that this Council is going to be advisory, and feels that it takes away the sting of being an enforcement entity. This exposes the level of standards or service that's in place throughout Broward County and it determines whether any adjustments should be made to the standards and to the levels of service. He stated that the graphs clearly identify the issue and advised that if the Council only believes in minimum standards, our existence would be corrupt. He stated that he agrees with Dr. Lieberman that it creates an issue that has a continuing discussion. He would encourage the Board to look at it and remember that the critical word is "advisory." He stated that it continues to expose what the standards are and the extent to which those standards need to be amended.

Mr. Weiss advised that he does not know what his position would be with adding the Police because he hasn't heard much about it. He explained that his main concern is minimum standards and he does not know where it is coming from but every group involved, other than professional Firefighters; the Police Chiefs, Fire Chiefs, League of cities and the Council itself is opposed to any changes. He informed them that there are standards set by the State on this. The County Commission does not need a Charter Amendment to set standards for the BSO, He they could adopt their own standards for minimum standards, which are higher than the State Standards, and when they sign contracts with each municipality, they could insist that those standards be enforced. He advised Ms. Kaletta that the Fire Chiefs, etc., are not there to preserve the status quo. He stated that his concern is that minimum standards will be drawn

too high and others can't afford it. He informed that with regard to cutting services, he is not concerned because the Police and Fire services are usually the last things to be cut.

Mr. Buckner advised that he went on the International Association of Fire Fighters and looked at their standards. He asked if there are already standards in existence, is there a true need to have Broward Specific minimum standards?

Dr. Lieberman: We met at the beginning of the year and we came up with all of the issues. I don't know who suggested we look at minimum standards. I know... I actually think it's left over from the prior Commission; they had certain goals, minimum standards is one of them, I know that they ended up cutting back to get what they could get approved. They want us to look at minimum standards. I don't think our Subcommittee of seven people is going to be able to come up with what minimum standards should be or could be. It shouldn't be our job to do that.

Mr. Buckner explained that he understands that the subcommittee is not experts on designing minimum standards.

Dr. Lieberman explained that he does not think there are any problems in Broward County. He stated that to know for 100%; he does not believe anyone can say that. He suggested that the County should be pro-active, and wants to have someone look into what State Standards are and if they are good enough.

Ms. Kaletta thanked Mr. Weiss, and advised that she meant no insult to the Chiefs present as they do a great job and they have been proactive. She dislikes the term "Minimum Standards," but hopes to gain continuity in the way things are done across Broward County. She informed that the jurisdiction lines for Fire and Emergency people are the kinds of things that could be addressed by the Public Safety Council.

The Chair asked if the subcommittee met with the Sheriff's Department and did they share the information with the Broward County Police Chiefs Association, FOP, and the PBA.

Dr. Lieberman: The answer is yes. We asked for police representation for all the meetings.

Mr. Benson stated that the Chiefs were present.

Mr. Weiss asked for someone to respond if there is a need to add language to Section 5.03 of Resolution 2008-012 with regard to structure of law enforcement.

The Chair opened the floor for public comment.

Public Comment Related to Resolution 2008-012 – Recommendation

Dan Sullivan, Fire Chief for the City of Hallandale Beach

Chief Sullivan: I am speaking on behalf of myself as a resident of Broward County, as the Fire Chief of the City of Hallandale Beach with the full support of the City Commission and the City Manager and as a member of the Fire Chief's Association. I think that I probably can clear up a couple of questions. I know last time, Mr. Buckner, I don't know if you were here when I presented some of the information, but I have some of that information. We're going to suggest that you do not vote in favor of making any changes.

The Chair pointed out properly how we got here, was that we have Charter language on the ballot. I see some heads shaking, but the fact is there's language in the Charter right now that outlines what that Fire Rescue Council is supposed to do, and they were charged with a specific purpose. They were charged with creating the infrastructure to allow for closest unit response because it was thought that there was a problem with agencies communicating together. The Director of Communications and Technology has testified before the Subcommittee for the Fire Rescue Council, I believe before the full Committee. He showed you objectively with graphs and charts, and he showed you clearly how about 90% of this County, if not more, is now interoperable. We went from a point where maybe 15 or 20 percent was interoperable, we're at 90%, and the technology is there so that we can be even better. That interoperability by the way crosses both Police and Fire boundaries because the Police agency and the Fire agency, particularly with all of those that are dispatched by the Broward Sheriff's Office, come out of the same communication center using the same software with the same call intake and so forth. That may answer some of those questions.

Palm Beach County, it is my understanding that there is a minimum standard that applies to Palm Beach County PAPA. I could be wrong, but I don't think that applies to the municipalities outside of Palm Beach County PAPA. Keep in mind that the Palm Beach County Fire Rescue Agency provides service for an overwhelming percentage of Palm Beach County; it's a large area, it's not unlike Miami-Dade County.

One of the problems that we as Fire Chiefs have here is number one, as an Administrator; the way the language is written out, it would create an enormous conflict for me. Currently by County Ordinance, there's an EMS Advisory Board that has to advise to the County Commission on EMS matters. Currently there's an Emergency Coordinating Council, by County Ordinance, that has to advise on emergency management issues to Broward County.

That Commission is established by State statute. This Council all of a sudden was established to advise on Emergency Management, EMS, Fire Rescue, and now Police I guess, depending upon who you talk to. What you're doing is, you're voting to set up Charter language that's going to create an Advisory Board that's going to advise on issues that we have two other Advisory Boards established by Ordinance to handle. I don't know if you can see where the problems would be with that, but I certainly as an Administrator could see pulling my hair out of my head every so often.

Another question was asked, "How would you identify the problem," and that's what we've asked. There's certainly small problems things that happen all the time and I think what the answer is – is no. The Chair of the subcommittee said no. We haven't identified the problem. We've had some subjective comments brought forward, but objectively we've showed you where we stand according to the insurance industry, in comparison to the rest of the EMS agencies nationally and by the state and how we compared to the rest of the Fire agencies, locally, by state, and by national standards. We've shown you that with objective data, that was not presented by us, but was presented by outside third party agencies.

You've heard testimony from the Police Chief's Association President, the Fire Chief's Association President, the Director of Communication and Technology, the Chair of the EMS Advisory Council, the Chair of the ECC, the Chair of the League of cities, the Chair of the Fire Rescue Council; all opposing this language and trying to explain to you how this would create problems for us. There was some statutory language that was created a couple years ago that I think I scratched my head on, it had to do with pigs having more space in a pen. We put that on State statute and what it did, it essentially did not do much for anybody, except made kind of a... some foolish language.

I don't know if we're doing anything more than that with this kind of, so called recommendatory language for inclusion into the Charter. I think it's going to create more problems than it would solve. I think that at a time when you pick up the paper and you see people being criticized for

things that go wrong, you have a Fire Rescue service in Broward County to be proud of, that now might be the time that the Commission could say, hey, we looked at this, and we need to compliment our various City Councils and our cities and be proud of the fact that we could provide one of the best services in this country. I think you for that.

Joe Benavides, Broward County Council of Professional Firefighters

Mr. Benavides: I'm here with the Fire Fighters, and there are Fire Fighters in the room. You have Walt Dix, and you have John McNamara they're representing 2600 Fire Fighters. The reality is 10 years ago we had 2600 Fire Fighters. You as a Charter Review Board, you're here to look at, review policy, make a decision, should it be changed, adjusted, or modified and if everything works, yet you sit here as a Board and you discuss these things. You've been here for quite a while.

So, I'm here to suggest to you that everything that you deal with is not broken either, but you're going to make recommendations to change it. You're going to look at it, you're going to touch it, you're going to get input, and you're going to make sure that your review process is clear. Your direction will challenge the past and hopefully do great things for the future. This Board is a Board that is inclusive of everybody who has a specialty in Public Safety. There are all these other Boards like Chief Sullivan says and you know why we're here today because we're still reviewing the processes and there's better ways to do things.

The Fire Rescue or the Fire Taskforce which was started 8 years ago, made recommendations to form the Fire Rescue Council. The Charter Review question was in the same proper time 6 years ago, which followed that where we lost this very same issue by two votes. Six years later we're here again and the reality is the same issue is still before you. We didn't get it right last time. So the Fire Fighters – and you're right, there's a lot of Chiefs, a lot of organizations; a lot of people say, "Oh, we have this committee, we have that committee."

I can tell you, I'm representing the Committee of the people that do the work in the field. The President of Broward County Council is going to have something to say to you. The President of 4321 will have something to say to you, but at the last meeting, everybody said, we have standards and you know, we're great; we go by an EMS protocol book and the discussion came up that 30% may be different. I'm here to tell you today, that there's 11 cities represented by Dr.

Elsanadi and he's one of the people that clearly asked to review a medical process and wants to change it.

However, that process is a two-year process and it's still under debate now. I think Dr. Elsanadi, he'll speak from, you know his issue, but there is a review process that is not reviewable and does not get processed. The facts are, the Fire Rescue Council, which you empowered us to facilitate the closest unit response, we still haven't been able to do it. The Chief's will tell you we're 90% there. We have the interoperability to do it, we're 90% there. The facts are we're not doing it. We're 90% there, now implement it. If there's a standard in there that should be followed so we can get to it, let's do it. Four years later, we have still not made recommendations to the Broward County Commission to facilitate and coordinate the communications component that came 8 years ago from a Fire Rescue Taskforce.

I'm here to tell you this, my last position here as representing the Council for this Charter Review issue, which when I was a President; and President McNamara has allowed me to finish this issue because it's here before you today, the reality is, it hasn't changed. You as a Commission have the ability to allow us to put people in a place that will review the policies publicly and state publicly if there's a deficiency. The community respects the Commissions; the community desires a higher level of service and everybody here is committed to do that.

If we are, then why not review the process by the people that are working in the street and make recommendation to say, "look I think this is a standard we may want to share, or change, or challenge." We're not doing it; we could do a better job. This panel will empower the voice of the people that work in the street that are recognizing the liabilities and the factors that can be changed to make life better for everybody. If you want us to do our job and you want us to serve the public, then you have to allow us, the people in the field to tell you the Commissioners that sit on the Charter Review Commission, that we have a deficiency and we need to find a way to make it work properly.

I'm not going to debate them, all these different panels, I'm just going to show you history. For 10 years we've been on the same path, to get the same discussion before the public so you can review it and make decisions as Commissions and Boards, and I believe this is the right way to do it. I believe it's a neutral way to do it and you as the Charter Commission should see what you're doing today, is what the Fire Fighters are trying to say to the Public. So, we're committed

to still say what we feel from the field to the dais, so it goes back to the Public in a public safety interest way.

I'm asking for your support. I think it should be something that should be easy to do. But, the reality is, there's other people that's going to come up here, and they're going to tell you, "I want to challenge some of the standards, I want to review them, I want to discuss them, and it's not being done." So, I appreciate your time. Thank you very much.

The Chair asked Benavides for clarification on his comment, "The number is still 2600", She asked if cities have reduced their Fire Departments?

Mr. Benavides: Well, this is the issue 10 years ago when Broward County had the population of – I could pick a number; I'm sure somebody has the exact number, two and a half million. We had 2600 Fire Fighters and Paramedics in the field. Today we have 4 million people in Broward County and we still have 2600 Fire Fighters and Paramedics in the field.

The Chair asked if the Battalion Chiefs and other individuals were being excluded from the count.

Mr. Benavides: No, It's the same number.

The Chair advised that she and Mr. Benavides are going to agree to disagree, because many Municipalities have added substantial numbers. She stated that her population is more than doubled in that time and the Department has grown incrementally, so she will take exception to that comment.

Mr. Benavides: I know you will, but the facts are, we represent all of the memberships of all the cities.

Ms. Good asked if there is a need to improve Fire Rescue service in Broward County and if there was a deficiency.

Mr. Benavides: There's absolutely a need to improve fire delivery service and communications in Broward County, yes there is.

Ms. Good asked if there are deficiencies.

Mr. Benavides: There are deficiencies that can be improved, we can always get better.

Ms. Good asked if further funding would be required.

Mr. Benavides: I have no idea. I'd have to see which needs need to be addressed. You know everybody says we're looking to pick the pockets, we're looking to address the protocols and standards that we're running on today; we're not looking to do anything...

Ms. Good asked if more Fire Fighters would equate to additional funding to hire them.

Mr. Benavides: Not necessarily true. What it is, it's the way you look at the delivery service and how you respond with the services that you have and how you coordinate them, how you put them together, how your radius responds to them, and how you respond the closest unit response rather than the closest available unit. There are better ways to do things and the facts are if we use these applications of review we can look at that.

Ms. Good asked if Mr. Benavides meant that it did not equate to needing further funding to improve fire and service.

Mr. Benavides: I don't know that; I can't answer that.

Ms. Eisinger confirmed that Mr. Benavides supported the idea, as well as adding police representation. She stated that she thinks it also came from Rick Carpani in a number of the subcommittee meetings.

Mr. Benavides: The issue for me a former public servant working in the community, which now of course I've retired because I'm a little old. The true issue is Police and Fire work together, they close off areas, they do different things, they assign different rescues, and you have SWAT, medics, etc. You have different interactions and perplexities where Police secure and make safe or go in, in place of and use the knowledge of each other; so it's a scene. As far as my concerns are with the Fire Fighters, we're proud to stand with public safety for those that protect the public and we've worked side by side, so if the Board says we want them there, I'm not going to argue that.

Chief Duncan Foster, Police Chief, Coral Springs

Chief Foster: Thank you for giving me just a few minutes; I promised I will be brief. I want to put a little historical perspective on probably why police was added. At the original onset of the Council, one of the charges of the Council was to improve communications throughout Broward County, but the reality is that most communications centers are under police jurisdictions. So, it would seem to make sense to the people that have the final authority, that is the Police Chiefs and the Sheriff of the mechanisms which are in place, who do the communications, should be represented at the table.

I know my partner, Mark Curran with the Fire Department, we work very closely as it relates to Coral Springs' ability to dispatch and communicate throughout the County, but in the grand scheme of things it is under the Police Chiefs' direction, budgetary authority, or what have you. From that perspective it's a good idea to bring law enforcement into this.

Now moving a step forward as it relates to this whole language ,as it relates to minimum standards. I speak for the Broward Police Chiefs that we're completely 100% against this for really a variety of reasons in a sense, some of them you've already heard today. Probably the biggest one is because there is no definition about minimum standards. What exactly are we talking about? I mentioned last time when I was here that every agency in South Florida especially Broward County has its own standards well above whatever the State has mandated. In addition, there's no agency that I'm aware of that is not nationally accredited, at the very least State accredited through their appropriate accrediting bodies. Minimum standards at a County level may run counter to what we're trying to do, which is further the professionalism of law enforcement. That's through the accreditation process again both at the State level and at the National level.

That being said, ultimately as the Police Chief I'm held accountable for the actions of our department. I'm held accountable for the crime rate, I'm held accountable for all the things that may go wrong in the agency. I don't want to see any sort of standard put in a place that's going to mitigate my accountability towards my boss, the City Manager; and ultimately the Citizens of Coral Springs. Home rule becomes very readily apparent as it relates to how each community polices their community. Some standards may be a little bit higher. Coral Springs requires a college degree. Not all of the cities require that, but that's a decision that we make in our city to

best serve our residents, and with that I will answer any questions you may have from a law enforcement perspective.

The Chair stated for clarification some cities have their fire separated from their police and their communication, and have different facilities.

Chief Foster: I would like to add since you had mentioned the Sheriff's office. I had mentioned last time but I've looked around the room and there is **no** representation here from the largest Law Enforcement Agency in the County which is the Broward Sheriff's Office. There is no representation from the Fire side of the Broward Sheriff's Office. I can assure you again, without putting words into Al Lamberti's mouth that he is not a proponent of minimum standards that relates to 6,000 employees that he has got to be held accountable for.

Mr. Weiss stated that he understands the opposition they have to the minimum standards portion of the proposal. He asked Chief Foster if he was aware of other sections of the proposal and what the position of the Police Chiefs' Association.

Chief Duncan: The Police Chiefs' Association as it relates to interoperability will always be in favor of; and I'm going to have to split hats for just a second. So, from the Police Chief's perspective, absolutely anything we can do and move towards true interoperability, we're certainly for it. As I've mentioned last time – first of all, we do have interoperability in the County. Is it a seamless smooth process? Sometimes no, again there needs to be probably some efforts made for the seamless process to get full true interoperability.

However, from the City of Coral Springs' perspective what we're doing, we're one of the cities that you've mentioned that has not signed off with the County as far as what they're trying to do at the County level to increase what they determine to be interoperability. We've not done so for a variety of technical reasons. We're what you call a PSAP (Public Safety Answering Point), which basically means we take all the dispatch out in Coral Springs. All the calls come in to us, we dispatch them. We do not rely on the County at all for dispatching functions. The only thing we rely on the County for is for 911.

Right now we're in very preliminary talks with the City of Coconut Creek and the City of Margate to become a Northwest Regionalization Dispatch Center, and we're very concerned that language like this is going to thwart our efforts. Now again, we're not trying to be an island up in

the northwest section. We believe again, that we have the ability in place now to be able to communicate to our residence the best possible way.

Mr. Weiss advised that there is language in Resolution 2008-012 Section 5.03 that adds law enforcement on the communication issue. He asked if Mr. Duncan if he was in favor of it or against it and if the Police Chiefs have taken a position on it.

Chief Duncan, Police Chief of Coral Springs

Chief Duncan: As the Police Chief of Coral Springs, I am against it. The Police Chiefs have not taken a position as it relates to this particular item. No, they have not.

Ms. Kaletta asked why they are opposed to the communications issue.

Chief Duncan: We're not opposed to simply becoming part of the entire County's efforts. We already are a part of the County's efforts but again Coral Springs has determined, what's called a PSAP. We have put approximately \$10 million in our infrastructure and we have just a little bit of concerns at the way the County would like to tap into resources that we currently have at possibly the expense of the way we currently dispatch. That's really our biggest concern; there are ways around that. We're in talks with the County that ultimately we may end up signing on with the County, but our first and foremost concern is the ability to dispatch to our City to make sure that is not affected at all. As the Police Chief, I'm not 100% positive that the County could tell us if we sign, that the service we provide to our residence will not be mitigated to a certain extent. They cannot assure me that and until they can assure me that 100%, I'm not willing to go forward and sign.

Ms. Kaletta asked Chief Duncan if the proposed Council would help alleviate those types of problems.

Chief Duncan: No, I don't believe it will because again, the standards that we've set forth up in Coral Springs and then hopefully again for the whole northwest section, I believe are standards that are higher than what the County provides. I'm not saying that the County does a bad job, but we've simply decided that we're going to perform and do perform a quality of dispatch at the levels that we've set forth; I'm very hesitant to see those standards altered, changed, modified, decreased, what have you.

I'm sorry just a note; please understand there is interoperability. I don't want to leave here with you thinking that Coral Springs can't talk to the rest of the County, because nothing can be further from the truth. Interoperability is an incredibly technical, incredibly complex, and an incredibly expensive solution to what we're all trying to get to. As I mentioned last time, I sit on the Executive Board of the Southeast Regional Domestic Security Taskforce where all funding for any sort of this effort has to go through anyway, if we're going to get federal funding. So, Coral Springs will not – especially if I sit on the Board; is not ever going to be an island. I want to make sure that the standards we already have set forth are not manipulated in such a way that's degrading to the system we currently have in place.

Mayor Joy Cooper, Chair of the Fire Rescue Council, and the Broward League of Cities

Mayor Cooper: This is a suggestion; maybe when you're looking at how you compile this Committee, you may want to look at alternate appointments so you have full capacity; that's just a thought that I had sitting back watching. There are a couple of questions raised, and I'm glad I had a chance to follow-up after the Chief.

I know you've had technical presentations and I hope that you had a chance to look at what was going on in Pembroke Pines and their interoperability, what Rick Carpani and our group have been doing to help facilitate these dialogues. The hurdles because of communities making initial investments, and having cities like Coral Springs step up to the plate and invest over \$10 million in infrastructure; again, we're interoperable with maybe a flip of a switch or the way they work together. We're getting there and we are doing what our initial task was, and it would address your concerns about a unit transplanted to another city because of a potential disconnect within interoperability and communications and closest unit first response which the League always supported it. that's why we came forward and said we will stand as a league and support that interoperability and closest unit first response. You've heard today many of these agencies are already set up to address emergency operations to address communications. I don't think there needs to be a change to this committee.

The question was raised about the police issue and working with them at the table. We certainly haven't taken a position on that, but I'm concerned again; we are all concerned. There were so many tables and ways to address minimum standards within each community whether it is EMS, whether it is Fire Rescue, and each community within itself is quite unique and yes, some cities contract with Broward County, but a lot of us have our own working, successful,

commendable departments. I only hear accolades, as the Mayor of Hallandale Beach on what services we provide, so I would caution you not to make this changeable, not to adopt any changes to the actual Council as it is presented today. I believe we're going to continue to be successful and make recommendations to move the County towards closest unit, first response and full interoperability, and redundancy, most importantly too. Thank you very much.

Ms. Rogers asked Mayor Cooper for suggestions, as an Elected Official, regarding the proposed option to make one Council instead of having several.

Mayor Cooper: Certainly I understand that there are different Councils by ordinance and certainly, that's not before you to evaluate. I would say that collaboration is there and it's working. I haven't heard complaints about that working collaboration and it goes to say, it goes back to what damage, if anything, or what problems are really created and there aren't any we should be extremely proud. They referenced Dade County, as far as minimum standards. You see Dade County, a lot of the cities are starting to take over their own standards and take over their own departments and move away from that specific larger organization. I don't have any input on this to date and I believe that it is collaboratively working and certainly, that would be a question to ask the Chiefs' Association, maybe to address with the County in itself. I have not heard an outcry to remove any of those policies, just one to don't expand this and create duplication; that's my concern. If you expand this, you're going to create that duplication that was referenced by my Chief. We wanted focus and remained focused on our task at hand, interoperability in closest unit first response.

The Council feels very strongly in it with seven minority votes, there was only one vote against our proposition to leave it the way it was and that was from Mr. Benavides as representative of the Fire and Union Body. So, I wanted to make that clear, it wasn't a large group or a super majority.

Ms. Rogers asked if minimum standards were taken away, would Mayor Cooper support all three entities sitting to the table at once, instead of the individual units.

Mayor Cooper: Can you ask me that question, not as the power of the League of Cities or as the Fire Council? Certainly, I would be remiss if I interject any of my opinions. If you want to ask me in my opinion, and you heard from the Chief, I believe that all our public safety each...

The Chair stated that the EMS is statutory.

Mayor Cooper: Yes, the police element to it, certainly we have that collaboration; I don't see any harm. I haven't heard proven necessity, because again, they are interoperability and they have been working at improving communications in the County; that would be my opinion.

Chief Ed Curran – President of the Fire Chief's Association

Chief Curran: I might be able to answer a few of your questions. I will just comment quickly on the Council's. Like I told you before, I'm a member on the Emergency Regional EMS Council, appointed by Commissioner Lieberman, and there's representation I think, there's 52 members of the EMS groups, private, public hospitals, everything. They do have rugged statutory status and they also regulate, because in order for you to get a COPCDM, you've got to run your application through their Review Committee that Board Council approves it, and then forwards it to the Commission for approval. Same thing with your EMS grants. That's just some of the things that they do. They talk about communications and they were the driving force on protocols many years ago.

The ECC (Emergency Coordinating Council), you have to have a representative from each of your cities there. every agency is there, and there is a representative from every city. There's also representatives from FP&L, from American Red Cross, Social Services Groups, Hospitals, Health Departments, State, you name it; federal is on there. It's all there and we're tasked to make sure that we can have a response. We have put those plans together, and we've worked very diligently as a group to put policies and plans together that we can all cooperate and work together with. I can give you examples: Task Force, Rural Population, some of you may have dealt with that. We worked with a committee again and put databases together that would come out of the ECC that didn't come out of the air there.

So, those were all brought together because of that group and a matter of fact, we have statutory language in front of the County Commission right now that would set up specific Policies and Procedures of how that Committee would work better with everybody I could give you on that idea, that's why we say, there are going to be issues. If you want to wipe those two (2) huge Committee's apart that have beautiful representation of what you want in this County, I'd say it would probably be terrible in this situation.

Let's talk about Firefighters, the number of Firefighters. I've been here for 28 years and I can tell you that, if you're looking at numbers there are some issues that can be discussed by the

fact that we have taken unincorporated areas over, they've closed Fire stations, and we've fired those people too. We've had people with good service; we did what you all said. If you remember 5 years ago, you said we were driving by Fire stations and the cities were mandated to start taking those areas over. There are all of these small pockets left, which I believe they're going to go away soon. Cities are incorporating them. My city is a very good example it's done the right thing to do that. We've increased our staffing, we had to do that; we had to add a fourth station. I can tell you that my staffing is up and we've expanded our services.

One other thing you aren't doing as a County when it comes to communication, you've put \$50 million into the pot, and I believe you've invested the time on this infrastructure and the backbone is there. Everything is working. There is a Resolution currently on the Council right now to bring seven to eight cities to have a standard that the County has, so that we can do closest available unit. That's what we were dictated to do, so in order to do that, you have to have these things in place. There is a Resolution in place in the Inter Local Agreement that we've worked with the Sheriff's Department and their communication people very closely. It's not that it's not happening. It's not something that can happen over night, it's these huge groups coming together and trying to put the right things together for technical issues.

Obviously, I understand where Joe Benavides comes from on the issue of the person on the street; we have the same concern. I will promise you this, if someone gets hurt because of liability, and they come up to the Fire Chief some of them are criminally charged now. So, we have an obligation and we have some concerns with that. The buck stops here.

Ms. Rogers stated that the Chief answered her questions very well.

Mr. Weiss asked if the Coordinating Council and the EMS Council set minimum standards.

Mr. Curran: They do in a way – for example of licensing and policymaking and how we respond to emergencies here.

Mr. Weiss asked if there was a potential for the two to conflict if the County was going to set its own standards.

Mr. Curran: Absolutely, I'm not sure where the demarcation line would come or who's going to do what and where, and who would hopefully supersede. You'd probably have to have that language somewhere.

Mr. Weiss asked if there is a Uniform Medical Protocol.

Mr. Curran: Yes there is, there definitely is. Joe eluded to that there are other cities that are looking at alternatives but, there is a standard protocol and our goal has always been to have a standard protocol.

John McNamara, President of the Broward County Council of Professional Firefighters

Mr. McNamara: I am here representing the over 2600 members and maybe that number is lower or higher, I won't talk about it at the moment. I am here representing them along with the other 11 IFF affiliated locals throughout the County. Obviously, our organization does support a minimum standard level within this region, but I think sometimes it's sort of misunderstood as to why we support it. I think sometimes we take so much fear of darts being thrown at us. We think or sometimes management thinks that we want the personnel, because we want the City to spend more money or that we want more people in the labor movement or that we'd like to see more of a lack of spending trust, and we just want more people; that's certainly not the case. We're the ones doing the job, we believe that there requires a certain number of people to perform each task.

I'd like to say that I believe that all the Union representatives in Broward County are not selfish and they too understand that there's a certain limitation of personnel that are required to do that job and on the flipside, I think sometimes management, especially Fire Chiefs, unfortunately they're put in a bad position. If they were to come up here and tell you or tell their Elected Officials that they need more people and they need more units, the first thing that's going to be asked of them, like Ms. Good asked before was, "Well are you doing the job now are you efficient or are you deficient."

I can tell you as a representative of a particular city, I certainly wouldn't want my Fire Chief to be put into a position where he's saying in public, you know, we're deficient or we're not doing the job. I don't think there's a Fire Chief in Broward County that doesn't feel that their city isn't doing a good job or isn't trying to do the best job that they have with the resources they have. I certainly don't believe, at least in my opinion that if they were to come and start asking for more people that they wouldn't feel like they're being put under the spotlight from known Elected Officials as to why you're asking for more people, more money, more trucks, at a time like this.

Of course, that's where the labor side comes in, because we're kind of given a little bit more leeway to come up here and fight and argue and say, we need more without fear of that maybe unintentional persecution that sometimes they do face. I do want to comment on some other areas with regards to minimum standards and so forth. We could argue all day long about what the minimum standards are. I do find it ironic; I believe it was Mr. Weiss over here that was asking about Medical Protocol Standards, and the Fire Chief's Association wants everybody to follow a standard protocol with regards to medical protocols, but sometimes speaks against following a standard protocol with minimum standards.

So, sometimes I get a little confused as to why we push for one area in one side and not in another. I think unfortunately, that does come back to ultimately things are going to cost money and if you want to provide certain levels of service, it's going to cost more money; it's going to cost more people. For the flipside, someone's going to have to give up control. Unfortunately, those are two areas that are philosophical in nature. People are going to argue that they don't want to give up control. People are going to argue that they don't want to spend more money. Our organization isn't up here at the moment trying to state one way or the other as to how the Fire Service should be provided in Broward County.

I want to disagree respectfully with Mayor Joy Cooper that the Counties below and above us, I can assure you or for as much as you want to take my word for it, that they are not looking to take back their services. They're probably looking to go towards their services, but again as Broward County Council President, I'm not here to advocate one way or the other. I'm certainly here to advocate trying to introduce and provide mechanisms that can be used to provide a better service to the residence of this community.

Finally, our support of minimum standards goes a long the way that we want to just be assured. We're not trying to say that nobody's doing the best job they can today. We just want to be assured that when our members cross the line to another city that they can expect the same equal level, participation, and service, as well as a resident crossing that city. There are certainly cities in Broward County that do not provide the same level of staffing on engines or on rescues. Unfortunately when we talk about minimum standards, that's ultimately what we're always talking about, is the number of people on trucks. There are other avenues of that but there are some different standards being provided and that's ultimately, what we're trying to respectfully introduce. To make sure we're all following that same level. Thank you.

The Chair asked if a Bill had come out of Broward County through the Broward Delegation, looking to have a Unified Fire System in Broward County.

Mr. McNamara: No, I mean I can comment on it now, I didn't want to go too long. The request for the Bill is a mechanism to allow cities to provide a different way of funding the service. That Bill does not require any city in Broward County to join one particular agency or another.

The Chair stated that the philosophy was to put everybody in one pot, if they choose. She advised that it would allow them to put all the equipment and workers in one pot.

Mr. McNamara: If they choose. If they feel that's the best way to provide the service, yes.

The Chair asked if the Bill was brought forward.

Mr. McNamara: Yes.

Walter Dix, President of Broward County Firefighters and Paramedics

Mr. Dix: I am the President of Broward County Firefighters and Paramedics and I'm a Captain with the Broward Sheriff's Office. We've had this discussion for a very long time, a number of years and this discussion is about public safety and are we doing a good job, and can we do a better job? The answer is we are doing a good job, yes we are. In all of the communities throughout Broward County, we're doing a good job, but can we do a better job? I think that's what your charge is here, to seek ways to improve the Charter to do a better job. It's not for this Committee or these Chiefs or anybody out here to sit and debate what that standard is, and I think we're kind of getting off track.

It's to put something out there to the Public, to ask them if they want to have a mechanism for recommending what the minimum standard should be, so that we can all do a better job. I can tell you as a representative of the Firefighters in the field, working with those Firefighters, having worked in Broward County for over 29 years that we can do a better job. To answer your question, there are not enough Firefighters in the community appropriately deployed because as John said, there are communities that staff differently.

Some staff one on a truck, two on a truck, three on a truck, four on a truck. It's being done differently and I'm not going to advocate to you what the right method is to do. What I'm going

to advocate to you is that we can do a better job by creating a minimum standard. I'll tell you that each and every one of you travel through all of these 30 plus cities in Broward County on a regular basis and you expect a certain response if you have a problem, whether it's a heart attack, a fire, an accident, emergency, and today you're not getting that. You're getting minimum state kind of level service and we can do a better job; I think that's what the public expects out there.

As for all of these other Advisory Council's, I'm a member of the Broward County Emergency Medical Service and I've been on that for a number of years. They don't set standards. I will respectfully, disagree with the fellow Fire Chiefs out there that they're not a standard setting committee. What they are is a review committee. They review as to whether or not people meet a certain state mandated standard. They do a lot of good things and I'm not advocating that we do away with that group because they get together on a regular basis and they provide a lot of input but, they're not recommending minimum standards. They're not doing what you're talking about.

There are a number of other committees that have been brought up in Advisory Boards and they don't do what we're talking about. They do a lot of other functions and those Boards can stay and do those functions. What we're talking about is a minimum standard here. This Fire Rescue Advisory Council was put together for just this reason. It was here, discussed about, over 6 years ago, that there should be some minimum standard. Then it got into a discussion, (Are we providing the best level of service?) The answer was no, we're not because we're not providing the closest unit to respond to the emergency and today we still don't. We also had a communications problem, so it was a lot more than communications. We've done a good job at putting the communications piece together and we're much more interoperable since we were six years ago, but we're still not meeting the task of closest unit response, we're still not doing that, we're still passing Fire stations. We're still taking longer to get to emergencies than we should be if we had a better-coordinated system as John spoke of...If we had some sort of minimum standard out there that everybody adhered to.

Now this has all been watered down to advisory and I'm okay with that. It's a good start, we need to start having the dialogue, and we need to stop suppressing the dialogue. I don't know what all the fear is, if all we heard is how great we are and how good everything is. What's the fear about having the discussion about minimum standards and putting an Advisory group together? All you're doing is asking the Public whether or not they want to have it and I think

that's well within your charge. I think that would most definitely improve Public Safety. Thank you.

Ms. Good asked why some communities put different numbers on the trucks.

Mr. Dix: Funding and Policy decisions. Communities make policy decisions on how they want to operate their department and they have funding limitations.

Ms. Good asked how a city with limitations would fund the additional manpower.

Mr. Dix: I think we're getting into a whole other area. I mean if you want the right answer, you need to have just a couple of Fire departments and not 20 or so of those Fire departments all doing their own thing, because you'd have a lot of duplicated service and if you reduce some of the duplication of service, you would definitely have the ability to fund those resources.

Mr. Benson stated that if you expose the difference from the standard that is established and it may excite the Citizens to call for the change to take place, to put it at a standard that's acceptable to the citizenry. He stated that the two should be closer together.

Mr. Dix: I just want to make one more comment. It was mentioned about the Medical Protocols and our Medical Director is here. He could speak to the specifics of it, but Broward County and Ft Lauderdale have decided to go in a different direction from the current common Medical Protocol, because in fact the system we have doesn't work. So, if you're being told that the system we have in place works and everything's fine and you don't need to go down this path and have these discussions. I don't believe that that's accurate because for that very reason; we want to make improvements we are going out and creating our own protocol. Two of the largest service providers in the County are going in a different direction because the system is not working for us.

Dan Glickman – Public Speaker - Deerfield Beach

Mr. Glickman: I've been very reluctant to get up here and say something but there's something which I feel I want to say. From what I've heard, whether it be lobe balls, softballs or any questions about what the problem is, what the needs are, I haven't heard anything of great

substance done. I've heard three gentlemen come up here and say XY and Z, all of which may be correct, but the point is, have there been any position papers given to the subcommittee. Have there been a facts and figures, which say, this is the problem, these are the stations that we're passing. You know the number of times that we're passing.

These are facts and figures that need to be addressed. I haven't heard that and I'll be frank, my concern is that having another thing on the ballot for voters to consider is all well and good, but I don't think this is something that they should be considering given the level of facts, figures and the percentage, so far as I understand it to this Committee and though I don't think this is going to have the 13 votes; I'm hoping it will not, only because I think there are real problems. Obviously, I think in terms of transit, that's my issue, my passion if you want to call it that. The point is, I'd rather not see a lot of million better things happen even though they should be happening, but that's not the place for the ballot. Thank you.

Dr. Elsanadi - EMS Medical Director, BSO, Fort Lauderdale

Dr. Elsanadi: I'm Dr Elsanadi and if I may use Dr Lieberman's analogy and write a metaphor. I speak better using my hands. I'm speaking here not as a member of the Fire Rescue Council, not as a member of basically the audience deliberating, I'm speaking as a physician, as a clinician. What I wanted to do is, if you indulge me for a few minutes, draw the bell shape curve, which is everybody. I think the elephant around the room is, where is the minimum standard? I think there is a lot of fear, as far as where do you draw the line. For us, as physicians, as EMS Medical Directors, and as Mr. Dix and Mr. Benavides have alluded to with the Fire Chiefs support for BSO. I'm also the Medical Director, by the way, for BSO and Ft. Lauderdale and over a thousand paramedics.

Our job as EMS Medical Directors, and I'm the Chair for BCMA-EMS Committee and I can comfortably speak for all the Medical Directors in the community. It's to continually, force in this direction. Our job is to get the new science to the boots on the ground, in the best most efficient way. I think it was alluded to, spoken of, as far as where are we, and what are we doing. When I hear common minimum standard, I almost cringe, I'm bearing my soul, as far as where I am emotionally and as far as intellectually where we are.

There is always new science, I don't know if you've read about it or have thought about hypothermia as far as cardiac resuscitation and bringing the core body temperature down and

getting better outcomes as far as cardiac arrests. This is new science; the common protocols are common protocols. Our job as Medical Directors, Fire Chiefs, Union Leaders, is to continue work on the cutting edge to bring clinical excellence at the very edge for every patient all the time and that's a big scale of what I have to say. I wanted to focus specifically on that point as a physician clinician, EMS Medical Director that's someone that's actually torn.

We have to have minimum standards. Sixty-four E is there is an enumeration of like six or seven different things. Palm Beach tried to do something. Dr. Lieberman asked a question, "Should we even venture into this direction?" There should be minimum standards. The question is for this body and, I'll speak again as a citizen, clinician, physician, EMS Medical Director for over 1000 paramedics, the challenge is can you create a body that will help push or pull the bell shape curve, all cities, all paramedics, all firefighters, all Fire Chiefs, all union members in this direction. That's my comments.

The Chair opened the floor for the Committee members.

Mr. Benson MOTIONED to approve proposed Resolution 2008-012 (Rev. #5) – Renaming Broward County Fire Rescue Council, Increasing its Membership and Responsibilities and minimum standards, Ms. Rogers SECONDED.

The Chair called for a roll call vote at 3:43 p.m.

Commissioner Hayward Benson	Yes	Mayor Lori Moseley, Chair	No
Michael Buckner, Esq.	No	Burnadette Norris-Weeks, Esq.	Absent
Mayor Debby Eisinger	Yes	Ms. Maggie Davidson	Yes
Mr. David Esack	No	Commissioner Hazelle Rogers	Yes
Ms. Patricia Good	No	Bruce Rogow, Esq.	Absent
Ms. H.K. "Petey" Kaletta	Yes	Dr. Irv Rosenbaum	No
Mr. Mark Ketcham	No	Ms. Jodi Jeffreys-Tanner	No
Dr. Mark Lieberman	Yes	Mr. Wil Trower	No
Joseph Maus, Esq.	Absent	Richard Weiss, Esq.	No
Commissioner Ted Mena	Absent		

Motion FAILED on a roll call vote of 6 YES to 9 NO.

Ms. Eisinger asked if the Commission could reconsider those portions of the proposed failed Resolution that do not contain minimum standards. She explained that people would still entertain the change to the Public Safety Council and since the sticking point with the proposed failed Resolution was “minimum standards,” she would like to propose the removal of Subsection 5.04 (D).

Ms. Eisinger MOTIONED to remove Subsection 5.04 (D) from the proposed language of failed Resolution 2008-012; thereby renewing the remaining sections of the proposed resolution for consideration. Ms. Rogers SECONDED for discussion.

The Chair advised that at this point in time she has not heard from the Sheriff’s office. She explained that the Chief whom she did hear from said no; therefore, she has no compelling reason to support Ms. Eisinger’s request.

Ms. Kaletta reminded the Commission that BSO and related stakeholders were notified and distributed copies of the proposed Resolution. She stated that if they were strongly against it, they would have appeared at the meeting just as the Fire Chiefs did.

The Chair asked if current BSO Administration was notified.

Multiple responses: Yes, there were two representatives from the Sheriff’s Office present previously.

Mr. Weiss explained that he did not wish to vote against the new proposed language because of a lack of knowledge. He reminded the Commission that the Police Chief who was present advised that he was against it; however, that Chief also informed the CRC that the Police Chief’s had not taken a position on it. Mr. Weiss stated that he has no feeling about it one way or another because he has not done any analysis of it, nor does he know how the League of cities would feel about it.

- Mr. Weiss proposed getting more information and finding out what people think about it.

Ms. Gross offered to have CRC staff gather and distribute to the CRC members information presently held by staff on the issue for their review.

Mr. Ketcham reminded the Commission that there needs to be a vote of 10:4 to discuss the proposed language and determine whether or not to move the item forward.

The Chair stated that there was a MOTION to discuss.

Ms. Eisinger explained that her MOTION was to address the item to get more information and keep it on the table. She reminded everyone that the subcommittee received quite a bit of testimony from BSO, Mr. Rick Carpani and others. She stated that BSO may think that they've provided all of their testimony.

Ms. Kaletta advised that BSO also appeared before the full CRC.

The Chair expressed confusion as to whom Mr. Carpani works for. Ms. Eisinger confirmed that Mr. Carpani is with the Broward Sheriff's Office and has been involved in pushing the subcommittee and promoting the plan.

Re-statement of Motion

Ms. Eisinger MOTIONED to remove Subsection 5.04 (D) from the language of failed proposed Resolution 2008-012; thereby renewing the remaining sections of the proposed Resolution for discussion and consideration. Ms. Rogers SECONDED.

The Chair called for a roll call vote at 3:49 p.m.

Commissioner Hayward Benson	Yes	Dr. Mark Lieberman	Yes
Michael Buckner, Esq.	Yes	Joseph Maus, Esq.	Absent
Mayor Debby Eisinger	Yes	Commissioner Ted Mena	Absent
Mr. David Esack	Yes	Mayor Lori Moseley, Chair	No
Ms. Patricia Good	No	Burnadette Norris-Weeks, Esq.	Absent
Ms. H.K. "Petey" Kaletta	Yes	Ms. Maggie Davidson	Yes
Mr. Mark Ketcham	No	Commissioner Hazelle Rogers	Yes

Bruce Rogow, Esq.	Absent	Mr. Wil Trower	Yes
Dr. Irv Rosenbaum	Yes	Richard Weiss, Esq.	Yes
Ms. Jodi Jeffreys-Tanner	Yes		

Motion PASSED on a roll call vote of 12 YES to 3 NO.

The Chair confirmed that the motion meant that the discussion will now continue. She asked for the will and direction of the Commission.

Staff Directives – Proposed Resolution 2008-012

- Mr. Weiss proposed getting more information and finding out what people (BSO, League of Cities, etc.,) think about it.
- The Chair obtained consensus of the Commission to direct staff to obtain and provide specific information to the full CRC rather than sending the item back to the Public Safety Subcommittee.
- Mr. Weiss requested that this be done with specific instructions of not re-opening the public comments portion of the item. The Chair agreed.
- Mr. Weiss clarified for staff that the issue is, ***“Should the Fire Rescue Council be renamed to the Broward County Public Safety Council, continuing with its current duties and include Law Enforcement as a part of its membership?”***
- The Chair requested letters be sent to BSO and organizations involved asking the question.
- Ms. Good also requested that the letters distributed by CRC staff should also contain a request for written correspondence should they not be able to attend the CRC meeting.

The Chair again confirmed that the entire issue will not be opened again and moved to Item VII.

VII. Subcommittee Progress Reports

1. Administrative Issues / Governance – Dr. Irv Rosenbaum, Chair, / Burnadette Norris-Weeks, Esq., Vice-Chair

The Chair advised that this will be presented at the next meeting.

2. Land Use Subcommittee – Richard Jay Weiss, Chair

Mr. Weiss stated that they had a meeting on the Planning Council item and Mr. Wilson has drafted an amendment implementing the League of Cities recommendation. He stated that due to the amount of work the deadlines are not being met. He advised that the next meeting is set for February 8.

The Chair advised that it has to be complete by February 27.

Mr. Benson stated that he couldn't attend the LUSC meeting scheduled on February 8.

3. Health & Social Services – Wil Trower, Chair

Mr. Trower stated that on February 5, there will be a meeting on the Housing Council Resolution issue to discuss draft language.

Ms. Gross advised that the Administrative Issues/Governance Subcommittee stated that they will have a meeting on February 7 from 10:00 to 12:00 in the main Library. She explained that the discussion will be on the Ethics Commission and the MESC/CRC timetable.

VIII. New Business

None

IX. Public Comment

Dan Glickman: Will the next meeting have on the agenda the (Via Internet)?

Ms. Gross stated yes, that it would be on the CRC agenda for the next meeting.

Mr. Goren: Madame Chair, just one quick item. If you may remember, on the method by which Re-districting would occur and the consultant relationship 2008-014, we did revise that at the Boards direction along with Professor Rogow. It's an item, which is out there independent of the actual Re-districting process. The Board actually approved that and you may remember that Professor Rogow had several comments. His comments were order of the method of the question itself. He graded my papers and I responded appropriately.

The Chair stated that it will be put into the agenda.

X. Adjournment

There being no further discussion the meeting was adjourned at 3:54 p.m. The minutes of this meeting are recorded on CD # 01.30.08 (BCGV CTR).