

SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
September 19, 2022

The South Florida Regional Planning Council Executive Committee met virtually and in person on this date at the Council's office located at 1 Oakwood Boulevard, Suite 250, Hollywood, FL 33020. Chair Geller called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and reminded everyone of the meeting's procedures. Chair Geller welcomed the Councilmembers as well as those attending virtually. Councilmember Ross led the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

Chair Steve Geller

Councilmember Mario J. Bailey*

Councilmember Michelle Coldiron

Councilmember Beam Furr

Councilmember René García*

Councilmember Samuel Kaufman*

*Virtually Present

**Absent

Councilmember Greg Ross was present.

SFRPC Executive Director Mrs. Isabel Cosio Carballo and Legal Counsel Sam Goren were present. Mr. Goren confirmed there was a quorum.

II. Approval of Council Agenda

Council Agenda was approved by unanimous consent.

Chair Geller moved the Agenda Item IV. Executive Director Annual Review up on the Agenda.

IV. Executive Director Annual Review

Chair Geller requested that the Executive Committee complete the Executive Director's Annual Review and make any comments on her performance for the year. After the reviews were compiled, Chair Geller read the reviews in detail and reported that Mrs. Cosio Carballo had received forty-nine out of fifty points.

Chair Geller asked Mrs. Cosio Carballo about her succession planning and the status of hiring a Deputy Director. Mrs. Carballo stated that she had found a candidate, but it did not work out. The goal is to hire a Deputy Director over the next few months and train this person to take over the administration of the Council by the end of October 2023. There was a discussion on the salary of the Deputy Director and Executive Director. Chair Geller requested a survey on the salary and benefits of the other RPC Executive Directors.

Discussion ensued on Council staff's merit increases and Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) benefits. Mr. Braslavsky-Soldi, Director of Finance and IT, stated that merit increases depend on the individual position, job performance, and whether the staff member is undertaking a new position and/or additional responsibilities. The COLA benefit is 3%.

Chair Geller and the Executive Committee discussed Mrs. Cosio Carballo's salary increase and suggested she receive a four percent (4%) merit increase as well as the three percent (3%) COLA benefit, which is the same COLA benefit of the SFRPC staff.

Chair Geller motioned to approve the contract renewal and the three percent (3%) COLA benefit. Councilmember Furr moved to approve Mrs. Cosio Carballo's COLA benefit, Councilmember Coldiron seconded the motion, which was carried out by unanimous consent.

Chair Geller motioned to approve a four percent (4%) merit increase. Councilmember Furr moved to approve Mrs. Cosio Carballo's merit increase of four percent (4%), and Councilmember Coldiron seconded the motion. Executive Committee Members Coldiron, Furr, Kaufman, and Chair Geller approved the recommendation of the merit increase of four percent (4%). Executive Committee Members Bailey and Garcia voted against the recommendation.

Councilmember Garcia stated that he based his decision regarding the Executive Director's merit increase on budgetary restrictions, not the Executive Director's performance.

III. General Counsel Annual Review

Chair Geller stated that the hourly rates for law partners in South Florida are much higher than the hourly rate the Council has been paying SFRPC's Legal Counsel. He suggested that a higher rate be paid to the law partners of Goren, Cherof, Doody & Ezrol, P.A. and proposed an hourly increase from \$250.00 per hour to \$260.00 per hour as a token of the Council's appreciation and esteem for legal counsel. Legal Counsel was asked by the Chair if this was acceptable. The legal Counsel accepted the token of appreciation and thanked the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee agreed. Mr. Goren explained the history of the Legal Counsel's contract and thanked Mrs. Cosio Carballo and the Executive Committee Members.

Chair Geller motioned to approve the contract renewal and the increase of the law partners' hourly rate from \$250.00 to \$260.00 per hour. Councilmember Bailey moved the motion, Councilmember Coldiron seconded the motion, which was carried by unanimous consent.

V. Public Comment

There were no public comments during this meeting.

VI. Adjournment

Chair Geller motioned to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Ross moved to adjourn the meeting, Councilmember Coldiron seconded the motion, which was carried by unanimous consent.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

This signature is to attest that the undersigned is the Secretary of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL and that the information provided herein is the true and correct minutes for the September 19, 2022 meeting of the SOUTH FLORIDA REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE adopted the 21st day of November 2022.

Michelle Lincoln, Secretary
Monroe County Commissioner, District 2

Date