

**Office of the Cook County Medical Examiner
Special Meeting of the Advisory Committee – February 6, 2015
County Building | Room 442 Conference Center A | 11:00am**

Attendance

Present: Dr. Enrique Beckmann, *Chairman*; Detective Sergeant Jason Moran, *Cook County Sheriff's Office-Vice Chairman*; Susan Dyer, *Funeral Director*; Elizabeth Gorman, *Cook County Commissioner*; Reverend Vuanita Battle-Maze, *Vitas Hospice*; Spencer Leak, Jr., *Funeral Director*; Daniel Gallagher, *Cook County State's Attorney's Office*.

Absent: Mark A. Rizzo, *Funeral Director, I.D.F.P.R.-Secretary*; Commander Eugene Roy, *Chicago Police Department*; Rabbi Moshe Wolfe, *Police Chaplain (CPD/CFD)*; Isaac McCoy, *President/CEO Urban Mosaic*;

Guests Present: President Toni Preckwinkle, *Cook County Board of Commissioners*; Martha Martinez, *Acting Chief of CCBOA*; Dr. Stephen Cina, *Chief Medical Examiner of Cook County*; James Sledge, *Executive Officer of CCME*; Nadine Jakubowski, *Deputy Executive Officer of CCME*; Robert Meza, *CCBOA*; Kevin McNicholas, *CCBOA*; Frank Shuftan, *CCBOA*.

Call to Order / Roll Call

Special Meeting is called to order at 11:10 a.m. by Chairman Beckmann
Vice-Chairman Moran does roll call and announces there is a quorum

President Preckwinkle

- Thank you for your attendance at this Special Meeting of the Advisory Committee.
- Apology for the way proposed ordinance amendment was delivered to committee. Wanted Chief Martinez to deliver information and properly explain, but Martha had a death in the family.
- Explanation of ordinance history from 1970's and review of 2012 crisis at the Office of the Medical Examiner - there was no language included in the ordinance to address member term limits.
- Proposed ordinance amendment was drafted to clean up original language and specify terms.
- Questions?

Commissioner Gorman:

How do other Advisory Committees function? Staggering terms? 2-3 year terms so only one third of Committee is replaced, and/or complete replacement of Committee members?

Vice-Chairman Moran:

The ordinance amendment was perceived as a punishment from the administration by members of the committee due to the timing of its introduction. The tone of the November 2014 meeting was somewhat negative and the ordinance amendment appeared to be a way to eliminate certain committee members.

President Preckwinkle:

Members may be reappointed if they choose to stay on MEAC.

Vice-Chairman Moran:

To echo Dr. Beckmann's sentiment, we are relieved that fiduciary responsibility has been removed in the ordinance amendment.

President Preckwinkle:

It was never intended to contain "fiduciary" language in MEAC ordinance.

Chairman Beckmann:

The proposed ordinance amendment eliminates the word "operations" and "service to residents" – I can understand "operations" due to that responsibility falling under the CCME staff, but eliminating "service to residents" is counter intuitive.

Vice-Chairman Moran:

The committee should be able raise issues, as well as, respond to items proposed to them.

Attorney Meza:

Recommendations to Dr. Cina have been received. Intent is to eliminate "bottom up approach". Who has authority to propose agenda items?

President Preckwinkle:

MEAC should act in an advisory capacity. Attorney Meza was directed to look at ordinance language. Operations should remain responsibility of professional staff at CCME.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Vice-Chairman Moran

Motion seconded by Susan Dyer

No discussion

Motion passed unanimously by the committee

Meeting adjourned at 11:30am