



Executive Committee Meeting  
November 17, 2009; 2:00 p.m.  
Executive Conference Room

- Committee Attendees:** Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr. (attended via conference call); Yesenia Perkins (attended via conference call); Gerald K. Schwartz, Esq. (attended via conference call); Yvonne T. Johnson (attended via conference call); Dabney G. Park, Jr., Ph.D.
- Staff Attendees:** Evelio Torres (President/CEO); Leena Pena; Angelo Parrino; Melody Thelwell
- Other Attendees:** Alan Eckstein, Esq. (attended via conference call); Lucy Piñeiro, Esq.; Brian Burns (Gray Robinson)

<b>I. Welcome and Introductions</b>	<b>Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr., Chair</b>
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- O. Verdeja called the meeting to order.

<b>II. Board Attorney Selection</b>	<b>Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr., Chair</b>
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- E. Torres stated that the Legal Services Committee last decided that they would send out another RFQ and request firms to submit their proposals. In the interim, the ELC needs to select a firm to handle all pending issues. Currently, the ELC has a contract with Walter Harvey and two smaller contracts with Tew Cardenas.
- A. Eckstein stated that the Legal Services Committee was not satisfied with the group of applicants that responded to the first RFQ. The second RFQ has already been released to allow for additional proposals to be submitted.
- O. Verdeja asked if having inside counsel would be an option.
- E. Torres stated that the child welfare agencies have inside counsel and when special issues come up they hire outside counsel to assist. This was definitely an option to consider.
- O. Verdeja asked if it was realistic to obtain a lawyer at \$75,000.
- L. Piñeiro stated that she felt it was unrealistic. She previously worked in a legal position similar to what the ELC was looking for and she earned \$125,000.
- O. Verdeja stated that the RFQ process would continue and would wait to see what firms apply. In addition, the ELC would investigate to see if the possibility of inside counsel is an option.
- E. Torres stated that his opinion was to continue using Gray Robinson as the interim Board counsel. Tew Cardenas could also continue to work on their current contracts.



<b>III. Board Attendance Policy</b>
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<b>Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr., Chair</b>
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- E. Torres stated that the ELC had a recent situation where Board Member M. Abety had a medical emergency and was unable to attend several Board meetings. Per the bylaws, O. Verdeja sent him a letter informing him of his absences and that a third one would mean resignation from the Board. In situations like this, what should the process be?
- D. Park moved to allow the Chair to make one exemption per year.
  - The motion was not seconded.
  - The motion was dropped.
- A. Eckstein stated that this issue should be taken to the Governance & Bylaws Committee for discussion.

<b>IV. Building Improvements</b>
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<b>Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr., Chair</b>
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- E. Torres stated that when the ELC renewed the lease with Hines, \$126,000 was allowed for building improvements. The most expensive improvement is redoing the carpet on the floor. Hines has already balanced the air conditioning. The bathroom improvements will begin in December along with kitchen improvements.

<b>V. Public Comments</b>
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<b>Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr., Chair</b>
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<b>VI. Adjourn</b>
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<b>Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr., Chair</b>
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