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CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

O.R. BOOK _____ PAGE _____
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**CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
July 8 , 2010**

A meeting of the Charter Review Commission (CRC) was held at the Administration Complex, Room 106-B, Port Charlotte, Florida

Roll Call

The following members were present:

Ken Doherty (Chairman),, Joseph Goggin, John Hitzel, Thomas Rice, Julie Mathis, Frank Weikel , Andy Dodd, Bill Folchi, Johnny Vernon; Maureen Garrard, Bill Dryburgh

The following members were absent:

Paula Hess, Suzanne Graham, Mike Grant, Kevin Russell

The following alternates were present:

Bill Weller, Connie Kantor (arriving 4:15 p.m.)

The following alternates were absent:

Patricia Kelly

In addition to membership, the meeting was attended by *Robert Berntsson, Esq.*, counsel for the CRC

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 p.m. EDT by *Chairman Ken Doherty*

Agenda Items:

1. Public Input:

Bob Starr, Charlotte County Commission, said that he was concerned about the cost factor involved in the eighteen (18) month CRC extension under approved Amendment 8. Mr. Starr said that he thought approved Amendment 1 (removal of residency from Commission district) was good. Regarding approved Amendment 7 (EDO reports directly to the Board), Mr. Starr said that he did not feel that would be any more productive than the current structure. Mr. Starr supported approved Amendment 4 (residency requirement for Constitutional officers). Mr. Starr said that he thought the rest of the Amendments could be done administratively. Mr. Starr concluded his comments by observing that this Charter Review Commission had established the groundwork and left a record for the next session.

2. Finalization of Report of 2010 Charter Review Commission:

Chairman Doherty clarified that all of the voting on proposed Amendments had taken place at the meeting on July 1, 2010. *Mr. Doherty* said that this meeting would concentrate on developing and editing the Final Report into final form. Robert Berntsson, Esq. confirmed that he had forwarded the approved Amendments and ballot language to the County Attorney and that the County Attorney would be preparing the Resolution to the Board of County Commissioners. Discussion of the Final Report then began:

Section I – Introduction. The consensus was that no changes were required based on the draft.

Section II – CRC Organization and Approach. The consensus was that no changes were required based on the draft. It was noted that signature pages would be included for each of the sub-Committee reports.

Section III – Proposed Charter Amendments and Approved Ballot Language. *Frank Weikel* asked about approved Amendment 8 (EDO), and the possible consequences if passed by the voters. Mr. Berntsson confirmed that passage would mean that the Director would need to be appointed by the BCC, and that office would most likely want their own contract as is now the case with the County Attorney and the County Administrator. *Mr. Weikel* said that if asked in a meeting he would say that he was not in support of this Amendment.

Section IV – Recommended BCC Organizational/Procedural Changes. All agreed that the introduction would be worded to make it clear that these were not necessarily recommendations of the CRC but reflected public testimony being presented laterally to the Board. A vote was taken to possibly remove the bullet regarding educational reimbursement to the BCC. This move to withdraw the item was rejected by a vote of 7 to 4. All of the bullet points were discussed separately, edits and revisions being noted for incorporation into the final product.

Section V – Recommendations to Future Charter Review Commissions. All of the bullet points were discussed separately, edits and revisions being noted for incorporation into the final product. There was discussion about the signature page, which in draft form provided for signatures by all the members. *Frank Weikel* moved to have only the Chairman and the attorney sign the report. This motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Final Report (as drafted for review and discussion on 7/08/2010), with the edits directed as a result of this meeting.

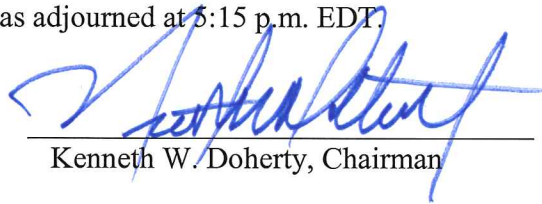
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(NOTE: This Final Report, together with the Resolution and proposed Amendments, will be submitted to the BCC Agenda prior to July 15, 2010, for presentation to the Board at the meeting July 27, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. Copies can be viewed in their entirety on the website <http://www.charlottecountyfl.com/CharterReviewCommission/>)

3. Commission Comments. Each of the members present expressed their pleasure at having served on this Commission and particularly addressed appreciation for the work and leadership provided by *Chairman Doherty*. The members also thanked Mr. Berntsson and administrative support.

4. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m. EDT.



Kenneth W. Doherty, Chairman