Alachua County
Charter Review Commission

Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Commission Members

Robert Ackerman

Robert Brinkman

DJ Ferguson

Mitch Glaeser, Vice Chair

Armando R. Grundy

J. K. Irby, Chair

Joseph W. Little

AuBroncee S. Martin

John Martin

Bill Richards

Jim Stringfellow

Rod Tuttle

Lura W. Williams Martin

Ashley Wood

Guy York

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Charter Review
Commission
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CRC Members Present: Robert Ackerman, Robert Brinkman, DJ Ferguson, Mitch Glaeser, Armando Grundy, J.K. Irby, Joe Little, AuBroncee Martin, John Martin, Bill Richards, Rod Tuttle, Lura Williams Martin, Jim Stringfellow, Ashley Wood, Guy York

CRC Members Absent: Bill Richards

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

General comments by members.

The chair recognized all commission members wishing to make comments.

2. **Approval of Minutes of June 9, 2010.**

Joe Little moved that the June 9, 2010 minutes be accepted as presented. The Chair requested that staff correct a couple of scrivener errors. The minutes as corrected were unanimously agreed to.

3. **Legal Counsel: Presentation of options regarding approved proposals to be forwarded to the County Commission and voters.**

Legal counsel Sarah Bleakley reviewed the current proposals and provided two alternatives combining proposals for the commission's consideration. One alternative combined proposals 1 and 2. A second alternative combined proposals 4 and 5. Neither alternative proposal received commission backing. The Chair advised that the original (June 9th) adopted language would stand. Attorney Bleakley also provided the commission with an alternative ballot title for proposal number 6.

Ashley Wood moved to substitute the alternative ballot title for proposal number 6 as follows: "Providing for non-partisan elections of constitutional officers by abolishing them and replacing them with charter officers".

After discussion, the motion was unanimously agreed to.

4. Presentation by Dr. Kenneth Wald, Ph.D. regarding single member districts.

The Chair introduced and recognized Dr. Kenneth Wald, Ph. D. who made a presentation regarding the pros and cons of single member districts. He also reviewed the requirements of the Voting Rights Act, court decisions regarding the Voting Rights Act, and the guidelines that should be used in drawing districts. Dr. Wald entertained questions from the commission and responded accordingly.

The Chair and other members expressed their gratitude to Dr. Wald for his presentation.

5. Consideration of single member district proposals.

a. 7-1 County Commissioners single member districts per statute.

b. 7.2 Charter Commissioners with three districts going to county line.

Armando Grundy moved the resolution and ballot language on Question 7-1 as presented by legal counsel and that the following question be submitted to the electorate: Elect Five Commissioners from Electors in Single Member Districts.

The Chair recognized twenty citizens wishing to speak on the question.

The Chair recognized all members of the commission wishing to speak.

Following a thorough discussion, the motion was not agreed to.

Yes 7 (Glaeser, Irby, J. Martin, Stringfellow, Tuttle, L. Martin, York)

No 7 (Ackerman, Brinkman, Ferguson, Grundy, Little, A. Martin, Wood)

6. Directions to staff regarding report.

DJ Ferguson moved that the county staff be directed to prepare the commission's final report and have it placed on the agenda for County Commission action.

The motion was unanimously agreed to.

7. Authorization for the Chair to approve expenditures on behalf of the CRC.

Armando Grundy moved that Chair Irby be authorized to review and approve all expenditures incurred by the CRC.

The motion was unanimously agreed to.

8. Closing comments and other business.

The Chair recognized all members wishing to make comments.

9. Adjourn Sine die

Joe Little moved the Charter Review Commission adjourn sine die.

The motion was unanimously agreed to and the Chair adjourned the CRC sine die.