

Orange County Government

*Orange County Administration Center
201 S Rosalind Ave.
Orlando, FL 32802-1393*



Final Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 20, 2023

6:00 PM

County Commission Chambers

Charter Review Commission

CRC Members:

Homer Hartage, Chair

Lee Chira, Vice Chair

Mark Arias-Rishi Bagga-Dick Batchelor-Tom Callan-

Eric R. Grimmer-Erica Jackson-Chuck O'Neal-

Angel de la Portilla-Alisia Adamson Profit- Cornita A. Riley- Eugene Stoccardo-Beverly

Winesburgh-

Dotti Wynn

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Present: 13 - Member Dick Batchelor, Member Angel de la Portilla, Member Eric R. Grimmer, Member Erica Jackson, Member Homer Hartage, Member Lee Chira, Member Rishi Bagga, Member Tom Callan, Member Dotti Wynn, Member Eugene Stoccardo, Member Cornita A. Riley, Member Chuck O'Neal, and Member Beverly Winesburgh

Absent: 2 - Member Alisia Adamson Profit, and Member Mark Arias

Others present:

County Mayor Jerry L. Demings
District Commissioner Nicole Wilson
District Commissioner Michael Scott
Assistant County Attorney David Berman
Assistant County Comptroller Keith Nowlin
Assistant Deputy Clerk Jennifer Lara-Klimetz
Minutes Supervisor Craig Stopyra
CRC Administrative Assistant Jessica Vaupel

Pledge of Allegiance**I. Chair / Vice Chair Comments**

Chair Hartage provided brief comments to the CRC. Chair Hartage introduced Erica Jackson, the newest member to the CRC. Member Jackson is an appointee of District 1. She provided a brief history of her background and varied experience. Chair Hartage announced that the Procurement Committee meeting to select the CRC General Counsel will be held on March 29, 2023, at 3:00 p.m., in the Facilities Management Building located at 2010 E. Michigan Street. It is a public meeting and CRC members are invited to attend. The committee will make a selection and bring forth that selection to the CRC for approval at the next CRC meeting.

Chair Hartage will bring forth draft Bylaws to the CRC, which will provide rules on how to set up committees and CRC business moving forward. He will seek member input at the next CRC meeting and the final Bylaws will be voted and approved by the full CRC.

II. Invited Guest Speaker Orange County Mayor Jerry L. Demings

County Mayor Demings welcomed members of the 2023-2024 Charter Review Commission and thanked them for their willingness to serve on the CRC on behalf of the citizens of Orange County. The Mayor expressed the goal of the CRC is to review the County Charter, all phases of County government and decide whether proposed revisions and/or amendments to the County Charter are necessary. County Mayor Demings shared that the preservation of home rule, term limits, non-partisan elections and having one authoritative figure for the executive and legislative branch is extremely important to the longevity of Orange County. CRC members asked questions to County Mayor Demings relating to:

- Structure of the offices within the Mayor and County Commissioners along with their roles and responsibilities
- Mayor's legislative and executive roles and how it affects County Commissioners ability to work with members of County Staff that report to the Mayor about issues or projects taking place in a particular district
- Single member districts
- Separation of power between executive and legislative branches
- Lengthening term limits
- Transformational change regarding housing, transportation, and environment issues as it relates to the length of term limits
- Creation of a Citizen Review Board to review citizen complaints against the Orange County Sheriff's Office
- Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approval process of the Orange County Sheriff's Office budget
- Determining a defense of future Charter amendments in potential litigation
- Creation of a Citizens Advisory Committee regarding the Corrections Department
- Public Initiatives and Referendums within the Charter
- Casinos
- Sections of the Charter that can be strengthened to protect home rule

Member Batchelor requested the County Attorney's Office provide an update on the latitude of the Charter process along with the County's Legislative Government Affairs Office providing an update on pending items in the Florida Legislature that may preempt their proposed Charter amendments. Discussion ensued.

III. Public Comment

The following person addressed the CRC for public comment: Commissioner Nicole Wilson.

IV. Member Comments

CRC members commented on the following issues: term limits, lack of funding for transportation, review of current operational structure of county departments and the ability of staff to assist in both the interests of the Mayor and County Commissioners, affordable housing crisis, County Attorney not referenced in the Charter, Community Advisory Board for Transportation, authority of County to impose rules on municipalities, review of the executive and legislative branch, expansion of County Commission districts, creation of a Correctional Citizens Advisory Committee, formation of standing committees and appointments of CRC members to those committees, petition initiative referendum process, and scheduling Sunshine Meetings between CRC members. Discussion ensued.

A motion was by Member Callan, seconded by Member Wynn, to limit each CRC member to one round of comments not to exceed two (2) minutes during the open discussion of member comments, except for follow up questions. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 13 - Member Batchelor, Member de la Portilla, Member Grimmer, Member Jackson, Member Hartage, Member Chira, Member Bagga, Member Callan, Member Wynn, Member Stoccardo, Member Riley, Member O'Neal, and Member Winesburgh

Absent: 2 - Member Adamson Profit, and Member Arias

V. Announcement

The next CRC meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 17, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., in County Commission Chambers.

There being no further business, the CRC adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Homer Hartage, Chair
2024 Charter Review Commission