

**Pinellas County Charter Review Commission
Meeting Agenda
May 28, 2024
Palm Room-Pinellas County Communications Building
333 Chestnut Street
Clearwater, Florida 33756
6:00 PM**

- I. Call to Order - Brian Aungst, Chairman**
- II. Roll Call**
- III. Public Comment**
- IV. Public Hearings – CRC Proposed Amendments to the Pinellas County Charter:**
 - a. Question #1: County Charter Amendment Providing for County Commissioner Term Limits**
 - b. Question #2: Revising County Initiative Petition Requirements and Process**
 - c. Question #3: Lowering Signature Percentage for Petition Drives to Propose County Charter Amendments**
 - d. Question #4: Charter Amendment Revising Thresholds for Appointment and Removal of County Attorney**
 - e. Question #5: Referenda on County Charter Amendments to Be Held at General Elections Only**
 - f. Question #6: Conforming Publication Requirements for County Charter Amendment Referenda to the Florida Election Code**
 - g. Question #7: County Charter Cleanup Amendment**
- V. Old Business:**
- VI. Other Business**
 - a. Updates from Facilitator and General Counsel**
- VII. Upcoming Meeting Dates**
 - a. Thursday, June 6, 2024**
 - b. Monday, June 10, 2024 (Public Hearings #2)**
- VIII. CRC Commissioner Comments**
- IX. Adjournment**

Special Accommodations - Persons with disabilities who need reasonable accommodations to effectively participate in this meeting are asked to contact Pinellas County's Office of Human Rights by e-mailing such requests to accommodations@pinellas.gov at least three (3) business days in advance of the need for reasonable accommodation. You may also call (727) 464-4882.

Appeals – Persons are advised that, if they decided to appeal any decision made at this meeting/hearing, they will need a record of the proceeding, and, for such purposes, they may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceeding is made, which includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.



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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: 2024 Pinellas County Charter Review Commission
FROM: Wade C. Vose, General Counsel
DATE: May 24, 2024
SUBJECT: Compilation of CRC-Prepared Charter Amendments for Public Hearings

Pursuant to the CRC’s direction at its May 23, 2024 meeting, this memorandum compiles the charter amendments to be sent to the CRC’s two required public hearings scheduled for Tuesday, May 28, 2024, and Monday, June 10, 2024.

Please find below a table referencing the charter amendments by ballot title, presented with the ballot order and numbering discussed at the CRC’s May 23, 2024 meeting.

CRC-Prepared Charter Amendments for Public Hearings

Question #1	County Charter Amendment Providing for County Commissioner Term Limits
Question #2	Revising County Initiative Petition Requirements and Process
Question #3	Lowering Signature Percentage for Petition Drives to Propose County Charter Amendments
Question #4	Charter Amendment Revising Thresholds for Appointment and Removal of County Attorney
Question #5	Referenda on County Charter Amendments to Be Held at General Elections Only
Question #6	Conforming Publication Requirements for County Charter Amendment Referenda to the Florida Election Code
Question #7	County Charter Cleanup Amendment

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Question #1

A. Ballot Proposal: The ballot title and summary for this question are as follows:

**COUNTY CHARTER AMENDMENT
PROVIDING FOR COUNTY
COMMISSIONER TERM LIMITS**

Shall the Pinellas County Charter be amended to provide for County Commissioner term limits by prohibiting County Commissioners who have held the office for the preceding 12 years from appearing on a ballot for reelection and requiring a minimum of 4 years off the County Commission before serving again, with terms of office beginning on or after November 5, 2024 counting toward the term limits?

Yes
 No

B. Text Revisions: Upon approval of this question at referendum, the following portions of the Pinellas County Charter are amended to read as follows:

Sec. 3.01. Board of county commissioners.

- (a) The legislative body of county government shall be the Board of County Commissioners. The Board of County Commissioners shall consist of seven commissioners, with four of the seven commissioners residing one in each of four county commission districts, the districts together covering the entire county and as nearly equal in population as practicable, and each commissioner being nominated and elected only by the qualified electors who reside in the same county commission district as the commissioner, and with three of the seven commissioners being nominated and elected at large. Each of the three at-large commissioners shall reside one in each of three districts, the three districts together covering the entire county and as nearly equal in population as practicable. The election, term of office, and compensation of members shall all be in accordance with general law.
- (b) Term limits. A person may not appear on the ballot for reelection to the office of commissioner if, by the end of the person's current term of office, the person will have served, or but for resignation would have served, as a commissioner for 12 consecutive years. Such person may not qualify for or appear on the ballot for the office of commissioner, regardless of district, with a term of office beginning less than 4 years after such consecutive years of service have concluded. Service of a term of office which commenced before November 5, 2024, shall not be counted toward the limitation imposed by this paragraph. As used in this subsection, reference to 4 years (and likewise to multiples thereof) refers to a 4 year election cycle, without regard to the exact dates of election or beginning or end of term.

Question #2

A. Ballot Proposal: The ballot title and summary for this question are as follows:

**REVISING COUNTY INITIATIVE PETITION
REQUIREMENTS AND PROCESS**

Shall the Pinellas County Charter be amended to revise the County initiative petition process by providing for a uniform time period for an initiative petition drive from September through April before a November general election, monthly submission deadlines for signed petitions, running tallies of verified petitions on the Supervisor of Election’s website, preparation of ballot translations, and related procedures?

_____ Yes
_____ No

B. Text Revisions: Upon approval of this question at referendum, the following portions of the Pinellas County Charter are amended to read as follows:

Sec. 6.02. - Charter initiative.

- (a) *General requirements.* Amendments to the Charter may be proposed by a petition signed by registered electors equal to at least eight (8) percent of the number of registered electors of the county at the time of the last preceding general election. No more than forty (40) percent of those registered electors signing petitions shall reside in any one (1) at-large county commission district. No more than thirty (30) percent of those registered electors signing petitions shall reside in any one (1) single-member county commission district. Such petition shall be filed with the clerk of the circuit court in his capacity as clerk of the board of county commissioners, together with an affidavit from the supervisor of elections certifying the number of signatures which has been verified as registered electors of Pinellas County at the time the signature was verified. Each such proposed amendment shall embrace but one (1) subject and matter directly connected therewith. Each charter amendment proposed by petition shall be placed on the ballot by resolution of the board of county commissioners for the general election occurring in excess of ninety (90) days from the certification by the supervisor of elections that the requisite number of signatures has been verified. ~~However, the County Commissioners may call a special referendum election for said purpose.~~ Notice of said referendum, together with the exact language of the proposed amendment as submitted on the petition, shall be published by the board of county commissioners once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, the first such publication being at least forty-five

(45) days prior to the referendum. Passage of proposed amendments shall require approval of a majority of electors voting in said election on such amendment.

- (b) Initiation and overview of process. The sponsor of a petition amendment shall, prior to obtaining any signatures, register as a political committee and submit the text of the proposed amendment to the supervisor of elections, with the form on which the signatures will be affixed, and shall obtain the approval of the supervisor of elections of such form. The style and requirements of such form shall be specified by ordinance. Concurrent with this submission, the sponsor shall prepare and submit translations of the ballot title and ballot summary into those languages required by law for placement on the ballot. The sponsor may make the aforementioned submittals no earlier than August 1 of the year preceding the general election at which the proposed amendment would be considered. Within fifteen (15) days after the aforementioned submittals, the supervisor of elections shall render a determination on the form on which signatures will be affixed. The beginning date of any petition drive shall commence upon the date of approval by the supervisor of elections of the form on which signatures will be affixed, or September 1 of the year preceding the general election at which the proposed amendment would be considered, whichever is later. and sSaid drive shall terminate on, and signatures may be signed and collected through, April 30 of the year of the general election at which the proposed amendment would be considered. two hundred forty (240) days after that date. In the event sufficient signatures are not acquired during the specified that two hundred forty (240) day period, the petition initiative shall be rendered null and void and none of the signatures may be carried over onto another identical or similar petition. ~~The sponsor shall submit signed and dated forms to the supervisor of elections and upon submission pay all fees as required by general law. The supervisor of elections shall within forty five (45) days verify the signatures thereon.~~ Notwithstanding the time limits hereinabove signatures on a petition circulated prior to one general election shall not be valid beyond the date of that election.
- (c) Submission of signed petitions; verification of requisite signatures. The sponsor shall submit all signed and dated petitions received by the sponsor during a month to the supervisor of elections for signature verification no later than the tenth day of the following month, and upon submission pay all fees as required by general law. The supervisor of elections shall verify the validity of signatures for each signed petition submitted within thirty (30) days after submittal to the supervisor of elections. No later than June 15 of the year of the general election at which the proposed amendment would be considered, the supervisor of elections shall certify whether the requisite number of signatures has been verified. No signature shall be valid unless handwritten and submitted on a paper petition form completed and submitted in a manner consistent with this section. The supervisor of elections shall post a running tally of the number of signatures verified for each initiative petition on the supervisor of elections' website for public view. Otherwise valid signatures not timely submitted to the supervisor of elections shall not be counted towards the total number of signatures required under Section 6.02(a).

(d)(e) *Effective date of initiative petition charter amendment.* If approved by a majority of those electors voting on the amendment at the general election, the amendment shall become effective on the date specified in the amendment, or, if not so specified, on January 1 of the succeeding year.

Question #3

A. Ballot Proposal: The ballot title and summary for this question are as follows:

**LOWERING SIGNATURE PERCENTAGE
FOR PETITION DRIVES TO PROPOSE
COUNTY CHARTER AMENDMENTS**

Shall the Pinellas County Charter be amended to lower the number of signed petitions necessary to propose an amendment to the Pinellas County Charter from eight (8) percent of the registered voters in the county to five (5) percent?

_____ Yes
_____ No

B. Text Revisions: Upon approval of this question at referendum, the following portions of the Pinellas County Charter are amended to read as follows:

Sec. 6.02. - Charter initiative.

- (a) Amendments to the Charter may be proposed by a petition signed by registered electors equal to at least five (5) ~~eight (8)~~ percent of the number of registered electors of the county at the time of the last preceding general election. No more than forty (40) percent of those registered electors signing petitions shall reside in any one (1) at-large county commission district. No more than thirty (30) percent of those registered electors signing petitions shall reside in any one (1) single-member county commission district. Such petition shall be filed with the clerk of the circuit court in his capacity as clerk of the board of county commissioners, together with an affidavit from the supervisor of elections certifying the number of signatures which has been verified as registered electors of Pinellas County at the time the signature was verified. Each such proposed amendment shall embrace but one (1) subject and matter directly connected therewith. Each charter amendment proposed by petition shall be placed on the ballot by resolution of the board of county commissioners for the general election occurring in excess of ninety (90) days from the certification by the supervisor of elections that the requisite number of signatures has been verified. However, the County Commissioners may call a special referendum election for said purpose. Notice of said referendum, together with the exact language of the proposed amendment as submitted on the petition, shall be published by the board of county commissioners once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, the first such publication being at least forty-five (45) days prior to the referendum. Passage of proposed amendments shall require approval of a majority of electors voting in said election on such amendment.

Question #4

A. Ballot Proposal: The ballot title and summary for this question are as follows:

**CHARTER AMENDMENT REVISING
THRESHOLDS FOR APPOINTMENT AND
REMOVAL OF COUNTY ATTORNEY**

Shall the Pinellas County Charter be amended to provide that the 12-member County Attorney Oversight Committee shall select and appoint a County Attorney by an 8-vote supermajority, and may remove the County Attorney only by a 7-vote majority at two consecutive meetings, or by an 8-vote supermajority at one meeting?

_____ Yes
_____ No

B. Text Revisions: Upon approval of this question at referendum, the following portions of the Pinellas County Charter are amended to read as follows:

Sec. 4.02. County attorney.

- (a) There shall be a county attorney selected by a county attorney oversight committee, consisting of the county commissioners and the sheriff, tax collector, property appraiser, supervisor of elections, and clerk of the circuit court and comptroller, who shall serve at the pleasure of the county attorney oversight committee. The county attorney shall be selected and appointed by the affirmative vote of eight (8) members of the county attorney oversight committee, and shall serve until such time as the county attorney shall be removed either by a vote for removal of seven (7) members of the county attorney oversight committee voting for removal in two (2) consecutive meetings of the committee held at intervals of not less than fourteen (14) days, or by a vote of removal of eight (8) members of the county attorney oversight committee at any one meeting of the committee. The office of county attorney shall not be under the direction and control of the county administrator but shall instead be responsible directly to the board of county commissioners, and shall be subject to annual review by the county attorney oversight committee. The county attorney as of the effective date of this amendment shall not be subject to the selection provision of this subsection, but shall be subject to all other provisions thereof.

Question #5

A. Ballot Proposal: The ballot title and summary for this question are as follows:

**REFERENDA ON COUNTY CHARTER
AMENDMENTS TO BE HELD AT GENERAL
ELECTIONS ONLY**

Shall the Pinellas County Charter be amended to require that referenda on county charter amendments proposed by initiative petition, or proposed by the Board of County Commissioners, shall be held only at the General Election held in November of even-numbered years?

_____ Yes
_____ No

B. Text Revisions: Upon approval of this question at referendum, the following portions of the Pinellas County Charter are amended to read as follows:

Sec. 6.01. Proposed by county.

The board of county commissioners by ordinance passed by an affirmative vote of not less than majority plus one (1) member shall have the authority to propose amendments to this Charter. Any such amendment shall be subject to referendum at the next general scheduled countywide election; ~~provided, however, the board of county commissioners may call a special referendum election for said purpose.~~ Said referendum shall be called by the board of county commissioners and notice of said referendum, together with the exact language of the proposed amendment, shall be published once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, the first such publication being at least forty-five (45) days prior to the referendum. Passage of proposed amendments shall require approval of a majority of electors voting in said election on such amendment.

Sec. 6.02. Charter initiative.

- (a) Amendments to the Charter may be proposed by a petition signed by registered electors equal to at least eight (8) percent of the number of registered electors of the county at the time of the last preceding general election. No more than forty (40) percent of those registered electors signing petitions shall reside in any one (1) at-large county commission district. No more than thirty (30) percent of those registered electors signing petitions shall reside in any one (1) single-member county commission district. Such petition shall be filed with the clerk of the circuit court in his capacity as clerk of the board of county commissioners, together with an affidavit from the supervisor of elections certifying the number of signatures which has been verified as registered electors of Pinellas County at the time the

signature was verified. Each such proposed amendment shall embrace but one (1) subject and matter directly connected therewith. Each charter amendment proposed by petition shall be placed on the ballot by resolution of the board of county commissioners for the general election occurring in excess of ninety (90) days from the certification by the supervisor of elections that the requisite number of signatures has been verified. ~~However, the County Commissioners may call a special referendum election for said purpose.~~ Notice of said referendum, together with the exact language of the proposed amendment as submitted on the petition, shall be published by the board of county commissioners once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, the first such publication being at least forty-five (45) days prior to the referendum. Passage of proposed amendments shall require approval of a majority of electors voting in said election on such amendment.

- b) The sponsor of a petition amendment shall, prior to obtaining any signatures, submit the text of the proposed amendment to the supervisor of elections, with the form on which the signatures will be affixed, and shall obtain the approval of the supervisor of elections of such form. The style and requirements of such form shall be specified by ordinance. The beginning date of any petition drive shall commence upon the date of approval by the supervisor of elections of the form on which signatures will be affixed, and said drive shall terminate two hundred forty (240) days after that date. In the event sufficient signatures are not acquired during that two hundred forty (240) day period, the petition initiative shall be rendered null and void and none of the signatures may be carried over onto another identical or similar petition. The sponsor shall submit signed and dated forms to the supervisor of elections and upon submission pay all fees as required by general law. The supervisor of elections shall within forty-five (45) days verify the signatures thereon. Notwithstanding the time limits hereinabove signatures on a petition circulated prior to one general election shall not be valid beyond the date of that election.
- (c) If approved by a majority of those electors voting on the amendment at the general election, the amendment shall become effective on the date specified in the amendment, or, if not so specified, on January 1 of the succeeding year.

Question #6

A. Ballot Proposal: The ballot title and summary for this question are as follows:

**CONFORMING PUBLICATION
REQUIREMENTS FOR COUNTY CHARTER
AMENDMENT REFERENDA TO THE
FLORIDA ELECTION CODE**

Shall the Pinellas County Charter be amended to revise the Charter's publication requirements for county charter amendment referenda to conform to the Florida Election Code?

_____ Yes
_____ No

B. Text Revisions: Upon approval of this question at referendum, the following portions of the Pinellas County Charter are amended to read as follows:

Sec. 6.01. Proposed by county.

The board of county commissioners by ordinance passed by an affirmative vote of not less than majority plus one (1) member shall have the authority to propose amendments to this Charter. Any such amendment shall be subject to referendum at the next scheduled countywide election; provided, however, the board of county commissioners may call a special referendum election for said purpose. Said referendum shall be called by the board of county commissioners and notice of said referendum, together with the exact language of the proposed amendment, shall be published in the manner provided in Section 100.342, Florida Statutes. ~~once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, the first such publication being at least forty five (45) days prior to the referendum.~~ Passage of proposed amendments shall require approval of a majority of electors voting in said election on such amendment.

Sec. 6.02. Charter initiative.

- (a) Amendments to the Charter may be proposed by a petition signed by registered electors equal to at least eight (8) percent of the number of registered electors of the county at the time of the last preceding general election. No more than forty (40) percent of those registered electors signing petitions shall reside in any one (1) at-large county commission district. No more than thirty (30) percent of those registered electors signing petitions shall reside in any one (1) single-member county commission district. Such petition shall be filed with the clerk of the circuit court in his capacity as clerk of the board of county commissioners, together with an affidavit from the supervisor of elections certifying the number of signatures which has been verified as registered electors of Pinellas County at the time the signature was verified. Each such proposed amendment shall embrace but one (1)

subject and matter directly connected therewith. Each charter amendment proposed by petition shall be placed on the ballot by resolution of the board of county commissioners for the general election occurring in excess of ninety (90) days from the certification by the supervisor of elections that the requisite number of signatures has been verified. However, the County Commissioners may call a special referendum election for said purpose. Notice of said referendum, together with the exact language of the proposed amendment as submitted on the petition, shall be published by the board of county commissioners in the manner provided in Section 100.342, Florida Statutes. ~~once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, the first such publication being at least forty five (45) days prior to the referendum.~~ Passage of proposed amendments shall require approval of a majority of electors voting in said election on such amendment.

...

Sec. 6.03. Charter review commission.

...

- (e) Each charter review commission established pursuant to this section shall complete its review and submit a report to the citizens of Pinellas County by July 31, 2016, and each eight (8) years thereafter in order to coincide with the presidential election cycle. Included within the report shall be any proposed amendments to the Charter, together with the wording of the question or questions which shall be voted on at referendum. Proposed amendments may, at the discretion of the charter review commission, be included in a single question or multiple questions. If proposed amendments are included in the report, the charter review commission may, at its discretion, remain constituted through the general election. The board of county commissioners shall call a referendum election to be held in conjunction with the 2016 general election and each eight (8) years thereafter, for the purpose of voting on the proposal or proposals submitted by the charter review commission. Notice of each such referendum, together with the exact language of the proposed amendment or amendments as submitted in the report of the charter review commission, shall be published by the board of county commissioners in the manner provided in Section 100.342, Florida Statutes. ~~once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, the first such publication being at least forty five (45) days prior to the referendum.~~ If an amendment or revision to the charter is to be recommended, the charter review commission shall conduct at least two (2) public hearings on any amendment or revision, at intervals of not less than ten (10) days but not more than twenty-one (21) days, immediately prior to its transmittal of its recommendations to the board of county commissioners. Passage of proposed amendments shall require approval of a majority of electors voting in said election on such amendment.

Question #7

A. Ballot Proposal: The ballot title and summary for this question are as follows:

**COUNTY CHARTER CLEANUP
AMENDMENT**

Shall the Pinellas County Charter be amended to remove certain one-time provisions that have since occurred or elapsed, remove gender references, update organization names, and remove references to organizations that no longer exist?

_____ Yes
_____ No

B. Text Revisions: Upon approval of this question at referendum, the following portions of the Pinellas County Charter are amended to read as follows:

Sec. 3.04. Redistricting.

...

- (b) No later than thirty (30) days after initial appointment, the county redistricting board shall meet for the purposes of organization. The county redistricting board shall elect a ~~chairman~~ and vice-~~chairman~~ from among its membership. Further meetings of the board shall be held upon the call of ~~chairman~~ or any three (3) members of the board. All meetings shall be open to the public. A majority of the members of the county redistricting board shall constitute a quorum. The board may adopt other rules for its operations and proceedings as it deems desirable. The members of the board shall receive no compensation but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses pursuant to law.

...

Sec. 4.01. County administrator.

...

- (b) The county administrator shall be a full-time position. The county administrator ~~He~~ shall serve at the pleasure of the board of county commissioners and shall be appointed solely on the basis of the individual's ~~his~~ executive and administrative qualifications.
- (c) The county administrator shall have the following duties:

- (1) To administer and carry out the directives and policies issued to the county administrator ~~him~~ by the board of county commissioners, acting as an official body, except that the county administrator ~~he~~ shall not be directed or given authority to make appointments of members to any county boards, commissions or agencies.

...
- (3) To supervise all departments, department heads and employees of the board of county commissioners and, in the county administrator's ~~his~~ discretion, to terminate for cause the employment of any employees of the board of county commissioners. Termination of persons in unclassified positions shall be subject to confirmation by the board of county commissioners.
- (4) After policy has been established by the board of county commissioners, to supervise all aspects of carrying into effect such policy to its completion. The county administrator ~~He~~ shall thereupon report or order a full report to the board of county commissioners of the action taken upon such policy and directives of the board of county commissioners.

...
- (6) To perform such other duties as may be required of the county administrator ~~him~~ by the board of county commissioners, acting as an official body, or by this Charter.

Sec. 4.02. County attorney.

- (a) There shall be a county attorney selected by a county attorney oversight committee, consisting of the county commissioners and the sheriff, tax collector, property appraiser, supervisor of elections, and clerk of the circuit court and comptroller, who shall serve at the pleasure of the county attorney oversight committee. The office of county attorney shall not be under the direction and control of the county administrator but shall instead be responsible directly to the board of county commissioners, and shall be subject to annual review by the county attorney oversight committee. ~~The county attorney as of the effective date of this amendment shall not be subject to the selection provision of this subsection, but shall be subject to all other provisions thereof.~~
- (b) The county attorney shall be an attorney licensed to practice law in the State of Florida for at least three (3) years. Upon appointment, the county attorney ~~he~~ shall be employed full time by said county. The county attorney shall employ such assistant county attorneys and special assistant county attorneys, on either a full-time or part-time basis, as may be necessary, upon approval of the board of county commissioners.

...

Sec. 5.02. Special laws.

...

- (b) This document shall in no manner change the status, duties or responsibilities of the following boards, authorities, districts and councils: Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority, Emergency Medical Services Authority, Fresh Water Conservation Board, Indian Rocks ~~Special Fire Control~~ District, Juvenile Welfare Board, License Board for Children's Centers and Family Day Care Homes, Palm Harbor Special Fire Control District, Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board, ~~Pinellas County Industry Council~~, ~~Pinellas County Planning Council~~, Pinellas County Personnel Board, Pinellas Park Water Management District, and Pinellas Police Standards Council.

...

Sec. 6.02. Charter initiative.

- (a) Amendments to the Charter may be proposed by a petition signed by registered electors equal to at least eight (8) percent of the number of registered electors of the county at the time of the last preceding general election. No more than forty (40) percent of those registered electors signing petitions shall reside in any one (1) at-large county commission district. No more than thirty (30) percent of those registered electors signing petitions shall reside in any one (1) single-member county commission district. Such petition shall be filed with the clerk of the circuit court in that officer's ~~his~~ capacity as clerk of the board of county commissioners, together with an affidavit from the supervisor of elections certifying the number of signatures which has been verified as registered electors of Pinellas County at the time the signature was verified. Each such proposed amendment shall embrace but one (1) subject and matter directly connected therewith. Each charter amendment proposed by petition shall be placed on the ballot by resolution of the board of county commissioners for the general election occurring in excess of ninety (90) days from the certification by the supervisor of elections that the requisite number of signatures has been verified. However, the County Commissioners may call a special referendum election for said purpose. Notice of said referendum, together with the exact language of the proposed amendment as submitted on the petition, shall be published by the board of county commissioners once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, the first such publication being at least forty-five (45) days prior to the referendum. Passage of proposed amendments shall require approval of a majority of electors voting in said election on such amendment.

...

Sec. 6.03. Charter review commission.

...

- (b) Each charter review commission shall meet prior to the end of the third week in August 2015, and every eight (8) years thereafter for the purposes of organization. The charter review commission shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman from among its membership. Further meetings of the commission shall be held upon the call of chairman or any three (3) members of the commission. All meetings shall be open to the public. A majority of the members of the charter review commission shall constitute a quorum. The commission may adopt other rules for its operations and proceedings as it deems desirable. The members of the commission shall receive no compensation but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses pursuant to law.

...

~~Sec. 6.05. Reconstitution of 2004 Charter review commission.~~

- ~~(a) The members of the charter review commission appointed to serve in 2003 shall be deemed members of a reconstituted 2004 charter review commission, which shall serve from November 8, 2004 through December 1, 2006. Vacancies shall be filled within thirty (30) days in the same manner as the original appointments.~~
- ~~(b) On behalf of the citizens of Pinellas County, the reconstituted charter review commission shall continue to examine the Pinellas County Charter, the operations of the Pinellas County government and any limitations imposed upon those operations by the charter or any special acts of the Legislature. This examination will include review of the Pinellas Assembly process, further investigation by consultants as deemed necessary and discussions with municipal officials and members of the Pinellas County Legislative Delegation. After such examination, the reconstituted charter review commission will have the authority to make recommendations for amendments, including substantial revision of the Charter. Prior to submitting such recommendations, the reconstituted charter review commission shall hold three public hearings at intervals of not less than ten (10) nor more than twenty (20) days. At the final hearing, the reconstituted charter review commission shall incorporate any recommendations it deems desirable, vote upon a proposed form of revised charter, and forward said charter to the board of county commissioners.~~
- ~~(c) The reconstituted charter review commission established pursuant to this section shall complete its review and submit a report to the board of county commissioners no later than June 30, 2006, unless such time is extended by the board of county commissioners. Included within the report shall be any proposed amendments to the Charter, which may include substantial revisions of the Charter, together with the wording of the question or questions, which shall be voted on at referendum.~~

~~Proposed amendments may, at the discretion of the reconstituted charter review commission, be included in a single question or multiple questions. The board of county commissioners shall call a referendum election to be held in conjunction with the 2006 general election, for the purpose of voting on the proposal or proposals submitted by the charter review commission. Notice of each such referendum, together with the exact language of the proposed amendment or amendments as submitted in the report of the charter revision commission, shall be published by the board of county commissioners once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, the first such publication being at least forty five (45) days prior to the referendum. Passage of proposed amendments shall require approval of a majority of electors voting in said election on such amendment.~~

~~(d) Except as otherwise provided in this Section 6.05, the provisions of Section 6.03 of the Charter shall apply to the operation of the reconstituted 2004 charter review commission.~~

~~(e) This section 6.05 shall be repealed effective January 1, 2007.~~