

**Charter Review Commission  
Pinellas County  
May 23, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

The Pinellas County Charter Review Commission (CRC), as created by Chapter 80-950, Laws of Florida, met in regular session at 6:01 PM on this date in the Palm Room at the Pinellas County Communications Building, 333 Chestnut Street, Clearwater, Florida.

**Present:**

Brian Aungst, Jr., Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners (BCC) Appointee (Commissioner Chris Latvala), Chair  
Linsey Grove, Public At-Large Citizen Appointee, Vice-Chair  
Anne-Marie Brooks, Municipal Elected Official Appointee (appeared virtually)  
Nick DiCeglie, Pinellas County State Legislative Delegation Appointee  
Terri Lipsey Scott, BCC Appointee (Commissioner René Flowers)  
James Millican, Public At-Large Citizen Appointee (appeared virtually)  
Ashley Overend, BCC Appointee (Commissioner Brian Scott)  
Robert Posavec, BCC Appointee (Commissioner Dave Eggers)  
Thomas Steck, BCC Appointee (Commissioner Charlie Justice)  
Mark Strickland, BCC Appointee (Commissioner Janet Long)  
Alan Swartz, BCC Appointee (Commissioner Kathleen Peters)  
Mike Twitty, Property Appraiser Constitutional Officers Appointee

**Not Present:**

Dave Eggers, County Commissioner, BCC Appointee

**Others Present:**

Wade C. Vose, Esquire, Vose Law Firm LLP, CRC Legal Counsel  
Doug Thomas, Strategic Government Resources, Inc.  
Tammy Burgess, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk  
Other interested individuals

*All documents provided to the Clerk's Office have been filed and made a part of the record.*

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Aungst called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM and welcomed the members.

**ROLL CALL**

At the Chair's request, those in attendance introduced themselves.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

In response to the Chair's call for public comment, David Ballard Geddis, Jr., Palm Harbor, appeared and expressed his concerns.

## **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF APRIL 22, 2024, AND MAY 2, 2024, MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Steck made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Overend and carried unanimously.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### Review and Discussion – Compilation of Latest Proposed Draft Charter Amendments to Date and Recommended Order/Numbering for Placement on the Ballot

Referring to a memorandum included in the agenda packet, Attorney Vose displayed a table containing the proposed charter amendments by ballot title and indicated that the amendments are in the suggested order for placement on the ballot; whereupon, he related that a common method for ordering the questions is generally from most to least impactful; and that this was used to establish the suggested order that is before the Board.

Attorney Vose indicated that Questions #2a through #2c relate to citizen initiative petitions and represent potential variations for the ballot; that Question #2a would combine the initiative petition requirements and process with the lowered signature threshold; and that Questions #2b and #2c represent the initiative petition requirements and process and the lowered signature threshold listed as separate ballot questions, noting that it is permissible to include both in a single question; whereupon, Attorney Vose requested direction from the Board.

Following a brief discussion, Chair Aungst indicated that the direction of the Board is to separate the initiative petition requirements and process and the lowered signature threshold into two questions.

Discussion ensued regarding the order of the charter amendment ballot questions and where other amendments are likely to appear on the ballot; whereupon, Chair Aungst confirmed that there is consensus to place the questions on the ballot in the order presented by Attorney Vose.

Attorney Vose indicated that he made additional corrections to some organizational names under the cleanup amendment.

Chair Aungst noted that final ballot language will be voted on at the May 28 public hearing; whereupon, Mr. Thomas, with input by Attorney Vose, discussed the public hearing process, indicating that each proposed ballot initiative will be heard separately.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### Updates from Facilitator and General Counsel

Mr. Thomas requested that the members continue to reserve June 6 to review the report and discuss any need for adjustments that may arise as a result of the first public hearing.

## **UPCOMING MEETING DATES**

This item was not addressed.

## **CRC COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

In response to queries by Mr. Posavec, Attorney Vose, with input by Mr. Thomas, related that approval of the report will be voted on by the CRC at the second public hearing and, with the Board's consent, will become the final report; and that June 10 should be the final meeting of the CRC.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Aungst adjourned the meeting at 6:27 PM.