

**CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF FREEHOLDERS
MINUTES OF MARCH 22, 2014**

The Board of Freeholders convened at Battle Ground Fire Station #26, 21609 NE 72nd Avenue, Battle Ground, Washington, 98604.

Call to Order

Nan Henriksen, Chair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Public Comment

1. Chuck Green
2. Christian Berrigan
3. Lee Jensen
4. Stephen Mosier
5. Ralph Schmidt
6. Christian Berrigan

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Pat Jollota to approve minutes from March 8, 2014 seconded by Jim Mains.

Motion Passed

First Deliberation on Charter Element

General Provisions.

The Board discussed Article 8 “General Provisions.” No changes were recommended.

Elections

The Board discussed Article 6 “Elections.” “Vacancies or Abandonment of Elected Office.” Discussion ensued about removing the current language and replacing with state law / RCW. The Board took a straw vote to delete Section 8, paragraph #1 and #2 and replace with a simple reference to the state law. The Board voted in favor.. Moeller spoke about section 4 “Conflict of Interest.” Pike made the motion to change section 4 to read “No county or partisan elected officer shall hold any other managerial office or employment with the county government during a term of office.” Chair Henriksen stated she would like to work further on the language and bring it back for Board review at the next meeting.

Charter Amendments

The Board discussed Article 9 “Charter Amendments.” Discussion ensued about Section 3.1. – “Filing Charter Amendments.”

Chair Henriksen suggested adding the following language to the end of the last sentence “if the voters accept more than one charter amendment on the same topic the amendment receiving the highest number of affirmative votes shall be incorporated in the charter.”

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Discussion ensued about Section 5.2 - "Submission of a Public Charter Amendment." The Board discussed the threshold percentage for signature requirements. The Board took a straw vote to leave the current language in Section 5.2 at twenty percent. The vote was positive.

Human Resources

The Board discussed Article 5 "Human Resources." Discussion ensued about Section 1 – "Applicability." Chair Henriksen suggested adding the following language to the end of the last sentence "to promote effective personnel practices."

The Board discussed Option A and Option B in Section 5 regarding salary. The Board took a straw vote on the salary amount of \$53,000. The majority of those present preferred \$53,000. Because of the members not present, Chair Henriksen stated she would like discuss this at the next meeting.

The Board took a straw vote on using the State salary commission for adjustments in the future and the majority agreed.

There was was general discussion about sections 6 and 7 in Article 5.

Second Review of Charter Element

Transition

The Board discussed the transition of the county government and made no changes.

Third Review of Charter Element

Initiative and Referendum

The Board discussed Article 7 "Initiative and Referendum." The Board took a straw vote to leave the following language in Section 2 Initiative #4. "In the opinion of the Clark County prosecuting Attorney, the subject of this initiative is within the scope of local initiative powers. Yes [] No [] No opinion at this time []." The straw vote indicated seven votes in favor. The Board took a straw vote to still have the determination in Section 2 Initiative #4 but not have the language on each petition. The straw vote indicated four votes in favor. The Board took a straw vote to remove the warning clause in Section 2 Initiative #4 completely. The straw vote indicated no one was in favor.

Chair Henriksen stated this issue will be discussed at the next meeting.

The Board discussed Article 7 "Initiative and Referendum." Section 2, Subcategory 6 and agreed on the language presented.

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Close of Business

Good of the Order

Silliman suggested reconsideration of a previous decision about electing by district and asked for it to be added to the next meeting's agenda. He referenced Article 2 – "The Legislative Branch" Section 1. The Chair agreed to discuss election at large at the next meeting.

Next Meeting Date/Location

April 8, 6:00 p.m., Lacamas Lodge Conference Center, 227 NE Lake Road, Camas, Washington. Discussion ensued about outreach.

Extended Public Comments

1. Steve Foster
2. Ralph Schmidt