



CLALLAM COUNTY CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION MINUTES of February 20, 2020

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION (CRC)

Chair Erzen called the meeting to order at 6 p.m., Thursday, February 20, 2020. Also present were Commissioners Miller, Lotzgesell, Doherty, Morris, Cameron, Richards, Turner, Hunter, Murray, Stokan, May and Pratt (via telephone). Excused absences were noted for Stoffer and Fleck.

REQUEST FOR MODIFICATIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION TAKEN: Erzen moved to adopt the agenda as presented, second, motion carried (13 voted in favor of)

PUBLIC COMMENT FOR AGENDA ITEMS

- Ingrid Carmean, Port Angeles, signed up but did not speak.
- Ed Bowen, Clallam Bay, commented on the Elected Official interviews.
- Sue Forde, Sequim, commented on election by district – Section 2.20 and placing new taxes on the ballot (see attached).
- Dick Pilling, Port Angeles, commented on election by district – Section 2.20 (see attached).
- Jim McEntire, Sequim, commented on election by district – Section 2.20 (see attached).
- Ron Richards, Port Angeles, commented on a new proposal Commissioner Nina Richards handed out (see attached). He addressed agenda item Section 2.20 proposal submitted by Turner.
- Bob Forde, Sequim, commented on election by district – Section 2.20.
- Janette Chrysler, Sequim, commented on election by district – Section 2.20.
- Rick Head, Port Angeles, commented on election by district – Section 2.20.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Minutes February 13, 2020

Cameron requested to change the header on the minutes to not say special meeting.

ACTION TAKEN: May moved to approve the minutes as modified, seconded, motion carried; (13 voted in favor of)

CORRESPONDENCE/PETITIONS

Gores noted receipt of correspondences from Elizabeth Brown, Lois Perry, Ron Richards, Ted Miller, (information for Section 2.20 proposal), Pam Rushton (information for interview), Patti Morris (proposal), Joseph Murray (comments on Section 2.20), Mary Ellen Winborn (information for interview) (see attached).

REPORTS

- Report of the Chair

Chair Erzen reported that the Forks public hearing on April 16 and Sequim public hearing on April 23 have been confirmed. Erzen commented that if you want any items on the agenda for the February 27 meeting email to the Clerk by 11 a.m., Monday, February 24. She noted that she plans to place an item on the agenda to discuss how the Clerk should handle forwarding email correspondences.

INTERVIEWS

- Assessor and Treasurer
 - Assessor – Pam Rushton
 - Treasurer – Teresa Marchi (see attached)

CRC Members interviewed Clallam County Assessor Rushton and Treasurer Marchi. Topics discussed were Administrator and Human Resources positions being a conflict of interest, Administrators duties,

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making all Elected Officials nonpartisan, what the county can do on homelessness, sharing new construction information with Department of Community Development, Finance Department – Chief Financial Officer formation and Department of Community Development Director position should be appointed.

- Auditor and Chief Financial Officer
 - Auditor – Shoona Riggs
 - Chief Financial Officer – Mark Lane

CRC Members interviewed Clallam County Auditor Riggs and Chief Financial Officer Lane. Topics discussed were Auditor’s Office and Finance Department staffing issues – do they need more people, states in Charter Administrator submitting the proposed annual budget – is that still taking place, are Charter Review Commission members covered by errors and omissions insurance, who’s in charge of the budget - Auditor’s Office or Commissioner’s Office, is an Administrator position needed, is the Auditor included in meetings and is her opinion valued, is the Finance Department working, addressed Section 10.10 Personnel System and 10.20 Exemptions of the Charter, should the Finance Department become part of the Charter and budget spending control.

PROPOSED CHARTER ARTICLE AMENDMENTS

- Discussion on proposal to Section 2.20, of the Clallam County Charter, to consider returning the election of County Commissioners to primary election in the district and general election Countywide – submitted by Norma Turner

ACTION TAKEN: Turner moved Section 2.20, of the Clallam County Charter, to consider returning the election of County Commissioners to primary election in the district and general election countywide, seconded (no vote)

CRC Members discussed reviewing Section 2.20. Turner made comments in favor of reviewing. Miller made comments in opposition of reviewing. Hunter made comment on district boundaries. Murray made comments in opposition of countywide election. Stokan commented on countywide accountability, census calculations, 5 Commissioners representation and Tribal representation on the Board of Commissioners. Pratt made comment on election by district. Lotzgesell made comment in opposition of countywide voting. Erzen made comment on countywide voting.

ACTION TAKEN: May moved to table the discussion till such a time that it may be pertinent, seconded, Roll call vote taken (yes to table or no to not table); motion carried; (11 voted in favor of tabling and 2 voted opposed)

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Ed Bowen, Clallam Bay, submitted a petition regarding County resources and accountability for natural resources inventory (see attached).
- Ron Richards, Port Angeles, commented on the Chief Finance Officer control, allocating and transferring funds without proper documentation and/or following proper procedures and County needs a Chief Financial Planner.
- Rick Head, Port Angeles, commented on the Chief Financial Officer, Mark Lane and supports making the Finance Department part of the Charter.
- Kim Conley, Port Angeles, signed up but did not speak

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting concluded at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Loni Gores, CMC
Clerk to the Charter Review Commission

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Approved: February 27, 2020