

**CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
JANUARY 21, 2010**

A meeting of the Charter Review Commission (CRC) was held at the Administration Complex, Room 119, Port Charlotte, Florida.

Roll Call:

The following members were present:

*Ken Doherty (Chairman), Maureen Garrard, Joseph Goggin, John Hitzel, Julie Mathis, Thomas Rice, Kevin Russell (Vice Chairman), Frank Weikel, Andy Dodd, Bill Folchi, Paula Hess, Johnny Vernon, Michael Grant.* Special mention was made to *Michael Grant* acknowledging his attainment of full member status as a result of the resignation of *Donald McElroy*.

Alternates present:

*Bill Weller, Connie Kantor, Patricia Kelly.* A welcome was extended to *Patricia Kelly* as the newly appointed alternate.

The following members were not present:

*Suzanne Graham, William Dryburgh*

In addition to membership, the meeting was attended by *Robert Berntsson, Esq.*, counsel for the CRC.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. EST by *Chairman Doherty*.

Agenda Items:

**1. Approval of Minutes** of December meeting: *Chairman Doherty* confirmed that all of the members present had previously reviewed a copy of these Minutes. There being no additions nor deletions the motion to approve the Minutes was made and seconded and the Minutes were accepted by unanimous vote.

**2. Chairman Doherty introduced himself and welcomed** those members of the public attending this meeting. He confirmed that regular monthly meetings are held on the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Thursday of the month in Room 106B and that public input is always encouraged. He affirmed that the meeting today, January 21, 2010, was specifically structured to put an emphasis on public comment and stated the Charter Review Commissions'

desire to obtain public input at this early stage of the process, prior to beginning interviews with County officials. He stated that there will be three (3) Public Hearings later in the year but at this point no amendments have been drafted and the Commission is open for comment. *Chairman Doherty* had prepared a PowerPoint™ presentation for both the CRC and members of the public which gave a brief history and description of the Charter Review Commission and how it relates to County government. *Chairman Doherty* also stated that this PowerPoint™ presentation would be used as a draft for presentations at future (not yet scheduled) Public Hearings. (NOTE: A copy of this presentation is attached to these Minutes as Attachment “A”). Upon completion of the slide show, *Chairman Doherty* invited to come forward those members of the public desiring to submit comments and let the CRC know what they would like to see changed about Charlotte County government.

### **3) Public Input:**

Charlotte Ventola – Mrs. Ventola began her comments by saying that it seems a County Commissioner’s job is thankless. She states that she sees a problem that each one has to live in their district and at the same time they have to be either a Republican or a Democrat, which provides a conflict. She said that it should be established that a Commissioner should either run as a partisan or else eliminate the partisanship and have it be required that they run in their district. Two very qualified people from the same party in the same district cannot both run, so that should be reviewed and decided which would be a better way. Mrs. Ventola was not sure if the other elected officials should be non-partisan, but as far as County Commissioners she thinks this should be examined. She stated that restricting them by representing only a certain district takes away from their ability to look at and represent the County as a whole. Their offices are right here in the Administration building and people come here to speak with them; they used to maintain their offices in their own districts but now just travel to certain parts of their district to speak in a public place. She recommends that be taken into consideration. That concluded Mrs. Ventola’s comments.

Mike Brown – Mr. Brown addressed the County Executive and that style of government, citing that he came from an Illinois county that in 1987 voted in that style of government and in 1988 voted for the first executive. He feels that results in a very qualified politician but perhaps not a qualified executive, and that once they are in it is hard to remove them if they run a good campaign. But if you have five (5) or even change to seven (7) Commissioners you have a group looking at things from different aspects which would increase the chances of coming up with a better administrator. He stated that Charlotte County is fortunate to have Mr. Baltz and that as a member of the community he thinks he is doing a fine job. He said that when you talk about electing Commissioners by district only and then throwing in two (2) at- large you have the situation of five only having to fund for one district but the two at- large are at a disadvantage because they have to fund their campaign to run for the whole County. He

used to think that two at-large was a good idea but now feels it would be better to re-district the County into seven districts and have seven Commissioners who either each run in their own district or they all run at-large. This concluded Mr. Brown's comments.

Robin Stublen – Mr. Stublen stated that District 1 is divided by the river and that the people south of the river do not get the attention given the people north of the river. He is in favor of County Commissioners running by district only- all five members of all five districts run individually per each district. Since he has been in this area he has seen the cost of a campaign go from approximately \$20,000 to \$60,000. He feels it would open it up for those with perhaps less money or business contacts and may even attract people more qualified. Mr. Stublen also feels re-districting to seven (7) may be a good idea. He did not know where the seventh would be but thought the sixth (6<sup>th</sup>) district could be south of the river and split up between District 1 and District 2.

As far as County Administrator he held a mixed opinion.

He stated that the current County Administrator works at the pleasure of the County Commission which would make him apprehensive of telling them what he thinks. In that respect he would not mind seeing an elected official be the County Administrator. He would also like to see term limits for that County Administrator as well as for the County Commissioners. He feels that two terms (eight years) is good enough for the Governor and the State senators and representatives, and should in fact be good enough for the School Board as well.

As far as other issues in the County, Mr. Stublen stated that in regard to the issue of parties he likes Democrat and Republican affiliation, feeling that even if a person is running as non-partisan people know that they are really either Democrat or Republican and he disagrees at all times with non-partisan issues. He would like to see partisanship left in County government and also go to single Districts. This concluded Mr. Stublen's comments.

*Michael Grant* asked Mr. Stublen a question before he left the dais. *Michael Grant* stated that at one point the Fla. Legislature was considering an Amendment to continue term limits but to go to twelve (12) years rather than eight (8), the reasoning being that it takes that long for someone to become familiar with the process at the State level. Stating that he had no opinion one way or another, *Michael Grant* asked Mr. Stublen his feelings on this. Mr. Stublen felt that if someone does not know what is going on in this County after four (4) years they should not be running for a second term. He said that there have been some County Commissioners in the past who after four years did not know what they were doing and after eight years they did not. He certainly would not want to give them an additional four years. *Michael Grant* thanked Mr. Stublen and Mr. Stublen left the dais.

Frank Clancy - Mr. Clancy stated that he had roughed out an Amendment for Article IV, which is the Charter Review Commission. He stated that his proposal was to get rid of it, and proposed an elected Charlotte County Review Board. He told *Commissioner Doherty* that he had the paperwork with him and asked permission to distribute it to the members and *Commissioner Doherty* agreed. (NOTE: A copy of Mr. Clancy's proposed Amendment is attached to this Minutes as Attachment "B"). Mr. Clancy acknowledged that the CRC could do whatever they wanted with it to amend it themselves, and he indicated that the CRC attorney would want to look at it also. He indicated that the one key point he wanted kept in the proposed Amendment was that the Board would receive no remuneration. *Chairman Doherty* responded to Mr. Clancy that the Charter Review Commission members receive no money for their service, they are all volunteers. Mr. Clancy responded that he did not say that they did receive remuneration, he just made it clear that the Board he proposes should not. This concluded Mr. Clancy's comments.

Mike Brown – returned to the dais to state that after hearing Robin Stublen talk about it he felt that term limits is an important subject. He said that if you go with the elected Administrator you need term limits and he agreed that two (2) terms should be enough. As far as County Commissioners he also felt two terms should be enough. This concluded Mr. Brown's comments.

Brian Brunderman - Mr. Brunderman said that his comments were regarding Department heads. He felt that many Department heads in the County were unresponsive to those in the public that use the County services and he felt that an elected Administrator could make those Department heads more responsive to the needs of the general population. He supports an elected Administrator and also supports term limits. This concluded Mr. Brunderman's comments.

Dale Watson – Mr. Watson stated that much of what has been said at today's meeting was brought up during the Curmudgeon Club radio show the previous day. He would support going to seven (7) Commissioners and appreciates the disparity in the financial area between the five and the two (at large) but said that if you really want to be an at-large Commissioner then you would have to find the money somewhere to run. He strongly supports term limits. He mentioned that several years ago there was a move to get a Petition signed to run the Commissioners by District only. It did not make it to the ballot because time ran out, but he felt there was a strong feeling in the community that many people would like to see one Commissioner per one District. His opinion was that people then feel they are being represented just like a mayor, that their Commissioner is truly representing them. He feels that is not the case as it is now. He said he was just reinforcing what others have said at the meeting today, he would appreciate the CRC taking these things to heart and getting something done for our County. This concluded Mr. Watson's comments.

*Chairman Doherty* encouraged anyone else with comments to step forward. He reminded those in attendance of the Charter Review Commission's monthly meetings and said again that all meetings are open to the public. *Chairman Doherty* also referred to his previous PowerPoint™ presentation and requested administrative support to display the slide giving the public the email address and contact information for the CRC in case they have future submissions.

There being no further speakers, a Motion was made and seconded to conclude the Public Input portion of the Agenda.

**4. Approval of CRC Expenses to date:** Membership had been previously furnished an expense sheet for their review and a copy of *Attorney Berntsson's* statement for their approval. (NOTE: These are attached to these Minutes as Attachment "C" and "D" respectively). A Motion was made and seconded to approve *Attorney Berntsson's* invoice and forward it to Administration for payment. *Chairman Doherty* responded to a question by *Paula Hess* and verified that the expense sheet showed the total budget available. Also in reference to this expense sheet, he said that he would need to get with Administration to clarify the category for rentals and leases. *Chairman Doherty* stated that the members would be provided an expense spreadsheet monthly in order to keep track of expenses and that attorney's fees and any special costs as the session progresses would be submitted to them for approval. *Bill Weller* asked about an item on *Attorney Berntsson's* bill described as a consultation with County Attorney Knowlton in regard to filling the vacancy and he felt that should not be charged to the CRC as it is a County issue. *Chairman Doherty* responded that he had asked *Attorney Berntsson* to review the Charter to see if the vacancy among the alternates needed to be filled. As further clarification, *Attorney Berntsson* explained that there was an issue of whether the vacancy should be filled right away or whether they could take time, and in discussion it was determined that alternates are intended to fill the shoes immediately upon a vacancy so if substantial time elapsed that person would not have the benefit of having attended meetings, etc. Later during discussion *Attorney Berntsson* recalled that another part of the discussion with Ms. Knowlton was whether or not *Michael Grant* ascended automatically to full member status or if it took action by the Board of County Commissioners, and *Chairman Doherty* concurred that had been part of the issues examined. *Attorney Berntsson* also indicated that from time to time it may be appropriate to consult with the County Attorney but that would be on a limited basis. *Frank Weikel* then asked about advertising to replenish the pool of alternates and *Attorney Berntsson* replied that it was the intention of the County Attorney to exhaust the pool before re-advertising. *Frank Weikel* said that the County Commissioners had indicated to him that was not their feeling, and *Attorney Berntsson* stated that would be an issue between Ms. Knowlton and

the Commissioners. *Chairman Doherty* commented that it could indeed be an issue sometime later if an alternate had to step in that had not been a part of the process. At this time *Paula Hess* suggested that would be beneficial for the Commission to look at the language as far as alternates.

##### **5. Sub-Committee Reports:**

*Johnny Vernon*, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners sub-Committee, stated that his sub-Committee would be interviewing each Commissioner individually in a meeting on Thursday, January 28, 2010. The Commissioners had previously been submitted a list of questions that were going to be asked of them. *Chairman Doherty* asked if they had responded to those questions and was advised that they had not. *Johnny Vernon* elaborated that these questions were developed and pre-approved by the BCC sub-Committee and the Commissioners would be responding during interview. *Andy Dodd* requested that administrative support forward a list of these questions to all of the membership

*Maureen Garrard*, Chairman of the Constitutional Officers sub-Committee, stated that they would be meeting on Thursday, January 28, 2010. She encouraged the members of the public to submit any questions they have to administrative support at the email displayed during PowerPoint™ or to attend the meeting at 4:00 p.m. *Maureen Garrard* then enumerated for the public the Constitutional Officers in Charlotte County to-wit: Sheriff, Clerk of Courts, Property Appraiser, Tax Collector and the Supervisor of Elections. She further explained that they are elected county-wide every four (4) years and work with the County Commission but are not a part of the County Commission. These officials do not answer to the County Commission, they answer to the voters. *Ms. Garrard* then said that at the meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> the sub-Committee will be developing a list of interview questions for each of the Constitutional Officers and again invited the citizens to submit their input.

*Julie Mathis*, Chairman of the Administration Staff sub-Committee, stated that her sub-Committee had first met in December and at that time had decided that they would like to receive input from the other members as to what they would like to talk about, as well as inviting public input. *Ms. Mathis* said that they will be scheduling interviews with Roger Baltz as well as the two assistant County Administrators; Gordon Burger, Director of the Budget Office; Robert Halfhill, Director of Public Works; Jeff Ruggieri, Community Development; Don Root, Economic Development Office; Janette Knowlton, County Attorney. She also indicated they would talk to Howard Kunik, Punta Gorda City Manager, to determine if he has any input into the process. *Ms. Mathis* again stated that they would appreciate all input from members of the public as to questions they might ask and *Chairman Doherty* indicated that he would like to see them interview the director of Charlotte County Utilities. *Ms. Mathis* stated that her sub-Committee would be beginning interview meetings in early March to be able to include member *Paula Hess*

who will be absent during February. *Ms. Mathis* then repeated *Mr. Dodd's* request that all questions be forwarded to all members after lists are formulated.

*Johnny Vernon* assured those present that all of the questions that had been brought up during the meeting would be asked of the County Commissioners during their interviews, and thanked everyone for that input.

*Bill Folchi*, Chairman of the Other Boards and Agencies sub-Committee, stated that they had held their organizational meeting on Thursday, January 14, 2010 and had decided to hold subsequent meetings on the first Tuesday of every month. ( NOTE: The actual meeting schedule is set forth in the Minutes of that sub-Committee meeting). The next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 2, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. and at that meeting they will formulate interview questions. *Mr. Folchi* said that at this time they have tentatively decided to have interviews with the School Board, the Airport Authority, City of Punta Gorda, and possibly Kitson Development as a matter of interest. *Mr. Folchi* indicated that the sub-Committee is completely open to other suggestions, and at this time *Maureen Garrard* asked that they interview the elected Board of the Englewood Water District. *Chairman Doherty* and *Bill Folchi* said that they had talked about that.

**6. Commission Comments :** *Andy Dodd* inquired which sub-Committee will be examining the question of elected versus appointed and *Chairman Doherty* responded that he thought that elected versus appointed applies to the executive branch of the Charter. Thus it would be logical for the Administration Staff sub-Committee to look at that and see if the current form makes sense. *Chairman Doherty* observed that a lot of the work is shared and that the individual sub-Committees will bring everything to the full Commission and if the CRC sees things falling through the cracks in the next few months they will decide where to assign a particular topic. *Frank Weikel* requested that administrative support get a figure as to the administrative cost to the County and the taxpayer if two (2) County Commissioners were added. This would include their pay of sixty (\$60,000) thousand dollars plus, staff expenses, etc. *Mr. Weikel* would also like to find out from among the other Charter counties in the State how many of them have a five (5) or seven (7) man Board and how many have an elected or appointed Administrator. *Chairman Doherty* said that some of this information was available in the binder given to members at the beginning of the session. *Tom Rice* asked that all of the public input data be collated and summarized by administrative support and presented to the membership as to recommendations they are hearing and current status. *Chairman Doherty* assured that this will be handled. *Connie Kantor* would like to see the population of all of the other Charter counties in the State, and *Chairman Doherty* added that the number of municipalities is also important. *Paula Hess* indicated that there still needed to be a clarification on the status of the alternates and she pointed out that in Article IV it does not state that the alternates need be County residents. She feels that the CRC should look at that, it is not clear that (in a meeting) an alternate shall have a voice but no vote.

She feels that as a matter of housekeeping this should all be examined, along with the issue of when it is no longer useful for an alternate to continue (ie., when he or she has missed two many meetings). At the request of *Johnny Vernon*, *Chairman Doherty* briefly explained the Sunshine Law to the public and the fact that CRC members can chat with them individually but not if there are two or more members together. They were cautioned to make sure of that if they approach a CRC member. *Mr. Vernon* wanted to assure the public that the individual members were not being rude, but have to comply with the Sunshine requirements. *Paula Hess* re-iterated that one on one is permissible. *Vice Chairman Russell* wanted to speak further on a previous issue brought up by *Frank Weikel* and said that he too would like to take a look at the Board of County Commissioners' salaries and if they are adequate or not. *Mr. Russell* felt that these salaries are currently set by population and thought it would be good to examine this and see if there is a better way to determine salaries. *Paula Hess* asked if salary was set by the legislature and *Vice Chairman* responded affirmatively. *Vice Chairman Russell* said he thought the possibility of addressing this should be examined because to set salary by population gives no consideration as to the job nor the qualifications of the people who aspire to do that. *Chairman Doherty* pointed out that another factor would be the number of municipalities within a County, which would affect workload. *Maureen Garrard* recalled that in reviewing written material which CRC members have been previously furnished she saw some counties which had set the salaries by reviewing Consumer Price Average. *Chairman Doherty* said that it would be interesting to look at the methodologies which have been adopted which have deviated from State statutes. At this time there were no further Commission Comments. *Maureen Garrard* thanked everyone who attended the meeting and hoped they would stay involved. *Chairman Doherty* reiterated this and urged them to stay involved by utilizing any of the options on the screen.

**7. Adjournment:** Upon motion and approval, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m. EST.

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Kenneth W. Doherty, Chairman

ATTACHMENT "A"

**Overview of Charlotte's Home Rule Charter**

Article I – Creation, Powers, and Ordinances of Home Rule Charter Government

- Section 1.1 – Creation and General Powers of Home Rule Charter Government
- Section 1.2 – Relation to State Laws
- Section 1.3 – Relation to Municipal Ordinances
- Section 1.4 – Relation to Independent Special Districts

**Overview of Charlotte's Home Rule Charter**

Article III – Elected County Constitutional Officers

- Section 3.1 – Relationship to Home Rule Charter
- Section 3.2 – Residency Requirements

**Overview of Charlotte's Home Rule Charter**

Article II – Organization of County Government

- Section 2.1 – Elected Commission and Appointed County Administrator Form of Government
- Section 2.2 – Legislative Branch
- Section 2.3 – Executive Branch

**Overview of Charlotte's Home Rule Charter**

Article IV – Home Rule Charter Transition, Amendments, Review, Effective Date

- Section 4.1 – Home Rule Charter Transition
- Section 4.2 – Home Rule Charter Amendments
- Section 4.3 – Home Rule Charter Effective Date

## CHARLOTTE COUNTY HOME RULE CHARTER GOVERNMENT



SINCE JANUARY 1, 1986

## Background (continued)

Currently, 20 of Florida's 67 counties have Home Rule Charters:

- |                         |                  |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1) Alachua              | 11) Miami – Dade |
| 2) Brevard              | 12) Orange       |
| 3) Broward              | 13) Osceola      |
| 4) Charlotte *          | 14) Palm Beach   |
| 5) Clay                 | 15) Pinellas     |
| 6) Columbia             | 16) Polk         |
| 7) Duval / Jacksonville | 17) Sarasota     |
| 8) Hillsborough         | 18) Seminole     |
| 9) Lee                  | 19) Volusia      |
| 10) Leon                | 20) Wakulla      |

## Background on Home Rule Charter Government in Florida

- Authority to create a "Home Rule Charter" was provided for the first time in the 1968 revised Florida Constitution.
- A "Home Rule Charter" allows a county to enact municipal type laws, not specifically prohibited by state general law. Counties that do not have a "Home Rule Charter" must receive the State's approval via a special act of the Legislature.
- A "Home Rule Charter" also allows a county to adopt the form of government as defined in Chapter 125.84, F.S.

## Overview of Charlotte's Home Rule Charter

- Article I – Creation, Powers, and Ordinances of Home Rule Charter Government
- Article II – Organization of County Government
- Article III – Elected County Constitutional Officers
- Article IV – Home Rule Charter Transition, Amendments, Review, Effective Date

### Section 4.2 – Home Rule Charter Amendments

c. **Amendments and revisions by the review commission**  
(1) A charter review commission consisting of fifteen (15) county commissioners at least eleven (11) months before the general election occurring in 1998 and at least eleven (11) months before the general election occurring every six (6) years thereafter, to review the home rule charter and propose any amendments or revisions which may be advisable for placement on the general election ballot. No elected officer shall be a member of the charter review commission. The three (3) alternates shall be non-voting participants on the charter review commission and shall, in the order of their original selection by the county commission, fill vacancies on the charter revision commission. Additional vacancies on the charter review commission shall be filled within thirty (30) days in the same manner as the original appointments.

### Section 4.2 – Home Rule Charter Amendments

A. **Amendments proposed by the board of county commissioners.**  
Amendments to this home rule charter may be proposed by ordinance adopted by the board of county commissioners by an affirmative vote of a majority of the total membership of the board of county commissioners.....

### Typical Charter "Review" Topics

(for example ONLY)

- ♦ Is the current "form" of Charter Government still appropriate? (i.e. appointed vs. elected executive branch of local government)
- ♦ Should B.C.C. elections remain "at large", or be "by district"; or a combination of both?
- ♦ Should local elections remain "partisan", or should all, or some of them, be "non-partisan"?
- ♦ Should "Constitutional" Officers remain "as is", or become "Charter" Officers?
- ♦ etc. ....

### Section 4.2 – Home Rule Charter Amendments

B. **Amendments proposed by initiative.**

(1) The home rule charter may also be amended by initiative upon petition by a number of electors equal to at least ten (10) percent of the number of electors qualified to vote in the county as a whole in the last preceding general election, provided that any such amendment shall embrace but one (1) subject and matter directly connected therewith. A charter amendment proposed by initiative 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 have been verified.

### Forms of Charter Government

County Charters, per Chapter 125.84, F.S., have three (3) options:

- 1) County Executive Form
- 2) County Manager Form
- 3) County Chair – Administrator Plan

### Typical Charter "Review" Topics

*(for example ONLY)*

- Is the current "Form" of Charter Government still appropriate? (i.e. appointed vs. elected executive branch of local government)
- Should B.C.C. elections remain "at large", or be "by district"; or a combination of both?
- Should local elections remain "partisan", or should all, or some of them, be "non-partisan"?
- Should "Constitutional" Officers remain "as is", or become "Charter" Officers?
- etc. ....

**PUBLIC INPUT ALTERNATIVES**  
**LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

Regular Mail: 18500 Murdock Circle, Room 140  
Port Charlotte, Florida 33948

E-Mail: [ann.pinder@charlottefl.com](mailto:ann.pinder@charlottefl.com)



Proposed : an Amendment to , ARTICLE IV. HOME RULE CHARTER TRANSITION,  
AMENDMENTS, REVIEW, EFFECTIVE DATE

**This Proposal is respectfully submitted to the, Charlotte County Charter Review Commission, this year 2010.**

**Be it Proposed that Article IV subsection C . “Amendments and revisions by charter review commission”. Become Null and Void, with the following language substituted for said subsection:**

**“C. (1) Charter Review Board. Composition, Election and Term of Members. There shall be a Charter Review Board composed of ten (10) members, two(2) members from each commission district, who shall serve staggered terms of four (4) years without compensation, and who shall be elected county-wide by the voters of Charlotte County at the General Election. Members shall take office on the second Tuesday following the General Election.**

**“C. (2) Jurisdiction and Meeting of the Charter Review Board. The Charter Review Board shall hold meetings to organize, elect officers and conduct business during any calendar year. Meetings may be called at the discretion of the Chairman of the Charter Review Board or three (3) other Charter Review Board members. On behalf of the Citizens of Charlotte County, the Charter Review Board shall review and recommend changes to the County Charter for improvement of County government. Such recommendations shall be subject to referendum in accordance with the provisions of Article VI herein. An Affirmative vote of two-thirds(2/3) of the members elected or appointed to the Charter Review Board shall be required to recommend amendments for referendum. The Board of County Commissioners shall pay reasonable expenses of the Charter Review Board.**

**“C. (3) Vacancies on the Charter Review Board. Any member of the Charter Review Board who changes his or her permanent residence to an area outside the district from which he or she was elected to represent shall be deemed to have vacated his or her office and the position on the Charter Review Board. Except as provided for herein, vacancies occurring on the Charter Review Board shall be filled in accordance with the Florida Constitution and the General Laws of the State of Florida for vacancies in county office. A Board member who is removed from his or her didistrict as a result of redistricting may serve out the balance of his or her term as a representative of his or her former district.**

**BERNTSSON, ITTERSAGEN, GUNDERSON, WAKSLER & WIDEIKIS, LLP**

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 (941) 627-1000  
 TAX ID#: 26-2501255

1861 PLACIDA ROAD, SUITE 204  
 ENGLEWOOD, FLORIDA 34223-4949  
 (941) 474-7713  
 TAX ID#: 26-2501255

January 11, 2010

Charlotte County Charter Review Commission  
 Attn: W. Kevin Russell, Esq.  
 14295 S. Tamiami Trail  
 North Port, FL 34287

Bill Number 5018  
 Billed through 12/31/2009  
 Reply to: Port Charlotte

**General**

**017298      1729801      RHB**

**FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RENDERED**

12/01/09	RHB	Telephone conference with Mr. Doherty; Telephone conference with Ms. Knowlton; Review Charter regarding Expense payments.	0.25 hrs	50.00
12/17/09	RHB	Prepare for and attend Charter Review Commission meeting.	1.00 hrs	200.00
12/18/09	RHB	Review e-mail message(s) to and from Ms. Pinder regarding Charter Review question on Sunshine Law.	0.25 hrs	50.00
12/22/09	RHB	Review e-mail message(s) to and from Ms. Pinder; Review Agenda and Notes thereon; Review e-mail message(s) to and from Mr. Rice.	0.25 hrs	50.00
12/23/09	RHB	Review e-mail message(s) to and from Ms. Pinder regarding Advertised Public Hearing.	0.25 hrs	50.00
12/29/09	RHB	Review e-mail message(s) to and from Mr. Doherty.	0.25 hrs	50.00
12/30/09	RHB	Review e-mail message(s) to and from Mr. Doherty.	0.25 hrs	50.00
12/31/09	RHB	Telephone conference with Mr. Doherty; Telephone conference with Ms. Pinder; Telephone conference with Mr. Hitzel regarding Curmudgeon column; Telephone conference with Ms. Knowlton regarding vacancies; Review e-mail message(s) to and from Ms. Pinder; Review e-mail message(s) to and from Mr. Doherty.	1.00 hrs	200.00

Total fees for this matter =====  
\$700.00

**EXPENSES**

**BILLING SUMMARY**

Berntsson, Robert H. 3.50 hrs

TOTAL FEES \$700.00  
 TOTAL EXPENSES \$0.00

**TOTAL CHARGES FOR THIS BILL =====**  
**\$700.00**  
=====

ATTACHMENT "C"

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION EXPENSES  
 09/15/2009 THROUGH 01/15/2010

CATEGORY	AMOUNT BUDGETED	AMOUNT TO DATE	BALANCE REMAINING
Administrative Support (paid through Snelling Services)	\$9,704.00	\$2,096.64	\$7,603.36
Rentals and Leases	\$664.00		\$664.00
Postage	\$55.00		\$55.00
Office supplies	\$140.00	\$66.40	\$73.60
Advertising (legal)	\$2,788.00		\$2,788.00
*Attorney fees submitted (R. Bertsson Esq)	\$21,000.00	\$700.00	\$20,300.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$34,351.00</b>	<b>\$2,863.04</b>	<b>\$31,483.96</b>

\*NOTE: Attorney fees are not paid until approved by membership.