



County of El Dorado

Legislative File Number 10-0095 (version 1)

Chief Administrative Office presenting amendments to the County Charter as proposed by the Charter Review Committee, and recommending the Board include discussion of framework for further Charter review at its February 22, 2010 workshop.

Background: On March 10, 2009 the Board completed its appointments to the Charter Review Committee. Beginning March 26, 2009 the Charter Review Committee held 14 public meetings to discuss potential amendments to the Charter. The final Charter Review Committee hearing was held on January 12, 2010. Agendas and minutes from these meetings are available at: <http://www.edcgov.us/bos/chartercommittee.htm>.

At its final meeting, the Charter Committee voted to have staff submit the recommendations to the Board without a presentation from the Committee. However, Committee members will make themselves available should the Board desire additional commentary on the amendments.

Attachment A is a summary of the Committee's amendments prepared by the Chief Administrative Office.

Attachment B is a "working draft" of the Charter reflecting the Committee's suggested amendments. Not included in this "working draft" is the Committee's recommendation to repeal the Charter entirely. (Note that the Committee's recommendations are both italicized and shown in red.)

Timeline: The Board of Supervisors can place measures on the local ballot no later than 88 days before an election. In order to place charter-related measures on the November 2, 2010 ballot, the Board would have to submit all ballot material to the Elections Department by August 6, 2010. However, in order to allow sufficient time to call for arguments and ballot printing, the Elections Department request that the Board provide ballot material 113 to 125 days in advance of an election. Consequently, should the Board desire to put any charter-related issues on the November ballot, it should conclude all charter review decisions by late June to mid-July of this year.

Reason for Recommendation: Given the volume of recommendations from the Charter Review Committee and the level of public interest in these recommendations, it is unlikely that the Board will be able to address all of the recommendations in a single meeting. Deferring discussion to workshop setting later in the month will allow individual Board members time to review the Committee's recommendations, with the goal of developing a framework for further discussion at the February 22 workshop.

Action to be taken following Board approval: Board Clerk to continue item until February 22.

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