

2008

the Orange County Commission Chambers. Because of the number of residents that reside on the East Side of Orange County, a meeting held on the border between Commission Districts 4 and 5 was also held to solicit public input from this area of the County. Pursuant to Section 702 of the Charter, the 2008 CRC was required to hold no less than four public hearings prior to presenting proposed Charter revisions and amendments to the public. Attached as Appendix A is a table of the 2008 CRC Meetings and Public Hearings held during this process.

In addition, to the public hearings, the 2008 CRC provided an opportunity for public input at each of its regularly scheduled Commission meetings. Throughout the process, the 2008 CRC heard testimony from members of the public, representatives of various civic groups such as the League of Women Voters, County Watch, Orange County Homeowner's Association, and Business Force and from a number of elected officials including each of Orange County's constitutional officers: Sheriff Kevin Beary, Supervisor of Elections Bill Cowles, Property Appraiser Bill Donegan, Clerk of Courts Lydia Gardner, Comptroller Martha Haynie and Tax Collector Earl K. Wood.

### **SECTION III**

#### **PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT CONCEPTS**

The 2008 CRC heard from a number of different elected officials and members of the public who recommended or suggested a variety of charter amendment concepts. Each was assigned to a Charter commission member for further research and evaluation. This section contains a summary of each of those proposals along with the final action taken on each measure by the 2008 CRC.

#### **A. Article II Proposals**

##### **1. Increase in the Number of County Commissioners**

**Proposal Summary:** One of the first proposals reviewed by the 2008 CRC was a proposal to increase the number of County Commissioners from six (6) to seven (7) or eight (8) to accommodate for increases in Orange County's population. CRC Chairman Richard Morrison agreed to research this issue and conducted independent research on this topic. Chairman Morrison's findings were that the current board structure was consistent with other similarly situated counties throughout the state and the country. The proposal would have required the amendment of Sections 202, 203 and 204 of the Charter.

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change  
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**Final Action:** The Commission voted to make no changes to this section of the charter at the Commission meeting held on September 17, 2007.

##### **2. Adjustment of County Commissioner Salaries**

**Proposal Summary:** Based upon the testimony of Orange County Commissioner Fred Brummer, the 2008 CRC was asked to research options for

**SECTION V**  
**BALLOT LANGUAGE DRAFTED BY THE**  
**2008 CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION**  
**BUT NOT APPROVED FOR PLACEMENT ON THE BALLOT**

**A. Introduction:** This section of the Final Report pertains to the Charter Review Commission's decision to not to place a question on the ballot concerning whether to change the composition and selection process of future Charter Review Commissions to broaden citizen participation in the Charter Review Commission process. The question was considered but voted down by a 7-6 vote.

**B. Ballot Proposal:** The ballot title and question proposed but not accepted are as follows:

**AMENDMENT BROADENING AND DIVERSIFYING THE COMPOSITION AND  
SELECTION PROCESS FOR CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION MEMBERS  
(14 words)**

Shall the Orange County Charter be revised to provide that members of future Charter Review Commissions may include nominees from established and recognized non-profit, civic, and business association entities and such nominees shall be submitted to the Board of County Commissioners for consideration and appointment to the Charter Review Commission? (50 words)

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_\_\_ No

**C. Text Revisions:** Section 702 of the Orange County Charter is amended to read as follows:

**Section 702. Charter Review Commission.**

~~A. A Charter Review Commission shall be appointed by the board. The Charter Review Commission shall consist of not less than eleven (11) members and not more than fifteen (15) members. All members of the Charter Review Commission shall be electors of the County. No elected official shall be appointed as a member of the Charter Review Commission. A Charter Review Commission, consisting of not less than eleven and no more than fifteen members, shall be appointed as follows:~~

(i) Each County Commissioner shall be entitled to appoint one member, at large, and the Mayor shall be entitled to appoint two members, at large, subject to the approval of the Board of County Commissioners.