

Agenda for Charter Review Commission Meeting
7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., May 24, 1995
Courthouse Basement, Multi-Purpose Room
311 Grand Ave., Bellingham

Individuals needing information about accessibility or special assistance should please contact the County Council office at 676-6690 at least 48 hours in advance, so that we may make necessary accommodations. Some accommodations, such as assistive listening devices or materials in alternative format may require 7 to 10 days notice.

Please note: due to new security measures in the Courthouse, the main rotunda entrance will not be available. Signs will be posted pointing the way to an alternate entrance.

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of the Agenda
- IV. Reading and Approval of Minutes from the May 17, 1995 Meeting
- V. Open Session - Public Comments
- VI. Discussion of Proposed Motions (See attached)
 1. Beech, Section 9.20: requiring the County to follow generally accepted accounting principles and to seek bids on provided services
 2. Smith, Section 3.21: making the Executive an appointed position
 3. Stender, Section 3.22 (i): addition of new subsection allowing the Executive to seek outside legal counsel
- VII. Break (8:20 p.m.)
- VIII. Other Business
- IX. Discussion of Next Agenda
- X. Adjourn

The next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, May 31, 1995 at 7 p.m. in the County Courthouse Basement, Multi-Purpose Room, 311 Grand Ave, Bellingham.

People are encouraged to write the Charter Review Commission and share their thoughts and concerns. Please mail your comments to: Charter Review Commission, c/o Whatcom County Council Office, 311 Grand Avenue, Bellingham, WA 98225.

**PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE WHATCOM COUNTY
HOME RULE CHARTER
MAY 24, 1995**

1. (Beech) I move to amend the Charter as follows:

Section 9.20 Purchasing, Contracts, Claims, and Bonds.

The County Council shall by ordinance establish procedures for purchasing supplies, services, materials and equipment, the awarding of contracts, the processing of claims, and the sale or refunding of bonds. The ordinance shall provide when bids shall be required and how invitations for bids shall be advertised; and shall provide that bids shall be required on services provided

The ordinance shall further provide, for purposes of bid preparation, that all county departments will submit bids in the competitive bidding process and employ full accrual and cost accounting principles contemplated by Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, and shall also provide that all county departments adhere to the cost standards outlined in OMB Circular A-87, Cost Principles for State and Local Governments, and that all county departments adhere to The Common Rule - Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments.

Every department shall work with local business groups, and trade associations, to determine the best possible means of formulating contracts and bid requests, so that Whatcom County can acquire the lowest possible prices for their supplies and projects, as well as encouraging the greatest number of responses to bid requests.

The County shall make every effort to contract out to local contractors as many projects and services as possible in order to:

1. Reduce the size and cost of government;
2. Provide the highest tax base in the community by providing work for our local businesses and their employees;
3. Provide for competition, which assures that the County is getting the maximum value for its dollar.

2. (Smith) I move to amend the Charter as follows:

Section 3.21 Election, Term of Office and Compensation.

The County Executive shall be ~~appointed by the County Council~~ nominated and elected by the voters of the county, and the term of office shall be four years and until the successor is elected and qualified. ~~The County Executive shall receive compensation as determined by the County Council.~~ (amended by Referendum 1986)

{Note: additional transitory language will be presented at the meeting.}

3. (Stender) I move to amend the Charter by the addition of the following subsection:

Section 3.22 Powers and Duties.

As Chief Executive Officer, the County Executive shall have all the executive powers of the county which are not expressly vested in other specific elective officers by this Charter. The County Executive shall have the power to:

(a) Supervise all administrative offices and executive departments established by this Charter or created by the County Council.

{etc.}

(h) Sign or cause to be signed, on behalf of the county, all claims, deeds, contracts and other instruments.

~~(i) To employ legal counsel as allowed by the laws of the State of Washington.~~

The specific statement of particular executive powers shall not be construed as limiting the executive powers of the County Executive. (Amended by Referendum 1986)