



AGENDA

2019 Charter Review Committee (CRC) for Placer County

July 10, 2019

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

County Executive Offices, CEO 1 Conference Room

175 Fulweiler Avenue, Auburn, CA 95603

1. Introductions
2. Conduct of CRC Meetings
3. Election of CRC Chair & Vice-Chair
4. Overview of Placer County Charter
5. Discussion of Potential CRC Issues for Consideration
6. Future Meetings Schedule
7. Adjourn

Attendees

Jane Christenson

Brian Wirtz

David Butler

Ed Silva

Jeff Mikles

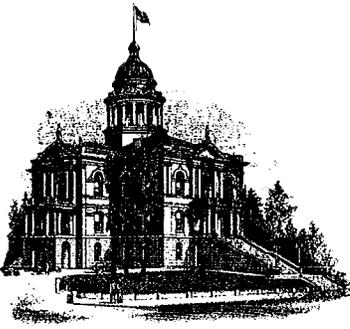
Loretta Walker

Roger Luebke

Sarah Duncan

Todd Lindstrom

Wayne Nader



MEMORANDUM

from the office of the
PLACER COUNTY COUNSEL
Extension 4044

TO : 2019 Charter Review Committee
FROM : Brian R. Wirtz, Deputy County Counsel
DATE : Inaugural Meeting July 10, 2019
RE : County Charter Summary

This memorandum is intended to provide a brief introduction to county charters and the process by which those charters are reviewed and amended. The California Constitution recognizes two types of counties: general law counties and charter counties. Of the 58 counties in California, 14 have adopted charters, including Placer County.

Article XI, Section 4 of the California Constitution provides charter counties with a degree of "home rule" authority that provides for greater flexibility in the number and duties of county officials and certain other functions. A charter must include the following:

- The election, compensation, terms, removal, and salary of the governing board;
- The election or appointment of all county officers except the sheriff, district attorney, and assessor (the California Constitution requires that these three officers be elected);
- The compensation, terms, and removal of all county officers;
- The powers and duties of officers;
- The consolidation and segregation of county offices; and
- The performance of those functions required by statute.

A county may adopt, amend, or repeal a charter with majority approval of the electorate. A new charter or the amendment or repeal of an existing charter may be proposed by the Board of Supervisors, the Charter Review Committee, or an initiative petition. The provisions of a charter are considered equivalent to state law and have the same force and effect as those laws enacted by the legislature.

Members of the Committee may recall that the voters of Placer County adopted Placer County's Charter in 1980. Section 602 of the Charter requires the County to convene a Charter Review Committee "within five (5) years of the last Charter review" and "shall review the Charter and, after at least two (2) public hearings, make recommendations for amendments to" the Board of Supervisors.

Your Committee will be conducting that review. You will be requesting and may receive suggestions for Charter amendments from members of the public, County officials and staff, the Board of Supervisors, and from the committee members themselves.

After your Committee considers any recommendations or comments, you may decide to recommend Charter amendments to the Board of Supervisors. The Board will then decide whether to place the recommended amendment on the ballot at a general election. The Charter amendment becomes effective if it receives a majority vote in favor of the measure.

I look forward to working with you and providing any legal advice you may request.

Attachment A

SUMMARY OF PLACER COUNTY CHARTER AMENDMENTS

The official version of the County Charter (and the County Code) is available online at <http://qcode.us/codes/placercounty/>

DATE	SUMMARY	ADOPTED
11/4/80	Adopted County Charter by General Election.	Yes
11/4/80	Measure L: Provide at-large election of County Supervisors. (Later reversed)	Yes
11/4/80	Measure M: Make County Clerk/Recorder an appointed position.	No
11/4/80	Measure N: Make County Auditor/Controller an appointed position.	No
11/4/80	Measure O: Make County Treasurer/Tax Collector an appointed position.	No
11/2/82	Amendment 1: Allowed Board to set manner, time and place of meetings.	Yes
11/2/82	Amendment 2: Local matters would fall under the rule of the Charter as long as these matters did not conflict with state or federal authority.	Yes
11/2/82	Amendment 3: Use of resolutions instead of ordinances to adopt number of positions in county and for creation of new offices.	No
11/2/82	Amendment 4: Allows Board to contract for county services if more economical.	Yes
11/2/82	Amendment 5: New appointed position of Public Administrator.	No
11/2/82	Amendment 6: Appoint Director of Revenue and Reimbursement as ex-officio License Collector.	No
11/2/82	Amendment 7: Preference to county suppliers for purchasing contracts.	Yes
11/2/82	Amendment 8: Raise bid limit related to road (\$30,000) and non-road projects (\$20,000).	Yes
6/5/84	Measure A: Spelling, punctuation or grammatical corrections.	Yes
11/6/84	Measure A: Create new appointed position of Finance Director; eliminate elected position of Auditor/Controller.	No

SUMMARY OF PLACER COUNTY CHARTER AMENDMENTS

DATE	SUMMARY	ADOPTED
11/6/84	Measure B: Separate criminal and probate functions of the District Attorney; create new appointed position of Public Administrator.	Yes
11/6/84	Measure C: Return election of County Supervisor to district rather than by countywide.	Yes
6/2/93	Measure A: Limit County Supervisors' salary to \$30,000.	Yes
11/4/09	Measure R: Raise Supervisors' salary to \$ 48,000 per year, with cost of living increases in subsequent years.	No
11/4/09	Measure S: Section 507 of the Charter amended to change the terms of employment of the County Counsel.	Yes
11/4/14	Measure B: Raise Supervisors' salary to no more than the average salary of Supervisors' of the neighboring Counties of El Dorado, Nevada, and Sacramento	Yes