

MINUTES
HOME RULE CHARTER COMMISSION
November 9, 2015

The Home Rule Charter Commission met in regular session at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 9, 2015, at the Courthouse Annex in the Police Jury Meeting Room, New Roads, Louisiana.

Chairman Lyles called the meeting to order and instructed Secretary Linette Pascalini to call the roll.

PRESENT: Messrs. Cornell Dukes, Alden Andre, Price Gay, Cletus Langlois, Richard Maciasz, and Jimmy Lyles, Chairman. Arrived after roll call: Messrs. Albert Dukes, Jeremy LaCombe and Jacques LaCour.

ABSENT: Mrs. Gail Hurst and Mr. Albert Sneed.

OTHER

PRESENT: Messrs. James Fairchild, Charles Morgan and Dannie Garrett.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Andre and seconded by Mr. Maciasz:

RESOLVED, That the minutes from October 26, 2015 be accepted as written and be published.

Unanimously carried.

DISCUSSION & CONSIDERATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION SECTION OF THE CHARTER

Attorney Dannie Garrett presented a comparison of administration organization structure of Natchitoches, St. Landry, West Baton Rouge & West Feliciana Parishes. After review, the commissioners gave comments and agreed to continue the meeting with structuring the organizational chart.

The committee agreed to have 5 major departments under the President. The areas they will oversee are listed below:

Department of Finance/Treasurer: Finances, Assistant Treasurer, Sales Tax and Billing & Collections.

Department of Public Works: Roads, Drainage, Facilities Maintenance, Utilities, Animal Control and Mosquito Abatement.

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Department of Parks & Recreation: Parks & Recreation and Multi-Use Center.

Department of Administration: HR, Purchasing, Secretary, Administrative Assistant and Receptionist.

Department of Planning & Zoning: Planning & Zoning, Certified Building Official and Inspectors.

After discussion, the commission agreed Attorney Garrett will draw the organizational chart as mentioned above, email to the commissioners in advance for review, and vote on the chart at the next meeting.

Attorney Garrett informed the commissioners of different things for consideration as follows:

- The Department of Finance works with the President for the budget
- The departments may be created by ordinance, but the President can veto the creation
- The President can reorganize the departments

The commission briefly discussed legal counsel. Attorney Garrett explained legal counsel can be the District Attorney's office or can hire an attorney that can be placed under the Administration.

Juror Cornell Dukes expressed concern about the president's authority to hire an attorney, stating not to exceed a certain dollar amount should be put in place. He suggested fees for an attorney should be what are approved by the Attorney General.

SET NEXT MEETING DATE

Chairman Lyles stated the next meeting date will be Monday, November 23, 2015 at 5:00 p.m. for discussion and consideration of the organizational chart and discussion and consideration of descriptions and functions of departments.

OPEN DISCUSSION

There was no further discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Andre and seconded by Mr. Langlois, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

JIMMY LYLES, CHAIRMAN