

Agenda Item No: 10:30 A.M.

PALM BEACH COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

REVISED
TO REMOVE CLERK OF
CIRCUIT COURTS & TAX
COLLECTOR PER THEIR
REQUESTS.

WORKSHOP SUMMARY

Meeting Date: September 25, 2007

Department: Administration

I. EXECUTIVE BRIEF

Title: Nonpartisan Elections for the following County Officials: Board of County Commissioners,

Summary: On September 11, 2007, the Board directed staff to present information concerning the possibility of requiring nonpartisan elections for the Offices of the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners,

On July 23, 2002, the BCC approved three ordinances (2002-31, 2002-32, 2002-33) that submitted to referendum three amendments to the County Charter that upon approval of Palm Beach County electors would provide for nonpartisan elections for the Property Appraiser, Sheriff and the Supervisor of Elections. These referendums were approved with an effective date of January 1, 2003.

The County Attorney's Office has provided proposed language for the Board's consideration including January 29, 2008, and November 4, 2008, as possible County-wide election dates for referendums to be placed on the ballot. Requirements for the January 29, 2008, election date would include an October 2, 2007, preliminary reading and advertisement for public hearing on October 16, 2007, and ballot language submittal to the Supervisor of Elections Office by November 16, 2007. (LB)

Background and Policy Issues:

Attachments:

- 1. Proposed Charter revisions and Ballot language.

Recommended by: _____

Department Director

Date

Approved By: _____

[Signature]

9/17/07

County Administrator

Date

II. FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

A. Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>
Capital Expenditures					
Operating Costs					
External Revenues					
Program Income (County)					
In-Kind Match (County)					
NET FISCAL IMPACT					
No. ADDITIONAL FTE POSITIONS (Cumulative)					
Is Item Included In Current Budget? Yes _____ No _____					
Budget Account No.: Fund _____ Department _____ Unit _____					
Object _____ Reporting Category _____					

B. Recommended Sources of Funds/Summary of Fiscal Impact:

C. Departmental Fiscal Review:

III. REVIEW COMMENTS

A. OFMB Fiscal and/or Contract Dev. and Control Comments:

 _____ OFMB	 9-18-07 9/17/07	_____ Contract Dev. and Control
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B. Legal Sufficiency:



Assistant County Attorney

C. Other Department Review:

Department Director

CHARTER AMENDMENT (County Commission)

Sec. 2.2(a) Nonpartisan Elections

Elections for the members of the Board of County Commissioners shall be on a nonpartisan basis. No candidate shall be required to pay any party assessment or be required to state the party of which the candidate is a member. All candidates' names shall be placed on the ballot without reference to political party affiliation. In the event more than two candidates have qualified for any single commission office, an election shall be held at the time of the first primary election and, providing no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast, the two candidates receiving the most votes shall be placed on the ballot for the general election.

REFERENDUM AND BALLOT LANGUAGE

REQUIRING NONPARTISAN ELECTIONS FOR THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Shall the Charter of Palm Beach County be amended to require nonpartisan elections for the Board of County Commissioners, and to require a primary election when more than two such candidates qualify for election for the same commission office, and a runoff election when no candidate for the same commission office receives a majority of the votes in the primary election?

RECEIVED SEP 20 2007



SHARON R. BOCK
Clerk & Comptroller
Palm Beach County

September 20, 2007

The Honorable Addie Greene, Chair
Board of County Commissioners
Palm Beach County
301 N. Olive Avenue, 12th Floor
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Dear Chairwoman Greene:

After reviewing the e-mail sent to me from Assistant County Administrator Brad Merriman on Tuesday, September 11, 2007, I was surprised to learn that I had been added to the agenda of a workshop scheduled to address the issue of non-partisan elections on September 25, 2007. I have been asked to advise you of my availability to participate in this discussion.

Historically, constitutional officers have been asked whether they wish to publicly engage in discussions relevant to their offices prior to being placed on any agenda. While I appreciate you thinking to include my office in this important discussion, I respectfully request removal of my name and that of the Clerk & Comptroller's office from the workshop agenda.

Sincerely,

Sharon R. Bock
Clerk & Comptroller

CC: Palm Beach County Commissioners
Robert Weisman, County Administrator

301 North Olive Avenue
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

P.O. Box 229
West Palm Beach, Florida 33402

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ANNE M. GANNON

TAX COLLECTOR, PALM BEACH COUNTY

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Downtown Branch

301 North Olive Avenue
West Palm Beach

Glades Branch

2976 State Road 15
Belle Glade

North County Branch

3188 PGA Boulevard
Palm Beach Gardens

Lake Worth Branch

3551 South Military Trail
Lake Worth

South County Branch

501 South Congress Avenue
Delray Beach

Royal Palm Beach Branch

200 Civic Center Way
Royal Palm Beach

September 21, 2007

The Honorable Addie Greene, Chair
The Honorable Jeff Koons, Vice-Chair
Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners
301 North Olive Avenue
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

Dear Commissioners Greene and Koons,

After receiving an e-mail message from Assistant County Administrator Brad Merriman on September 11, 2007, I was rather surprised to learn my office was added to a future agenda of the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners without my being notified. Historically, Constitutional Officers have been given the courtesy of weighing in on decisions affecting their offices prior to being placed on a Board agenda.

I have again reviewed the e-mail message sent by Mr. Merriman and my responses to that communication, and would once again respectfully request you withdraw my name and the Office of the Palm Beach County Tax Collector from the workshop agenda scheduled September 25, 2007.

Sincerely,

Anne M. Gannon
Tax Collector

CC: Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners
Mr. Bob Weisman, County Administrator