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Charter Review Committee

Background

On May 18, 2010, County voters gave approval to a Charter amendment that allows the County Board to create a Charter Review Committee (CRC) charged with periodically reviewing and recommending updates to the Lane County charter. The CRC is to be created by the County Board, given a charge by the County Board to review the various provisions of the County Charter, and report back to the County Board on proposed updates, revisions, or new provisions to be placed in front of Lane County voters for approval.

To avoid unwarranted costs, the County Board would desire to place one or more Charter amendments on the ballot at elections where the cost of adding Charter amendments is *de minimus*. The next likely election would be in the fall of 2011.

Procedure

In order to meet this time line the following benchmarks are established for the CRC:

Board Appoints Charter Review Committee – September 2010

Charter Review Committee gets grounded in Charter and process for review and recommendation October – November 2010

Charter Review Committee gathers proposals and background materials – November 2010 - January 2011

Charter Review Committee evaluates proposals for merit - January – May 2011

Charter Review Committee screens proposals to reach a final ranked list - May 2011

Report to the County Board on proposed amendments by June 1st, 2011

Policy Consideration

Policy Consideration: The County Board and the voters decided that a periodic review of the County Charter is appropriate in the May, 2010 election. The mechanism the voters approved is a Charter Review Committee created by the County Board. The Charter Review Committee will examine possible Charter changes and make recommendations to the County Board on what proposals should be submitted to the voters for final approval.