

**Charter Review Commission  
Administration Staff  
Subcommittee Meeting  
December 4, 2015**

A meeting of the Charter Review Commission, Administration Staff Subcommittee were held at Charlotte County Administration Complex, Room B-106, Port Charlotte, Florida

Roll Call

The following Administration Staff members were present:

Julie Mathis, Chairman

Stephen J. Vieira

John Hitzel

Donald McCormick

Citizen: David Kesselring

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 PM by Chairman Mathis.

Agenda Items:

- I. Citizens Input  
David Kesselring requested that all meeting agendas be more defined with the topics being discussed.
- II. Old Business  
All previous meeting minutes were reviewed and discussed.
- III. New Business  
It was recommended to discuss if the Economic Development Director should report to the Board of County Commissioners or County Administrator.

Donald McCormick – The only interviewee that really spoke up regarding this issue was the Economic Development Director at the time, Tom Patton. Most of the other interviewees did not really talk about his relationship, but I felt I got enough input to feel confident that we should at least recommend and discuss with the full Charter Review Commission. The reason that the position should report to the County Administrator was carried out in public where he was playing off Commissioners against each other.

Julie Mathis – Looking at the minutes, Ray Sandrock does say in his opinion the position should report to Administration. At the time my impression was Tom Patton was really torn between it was okay and not okay.

Stephen J. Vieira – If you recall too he talked about how much time he spent meeting with each Commissioner individually and lines of communication were really fractured. From that point of view I think it would make sense to have the position report to the Administrator or Administration.

Julie Mathis – So Ray Sandrock and Janette Knowlton felt it would be better if the position reported to the Administrator. She stated taking current people out of the discussion, confidentiality and coordination were concerns. At least two (2) of the interviewees believe it should go back to the way it was and I agree we should have a discussion at the full Commission meeting.

John Hitzel – I will agree with that.

Stephen J. Vieira – I agree.

IV. Discussion

The subcommittee recommendation is the full Charter Review Commission discuss having the Director of Economic Development report to Administration rather than each of the Commissioners.


John Hitzel – The only concern I have on this issue was what Tom Root raised when he held the position. He felt he needed that direct relationship with the Commissioners in order to get answers to issues that were pending. That going through staff took too long to get the kind of responses he needed.

Julie Mathis – I would say Mr. Patton said the same thing that going to the Commissioners took too much time. So I think really the answer to the question is it depends on who is in that position. I think that Administration and the County Attorney felt like they were kind of the last to know, where they probably should be right in the mix when decisions are made.

Stephen J. Vieira – Mr. Patton said he never had a clear idea of what everybody wanted, so I think the Administrator makes a lot of sense in my mind and he interfaces with the Commission.

V. Citizens Input – None at this time.

VI. Adjournment: Upon motion made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 PM.

  
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Julie Mathis, Chairman