

**Whatcom County  
Charter Review Commission**

**Meeting Minutes**

February 8, 1995

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at Blaine City Hall, 344 "H" Street, by Chairperson Sutter.

**II. Roll Call**

**Present:**

Keith Ahrens  
Danna Beech  
Joe Elenbaas  
Karen Frederick  
Georgia Gardner  
Yvonne Goldsmith  
Don Hansey  
Darlene McLeod  
Ron Polinder  
Ray Radke  
Mary Scrimsher  
Orphalee Smith  
Mary Stender  
Kathy Sutter  
Terry Unger

**Absent, but excused:**

(None)

**III. Reading and Approval of Minutes from the February 1, 1995 Meeting**

Recording Secretary Kerstin M. Bailey read the minutes into the record.

Beech moved to approve of the minutes as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

**IV. Introduction of Commissioners and Overview of Charter Review Commission**

Each of the Commissioners introduced themselves to the members of the public.

V. Open Session - Public Comments

Chairperson Sutter opened the floor for open session.

Speakers:

Leo Wegner, Haynie Road, Blaine

Bob Ewing, 9621 Harvey Road, Blaine

Roy Giles, 5385 Shields Road, Bellingham

Dave Vaughn, 2211 Lynden-Birch Bay Road, Custer

Howard Andreson, 2696 Hilleys Lake Road, Custer

Paul Holtzheimer, P.O. Box 366, Custer

Barbara Brenner, 5617 Northwest Road, Bellingham

Wayne Beech, P.O. Box 187, Maple Falls

Chet Haynes, 3035 Arnie Road, Custer

Chairperson Sutter closed open session.

VI. Discussion of Article I - Focus: "Keep the Charter or return to Commissioners?"

Beech moved that the Commission reconsider the words "this Charter" in the preamble of the Charter.

Motion failed for lack of a second.

Elenbaas moved to recommend to the citizens the following language, subject to review and improvement of the written format: Shall the Charter be amended to provide the new section 1.11, stating, "The rights of the individual citizen shall be guaranteed under the Constitutions of the United States and the State of Washington. No regulation or ordinance shall be generated without consideration of and provisions for compensation to those unduly burdened"?

Motion carried 11 - 4, with Gardner, McLeod, Polinder, and Stender opposed.

Hansey moved that the Charter Review Commission proceed from now forward conceptually that the County will retain a home rule charter.

Chairperson Sutter called for a five minute recess at 8:15 p.m.

At 8:25 p.m., Chairperson Sutter reconvened the meeting.

Motion carried 13 - 2, with Beech, and Radke opposed.

## VII. Open Session - Public Comments

Chairperson Sutter reopened the floor for open session.

### Speakers:

Patrick Alesse, Birch Bay  
Bob Ewing, Blaine  
Dale Brandland, County Sheriff  
Barbara Brenner, Council Member  
Roy Giles, Bellingham  
Shirley Forslof, County Auditor  
Howard Andreson, Custer  
Barbara Cory, County Treasurer  
Wayne Beech, Maple Falls  
Chet Haynes, Custer  
Virginia Benton, Blaine  
Richard Hackett, Custer

Chairperson Sutter closed open session.

## VIII. Other Business

Chairperson Sutter discussed the Executive's decline to forward the Commission's supplemental budget request to the Council.

Bob Woods mentioned that the next meeting will be in the multi-purpose room in the Courthouse basement.

Goldsmith moved to ask not to be billed for the notebooks and information that were not requested; the Council should pay for it.

Goldsmith withdrew the motion based upon information provided by Hansey.

Stender requested that the format of the minutes be discussed under Other Business next week.

## IX. Discussion of Next Agenda

Items to be included on next week's agenda: Call to Order, Roll Call, Reading and Approval of Minutes, Open Session, Discussion of Article III, Other Business, Discussion of Next Agenda, Adjourn.

X. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m. by Chairperson Sutter.

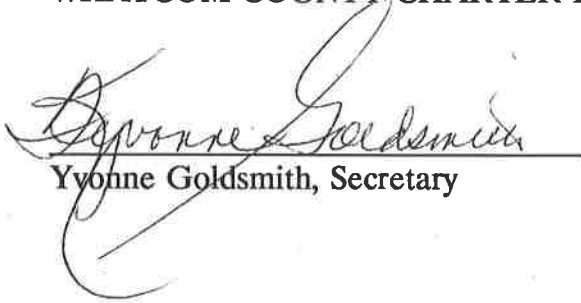
Respectfully submitted,



Kerstin M. Bailey  
Recording Secretary

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WHATCOM COUNTY CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION



Yvonne Goldsmith, Secretary



Kathy Sutter, Commission Chair