

**BURLEIGH COUNTY HOME RULE CHARTER COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 21, 2022**

4:00 P.M.

Commissioner Armstrong called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Armstrong opened the (newly formed Home Rule Charter Commission) meeting asking each member to state their name starting with himself; Mark Armstrong Burleigh County Commissioner, Burleigh County Election Manager Erika White, Brian Fettig appointed commission member, Dustin Gawrylow appointed commission member, present.

Audience attendees were Kelly Leben, Burleigh County Sheriff, Julie Lawyer, State's Attorney, and Jim Hulm, Sheriff's Department.

Commissioner Armstrong opened the meeting with a proposed a five-step outline of the Home Rule Charter Commission process:

1. Between now and June, the Home Rule Charter Commission will hold at least on public hearing to gather input.
2. By the end of July, the Home Rule Charter Commission shall prepare and submit the new charter to the County Commission Board.
3. By September 1st, the Charter is published once in the official newspaper and submitted to the Auditor to be placed on the Ballot.
4. November 8th election day.
5. January 1, 2023, the new charter takes effect.

State's Attorney Lawyer informed the new Commission of the rules/laws/guidelines when communicating with each other.

Approximately 6 minutes into the meeting the fifth member Mike Connelly was present.

Election Manager White discussed the HRC list supplied by NDACo. and they track which counties have HRC and when they were passed.

Commissioner Armstrong mentioned that State's Attorney Lawyer will draft the language for the Home Rule Charter. He also stated that the goal is to allow the public to ask the County Commission to adopt ordinances that would go to a public vote.

State's Attorney Lawyer explained that the new Home Rule Charter vote would be either accepting the new and rescinding the old or rejecting the new and keeping the old Home Rule Charter.

Commissioner Gawrylow said he would like to see provisions the are explicit, referring and initiating along with limiting the use of Special Elections so it doesn't appear the county is trying to suppress the issues.

Sheriff Leben, mention he has heard some discussion to move the No Loan Replacement Fund to an Operating Fund and may want to address this in depth and with the public at the Public Hearing.

After discussion on everyone's schedule it was decided to have a Public Hearing for the Home Rule Charter on May 3, 2022, at 5:00pm in the Tom Baker room.

Commissioner Armstrong recapped the topics or objective at the Public Hearing meeting would be to have a draft copy of the Home Rule Charter along with taking input from the public and discussion options with the half cent sales tax that currently exists with the current Home Rule Charter.

Commissioner Fettig asked if anyone knew why the Home Rule Charter of 2014 wasn't expanded to include language to adopt ordinances by the public. Sheriff Leben shared that at the time the thought was to keep it simple so the public would be more receptive to voting for half cent sales tax to fund the jail.

Meeting adjourned.

Leo Vetter, Auditor/Treasurer

Mark Armstrong, Commissioner

BURLEIGH COUNTY HOME RULE CHARTER COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
July 6, 2022

4:00 P.M.

Commissioner Armstrong called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Armstrong opened the meeting and announced those present; himself; Mark Armstrong Burleigh County Commissioner, Burleigh County Election Manager Erika White, Brian Fettig appointed commission member, Dustin Gawrlylow and Michael Connelly, appointed commission members, were absent.

Approximately 7 minutes into the meeting Burleigh County State's Attorney Julie Lawyer appeared.

Commissioner Armstrong asked Erika White to recap the timeline of the Home Rule Charter process:

1. A Public Hearing of the draft of the Home Rule Charter needs to be scheduled and noticed, by early August.
2. Finalize the language of the draft of the Home Rule Charter for review at the Public Hearing.
3. Present the draft from the Public Hearing to the County Commissioners at the August 15th meeting.
4. Final Home Rule Charter language submitted to the County Auditor's Office by 4:00 p.m. on September 6th.
5. Include Home Rule Charter on the election ballot to be voted on.
6. Needs to be published twice in the Bismarck Tribune between October 8th and November 8th.

Armstrong, White, and Fettig discussed the date for the Public Hearing and decided on August 8th at 4:00 p.m. in the Tom Baker room.

Discussion was held on the Home Rule Charter draft prepared by State's Attorney Lawyer. The commission went through the draft and made consensual changes for State's Attorney Lawyer to prepare a revised draft for the Home Rule Charter Public Hearing.

Meeting adjourned.

Leo Vetter, Auditor/Treasurer

Mark Armstrong, Commissioner