

**LAFOURCHE PARISH HOME RULE  
CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION  
BARRIOS CENTER  
RACELAND, LOUISIANA**

The Charter Revision Commission assembled at its regular meeting place, Barrios Center, 1612 HWY. 182, Suite 100, Raceland, Louisiana, on Wednesday, June 9, 2004, at 6:30 P.M.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Plaisance at 6:30 P.M.

A prayer was given by Joseph Fertitta, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag by Elizabeth Breaux.

Upon roll call, the following members were present:

Ms. Sharleen Hotard  
Ms. Elizabeth Breaux  
Mr. Charles Beasley  
Mr. O.E. Monnier  
Mr. Danny Mayet  
Mr. Henry Lafont, Jr.(Entered Meeting @ 7:45 P.M.)  
Mr. John Plaisance  
Mr. Joseph "Joe" Mickles  
Judge Walter Lanier, Jr.  
Mr. Joseph "Joe" Fertitta

Absent: Ms. Mary Kitchen

Mr. Daniel Sullivan, Executive Vice President of the Louisiana Civil Service League, was guest speaker. Mr. Sullivan stated that the Parish had a very good Civil Service System that was working well. He introduced to the Commission, Ms. Jennifer Ledet, a former Parish Civil Service Director, who was present to assist in answering any technical questions on Civil Service. Mr. Sullivan proceeded to explain the nature and purpose of Civil Service and why it was necessary in public employment.

Mr. Ronnie Lefort, Chairman of the Parish Civil Service Board, was recognized and discussed with the Commission some of the problems that the Board had in filling vacancies.

Councilman Phillip Gouaux of District 7 was recognized. Mr. Gouaux expressed his concerns about the Civil Service System. He recommended that continuing or not continuing Civil Service be placed on the ballot as an alternative proposition for the Parish voters. He further stated that if the Commission wished to continue Civil Service that it be ratified as it presently exists in fact and that it not be expanded to include the Boards, Commissions and other political subdivisions of the Parish.

Mr. Dirk Barrios, General Manager of the Lafourche Parish Water District, was recognized and stated that he agreed with Councilman Gouaux. Mr. Barrios advised that it was his impression that the Water District was not intended to be included in Civil Service. He stated that the Water District had its own employee retirement system, policies and procedures; therefore, he requested that the Water District be excluded from Civil Service.

Chairman Plaisance presented to the Commission letters from Mr. Milton Bourgeois, CEO of St. Anne General Hospital, and Mr. Leroy Martin, Secretary-Treasurer of Lafourche Parish Drainage District Number One, in which each requested that his respective political subdivision be excluded from Civil Service.

Mr. Kirk Cheramie was recognized. Mr. Cheramie advised that he was a past Chairman of a Home Rule Charter Commission, that he remembered the discussions about Civil Service at the Commission meetings and that it was intended that the Parish Boards, Commissions and

other political subdivisions would not be covered by Civil Service.

Ms. Jennifer Ledet was recognized and advised that it was her understanding that it was never intended that any Parish Boards would be covered by Civil Service.

Councilman Mark Atzenhoffer of District 5 advised the Commission that in his opinion Civil Service should be abolished and he gave his reasons therefor.

Henry Lafont, Jr. entered the Commissioners meeting at 7:45 P.M.

Judge Walter Lanier, Jr. suggested that the Commission take a policy vote on Civil Service as it presently exists in fact.

Chairman John Plaisance asked all in favor of excluding Parish Boards the way it is working now, to raise their hands. The Commissioners present unanimously agreed with Judge Lanier's suggestion.

Chairman John Plaisance instructed those Commissioners who wanted to see abolishing Civil Service totally as an option, to raise their hands. The voting results were as follows: Charles Beasley, Sharleen Hotard and Butch Monnier voted yea and Elizabeth Breaux, Danny Mayet, Henry Lafont, John Plaisance, Joseph Mickles, Judge Walter Lanier, and Joseph Fertitta voted nay with the absence of Mary Kitchen.

Mr. George Randolph requested the Commission give the people in the Parish the opportunity to vote on whether they want to accept or reject Civil Service.

A motion by Judge Walter Lanier, Jr., seconded by Joseph Fertitta, that Article IV, Civil Service Department, Section 1, Civil Service System, be accepted as amended without the phrase "offices and political subdivisions."

Roll Call Vote

Mary Kitchen	(Absent)
Sharleen Hotard	Yes
Elizabeth Breaux	Yes
Charles Beasley	Yes
O.E. Monnier, Jr.	Yes
Danny Mayet	Yes
Henry Lafont, Jr.	Yes
John Plaisance	Yes
Joseph "Joe" Mickles	Yes
Judge Walter Lanier, Jr.	Yes
Joseph "Joe" Fertitta	Yes

A motion by Henry Lafont, seconded by Joseph Mickles, that the Commission accept Article IV, Civil Service Department, Section 2, Persons Excluded From The Civil Service System, as amended with the following changes: add "Those excluded are:" before A-H, letter D rewritten to read "Members of advisory boards and other political subdivisions of the Parish.", and Letter H rewritten to read "Employees of the political subdivisions of the Parish, however, these persons may be covered at a later date by request of the governing authority of the political subdivision and upon passage of an ordinance by the Council if allowed by state law."

A motion by Henry Lafont, Jr., seconded by Charles Beasley, to put department heads plus one deputy per department as an exclusion in Article IV, Civil Service Department, Section

2, Persons Excluded From The Civil Service System, Paragraph B. With Joseph Fertitta voting nay and the absence of Mary Kitchen, the motion was adopted.

A motion by Judge Walter Lanier, Jr., seconded by Joseph Fertitta, to add an amendment to Article IV, Civil Service Department, Section 2, Persons Excluded From The Civil Service System, to include Paragraph I, Temporary appointees as defined in the Civil Service Rules and Regulations, unanimously passed with no opposition.

Roll Call Vote for Article IV, Section 2, as amended was taken as follows:

Mary Kitchen	(Absent)
Sharleen Hotard	Yes
Elizabeth Breaux	Yes
Charles Beasley	Yes
O.E. Monnier, Jr.	Yes
Danny Mayet	Yes
Henry Lafont, Jr.	Yes
John Plaisance	Yes
Joseph "Joe" Mickles	Yes
Judge Walter Lanier, Jr.	Yes
Joseph "Joe" Fertitta	No

A motion by Judge Walter Lanier, Jr., seconded by Danny Mayet, that Article IV, Civil Service Department, Section 3, Appointment And Dismissal Of Parish Civil Service Employees, be adopted.

Roll Call Vote

Mary Kitchen	(Absent)
Sharleen Hotard	Yes
Elizabeth Breaux	Yes
Charles Beasley	Yes
O.E. Monnier, Jr.	Yes
Danny Mayet	Yes
Henry Lafont, Jr.	Yes
John Plaisance	Yes
Joseph "Joe" Mickles	Yes
Judge Walter Lanier, Jr.	Yes
Joseph "Joe" Fertitta	Yes

A motion by Elizabeth Breaux, seconded by Judge Walter Lanier, Jr., to accept Article IV, Civil Service Department, Section 4, Organization, Structure, And Distribution Of The Power And Functions In The Department Of Civil Service, Paragraph B (3), as written with no changes. Without objection, the motion was adopted.

A motion by Elizabeth Breaux, seconded by Henry Lafont, Jr., to accept Article IV, Civil Service Department, Section 4, Organization, Structure, And Distribution Of The Power And Functions In The Department Of Civil Service, Paragraph B (4), as amended without the second "be removed" in line one of the first paragraph.

Roll Call Vote

Mary Kitchen	(Absent)
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Sharleen Hotard	Yes
Elizabeth Breaux	Yes
Charles Beasley	Yes
O.E. Monnier, Jr.	Yes
Danny Mayet	Yes
Henry Lafont, Jr.	Yes
John Plaisance	Yes
Joseph "Joe" Mickles	Yes
Judge Walter Lanier, Jr.	Yes
Joseph "Joe" Fertitta	Yes

A motion by Elizabeth Breaux, seconded by Danny Mayet, to accept Article IV, Civil Service Department, Section 4, Organization, Structure, And Distribution Of The Power And Functions In The Department Of Civil Service, Paragraph C, The Director, as amended with the phrase "including all Parish departments, offices and agencies" omitted, adding the statement which reads "The duties of the Civil Service Director shall include, but not be restricted to, the following:" above letter (a), rewriting Paragraph C(2)(b) to read "To develop and, upon adoption, administer an annual uniform plan of salary ranges for all persons in the Parish Civil Service system. The annual plan for each succeeding fiscal year shall be submitted by the Director to the Board not later than April 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. The Board shall review the plan and, after a public hearing, shall submit it, together with such amendments it deems appropriate, to the President not later than the last day of May of each year. The President shall review the plan and may amend it. Thereafter, the President shall include the plan in the annual operating budget for consideration by the Council.", in subparagraph c, remove the phrase "Parish departments, offices, agencies, and special districts" and replace it with the words "persons subject to this Article," (v) change the word "filing" to "filling", and in (ix) "polies" was changed to "policies."

Roll Call Vote

Mary Kitchen	(Absent)
Sharleen Hotard	Yes
Elizabeth Breaux	Yes
Charles Beasley	Yes
O.E. Monnier, Jr.	Yes
Danny Mayet	Yes
Henry Lafont, Jr.	Yes
John Plaisance	Yes
Joseph "Joe" Mickles	Yes
Judge Walter Lanier, Jr.	Yes
Joseph "Joe" Fertitta	Yes

A motion by Elizabeth Breaux, seconded by Sharleen Hotard, to accept Article IV, Civil Service Department, as amended.

Roll Call Vote

Mary Kitchen	(Absent)
Sharleen Hotard	Yes
Elizabeth Breaux	Yes
Charles Beasley	Yes
O.E. Monnier, Jr.	Yes
Danny Mayet	Yes
Henry Lafont, Jr.	Yes
John Plaisance	Yes

Joseph "Joe" Mickles Yes

Judge Walter Lanier, Jr. Yes  
Joseph "Joe" Fertitta Yes

A motion by Charles Beasley, seconded by Butch Monnier, to place Article IV, Civil Service Department, as an option on the ballot for the voters to accept or reject Civil Service as a whole.

Roll Call Vote

Mary Kitchen	(Absent)
Sharleen Hotard	No
Elizabeth Breaux	Yes
Charles Beasley	Yes
O.E. Monnier, Jr.	Yes
Danny Mayet	No
Henry Lafont, Jr.	No
John Plaisance	No
Joseph "Joe" Mickles	No
Judge Walter Lanier, Jr.	No
Joseph "Joe" Fertitta	No

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 15, 2004 at 6:30 P.M.

On motion by Sharleen Hotard and seconded by Joseph Fertitta, the meeting was adjourned without any objections at 9:30 P.M.

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MARY R. KITCHEN, SECRETARY

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JOHN J. PLAISANCE, II, CHAIRMAN