

COMMISSIONERS APPROVAL

5th FOSS

CHILCOTT 

IMAN

STOLTZ 

Members Present.....Commissioner Suzy Foss, Commissioner Greg Chilcott, Commissioner J.R. Iman and Commissioner Ron Stoltz

Date.....June 29, 2012

► Minutes: Chris Taggart (edited by Glenda Wiles)

► The Board met at 9:00 a.m. to discuss and possibly move forward on the adoption of an Ordinance reducing the number of Commissioners from five to three and to increase the terms from four years to six years. If the Commissioners adopted a proposed Ordinance, it would then be placed on the November 6, 2012 ballot for public vote. Also present at this meeting was Deputy County Attorney Howard Recht.

Commissioners Chilcott and Iman indicated numerous members of the public have expressed a desire to return the Commission to a three member board. Placing the issue on the November ballot would give the voters the opportunity to vote on this issue. Commissioner Iman felt the 'Study Commission did not go about their study correctly.'

Commissioner Foss stated she does not see public support for this change but does agree the term should be increased back to six years.

Public comment was called for.

Ken Payne liked the five Commissioners with four year terms.

Chris Houckman stated the last Study Commission's recommendation was to hire an Administrator which he concurs with.

Vito Ciliberti concurred with Commissioner Foss and encouraged the Commissioners to concentrate on the dire financial circumstances of the valley. He felt a County Administrator would create a dictator-type government, but liked the four-year terms.

Attorney Recht discussed his legal research noting an Ordinance and vote in November would not circumvent the ten-year Study Commission process. There are three ways to amend local government: 1) A petition; 2) Adopting an Ordinance and 3) Via the Study Commission that is elected every ten years.

Commissioner Chilcott made a motion to place the question on the November 2012 ballot, the question being going from five to three Commission Members with a 6-year term (prior form of government, staggered terms, elected from District-At-Large) or stay with five Commission members with four year terms (the current form of government). Districts 2 and 3 will only have a 2-year term ending December 31, 2014. All five positions will be open in 2014 if the voters decide to go back to three Commissioners. A re-districting will occur no more than six months before the primary in 2014 for the three districts, probably similar to those district in 2005, based upon population and demographics. All eligible citizens could then file for Commission positions within their district. The elected Commissioners would then draw for lots for the two, four and six year terms. Commissioner Iman seconded this motion. Discussion: Commissioner Foss asked for clarification on drawing lots. Attorney Recht stated the lot draw would be determined by the specific language used in the ballot language. Commissioners Iman and Chilcott voted "aye". Commissioners Foss and Stoltz voted "nay". Motion failed.

► Administrative matter: It was noted the County Attorney's Office has a failure of a printer with the need for a new purchase. Commissioner Chilcott made a motion to approve the purchase of a new printer via I.T. Department's recommendation and within budget. Commissioner Stoltz seconded the motion and all voted "aye". (4-0).