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Input or receive compensation from more than one appointing authority.

SECTION 402. DEPARTMENTAL ORGANIZATION.

The departmental organization of County government and the nature and scope of each department, together with all the required rules and procedures for the operation of said department, shall be set forth in the Administrative Code. The Administrative Code shall be adopted by and may be amended by the Commission. The County Manager shall, from time to time make recommendations as to the organization, adoption and amendment of the Administrative Code.

SECTION 403. INITIAL DEPARTMENTS AND OFFICES.

The following initial departments and offices are hereby established under this Charter until amended or abolished under the Administrative Code:

- (1) Department of Public Works;
- (2) Department of Public Safety;
- (3) Department of Community Services; and
- (4) Department of General Services.

SECTION 404. ANNUAL REPORT.

The County Manager shall report annually in written form to the Commission concerning the administrative needs of the Service, the personnel and positions in the County, and the compensation provided therefor, the conditions held by the Board, the appointments made, service ratings and records in the Civil Service, and recommendations for promoting efficiency and economy in the Service, with details of expenditure and progress of work.

SECTION 405. GENERAL COUNCIL: QUALIFICATIONS AND DUTIES.

The General Council shall be an advisory body who shall have provided for the State of Florida for at least ten (10) years or who has had an equivalent combination of education and experience concentrated in municipal or county government law. No shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Commission. The General Council shall be the chief legal advisor of and attorney for the Commission and all departments and officers thereof in matters relating to their official powers and duties, except as otherwise provided by this Charter. It shall be the duty, either personally or by such substitute as he may designate, to perform all services incident to his office, to attend all meetings of the Commission to give advice in writing, when so requested, to the Commission, the County Manager, or persons or bodies, as the case may be, all cases in which the County may be a party to process or review all contracts, bonds and other instruments in writing in which the County is concerned, and to perform such other duties of a legal nature as the Commission may by ordinance or resolution require. In addition to the duties imposed upon the General Council by this Charter or required of him by ordinance or resolution of the Commission, he shall perform any duties imposed upon the chief legal officers of counties by law.

ARTICLE V

SECTION 501. COMPTROLLER.

The Comptroller shall perform all duties of the office of Comptroller, as provided by law, except to the extent inconsistent with this Charter. The Comptroller shall qualify, be nominated, elected and serve as provided by the Constitution and Law of Florida.

SECTION 502. PROPERTY APPRAISER.

The office of Property Appraiser shall continue, and all laws applicable thereto shall continue in full force and effect. The Property Appraiser shall qualify, be nominated, elected and serve as provided by the Constitution and Law of Florida.

SECTION 503. SHERIFF.

The constitutional office of Sheriff shall continue, and all laws applicable thereto shall continue in full force and effect, provided, however, that all powers and duties respecting the operation of the Escambia County Jail and the care and custody of prisoners within the County shall be vested in the Commission. The Sheriff shall qualify, be nominated, elected and serve as provided by the Constitution and Law of Florida.

SECTION 504. SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS.

The constitutional office of Supervisor of Elections shall continue, and all laws applicable thereto shall continue in full force and effect. The Supervisor of Elections shall qualify, be nominated, elected and serve as provided by the Constitution and Law of Florida.

SECTION 505. TAX COLLECTOR.

The constitutional office of Tax Collector shall continue, and all laws applicable thereto shall continue in full force and effect. The Tax Collector shall qualify, be nominated, elected and serve as provided by the Constitution and Law of Florida.

ARTICLE VI

JUDICIAL SYSTEM

SECTION 601. JUDICIAL SYSTEM.

The judicial system of the Charter government shall be as provided by the Constitution and Law of Florida.

SECTION 602. JUDICIAL OFFICES.

The office of the Clerk of Circuit Court, Judges of the County Court, and all other offices of the various courts of the County shall continue, and all laws applicable thereto shall continue in full force and effect. The Clerk of Circuit Court shall qualify, be nominated, elected and serve as provided by the Constitution and Law of Florida.

ARTICLE VII

FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 701. FISCAL YEAR.

The fiscal year of the Charter government shall be in accordance with general law.

SECTION 702. BUDGETARY SYSTEM.

All County operations shall utilize a unified and uniform budget system as provided by the State Comptroller. All fees collected by officers and employees of the County shall be deposited in the appropriate County fund as provided by law. The head of each County department, elected County official, officer or agency receiving County monies, shall forward the County Manager a detailed budget or may be required for the ensuing year's operation, a capital program, and such additional

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Information as may be required by the County Manager or the Commission prior to June 1 of each year.

SECTION 703. BUDGET REVIEW.

Prior to August 15 of each year, the Commission shall review the tentative budget and capital program as submitted by the County Manager, together with the County Manager's recommendations and the original budget request of any elected County official, and shall make such additions, deletions or changes as may be necessary to insure the proper funding of operations of County government. The County Commission shall take action to insure that the total budget provides sufficient funds on an annual basis for all agencies and departments to carry out their duties and functions, as provided by this Charter, the Constitution, and the Law of Florida.

SECTION 704. PUBLIC HEARING.

Prior to the first of each year, a public hearing shall be held on the County budget and capital program. After the public hearing, the Commission may adopt the budget and capital program with or without amendment. A notice of each public hearing and a summary of the budget of each elected official, department and agency shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the County at least ten (10) days before the date of such hearing. Final adoption of the budget by the Commission shall be made prior to October 1 of each year.

SECTION 705. FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE.

Any agency or elected County official receiving County appropriated funds shall make and file a complete and full disclosure of all financial operations annually, including all sources of funds, disbursements, and budget of the agency, with the Comptroller. Such financial records shall be filed with the Commission and copies of such records shall be available to any member of the public at a public location or locations designated by the Commission, or at a reasonable cost.

SECTION 706. BUDGETARY ADJUST.

The Comptroller shall, within twelve (12) months of the end of the fiscal year, complete on audit of the accounts and other evidence of financial transactions of the County and of every County department and office.

ARTICLE VIII

ELECTIONS

SECTION 801. ELECTION PROCEDURES.

All elections shall be held and conducted pursuant to the provisions of Article VI of the Constitution and Law of Florida, except as otherwise provided in this Charter.

SECTION 802. CAMPAIGNING RULES.

There shall be a Campaigning Board as prescribed and designated by the Commission.

ARTICLE IX

REGULATIONS PROVISIONS

SECTION 901. LAND ORDINANCES.

All laws, ordinances, regulations and resolutions of the County not inconsistent with this Charter shall remain in full force and effect until changed by ordinance, under the provisions of law.

SECTION 902. ADMINISTRATIVE CODE.

Any Administrative Code adopted and amended shall not be inconsistent with the provisions of this Charter.

SECTION 903. RIGHTS RESERVED.

All actions, rights of action, claims, contracts and obligations of persons, corporations, public bodies or agencies existing on the date this Charter became effective shall continue to be valid as if this Charter had not been adopted.

SECTION 904. PUBLIC DEBT AND BOND OR BONDING OBLIGATIONS AND INCURRANCES.

All public debts, bonds, revenue certificates, revenue bonds and tax certificate obligations heretofore incurred or issued by Escambia County shall remain valid and in full force and effect and shall be secured by the same sources of revenue as before the adoption of this Charter and to the extent necessary all ordinances, resolutions or other actions pertaining to same shall remain in full force and effect until payment in full of such public debts and securities.

SECTION 905. PROCEEDINGS CONTINUED.

All petitions, hearings and other proceedings pending before the former government shall remain in full force and effect as established under this Charter.

SECTION 906. CITIZENS' ADVISORY BOARD.

All advisory boards existing at the date of the adoption of this Charter are hereby abolished. The Commission may create by resolution, specifying the duties and membership thereof, such advisory boards as it deems necessary. Members of such advisory boards shall be nominated by the Chairperson of the Commission, subject to confirmation by a majority vote of the Commission.

SECTION 907. BOARD OF TAX ADJUSTMENT.

The Board of Tax Adjustment, as provided by the Law of Florida, shall continue under this Charter.

SECTION 908. PETITION AND ORDINANCE.

The Commission may, by ordinance, or the electors of the County may, by petition signed by ten percent (10%) of the registered voters, submit to the electors of the County a proposed amendment to this Charter, which amendment may be to any part or to all of said Charter. When such change is filed with the Supervisor of Elections, it shall be submitted to the voters at an election to be held in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution and Law of Florida, and if approved at the election, the change shall become a part of this Charter.

SECTION 909. FISCAL OF COMMISSIONERS.

Any member of the Commission may be recalled and removed from office in accordance with procedures established by general law.

SECTION 910. NOTICE OF CHARTER AMENDMENT REQUIREMENT.

In addition to any other notice requirements provided by this Charter or general law, whenever a Charter amendment is submitted to referendum, the exact language of the proposed Charter amendment or amendments shall be published at least twice in all newspapers of general circulation and printed in the County and in any newspaper specified by the Commission. The notice shall be published not more than forty-five (45) days, nor less than thirty (30) days prior to the referendum election, and another notice shall be published not more than ten (10) days, nor less than five (5) days prior to the referendum election.

SECTION 911. CODE OF ETHICS.

The Code of Ethics shall be the standards of Conduct for Public Officers

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and Employees as provided by general law, and shall have full effect on all one and all officers under the Charter government. Penalty for violation shall be provided by ordinance or as otherwise provided by general law.

SECTION 912. PUNISHMENTS.

No person shall be appointed to or removed from or in any way favor or discriminated against with respect to any County position or appointive County administrative office because of race, color, creed, religion, political or religious affiliations; provided, however, that nothing herein shall prohibit the reasonable regulation of political activity of County employees by ordinance.

SECTION 913. SALARIES OF OFFICERS.

Salaries of all County officers shall not be limited during an officer's term in office.

ARTICLE X

TRANSITION PROVISIONS

SECTION 1001. REFERENCE TO OLD LAW.

The election on this Charter shall be held in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and Law of Florida. The question on the ballot shall be as follows:

"SHALL THERE BE A HOME RULE CHARTER FOR ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT, WHICH SHALL HAVE EFFECT JAN. 1, 1978, AS PROVIDED BY CHAPTER 100, SECT. 10, 1977 PURSUANT TO COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 1976-10?"

SECTION 1002. FORM OF NOTICE.

The form of notice of the election by which this Charter shall be submitted to referendum shall contain the complete text for this Charter.

SECTION 1003. ELECTION DATE.

This Charter shall become law when approved by a majority of those electors voting on the matter in an election to be held in the County under the provisions of the Constitution and the Law of Florida. The Charter government shall assume all powers and duties provided by this Charter on the first day of January, 1978, the effective date of this Charter.

SECTION 1004. REFERENDUM.

The Commission districts existing on the effective date of this Charter shall continue the corresponding Commission districts under this Charter.

SECTION 1005. REFERENDUM CONTINUED.

Except as provided by this Charter, all County departments and agencies shall continue until completed in accordance with the provisions of this Charter and the Administrative Code.

SECTION 1006. EMPLOYEES' CONTRIBUTION.

All employees of the former County government shall, on the effective date of this Charter, become employees of the Charter government without loss of benefits. Salaries of all employees shall be continued at or less than the same level as on the date of the referendum approving this Charter, unless at such time as the Commission shall provide for overall adjustments for all County employees.

Section 3. The Charter set forth in Section 2 hereof shall become effective upon approval by a majority of those electors voting on the matter in an election to be held in the County under the provisions of the Constitution and Law of Florida. Special election shall be held on November 8, 1977.

Section 4. The election on this Charter shall be held in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution and Law of Florida. The question on the ballot shall be as follows:

"SHALL THERE BE A HOME RULE CHARTER FOR ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT, WHICH SHALL HAVE EFFECT JAN. 1, 1978, AS PROVIDED BY CHAPTER 100, SECT. 10, 1977 PURSUANT TO COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 1976-10?"

FOR CHARTER:

AGAINST CHARTER:

Section 5. The form of notice of the election by which this Charter shall be submitted to referendum shall contain the complete text for this Charter.

Section 6. The Charter government shall assume all powers and duties provided by this Charter on the first day of January, 1978, the effective date of this Charter.

Section 7. A certified copy of this Ordinance shall be filed in the Office of the Department of State by the County Comptroller and this Ordinance shall take effect upon receipt of an official acknowledgment from the office that it has been filed.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
JAMES A. FLORES, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

JAMES A. FLORES, COMPTROLLER

By: *E. W. Williams*

September 15, 1977

County Clerk

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF ESCAMBIA

I, James A. Flores, Comptroller and ex-officio Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners, do and for the County and State aforesaid, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of an Ordinance as the same was duly adopted and passed at a regular meeting of the Board on the 15th day of September, 1977.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal this 15th day of September, 1977.

JAMES A. FLORES, COMPTROLLER
AND EX-OFFICIO CLERK TO THE
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
By: *E. W. Williams*
County Clerk

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