

## CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION

February 11 2026 – 8:00 a.m.  
Council Office Building, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
100 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, MD 20850

### Minutes

<p><b>Commission Members Present:</b> Jim Michaels, Chair Marvin Lynch (Virtual) Michael Persh Sherry Brett-Major Jeffrey Naftal (Virtual) Howard Denis (Virtual) Dylan Presman (Virtual) Sarah Andrew Wilson (Virtual) Alicia Figueroa (Virtual) Jorge Quintana (Virtual)</p> <p><b>Commission Members Absent:</b> David Nachtsheim</p>	<p><b>Staff Present:</b> Marc Elrich, County Executive Stephen Mathany, Office of the County Council Dale Tibbits, Office of the County Executive</p>
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**Commission Chair Jim Michaels called the meeting to order with a quorum at 8:05 a.m.**

### **I. Administrative Matters**

- The agenda was amended to include remarks from the County Executive under Item II and was adopted as amended by unanimous consent. Moved by Commissioner Presman, seconded by Commissioner Lynch.
- Minutes from the January 14, 2026 meeting were approved by unanimous consent. Motioned by Commissioner Presman, seconded by Commissioner Persh.

### **II. County Executive Elrich Remarks**

- The County Executive expressed his opposition to adding a budget reserve minimum to the Charter, stressing the need for fiscal flexibility. The County Executive:
  - noted the County has consistently met or exceeded the 10% reserve target during his tenure;
  - cautioned that Charter language could limit the ability to make timely financial adjustments, potentially until the next election cycle; and
  - pointed out that the County kept its AAA bond rating even when reserves were below 10% in past years and that rating agencies continue to praise the County's financial management practices.

- The County Executive urged the Commission not to mandate reserve levels in the Charter, citing risks from other budget-related ballot measures and the low signature threshold for petitions.

### **III. Budget Reserves Workgroup**

- The Workgroup's proposed Charter amendment (Attachment 3 to the agenda) was presented for Commission consideration.
- Commissioner Presman moved to recommend adoption of the Workgroup's proposed Charter amendment, seconded by Commissioner Persh.
  - Commissioners Brett-Major, Denis, Lynch, Wilson, and Chair Michaels voted in the negative.
  - Commissioners Figuero, Naftal, Persh, Presman, and Quintana voted in the affirmative.
  - Chair Michaels noted that Commissioner Nachtsheim, who was absent during the roll call, had previously expressed support.
- Commissioner Presman inquired whether the Commission would be more amenable to the language listed at Attachment 5. The same Commissioners who voted negatively to the proposed language at Attachment 3, stated they would also vote negatively to the language listed at Attachment 5.

### **IV. Drafting Schedule and Assignments for 2026 Report**

- The Commission reviewed the drafting schedule (Attachment 1) and report template (Attachment 2) included in the agenda. The schedule was accepted without modification.
- The Workgroup will draft the majority recommendation for Section 310, due to the projected 6-5 affirmative straw vote.
- Commissioners who voted "No" can prepare minority statements.
- First drafts are due February 25, 2026.
- An additional April meeting may be scheduled if needed to finalize the report.

### **V. Staff Updates**

- No staff updates provided.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:12 AM.