County Charter Revision

The 2/19/01 Draft of the Ballot Title to amend the Jackson County Charter represents only one of many possible avenues. Variations may be made on the several features of the draft.

The draft expands the Board of Commissioners to five members and limits the Board to the determination of policy matters and oversight of the administrative functions. One of the commissioner positions is the Chair of the Board. That commissioner is elected at-large, and is a full-time position. In addition to chairing the commission, the Chair performs ceremonial and public relations functions.

The other four commissioners are elected from districts and are not full-time positions.

The County Administrator position is established by charter. The County Administrator is appointed by the Board of Commissioners and serves at the Board's pleasure. All administrative functions are to be performed by the Administrator or his/her staff except for functions performed by other elected county officers.

The draft limits the amount of pay and pay increases for county commissioners.

The draft provides that commissioner districts shall be established by an apportionment Commission which Commission shall, at the beginning of each new decennium, re-apportion the districts.

Russell Sieder - nonpartisan, no districts
           thinks a constitutional revision

Don Harris - suggests all commissioners be part-time - not useful to
           have one who is differently assigned

Alquist - prefers the Madison model; suggest the position system

Diane Demerson - would support nonpartisan; 5 commissioners would be
           mainstream

Jim Hart - prefers nonpartisan; we need to understand how much time
           we would expect from a commissioner

Jim Kego - opposed to at-large districts, volunteer stipend, all equal