RESOLUTION

of the

ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

establishing the

ORANGE COUNTY 2011 REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Resolution No. 44-2011-M-06

WHEREAS, Article VIII, Section 1(e), Fla. Const. mandates that after each decennial census the Board of County Commissioners shall divide the county into districts of contiguous territory as nearly equal in population as practicable; and

WHEREAS, Section 202 of the Orange County Charter requires the Board of County Commissioners to reconsider the boundaries of the commission districts after each decennial census; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has completed the 2010 census and has provided or will soon provide Orange County with the County’s population figures; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners for Orange County has decided to create a redistricting advisory committee to recommend any necessary or desirable changes to the boundaries of the commission districts based on the 2010 census; and

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes the paramount importance of redistricting in the County’s effort to comply with the “one person - one vote” principle; and

WHEREAS, the Board intends to adopt a redistricting plan such that the six commission districts will continue to be contiguous territories as nearly equal in population as practicable, while taking into consideration the demographics of the county, the geography of the neighborhoods, existing precinct lines, and community interests; and

WHEREAS, the Board intends to adopt the redistricting plan prior to January 1, 2012; and
WHEREAS, the Board wants the redistricting process to be conducted in an open, public and fair forum in which all Orange County residents have a right to observe and participate; and

WHEREAS, the Board is hopeful of getting the advisory committee’s recommendations on or before October 1, 2011.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. CREATION OF REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE. There is hereby created an advisory committee to be known as the Orange County Redistricting Advisory Committee for 2011, hereinafter referred to as the Committee.

SECTION 2. MEMBERSHIP. The Committee shall be composed of the fifteen individuals identified below, each of whom has been confirmed by vote of the Board after being nominated by the County Mayor or a District Commissioner, as indicated. In the event of a vacancy on the Committee due to relocation, resignation, death, disability, or any other cause, the County Commissioner or the County Mayor, as pertinent, shall nominate a replacement, and such nominee shall be appointed to the Committee, but only if confirmed by vote of the Board.

The Committee shall select a Chair and Vice Chair at its initial meeting. All members are and shall continue to be residents and electors of Orange County, Florida, but need not be residents of any particular commission district. Elected officials, other than members of the judiciary, and Orange County employees are not eligible to serve on the Committee. Candidates for the office of county commissioner in 2012, as well as persons intending to run or otherwise considering whether to run for the office of county commissioner in 2012, are not eligible to serve on the Committee.

The following individuals are hereby appointed to the Orange County Redistricting Advisory Committee for 2011.
SECTION 3. DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND GUIDELINES. The Committee shall endeavor to submit to the Board on or before October 1, 2011, its proposal(s) for redistricting the County into six commission districts of contiguous territory as nearly equal in population as practicable. In developing its recommendations, the Committee shall take into consideration the demographics of the county, the geography of the neighborhoods, existing precinct lines, and community interests.
SECTION 4. MEETINGS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS. At its initial meeting, the Committee shall establish a schedule of regular meetings, including times and locations, which shall be filed with the Clerk and advertised in a newspaper of general circulation within Orange County. Also, the Committee shall hold no fewer than two public hearings before adopting its recommendations, and notice of each public hearing shall be advertised in a newspaper of general circulation not less than ten days before each hearing. The agenda for each meeting shall include an "audience to be heard" section in which the public can express opinions to the Committee. The Committee Chair may reasonably limit the time each member of the public can speak. The Committee shall endeavor to meet at least twice a month, whether in regular or special meetings or in public hearings, until its assignment is completed.

SECTION 5. SUPPORT. The Committee shall be entitled to the support of Orange County staff, with all requests for information and assistance being made by the Committee Chair to the County Administrator or his designee, except as follows:

(a) The Orange County Attorney shall serve as legal counsel to the Committee, and all legal questions shall be submitted directly to him or his designee.

(b) The Neighborhood Preservation and Revitalization Division of the Office of Public Engagement and Citizen Advocacy shall serve as staff liaison for the Committee.

(c) The County GIS within the Growth Management Department shall assign staff as necessary or desirable to assist the Committee in developing its recommendations.

(d) The Orange County Comptroller, as Clerk to the Board of County
Commissioners, is asked to assign staff to serve as the clerk and recording secretary to the Committee.

(e) The Orange County Supervisor of Elections is asked to assign staff to assist the Committee in developing its recommendations.

SECTION 6. RULES OF PROCEDURE. The Committee shall conduct its proceedings pursuant to the 2011 Redistricting Advisory Committee Rules of Procedure, a copy of which is attached to this resolution, but with such amendments as the Committee may approve from time to time by majority vote of its membership.

SECTION 7. ADVISORY NATURE OF THE COMMITTEE. The recommendations of the Committee are advisory only and are subject to such revisions and amendments as the Board may elect. Furthermore, the dates set forth in this Resolution are guidelines and targets, but not procedural deadlines. Failure by the Committee to submit its recommendations by October 1, 2011, and failure by the Board to adopt a redistricting plan before January 1, 2012, shall not affect the validity of the redistricting plan in any respect.

SECTION 8. TERMINATION AND CESSATION OF REGULAR MEETINGS. Unless terminated sooner by the Board, the Redistricting Advisory Committee shall sunset and terminate upon adoption of a redistricting plan by the Board. Regular meetings of the Committee shall cease upon the Committee’s submission of its recommendations to the Board. If the Board requires additional input from the Committee after submission of its recommendations, the County Mayor or the Committee Chair shall call a meeting, providing at least forty-eight (48) hours notice to the public.
SECTION 8. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Resolution shall become effective upon adoption by the Orange County Board of County Commissioners.

ADOPTED this ___ day of ___ MAR 1 5 2011 ___, 2011.

ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
By: Board of County Commissioners

BY: Teresa Jacobs
Orange County Mayor

ATTEST: Martha O. Haynie, County Comptroller
As Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners
By: Deputy Clerk

PECA - C - 01
2011 ORANGE COUNTY
REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE RULES OF PROCEDURE

I. MEETINGS
   A. Regularly scheduled meetings will occur every other Thursday starting on April 7, 2011.
   B. The meetings will be held at 6:00 p.m. in the Orange County Commission Chambers, unless otherwise relocated.
   C. All meetings shall be open to the public and properly noticed and advertised.
   D. Minutes from all meetings will be made available to the public within a reasonable time subsequent to the meeting and every effort shall be made to post the meetings on the official website.
   E. A quorum must be present in order to conduct any meeting of the Redistricting Advisory Committee.

II. AGENDA
   Agendas will be prepared by the Chairperson. However, any member may call the County Attorney's office to have an item added to the agenda for the following meeting.

III. PUBLIC INPUT
   All residents of Orange County shall be entitled to speak at each meeting of the Redistricting Advisory Committee during the public input portion of the meeting. The time allotted to public speakers shall be five (5) minutes and upon majority vote of the members present, may be extended beyond five (5) minutes.

IV. CANCELLATION OF MEETINGS
   The Chairperson of the Redistricting Advisory Committee may cancel meetings at his or her pleasure.

V. PARLIAMENTARIAN
   A. The Committee shall be guided by Robert's Rules of Order.
   B. The attorney for the Committee shall be the parliamentarian.
VI. EMERGENCY MEETING

A. The Chairperson of the Committee may call an emergency meeting. Prior to an emergency meeting being held, the following steps must be taken:

1) Notification sent to the Redistricting Advisory Committee’s secretary and attorney.
2) The Neighborhood Services Division must be contacted and advised that a notice needs to be published in the newspaper.
3) The Neighborhood Services Division will call each member of the Redistricting Advisory Committee informing them of the place and time of the emergency meeting. All members will receive notices via fax transmission or via e-mail.
4) A notice will be posted on a public bulletin board located on the 1st floor of the County Administration Building.

B. At the beginning of the emergency meeting, the reason for the emergency meeting shall be publicly announced.

C. Unless seven (7) members plus the Chairperson are personally contacted, an emergency meeting shall not be held.

D. The record of said meeting shall state who was not contacted and what efforts were made to contact the members of the Committee.

VII. SUNSHINE LAW

All questions relating to the applicability of the Sunshine Law shall be directed to the attorney for the Redistricting Advisory Committee.

VIII. ABSENTEES

A. After members are absent for two (2) consecutive meetings without notice, the Neighborhood Services Division will send a letter stating the Committee’s concern. The letter will make inquiry about the member’s intent on the Committee.

B. A letter will be sent to the Board of County Commissioners expressing concern over the member’s absenteeism.

C. Members who know they are going to be absent should notify the County Attorney’s office prior to the meeting.

D. The minutes for each meeting should contain a section on absenteeism with a
notation of those members who were absent but notified the County Attorney's office.

IX. SPOKESPERSON

A. The Chairperson of the Committee shall be the spokesperson.

B. The spokesperson shall be the official voice of the Committee to members of the press and other media with regard to positions previously adopted by the Committee.

C. All members of the Committee have the right to discuss with members of the press and other media issues pertaining to the Committee's assignment.