



Republican Party of Texas – State Republican Executive Committee

First Quarter 2021 Meeting Minutes – March 26, 2021

La Posada Hotel – 1000 Zaragoza Street, Laredo, Texas 78040

Chairman Allen West called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. CDT.

Laredo Mayor Pedro “Pete” Saenz welcomed the State Republican Executive Committee. Dennis Nixon, the CEO of meeting sponsor IBC Bank, also gave welcoming remarks.

Chaplain Rich Stoglin gave the invocation. Terry Harper and Naomi Narvaiz, SD 21, led the SREC in singing “The Star-Spangled Banner” and led the Pledge to the United States flag. Marian Stanko and Fred Rangel, SD 26, led the singing of “Texas, Our Texas” and the Pledge to the Texas flag.

Without objection, Chairman West appointed the following members to the Proxy Committee: Abraham George, SD 8, Chair; Rolando Garcia, SD 15; Robin Hayes, SD 28.

Secretary Vergel Cruz called the roll. Members were present unless otherwise noted in the Minutes.

State Chairman	Allen West
State Vice Chairman	Cat Parks
Secretary	Vergel Cruz
Treasurer	Tim O’Hare
General Counsel	Susanna Dokupil, absent
Assistant General Counsel	Rachel Hooper, absent
Parliamentarian	Richard Hayes
Sergeant at Arms	Mike McCloskey, appointed at 4:16 p.m.
Chaplain	Cmdr. Rich Stoglin, US Navy, Ret.
Finance Chairman	Ed Trevis, absent
Historian	Dr. Tim Westley
National Committeeman	Dr. Robin Armstrong, absent
National Committeewoman	Toni Anne Dashiell, absent
SD 1	Rhonda Anderson
SD 1	Dr. Charles Blankenship
SD 2	Jerry Fisher

SD 2	Stephen Stanley
SD 3	Janis Holt
SD 3	David Covey
SD 4	Gwendolyn Withrow
SD 4	Chris Breaux
SD 5	Jo Miller
SD 5	Bill Fairbrother by proxy Mike McCloskey; then by proxy Jo Miller, from 4:16 p.m.
SD 6	Dawn McDonald
SD 6	Chris McDonald
SD 7	Deborah Kelting Fite
SD 7	Tom Nobis
SD 8	Margaret Whitt
SD 8	Abraham George
SD 9	Anne Gebhart
SD 9	Steve Atwell
SD 10	Susan Wright, by proxy Jill Horton Tate
SD 10	Warren Norred
SD 11	Tanya Robertson
SD 11	H Scott Apley
SD 12	Jill Glover
SD 12	David Wylie
SD 13	Dawn Elliott
SD 13	Roy Morales
SD 14	Olga Lasher
SD 14	Fernando Treviño, Jr.
SD 15	Gail Stanart
SD 15	Rolando Garcia
SD 16	Susan Fountain
SD 16	Matt Patrick
SD 17	Becky Green
SD 17	Sean Cheben
SD 18	Edee Sinclair
SD 18	Joe Walz, by proxy Edee Sinclair
SD 19	Dr. Alma Arredondo-Lynch
SD 19	Frank Lopez, Jr., by proxy Marian Knowlton
SD 20	Grace Jones
SD 20	Carmen Calderone
SD 21	Naomi Narvaiz
SD 21	Terry Harper
SD 22	Devvie Duke
SD 22	Jon Ker
SD 23	Leslie Thomas

SD 23	Stephen Broden
SD 24	VACANT; Mary Jane Avery elected 4:20 p.m.
SD 24	Jack Barcroft, by proxy Chip Howell
SD 25	Kris Coons
SD 25	Mark Dorazio
SD 26	Marian Stanko
SD 26	Fred Rangel
SD 27	Morgan Graham
SD 27	Carlos Cascos
SD 28	Robin Hayes
SD 28	Steve Evans
SD 29	Robyn Cooper
SD 29	Mark Dunham, absent
SD 30	Deon Starnes
SD 30	Britton Brooks
SD 31	Debi Hays
SD 31	Carroll Precure

Proxy Committee Chair Abraham George, SD 8, gave the report of the Committee: at the time of the roll call, five proxies were found to be in order.

Former Webb County Chair Bill Young made announcements on a group border tour and on an SREC social event.

Steve Atwell, SD 9, moved with a second to forgo the reading of the December 12, 2020 SREC meeting Minutes. The motion passed, and the Minutes were approved as submitted.

The SREC heard reports from the following Officers: Tim O'Hare, Treasurer; Dr. Tim Westley, Historian; Susanna Dokupil, General Counsel (written report read by RPT Chief Operating Officer Kyle Whatley); Cat Parks, State Vice Chairman; and Allen West, State Chairman. As part of her report, Vice Chairman Parks introduced Robert Arnakis, Senior Director of Domestic and International Programs for The Leadership Institute.

Chairman West appointed Mike McCloskey Sergeant at Arms.

The SREC proceeded with the election to fill the SD 24 Committeewoman vacancy. Stephen Stanley, SD 2, moved with a second that the SREC adopt the same election supplemental rules that were used to fill the SD 19 Committeeman vacancy on December 12, 2020. The motion was approved. Janis Holt, SD 3, nominated Mary Jane Avery. Ms. Avery was elected by acclamation.

Chris McDonald, SD 6, moved with a second that the SREC continue with Standing Committee reports until adjournment at 5:30 p.m., and the motion was approved.

Naomi Narvaiz and Terry Harper, SD 21, requested that Chairman West consider appointing Jennie Thatcher to fill the County Chair vacancy in Zapata County. Chairman West made the appointment, the SREC ratified the appointment, and Ms. Thatcher addressed the SREC.

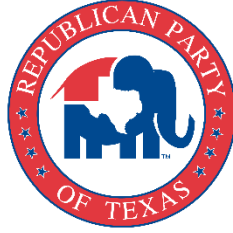
Chairman West gave the report of the Officials Committee with updates on the 2022 RPT Convention and on litigation related to the 2020 RPT Convention.

Sean Cheben, SD 17, moved with a second that the SREC adjourn until 8:45 a.m. CDT, Saturday, March 27, 2021. The motion was approved, and the SREC adjourned at 4:44 p.m. CDT.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vergel B. Cruz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Vergel B. Cruz, Secretary



Republican Party of Texas – State Republican Executive Committee

First Quarter 2021 Meeting Minutes – March 27, 2021

La Posada Hotel – 1000 Zaragoza Street, Laredo, Texas 78040

Chairman Allen West called the meeting to order at 8:49 a.m. CDT.

Chaplain Rich Stoglin gave the invocation. Chairman West led the SREC in “The Star-Spangled Banner,” the Pledge to the United States flag, “Texas, Our Texas,” and the Pledge to the Texas flag.

Secretary Vergel Cruz called the roll. Members were present unless otherwise noted in the Minutes.

State Chairman	Allen West
State Vice Chairman	Cat Parks
Secretary	Vergel Cruz
Treasurer	Tim O’Hare, absent
General Counsel	Susanna Dokupil, absent
Assistant General Counsel	Rachel Hooper, absent
Parliamentarian	Richard Hayes
Sergeant at Arms	Mike McCloskey
Chaplain	Cmdr. Rich Stoglin, US Navy, Ret.
Finance Chairman	Ed Trevis, absent
Historian	Dr. Tim Westley
National Committeeman	Dr. Robin Armstrong, absent
National Committeewoman	Toni Anne Dashiell, absent
SD 1	Rhonda Anderson
SD 1	Dr. Charles Blankenship
SD 2	Jerry Fisher
SD 2	Stephen Stanley
SD 3	Janis Holt
SD 3	David Covey, by proxy Janis Holt until 9:01 a.m.; then present himself
SD 4	Gwendolyn Withrow
SD 4	Chris Breaux
SD 5	Jo Miller

SD 5	Bill Fairbrother by proxy Jo Miller
SD 6	Dawn McDonald
SD 6	Chris McDonald
SD 7	Deborah Kelting Fite, from 9:15 a.m.
SD 7	Tom Nobis
SD 8	Margaret Whitt
SD 8	Abraham George
SD 9	Anne Gebhart
SD 9	Steve Atwell
SD 10	Susan Wright, by proxy Jill Horton Tate
SD 10	Warren Norred
SD 11	Tanya Robertson
SD 11	H Scott Apley
SD 12	Jill Glover
SD 12	David Wylie
SD 13	Dawn Elliott
SD 13	Roy Morales
SD 14	Olga Lasher
SD 14	Fernando Treviño, Jr.
SD 15	Gail Stanart
SD 15	Rolando Garcia, from 9:15 a.m.
SD 16	Susan Fountain
SD 16	Matt Patrick
SD 17	Becky Green
SD 17	Sean Cheben
SD 18	Edee Sinclair
SD 18	Joe Walz, by proxy Edee Sinclair
SD 19	Dr. Alma Arredondo-Lynch
SD 19	Frank Lopez, Jr., by proxy Marian Knowlton
SD 20	Grace Jones
SD 20	Carmen Calderone
SD 21	Naomi Narvaiz
SD 21	Terry Harper
SD 22	Devvie Duke
SD 22	Jon Ker
SD 23	Leslie Thomas
SD 23	Stephen Broden; by proxy Leslie Thomas, from 1:48 p.m.
SD 24	Mary Jane Avery
SD 24	Jack Barcroft, by proxy Chip Howell
SD 25	Kris Coons
SD 25	Mark Dorazio
SD 26	Marian Stanko, until 12:33 p.m.
SD 26	Fred Rangel, until 12:33 p.m.

SD 27	Morgan Graham
SD 27	Carlos Cascos
SD 28	Robin Hayes
SD 28	Steve Evans
SD 29	Robyn Cooper
SD 29	Mark Dunham, absent
SD 30	Deon Starnes, from 9:03 a.m.
SD 30	Britton Brooks
SD 31	Debi Hays
SD 31	Carroll Precure

Chairman West appointed the following individuals to the Candidate Resource Committee:

SREC Members (12): Steve Atwell – Chair, Edee Sinclair – Vice Chair, Kris Coons, Bill Fairbrother, Deborah Kelting Fite, Anne Gebhart, Abraham George, Janis Holt, Marian Stanko, Deon Starnes, Joe Walz, Gwen Withrow.

Non-SREC Members (6): Mona Bailey, Bob Borochoff, Vergel Cruz, Harold Jenkins, Rena Peden, Fred Tate.

Expansion Members (3): Ralph Fite, Karen Newton, Amy Powell.

The SREC confirmed the appointments.

The SREC heard reports from the Standing Committees. Steve Atwell, SD 9, gave the report of the Candidate Resource Committee.

Susan Fountain, SD 16, gave the report of the Party Organization Committee. Chairman West appointed Mary Jane Avery, SD 24, to the Party Organization Committee, and the appointment was confirmed.

Stephen Broden, SD 23, gave the report of the Auxiliaries and Coalitions Committee. By direction of the Committee, Mr. Broden moved to designate the High School Republicans of Texas (HSRTX), Martin Luther King Association of Texas, National Federation of Pachyderms – Texas Chapter, Texas Republican Assembly (TRA), 150 Black Men of Texas, and the Juan Seguin Society as 2020-2022 RPT Auxiliaries. The motion passed by electronic roll call vote of 61 Yes, 0 No.

Jerry Fisher, SD 2, gave the report of the Resolutions Committee.

By direction of the Committee, Ms. Fisher moved the adoption of the resolution “Honoring Congressman Ron Wright.” The resolution passed by electronic roll call vote of 62 Yes, 0 No,

and the SREC paused for a moment to contemplate the life of the late Congressman Wright and to pray for Susan Wright, SD 10, and her family.

By direction of the Committee, Ms. Fisher moved the adoption of the “Resolution Supporting State Restrictions on Homeless Camping.” The resolution passed by electronic roll call vote of 62 Yes, 0 No.

Chairman West recognized Hidalgo County Chair Adrienne Peña-Garza for brief remarks.

Next, Steve Evans, SD 28, gave the report of the Rules Committee. By direction of the Committee, Mr. Evans moved that the SREC Bylaws be amended to add new sections 11 and 12 under Article IV, Section 2(A) as follows:

11. In his or her official capacity, only become a party to a lawsuit, or name the Republican Party of Texas as a party to a lawsuit, with the express prior approval of a majority of the members present and voting of the Officials Committee. If the Party is named as a plaintiff in a lawsuit, the Chairman shall notify all members of SREC via email the details of such litigation prior to any public release.

12. Obtain preauthorization from the Officials Committee, immediately prior to the period during which an election will be conducted, in order to engage in legal action on behalf of The Republican Party of Texas relating to that election cycle.

Leslie Thomas, SD 23, moved with a second an amendment to add the following sentence to the end of section 11:

In case of emergency litigation, the Officials Committee shall be given a two-hour notice.

The amendment was approved. Matt Patrick, SD 16, moved with a second to amend section 11 by striking “majority” and replacing it with “two-thirds (2/3)” and by striking the phrase “present and voting.” Abraham George, SD 8, moved the previous question on the amendment, and the motion passed. The amendment failed. The main motion, as amended, passed by electronic roll call vote of 57 Yes, 4 No, 1 Abstain.

By direction of the Committee, Mr. Evans moved that the SREC Bylaws be amended to add a new (e) under Article VII, Section 8(A)(5) as follows:

e. To consider approval by a majority vote of the members present and voting of the Officials Committee prior to the Party’s involvement as a plaintiff in any lawsuit.

The motion passed by electronic roll call vote of 60 Yes, 1 No.

By direction of the Committee, Mr. Evans moved that the SREC Bylaws be amended to strike the entirety of Article VII, Section 8(E), “The Auxiliaries and Coalitions Committee.” After debate, Chris Breaux, SD 4, moved the previous question, and the motion passed. The main motion failed by electronic roll call vote of 3 Yes, 58 No, 1 Abstain.

Jill Glover, SD 12, gave the report of the Legislative Priorities Committee. Without objection, the SREC confirmed Chairman West’s appointment of Gail Stanart, SD 15, Frank Lopez, Jr., SD 19, and Naomi Narvaiz, SD 21, to the Legislative Priorities Committee.

Reports of the Special Committees followed. Alma Jackson gave the report of the Engagement Committee. Deon Starnes, SD 30, gave the report of Election Integrity Committee. As part of her report, Ms. Starnes recognized Drew Sexton, RNC Regional Political Director. Without objection, Chairman West’s appointment of Mary Jane Avery, SD 24, to the Election Integrity Committee was confirmed.

The SREC proceeded to New Business.

Without objection, the SREC ratified Chairman West’s appointment of Michael Ledbetter as Brooks County Chair.

Sean Cheben, SD 17, moved with a second a previously noticed amendment to the SREC Bylaws, Article VII, Section 8(E), to create a new Partnerships status. Leslie Thomas, SD 23, moved with a second to amend the motion by striking “Auxiliaries and Coalitions” in the title of the same section. David Wylie, SD 12, moved with a second that the question be referred to the Rules Committee, and the motion to refer passed.

Janis Holt, SD 3, moved with a second to suspend SREC Bylaws Article VII, Section 7(F)(3), in order to consider the “Resolution in Support of Constitution Carry Legislation,” and the motion passed. After debate, Chris Breaux, SD 4, moved the previous question, and the motion passed. The main motion passed by electronic roll call vote of 61 Yes, 0 No.

Grace Jones, SD 20, moved with a second that RPT delete its Gab account. After debate, Chris Breaux, SD 4, moved that a roll call vote be taken, and the motion passed. The main motion passed by electronic roll call vote of 35 Yes, 25 No, 2 Abstain.

Without objection, the SREC stood at recess from 12:33 p.m. until 12:52 p.m.

Chairman West recognized Tyler Kraus, Webb County Chair, for a presentation on elections issues in Webb County.

Steve Evans, SD 28, moved with a second to suspend SREC Bylaws Article VII, Section 7(F)(3), in order to consider the “Resolution Endorsing Susan Wright for Congress.” The motion to suspend the Bylaws passed by electronic roll call vote of 43 Yes, 9 No, 8 Abstain. Without

objection, Grace Jones, SD 20, moved that former SREC member Rhonda Lacy be permitted to speak on the question. Warren Norred, SD 10, moved with a second to amend the resolution by adding the clause “should she proceed to a runoff election against a Democrat.” The amendment failed. Britton Brooks, SD 30, moved the previous question, and the motion passed. The resolution passed by electronic roll call vote of 43 Yes, 9 No, 7 Abstain.

Marian Knowlton, SD 19, rose to a question of privilege to thank the members for their support of her 2020 candidacy for Texas House of Representatives, District 31.

Steve Atwell, SD 9, moved with a second to suspend SREC Bylaws Article VII, Section 7(F)(3), in order to consider “Opposition to Criminalization of Women Getting an Abortion” The motion to suspend the Bylaws passed by electronic roll call vote of 31 Yes, 23 No, 5 Abstain. Chris Breaux, SD 4, moved that the resolution be referred to the Resolutions Committee, and the motion passed.

Chairman West introduced RPT Regional Field Directors Troy Jackson, Rosalba Martinez, and Elizabeth Heckman.

Rhonda Lacy of Mighty Texas Strike Force spoke on the need for Republicans to participate in the upcoming May municipal elections.

Chairman West then proposed that the Second Quarter 2021 SREC meeting be held either in east or west Texas on the weekend of June 4-5, 2021. The SREC voted to hold the meeting in east Texas.

Former Webb County Chair Bill Young made an announcement on the group border tour to be held after adjournment.

Without objection, the First Quarter 2021 SREC Meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m. CDT.

Respectfully submitted,



Vergel B. Cruz, Secretary