



Republican Party of Texas State Republican Executive Committee

First Quarterly Meeting Minutes, March 4, 2017

Wyndham Garden Woodward Conference Center, 3401 South IH-35, Austin TX 78741

Chairman Tom Mechler called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

The invocation was delivered by Pastor Rex Johnson. The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag was led by Terri DuBose, SD-19 and the National Anthem was sung by Chris McDonald, SD-6. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas flag was led by Sam Dalton SD-20, and Texas Our Texas was sung by Jack Barcroft, SD-24.

Paul Braswell, SD-30 made a motion to adjourn the meeting no later than 4:30 pm today. Motion was seconded by Marian Phillips, SD-23. Motion passed via voice vote.

Paul Braswell, SD-30 made a motion to limit debate on a motion before the body to three speakers for each side and for not more than three minutes for each speaker. Motion passed via voice vote.

Michael Cloud, SD-18 made a motion that no individual be permitted to speak for more than a cumulative ten during this general session. Motion was seconded by Randall Dunning, SD-16. Motion failed via voice vote.

Chairman Mechler appointed a Proxy Committee chaired by David Halvorson, SD-12 with Merri Easterly, SD-10, Michael Cloud, SD-18, and Melanie Flowers, SD-13 as members.

Jim Wiggins Secretary, called the roll. Members were present unless otherwise noted in the minutes.

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| Chair | Tom | Mechler |
| Vice Chair | Amy | Clark |
| Secretary | Jim | Wiggins |
| Treasurer | Tom | Washington |
| Asst. Treasurer | Montie | Watkins- absent |
| Nat. Committeeman | Robin | Armstrong |
| Nat. Committeewoman | Toni Anne | Dashiell |
| General Counsel | Patrick | O'Daniel |
| Asst. Gen. Counsel | Eric | Opiela |
| Asst. Gen. Counsel | Charlie | Sartain- absent |
| Parliamentarian | Richard | Hayes |
| Sergeant at Arms | Nelda | Eppes |
| Historian | Wayne | Thorburn |
| Chaplain | Rex | Johnson |

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| SD 1 | Dennis | Cable |
| SD 1 | Sue | Evenwel |
| SD 2 | Jason | Ross- <i>by proxy Vickie Slaton</i> |
| SD 2 | Vicki | Slaton |
| SD 3 | Terry | Holcomb |
| SD 3 | Judy | Parada- <i>by proxy Jim Wiggins</i> |
| SD 4 | Will | Robbins- <i>by proxy Melinda Fredricks</i> |
| SD 4 | Melinda | Fredricks- |
| SD 5 | Michael | McCloskey |
| SD 5 | Nita | Davidson |
| SD 6 | Chris | McDonald |
| SD 6 | Tammie | Nielsen- <i>by proxy Dawn McDonald</i> |
| SD 7 | Mark | Ramsey |
| SD 7 | Sarah | Singleton |
| SD 8 | Karl | Voigtsberger |
| SD 8 | Candy | Noble |
| SD 9 | Steve | Atwell |
| SD 9 | Shelly | Pritchard |
| SD 10 | Jeremy | Blosser |
| SD 10 | Merri | Easterly |
| SD 11 | JT | Edwards- <i>by proxy Jeff Larson</i> |
| SD 11 | Tanya | Robertson |
| SD 12 | David | Halvorson |
| SD 12 | Debbie | Terry |
| SD 13 | Dale | Gibble |
| SD 13 | Melanie | Flowers |
| SD 14 | Fernando | Trevino, Jr. |
| SD 14 | Jan | Duncan |
| SD 15 | Vergel | Cruz |
| SD 15 | Gail | Stanart |
| SD 16 | Randall | Dunning |
| SD 16 | Virginia | Prodan- <i>by proxy Randall Dunning</i> |
| SD 17 | Marvin | Clede |
| SD 17 | Tina | Gibson |
| SD 18 | Michael | Cloud |
| SD 18 | Edee | Sinclair |
| SD 19 | Scott | Stratton |
| SD 19 | Terri | DuBose |
| SD 20 | Sam | Dalton |
| SD 20 | Janie | Melendez |
| SD 21 | Mike | Goldman |
| SD 21 | Naomi | Narvaiz |
| SD 22 | Chuck | Wilson- |
| SD 22 | Denise | DeLara- |
| SD 23 | Stephen | Broden |
| SD 23 | Marian | Phillips |
| SD 24 | Jack | Barcroft- |
| SD 24 | Randan | Steinhauser- <i>by proxy Summer Yen</i> |
| SD 25 | Mark | Dorazio |
| SD 25 | Linda | Kinney- <i>by proxy Sheryl Holland</i> |
| SD 26 | Fred | Rangel |
| SD 26 | Marian | Stanko |

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| SD 27 | Matthew | Walbeck <i>–resigned</i> |
| SD 27 | Sharon | Batterson |
| SD 28 | Drew | Bullard |
| SD 28 | Jane | Cansino |
| SD 29 | Mark | Dunham |
| SD 29 | Lisa | Sprinkle |
| SD 30 | Paul | Braswell |
| SD 30 | Deon | Starnes <i>–by proxy Paul Braswell</i> |
| SD 31 | Tom | Roller |
| SD 31 | Rhonda | Lacy <i>–by proxy Tom Roller</i> |

Mikenley Heller, *RPT Organization Director* reviewed the SREC meeting Packets to ensure all members had the necessary documents.

Mike McCloskey, SD-5 raised a point of order re: RPT Rule No. 8.f. that limits the right to record the meeting with electronic devices to SREC members only and the chair ruled that the rule does impose such limit. Jeremy Blosser, SD-10 appealed the ruling of the chair with a second by Terry Holcomb, SD-3. The ruling of the chair was sustained via standing vote by 21 to overturn and 34 voting to sustain the ruling of the chair.

Proxy Committee Chair David Halvorson reported that there were 10 proxies as noted in the roll call above. The report of the Proxy Committee was approved via voice vote.

The body approved 4th Quarterly, December 3, 2016 meeting minutes as submitted.

Jeremy Blosser, SD-10 moved to take up all items listed in the agenda from 1:00pm through 2:15pm be taken up before any other items in the agenda with the provision that speeches from distinguished visitors take place as scheduled. The motion was seconded by Randall Dunning, SD-16. Motion failed via voice vote.

Terry Holcomb, SD-3 with second by David Halvorson made a motion to move the report of the Auxiliaries & Coalitions Committee to the next item of business, with second by David Halvorson, SD-12. Motion passed via standing vote with 28 on favor and 21 opposed.

The chair recognized Tina Gibson-Chair of the Auxiliaries & Coalitions Committee to give the report of the committee. At the direction of the committee Tina Gibson moved that the following organizations be accepted as auxiliaries of the Republican Party of Texas:

- Texas Republican Assembly
- Texas Young Republican Federation
- Texas Asian Republican Assembly
- Texas Chapter of the National Pachyderms
- Texas Federation of College Republicans
- MLK Society
- High School Republicans of Texas

Motion passed via voice vote.

The chair recognized Tom Roller, SD-31 to give the report of the Audit Committee and moved at the direction of the committee, the acceptance of the audit report. Motion passed via voice vote.

Tom Washington-Treasurer gave report re: the cash position, fund balances and operations of the party for 2016.

The chair recognized General Counsel-Patrick O'Daniel for a report re: legal matters of the party. Eric Opiela-Associate General Counsel reported re: communication with Federal Election Commission regarding compliance matters.

The chair called for a motion to approve the appointment of county chairs to Morris County-Deb Ramsey, Sherman County-Susie Spurlock, and Terrell County-Sharon Wolf. Motion was made and passed via voice vote.

The chair called for nominations for the committeeman for SD-27. Sharon Batterson, SD-27 nominated Elijah Casas for the position. The chair called for other nominations and hearing none the chair declared the nominations closed and requested a motion to elect Mr. Casas by acclamation. Motion was made by Sharon Batterson, SD-27 and seconded by Sam Dalton, SD-20. Motion passed via voice vote.

The chair announced the appointment of the members to the Candidate Resource Committee as follows:

SREC Members

- Steve Atwell-Chairman
- Vergel Cruz-Vice Chairman
- Sue Evenwell
- Tom Roller
- Sarah Singleton
- Marian Phillips
- Deon Starnes
- J T Edwards
- Marian Stanko
- Michael Cloud
- Chuck Wilson
- Jan Duncan

NON SREC Members

- Fred Tate
- Jody Rushton
- Russell Hayter
- Rena Peden
- Bob Borochoft
- Harold Jenkins

Motion to confirm appointments was made by David Halvorson, SD- 12 with second by Candy Noble, SD-8. Motion passed via voice vote.

Chair announced that he had appointed Tanya Robertson, Debbie Terry, and Mike McCloskey to the Legislative Affairs Committee and requested motion to confirm the appointments. Motion was made and seconded, and passed via voice vote.

The chair recognized National Committeewoman-Toni Anne Dashiell to report re: Leaders on the Rise activities with additional comments by Rick Figueroa, Stephen Wong, and Bianca Garcia.

The chair called on Allie Beth Stuckey to make a presentation regarding millennial engagement.

Chair recognized David Halvorson SD-12 to give the report of the Grass Roots Committee.

The chair called on Colton Duncan to give an auxiliaries report for the Texas Federation of College Republicans.

Paul Braswell, SD-30 gave lunch blessing.

The meeting stood at ease for lunch.

The chair called the meeting back to order after lunch.

Chairman Mechler gave his report re: party activities and plans. The chair introduced the new Finance Committee chair-Thomas Gleason, III who provide a summary of his plans for organizing the fund raising activities of the party.

Vice Chair-Amy Clark gave her report followed by the reports of the National Committee Woman-Toni Anne Dashiell and Committee Man-Dr. Robin Armstrong.

Mike McCloskey, SD-5 presented the Convention Site Selection Committee report. Mr. McCloskey reported that San Antonio had been selected at the December meeting of the SREC for the 2018 state convention. The site for the 2020 is being evaluated. Kyle Whatley-Executive Director reported that Houston has submitted a proposal and San Antonio is in the process of preparing a proposal for the 2020 state convention.

Mike McCloskey, SD-5 at the direction of the committee moved that the Executive Director and Chairman of the party be authorized to investigate, negotiate, and after approval by the Officials Committee be authorized to enter into contracts for the 2020 RPT State Convention to be tentatively held in Houston, TX or if more favorable terms can be negotiated, then in San Antonio, TX. Motion passed via voice vote.

The chair called on Merri Easterly, SD-10 to give supplemental Proxy Committee report. Ms. Easterly reported that supplemental proxies had been received as follows:

- Reed King for Deborah Terry, SD-12
- John Dickey for David Halvorson, SD-12
- Sharon Batterson for Elijah Casas, SD-27

Motion to approve the proxies was made by Tom Roller, SD-31 with second by Mike McCloskey, SD-5. Motion passed via voice vote.

The chair announced that the next item of business was to consider unfinished business from the December, 2016 meeting dealing with Article XI-Amendment of Bylaws. The chair then stated that the motion on the floor is to strike the words "...or a majority of the entire membership..." from Article XI of the current bylaws.

Michael Cloud, SD-18 made a motion to amend the motion before the body. Motion was ruled out of order due to notice requirements for amendments to the bylaws.

Paul Braswell, SD-30 called the previous question with a second by Mark Dunham, SD-29. Motion failed to receive the required 2/3rds vote via standing vote (36 for and 24 against).

Motion to amend the bylaws was passed via roll call vote of 33 yea and 30 nay.

Melinda Fredricks, SD-4 Chair of the Rules Committee, at the direction of the committee, moved the adoption of new RPT Rule 8A regarding petition required for persons filing for the office of county chair in certain counties include the signatures of at least 10% of the incumbent precinct chairs in the county. Motion passed via voice vote.

Rules Committee Chair Fredricks moved, at the direction of the committee, the adoption of a new SREC Bylaw Article VII-Committees, Section 7.H-Standing Committees and Section 8.H.-The Legislative Committee. After discussion and amendment the amended motion was passed via roll call vote of 55 yea and 2 nay.

Pursuant to the new bylaw the chair appointed Amy Clark as chair of the committee with Jeremy Blosser, Paul Braswell, Stephen Broden, Michael Cloud, Mark Dorazio, Mark Dunham, Terry Holcomb, Chuck Wilson, Debbie Terry and Mike McCloskey as committee members. The appointments were approved via voice vote.

Candy Noble, SD-8 Chair of the Resolutions Committee, at the direction of the committee, moved the adoption of the RPT legislative priorities. After discussion and amendment, with the separation of the Environmental Protection Agency resolution, the motion passed via voice vote.

Gail Stanart, SD-15 moved the adoption of the EPA resolution noted in the preceding paragraph with second by Tanya Robertson, SD-11. Motion passed via voice vote.

Amy Clark, RPT Vice Chair presented the Legislative Committee report.

Steve Atwell, SD-9, Chair of the Candidate Resource Committee gave the committee report.

Key Pins were awarded to Chris McDonald, Mark Ramsey, Debbie, Terry, Sarah Singleton, Merri Easterly, and Jeremy Blosser.

Motion to adjourn was made and seconded. Motion passed and meeting was adjourned at 4:29 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim Wiggins
SREC Secretary