

Republican Party of Virginia

Meeting of the State Central Committee

December 5, 2014

The meeting of the Republican Party of Virginia State Central Committee (SCC) was called to order by Chairman Pat Mullins at 12:36 pm. The meeting was held at the Marriott Hotel in Chantilly, VA.

Prayers were requested for Eleventh District member David Ray's family in the loss of a family member.

The Chairman recognized Western Vice Chairman Suzanne Curran who shared her appreciation for all of those who reached out to her and for their prayers and support after the loss of her husband.

The invocation was given by Sixth District Member Marcy Hernick. David Bartholomew from the 2nd District led pledge of allegiance.

The Chairman appointed a proxy committee that included Linda Bartlett as Chair, Michelle Jenkins, and Carl Anderson. They reported that twenty-three proxies were in order.

The Secretary, Diana Banister, called the roll.

Pat	Mullins	Larry	Kile	Kevin	Corbett
Michael	Thomas	Allen	Webb	Michelle	Jenkins
Morton	Blackwell	Carl	Anderson	Marcy	Hernick
Kathy	Hayden	Barbara	Tabb	Susan	Edwards
Diana	Banister	Stephen	Thomas	Jo	Thoburn
Pat	McSweeney	Chip	Muir	Mark	Berg
Eric	Herr	Steve	Trent	Kay	Gunter
Curtis	Colgate	Bill	Flanagan	Eve	Gleason
Wendell	Walker	Chris	Shores	Patsy	Drain
Fred	Gruber	Peyton	Knight	Joseph	Degreenia
Mark	Kelly	Clara	Wheeler	Kasha	Nielsen
Adam	Tolbert	Travis	Witt	Jeff	Wernsing
John	Whitbeck	Georgia	Alvis-Long	Pam	Brown
Terry	Wear	Joseph	Sonsmith	Elizabeth	Mundy
Elizabeth	Minneman	Scott	Sayre	Jimmie	Massie
Linda	Bartlett	Anne	Fitzgerald	John	Cosgrove
Jackson	Miller	Jane	Ladd		
Emmett	Hanger	Doug	Rogers		
Kevin	Gentry	Marie	Quinn		
Suzanne	Curran	Kristi	Way		
Steve	Albertson	Rich	Nilsen		

The following Members were in attendance by Proxy:

Jeanine Lawson, proxy held by Sharon Kolandjian
Jeanine Lawson, proxy held by Russ Moulton
Rick Michael, proxy held by Wayne Cunningham
David Ray, proxy held by James Parmelee
Mickey Mixon, proxy held by Sandy Gates
David Fuller, proxy held by Lynn Hamilton
John Scott, proxy held by Daniel Webb
Jerry Lester, proxy held by Ross Jenkins
Heather Homan, proxy held by Michael Wood
Chris Stearns, proxy held by Adrea Ashley
Renee Maxey, proxy held by Diana Shores
Matthew Burrow, proxy held by Matthew Hurtt
Heidi Stirrup, proxy held by Mark Sell
Jackson Miller, proxy held by David Ramadan
Roger Miles, proxy held by David Bartholomew
Cheryl Hargrove, proxy held by Waverly Woods
Wayne Ozmore, proxy held by Carole DeTriquet
Juanita Balenger, proxy held by the Hon. Gwendalyn Cody
Carol Dawson, proxy held by Robert Cunningham
John Salm, proxy held by James Cohen
Robert FitzSimmonds, proxy held by Russ Moulton
Morton Blackwell, proxy held by Dennis Stephens
Keith Damon, proxy held by Mauricio Tamargo

First District Chairman Eric Herr made a motion to defer approval of the minutes from the August meeting. First Vice Chairman Mike Thomas seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Mr. Herr also made a motion to remove former Senator John Warner from the roll of the State Central Committee. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Chairman Mullins gave his report announcing that after five years of service as the Party Chairman that he will be stepping down. He reiterated to the body how much he has enjoyed working with everyone through the years.

The Chairman commended and thanked Pat McSweeney, General Counsel to the RPV, for his service as parliamentarian and legal counsel.

The Chairman announced that Senator John Cosgrove's band will be singing at location close by tonight.

A presentation about winning elections was made by Bob Bailie.

Shaun Kenney gave the Executive Director's report announcing excitement for the Advance and the opportunities to discuss key issues. District chairs will be in touch with each member about the strategic vision of the Party so that plans can be implemented for winning elections.

Chairman Mullins said it is essential to hold onto the majorities in the Virginia House and Senate next year.

The Chairman announced the Treasurer's report would be deferred to the Executive Session.

The Chairman opened the floor to old business beginning with two Party Plan Amendments. The first is for establishing a manner in which military delegations can vote when the Party holds a convention as its nomination method. He recognized First District Member Steve Albertson and Second District Chairman Curtis Colgate, who worked to bring this about by updating the Amendment from its original version that was discussed at the March 2014 SCC meeting. They explained the Amendment in further detail including working with the Pentagon to make sure it complies with the Code of Military Conduct.

Party Plan Committee Chairman John Whitbeck reported that the Committee voted to accept this Party Plan Amendment. He made a motion that the entire SCC accept the Party Plan Amendment.

Mr. Thomas offered two friendly Amendments to Paragraph 7. b on the Candidate Preference Ballot and to Paragraph 7. e. on Military Delegation Voting at Conventions. Mr. Herr seconded the motion that was accepted by authors as friendly Amendments.

National Committeemen Morton Blackwell commented that it is essential to accommodate military personnel in this manner.

Russ Moulton reiterated acceptance of the friendly amendments. He announced support from Members of the House of Delegates and the State Senate and welcomed Senator Tom Garrett on the phone who expressed his support.

Col. Bill Flanagan commended those who put it together and reported the Colonial Heights military area supports this Amendment.

Allen Webb, who originally opposed the Amendment, asked for clarification and commended those who put it together. He warned members of the Virginia House and Senate not to take up legislation to overturn this vote by the State Central Committee.

Col. Jack Wilson made suggestions that the information be pulled off the website. Personnel will not know where to go to find the information. He also suggested military personnel fill out their form with their home of record so that it can be verified by the Registrar's office.

A motion was made to call the question. The motion was seconded and passed.

On the Party Plan Amendment, Mr. Herr made a motion to vote as amended by acclamation. It was seconded and the motion passed by acclamation. The Amendment to the Party Plan is as follows:

AMENDMENT for Military Delegations for Conventions for Public Office Nominations

Article II Definitions

The definition of "Republican Voting Strength" in Article II shall be amended to read as follows (additional language in bold):

"Republican Party Voting Strength" means a uniform ratio of the votes cast in a political subdivision for the Republican candidates for Governor and President to the total votes cast in the entire Election District for the Republican candidates for Governor and President in the last preceding Gubernatorial and Presidential elections. **For the purposes of, and limited to, determining the Republican Party Voting strength of a Military Delegation at a Party convention called to nominate a candidate for election to a public office, such Voting Strength means the average percentage of the Republican vote in the immediately preceding Gubernatorial and Presidential elections among all units and portions of units comprising the convention multiplied by the total number of active-duty military absentee votes cast in such units and portions of units in the same Gubernatorial and Presidential elections.** In all proceedings for nominations for statewide office, the relevant Unit shall be entitled to one (1) delegate vote for each 250 votes. In all proceedings at the District level, the relevant Unit shall be entitled to one (1) delegate vote for each 100 to 500 votes. In all proceedings at the local and Legislative District level, the relevant political subdivision shall be entitled to one (1) delegate vote for each 25 to 500 votes. The exact number shall be decided by the appropriate Official Committee and included in the call.

Article VIII, Section H shall be amended with the following language:

7. Every convention involving nominations for public office, except those called to nominate candidate(s) for a special election, shall have a Military Delegation representing Military Members as set forth below.

- a. Declaration. Military Members who declare via electronic mail to the Chairman of the Official Committee calling the Convention or his designee in the Call, that because of the obligations of their official military orders, they are unable to attend their respective Unit mass meeting, canvass or convention called for the purpose of selecting delegates to that Convention, and that in lieu of selecting delegates to represent them from their respective Unit they instead wish to be represented by the Military Delegation, shall be entitled to representation via the Military

Delegation. Such e-mail declaration shall include attached a signed statement of intent and affirmation of their official military orders precluding their attendance, and their email address for correspondence. The Call for the Convention shall provide Military Members the deadline and email address by which to send their declarations. The Chairman or his designee shall email respond to each Military Member to confirm the receipt of each email declaration.

- b. Candidate Preference Ballot. Military Members shall be entitled to cast a Candidate Preference Ballot to convey their ordered candidate preferences for each public office (first choice, second choice, third choice, etc). The Ballot shall be available at the Official Committee website (if one exists) and at the RPV website, and shall be emailed to each declared Military Member within seven (7) days of (i) the receipt of the Member's declaration, or (ii) the filing deadline for candidates for public office, whichever is later. The Call shall provide the deadline and email address by which to return the ballot. The Chairman or his designee shall email respond to each Military Member to confirm the receipt of each emailed returned ballot. The deadline to return the ballot shall be at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the Delegate Certification deadline of the Call. The Chairman of the Official Committee or his designee shall be responsible for tallying the results of the Candidate Preference Ballots, and reporting the results to the Official Committee and the candidates for public office at least fifteen (15) days prior to the Delegate Certification deadline of the Call.
- c. Military Delegates. Those seeking to be Delegates of the Military Delegation instead of Delegates from their local units shall be required to pre-file a statement of intent and their preference for candidates for public office, if any, along with any pre-file fees for Delegates specified in the Call. Current or former active duty or reserve military or military family members are highly encouraged to serve as Military Delegates. No one may serve as both a Delegate of the Military Delegation and a Delegate representing their local unit. The pre-file deadline shall be at least fifteen (15) days prior to the Certification Deadline of the Call. Copies of all pre-files shall be provided to the all the candidates within seven (7) days of the pre-file deadline.
- d. Overfiling. In the event that more candidates for Delegate to the Military Delegation have pre-filed than are allowed, Delegates shall be selected by the respective candidates for the highest public office in proportion to the first-choice results of the Candidate Preference Ballot. (eg. If Candidate A for Governor receives 50% of the votes cast for first choice on the Candidate Preference Ballot for Governor, Candidate A shall select 50% Delegates allowed from the pool of pre-filed Delegates). In this case, candidates for the highest office shall select their Delegates at least seven (7) days prior to the Certification deadline of the Call.
- e. Military Delegation Voting at Convention. The Military Delegation shall be instructed to vote in proportion to the Candidate Preference Ballot results of all

Military Members. Unless the Call or the Convention Rules specify otherwise, Military Delegates shall be free to cast their vote as they wish or votes other than votes for a nomination for public office.

The indicated portions of Article VIII, Section H shall be amended to read as follows (additional language in bold):

Article VIII, Section H

1. Certification

e. The foregoing provisions notwithstanding, members of the Military Delegation (as specified in Section 7 below) shall be certified by the Chairman of the Official Committee that called the Convention, pursuant to the procedures set forth in the Official Call and in compliance with Paragraph 7 of this Section H.

4. No delegation shall vote under a unit rule at any Convention; nor shall any delegation be instructed on any vote at any convention, **except as set forth in Paragraph 7 of this Section H.**

CONFORMING Changes throughout Plan:

Article VIII, Section A

1. d. The number of Delegate votes to which all participating Election Districts, **and the Military Delegation if applicable,** are entitled.

Add 1. **f. If one of the stated purposes is to nominate persons for public office, then the declaration requirements for Military Members as per Article VIII, Section H, para 7, subsection a and Military Delegation Participation requirements as per Article VIII, Section H, para 7.**

Add 2. **d. The declaration requirements for Military Members as per Article VIII, Section H, para 7, subsection a and Military Delegation Participation requirements as per Article VIII, Section H, para 7.**

Second District Member Carl Anderson presented an Amendment for Resolving Dual Chairmanships. He opened the discussion explaining that the amended sections are e and h. Party Plan Chairman John Whitbeck reported that the committee approved this Amendment. Mr. Anderson made a motion to pass the Amendment, David Bartholomew seconded the motion.

Allen Webb offered a friendly Amendment change one sentence. Mr. Thomas seconded the motion.

Further discussion commenced.

Second District Chairman Curtis Colgate offered a substitute Amendment to Mr. Webb's friendly Amendment to strike one sentence and replace with "The person shall be elected at the first unit meeting following the occurrence of the conflict with a term co-terminus with the unit chairman."

This amendment was accepted by Mr. Webb and Mr. Thomas.

Georgia Alvis-Long offered a Substitution to Amendment and discussed her reasons for offering the substitution. Sixth District Chairman Wendall Walker seconded the motion and addressed the issue.

General Counsel Pat McSweeney determined the Substitution to the Amendment is out of order until a vote is taken on the previous motion.

Mr. Albertson raised a point of order that the difference is whether the Unit committee should elect or the Unit Chairman should appoint.

Mr. Thomas, Mr. Herr, Mr. Albertson and Mr. Whitbeck further explained and discussed reasons for support of the original Amendment.

A motion was made and seconded to call the question. Motion passed.

Mr. Webb's friendly Amendment, as modified by Mr. Colgate, failed.

Ms. Alvis-Long offered her substitute Amendment, seconded by Mr. Walker. Mr. Anderson opposed the changes.

After further discussion, the question was called and a vote on the substitute Amendment failed.

The original Amendment as brought forward by the Party Plan Committee was voted on by the entire body. The motion passed and the Amendment approved.

The definition of "Membership" in Article IV shall be amended to read as follows:

ARTICLE IV
District Committees

Section A. Memberships

The membership of each District Committee shall consist of the following:

2. Unit Chairman, ex officio, of each Unit wholly or partially within the District, subject to the provisions of Article VI, Sections E and H.

ARTICLE VI

County and City Committee

Section H: Unit Chairmen Who Serve as Congressional District State Central Representatives Whenever a Unit Chairman shall be elected to serve as a Congressional District Chairman or Congressional District State Central Representative (as provided in Article II, Section AA, 10, 11, or 12), the Unit Chairman shall serve and vote on the Congressional District Committee only as a State Central Representative. In his capacity as a Unit Chairman he shall designate a person residing in that part of the unit located in the same Congressional District to serve at the pleasure of the Unit Chairman as the Unit's representative on the Congressional District committee with the authority and vote of a Unit Chairman. This provision shall apply whether the Unit Chairman shall have been elected to serve as a State Central Representative either prior to or subsequent to his election as Unit Chairman.

Del. Ramadan gave the House of Delegates report on behalf of Del. Jackson Miller. He reported that 140 members of the General Assembly will stand strong on everything the Party stands for in the House and making the grassroots supporters proud of the job being done.

Senator Bryce Reeves gave a report from the Virginia Senate. With a New Majority Whip, the caucus is united working side by side with the House. There is a battle with the governor, but "we can't do it without you all." If we lose the Senate it will all crumble. "We have to be united as a Party."

Chairman Mullins announced that Del. Ramadan will be hosting the breakfast in the morning with newly elected Rep. Barbara Comstock and Rep. Rob Wittman. The breakout sessions tomorrow will offer great information for how our Party can win.

Mr. Cameron Jones addressed the Fauquier County appeal and situation. The decisions of the State Central Committee have been ignored and lawsuits against its Members have been pursued. They are suing despite all the appeals going against them, trying to do financial harm and ignoring the Party Plan he reported. They have not had regular meetings since June.

Mr. Herr requested that SCC defend the Party Plan and take action to protect the voting rights of Fauquier county activists. He made a motion to take action to restore voting membership of the committee.

Mr. Herr explained more about the composition of the committee before the first appeal in June and the General Counsel ruling in August.

Mr. Thomas asked for clarification from the General Counsel. Critical data regarding how the committee was run is the problem he said.

Mr. Webb and Mr. Moulton had further questions.

Mr. Moulton made a motion in the situation involving Fauquier County as follows, that the State Central Committee (1) instructs the current Fauquier County Chairman to publicly release the list of all the committee members as of the date of the State Central Committee's ruling of August 16, 2014; (2) that the valid members of that committee be allowed to vote on all matters of the Fauquier County Committee and that any vote taken not allowing those people to vote be ruled invalid, and; (3) If the Fauquier County Committee leadership refuses to provide that list of names and make it available to SCC within 14 days, this body will consider at its next meeting whether or not to determine the Fauquier County Committee dysfunctional.

The motion was seconded and the motion was passed by the Committee.

Mr. Mullins announced a brief adjournment. The meeting was called back to order at 3:40 pm. The Chairman opened the floor for new business.

Mr. Colgate made a motion to forgo Committee reports. There was a second to the motion and it passed.

Eleventh District member Patsy Drain asked a question about the election of the Party Chair that appears to have two candidates. She made a motion to set a filing deadline for those running for Party Chairman. The suggestion was to make the date January 10, two weeks prior to SCC on January 24. There was a second, no discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Herr announced he was writing a check to pay for lunch today and encouraged others to do the same.

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New Fifth District Member Clarabel Wheeler raised the issue of voter fraud and reiterated the need to have poll watchers to uphold the law.

Fifth District Committee Member Chris Shores reported that a meeting held Sunday in the District was a violation of the ruling by the RPV General Counsel. He made a motion that the State Central Committee vote to remove the District Chairman Jon Berkeley. Fifth District Member Travis Witt seconded the motion.

Mr. Thomas raised a Point of Order that this body does not have the authority to remove a District Chairman.

Mr. McSweeney concurred with this Point.

Mr. Herr made a substitute motion then withdrew it.

Further discussion ensued.

Chairman Mullins suggested time be given to the District Chairman Jon Berkeley to comply with the General Counsel's ruling.

Mr. Moulton offered a substitute motion that the State Central Committee directs the Chairman to put on the agenda for the next State Central Committee meeting a hearing to determine the proper functioning of the Fifth District Committee and that notice be given by this committee to the Fifth District Chairman that directs him to comply with the General Counsel's ruling. Mr. Albertson seconded the motion.

Ms. Clarabel suggested an amendment to separate the two motions. This motion failed.

Mr. Shores accepted Mr. Moulton's substitute motion and offered a second. The motion passed.

Chairman Mullins opened the floor to nominations to fill the vacancy of Treasurer.

Eleventh District Chairman Terry Wear nominated Northern Virginia resident Allan Rubbar.

Mr. Moulton nominated 8th District Member Rich Nielsen for the position.

The Chairman closed the nominations and asked each candidate to address the committee.

The votes were tallied and Mr. Rubbar received seven votes, the rest were to Mr. Nielsen. He will become the new Treasurer of the State Central Committee.

Chairman Mullins reported that Western Vice Chairman Donald Huffman needed to step down in order to attend to his wife medical needs. He opened the floor for nominations for Western Vice Chair.

Mr. Moulton nominated Culpepper County resident Al Aitken. David Bartholomew seconded the nomination.

Mr. Wendall made a motion that the nominations be closed. The motion was seconded and passed.

A motion was made to nominate by acclamation. Mr. Aitken was elected as Western Vice Chairman without objection.

Mrs. Curran thanked Don Huffman for his years of service to this body. He received a standing ovation and deep commendation from Chairman Mullins.

There was a motion to move into executive session. The motion was seconded and passed.

Mr. Albertson made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Colgate seconded the motion and it passed.

The meeting adjourned at 4:28 pm.