



Republican Party of Virginia

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**State Central Committee Meeting
December 5, 2020**

A meeting of the State Central Committee of the Republican Party of Virginia was held by Zoom conference on December 5, 2020. Chairman Rich Anderson called the meeting to order at 10:05am. Secretary Jill Cook was present.

The invocation was given by Wendell Walker.
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mike Thomas.
The Republican Creed was read by Thomas Turner.

The Chair appointed Erika Dyer, Adela Bertoldi and Cliff Dunn to the proxy committee.

The following members attended in person:

Rich Anderson	John Cosgrove	Nancy Rodland	Mauricio Tamargo
Kristi Way	Amanda Batten	Will Kirk	Tom Callahan
Morton Blackwell	Mark Kelly	Dean Welty	Victoria Bisel
Patti Lyman	Dan Webb	Stephen Kurtz	Erika Dyer
Jill Cook	Nancy Dye	Steve "Doc" Troxel	Linda Bartlett
John Selph	Heather Stefl	Jeffrey Adams	Marie Quinn
Chris Marston	Adela Bertoldi	Anne Fitzgerald	Mark Cole
Ken Nunnenkamp	Willie Deutsch	Mark Hile	David Suetterlein
Russ Wright	Mark Daniel	Tara Carroll	
Dennis Free	Carol Dawson	Susan Lascolette	
Miki Miller	Jeff Ryer	Dewey McDonnell	
Carey Allen	Elizabeth Lankford	Eric Wilson	

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Melvin Adams	Bill Curtis	Vinson Palathingal	
John Massoud	Wesley Edwards	Zack Thompson	
Ben Slone	Cliff Dunn	Tyler Lester	
Adam Tolbert	Carole de Triquet	Caleb Cruet	
Geary Higgins	Bill Coburn	Susan Edwards	
Melissa Beaudoin	Nicholas Proffitt	Mark Sell	
Ian Waite	Levin Turner	Ron Wright	
Thomas Turner	Elizabeth Butler	Heather Rice	
Paula Steiner	Renee Maxey	Richard McCarty	
Bobby Orrock	Ed Yensho	Mike Ginsberg	

The report of the Proxy Committee was accepted. Seven proxies were found to be in order. Two proxies were not needed, as the members were able to attend the entire meeting.

The following members attended by proxy:

Travis Witt – proxy held by Nate Boyer

Sarah Curran – proxy held by Jack Blakely

Marcy Hernick – proxy held by Jake Holmes

Cole Trower – proxy held by Dan Johnson

Bobby Orrock – proxy held by Wendell Walker (Mr Orrock was present for the first portion of the meeting, Mr Walker carried his proxy when Mr Orrock had to exit the meeting and Mr Walker had already been replaced as Western Vice Chairman)

Election of Officers

A single ballot vote having been ordered, the Committee adopted the following special rules of order for the conduct of the election on a rising vote, upon a motion by Jeff Ryer:

1. *Nominations--all nominations to be made by 5 pm on Friday, December 4 by e-mail to Chairman Anderson (rich@richanderson.com) with cc's to Chris Marston (cmarston@rpv.org) and Tommy Ewing (tommy@virginia.gop)*
2. *Candidate Participation--all candidates nominated to be invited to participate in the Zoom meeting until the results of the election are declared.*
3. *Candidate Presentations--all candidate presentations to be limited to 2 minutes, to include any nominating speech made on the candidate's behalf (no nominating speech would be required).*
4. *Balloting--all officers be elected on a single ballot to be voted electronically using ElectionRunner. Only members present, in person or by proxy, will be allowed to vote.*

After speeches by each candidate nominated for office, the Committee voted by electronic ballot and the tellers reported as follows:

- First Vice-Chairman—78 votes were cast, 40 votes were necessary for election, Kristi Way received 43 votes, Mike Schoelwer received 35 votes;
- Eastern Vice Chairwoman—65 votes were cast, 33 votes were necessary for election, Amanda Batten received 65 votes;
- Eastern Vice-Chairman—71 votes were cast, 36 votes were necessary for election, Mark Kelly received 71 votes;
- Western Vice-Chairwoman—76 votes were cast, 39 votes were necessary for election, Nancy Dye received 46 votes, Diana Shores received 30 votes;
- Western Vice-Chairman—67 votes were cast, 34 votes were necessary for election, Dan Webb received 67 votes;
- Treasurer—78 votes were cast, 40 votes were necessary for election, John Selph received 48 votes, Matt Truong received 30 votes;
- Secretary—78 votes were cast, 40 votes were necessary for election, Jill Cook received 49 votes, Alissa Baldwin received 29 votes.

The Chair announced the election of the following officers, who thereupon assumed office:

- First Vice Chairman – Kristi Way
- Eastern Vice Chairwoman – Amanda Batten
- Eastern Vice Chairman – Mark Kelly
- Western Vice Chairwoman – Nancy Dye
- Western Vice Chairman – Dan Webb
- Treasurer – John Selph
- Secretary – Jill Cook

Former officers Mike Thomas, Chris Marston, and Wendell Walker ended their terms. Bobby Orrock left the meeting and Wendell Walker carried his proxy.

The Chair recognized former First Vice Chair Mike Thomas, who thanked the Committee and pledged his ongoing support for the Party.

New Business

The Committee modified the limits on debate for the session, limiting each speaker to no more than two minutes and all debate on a question to no more than 30 minutes, by rising vote upon a motion by Nate Boyer.

Determination of Method of Nomination

The Committee ordered that the method of nomination for all statewide offices in 2021 be a convention on a rising vote.

The original motion by Wesley Edwards was that the method of nomination for all statewide offices in 2021 be a primary. A roll call vote having been ordered on an amendment by Mike Ginsberg to strike out “primary” and insert “convention”, the Committee adopted the amendment with 39 in favor and 35 opposed.

Members voting in the affirmative: Blackwell, Lyman, Wright (Russ), Adams (Melvin), Massoud, Slone, Kelly,

Higgins, Beaudoin, Steiner, Webb, Stefl, Bertoldi, Deutsch, Daniel, Dawson, Maxey, Yensho, Rodland, Kirk, Witt, Welty, Troxel, Kurtz, Adams (Jeff), Fitzgerald, Hile, Lascolette, McDonnell, Wilson, Palathingal, Cruely, Edwards (Susan), Sell, Rice, McCarty, Ginsberg, Tamargo, Suetterlein.

Members voting in the negative: Way, Cook, Nunnenkamp, Free, Miller, Allen, Tolbert, Waite, Turner, Orrock, Cosgrove, Batten, Dye, Ryer, Lankford, Curtis, Edwards (Wesley), de Triquet, Coburn, Proffitt, Turner, Butler, Carroll, Curran, Thompson, Lester, Hernick, Wright (Ron), Callahan, Bisel, Dyer, Trower, Bartlett, Quinn, Cole.

The following members answered present: Selph, Dunn.

The amendment having been adopted, several additional subsidiary motions were not adopted. A motion to reconsider the adopted amendment failed. A motion to lay on the table an amendment by Geary Higgins to strike "convention" and insert "party canvass" having passed, and after the Committee recessed for 30 minutes, Jeff Ryer moved to postpone further consideration of the method of nomination until an adjourned meeting to be held at 7:00 pm on December 12, 2020. The Chair overruled a point of order that Ryer's motion was dilatory, explaining that the Committee's action on the motion to reconsider had intervened since a prior motion to postpone to a certain time, therefore another such motion was not dilatory.

The Ryer motion having failed and all time for debate having expired, the Committee adopted the amended motion that the method of nomination for all statewide offices in 2021 be a convention.

Consideration of Amendment to Article XII

The Committee adopted the following Party Plan Amendment on a rising vote, upon Jeff Adams' motion:

In Article XII, strike out "December 12, 2020" and insert in its place "June 30, 2021"

The originally proposed Party Plan Amendment was:

In Article XII, strike out paragraphs 2 and 3; and strike out "December 12, 2020" and insert in its place "April 30, 2021", a redline version of which follows:

ARTICLE XII Temporary Emergency Provisions

While Commonwealth of Virginia Executive Order Number 53 (2020), or any subsequent order extending its provisions, is in effect:

- 1. Official Committees may hold electronic meetings, such meetings to be conducted in accordance with, at the option of the Official Committee, either rules the Official Committee itself adopts or rules adopted by the Executive Committee of the State Central Committee.*
- 2. ~~The meeting notice requirement of Art. VII, Sec. B, para. 1 for meetings of the State Central Committee, shall be reduced to not less than one week.~~*
- 3. ~~An Official Committee may hold its Quadrennial Convention using the following alternative methods, which temporarily take precedence over contrary provisions in other Articles of the State Party Plan:~~*

a. "Unassembled Convention"—in an unassembled convention:

- i. The Official Committee, or a subcommittee of its members that it appoints, shall serve as the Committees on Credentials, Nominations, and Standing Rules. The Official Committee shall act on those reports on behalf of the Convention.*
- ii. Delegates may cast their ballots at one or more polling locations within or adjacent to the area represented by the Official Committee. Military Delegates may still participate as provided in Article VIII.*
- iii. For any office or nomination to be made by the convention, the Official Committee may provide for
 - a) ranked choice voting and a majority winner, or b) for a plurality winner, or c) for a majority winner with multiple ballots, all without respect to whether the initial call included ranked choice voting.**
- i. In a contest where it is necessary to determine the outcome, ties will be decided by drawing of lots.*

b. "Bifurcated Convention"—In a bifurcated convention, the nomination of a candidate for U.S. House of Representatives will proceed as described in (a), after which the Convention will adjourn to a date, time, and location selected by the Official Committee to carry on the remaining business of the Convention.

Provided that this Article shall expire on ~~December 12, 2020~~ April 30, 2021.

After agreeing to divide the question on an amendment by Cliff Dunn, the Committee adopted Dunn's first amendment to strike out "April 30, 2021" and insert "June 30, 2021".

The Chair sustained a point of order that Dunn's second amendment to strike out all of paragraph 3, except for the word "Quadrennial," which, if adopted would have had the effect of leaving an altered paragraph 3 of Article XII in the Plan, was outside the scope of the notice of the Party Plan Amendment. The Chair explained that changes to a provision for which notice had been given only to remove the provision exceeded the scope of the notice, relying on Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised (12th ed.) 57:11-13. Dunn appealed the ruling of the Chair; the Chair's ruling was sustained on a rising vote.

An additional amendment to strike out "paragraphs 2 and 3" from the originally proposed Party Plan Amendment was also adopted.

2021 Legislative District Committee Resolution

The Committee adopted the following resolution on a rising vote, upon the motion of Chris Marston:

"Whereas, legislative district boundaries will be changed by the 2021 decennial reapportionment law;

"Whereas, many factors create uncertainty about the date on which the 2021 decennial reapportionment law may be enacted;

“Whereas, legislative district committees are composed of members from cities and counties included in whole or in part within a legislative district’s boundaries and their votes are weighted in proportion to the Republican Party Voting Strength of their respective portions of the legislative district; and

“Whereas, the calculation of Republican Party Voting Strength for portions of counties and cities is complicated by the number of votes cast in Central Absentee Precincts in the November 2020 Presidential election;

“Resolved that in calculating Republican Party Voting Strength, Republican votes cast in the Central Absentee Precinct for each city and county shall be allocated to regular precincts in proportion to the Republican votes cast in those precincts in the same election;

“Resolved that the failure of any House of Delegates Legislative District Committee to meet in December 2020 will not invalidate any action of the Committee taken in 2021; and

“Resolved that in the event that new legislative district boundaries are established and made effective for the November 2021 General Election, that each legislative district shall be considered a new legislative district and any decision relating to the method of nomination in any old legislative district with the same district number or similar geography will be void and, as such, the provisions of paragraph 11 of section A of article VIII of the Party Plan (“Once a call has been published, the method of nomination may not be changed”) will not apply.”

Sandy Brindley Appeal

The Committee modified the limits on debate for consideration of the appeal, providing that appellant and appellee each have five minutes to present their case, that questions and answers take no more than 10 minutes, and that debate be limited to no more than 20 minutes.

After all time for presentation and questions and answers had elapsed, Carole de Triquet moved:

“that the State Central Committee uphold the appeal, and grant the following remedy:

A new vote, conducted by the RPV, will be held to determine whether Ms. Lascolette or Ms. Brindley is the rightful holder of the State Central Committee seat in question, with the following stipulations:

- 1. Only those Delegates who paid the fee, were properly certified, and were present at the July 18 convention will be eligible to vote.*
- 2. The State Chairman shall appoint an elections committee, chaired by the RPV General Counsel, to oversee the election. The elections committee shall determine the method and timing of balloting, and shall count said ballots and calculate the correct weighted votes. The elections committee is authorized to adopt any reasonable rules necessary to ensure a fair and transparent process, and to provide an opportunity for every eligible to delegate to cast his or her vote.*
- 3. Both candidates will be allowed an equal number of observers throughout the process.*
- 4. The elections committee will complete the new election as soon as is practical, but in no event later than*

March 1, 2021.”

By unanimous consent, the Committee agreed to divide the question such that the appeal and the remedy be considered separately, upon Jeff Adams’ request.

The Committee postponed further consideration of the appeal until its next meeting by a rising vote, upon Richard McCarty’s motion.

Consideration of the 2021 Budget

By unanimous consent, the Committee entered executive session at 5:15pm to discuss proprietary information and the 2021 budget.

The Committee resumed its regular session at 6:17pm. The Committee certified that it considered only proprietary information and the 2021 budget during executive session by unanimous consent, upon the request of Chris Marston.

Wendell Walker gave the benediction.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:19pm.