



MINUTES

1st Congressional District Republican Committee

Submitted: March 2, 2024

REGULAR MEETING OF
THE FIRST CONGRESSIONAL REPUBLICAN DISTRICT OF VIRGINIA
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Held at 5059 Richmond Road Warsaw, VA 22572
At China Inn Warsaw, November 11th, 2023, at 11:30 AM

ATTENDANCE (Y = Present, A = Absent, P = Present by Proxy): 21 PRESENT

Chair (Jeffrey Ryer) [Y] 1st Vice Chair (Michael Schoelwer) [Y] 2nd Vice Chair (Julie Coggsdale) [A]
Secretary/CRFV - College Republicans (Joey Funai) [Y] Treasurer (George Clark) [Y] Counsel (Chris Woodfin) [Y]
Parliamentarian (Lynda Fairman) [Y] State Central C4 (Lauren Keiser) [Y] State Central C4 (Tara Carroll) [Y]
State Central C4 (David Botkins) [Y] State Central R2 (Mark Daniel) [Y] State Central P4 (Joshua Mayes) [Y] YRFV
- Young Republicans (Maria Gurlaccio) [Y] VFRW (Virginia Carlson) [Y] CHESTERFIELD (Leslie Haley) [P]
ESSEX (Billy Healy) [Y] GLOUCESTER (Pat Dunnington) [Y] HANOVER (Bryan Boykin rep) [Y] HENRICO (Bryan
Horn) [Y] JAMES CITY /WILLIAMSBURG (Tye Lageman) [Y] KING AND QUEEN (Bill Rilee) [Y] KING WILLIAM
(Lindsay Robinson) [A] LANCASTER (Johanna Carrington) [P] MATHEWS (Sonny Fauver) [Y] MIDDLESEX (John
Hooper) [A] NEW KENT (Jake Westbrook) [A] NORTHUMBERLAND (Marion Cockrell) [Y] POQUOSON (Colleen
Holcomb) [A] RICHMOND (Debbie Harper) [Y] WESTMORELAND (M. Alan Aylor) [Y] YORK (Kitty Staskelunas)
[Y]

APPROVED PROXIES

Lancaster (Johanna Carrington) proxy to Joel Glover
Chesterfield (Leslie Haley) proxy to Ellen Nau

GENERAL OPENING

Chairman Ryer called the meeting to order at 11:30 AM. Mark Daniel gave an invocation, Debbie Harper led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Ginny Carlson read the Republican Creed.

The Chairman appointed Mark Daniel and Pat Dunnington to form a proxy committee. Two proxies were submitted to the Proxy Committee and approved. The secretary called the roll. 21 voting members were present constituting a quorum and a 2/3rd majority.

GUESTS

The Chairman introduced guests and new members. Guests included Congressman Rob Wittman, Jack and Jessi Blakely, Edgar Doleman, Carey Allen, and several Members of the Republican Women of Greater Richmond. Congressman Wittman addressed the committee on the 2023 elections and gave a congressional update.

REPORTS

Secretary. Copies of the minutes of the July 19th, 2023 and the September 16th, 2023 special and regular meetings were distributed with the call. Both minutes were approved without changes.

Treasurer. The Treasurer reported that the Committee had roughly \$2,000 in the Federal Account and \$4,000 in the State Account. Checks approved at the last meeting were successfully sent out to candidates.

Parliamentarian. The Parliamentarian explained a privileged motion to adjourn as a result of its usage at a local committee meeting.

Counsel. Counsel is looking for volunteers to assist in recounts and canvasses in close races.

VFRW. Virginia Carlson reported on VFRW work and volunteering for the 2023 elections. VFRW volunteers clocked thousands of hours for the 2023 Election.

CRFV. Joey Funai reported that the College Republicans were very active and engaged in the 2023 elections.

VFRW. Maria Gurlaccio thanked the First District for contributing to their deployment. Maria also reported on several YR elections including Jordan Stewart and Sarah Webb.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
No Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS

VA-01 Method of Nomination. A roll call vote was called after a motion for a primary was made by Alan Aylor and seconded by Josh Mayes. The motion for a primary was approved unanimously.

Committee on Arrangements Report. The Committee on Arrangements made a unanimous recommendation to hold the 1st District Convention on April 27th or May 4th at King William High School. These dates were chosen with consideration for surrounding holidays/events and King William High School was considered to be a central and easily accessible location.

First District Convention Call. Chairman Ryer distributed a packet outlining the necessary decisions that had to be made for the issuing of the call. A date of May 4th was selected after a motion was made by Bryan Horn and a second by Debbie Harper. A time of 10 AM was decided after a motion by Bryan Boykin and a second by Debbie Harper. A location of King William High School was decided after a motion was made by the Committee on Arrangements and seconded by Josh Mayes. Filing fees were set as follows: Chairman \$850 from a motion by Bryan Boykin and seconded by David Botkins, SCC \$250 from a motion by Josh Mayes and a second from Mark Daniel, Elector \$350 from a motion by Bryan Horn and a second by Tye Lageman, Participant \$10 following an amended motion originally introduced by Joey Funai that was amended by Tye Lageman and seconded by Debbie Harper. The Filing Deadline for Candidates was set for 5 PM on February 9th after a motion by Josh Mayes and a second by Tye Lageman. Registration open was set for 8 after a motion by Billy Healy and a second by Josh Mayes. The amended call for the First District Convention was approved.

Selection of Date and Location of Next Meeting. Bill Rilee volunteered to host the next meeting at Nick's Spaghetti and Steak House in King and Queen County. A meeting date was approved for March 16th at 11:30 AM after a motion was made by Josh Mayes.

UNIT REPORTS

Chesterfield- Ellen Nau reported that Republicans took control of the school board but lost the board of supervisors following the election. Chesterfield also saw several victories in state legislative races.

Essex- Billy Healy reported that they had great success including Senator Stuart winning in Democrat leaning areas. Essex has several local elections go to GOP candidates including taking out an incumbent Democrat on the School Board.

Gloucester- Pat Dunnington reported that all of their nominated constitutional officers and state candidates won. Gloucester came out in large numbers for Senator McDougale which was huge because his candidate was a Gloucester native. None of the Gloucester endorsed School Board candidates were successful in their bids.

Hanover- Bryan Boykin reported that Hanover had a very successful election where they had big wins across the county including defeating the elected school board referendum and coming very close to winning the Ashland Supervisor race in a predominantly Democrat leaning area. Hanover also had a huge volunteer turnout as election officials and poll greeters throughout early voting.

Henrico- Bryan Horn reported on extremely high turnout in Henrico and shared some data on the Dunnavant and Owens campaigns.

James City County/ Williamsburg- Tye Lageman reported that they had 13 victories for 17 candidates which keeps the status quo locally. Tye also reported on Danny Diggs and Amanda Batten securing very important victories that the committee played a large role in. JCC has a problem with William and Mary students voting in very large numbers.

King William- Chairman Ryer reported on several victories in King William including Lindsay Robinson's Victoria and Ed Moren's defeat. Republicans were overall highly successful in the county.

King and Queen- King and Queen ran a successful booth at the West point Crab Carnival and also had good poll coverage on election day. Several candidates reached out late in the election for an endorsement but could not be endorsed as they did not reach out in a timely manner.

Lancaster- Joel Glover reported that they had several large victories including Hilary Pugh Kent and Richard Stuart. Joel also gave feedback on election day interactions with voters. Many voters showed doubt in vote tabulation in several key races around the Commonwealth.

Mathews- Sonny Fauver reported that Republicans took control of the School Board but lost every other race at the local level. Sonny believes that a major factor in their losses was internal strife in the committee that bled into the public eye.

Middlesex- John Hooper reported in a letter that Middlesex was partially successful particularly in key races including the School Board, Board of Supervisors and State Candidates. There was also a resignation of a Democrat Supervisor. A new committee is being formed to have better engagement in the 2024 races using data that was collected in 2023.

New Kent- Mark Daniel reported that New Kent took control of the School Board and also had a candidate that won a Board of Supervisors race, Jordan Stewart.

Northumberland- Marion Cockrell reported that David Botkins won a quilt at the annual Northumberland GOP Oyster Roast! Northumberland had several GOP Candidates win Board of Supervisor and School Board Races. Northumberland GOP is also having a dinner on January 10th.

Richmond- Debbie Harper reported they won their only uncontested Board of Supervisors race. Richmond will also have a new Delegate, Hillary Pugh Kent.

Westmoreland- Alan Aylor reported that both Richard Stuart and Hillary Pugh Kent won by very large margins. Every Republican candidate won in Westmoreland County including taking out a 10 year incumbent.

York- Kitty Staskelunas reported that York County saw victories in 17 out of 18 races including Danny Diggs and AC Cordoza and flipping the School Board.

Chairman's Report- Chairman Ryer read several thank you notes from candidates the 1st District Committee contributed to. Chairman Ryer also gave out guidelines for the RPV State Convention and an information sheet for the 2024 calls for local committees. The RPV Advance is April 12-14. Lastly, Chairman Ryer gave out a gift of nametags to members of the 1st District Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pat Dunnington thanked everyone for their service on the First District Committee and announced that she would not be running for re-election as chairman of Gloucester.

Billy Healy announced that the Essex committee will be partnering with the Essex Democratic committee to go back to an appointed school board after the failures of the elected system.

ADJOURNMENT

Pat Dunnington made a privileged motion to adjourn which was approved unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 3:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Joey Funai, Secretary