



Republican Party of Virginia

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State Central Committee Meeting March 24, 2018

The regular meeting of the State Central Committee of the Republican Party of Virginia was held at the offices of McGuireWoods LLC in Richmond, VA on March 24, 2018. Chairman John Whitbeck called the meeting to order at 10:06am. Secretary Jill Cook was present.

The invocation was given by Bruce Meyer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Dino Ponce.

The Republican Creed was read by Thomas Turner.

The Chair welcomed new RPV Communications Director John March and invited new SCC members to introduce themselves.

The Chair appointed the College Republican representatives, Jacob Neff, Ian Frith and Eric Nielsen, to the Proxy Committee.

The following members attended in person:

John Whitbeck
Mike Thomas
Morton Blackwell
Cynthia Dunbar
Jill Cook
John Selph
Chris Marston
Jerry Kilgore
Bob Watson
Dennis Free
Jennifer Lee
Jack Wilson
Melvin Adams
Scott Sayre
Ben Slone

Mark Kelly
Adam Tolbert
Andrew Nicholson
Paul Prados
Jacob Neff
Ellen Nau
Chris Stolle
John Cosgrove
Kevin Gentry
Diana Banister
Amanda Batten
Wendell Walker
Russ Wright
Larry Kile
Carol Dawson

Jeff Ryer
Carolyn Weems
Ashley McLeod
Chad Green
Wesley Edwards
Steve Trent
Carole de Triquet
Bill Coburn
Barbara Tabb
Angela Swygert
Carey Allen
Renee Maxey
Ed Yensho
Joanne Holden
Will Kirk

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Travis Witt
Steve "Doc" Troxel
Nate Boyer
Joseph Sonsmith
Carrie Thompson
Anne Fitzgerald
Mark Hile
David Ross
Susan Lascolette
Dewey McDonnell
Charlie Keller

Sandy Liddy Bourne
David Foster
Michelle Jenkins
Marcy Hernick
Corey Scott
Sharon Ashurst
Mark Sell
Julie Williams
Eve Gleason
Richard McCarty
Fredy Burgos

Ian Frith
Eric Nielsen
Erika Dyer
Dustin Rinehart
Linda Bartlett
Robert Thomas
John Hager

The report of the Proxy Committee was accepted. Nine proxies were found to be in order.

The following members attended by proxy:
Kishore Thota – proxy held by Thomas Turner
Nancy Dye – proxy held by Clara Belle Wheeler
Steve Albertson – proxy held by Willie Deutsch
Robert Cunningham – proxy held by Allen Webb
Nancy Smith – proxy held by Dana Smith
Aaron Spradlin – proxy held by Tyler Lester
Ryan Rauner – proxy held by Stephen Spiker
Marie Quinn – proxy held by Jean Gannon
Bill DeSteph, Jr – proxy held by Amanda Chase

The minutes of the regular meeting of December 2017 were approved by voice vote.

Election to fill vacancy for Eastern Vice Chairwoman

Chris Marston moved to limit presentations to one minute for each candidate for Eastern Vice Chairwoman. Motion passed by voice vote.

Kevin Gentry moved to reinstate Diana Banister. Jeff Ryer moved to nominate Amanda Batten. The Chair requested a motion to close nominations. Motion passed by voice vote.

Each candidate spoke for approximately one minute. Ms Banister ceded part of her time to Kevin Gentry, who spoke on her behalf.

The Chair called a short recess at 10:25am to distribute the ballots. The Chair called the meeting back to order at 10:27am to begin voting.

The Chair requested that each candidate appoint an observer for the ballot counting. Mrs. Batten appointed Jeff Ryer and Ms. Banister appointed Mark Kelly.

The vote count was conducted by General Counsel Marston and Chairman Whitbeck. The Chair reported that Amanda Batten had won.

The Chair made a personal statement commending Ms Banister's service to the Committee and immediately offered to appoint her to the position of Budget Director, which she accepted.

Unfinished Business and General Orders – None

New Business

Fredy Burgos Hearing

The Chair recused himself, since he will take part in the presentation. He appointed First Vice Chairman Mike Thomas in his place.

Prior to turning over the proceeding to Mr Thomas, the Chair entertained a point of order from Mark Hile. Mr. Hile questioned the fact that no committee was formed prior to the hearing and suggested that procedure was not followed.

Mike Thomas assumed the Chair duties. The Chair ruled that the issue is properly before the Committee.

Mr. Hile appealed the ruling of the Chair. The question occurred on sustaining the ruling of the Chair. The ruling of the Chair was sustained on a rising vote.

The Chair suggested the following time limits: 20 minutes per side to present, a 10-minute period for asking questions, 30 minutes of discussion amongst the members, then the vote. Ashley McLeod moved to limit the discussion portion to 15 minutes. The motion carried on a voice vote.

Kevin Gentry moved that the Committee reconvene in executive session for the purpose of considering a disciplinary matter. The motion carried on a voice vote. The Committee convened in executive session at 11:07am.

Pursuant to the Party Plan, at least two-thirds voting in the affirmative, Mr. Burgos was removed from SCC.

The Committee reconvened in open session at 12:55pm, at which time the Chair declared a recess for lunch. The recess ended at 1:15pm.

State Chairman's Report

- Update on filing of US Senate candidates
- Described the "Extreme 15" messaging, regarding the freshman Democrats
- Announced the RPV Ambassador program
- Announced the Commonwealth Dinner on April 11, encouraged members to buy tickets.

Treasurers' Report

By unanimous consent, the Treasurer's Report was passed by.

Sixth District Appeal

The Committee took up an appeal, presented by petition pursuant to Art. X of the Party Plan as follows:

"We, the undersigned, are concerned citizens who urge the Republican State Central Committee to act now to amend the Call for the 2018 Sixth District Republican Committee Call and strike the plurality voting language."

By unanimous consent, time limits were set as follows: 10 minutes per side for presentation, 5 minutes for questions, 15 minutes for debate.

Mike Troxel presented in support of the appeal.

A point of order was called questioning whether the appeal can proceed because it was not timely. The Chair found the point of order not to be well taken.

A motion was made to sustain the decision of the Chair to move the appeal forward. The decision of the Chair was sustained on a rising vote.

Scott Sayre presented in opposition to the appeal.

Eve Gleason moved to deny the appeal, citing failure to follow the Resolution adopted by the Committee at a previous meeting. John Cosgrove offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute to grant the relief requested in the appeal.

All time for debate having expired, a motion to extend the discussion by 15 minutes failed on a counted rising vote, 36-43. The amendment in the nature of a substitute was adopted on a rising vote.

The amended motion to grant the relief requested in the appeal carried on a rising vote. The plurality voting rule in the Sixth District Convention Call (Section F) is stricken.

Mike Thomas Proposal

Mike Thomas offered the following policy and moved its adoption.

Republican Party of Virginia Policy on Access to Lists of Convention Delegates and Alternates

"In accordance with Article III, Section D.1.a. of the Plan of Organization of the Republican Party of Virginia, the State Central Committee hereby establishes the following policy governing access to lists of delegates and alternate delegates to conventions.

This policy applies to any convention called by any Official Committee established by the State Party Plan and constitutes an interpretation of the State Party Plan by the State Central Committee.

Wherever this policy refers to candidates, it shall mean candidates for public or party office to be decided upon by the convention for which a Unit is selecting delegates or alternate delegates; however, candidates for delegate or alternate delegate to a Republican National Convention are not included in this policy. A candidate or candidate's campaign may designate an individual to receive lists and information covered by this policy.

Where prefiling is a requirement for election as a delegate or alternate delegate, a count of the number of individuals that have prefiled (the number of forms timely received if a form is used) shall be made available no later than 24 hours after the prefiling deadline, upon request of a candidate, to all candidates for public or party office to be decided upon at the convention for which the Unit is electing delegates and alternate delegates. If prefiling is not required, such information shall be provided during the mass meeting electing delegates and alternate delegates.

As soon as is practical, but not later than 14 days following the election of delegates and alternate delegates to a convention by a mass meeting, party canvass or unit convention, or the prefiling deadline when no more than the maximum number that can be elected have filed, a list of the delegates and alternate delegates shall be made available by the Unit Chairman or Unit Secretary simultaneously to each candidate that has requested the list, in hard copy or electronically. This list shall include all contact information that was made available to the Unit by each individual who prefiled or otherwise sought election as a delegate or alternate delegate. It is recommended that prefile forms inform candidates for convention delegate that the information they provide will be made available to each candidate. Candidates requesting a list after this initial 14 day period shall be provided the list within 3 working days of their request.

It is understood that, in some cases, Units with very large numbers of prefiles may not be able to compile a list within 14 days of the filing deadline. In such cases, the Unit Chairman shall set a date and time (within this 14 days), giving at least 24 hours notice, for the candidates to compile their own lists of those prefiled/elected, which must be supervised by at least two officers of the Unit Committee. Candidates/representatives should be informed as to whether the registration status of each individual has been checked. Once the Unit has compiled its own list, it is to be provided to all candidates that requested one, as close to simultaneously as possible.

Lists of delegates and alternate delegates shall be used by candidates only in conjunction with their campaigns, and by Official Committees for party-building purposes.

This policy shall be effective as of March 24, 2018 for all conventions to be held in 2018 and in subsequent years. Units whose 2018 prefiling deadline or whose mass meeting/party canvass or Unit convention was prior to March 24, 2018, is hereby directed to immediately provide a count of the number of prefilers/delegates elected upon the request of a candidate. Any Unit that has already compiled a list of delegates and alternate delegates to a convention called for 2018 is hereby directed to provide such list to a candidate upon request, and otherwise in accordance with paragraph 5 above."

A motion to postpone the question indefinitely failed on a counted rising vote, 31-34.

A motion to refer the proposal to the Party Plan Committee carried on a rising vote.

Sixth District Chairman Scott Sayre was recognized on a point of personal privilege to address the Committee regarding the work of the Sixth District Committee.

Wendell Walker was recognized on a point of personal privilege to address the Committee regarding the election for Lynchburg City Republican Committee Chair.

Eve Gleason Resolution

Eve Gleason moved the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolution Recommending Retention of Medicaid Focus on the Most Medically Vulnerable Virginians and Commending Virginia Lawmakers for Fiscally Responsible Opposition to Medicaid Expansion

"Whereas, the creed adopted and embraced by the Republican Party of Virginia acknowledges "That the free enterprise system is the most productive supplier of human needs and economic justice;" and

Whereas, this creed further states "That fiscal responsibility and budgetary restraints must be exercised at all levels of government;" and

Whereas, Virginia's liberal Democratic Governor Ralph Northam made Medicaid expansion a cornerstone of his campaign, without regard to the long-term fiscal soundness of this program or its budgetary impact; and

Whereas, Medicaid expansion dilutes the program's intended focus on providing care for the elderly, the disabled, low-income pregnant women, and low-income children, and

Whereas, the budget submitted by Governor Northam called for expansion of Medicaid at a projected annual expense of about \$2,000,000,000; and

Whereas, such expansion has increased costs more than expected in other states and, according to a government alert, has led to increases in waste, fraud, and abuse; and

Whereas, the federal promise of 90% matching funds to offset state expenses for Medicaid expansion under the so-called Affordable Care Act is not currently funded by Congress and is unreliable over the long-term;

Whereas, research from the Mercatus Center at Virginia's own George Mason University shows that the costs of Medicaid expansion have been significantly higher than estimated in the Congressional Budget Office's original forecasts; and

Whereas, the state House passed a budget including Medicaid expansion and the state Senate did not, the chambers adjourning without agreeing on a final budget; and

Whereas, Governor Northam has called a special session for April 11, 2018 specifically to pressure lawmakers to pass a budget including Medicaid expansion; now, therefore be it,

Resolved, that the State Central Committee of the Republican Party of Virginia reaffirms its creed and commends all Republican members of the House of Delegates and State Senate who opposed costly Medicaid expansion; and be it further

Resolved, that the State Central Committee of the Republican Party of Virginia calls on all elected Republicans in the General Assembly to send the Governor a budget that does not include funding for Medicaid expansion; and be it further

Resolved, that the chairman of the Republican Party of Virginia shall promptly cause this resolution to be posted on the party's website and be distributed to all Republican members of the General Assembly and to the media."

After debate, a motion for the previous question was adopted by voice vote. The motion to adopt the Resolution failed on a counted rising vote, 33-34.

Reports

By unanimous consent, all other reports were passed by.

Steve Trent moved to commend Mike Thomas and John Adams for hosting the Committee's meeting and to thank Mike Thomas for chairing a portion of the meeting. The motion carried by voice vote.

Upon adoption of a motion to adjourn by voice vote, the Committee adjourned at 3:16pm.