



Republican Party of Virginia

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State Central Committee Meeting December 6, 2019

The regular meeting of the State Central Committee of the Republican Party of Virginia was held at The Homestead in Hot Springs VA, on December 6, 2019. Chairman Jack Wilson called the meeting to order at 12:04pm. Secretary Jill Cook was present.

The invocation was given by Melvin Adams.
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sen John Cosgrove. The Republican Creed was read by Courtney Britt.

The Chair appointed Courtney Britt, Thomas Turner and Ben Slone to the proxy committee.

The following members attended in person:

Jack Wilson	Amanda Batten	Steve "Doc" Troxel
Mike Thomas	Wendell Walker	Mark Hile
Morton Blackwell	Nancy Dye	David Ross
Jill Cook	Heather Stefl	Susan Lascolette
Chris Marston	Russ Wright	Dewey McDonnell
Bob Watson	Carol Dawson	David Foster
Dennis Free	Jeff Ryer	Zack Thompson
Carey Allen	Steve Trent	Tyler Lester
Melvin Adams	Carole de Triquet	Susan Edwards
Jennifer Brown	Barbara Tabb	Mark Sell
Ben Slone	E Janet Riddick	Richard McCarty
Mark Kelly	Renee Maxey	Erika Dyer
Adam Tolbert	Ed Yensho	Linda Bartlett
Courtney Britt	Nancy Rodland	Marie Quinn
Thomas Turner	Travis Witt	Robert Thomas
John Cosgrove	Nate Boyer	David Suetterlein

The report of the Proxy Committee was accepted.

Eighteen proxies were found to be in order. Four proxies arrived after the report of the Committee. One member attended the first portion of the meeting and was represented by proxy for the remainder.

The following members attended by proxy:

John Selph – proxy held by Donald Williams
Jennifer Lee – proxy held by John de Triquet
Matt Leeds – proxy held by Ted Lesley
Paul Prados – proxy held by Mauricio Tamargo
Mary Franklin – proxy held by Jean Gannon
Larry Kile – proxy held by Mark Daniel
Carolyn Weems – proxy held by Ashley McLeod
Bill Curtis – proxy held by Cindy Free
Bill Coburn – proxy held by Mike Ziegenfuss
Angela Swygert – proxy held by Peter Foster
Will Kirk – proxy held by Daniel Moy
Jeffrey Adams – proxy held by Kenneth Adams
Anne Fitzgerald – proxy held by Sandy Adams
Charlie Keller – proxy held by Nadia Elgendy
Sandy Liddy Bourne - proxy held by Valerie Wohlleben
Marcy Hernick – proxy held by Hayley Allison
Caleb Cruet – proxy held by Lindsey Holman
Julie Williams – proxy held by Matt Truong
Erin Porsch – proxy held by Laura Ramirez Drain
Rob Papandrea – proxy held by Charles Ferry
Ian Waite – proxy held by Victoria Bisel
*Erika Dyer – proxy held by Jessi Rapelje (second half of meeting)
Cole Trower – proxy held by Fernando Espinoza

The minutes of the September 7, 2019 meeting were approved by voice vote. There was one abstention.

Chairman's Report

The Chair reported that John Findlay will step down as Executive Director (ED) before the end of 2019. No offers have been made for either an interim or a permanent ED. The Chair will form a Commission to determine the expected duties of the ED position. The Chair invited the members to send suggestions.

The Chair commented on the 2019 elections. Briefly, we were outspent by the Democrats and we lost a lot of redistricted seats. We plan to coordinate our message with the Senate and House Caucuses and highlight issues.

The Chair reported that for the 2020 Convention, we will fund-raise in each Congressional District, so the nominee will have some funds to get started; and will implement the WinRed program.

The Chair recognized Ashley McLeod, who spoke on behalf of the Virginia Conservative Women's Coalition (VCWC). VCWC held a candidate training in March with 40 attendees, many of whom got elected. VCWC is seeking a coordinator in each District to mentor potential candidates.

Mike Thomas requested unanimous consent to postpone consideration of the Treasurer's Report until consideration of the Budget under New Business. Hearing no objection, the chair announced the Treasurer's Report would be postponed.

Unfinished Business and General Orders

Party Plan Amendment Committee Report

The Committee agreed to hear all six amendments included in the Call *de novo*, regardless of actions at the prior meeting, notice having been included in the call pursuant to Article XI of the Plan.

On behalf of the Party Plan Committee, Mike Thomas moved the adoption of the amendment labeled Amendment #1.

Amendment #1 – Signatures for Removals and Appeals Amend

Article II by adding a new paragraph 27, as follows:

27. "Signed by" shall mean, for purposes of Article VII, Section C, and Article X, Section B, accompanied by one or more pages of original signatures in ink, or evidence of electronic signatures consistent with the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, Code of Virginia, section 59.1-479 et seq. For purposes of Article VII, Section C, a copy of the original signatures in ink or evidence of the electronic signatures shall be provided as part of the required notice.

Amend Article VII, Section C, by inserting the matter printed in italics:

SECTION C. Removal

Any Chairman, except the State Chairman, or any other member of an Official Committee may be removed from office by the vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the other members of the Committee, after being furnished with notice that such removal will be sought, with the charges, in writing, signed by not less than one-third (1/3) of the members of the Committee; and allowing him thirty (30) days within which to appear and defend himself. *A copy of the original signatures in ink or evidence of the electronic signatures may be furnished in lieu of the original signatures.*

The State Chairman may be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of a State Convention or by the three-fourths (3/4) vote of the State Central Committee, the action of said Convention or Committee being subject to the foregoing as to notice and opportunity for defense.

Several amendments having been rejected, Amendment #1 was adopted by voice vote.

On behalf of the Party Plan Committee, Mike Thomas moved the adoption of the amendment labeled Amendment # 2:

Amendment #2 – Model Calls

Amend Article VIII, Section A. paragraph 8 as follows:

Strike out the existing paragraph and insert in its place:

The State Central Committee shall adopt, and from time to time amend, recommended call forms, including all required provisions and identifying optional provisions. Recommended call forms shall be appended to the Party Plan but shall not be a part of the Plan.

Amendment # 2 was adopted by voice vote.

On behalf of the Party Plan Committee, Mike Thomas presented two approaches in alternate amendments labeled Amendment #3 – Version 1 and Version 2, and moved the adoption of Version 2.

Amendment #3 – Changing a Method of Nomination – Version 1

Amend Article VIII, Section A. by adding a new paragraph 11 as follows:

Once a call has been issued, the method of nomination may only be changed until the deadline to notify the State Board of Elections of the selection of a primary pursuant to section 24.2-516, or its successor provision.

Amendment #3 – Changing a Method of Nomination – Version 2

Once a call has been published, the method of nomination cannot be changed.

Nate Boyer moved Version 1 as a substitute amendment.

A motion to refer the Amendment back to the Party Plan Committee having failed, Jeff Ryer moved to postpone consideration until 2:00pm today. Postponement was agreed to by voice vote.

On behalf of the Party Plan Committee, Mike Thomas moved the adoption of the amendment labeled Amendment #4.

Amendment #4 – Combined Units

Amend Article VI, Section F. by striking the lined-out matter and inserting the matter in italics as follows:

SECTION F. Combined Units

The Party organization of ~~a city of the second class~~ *one or more cities* and an adjoining county may be combined whenever the respective committees, ~~by a majority vote of each,~~ *each* vote to combine into one organization. Thereafter, such city *or cities* and county shall be considered as one Unit for all purposes except in nominations for elective offices which serve solely ~~the~~ *a* city or the county. A combined organization may be dissolved by ~~the majority vote of~~ a Mass Meeting of either the city or the county, provided notice of such proposal is included in the Call of the Mass Meeting.

The previous question having been ordered, the amendment was adopted by voice vote.

On behalf of the Party Plan Committee, Mike Thomas moved the adoption of the amendment labeled Amendment #5.

Amendment #5 – Contests and Appeals

Amend Article X, Sections B and C as follows by striking out the lined-out matter and inserting the matter in italics as follows: SECTION B. Contests

1. Each Unit Committee shall decide all controversies and contests arising within its jurisdiction. A *Unit Committee's decision may be appealed by,* ~~but those persons deemed~~ *any Party member* adversely affected ~~by any such decision shall have the right of appeal~~ to the appropriate District Committee. In the case of a split Unit, if the controversy or contest specifically relates to the operations or affairs of a particular Congressional or Legislative District, an appeal shall be taken to that particular Congressional or Legislative District Committee; if not, an appeal shall be taken to the District Committee of the District wherein the person appealing resides.

2. Each Legislative District Committee shall decide all controversies and contests arising within its jurisdiction. ~~Persons deemed adversely affected by a decision of the A Legislative District Committee's decision may be appealed by any Party member adversely affected shall have the right of appeal~~ to the appropriate Congressional District Committee. In the case of a legislative district that is located in more than one congressional district, the appropriate Congressional District Committee shall be the District wherein the person appealing resides.
3. Each District Committee shall decide all controversies and contests arising within its jurisdiction. It shall also hear and decide all timely appeals taken from units and legislative districts within the District. *A District Committee's decision may be appealed by any Party member* ~~Persons deemed adversely affected by a decision of the District Committee shall have the right of appeal~~ to the State Central Committee.
4. All ~~Contests and appeals~~ *Appeals*, under sub-sections 1, 2 and 3 of this section must be made in writing within ~~thirty (30)~~ *fourteen (14)* days after the decision appealed from and the appeal must be accompanied by a petition signed by at least twenty-five (25) Party members (except as provided below) of the respective Unit, Legislative District or Congressional District affected. When an appeal involves a mass meeting, party canvass or convention, then for purposes of this paragraph the term "Party members" shall mean mass meeting participants in the case of a mass meeting; canvass voters in the case of a party canvass; or delegates in the case of a convention. If fewer than one hundred twenty-five (125) persons voted in such mass meeting, party canvass or convention, then the petition shall be signed by at least twenty percent (20%) of the voters at such mass meeting, party canvass or convention. *A subsequent appeal by the same party does not require an additional petition (e.g., if a petition accompanies an appeal to a Unit Committee, an appeal of the Unit Committee's decision made by the same party does not require a second petition).*
5. All Contests and Appeals under sub-sections 1, 2 and 3 of this section, except for an appeal to the State Central Committee, shall be heard and a decision rendered by the committee to which the appeal was made within fourteen (14) days of receipt of the appeal. If no decision has been rendered ~~in writing~~ at the end of ~~thirty~~ *fourteen (14)* days, the appeal or contest may be made directly to the next level of appeal as if an adverse decision had been rendered. A timely appeal made to the State Central Committee will be heard at the next regular meeting of the Committee unless the Chairman or 1/3 of the members call for a special meeting.
6. If the Contest or Appeal arises from an action during a Mass Meeting, Party Canvass or Convention held less than ~~fourteen (14)~~ *thirty (30)* days prior to the deadline for the official committee chairman to certify a nominee, a contest or appeal may be made directly to the appropriate Congressional District Committee.

SECTION C. Finality

The State Central Committee shall make the final decision, upon timely appeal, on all Party controversies and contests in any Election District of the State, rulings of the General Counsel and on all other matters ~~deemed to~~ *affecting* the efficiency of the Party organization or the success of the Party.

Dave Foster moved to amend by inserting *“as defined in Article I of the Party Plan”* after *“party member”*, wherever it appears.

The Foster amendment was agreed to and the amendment labeled Amendment #5 as amended, was adopted by voice vote.

On behalf of the Party Plan Committee, Mike Thomas moved the adoption of the amendment labeled Amendment #6.

Amendment #6 – Qualifications of Certain Appointments

Amend Article I, Section B by inserting the matter in italics:

SECTION B. Participation

All Chairmen and members of Official Committees, delegates to Conventions, and voters in Mass Meetings or Party Canvasses provided for in the State Party Plan shall be members of the Republican Party of Virginia as stated in this Article and must be legally qualified voters of the respective Units or election Districts which they represent as Chairmen, members, delegates or voters.

In order to be eligible for appointment or designation to an Official Committee or any subcommittee that establishes or recommends rules governing any Official Committee, an individual must be a member of a unit committee or one of the organizations granted representation on the State Central Committee. This requirement shall not apply to the State Finance Chairman or to the members of the State Finance Committee, or its equivalent of any Official Committee.

Upon the request of Bob Watson, the Committee agreed by unanimous consent to correct the omission of a comma between *“Official Committee”* and *“or”* in the first sentence.

The amendment labeled Amendment #6, as amended, was adopted by voice vote.

The time to which further consideration of the amendment labeled Amendment #3 having been reached, the Committee resumed its consideration.

Several motions to amend and postpone the substitute amendment having failed and the previous question having been ordered, the substitute amendment failed by voice vote.

Chris Marston moved to amend the original motion, labeled Amendment #3 – Version 2, by striking *“issued”* and inserting in its place *“published”*; and adding to the motion by inserting at the end of the first sentence of paragraph 1 of Section A of Article VIII *“and published in their entirety on the website of the Republican Party of Virginia”*.

The previous question having been ordered on the amendment and the original motion, both carried by voice vote and the amendment labeled Amendment #3 – Version 2, as amended, was adopted.

Bob Watson moved to reconvene in executive session for the purpose of discussing finances and a personnel matter. The motion carried by voice vote.

The Committee convened in executive session at 2:54pm.

The Committee reconvened at 3:27pm, ending the executive session.

Chris Marston moved to certify that the topics discussed in executive session were limited to financial and personnel matters; motion carried by voice vote.

New Business

Convention Call

Chris Marston moved to adopt the draft call for the Convention circulated with the call for the meeting.

The Call was adopted after amendments in the following form:

Republican Party of Virginia 2020 Quadrennial Convention
May 1-2, 2020
Vines Center Liberty University
1971 University Boulevard
Lynchburg, VA 24502
(Convening on 5/1 at 2:30 pm and on 5/2 at 10:00 am)

Call to Convene

As Chairman of the Republican Party of Virginia and pursuant to the Plan of Organization and as recommended and directed by the State Central Committee, I, Jack Wilson, do hereby issue this Call for the Republican Party of Virginia's 2020 Quadrennial Convention (the "Convention") to be held at the Liberty University Vines Center, or its alternate location, on May 1-2, 2020 for the following purposes:

- A. Binding Virginia Delegates to the 2020 Republican National Convention as to their choice for President on the first ballot by a Presidential Preference Poll;
- B. Electing 12 At-Large Delegates ("National Delegates") and 12 At-Large Alternate Delegates ("National Alternates") to the Republican National Convention to be held on August 24-27, 2020 at the Spectrum Center, Charlotte, NC in (or its alternate site) (the "National Convention");
- C. Nominating two Electors At-Large to be voted for in the presidential election on November 3, 2020;
- D. Electing a State Chairman;
- E. Nominating a National Committeeman and National Committeewoman;
- F. And for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the Convention.

The Convention will open on Friday May 1st at 2:30 pm for the election of permanent Convention officers and adoption of rules. No other election shall occur prior to 12:00 noon on Saturday May 2nd.

I direct the Executive Director of the Republican Party of Virginia to publish this Official Call on the RPV website and via such other means as may be necessary, in accordance with the Rules of the Republican Party.

I. Qualifications for Participation

All legal and qualified voters under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, regardless of race, religion, national origin or sex, who are in accord with the principles of the Republican Party, and who, if requested, express in open meeting either orally or in writing as may be required their intent to support all of its nominees for public office in the ensuing election may participate as members of the Republican Party of Virginia in its mass meetings, party canvasses, conventions, or primaries encompassing their respective election districts.

II. Composition of Convention

The Convention shall be composed of delegates and alternate delegates of the respective units they represent. Each unit is allocated one (1) delegate vote for each two hundred fifty (250) votes or major portion thereof cast for the Republican nominee in the most recent elections for President and Governor, provided that each unit shall be entitled to at least one (1) delegate vote.

Delegates and alternate delegates shall be elected in unit mass meetings, party canvasses or conventions called in conformity with the Plan of Organization. Each unit may elect no more than five delegates and five alternate delegates for each delegate vote allocated. Each unit's Delegate Vote is set forth below:

Unit	Delegate Vote
Accomack County	58
Albemarle County	137
Alexandria	97
Alleghany County/Covington	41
Amelia County	32
Amherst County	65
Appomattox County	39
Arlington County	146
Augusta County	174
Bath County	11
Bedford County	205
Bland County	17
Botetourt County	90
Bristol	32
Brunswick County	21
Buchanan County	43
Buckingham County	27
Campbell County	130
Caroline County	46
Carroll County	69
Charles City County	10
Charlotte County	25
Charlottesville	22
Chesapeake	349
Chesterfield County	574

Unit	Delegate Vote
Craig County	15
Culpeper County	88
Cumberland County	19
Danville	48
Dickenson County	30
Dinwiddie County	49
Emporia/Greenville County	18
Essex County	19
Fairfax City	27
Fairfax County	110
Falls Church	11
Fauquier County	146
Floyd County	36
Fluvanna County	48
Franklin City/Southampton County	45
Franklin County	123
Frederick County	167
Fredericksburg	25
Galax	11
Giles County	41
Gloucester County	86
Goochland County	60
Grayson County	37
Greene County	40
Halifax County	64
Hampton	116
Hanover County	270

Clarke County	32
Colonial Heights	38
Unit	Delegate Vote
Henrico County	415
Henry County	98
Highland County	7
Hopewell	27
Isle of Wight County	81
King and Queen County	15
King George County	47
King William County	40
Lancaster County	25
Lee County	52
Loudoun County	466
Louisa County	71
Lunenburg County	22
Lynchburg	116
Madison County	31
Manassas	40
Manassas Park	12
Martinsville	15
Mathews County	25
Mecklenburg County	54
Middlesex County	26
Montgomery County	128
Nelson County	29

Harrisonburg	40
Unit	Delegate Vote
County	
Prince Edward County	28
Prince George County	61
Prince William County	473
Pulaski County	74
Radford	18
Rappahannock County	18
Richmond City	112
Richmond County	15
Roanoke County	209
Roanoke City	95
Rockbridge County/Lexington/Buena Vista	64
Rockingham County	176
Russell County	59
Salem	49
Scott County	53
Shenandoah County	94
Smyth County	64
Spotsylvania County	221
Stafford County	220
Staunton	35
Suffolk	119

New Kent County	56
Newport News	166
Norfolk	141
Northampton County	19
Northumberland County	31
Nottoway County	25
Orange County	69
Page County	51
Patrick County	44
Petersburg	10
Pittsylvania County	142
Poquoson	35
Portsmouth	84
Powhatan	81

Surry County	13
Sussex County	14
Tazewell County	95
Virginia Beach	634
Warren County	74
Washington County	127
Waynesboro	32
Westmoreland County	30
Williamsburg/James City County	163
Winchester	32
Wise County/Norton	82
Wythe County	66
York County	127

Military Provision

Any Military Member who is otherwise qualified under Article I to participate in Republican Party actions and who complies with the procedures to become a delegate to any Convention as set forth in the Official Call of the Convention, Mass Meeting, or Party Canvass called for the purpose of selecting delegates and alternates to that Convention (other than a national Republican Convention), and who produces valid military identification or other proof of active-duty status shall be certified as a delegate and shall not be required to be elected as a delegate. The number of delegates certified in this manner shall count toward each unit's maximum allowable number of convention delegates.

Military Members who are certified as delegates pursuant to the preceding paragraph that are unable to attend the convention in person due to obligations of their official military orders, shall have their votes cast within their unit delegation according to candidate preference ballots. Candidate preference ballots shall list the Military Members rank order preference among candidates (i.e., first choice, second choice, third choice, etc.). Their votes shall be cast for the highest ranked choice candidate who remains eligible to receive a vote in a particular round of voting. Candidate preference ballots shall be made available by the RPV Chairman or his designee at least twenty (20) days prior to the convention. Ballots must be returned to Chairman Jack Wilson no later than 12:30 pm on Tuesday April 28, 2020.

III. Delegate Registration Fee

To assist the operations of the Republican Party of Virginia in supporting unit mass meetings and conventions, and the administration of the state Convention, a Delegate Registration Fee of Thirty-Five Dollars (\$35.00) is requested of each person standing for

election as a delegate or alternate delegate to the state Convention. Any delegate who fails to pay the registration fee may participate only in the Presidential Preference Poll.

IV. Candidates Filing Requirements

(a) Candidates for the Presidential Preference Poll shall pay a filing fee of \$20,000 and submit a completed original version of the relevant filing form to the Chairman via postal mail, or in person, to be received no later than 5:00 PM on January 15, 2020. Postmarks do not govern.

(b) Candidates for National Delegate and National Alternate must each submit a completed original version of the relevant filing form to the Chairman via postal mail, or in person, to be received no earlier than noon January 23, 2020 and no later than 5:00 PM April 2, 2020. Postmarks do not govern. Additionally, candidates for National Delegate and National Alternate must submit a petition signed by 125 Virginia voters that is notarized in accordance with Virginia statutes on elections, along with a check or proof of electronic payment of a \$250 filing fee to the Republican Party of Virginia. Candidates seeking election for National Delegate or National Alternate may do so through their respective District Convention or the State Convention, but not both.

(c) Candidates for Republican Party of Virginia State Chairman must submit a completed original version of the relevant filing form along with a check or proof of electronic payment of a \$5,000 filing fee to the Republican Party of Virginia, to the Chairman via postal mail, or in person, to be received no later than 5:00 PM January 15, 2020. Postmarks do not govern.

(d) Candidates for National Committeeman and National Committeewoman must submit a completed original version of the relevant filing form along with a check or proof of electronic payment of a \$2,500 filing fee to the Republican Party of Virginia, to the Chairman via postal mail, or in person, to be received no later than 5:00 PM January 15, 2020. Postmarks do not govern.

(e) Candidates for Elector At-Large must submit a completed original version of the official filing form, along with a check or proof of electronic payment of a \$250 filing fee to the Republican Party of Virginia, to the Chairman via postal mail to be received no later than 5:00 PM April 2, 2020. Postmarks do not govern.

(f) All prefiling forms for offices to be chosen at this convention shall be posted on the RPV website.

VI. Certification of Delegates

Delegates and alternate delegates elected by each unit shall be certified in writing over the signatures of the permanent chairman and permanent secretary of the mass meeting or convention, and by the unit chairman in the case of a party canvass. Such Delegate Certifications shall be made using a form to be posted on the RPV website, and must be delivered to the Chairman or his designee no later than April 15 if postmarked or April 17 if delivered electronically or in person (as indicated in Section H.1.c of the Party Plan). Delegate Certifications should be delivered as soon after the election of delegates or, in the case of a cancelled Mass Meeting, Party Canvass, or Convention, the declaration of their election pursuant to Section H.9 of the Party Plan.

VII. Official Correspondence

All prefiling forms to be transmitted to the Chairman via postal mail must be sent to Jack Wilson, Chairman, Republican Party of Virginia, P.O. Box 12025, Richmond, VA 23241. Prefiling forms and fees that may be transmitted in person must be delivered to Jack Wilson, Chairman, Republican Party of Virginia, 115 East Grace Street, Richmond, Virginia 23235. Unit certifications of state convention delegates and alternates should be sent via email to 2020-Convention@rpv.org, unless the Chairman or his designee has provided prior written consent to the use of other means (e.g., FTP, DropBox, and so forth).

VIII. Presidential Preference Poll

Virginia delegates and alternate delegates to the Republican Nation Convention elected by the state and district conventions shall be bound on the first ballot to the candidate receiving the highest number of votes in the Presidential Preference Poll.

Mark Kelly's motion to waive the requirement to publish in the newspaper carried by voice vote.

Ben Slone's motion to dispense with all remaining reports, other than National Committeeman, carried by voice vote.

The National Committeeman presented his report and announced that he will seek another term.

Jennifer Brown moved to adjourn; the Committee adjourned at 3:53pm.