

**Meeting of the State Central Committee of
The Republican Party of Virginia**

March 14, 2015

The meeting was called to order 1:10 p.m. by Republican Party of Virginia (RPV) Chairman John Whitbeck. The meeting was held at the RPV headquarters at The Richard D. Obenshain Center located in Richmond.

The invocation was given by Eastern Vice Chairman Kevin Gentry.

First Vice Chairman Mike Thomas led the Pledge of Allegiance.

First District Chairman Eric Herr read the Republican Creed.

The Chairman appointed a Proxy Committee that consisted of Fourth District Chairman Jack Wilson, who served as Chair, Mr. Herr and Eastern Vice Chair Juanita Ballenger.

Secretary Diana Banister called the roll.

John	Whitbeck	Allen	Webb	Noah	Wall
Michael	Thomas	Carol	Dawson	Matthew	Burrow
Morton	Blackwell	Roger	Miles	Kevin	Corbett
Diana	Banister	Carl	Anderson	Michelle	Jenkins
Rich	Nilsen	John	Salm, III	Marcy	Hernick
Chris	Marston	Barbara	Tabb	Jerry	Lester
Pete	Snyder	Stephen	Thomas	Susan	Edwards
Eric	Herr	Chip	Muir	Heidi	Stirrup
Jack	Wilson	Steve	Trent	Mark	Berg
Lynn	Tucker	Bill	Flanagan	Kay	Gunter
Wendell	Walker	Rick	Michael	Eve	Gleason
Fred	Gruber	Bob	Wheeler	Keith	Damon
Adam	Tolbert	Carole	de Triquet	Patsy	Drain
Jo	Thoburn	Renee	Maxey	David	Ray
Terry	Wear	Chris	Shores	Devon	Flynn
Kasha	Nielsen	Peyton	Knight	Jake	Lee
Linda	Bartlett	ClaraBelle	Wheeler	Heather	Homan
Jackson	Miller	Georgia	Alvis-Long	Jeff	Wernsing
Kevin	Gentry	Mickey	Mixon	Pam	Brown
Juanita	Balenger	Gene	Rose	Elizabeth	Mundy
Al	Aitken	Jane	Ladd	Jimmie	Massie
Steve	Albertson	Doug	Rogers	John	Cosgrove
Larry	Kile	Marie	Quinn		
		David	Fuller		

The members that were in attendance via proxy include the following:

Mark Kelly, proxy held by Meredith Wall
Kathy Hayden, proxy held by Patsy Walker
Kristi Way, proxy held by Linwood Cobb
Suzanne Curran, proxy held by Anne Fitzgerald
Travis Witt, proxy held by Diana Shores
Devon Flynn, proxy held by Colin Sapko
Fred Gruber, proxy held by David Johnson
Anne Fitzgerald, proxy held by Ken Adams
Joseph Sonsmith, proxy held by Steve Troxel
Matthew Burrow, proxy held by Robert Kenyon
Jeanine Lawson, proxy held by Russ Moulten
Jane Ladd, proxy held by Don Williams

The committee reported twelve proxies were in order.

The Chairman began by discussing the financial situation of the Party and the recent decisions to cut back on RPV staff.

Mr. Herr made a motion to move into executive session. There was a second and the motion passed.

Chairman Whitbeck announced the appointment of Finance Committee chairman Pete Snyder. Mr. Snyder made a presentation about the finances and how the Party will rebuild and update its business model.

Chairman Whitbeck introduced Jim O'Connell from the Republican National Committee who will assist in the development of the political plan leading into and up to the 2016 elections.

A motion was made to come out of Executive Session and was seconded. The motion passed.

Senator Bryce Reeves and Del. Jimmie Massie gave reports from the Virginia General Assembly and about some of the candidates running for important Senate and House seats.

Mr. Gentry made a presentation about political strategy. He reviewed some of the exit polling in 2012 and 2014 and the important issues the Party should be focused on in future elections.

The Treasurer's report was given by Rich Nilsen. He reported a new program at RPV called the "Treasurers Network" that will be an outreach to unit treasurers and candidates as well. It will provide frequently asked questions about best practices for filing reports, etc. He will be assisted by Young Republican Federated of Virginia member Jeff Wernsing. Mr. Nilsen went over the procedures on filing the reports to the FEC. He suggested members review the shareholders report from the state of Michigan about how the Party turned their financial situation around.

Chairman Whitbeck announced he has asked Chris Marston to serve as the General Counsel to the RPV. He gave his background in assisting in campaigns and as Chairman of Alexandria City Committee. Fifth

District Member Clara Belle Wheeler made a motion, seconded by Mr. Thomas to name Mr. Marston as Counsel to the RPV. The motion passed.

The Chairman announced that a new Budget Chairman would be appointed in the near future.

No old business was brought before the body.

New Business:

The Chairman recognized Carl Anderson who announced that he had, with the help of others, put together a 63-page document, a "Handbook on Mass Meetings, Conventions and Party Canvasses." This handbook will help those at the district and local level in the duties and requirements of leadership in holding these various party activities. He thanked Anne Fitzgerald especially for her help in putting this document together. He also reported that he has created a 23-page manual for Unit Chairs. These are documents that will "help folks at the grassroots level be more successful." Mr. Anderson recommended doing the same for a Treasurers guide as well.

Chairman Whitbeck introduced Lynn Tucker as new Chair of the Fifth District.

New Presidential member from the Fourth District, Carole de Trichet, was introduced by the Chairman.

Kasha Nielsen, elected in February as College Republican Federated of Virginia Chair, announced expanding the federation and working towards helping candidates in the fall. She asked for contributions from Members to CR's.

National Committeeman Morton Blackwell gave a report regarding the latest meetings of the Republican National Committee. He reported that based on the convention schedule in 2016, the RPV may have to move District and State conventions earlier in the year to abide by the new rules established by the RNC.

The Chairman recognized new Tenth District Chair Jo Thoburn.

Chairman Whitbeck recognized Mrs. Wheeler who was recently elected as a representative to the State Board of Elections. Mrs. Wheeler advocated for poll watchers at each polling place in order to assure free, fair and legal elections especially with the House and Senate races coming up. She encouraged others to speak before the board.

Sixth District Chairman Wendall Walker gave a report on events in the District.

Ninth District Chairman Adam Tolbert announced a couple of events in the district including a Republican Leadership Conference that will include training events for activists. Chairman Whitbeck, Mr. Thomas and Mr. Gentry will be speaking at this event.

Tenth District Member Heidi Stirrup reported on the Lincoln Day event and that featured Chairman Whitbeck and Ed Gillespie. She thanked the Chairman helping raise money in the district through this event.

Eleventh District Chairman Terry Wear reported there had been some difficulties with a worker in the 2012 cycle and that it has been handed over to legal authorities.

Mr. Herr announced he had become the Political Action Chairman for the NAACP in his local area and is active in his community and encouraged others to do the same.

Virginia Federation of Republican Women Chair Linda Bartlett announced there are some great women candidates running this year including for Fairfax County Board of Supervisors. The VFRW Convention will take place in April in Short Pump. She encouraged all women of the SCC to join VFRW.

YR's Chairman Jeff Wernsing reported their convention will take place next month in Fredericksburg.

Third District member Barbara Tabb announced Shad Planking April 15 and that Chairman Whitbeck will be a keynote speaker. She also congratulated the Chairman on a great meeting today.

Ms. Ballenger gave a report from Louisiana, turning out the vote and electing new Senator Bill Cassidy. She said everyone pulled together and that's what the Republican Party of Virginia needs to do.

Chairman Whitbeck announced possibly the next meeting date will possibly be the last Saturday in June.

Col. Bill Flanagan made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Heidi stirrup and passed. The meeting adjourned at 2:48 pm.