

Parker County Republican Party Minutes for August 1, 2024 CEC

Chairman Gray called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The prayer was offered by Ray Young, the US Pledge by Larry Baber and the Texas Pledge by John Schoolfield. Chairman Gray recognized elected officials, candidates and guest present at the meeting.

Chairman Gray began by revealing that he had received over 60 phone calls from new residents of Parker County, wanting to get involved. In light of this opportunity, he put forward a goal of 100,000 Republican voters by November with a new motto: "Run up the Score". We need to engage with voters who are motivated and get them involved in civic action. Our email list is 4,300 names and growing and we are raising more money too - nearly \$70K so far. This is the time to reach out to the community while they are focused on the November election.

Chairman Gray confirmed the appointment of Elizabeth Bozzell as Secretary, and requested the roll call. Those present: Mindy White, Marsha Hardin, Earlene Clouse, Jeannine Kuhnell, Lynn Monaco, Jim Forgey, Michael West, Laura Hester, Holly Hazlett, Joe Wilkinson, Greg Boggs, MerryLynn Gerstenschlager, Betty Reinert, Barbara Chapman, Mike Phillips, Bruce Melberg, Tom Paez, Jacob Will, Lori Traeger, Marvin Herring, Gene Martin, Jeff Streetman, John Korpall, Amanda Garner, John Schoolfield, and Ed Huddleston. The Chairman announced we had a quorum.

Joe Wilkinson made a motion to approve the previous minutes, seconded by Jim Forgey and the motion was approved. Chairman Gray moved on to the appointment of officers: Richard Heizer for Vice Chairman and Ray Young as Treasurer.

The first order of business was approval of the Biennial Bylaws, which were presented with recommended amendments by Chairman Gray.

The first change was to add GOTV to the longer phrase Get Out the Vote in Section I, item 4 (b). A motion was made by Betty Reinert and seconded by Mike Phillips and passed.

Under Article IV - Officers, A. County Chairman was added: 'Unanimous consent by the Chair, the Vice Chair, the Treasurer and the Budget and Finance Committee Chair may authorize an emergency expenditure not to exceed \$2,500 and rationale for such action shall be provided electronically to all CEC members.' Joe Wilkinson questioned whether the emergency funds could be used for federal election expenses. Chairman Gray replied that he had consulted a campaign finance attorney. A motion to approve came from Jeannine Kuhnell and seconded by Laura Hester. Motion approved.

Then under Article IV, Item B - Vice Chair, add the language, "The Vice Chairman shall assist the County Chair in the development and maintenance of a list of potential election judges and alternate election judges." A motion was made by Gene Martin and seconded by John Carpal. Approved.

Under Article IV, Item C - Executive Director, Chairman Gray proposed to add the position of "Executive Director - The Executive Director shall assist the County Chairman in administrative duties including maintaining the headquarters, volunteer outreach and coordination, community engagement, fundraising, scheduling and communications." This would be a paid position, and will be funded through 04/30/2025 by a donor, whose identity will be revealed when the change is approved. It will be on a 1099 contractor basis, and the funds to underwrite the position will of course be reported as required to the TEC. Chairman Gray proposes to offer the position to Riley Jo Spurgeon, who has prior experience in this type of position for larger counties.

Ed Huddleston expressed concern about donor funds underwriting party activities and whether that would result in undue influence by the donor who might try to manage the Executive Director.

Tom Schoolfield asked if there will be controls for the Executive Director, and Joe Wilkinson wanted to know if there will be a contract with duties spelled out and a mechanism for breaking the contract. It was agreed that the CEC will be provided with a copy of the contract.

Jeff Streetman questioned if we will need to have a donor every two years. Chairman Gray replied that the plan is that having even a part time Executive Director will enable the party to raise enough funds to continue the program.

Motion to accept the amendment was made by Marvin Herring, with second by Jeff Streetman.

Under Article V Meetings, Section 3 John Carpal moved and Jim Forgey seconded to add after "agendas must be emailed out to CEC members" "at least 7 days prior to the meeting." After discussion, Jim Forgey moved and Marvin Herring seconded to change the added language to "at least 5 days prior to the meeting." The motion carried.

Article VI, Section 3. Standing Committees, the Volunteers & Headquarters Committee changed to Volunteers & Community Engagement. A motion to approve the change was made by Jim Forgey and seconded by Lori Traeger, and the motion carried.

The recommendation was to add Section 6. The County Chairman may create such Ad Hoc Committees as may be deemed necessary to assist in performing duties not specifically assigned to a Standing Committee. An Ad Hoc Committee will have a

defined and documented purpose and a specified duration. A motion was made by Gene Martin and seconded by Jim Forgey. The motion carried.

D. The Volunteers and Headquarters Committee is renamed Volunteers and Community Engagement Committee. Motion by Gene Martin and second by Mike Phillips. Motion carried.

Gene Martin moved to strike item 6 under Section D, concerning bias, and John Korpala seconded. The motion carried and that item is struck from the bylaws.

Under Committees, Section E. Resolutions Committee, item 4 was recommended to be amended to: "The Resolutions Committee cannot, without just cause and rationale, prevent a resolution from being presented to the CEC." Joe Wilkinson moved to approve the change and Jeannine Kuhnell seconded. The motion carried.

Ed Huddleston moved to accept all the approved changes. Jim Forgey seconded. Carried.

Chairman Gray presented the campaign budget to spend \$8,000 for the "Run up the Score" efforts. This would include \$4,000 for yard signs, \$250 for Stickers, \$1,250 for T-shirts, and \$2,500 for printed materials to distribute.

Lori Traeger moved to approve, seconded by Jim Forgey and the motion carried.

Chairman Gray presented the Run up the Score logo and the new Parker County Republican Party logo for consideration by the CEC and they were approved by acclamation. Joe Wilkinson pointed out that we need more voter registrars and suggested that we add a sign up to the the CEC website.

Richard Heizer distributed lists of certified Republican volunteers to serve as clerks in the General Election.

At 8:05 Marvin Herring moved to adjourn, seconded by Betty Reinert and the meeting adjourned.