**Meeting of the Republican Party of Virginia**

**State Central Committee**

**December 11, 2015**

Chairman John Whitbeck called the meeting to order at 1:12 pm. The meeting of the State Central Committee took place at the Homestead Resort in Hot Springs, VA as a prelude to the annual Advance beginning this evening.

The invocation was given by Ninth District Member Travis Witt. Mr. Witt also led the pledge of allegiance.

Second District member Carl Anderson read the Republican Creed.

Chairman Whitbeck appointed a proxy committee Chaired by David Bartholomew, with Ninth District Member Kevin Corbett and Jim O’Connell from the Republican National Committee.

The Secretary called the roll, the following members were in attendance:

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| John | Whitbeck |
| Michael | Thomas |
| Morton | Blackwell |
| Kathy | Hayden |
| Diana | Banister |
| Rich | Nilsen |
| Chris | Marston |
| Pete | Snyder |
| Eric | Herr |
| Curtis | Colgate |
| Barbara | Tabb |
| Jack | Wilson |
| Lynn | Tucker |
| Wendell | Walker |
| Fred | Gruber |
| Mark | Kelly |
| Adam | Tolbert |
| Jo  | Thoburn |
| Terry | Wear |
| Dan | Webb |
| Linda | Bartlett |
| John | Cosgrove |
| Juanita | Balenger |
| Al | Aitken |
| Bob | Watson |
| Larry | Kile |
| Allen | Webb |
| Carol | Dawson |
| Carl | Anderson |
| Kishore | Thota |
| Janet | Riddick |
| Jennifer | Lee |
| Steve | Trent |
| Bill | Flanagan |
| Rick | Michael |
| Carol | De Triquet |
| Renee | Maxey |
| Chris | Shores |
| Peyton | Knight |
| Clara-Belle | Wheeler |
| Travis | Witt |
| Georgia | Alvis-Long |
| Mickey | Mixon |
| Gene | Rose |
| Anne | Fitzgerald |
| Jane | Ladd |
| Marie | Quinn |
| Kristi | Way |
| David | Fuller |
| Noah | Wall |
| Anne | LeHuray |
| Matthew | Burrow |
| Kevin | Corbett |
| Michelle | Jenkins |
| Marcy | Hernick |
| Jerry | Lester |
| Susan | Edwards |
| Heidi | Stirrup |
| Andrew | Nicholson |
| Kay | Gunter |
| Eve | Gleason |
| Keith | Damon |
| Patsy | Drain |
| David | Ray |
| Devon  | Flynn |
| Jake  | Lee |
| Michael | Wood |
| Jimmie | Massie |
| Bryce | Reeves |

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The Proxy Committee reported thirteen were in order as follows.

Bob Wheeler, proxy held by Wayne Ozmore

Delegate Jackson Miller, proxy held by Delegate Tim Hugo

Suzanne Curran, proxy held by Sandra Adams

Joseph Sonsmith, proxy held by Ken Adams

Kasha Nielsen, proxy held by Corey Scott

Elizabeth Mundy, proxy held by Fay Williamson

Doug Rogers, proxy held by Don Williams

Miki Miller, proxy held by Cher McCoy

Roger Miles, proxy held by Christopher Brown

Julie Williams, proxy held by David Thoburn

Kevin Gentry, proxy held by Ken Longo

Steven Corazza, proxy held by Jim Cohen

Cheryl Hargrove, proxy held by David Bartholomew

There was a motion to approve the minutes from the September 19 meeting. The motion was seconded and with no corrections, the minutes were approved.

The Chairman announced that Finance Chairman Pete Snyder would be finishing his term as of today. Chairman Whitbeck thanked Mr. Snyder for his service and hard work on behalf of the Party. Mr. Snyder received a standing ovation from the members and guests.

Chairman Whitbeck turned the meeting over to Party Plan Committee Chairman Eve Gleason to discuss Party Plan amendments that had been deferred from the July meeting.

Mrs. Gleason sent the proposed Amendments to State Central Committee members in advance of the meeting and had two conference calls to discuss the contents of each Amendment that had been recommended to the body by the Party Plan Committee.

The first of the Amendments is intended to put limits on “slating” and through many discussions the recommended language is the best chance for being successful explained Mrs. Gleason.

First Vice Chairman Mike Thomas offered an amendment in the form of a substitute amendment to Article VIII, Section A as follows:

*10. If the number of persons seeking election as a member of a unit committee or as a delegate to a unit, district or state convention does not exceed the total number allowed by the State Party Plan, all candidates for such office who meet the requirements of Article I of the State Party Plan and, where required, any prefiling requirements of Article I of the State Party Plan and, where required, any prefiling requirements, shall be deemed elected.*

*A unit Chairman shall document the reason(s) for determining that an individual, who is seeking election as a member of the unit committee or as a convention delegate, has been disqualified for the reason that the individual does not meet the Qualifications for Participation as stated in Article I and/or the unit’s prefiling requirements, if any and shall provide such documentation with the certification of delegates required in Article VIII, Section H.*

The amendment was seconded by Fourth District Chairman Jack Wilson.

First District Chairman Eric Herr spoke against the motion saying it “does nothing for people who lie to us.” He suggested the original Amendment be tabled or approved by the Committee then more work can be done on the aspects of concern following.

Mr. Wilson, Don Williams, Wayne Ozmore, Carol DeTriquet and Lynn Tucker spoke in favor of the amendment.

National Committeeman Morton Blackwell, Carl Anderson, David Ray, Allen Webb, Larry Kile and Keith Damon spoke in opposition to the amendment.

At the suggestion of 2nd District Chairman Curtis Colgate Mr. Herr offered an additional paragraph to Mr. Thomas’ amendment that read as follows: “Additionally, an individual’s qualifications may be challenged by any member present and may be excluded by a two-thirds vote after the individual is given an opportunity to defend their qualifications.”

Parliamentarian Chris Marston confirmed that this Amendment is in order.

Further discussion commenced and a group of individuals that included Mr. Thomas, Mr. Herr and Mrs. Gleason convened.

Delegate Tim Hugo gave a report from the House of Delegates. He said rather than a Governor, Terry McAuliffe acts like he’s Chairman of the Democratic Party not Governor. He reported that further discussion of party registration has been underway.

Senator John Cosgrove thanked everyone who helped keep the Republican majority in the State Senate. He reiterated the importance of the work on legislation requiring party registration. Senator Cosgrove reported that he and his colleagues must often vote against bad legislation.

College Republican Federation of Virginia member Devon Flynn gave a report on the Federation’s activity that included door knocks and canvassing on behalf of candidates this fall. He announced their convention on Jan. 30 in Richmond. He introduced fellow member Jake Lee, 2nd vice chairman, who reported they had started 7 new chapters this year, taking their numbers from 27 to 34 chapters around the Commonwealth.

Mrs. Gleason came back to podium, after debate and discussion with the parliamentarian and others.

Mr. Herr withdrew his amendment to Mr. Thomas’ amendment and offered a new one. He said Mr. Thomas’ amendment would stand in total with an additional sentence that reads: “Additionally, an individual’s election may be challenged by any member and may be excluded by a two-thirds vote.” The motion was seconded by Mr. Colgate and Mrs. Gleason concurred that this version is in the “spirit” of what the Party Plan Committee intended.

Mr. Thomas commented that there was no need to “make the perfect the enemy of the good” and spoke in favor of this language.

Mr. Bartholomew made a motion to Call the Question, there was a second and the question was called.

The amendment by Mr. Herr to Mr. Thomas’ amendment was approved.

A motion was made to Call the Question on Mr. Thomas’ amendment to the first Party Plan Amendment, the motion was seconded and the question called.

Mr. Ray reminded the group that he had requested a roll call vote and his motion received a second. The question was called on this motion and the motion on a roll call vote failed.

Mr. Herr read the full amendment again and the motion passed by a voice vote. The Party Plan Amendment was adopted. (All approved Party Plan Amendments are attached to these Minutes).

Mrs. Gleason made a motion to approve the second Party Plan Amendment that addresses the loss of membership upon becoming an officer of another political party. The motion carried and the Amendment was approved.

The third Party Plan Amendment for discussion updates the process for amending the Party Plan at a convention and requires that only delegates to the convention may submit an amendment to the Party Plan. It provides for notice and distribution of amendments via email and website rather than via postal mail and would modernize communication methods.

Mr. Damon made a motion to add the phrase that communications would be “sent to unit chairmen of the most recent list.” Mr. Ray spoke against the Damon amendment. Allen Webb spoke in favor of this amendment.

A motion was made to Call the Question and end debate. The motion was seconded and carried.

Mr. Damon’s amendment to the third Party Plan Amendment was adopted.

Discussion commenced on the underlying amendment. Mr. Thomas spoke about concerns over the Amendment.

A motion was made to Call the Question and seconded.

The vote of the State Central Committee on the amendment, as amended by Mr. Damon, was called for by standing. Without 3/4’s of the committee in favor, the amendment failed.

Mrs. Gleason made a motion to approve the fourth of the Party Plan Amendments regarding voting rights for state central members on District Committees. The motion was seconded and without further discussion the motion carried and the Amendment was adopted.

Regarding the Party Plan Amendment #5 on borrowing limits for the RPV, Mr. Herr offered an amendment by adding one sentence: “The itemized purpose for which the borrowed funds will be used must be specified in an email or physical document.”

Mr. Wilson expressed concern about word “itemized” and how that would be determined. Further discussion commenced.

Mr. Bartholomew made a motion to call the question which was seconded.

The Herr amendment adding the sentence was approved.

The vote on the underlying amendment passed and the Party Plan Amendment was adopted.

Mrs. Gleason made a motion to approve the sixth Party Plan Amendment that describes the ethical conduct that is expected of voting members of official committees within the Republican Party of Virginia. The motion carried and the Amendment was approved.

With the adoption of the first Party Plan Amendment, Mrs. Gleason reported that the seventh Party Plan Amendment was now not necessary as the language was adopted.

Reporting that it had been passed unanimously in the Party Plan Committee, Mrs. Gleason made a motion to approve the eighth Party Plan Amendment regarding the military vote. The motion carried and the Amendment was approved.

The ninth Party Plan Amendment clarifies language on the elections process explained Mrs. Gleason. There was no discussion and the Amendment was adopted.

The tenth Party Plan Amendment deals with the circumstances and process by which a unit or committee can hold electronic meetings. Mrs. Gleason explained the Amendment in further detail.

Mr. Thomas offered an amendment that gave further clarification of the types of meetings that could be held electronically. With this amendment he would support the Party Plan Amendment. The motion to amend was seconded and approved.

Mr. Anderson spoke in favor of the Amendment and explained more details about the meetings allowed. He offered an amendment adding to Section G, a. the “executive committee” as one of the committees allowed to hold electronic meetings.

Mr. Allen Webb spoke in opposition to the amendment, listing the difficulties involved.

A motion was made to Call the Question, the motion was seconded but failed.

Further discussion commenced, Mr. Ray spoke in opposition to the Amendment.

Another motion to Call the Question was made. The motion was seconded and passed.

The motion on the Amendment on electronic meetings failed.

A motion was made and seconded to go into executive session. The committee did so at 2:46 pm.

The committee reconvened the general session at 3:34 pm.

Sixth District Committee member Georgia Alvis-Long reported that the RPV is hosting a Christmas store at the Advance with donated items to help raise money for the Party.

Mr. Anderson gave an update on the legal situation in 24th district. The lower court ruled the RPV did not have standing. A donor gave the money for the attorney in the case and former legal counsel Pat McSweeney volunteered his time reported Mr. Anderson.

Virginia Federation of Republican Women President Linda Bartlett reported on their successful fundraiser and a special project with Roxanne Gilmore. She announced their upcoming event in Tysons Corner.

Mr. Blackwell reported that the RNC is “outraising” Democratic National Committee. He is pleased to report more attention is being paid to the ground game. The presidential campaigns are moving into a new phase of the campaign with the test in the early state or a ground game to organize their people to vote.

Young Republican Federation of Virginia President Dan Webb deferred his report.

A motion was made to adjourn. After a second the motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 3:56 pm.