

REPUBLICAN 5th CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE
Minutes of Electronic Meeting
May 11, 2020

On May 4th, Chairman Melvin Adams issued a Call for a meeting of the 5th Congressional District of Virginia Republican Committee for Monday, May 11, 2020, via an online/phone Zoom meeting, beginning at 7:30pm. (This was distributed via email on Melvin's behalf by the committee's Recording Secretary.) This Call contained the agenda for the meeting. Subsequently, the instructions for joining the Zoom meeting were separately distributed on 5/9/20 by the Recording Secretary, on behalf of Charlottesville GOP Chairman Dan Moy.

All guests were able to join the meeting via a separate FreeConference.com online/phone meeting, the instructions for which had been widely disseminated and posted on the CD5 website.

The meeting was officially called to order at 7:37pm by Chairman Adams. Steve Kruskamp gave the invocation, Wally Hudson led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Reneé Maxey read the Virginia Republican Creed.

Chairman Adams made the following temporary appointments:

Parliamentarian – Mary Loose

Timekeeper – Christian Raymond

Proxy Committee – Aaron Moyer (Chair), Alex Pisciarino, Daniel Bradshaw

Proxy Committee Report

Aaron Moyer reported that there were no proxies.

Committee Members Present

The Recording Secretary called roll. The following committee members were Initially present: Melvin Adams, Carolyn Ley, Chris Shores, Aaron Moyer, Marian Dixon, George Urban, Christian Raymond, John Briscoe, Eric Brazeal, Dylan Slaughter, Doug Barringer, Noah Davis, Dan Moy, Cliff White, Mark Nicholson, Greg Schumacher, Darrell Byers, Wally Young, Steve Kruskamp, Mike Hankins, Jim Smith, Wally Hudson, Carlton Ballowe, Daniel Bradshaw, Terry Dixon, Nancy Rodland, Reneé Maxey, Will Kirk, Travis Witt, Cameron Cox, Alex Pisciarino, and Chardon Jenks. This constituted a quorum.

A short while later, Korey Snead, Eric Phillips, Will Pace, and Ed Yensho joined the teleconference, thus bringing the total number of members present to all 36.

Minutes

The Recording Secretary had three sets of minutes for approval, and all had been distributed to the committee members prior to this meeting. The first set was for our 2/8/20 full committee meeting. There being no requested changes, Mike Hankins made a motion that they be approved as distributed. Following a second by Cameron Cox, these were approved by a voice vote, without objection.

The next set of minutes was for our 4/12/20 teleconference meeting. There being no requested changes, Mike Hankins made a motion that these be approved as distributed. Following a second by Travis Witt, these were approved by a voice vote, without objection.

The final set of minutes was for the Executive Committee's 5/5/20 teleconference meeting. The Recording Secretary noted that he had received feedback and a request for changes to the initial draft that he had distributed, and he had therefore made changes and redistributed a revised copy earlier today. Thus, that version was what he wished to offer for consideration. There being no requested changes, Mike Hankins made a motion that the revised minutes be approved as distributed. Following a second by Daniel Bradshaw, these were also approved by a voice vote, without objection.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report had been distributed on 5/8/20 (see Attachment 1), and Treasurer Marian Dixon gave a brief summary of the amounts in each of our state and federal accounts. Marian had also provided a separate breakdown of all the fees that had been received, which were related to our 2020 convention (see Attachment 2). There being no questions, Mike Hankins made a motion that this report be approved as distributed. Following a second by Wally Hudson, the report was approved by a voice vote, without objection.

Rules Committee Report

Mike Hankins, Chairman of the Convention Rules Committee, began his report by listing the rest of the members of his committee, all of whom had been appointed by Chairman Adams at our 2/8/20 meeting. In addition to Mike, these members were Will Pace and Wally Young. By early March, Mike said they had a final set of draft rules for our planned 4/25/20 convention. However, following the Governor issuing a stay-at-home order related to the COVID-19 pandemic, which eliminated our ability to hold an assembled convention, his committee had to draft new rules to accommodate a possible unassembled convention. Mike specifically noted that there had been a strong difference of opinion among the committee members, with Will Pace favoring a single-location unassembled convention and Mike favoring a multiple-location one. This resulted in the committee drafting two separate sets of rules, one for each type of unassembled convention. Mike then

reviewed the pros and cons of the two forms of an unassembled convention. For balloting in each unit locality, the biggest benefit would be the convenience, which would mean a higher participation by delegates. On the other hand, should any issues arise, nobody but the Unit Chairman would be available to address these. For the single-location unassembled convention, having many people available, especially the convention committees, should enable much easier resolution of problems that might arise. The latest versions of the two sets of rules also included rules related to the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) by our volunteer/appointed workers. Mike's final request from everyone was for any feedback concerning changes or additions that needed to be made to the current draft of the Rules document. These requests/suggestions should be emailed to Mike ASAP following this meeting.

Following Mike's report, there was some discussion about how issues might be handled, or not handled, if we had delegates voting in multiple locations. At the end of that, Chairman Adams said he didn't believe we were ready at this point to have a committee vote on our Convention Rules. Will Pace then made a motion that we postpone consideration of the Rules until our next meeting, and Noah Davis provided a second. This motion passed by a voice vote, without objection.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Adams began his report by noting that he had requested reports from the various convention committees, but he had not gotten many responses. He also acknowledged that this might be because it was difficult to come up with a good work plan if our full committee still hadn't made some of the significant decisions that would impact that work – for example, having available the approved Convention Rules. Melvin said he hoped to have all of these reports available by the time of our next meeting.

Next, Melvin summarized the feedback that he'd received from the delegates who had taken the time to contact him. This feedback was as follows:

1. The delegates are grateful for news and updates from our committee;
2. They are weary of the campaigning, particularly the negative campaigning that is occurring on social media and coming to them via emails, phone calls, and texts;
3. They want to cast their votes, many saying they want to do that ASAP; and
4. Of the several hundred delegates that have expressed an opinion, most of them said they'd prefer being able to cast their votes locally; but most said they'd also be willing to travel to a single location for "drive-through" voting, but NOT to attend an assembled convention.

Melvin reported that the RPV has been working with various state agencies to determine what steps we need to take in order to properly protect our workers and

delegates and/or comply with any existing regulations. Meanwhile, he has twice requested from all of our Unit Chairmen that they provide him with several options of local venues that could serve as the sites for “drive-through voting” for an unassembled convention. Melvin said he has still not heard from several of these chairmen.

In an effort to ensure that we would not have any opposition from local authorities if we choose to hold our unassembled convention at the Tree of Life Ministries venue, Chairman Adams said that he had met with both the Commonwealth’s Attorney and Sheriff of Campbell County; and both were in full support of and committed to not interfering with our unassembled convention event, should we decide to go forward with that at the Tree of Life Ministries location. Melvin also reported that the Sheriff had offered to supply off-duty deputies to provide security at our event; and Melvin already has contract forms from the Sheriff for that purpose, if we decide to go that route.

Melvin reported that he had asked Treasurer Marian Dixon to look into the possibility of getting liability insurance for our event in a single location, and the result of that was that it doesn’t appear that we will have difficulty in getting the required insurance. Marian reported that she had received several quotes for the insurance at a single location, and the cost ranged from \$502 to \$1,763. If we decide to go with voting in multiple locations, we would need to obtain multiple policies; and the local units might be the ones who have to obtain the policies. Dan Moy asked what the insurance policies would cover, and why do we need them? Melvin’s answer was that most entities that would agree to allow us to use their facilities required us to have those liability insurance policies in place, for their own protection. Reneé asked how the price of these policies compared to a policy that would have been obtained for an assembled convention. Marian’s answer was that the cost of a policy for an assembled convention would have been a little bit (about \$100) less than the policy for an outdoor event. Any insurance policy that we can obtain would NOT cover anything related to COVID-19 infections.

Determination of Dates, Methods, and Processes for Delegate Votes

Will Kirk made a motion that we hold a modified “drive-through convention” in one location, the Tree of Life Ministries in Campbell County, for June 13, 2020; and Wally Hudson provided a second. Chairman Adams initially set the overall time for our discussion to 15 minutes, but he said we could extend that if necessary. He would also set a time limit of one minute for members who would alternately speak FOR and AGAINST the motion; and nobody could speak a second time unless there was nobody else who wished to speak. Greg Schumacher made an appeal that the time per speaker be set to two minutes. Without objection, the time per speaker was then set to two minutes. The following people spoke on the motion, primarily making the indicated points:

- Mike Hankins – FOR – he was initially in favor of multiple locations and had written the rules for that option; is now concerned that one or more units would have a problem in their locations; thus, he now wants a single voting location
- Cameron Cox – AGAINST – believes we need more time to be prepared, so he wants a 6/20 or later date; believes multiple locations enfranchises more delegates; and we need to have more faith in our Unit Chairs to handle the voting in their localities
- Daniel Bradshaw – FOR – believes 6/13 provides us enough preparation time, since that is almost two months after the initial date we set; is not certain that he'd be able to find a suitable location in Prince Edward Co.; is also concerned that one or more units would have a problem in their locations
- Reneé Maxey – AGAINST – every delegate who has contacted her said he/she wanted to vote in their own locality, and they were also concerned about bathroom facilities when traveling a long distance to/from a central location
- Wally Hudson – FOR – even though he was as pro multiple-locations as he could be and has an ideal facility for conducting drive-through voting in Mecklenburg, he is now convinced that a single location is the right thing to do – because of the liability, logistics, possible legal challenges, and needed access to the convention committees for quick resolution of potential problems; any issue that prevented the legitimate determination of a congressional nominee would disenfranchise all convention delegates
- George Urban – AGAINST – would prefer a date of 6/20; every delegate who had contacted him said he/she wanted to vote in his/her own locality; if we do go with one location, he believes we should consider choosing a new venue that does not give the appearance that it favors one candidate over another; is not convinced that we can process 2,000-2,500 cars through even the large Tree of Life Ministries parking lot in a fairly limed amount of time; believes that limiting certain delegates to voting during a particular period of time during the day (e.g. by zone) is fundamentally inequitable, and this aspect of the proposed rules could be challenged

- Carlton Ballowe – FOR – is concerned that some units will have trouble securing an acceptable voting venue in their localities; units would also have liability concerns – because of the potential for protests on the day of the voting, perhaps even from some within the Republican Party, who might believe such protests would be to the advantage of their preferred candidate
- Eric Brazeal – AGAINST – is concerned about the in-fighting; wants compromise and for us to care about one another; and most importantly, we need to be concerned about what's in the best interest of our delegates
- Wally Young – FOR – wants one location, the Tree of Life Ministries facility, but would prefer 6/20 for the date, to allow more time for the resolution of any delegate credentialing problems before the day of the voting; does not believe delegates would have trouble finding a bathroom facility while traveling

Following the above speakers, Eric Phillips asked if Will's motion could be split into two parts. Upon Chairman Adams' inquiry of the Parliamentarian, she said it would probably be good if the motion was split, to separately cover location and then date. Will Pace inquired of the Parliamentarian if he could offer a substitute motion to accomplish this split. Her response was that this could be done; or, the Chairman could just do it, without objection from anyone. Since more time remained for discussion of the motion, more people spoke:

- Jim Smith – AGAINST – all of his Madison Unit members want local voting; is concerned about the large number of people being processed at one location, especially concerning the steps that would be required for proper sanitation of any portable bathroom facilities that we provide
- Ed Yensho – FOR – believes any delegate would prefer local voting, so that issue doesn't really carry much weight for him when making a decision; believes having 23 separate voting locations is opening ourselves up to problems; believes we should make the least number of changes to our original Convention Call, thus supporting our decision to keep Tree of Life Ministries as our location; wants our voting to occur as soon as possible, in order to end the intraparty blood-letting

Chairman Adams put forth the possibility that Will Kirk's motion could be split for separate consideration of location and date, but both Daniel Bradshaw and Will

Kirk objected. Will Kirk then made a motion to Move the Previous Question (i.e. end debate), and Ed Yensho provided a second. Without objection, debate was ceased and a roll-call vote was then taken on Will Kirk's original motion (to have an unassembled convention at a single location, Tree of Life Ministries, on 6/13/20), with the following results:

Melvin Adams - DIDN'T VOTE

Carolyn Ley - YES

Chris Shores - YES

Aaron Moyer - YES

Marian Dixon - YES

George Urban - NO

Christian Raymond - YES

John Briscoe - YES

Eric Brazeal - NO

Dylan Slaughter - NO

Doug Barringer - YES

Noah Davis - NO

Dan Moy - NO

Cliff White - NO

Mark Nicholson - NO

Greg Schumacher - NO

Darrell Byers - NO

Wally Young - YES

Steve Kruskamp - NO

Korey Snead - YES

Eric Phillips - NO

Mike Hankins - YES

Jim Smith - NO

Wally Hudson - YES

Carlton Ballowe - YES

Will Pace - NO

Daniel Bradshaw - YES

Terry Dixon - NO

Nancy Rodland - YES

Renee Maxey - NO

Ed Yensho - YES

Will Kirk - YES

Travis Witt - YES

Cameron Cox - NO

Alex Pisciarino - NO

Chardon Jenks - YES

Thus, by a vote of 18-YES to 17-NO, Will's motion passed.

Will Pace made a motion that we amend the 5th Congressional District Convention Call, to begin at 8am, with voting starting at 8:30am; and Travis Witt provided a second. Chairman Adams set the overall time for our discussion to 10 minutes, with a time limit of one minute for each member who wished to speak on the motion. During the discussion, Will Pace explained that his primary reason for making the motion was to allow more time during the day for delegates to cast their votes. Other people also spoke, but many of those delved into details concerning the Convention Rules, which will be voted on at our next meeting.

Following the discussion, Will Pace made a parliamentary inquiry, asking what was required for passage of his motion. Parliamentarian Mary Loose's answer was that it would have to pass by a 2/3 majority. Chairman Adams then asked the committee members if we could pass this motion without objection. However, George Urban objected, so a roll-call vote was then taken on Will Pace's motion to amend the Convention Call. The results were as follows:

Melvin Adams - YES
Carolyn Ley - YES
Chris Shores - YES
Aaron Moyer - YES
Marian Dixon - YES
George Urban - NO
Christian Raymond - YES
John Briscoe - YES
Eric Brazeal - NO
Dylan Slaughter - YES
Doug Barringer - YES
Noah Davis - NO
Dan Moy - YES
Cliff White - YES
Mark Nicholson - YES
Greg Schumacher - NO
Darrell Byers - YES
Wally Young - YES
Steve Kruskamp - NO
Korey Snead - YES
Eric Phillips - YES
Mike Hankins - YES
Jim Smith - NO
Wally Hudson - YES

Carlton Ballowe - YES
Will Pace - YES
Daniel Bradshaw - YES
Terry Dixon - YES
Nancy Rodland - YES
Renee Maxey - YES
Ed Yensho - YES
Will Kirk - YES
Travis Witt - YES
Cameron Cox - NO
Alex Pisciarino - NO
Chardon Jenks - YES

Thus, by a vote of 28-YES to 8-NO, Will's motion passed, since this exceeded the required 2/3 majority.

Preliminary Discussion of Rules

Following the above vote, and at various times before that, there had been some discussion of the Convention Rules. Below are some of the most significant points that were made:

- We should try to accommodate any delegate from any location throughout the entire voting period on the day of the convention, not just during the block of time that is designated for delegates from a particular unit or zone, which would presumably be established in order to try to even out the voting during the day
- By as many means as possible, delegates should be given the chance to both read the Convention Rules and view the convention voting ballot prior to the day of the convention – as this will speed up the voting process on the day of the convention
- The current draft of the Convention Rules have been sent to the two congressional campaigns, requesting feedback. Once that is received, an updated version of the draft Convention Rules should again be distributed to all CD5 Committee members for their review and possible further feedback, prior to our next meeting where the Rules will be finalized
- Any delegates who have been disqualified by their local unit committees should be reviewed by the Convention Credentials Committee and their final voting status determined prior to the day of the unassembled convention. Ed Yensho suggested that a statement be posted on our CD5 website, alerting disqualified delegates of the process for an appeal, if they wish to pursue that.

Summary of Convention Delegate Statistics

The Recording Secretary gave a summary of the convention delegate statistics, based on all the information he had received from all of our unit committees. Those were as follows:

- Certified Delegates
 - Zone 1 – 1,095
 - Zone 2 – 1,586
 - Zone 3 – 866
 - Total – 3,547
- Disqualified Delegates – 83

Publication of the Revised Convention Call

Ed Yensho asked when the revised Convention Call would be available for publication. After inquiring of Will Pace, Chairman of the Convention Call Drafting Committee, the answer was that it will be posted on the RPV and CD5 websites ASAP, probably by tomorrow.

Adjournment

With a motion by Will Pace and a second by Ed Yensho, the meeting was adjourned by a voice vote, without objection, at 9:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Aaron Moyer – Recording Secretary
5th Congressional District of Virginia Republican Committee

Attachment 1

5th Congressional District of Virginia Republican Committee				
Financial Report - February 8, 2020 - May 4, 2020				
	Beginning Balances	Deposits	Expenses	Ending Balances
<u>Federal Account</u>				
Beginning Balance:	\$ 295.66			
Federal Deposits:				
Filing Fees (Congressional)		\$13,920.00		
Filing Fees (National Delegate)		\$ 900.00		
Filing Fees (Nat'l Elect. College)		\$ 400.00		
Federal Income		\$15,220.00		
Federal Expenses			\$ -	
<i>FEDERAL ACCOUNT BALANCE</i>				\$ 15,515.66
<u>State Account</u>				
Beginning Balance:	\$13,683.80			
State Deposits:				
(4) EventBrite Test Deposits		\$ 80.00		
Filing Fees (Chairman)		\$1,380.00		
Filing Fees (SCC)		\$ 600.00		
REVV/Stripe Donation		\$ 25.00		
Delegate Fees		\$22,724.00		
State Income		\$24,809.00		
State Expenses:				
(4) EventBrite Test (Refunds)			\$ 91.40	
(2) Refunds not cashed			\$ (45.70)	
Venue Rental (Charley's)			\$ 30.00	
P. O. Box Rental			\$ 59.00	
Website Domain Name (3yrs)			\$ 84.96	
State Expenses			\$ 219.66	
<i>STATE ACCOUNT BALANCE</i>				\$38,273.14
Total on Deposit in Federal & State Accounts				\$53,788.80

Attachment 2

5th Congressional District of Virginia Republican Committee			
Federal Filing Fees:		State Filing Fees:	
Congress		Chairman	
Bob Good	\$ 6,960.00	Melvin Adams	\$ 690.00
Denver Riggleman	\$ 6,960.00	Daniel Rutherford	\$ 690.00
National Delegate/Alternate		State Central Committee	
Renee' Trent Maxey	\$ 100.00	Renee' Trent Maxey	\$ 100.00
Matthew D. Hardin	\$ 100.00	Nancy Rodland	\$ 100.00
Nancy Rodland	\$ 100.00	Ed Yensho	\$ 100.00
Wendell Kenneth Johnson	\$ 100.00	Rahul Maitra	\$ 100.00
Vellie S. Dietrich-Hall	\$ 100.00	Eric Brazeal	\$ 100.00
Rahul Maitra	\$ 100.00	Barbara Hancock	\$ 100.00
James K. McKelvey	\$ 100.00		
Richard A. Viguerie	\$ 100.00		
Mary Coran	\$ 100.00		
		State Filing Fees	\$ 1,980.00
Elector			
James K. McKelvey	\$ 200.00		
Richard A. Viguerie	\$ 200.00		
Federal Filing Fees	\$15,220.00		
Voluntary Delegate Fees			
Albemarle County	\$ 2,000.00	Franklin County	\$ 2,440.00
Appomattox County	\$ 565.00	Greene County	\$ 1,125.00
Bedford County	\$ 2,220.00	Halifax County	\$ 700.00
Brunswick County - NOT RECEIVED		Henry County	\$ 475.00
Buckingham County	\$ 450.00	Lunenburg County	\$ 1,050.00
Campbell County	\$ 1,500.00	Madison County	\$ 650.00
Charlotte County	\$ 275.00	Mecklenburg County	\$ 1,275.00
Charlottesville City	\$ 275.00	Nelson County	\$ 1,175.00
Cumberland County	\$ 125.00	Pittsylvania County	\$ 1,375.00
Danville City	\$ 500.00	Prince Edward County	\$ 1,050.00
Fauquier County	\$ 1,849.00	Rappahannock County	\$ 875.00
Fluvanna County	\$ 775.00		
		Total Delegate Fees	\$22,724.00