

**Republican Party of Arkansas**  
State Committee Meeting  
July 29, 2017  
Marriott Hotel, Little Rock, Arkansas

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Doyle Webb called the Summer State Committee Meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE**

First District Minority Whip Rev. Ricky Lattimore offered the invocation. Bradley County Chairman Len Blaylock led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**WELCOME**

Governor Asa Hutchinson welcomed all the committee members and guests to the summer meeting. He talked about Arkansas' bright future. Governor Hutchinson encouraged the Republican party to lead with a smile and conservative principles, to be optimistic about the future and work together to get the job done.

**Roll Call**

Secretary Julie Harris gave the Credentials Report. There were 170 members and proxies present. Benny Speaks moved to accept the Credentials Report. The motion was seconded and passed.

Kermit Parks moved to dispense with the roll call. The motion was seconded and passed.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Joel Pritchett. Jonny Rhoda moved acceptance of the Treasurer's Report. It was seconded and accepted.

**PROPOSED RULES CHANGES**

The Rules Committee recommended 7 rules changes. A proposed rules packet was distributed prior to the meeting. Chairman Webb asked that any proposed changes without questions be passed as a packet to expedite the process. There were four proposed changes included in the packet to be voted on as a group, and three proposed changes voted on individually.

Rules Committee Chairman Duane Neal moved adoption of four proposed rules changes as a group. There were no questions, and the proposed rules changes were adopted.

1. Article 1 – General Provision, Section 9 – Proxies
  - An active member of any committee governed by these rules may issue a written proxy for any meeting of the committee except for meetings of the Executive Committee. An inactive member of a county committee may not issue a proxy. This proxy must be presented to the Secretary of the committee by a qualified elector from the same county of residence as the person giving the proxy. AN ORIGINAL SIGNATURE BY THE MEMBER ISSUING THE PROXY THAT IS SCANNED OR FAXED IS RECOGNIZED AS A VALID SIGNATURE.
2. Article IV – State Committee, Section 2 – Membership and Article V – State Executive Committee, Section 2 – Membership
  - Add: Rules Chairman (1)

- Change: following titles (2)
  - ~~Assistant Deputy~~ Secretary
  - ~~Assistant Deputy~~ Treasurer
  - ~~Assistant Deputy~~ General Counsel
- 3. Article IV – State Committee, Section 4.B – Meetings
  - No action shall be taken by the State Committee on proposals to adopt resolutions, fill vacancies, adopt or amend rules, or elect officers, unless the proposal shall have been set forth in the written notice calling the meeting. The notice, AND SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION, must be mailed, OR ELECTRONICALLY transmitted, at least ten (10) days before the meeting.
- Article V – State Executive Committee, Section 3.A.1 – Meetings
  - A notice of ten (10) days shall be given for regular meetings. REGULAR MEETING NOTICES, AND SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION, MAY BE MAILED OR ELECTRONICALLY SUBMITTED.
- 4. Article IV – State Committee, Section 6.F – Duties of Officers
  - Any person who wished to be a candidate for a State Party Office shall inform the Secretary of the State Party, in writing, of their intent to be a candidate no later than 20 days prior to the date of the State Committee Meeting at which the election will be held. If no person issues a notification of intent for a specific office, nominations may be made from the floor for that office on the date of election of officers.

Neal moved adoption of Article 11—County Committee, Section 2.E – Membership

- If a County Committee Member misses three or more regular consecutive meetings without sending a proxy, that member shall be deemed “inactive” and will not count against quorum while the member is inactive. The INACTIVE member shall retain all other rights of membership, with the exception of the right to ~~MAY NOT~~ issue a proxy pursuant to Article 1 Section 9. The member will no longer be considered “inactive” AND WILL BE REINSTATED TO ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP upon attending a SECOND CONSECUTIVE County Committee Meeting. IF A COUNTY COMMITTEE MEMBER MISSES FOUR OR MORE REGULAR CONSECUTIVE MEETINGS WITHOUT SENDING A PROXY, THE INACTIVE MEMBER STATUS SHALL BE REFERRED TO THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR ACTION UP TO AND INCLUDING REMOVAL FROM COUNTY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP.

Tommy Grooms moved to amend by striking out IF A COUNTY COMMITTEE MEMBER MISSES FOUR OR MORE REGULAR CONSECUTIVE MEETINGS WITHOUT SENDING A PROXY, THE INACTIVE MEMBER STATUS SHALL BE REFERRED TO THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR ACTION UP TO AND INCLUDING REMOVAL FROM COUNTY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP. The motion was seconded.

Neal offered a friendly amendment to add **RECOMMENDATION TO THE FULL COMMITTEE**

- IF A COUNTY COMMITTEE MEMBER MISSES FOUR OR MORE REGULAR CONSECUTIVE MEETINGS WITHOUT SENDING A PROXY, THE INACTIVE MEMBER STATUS SHALL BE REFERRED TO THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR **RECOMMENDATION TO THE FULL COMMITTEE** FOR ACTION UP TO AND INCLUDING REMOVAL FROM COUNTY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP.

Grooms did not accept the friendly amendment. The motion to amend purposed rule change to Article 11—County Committee, Section 2.E – Membership failed.

Neal as Rules Committee Chairman made a friendly amendment for purpose of clarification to add **RECOMMENDATION TO THE FULL COMMITTEE.**

- IF A COUNTY COMMITTEE MEMBER MISSES FOUR OR MORE REGULAR CONSECUTIVE MEETINGS WITHOUT SENDING A PROXY, THE INACTIVE MEMBER STATUS SHALL BE REFERRED TO THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR **RECOMMENDATION TO THE FULL COMMITTEE** FOR ACTION UP TO AND INCLUDING REMOVAL FROM COUNTY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP. The Rule was adopted.

Neal moved adoption of Article II – County Committee, Section 4.F – Primaries

- All persons desiring to be Republican candidates for county public office, County Committee member and/or delegate to the County Convention shall deliver their filing fees and applicable forms to the Chairman or Secretary. IF A CANDIDATE IS UNABLE TO DELIVER THE APPLICABLE FORMS AND FILING FEES TO THE CHAIRMAN OR SECRETARY, IN PERSON, THE CANDIDATE MAY DESIGNATE, IN WRITING, A BEARER WHO MAY SUBMIT THE APPLICABLE FORMS AND FILING FEES TO THE CHAIRMAN OR SECRETARY. A DESIGNATED BEARER MAY SUBMIT THE APPLICABLE FORMS AND FILING FEES FOR A MAXIMUM OF TWO CANDIDATES PER FILING PERIOD. The rule was adopted.

Neal moved adoption of Article 11 – County Committee, Section 7.A – Election of Officers

- County Committees shall meet in January of odd numbered years to elect a Chairman, First Vice-Chairman, Second Vice-Chairman who must be of the opposite gender of the First Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Election Commissioners and such other offices as the county local rules specify. INACTIVE COUNTY COMMITTEE MEMBERS MAY NOT BE NOMINATED/ELECTED AS AN OFFICER OF THE COUNTY COMMITTEE. The rule was adopted.

## **MINUTES**

Skeet Baker moved to accept the minutes as corrected. Motion was seconded and approved.

## **PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

Neal moved approval of the Resolution submitted by Benton County Committee.

### **RESOLUTION**

REQUESTING THE ARKANSAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO ADOPT RULES TO RETURN POWER TO INDIVIDUAL HOUSE MEMBERS AND THE MEMBERSHIP AS A WHOLE AND TO ENSURE THE MAJORITY PARTY WILL BE THE MAJORITY ON COMMITTEES AND WILL HOLD THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE COMMITTEES.

The Resolution was seconded and passed.

## **PROPOSED RULE CHANGE**

Pulaski County Chairman Mark Johnson Moved to table and refer to the Rules Committee his proposed rule change to Section 1. Article 1, Section 5 of the Republican Party of Arkansas Rules, concerning the support of candidates in non-presidential preferential primaries. The motion was seconded and passed.

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

Chairman Webb Announced the recipients of the RPA scholarships.

Elizabeth Redman \$1000 –Seth Mays

Marshall \$500 –Seth Mays

Marshall \$500 –Oliva Jameson  
Lillian McGillicuddy – Katie Gardner

Chairman Webb reported on state party events and district meetings. He and the RPA staff visited 28 County Committees, and would like to visit more. Chairman Webb asked all county committees to let the RPA office know the dates and times of their meetings.

### **REPORTS**

Reports were given by:

National Committee Woman – Jonelle Fulmer  
National Committee Man – Jonathan Barnett  
House – Majority Leader Mat Pitsch  
Senate – Majority Leader Jim Hendren  
Young Republicans – Will Hanson  
County Chairman's Association – Mark Johnson  
Arkansas Federation of Republican Women – President Becky Shepard  
African American Coalition – Chairman Col. Nate Todd  
College Republicans – Seth Mays  
1st Congressional District – Anita Wells  
2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District – John Nabholz  
3rd Congressional District – John Carr  
4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District – Sharon Wright

Kermit Parks moved for adjournment It was seconded and members unanimously agreed to adjourn at 12:12 p. m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Harris  
RPA Secretary