



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Republican Party of Bexar County

18 October 2022, Registration: 5:00 pm, Meeting Convened: 6:04 pm

Location: 10300 Heritage Boulevard, Suite 240, Board Room, SATX 78216

Initial Draft: 19 October 2022 Last Revision: 22 November 2022

CALL TO ORDER: The County Chair called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm. The County Chair called upon Chaplin A.D. Smoot to lead the meeting in prayer. The Chaplin introduced Messianic Rabbi Barak Garcia and asked him to lead the meeting in prayer from Numbers 6 and for the security of Israel.

PLEDGES: The County Chair then ask **Boy Scout Troop 162** to post the colors and lead the meeting in the Pledges of Allegiance and Texas Pledge.

APPOINTMENTS: The County Chair appointed the following individuals:

Sergeant-at-arms

Chief Sergeant-at-arms	Rodney Landry (husband of elected official)
Sergeant-at-arms	Augie McLamb (volunteer)
Sergeant-at-arms	Howard Smilowitz (2154)
Sergeant-at-arms	James Burghard

Tellers

Chief Teller	Vanessa Alvarado (3027)
Teller	Emily Nino (1139)
Teller	Jordan White (3013)
Teller	Donna Wallis (3020)

Technology	Cesario Garcia
Technology	Allen Hamilton
Technology	Steve Jordan

Timekeeper	Mike Simpson (Parliamentarian)
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DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM: The County Chair called upon the Secretary for the determination of a quorum. For this meeting, there are 277 active precinct chairs. *Under the Bylaws, the number of precinct chairs required for this meeting would be $277 - 106$ (number of Precinct chairs missing two consecutive meetings) = 171. The adjusted quorum for the start of the meeting would be $171 \times .25 = 43$. NOTE: for the record the secretary miscalculated the quorum for the last meeting (20220816) meetings. The error was due to taking a sum rather than a count in the numbers. The adjusted quorum for the 16 August 2022 meeting was $281 - 119$ (number of Precinct chairs missing two consecutive meetings) = 162. The adjusted quorum for the last meeting was $162 \times .25 = 41$. For the record, the attendance for all meetings to date have greatly exceeded the required a quorum.*

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: The County Chair called for acceptance of the agenda as posted without objection, hearing none, Everett "Buster" Williams (3116) moved adoption of the agenda and the motion was seconded by Vicki Durst (3074). There was no discussion and the motion passed.

The County Chair opened the mic to Becky Edler to accommodate her time and efforts for the Committee for Judicial Reform and its “Tired of Crime” campaign. Ms. Edler explained the campaign and how precinct chairs and volunteers can participate.

VOTING IN NEW PRECINCT CHAIRS FOR VACANT PRECINCTS: The County Chair then called upon the Secretary to introduce the new Precinct Chairs nominated to fill vacant precincts. The Secretary asked those nominated to come to the front of the stage when their name is called and once all the names were called, the Executive Committee would vote on their candidacy. None of the candidates were opposed. The Secretary then introduced the following nominees:

Pct	First Name	MI	Last Name	Present
1013	Ruben		Roque	N
1050	Scott		May	Y
1060	Carlos		Bressler	N
1107	Yzach		Dominguez	Y
1110	Collin		Blood	Y
1111	Irina		Rudolph	Y
2019	Rosalinda		Recktor	Y
2038	Marc		Taylor	N
2076	Layla		Siska Degomez	Y
2137	Lynden		Kosub	N
2174	Patrick		Lebherz	N
3139	Richard	Matthew	Birnbach	N
4007	Cynthia	Rose	Lopez	Y
4024	George		Blande	N
4063	Ronald	Eugene	Marlin	N
4225	William	Douglas	Amerson	Y

The County Chair asked for a motion to elect these nominees. Motion was made by Richard Briscoe (3078) to vote all the nominees in by voice vote and seconded by Jonathan Melendez (3084). The question was called, and all were elected on a voice vote.

FIFTEEN MINUTES OF OPEN MIC: The County Chair opened the floor for fifteen minutes of open mic.

Robert Gonzales (2040) stood to announce two events involving Governor Greg Abbott. The first event he announced was for 24 October 2022 and one tomorrow (19 October 2022) for an opening of a section of the new freeway.

Irene Valdez (2135) spoke about the need for more involvement in the testing of voting machines where she had sat in on 9 October 2022. She announced there would be another – final – test on 4 November 2022 at Bexar County Elections Department. She is concerned the machines are not trustworthy and wanted the software tested and to be made public. She does not believe the software should be proprietary given their function – voting. She said the tabulation of the results were not always the same given the vote by hand verses machine tabulations.

Teresa Bollin (1082) spoke against the impending vote in congress to include the COVID “vaccine” as a national mandatory on children’s scheduled vaccines. She announced she was working on organizing a float for the Veteran’s Day parade and needed volunteers. The parade will be 11 November 2022. It was announced that a drawing would be held later to determine precinct chairs chosen to ride the Veterans Day float.

Amy Hedtke spoke for Texans for Freedom and pointed out the permit process in Helotes, Texas to electioneer at voting sites in that city.

Jack Finger (Republican Activists) spoke to the City of San Antonio’s moved to fund abortion through a Pro-abortion resolution. The resolution would advocate for abortion using tax dollars. He asked the Executive Committee to link to the San Antonio Family Association website and upcoming voter guide.

The County Chair closed out the open mic by asking Executive Committee members to look at the issues survey (ballot) handed out to every precinct chair at check in. He asked precinct chairs to fill out the survey and be prepared to hand it into the tellers later in the meeting.

WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING SHOULD BE THE TOP FOCUS OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF BEXAR COUNTY?
ONLY CHOOSE ONE (1)

LOCAL/MUNICIPAL STATE NATIONAL

WHICH PRIORITY SHOULD BE OUR TOP FOCUS?
CHOOSE THE PRIORITY THAT IS MOST IMPORTANT TO YOU. ONLY CHOOSE ONE (1)

<input type="checkbox"/> ELECTION INTEGRITY	<input type="checkbox"/> BAN GENDER MODIFICATION
<input type="checkbox"/> CHARTER SCHOOLS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> STOP SEXUALIZATION OF TEXAS KIDS
<input type="checkbox"/> ELIMINATE TAX DOLLAR FUNDED LOBBYING	<input type="checkbox"/> BAN DEMOCRATIC CHAIRS
<input type="checkbox"/> SECURE THE BORDER/ILLEGAL ALIENS	<input type="checkbox"/> DEFEND GUN RIGHTS
	<input type="checkbox"/> LOCAL GOVERNANCE

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The County Chair called upon the Secretary to summarize the minutes from the 16 August 2022 meeting. After a short summary, the Secretary asked the County Chair to ask for any discussion or changes to the minutes. The County Chair asked the Executive Committee if they had any changes or discussion. There was no discussion. Melynda Gulley Bracken (3025) moved adoption of the minutes as presented and seconded by David Winney (3151).

CANDIDATE TIME: The County Chair opened the floor to candidates present for two-minute speeches.

Mark Dorazio (candidate Legislative District 122) spoke first about his platform to implement border security, lower property taxes, and keeping D.C. out of Texas. He thanked the precinct chairs and the party for their support.

John Lujan (candidate Legislative District 118) spoke about his contest and how he needed support. He had just finished walking in his precinct and outlined examples of what he was hearing from voters.

A spokesman for Ken Paxton spoke for the Attorney General saying he had literature and asked everyone for their support.

UNFINISHED (OLD BUSINESS) BUSINESS: The County Chair announced the censure resolutions were not reintroduced and ruled out of order. He asked Jonathan Melendez (3084) to re-introduce his resolution (for language perfection). Mr. Melendez read the resolution into the record:

"We, the Republican Party of Bexar County, request that the City of San Antonio end the lease agreement on the Migrant Resource Center (MRC) and no longer allow our city to be used as an illegal alien hub for the Biden Administration to distribute illegal immigrants into the interior of our country, as this process creates a danger to the residents of Bexar County and their property."

Mr. Melendez moved adoption of the resolution and it was seconded by Robert Gonzales (2040). Discussion: Mr. Melendez spoke for his resolution stating that Democrat Candidate for County Judge Sakai voiced support for a second MRC near Dezavala and I.H. 10. Gene Eberts (1144) spoke against the resolution questioning how we would take care of the people and would that require an alternate location. Robert Gonzales then spoke for the resolution standing in strong opposition to the MRC and the establishment of alternate sites in Bexar County. Shelly Grunden (3060) called the question. The resolution passed. The County Chair asked that without objection, the Republican Party of Bexar County take (deliver) the resolution to City Hall and present it to City Council. There being no objection, the County Chair so ordered.

ACCEPTANCE OF WRITTEN COMMITTEE REPORTS: The County Chair asked if anyone had questions concerning any of the Standing Committee Reports. Karen Marshall (SREC – 26) asked to be recognized so she could

correct the record. She has mistakenly posted that SREC Resolutions 2 and 5 had both passed but stated only Resolution 5 had passed because it covered SREC Number 2 dealing with border issues. There being no other questions, the Chair ask for acceptance of all the reports as presented to be accepted, it was so ordered.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Committee	Chair	JU22	JL22	AG22	SP22	OT22	NV22	DC22
Secretary	Joe Leatherwood	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		
Budget	Lille Gough		Y	Y	Y	Y		
Finance	Karen Newton					Y		
Campaign Activities	Edward Nino, Jr.					Y		
Candidate Recruitment	Paul James							
Volunteer	Joe Garza					Y		
Precinct Organization	Janie Garza							
Communications	Deana Abiassi					Y		
Technology	Steve Jordan					Y		
Data Analytics	Caleb Johnson					Y		
Bylaws	Warrington Austerman					Y		
Election Integrity	Melinda Roberts					Y		
Community Outreach	Sandra Crocker					Y		
Special Projects	Lora Lane		Y					
Records	Teresa Bollin							
SREC Reports	Karen Marshall					Y		

ADMINISTRATIVE AND CAMPAIGN UPDATES:

Appointment of Standing Committee Chairs: The County Chair asked the body to accept his nominees for the Campaign Recruitment and Appointments Committee and Data Analytics Committee. Those nominees were Paul James (3190) and Caleb Johnson respectfully. There being no objection, their appointments were so order. Both gentlemen were allowed to introduce themselves to the Executive Committee.

Appointment of Chaplin: The County Chair then asked the body to accept his appointment of A. D. Smoot to be Chaplin of the Republican Party of Bexar County. There being no objection, it was so ordered. Chaplin Smoot was asked to introduce himself to the Executive Committee.

Legislative Priorities: The County Chair then asked the tellers to come forward to collection the Issues Survey (Ballot – see above). The Chair said this survey would be used to help develop top legislative priorities for the Republican Party of Bexar County. The tellers came forward and started collecting the surveys for tabulation.

Emergency: The County Chair ordered a recess while Everett “Buster” Williams was attended to by the EMS unit to get him to the hospital. The Executive committee’s thoughts and prayer go with Buster.

The County Chair called the meeting back to order and asked the Tellers to start the tabulation of the Issues Survey and prepare to report to the Executive Committee.

Special Committees: The County Chair said he was going to form a Special Committee to starting planning for the 2024 Republican State Convention which will be held in San Antonio. The Chair stated he and Karen Newton would serve on the committee and asked for others to consider. He also mentioned he was going to form a Partners and Coalitions Committee.

NEW BUSINESS: The County Chair asked Karen Newton to present an update from the Chairman’s BBQ. Ms. Newton said the Chairman’s BBQ was being moved into 2023 to make sure it is a top-notch event. She announced there

would be a Precinct Chair Appreciation event on 13 December. For precinct chairs the event is free, but you are bringing your spouse or a friend, the cost would be \$20.00 per person.

The County Chairman announced that there had been no recommendations made to the party with respect to standing or special committees and no new motions or resolutions have been submitted for this meeting.

The County Chair asked if the tellers had tabulated their results from the issues survey? They had not completed their work and the County Chair opened a discussion proposing the idea of an electronic voting system for the executive committee. That way votes could be taken very quickly. Richard Briscoe (3078) asked to be recognized and cautioned against the cost of such a system. Kim Crawford (2095) asked to be recognized and said that Leon Valley had used the system and it was useful. Leigha Almendarez (3087) spoke against such a system noting we needed to get rid of machine voting. Irene Valdez (2135) was recognized and stated that paper ballots should be used. Gary Mansch (2066) was recognized and stated that here we are talking about election integrity and the corruption of machines, yet we want to consider using them our meetings? Make no sense to him. Mike Cox (4172) asked to be recognized and stated, "If I ain't broke, don't fix it!"

The County Chair asked the tellers if they had tabulated their results from the issues survey? They had not and he asked Volunteer Coordinator Joe Garza to hold the drawing to determine the five precinct chairs who would ride the Veterans Day float.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Pct</u>
Jesus Garcia	4052
Becca Engle	3072
William Badders	2120
Rosalinda Rektor	2019
Melodie Rich	1151
Stan Torvik	4072

The tellers were still tabulating their results, so the County Chair moved for a recess until they were finished.

Adjournment: However, Mr. Leatherwood (3181) moved adjournment of the meeting noting the results could be communicated after the meeting and through the website or newsletter. The motion was seconded by many in the audience and the meeting was adjourned on voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:31 pm

Next meeting: 20 December 2022

Participation rate: 85/293 = 29.3% (subject to adjustment)

Elapsed Meeting Time: 83 minutes

Jeffrey R. McManus, County Chairman

Joseph Dalton Leatherwood, Secretary