



Republican Party of Bexar County

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March RPBC Executive Committee Meeting

Location: SA Professional Firefighters Banquet Hall, 8925 W Interstate 10, San Antonio, TX 78230

Times: Registration 5:00 Meeting Convenes 6:00 PM

RPBC Executive Committee Meeting Minutes¹

Initial Draft: [20230316](#) | **Last revision:** [20230320](#)

CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING CEREMONIES: The meeting was delayed until 6:21pm. Chairman called meeting to order and asked A.D. Smoot to lead the body in prayer. The Chair led both the Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge.

DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM: The Secretary confirmed the quorum for the meeting. When the meeting was called to order, there were 121 Precinct Chairs signed in (this number will change throughout the meeting). The required quorum for tonight's meeting is 43 under the current rules (19.5%). Sue Beasey (3083) questioned the Quorum numbers; the Secretary cited the rule and numbers again.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Chairman asked for a motion to approve the agenda as published. Ms. M.J. Smoot (3075) so moved and seconded by Sandra Crocker (3022).

APPOINTMENTS: (Consult with Teresa Bollin)

Committee	Name
Secretary	Joe Leatherwood
Assist Sec.	Cindy Guzowski
Treasurer	Lille Gough
Parliamentarian	Mike Simpson
Additional Security - Lead	Precinct 3 Constable
Sergeant at Arms - Lead	Rodney Landry
Sergeant at Arms	Buster Williams
Sergeant at Arms	Lupe Rivera
Sergeant at Arms	Howard Smilowitz
Sergeant at Arms	Tyler Landry
Setup - Lead	Teresa Bollin
Setup	Joe Leatherwood
Setup	Howard Smilowitz
Timekeeper	
Sign-In Table - Lead	Bella Martinez
Sign-In Table	Dawn Baemonde

¹ These minutes also reflect additional information. Karen Marshall's video posted at <https://m.facebook.com/TexasSenatoeDistrict26/videos/718876763300379/>, Secretary's tape recording, and input from participants.

Sign-In Table	Ellen Ott
Sign-In Table	Marilyn Martinez
Sign-In Table	Charlene Vanderpoorten
Technology - Lead	Cesario Garcia
Technology	Allen Hamilton
Teller - Lead	Vanessa Alvarado
Concession	Vickie Durst
Fundraising Table - Lead	Teresa Bollin
Fundraising Table	Guadalupe "Lupe" Hernandez

READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes, as published, were approved without any additions or corrections.

VOTING IN NEW PRECINCT CHAIRS FOR VACANT PRECINCTS: The following individuals were introduced as the newest class of Precinct Chairs.

Pct	Installed	Dist.	First Name	Nickname	Last Name
1015	20230314	Email	Mary	Kathy	Rodriguez
1033	20230314	Email	Quintin		Salazar
2086	20230314	Email	Ruben		Aguilar
2131	20230314	Email	Belinda	Bella	Martinez
3157	20230314	Email	Roberto		Cantu
4016	20230314	Email	Erin		Gallegos Reid
4147	20230314	Email	Mark		Richter

Mr. Leatherwood (Secretary – 3181) moved this new class of precinct chairs be elected without objection. Motion seconded by many in the body, and all were elected. The Oath of Office was administered by the Parliamentarian, Mike Simpson.

Mr. Richard Briscoe moved that the seven (7) new precinct chairs be added to the quorum count. Motion passed on voice vote.

GUEST SPEAKERS: Chairman introduced guest speakers. They were (1) John Danny Diaz - Justice Charter from the community safety perspective; Adam Blanchard – Justice Charter from the business perspective; John Lujan, State Representative 121 from a public policy perspective; and Misty Spears (for Commissioner Grant Moody), Director of Constituent Services, from a local policy making perspective. Each speaker outlined the potential impact of Prop A on the community and the body received each of them with great warmth and enthusiasm. A recurring theme was that Prop A would hurt the disadvantaged more than any others.

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTARY: Chairman introduced Ms. Rosario Zarb-Cousin (3173) to outline a campaign plan for precinct chairs during the upcoming municipal and school board elections. Ms. Zarb-Cousin outlined the plan and asked her fellow precinct chairs to make themselves (1) aware of the issues and candidates; (2) prepare through training offered by Bexar County Election Integrity Group and Bexar Conservatives, (3) secure the necessary resources to contact voters; and (4) engage in the fight to sign up for the different campaigns.

FIFTEEN MINUTE OPEN MIC: Mr. Luke Macias (2064) moved to skip the 15 minutes of open mic because of time constraints. Motion was seconded by many and passed on voice vote. The Chairman asked for a motion to skip the Report of Rule 171 Results. Ms. Crocker (3022) so moved, and it was seconded. The motion passed by voice vote.

CANDIDATES SPEECHES: Candidates were allowed to speak to the body and their time limited to two-minutes.

They spoke in the following order:

Candidate	Office	Surrogate
Vera Billingsley	NISD District 3	
Jacob Chapa	CoSA District 7	
Jarret Lippman	CoSA District 9	
Robert Flores	CoSA District 10	
Marc Whyte	CoSA District 10	Carlton Soules
Dominique Liu	CoSA District 9	
Denise Gutierrez	CoSA District 2	
Ernest Salinas	CoSA District 1	
Irina Rudolph	CoSA District 6	
Manny Garcia	NISD District 2	
Ben Boston	LD 117	
Michael Samanoiego	CoSA Mayor	
Cesario Garcia	CoSA District 8	

UNFINISHED (OLD BUSINESS) BUSINESS: Mr. Ken Mireles (4001) and Virginia Castaneda (1051) outlined Public Alliance (PA) efforts to date. Mr. Mireles said PA’s efforts were underway to help with the RPBC messaging project. Ms. Castaneda told the meeting they had pledges of \$12,500 to fund the project. The project would be up and running 1 April 2023. Ms. M.J. Smoot (3075) moved to accept the report. Charlotte Folson (4046) seconded the motion and the motion passed.

ACCEPTANCE OF WRITTEN COMMITTEE REPORTS: There were not Standing or Special Committee Reports.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND CAMPAIGN UPDATE: Finance Committee: Mr. Luke Macias (Finance Committee – 2064) made an appeal to precinct chairs to commit to a recurring monthly membership contribution to the RPBC. He gave the fixed cost associated with keeping the doors open and asked precinct chairs to step up and commit individually to meet this cost. This commitment would show donors the body is committed, and this would in hand bring in larger donors. (Time: 7:44 pm)

Campaign Activities Committee: Reporting – Mr. Jonathan Melendez (3084) – the committee was hosting a Flag Waving event to counter rally the ACT4SA – Prop A group the evening of 16 March 2023. He invited everyone to participate. ACT4SA will launch their campaign at The San Antonio Teachers’ Council, 120 Adams Street, SATX 78210. (Time 7:48 pm)

Appointment State Convention Committee Chair: The Chairman appointed Mr. Chris Fails, Vice Chairman – 3092, as Chairman. This is a Special Committee for the Texas State Republican Party Convention only. J. Charles Bush (3201) moved the appointment and ratification, and Charlotte Folson seconded the motion. The appointment was ratified without objection.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Allen Hamilton (3102) moved adoption of “A Resolution for total rejection, Condemnation, and Priority of Action to defeat currently titled “Justice Policy” Charter Amendments for the City of San Antonio.” Motion was seconded by Mr. Leatherwood (Secretary – 3181). There was no discussion and the motion to adopt the resolution passed without objection. See attachment A.

Mr. Jeff Clay (3163) moved adoption of a “Resolution Supporting Legislation for Accurate, Transparent, Accountable Elections in Texas.” Motion seconded by Ms. Zarb-Cousin (3173). There was no discussion and the motion to adopt the resolution passed without objection. See Attachment B. (Time 8:02pm)

Mr. Leatherwood (3181) moved a motion directing the RPBC Bylaws and Rules Committee to

“...author an ethics clauses or clauses, as necessary, for the RPBC rules dealing with lobbyists, political consultants, and present/past elected officials requiring full disclosure of their activities as they relate to committee assignments and potential conflicts of interest. This clause or clauses should address their

registration as lobbyist and any solicitation of funds or solicitation of work, as consultants, from the RPBC or from candidates through their work on committees.”

The motion was seconded by Ms. M.J. smoot (3075). There was no discussion. The motion passed on voice vote. See Attachment C.

The chairman then sought to change the agenda and take up the motion to amend the bylaws. Ms. Mary Ellen Snell (3194) called for orders of the day. The chairman refused to return to the agenda and said his “ranking” of the motions and resolutions meant the motion should be taken up because of its importance. The Chair called for a motion to amend; Mr. Leatherwood appealed the ruling from the chair. It was seconded by Mr. Pierce (3026), there was no discussion and the ruling from the chair was overturned, and the meeting returned to the agenda.

Ms. Mary Ellen Snell (3194) stated, “I move to adopt our resolution against predatory gambling and asked the Chair to allow the opposition to speak first against it (resolution).” The motion was seconded by Ms. Zarb-Cousin (3173). There was no discussion and no one rose to speak against the motion to adopt. Mr. Leatherwood (3181) called the question. The motion to end debate was seconded by Ms. Charlotte Folson (4046). The motion to end debate passed on voice vote in excess of 2/3 as required by the rules. (Time: 8:13pm)

The next order of business was to vote on Ms. Snell’s (3194) main motion to adopt the resolution.

Instead, the chairman instructed Ms. Snell to read the “therefore be it resolved” paragraphs with the Chair’s stated intent of allowing those who opposed the “Bexar County GOP Resolution Against Predatory Gambling in Texas” to substitute their “competing pro-gambling resolution.” There were objections to his actions, but the Chair proceeded. Ms. Janie Garza (2068) raised a question of privilege. She moved the Chair step down and allow the Vice Chair to Chair this portion of the meeting because of the Chair’s obvious bias – support for the pro-gambling resolution. Ms. Garza’s motion to remove the Chair was declared out of order. (Time 8:21 pm)

Ms. Snell (3194) read her “be it resolved” paragraphs and stated, “I move to adopt our resolution against predatory gambling and asked the Chair to allow the opposition to speak first against it (resolution) with a 3 for and 3 against debate.” The main motion was seconded a second time by Ms. M.J. Smoot (3075). Mr. James then spoke against the motion by offering a motion of substitution to the main motion. Mr. Rich Briscoe (3078) made a parliamentary inquiry stating that this motion was out of order, there was already a main motion on the floor.

Those speaking for the Snell Resolution were Mr. Luke Macias (2064), Mr. Jeff Clay (3163), and Ms. Yvonne Krzywonski (3012). Those speaking against the Main Motion were: Mr. Paol James (3190) and Mr. Cameron Quintanilla (4102). Ms. Snell (3194) moved the previous question, and it was seconded by many in the membership. The motion to end debate and proceed to the vote passed on voice vote (more than the 2/3s). (Time: 8:46 pm)

Mr. Chris George (3107) and Mr. Leatherwood (3181) made parliamentary inquiries asking the Chair to clarify the vote and what the body would be voting on. The Chair stated that a Yes or Aye vote would be to substitute the pro gambling resolution for the Main Motion. A No or Nay vote would be a vote to not accept the substitute and continue with Ms. Snell’s Main Motion. The Chair called for the vote and the Nays won the vote. Mr. James (3190) Moved for division. The Chair ruled him out of order because of the overwhelming voice vote against his motion to substitute.

At this point, the Chair called on the supporters of the Main Motion to speak to their Resolution. Those speaking were: Mr. Clay (3163) and Ms. Krzywonski (3012).

Ms. Barbara Miller (2126) raised a point of order, Ms. Miller pointed out that we had arrived at the 9:00 o’clock hour and thought the meeting automatically adjourned at that time.

Mr. Leatherwood (3181) moved to extend the meeting for 20 minutes concluding the current business on the floor, and then adjourning. Mr. David Westbrook (2163) raised a point of order asking if there were any additional costs associated with going beyond the 9:00 o’clock hour? Ms. M.J. Smoot (3075) stood and told the body there were no additional costs. Discussion: Mr. Leatherwood (3181) spoke for extending the meeting and Ms. Barbara Miller (2126) spoke against extension. Robert Gonzales (2040) called the previous question ending debate. The Chair clarified the vote that a Yes or Aye vote would be to extend the meeting for 20 minutes and a No or Nay vote

would be to not extend and adjourn the meeting immediately. The vote was called, and the Nays voted to not extend.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned on vote to not extend meeting at 9:08 pm.

Next meeting: Wednesday, 9 May 2023 6:00 pm

Participation rate: 127/232 (54.7%)

Elapsed Meeting Time: 227 minutes

Jeffrey R. McManus, County Chairman

Joseph D. Leatherwood, Secretary

March Executive Committee meeting minutes anticipated to be approved 9 May 2023