

MINUTES FOR THE

Washington State Republican Party Convention
Spokane, Washington
Saturday, April 20, 2024

Officers:

Chairman: Jim Walsh *Present
Vice Chairman: Lisa Evans *Present
Natl. Committeeman: Jeff Kent Present
Natl. Committeewoman: Marlene Pfeifer *Present
Bylaws Article 4 Designated Rep: Tom Dent Absent
Executive Director: Brady Batt Present
**signifies voting member*

Convention is called to Order: Chairman Walsh called the convention to order at 9:30 a.m. Chair shares reminder to delegates to sit with their delegations.

Opening ceremonies: Matt Brown, Yakima County, innovation; Mathew Patrick Thomas, King County, pledge; Kerry French, national anthem.

Remarks from Chairman Walsh: Brief instructions on procedures. Introduction of Bill Cooper, sergeant-at-arms, and assisting volunteers. Remarks on maintaining proper decorum, while acknowledging the passion and enthusiasm of the delegates.

Continued statewide candidate speeches: Semi Bird, governor.

Point of order: All speakers should be given the same amount of time to speak per the convention rules.

Elizabeth Doll, Point of information: Request for an explanation of why the candidate vetting committee failed Semi Bird. Chair rules the request out of order. Motion that candidate vetting chair to reveal that information. Chair rules the motion out of order.

Statewide Candidate Endorsements Vote:

Motion that Article V be amended to change voting method to a show of hands in lieu of paper ballots. Seconded. Discussion follows. Rules require paper ballots. For motion to advance the body must suspend the rules.

- Request to suspend rules requiring a 2/3 majority. Seconded. Discussion follows. Vote on suspending the rules. Fails.
- Point of privilege: More chairs needed in the back.
- Kevin Atkinson from Whitman County raises a point of order: The agenda should be amended to prioritize voting on statewide candidates before delegates and alternate delegates. Chair rules that he announced the order of the day and there were no objections. Decision challenged. Discussion follows.
- Tony Stevens moves to accept the chair's decision to modify the agenda. Seconded. Discussion follows. Motion approved.

Distribution of ballots: Ballots are distributed to the chairs of each delegation. The chair remarks that all ballots will be counted in the conference hall and can be observed.

Point of information: Request that delegates move to the middle to open up some seating.

Point of information: "Will platform copies be available for review?" Chair responds that an electronic copy has been distributed and will be displayed on the big screen during the discussion.

- Julianna McMann, platform committee chair, reports that electronic copies were redistributed that morning. She is available for more information.

Chris Raur from King County requests information about an accusation made by one of the candidates regarding compliance with state law. Chair responds that he cannot clarify a candidate's statement.

Bill Bruch raises a point of information: a section of the amended rules is missing in the printed copy, specifically the phrase 'except for non-partisan offices per RCW 29.52.231. This change was accepted unanimously in committee but is not reflected in the current copy.

Bruce Campbell from Clark County raises a point of information: "If one of the gubernatorial candidates has withdrawn from the endorsement convention, why is their name still on the ballot?"

- Chair remarks that the motion yesterday restored the ballot to its state before the candidate vetting committee's report. Therefore, both names remain on the ballot.

Point of information: State Supreme Court candidate endorsement is not included in the paper ballot. The chair notes that a vote on that endorsement will occur after the paper ballots are counted.

Remarks: The chair announces that all ballots have been received and are now being counted. While ballots are being counted will move forward in agenda to national delegate and alternate speeches.

National Delegate and National Alternate speeches:

Speakers include (some spellings may be wrong): Matthew Bumala, Marilyn Roggenkamp, Sandra Lytleee, Luke Throop, Antara Croft, Amber Krabach, Mike Hill, Shari Newton, Victor Lombardi, Jolie Landsdowne, Peter Zive, Mary Ellen Mullen, Braden Cisk, Lyle Dack, Terry Arnold, Lynn Trinn, Brenda Milewski, Luis Valdez, Jerry Green, Judy Billings, Jeff Poppy, David Tegeler, Jerry Nelson, Jennifer Walker, Pamela Randolph, Pamela Randolph, Paul Glumaz, Rochelle Henshaw, Donna Russell, Diane Osmialowski, Jean Yung, Colleen Goertz, Kerry French, Nina Capatula, Carolyn Hall, Jayson Reimer, Tim Hayes, Kari Hale, Rob Lymbunger, Corey Gorman, Chris Hollingsworth, Lisa Miller, Todd Snar, Kurt Meyer, Shari Koday, Brad Corner, Ramdas Vaidyanathan, Whitney Mason, Shelly Garofalo, Cristy Dayo, Rick Hunt, Luanda Hatch, Nichole Weber, Wally Emberson-Nash.

Remarks from the chair: 120 individuals are competing for positions. There are ten at-large delegate spots and ten at-large alternate spots available. Candidates elected yesterday have been removed from the list.

At large delegate and alternate delegate speeches:

Speakers include (some spellings may be wrong): Denise Green, Dale Fonk, Apollo Fuhriman, Eileen Sobjack, Robert Hogg, Janice Clark, Marlisa Melzer, Jennifer Flores, Cary Snow, Billie Brooks-Sebastiani (withdraws candidacy), John Tawresey, Marty Mioni, Larry Sundquist, Georgene Faries, Kandy Erickson, Tasha May, Jaques Pring, Joan Marie Murphy, Bill Bruch, Sandra LaSelle, Doug Syring, Ryan Campbell, Hossein Khorahn, Keith Slatter, James Monroe, Dale Haagen, Eric Brown (withdraws candidacy), Wes Martin,

Gordon Myers, Vern Griffiths, Greg Satoro, Lawrence Herbert, Elizabeth Hill, Jim Dunn, Clark Fulner, Art Kodak, Trudy Jerdal, Bill Osborn, Terry Arnold, Randy Hayden, Susan Hutchinson.

Tony Stevens from Kitsap County moves to suspend the rules to allow the convention to proceed without a quorum so that the platform and resolutions can be debated without time constraints. Motion is seconded. Discussion follows.

- Julianna McMann, chair of the platform committee, states that if the session ends without a vote on the platform and resolutions, the committee's platform and resolutions will be automatically adopted.
- Discussion continues.
- Point of order raised: Rules may not be suspended. It is out of order to proceed. The parliamentarian checks the situation. Ruling: Motion is out of order.
- Point of information: Changes to Trump slate announced.
- Point of information: Remarks on the good work of the chair.
- Point of order: List of delegates needs to be put on overhead screen.

National Delegate and National Alternate ballots distributed to chairs of each delegation.

Motion made to have a 'working lunch.' Seconded. Discussion follows.

- Julianna McMann proposes an amendment to the motion for a 20-minute lunch period. Discussion follows. Call the question. Approved. Vote on the amendment. Approved.
- Vote on the amended motion. Approved.

Break for 20-minute lunch

Convention business is reconvened. Called to order by Chair Walsh.

Statewide Candidate Endorsements vote announcements: Raul Garcia, US Senate 73%; Semi Bird, governor, 72%; Matt Hawkins, Auditor, 99%; Dale Whitaker, Secretary of State, 64%; Pete Serrano, Attorney General, 100%; Sue Kuehl Pederson, Commissioner of Public Lands, 86%; David Olson, Superintendent of Public Instruction, 57%.

Motion for unanimous vote of the slate of endorsements in the spirit of unity. Seconded. Discussion follows.

- Point of order: You cannot make "unanimous" votes that are not unanimous. Ruling of chair: the motion is out of order.

Motion to support slate of candidates by an acclamation of the body. Seconded. Discussion follows.

- Point of inquiry: "Does this bind counties to the slate of endorsed candidates?" The Chair responded "no."
- Discussion continues. Call the question. Approved. Vote on the motion to support of slate of candidates by acclamation of the body. Approved.

Chris Ferguson from Kitsap County moves to recommend Dave Larson's candidacy for State Supreme Court. Motion is seconded. Discussion follows. Vote on the motion. Approved.

2024 Platform and Resolutions Report: Julianna McMann, platform chair, provides remarks. The committee comprises members from every county in the state. The committee reconciled 39 county platforms with the proposed state platform. Resolutions were also considered. Julianna gives a brief overview of the platform changes and resolutions.

- Point of information: Remarks on the excellent work of the platform chair and committee.
- Motion to accept platform but leave it open to amendments. Chair rules the motion is out of order.
- Julianna McMann, remarks: Instructions on adoption of the platform and proposed changes given by committee chair.

Julianne McMann moves motion to approve the platform as presented. Seconded. Discussion follows.

- Motion to hold section 1 for later amendment. Fails.
- Motion to approve the platform as presented. Call the question. Requires suspending the rules.
- Motion to suspend the rules. Seconded. Approved.
- Call the question. Approved.
- Motion to accept the platform as presented. Approved.

Adoption of resolutions:

- Motion to change the order of resolutions. Motion withdrawn.
- Motion to set aside Resolution 20 “requires clarification.” Approved.
- Motion to set aside Resolution 21 “it might hurt other initiatives.” Fails.
- Motion to set aside Resolution 1 “change the language.” Fails.
- Motion to set aside Resolution 1 “the American creed is not correct.” Fails.
- Motion to set aside Resolution 8. Fails.
- Motion to set aside Resolution 1. Fails.
- Motion to set aside Resolution 19 “do not abolish Department of Ecology.” Fails.
- Motion to set aside Resolution 12 “allow for arms security.” Fails.
- Motion to set aside Resolution 11 “money should not go to state first.” Fails.
- Motion to set aside Resolution 15. Approved.
- Motion to set aside Resolution 11 “given back in form of tax break.” Fails.
- Motion to close debate. Seconded. Approved.

Resolution 20 review. Discussion follows.

- Call the question. Seconded. Approved.
- Motion to approve Resolution 20. Approved.

Resolution 15 review. Discussion follows.

- Motion to amend Resolution 15 by editing the first paragraph and removing the second paragraph. The text submitted to the chair reads: '85% of the counties containing the Olympic Mountains.' Seconded. Motion approved.
- Motion to approve Resolution 15 as amended. Approved.

Motion to suspend the rules in order to elect current National Committeeman and National Committeewoman as the two at large electors. Seconded. Discussion follows.

- Call the question. Seconded. Approved.
- Motion to suspend the rules. Approved.
- Motion to elect current National Committeeman and National Committeewoman as the two at large electors. Discussion follows.
- Point of information: "Do they support Trump?" National Committeeman and National Committeewoman reply "yes."
- Motion to amend: Hold the election among the elector candidates, not selecting national committeeman and national committeewoman. Seconded. Discussion follows. Call the question. Seconded. Approved. Motion to amend the motion. Fails.
- Original Motion to elect national committeeman and national committeewoman. Discussion follows. Call the question. Approved. Original motion vote. Approved.

Motion to suspend the rules to allow the county to accept the alternates before we run out of time.

- Ruling of the chair: Not in order because they are currently counting the votes. Final tabulation will be in 15-20 minutes with a (likely) clear decision not requiring further action. Motion withdrawn.

Resolutions continued:

James Hagan moves to proceed with the proposed resolution calling for a legislative inquiry into Attorney General Bob Ferguson's conduct regarding bribery and corrupt solicitation. Motion is seconded. Discussion follows. Motion approved.

Conclusion: All 22 resolutions adopted.

Motion to amend platform section to include: "Partner with United Kingdom and Sweden in banning all gender altering drugs."

- Requires a vote of reconsideration on the platform adoption.
- Point of order: reconsideration is not in line with Roberts Rules. Chair rules the motion is not in order. Challenge to the ruling of the chair. Body votes that the motion is out of order.

Motion to suspend the rules concerning the vote on alternates so that the top ten vote-getters are approved regardless of whether they receive a 50% majority. Motion withdrawn.

National Delegate and National Alternate announcements: Nine delegates elected, including Wes Martin, Doug Hagan, Georgene Faries, Larry Sundquist, Apollo Fuhriman, Eileen Sobjack, Cary Snow, Bill Bruch, Robert Hogg.

Motion to suspend the rules and accept the next highest vote count for tenth delegate, Michael Werner.

- Motion to amend the main motion to accept the top nine candidates and hold another vote. The chair rules the amendment as not in good order.
- Motion to suspend the rules. Approved.
- Motion to accept the next highest vote count for tenth delegate, Michael Werner. Approved.

Motion to suspend the rules to eliminate the 50% threshold and select the top ten vote-getters for alternates. Call the question. Approved. Suspension of the rules is approved.

- Original motion to change the way we count vote for the alternates, removing 50% requirement. Discussion follows. Approved.

Continue National Alternate ballots turned in, vote count: Chair calls convention “at ease” while tabulations continue, 5:30 p.m.

Convention ADJOURNS.