

**The S.C. REPUBLICAN PARTY STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
THIRD QUARTER MEETING
AUGUST 22, 2015
SOUTH CAROLINA STATE MUSEUM
COLUMBIA, SC**

Chairman Matt Moore called the Third Quarter State Executive Committee meeting to order on Saturday, August 22, 2015 at 10:02 A.M.

Shery Smith, Chairman of Sumter County, gave the invocation and Glenn McCall, National Committeeman from York County, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Ben Kinlaw, Chairman of Barnwell County, led the Republican Creed.

Recognition of Dignitaries and Guests

Chairman Moore recognized dignitaries and special guests: Rep. Neal Collins of Pickens County, Rep. Gary Clary of Pickens County, Rev. Leon Winn of Sumter County, SCGOP Political Assistant John Owens, SCGOP Treasurer Sharon Thomson, DeLinda Ridings from Marco Rubio for President, Kaaren Mann from Carly for America, Hope Walker from Mike Huckabee for President, LaDonna Ryggs from Ted Cruz for President, and Linda Umberger from Carly for America.

Roll Call

Reading Secretary Nikki Trawick reported that the body had achieved a quorum, with 42 voting members present.

Roll Call of Counties

Chairman Moore then recognized and welcomed recently elected new members of the State Executive Committee. He presented each present with a member pin.

Approval of Agenda and Minutes

On a motion by Moye Graham, Chairman of Clarendon County, and seconded by Sandy McGarry, Executive Committeeman from Lancaster County, the meeting agenda was approved without objection. Duane Naquin, Executive Committeeman from Lexington County, asked that page five of the June 30, 2015 minutes be revised to read Lanneau Siegling “of the Finance Committee.” On a motion by K.T. Ruthven, Chairman of Aiken County, and seconded by Terry Hardesty, Executive Committeeman from Berkeley County, the June 30, 2015 minutes were approved as amended without objection.

Treasurer’s Report

Chairman Moore then announced the committee was in order to consider the Treasurer’s Report. Duane Naquin, Executive Committeeman from Lexington County, moved that the committee enter executive session with State Party staff allowed to remain in the room. Shery Smith, Chairman of Sumter County, seconded. The motion passed on a voice vote. The committee entered executive session at 10:26 A.M.

During executive session, Treasurer Sharon Thomson updated State Executive Committee members on the State Party’s current financial position. The committee exited executive session at 10:38 A.M. following a motion by Bob Carrison, Executive Committeeman from Fairfield County, and seconded by

Sandy McGarry, Executive Committeeman from Lancaster County. The motion to end executive session was approved on a voice vote. Richard Skipper, Chairman of Florence County, moved to accept the Treasurer's report as presented. Susan Aiken, 3rd Congressional District Chairman, seconded and the report was approved on a voice vote.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Moore reminded members that the State Party's vision for the next two years was presented at the June 30 meeting. He then shared upcoming events. He said the Republican Leadership Initiative (RLI) training on September 19 would be held in Columbia and the RNC would be training potential Republican campaign operatives. He reminded potential applicants that seating will be limited and there is an application process.

Chairman Moore also mentioned that Governor Nikki Haley would like to host a "thank you" event for State Executive Committee members on October 6. He said the Fourth Quarter State Executive Committee meeting would be held in mid-December. Typically, the meeting is scheduled around 4:00 P.M. on the same day as the Christmas Party with Governor Haley.

Chairman Moore said State Executive Committee members are welcome to attend any of the presidential candidate filing events. He said Dr. Ben Carson will be in the office to file on Monday August 24 at noon and next Saturday August 29 at 8:45 A.M., Senator Ted Cruz is scheduled to file. Chairman Moore mentioned that the "We Stand With God Rally" is next Saturday August 29 at the State House. Senator Ted Cruz and Governor Rick Perry are scheduled to speak.

Chairman Moore then mentioned the State Executive Committee manual that was distributed to members upon their arrival. He said it's a best practices manual and chock full of helpful resources. It includes a folder with login access to the newly revamped GOP Data Center. Chairman Moore then showed a video from the RNC entitled "Ready for 16."

As follow-up to the video, Chairman Moore then shared the RNC's plans to equip candidates with the right tools next fall.

Chairman Moore then spoke on the 2016 Republican National Convention to be held in Cleveland, Ohio. He said that he and the national committee members were just in Cleveland for a recent Republican National Committee (RNC) meeting. Cindy Costa, National Committeewoman from Charleston County, is South Carolina's representative on the Committee on Arrangements (COA), which is responsible for delegates' experiences at the convention. Glenn McCall, National Committeeman from York County, is Vice-Chairman of the COA, which is a huge honor and accomplishment. Chairman Moore, Mr. McCall, and Mrs. Costa were able to see some of the venues for the National Convention.

Chairman Moore shared that South Carolina would host a Republican presidential primary debate in South Carolina on February 13, 2016 in conjunction with CBS News. He hopes that all State Executive Committee Members and their spouses will have a free ticket to the debate.

National Committeeman's Report

Chairman Moore then recognized Glenn McCall, National Committeeman from York County. Mr. McCall thanked Chairman Moore and Treasurer Thomson for their work. Mr. McCall also recognized Mrs. Costa for her work on the Rules Committee. He recognized former National Committeeman and current RNC Faith staffer Drew McKissick of Richland County. Mr. McCall then spoke on a possible

amendment to RNC Rule 16(c), introduced by the Texas delegation, to remove South Carolina's "carve-out state" status. Mr. McCall said South Carolina is blessed to see the presidential candidates – without the early presidential primary, South Carolina would be "fly-over" country. Mr. McCall promised that along with Ms. Costa and Chairman Moore, he would be ready to fight for South Carolina's "First in the South" presidential primary status. Mr. McCall shared that he is excited to serve as Vice Chairman of the Committee on Arrangements (COA) and he was able to visit venues for the National Convention while in Cleveland at the recent RNC meeting.

Mr. McCall shared with members the three areas he is responsible for overseeing on the 2016 National Convention Committee on Arrangements. One is delegate and guest transportation, two is technology and the third is production of the National Convention. Mr. McCall then shared that the RNC plans to get young people involved in the National Convention process. A few guest passes will be available if someone wants to attend the National Convention if they were not elected as a delegate or alternate. Mr. McCall closed by saying there will be opportunities for young people to volunteer at the convention.

Resolutions Committee Report

Chairman Moore then recognized Terry Hardesty, Executive Committeeman from Berkeley County and Chairman of the SCGOP Resolutions Committee, for his committee's report. Mr. Hardesty stated that the committee met prior to the State Convention on May 2. The Resolutions Committee passed ten resolutions to be considered by the State Convention and the resolutions were provided in the delegate's packets, but were not passed before the State Convention adjourned. On a request by the Resolutions Committee, Mr. Hardesty asked that the State Executive Committee consider the ten resolutions as group.

Mr. Hardesty then moved to pass the resolutions as a group. No second was required. All ten resolutions were passed by voice vote, without objection.

Mr. Hardesty then presented a resolution "REGARDING THE ELECTION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO THE 2016 REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTION."

Moye Graham, Chairman of Clarendon County, made a point of order that to be elected as a National Congressional District delegate, you must live in that district. He also stated that no new delegates could be elected to the 2016 State Convention.

Mr. Hardesty moved to pass the resolution. On a voice vote, the resolution passed without objection.

New Business

Chairman Moore announced his appointments of State Party officers and standing committees:

Treasurer – Sharon Thomson of Richland County
Recording Secretary – Nikki Trawick of Richland County
Reading Secretary – Cindy Risher of Clarendon County
Parliamentarian – Nate Leupp of Greenville County

Duane Naquin, Executive Committeeman from Lexington County, voiced his concern that the committees should be comprised only of State Executive Committee members. Chairman Moore noted his concern.

A motion was made by Tyson Grinstead, Executive Committeeman from Richland County, and seconded by Susan Aiken, 3rd Congressional District Chairman, to accept the State Chairman's appointments of

State Party officers and committees. The motion was approved by voice vote with Mr. Naquin requesting his vote be recorded as “Nay.”

Old Business

The committee then stood at ease for lunch.

Upon reconvening, the State Executive Committee heard a protest of the 2015 Pickens County precinct re-organization process and county convention. Litigants and defendants presented evidence and testimony.

Chairman Moore then moved without objection that the State Executive Committee go into executive session to consider the protest.

Following the conclusion of executive session, Terry Hardesty, Executive Committeeman from Berkeley County, moved that the state delegates and elected leadership of the Pickens County Republican Party remain intact, but that the State Party should closely monitor the next Pickens County Republican Party precinct re-organization process and county convention. Bob Carrison, Executive Committeeman from Fairfield County, seconded the motion.

The motion passed via voice vote, with Sandy McGarry, Executive Committeeman from Lancaster County, and Kay Maxwell, Executive Committeeman from Bamberg County, requesting their votes be recorded as “Nay.”

Tim Higgins, Chairman of Dorchester County, made a motion to adjourn at 2:59 P.M. The motion was seconded by Suzette Jordan, Executive Committeeman from Greenville County. The motion passed via voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Bryan, Recording Secretary
South Carolina Republican Party

Approved by the South Carolina Republican Party State Executive Committee – December 9, 2015