

**The S.C. REPUBLICAN PARTY STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
FOURTH QUARTER MEETING
DECEMBER 9, 2015
COLUMBIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
COLUMBIA, SC**

Chairman Matt Moore called the Fourth Quarter State Executive Committee Meeting to order on Wednesday, December 9, 2015 at 4:02pm.

Chad Groover, Chairman of Greenville County, gave the invocation, and Sylvia Bass, Committeewoman from Pickens County, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Grace Kerley, Chairwoman of the South Carolina College Republicans, led the Republican Creed.

Recognition of Dignitaries and Guests

Chairman Moore recognized special guests Danielle Gibbs, from U.S. Senator Tim Scott's Upstate office, and Linda Garner, of Greenville County, from the South Carolina Federation of Republican Women.

Roll Call

Reading Secretary Cindy Risher reported that the body had achieved a quorum with 34 counties and 35 voting members present.

Approval of Agenda and Prior Minutes

On a motion by K.T. Ruthven, Chairman of Aiken County, and seconded by Moye Graham, Chairman of Clarendon County, the meeting agenda was approved without objection. On a motion by JoAnn Burroughs, Committeewoman from Greenwood County, and seconded by Susan Aiken, Committeewoman from Anderson County, the August 22, 2015 minutes were approved as distributed without objection.

Old Business

There was no old business pending with the committee.

New Business

No new business was presented to the committee.

Treasurer's Report

Chairman Moore then announced the committee was in order to consider the Treasurer's Report. Chairman Moore said that since the financial update was very positive, and nothing of a confidential nature would be discussed, that executive session was not necessary for the Treasurer's Report. Marvin

Gootee, Chairman of Saluda County, moved that the committee stay in open session. Bill Conley, Chairman of Spartanburg County, seconded his motion. The motion was then approved without objection by a voice vote and the committee remained in open session.

Chairman Moore stated the South Carolina Republican Party would finish the year collecting approximately \$1,000,000 in income, and would finish the year with approximately \$900,000 in expenses, leading to approximately \$100,000 in 2015 net income. Chairman Moore said he was pleased to report that the state party's \$300,000 loan balance was paid off in full in December. The loan was incurred due to the 2012 "ballot fiasco."

Chairman Moore said that in 2015, the SCGOP had received approximately 2,000 contributions of \$250 or less, 68 contributions between \$251 and \$1,000, 42 contributions between \$1,001 and \$5,000, and 32 contributions of \$5,001 to \$50,000.

2015 building expenses included approximately \$12,000 in property taxes, \$4,000 in insurance, and upgrades for safety to include an alarm system, safety glass, and window tinting. An additional \$4,000 was spent on roof repairs. Chairman Moore said possible upcoming expenses for the SCGOP headquarters could include \$25,000 to replace the HVAC units.

Vice Chairman's Report

Senator Katrina Shealy had a prior commitment and was not present to give her report.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Moore began his report by recalling the challenges South Carolina and its citizens faced in 2015. He reminded the committee to remember Pickens County Chairman Phillip Bowers' wife in prayer due to her recent injury. Chairman Moore reminded committee members to be thankful for their blessings during the Christmas season. Chairman Moore thanked all veterans and reminded the committee to remember those who would not be home during the holiday season.

Chairman Moore reminded the committee that although our challenges are great, America is confident, and we are One Nation Under God.

Chairman Moore recapped a year of great success at the State Party. Chairman Moore highlighted the state party's Social Media Year in Review info graph and explained that the SCGOP earned 1.2 million impressions on Facebook, sent 217,000 emails and earned 413,000 impressions on Twitter. Chairman Moore said approximately 47,000 people used the state party's website.

Chairman Moore expressed thankfulness as he restated the state party's great financial position, which allowed SCGOP to donate \$5,000 to Harvest Hope Food Bank for flood relief. He said the state party also has two upcoming presidential debates, a wonderful staff, and the opportunity to serve thousands in 2016.

Chairman Moore discussed the challenges of the upcoming year and how the future of the country hangs in the balance. Chairman Moore stated that the country could stop adding trillions in national debt and prevent liberal Supreme Court nominees by electing a Republican to the White House. He reminded the committee that a growing majority of Americans find Hillary Clinton to be dishonest and untrustworthy. Chairman Moore challenged the committee to win in 2016 and reminded the committee that the SCGOP staff is always available to support the county parties in their efforts.

Chairman Moore thanked the committee for its hard work and reminded attendees of important upcoming dates:

- RNC Meeting in Charleston - January 12-16, 2016, Belmond Charleston Place Hotel
- South Carolina Presidential Primary Debate with Fox Business - January 14, 2016, North Charleston Coliseum and Performing Arts Center
- Deadline to register to vote in SC Presidential Primary - January 20, 2016
- South Carolina Presidential Primary Debate with CBS News - February 13, 2016, Peace Center, Greenville
- South Carolina Presidential Primary - February 20, 2016, Polls open from 7am to 7pm. There will be some precinct consolidation, so please encourage voters to check their polling locations at SCVotes.org. We are expecting record turnout of 640,000-700,000 Republican Primary voters.
- Candidate Filing - Noon March 16th through Noon March 30th, 2016, State and County Election Commissions
- Congressional District Conventions - April 2016, Statewide
- 49th Annual Silver Elephant Dinner - May 6, 2016 at 6pm, Columbia Metro Convention Center
- SCGOP State Convention - May 7, 2016 at 10am, Columbia Metro Convention Center
- Republican National Convention - July 18-21, 2016 Quicken Loans Arena, Cleveland, Ohio

Chairman Moore noted that delegates and alternates to the National Convention would be selected at the District and State Conventions. He said all delegates will be responsible for paying for their accommodations at and transportation to the National Convention, and the SCGOP will pay for delegate meals and ground transportation.

Chairman Moore discussed ticketing for the two Presidential Primary debates and how fortunate our state is to have two debates in one primary cycle. Chairman Moore explained that members of the Executive Committee would receive tickets to both debates and should RSVP through the SCGOP. Chairman Moore

stated that grassroots activists could RSVP for tickets at SCGOP.com, but tickets will not be guaranteed, as demand for tickets is high.

Chairman Moore spoke briefly about South Carolina's First-in-the-South Presidential Primary status. He mentioned that he hopes for record voter turnout and many events leading up to primary day. Chairman Moore said that he, National Committeeman Glenn McCall from York County and National Committeewoman Cindy Costa from Charleston County would always fight hard to keep the First-in-the-South Presidential Primary.

Chairman Moore closed by adding one more date to the upcoming events calendar. He said U.S. House Speaker Paul Ryan and U.S. Senator Tim Scott would be hosting the Jack Kemp Forum on Expanding Opportunity in Columbia on Saturday, January 9th, 2016 at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center. All major Presidential candidates were invited.

National Committeewoman's Report

Chairman Moore said that National Committeewoman Costa of Charleston County was not able to attend due to a long-scheduled family trip.

National Committeeman's Report

Chairman Moore informed the Committee that National Committeeman McCall was not present due to being in Cleveland working in his role as Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Arrangements for the Republican National Convention. In his role, Mr. McCall is focused on delegate experience, technology, and transportation. Mr. McCall provided the committee copies of a detailed letter explaining preparations for the Republican National Convention in July and his role. Chairman Moore highlighted details of the letter and commended Mr. McCall for the update. Chairman Moore mentioned that Mr. McCall hopes to know the SCGOP's national convention hotel location very soon. Chairman Moore also reminded the committee that Mr. McCall and Mrs. Costa are excellent speakers for upcoming county party meetings.

Resolutions Committee Report

Chairman Moore recognized Terry Hardesty, Executive Committeeman from Berkeley County and Chairman of the State Resolutions Committee, for the Resolutions Committee report. Mr. Hardesty stated that the Resolutions Committee had met earlier that same day and approved three resolutions to be considered by the Executive Committee.

Mr. Hardesty noted that copies of the three resolutions were provided at the tables for all members to read and consider. The first resolution considered was a resolution honoring the late Martha Edens, a "Pioneer" of the Republican Party in South Carolina. Mr. Hardesty asked that this resolution be passed by voice vote and the State Executive Committee unanimously approved it.

Mr. Hardesty then presented a resolution opposing a Carbon Tax. The committee was provided copies of the resolution and Mr. Hardesty moved to pass it by voice vote. This resolution was passed by voice vote with one objection.

Mr. Hardesty then presented a resolution supporting Ethics Reform in South Carolina. Copies of the resolution were distributed and Mr. Hardesty moved for the resolution to be passed by voice vote. The resolution was passed by voice vote.

Dan Harvell, Chairman of Anderson County, said he would like to present a resolution opposing relocation of Syrian refugees to South Carolina. Chairman Moore ruled the resolution out of order and asked that the resolution be first presented to the Resolutions Committee for consideration.

Announcements

Chairman Moore recognized Moye Graham, Chairman of Clarendon County, and Jim Ulmer, Chairman of Orangeburg County, for a short presentation highlighting the plight of South Carolina farmers in the aftermath of the October floods.

Chairman Moore highlighted the stadium blanket given to each member of the Executive Committee as a Christmas gift. He thanked the committee for its hard work. Chairman Moore also thanked the SCGOP staff for their hard work setting up the meeting that evening, and for the work they had done throughout the past year.

Chairman Moore reminded the Executive Committee to attend the Christmas party at the Governor's Mansion with Governor Nikki Haley following the meeting. Chairman Moore asked for a motion to adjourn, which was made in plurality by multiple members, as was the second. The motion to adjourn was approved overwhelmingly by voice vote and the meeting was adjourned at 5:17pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nikki Trawick, Recording Secretary
South Carolina Republican Party

Approved by the South Carolina Republican Party State Executive Committee - March 5, 2016