

**The S.C. REPUBLICAN PARTY STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
SECOND QUARTER MEETING  
JUNE 11, 2016  
THE HALL AT SENATE'S END  
COLUMBIA, SC**

State Chairman Matt Moore called the Second Quarter State Executive Committee Meeting to order on Saturday, June 11, 2016 at 10:02 a.m.

Mrs. JoAnn Burroughs, Executive Committeewoman from Greenwood County, gave the invocation. Mrs. Shery Smith, Chairman of Sumter County, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Will Galloway, State Chairman of the Teenage Republicans, led the Republican Creed.

**Recognition of Dignitaries and Guests**

There were no elected officials or dignitaries in attendance.

**Roll Call**

Mrs. Cindy Risher, Reading Secretary and Executive Committeewoman from Clarendon County, reported that the body had achieved a quorum with 36 counties and 38 voting members present.

**Approval of Agenda and Prior Minutes**

On a motion by Mr. Bob Skipp, Chairman of Oconee County, and seconded by Mrs. Shery Smith, Chairman of Sumter County, the meeting agenda was approved without objection. On a motion by Mr. Terry Hardesty, Executive Committeeman from Berkeley County, and seconded by Mrs. Susan Aiken, Chairman of the Third Congressional District and Executive Committeewoman from Anderson County, the March 5, 2016 meeting minutes were approved as distributed, without objection.

**Chairman's Report**

Chairman Moore reported on the 2016 Silver Elephant Dinner and State Convention weekend, stating that both were well-attended events. He thanked the State Executive Committee for its help in making both events successful. Chairman Moore announced that 2017 will mark the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Silver Elephant Dinner and that more details on the 2017 dinner would come later in 2016.

Chairman Moore recognized the newly elected District Chairs: 1<sup>st</sup> Congressional District Chairman Maraide Sullivan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District Chairman Craig Caldwell, 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District Chairman Susan Aiken, 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Chairman Beverly Owensby, 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Chairman Freddie Gault, 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Chairman Sandra Bryan, and 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Chairman Jerry Rovner.

Chairman Moore pinned the following new members of the Executive Committee: Aiken County Chairman Andrew O'Byrne, Florence County Chairman Mal Weatherly, Edgefield County Executive Committeeman Scott Cooper, York County Chairman Joel Hamilton, Horry County Executive Committeeman Norm Fay, and Chester County Chairman Erin Moseley.

Chairman Moore also recognized South Carolina Teenage Republicans Chairman Will Galloway and South Carolina Federation of Young Republicans Chairman Katrina Jørgensen.

Chairman Moore previewed the national convention and said that National Committeeman Glenn McCall and Executive Director Hope Walker would go into more detail during their reports.

Chairman Moore announced that the state party recently filed a restraining order against the Charleston County Board of Elections regarding the Senate District 41 primary. He said the Charleston County Board of Elections had overstepped its statutory authority and would face the state party in court the following week. Chairman Moore then reminded county leaders that the state party gladly helps counties with election law compliance whenever possible.

Chairman Moore continued his report with information regarding Victory 2016. Chairman Moore stated that the SCGOP has a goal of six offices throughout the state. He said the victory offices would open in late August or early September after national convention. Chairman Moore stated that the SCGOP's goal is to have field staff supporting both the top of the ticket and down-ballot races. Chairman Moore said he was confident that South Carolina would remain a solid red state and stressed the importance of helping down ballot candidates in this election cycle. Chairman Moore also spoke about party unity. He reminded the committee that the 2016 nominee is an unconventional candidate but we must stay unified through election day.

### **Executive Director's Report**

Miss Hope Walker, SCGOP Executive Director, was recognized for her report. Miss Walker thanked the committee for its work during district conventions, state convention and the Silver Elephant Dinner. Miss Walker then introduced and recognized Mr. John Owens, SCGOP Political Assistant, and the SCGOP interns. Miss Walker followed up Chairman Moore's remarks regarding national convention and Victory 2016.

### **First Vice-Chairman's Report**

Outgoing SCGOP First Vice-Chair, State Senator Katrina Shealy of Lexington County, was not present and no report was given.

### **Treasurer's/ Finance Committee Report**

Chairman Moore recommended that the committee not go into executive session for the Treasurer's report.

SCGOP Treasurer Sharon Thomson reported that the current cash-on-hand for the SCGOP was \$76,874.09 and that all bills were up to date. Treasurer Thomson stated the annual audit, as required by state party rules, was underway.

### **National Committeeman's Report**

Mr. Glenn McCall, National Committeeman from York County, was recognized to give his report. Mr. McCall thanked the committee for its support in his re-election as National Committeeman at the State Convention in May. Mr. McCall spoke about his role serving as the Vice Chairman on the Committee on Arrangements at the national convention. Mr. McCall spoke at length about security arrangements that have been made for the national convention and reassured the committee that safety for delegates, alternates, and guests is a top priority. Mr. McCall spoke about working with the Trump campaign to finalize the details of convention program.

## **National Committeewoman's Report**

Mrs. Cindy Costa, National Committeewoman from Charleston County, was recognized to give her report. Mrs. Costa thanked the committee for its support of her re-election as National Committeewoman at the State Convention in May. Mrs. Costa gave a passionate speech about uniting as a party behind the presumptive nominee Donald Trump. Mrs. Costa spoke about those who were speaking negatively against our presumptive nominee in the media and said that Donald Trump is a strong business leader whom we should all unite behind.

## **Resolutions Committee**

Mr. Terry Hardesty, Executive Committeeman from Berkeley County and Chairman of the Resolutions Committee, was recognized to give the Resolutions Committee's report. He reported that there were no new resolutions brought before the committee since the last meeting.

## **Old Business**

There was no old business pending before the committee.

## **New Business**

Chairman Moore announced that both the SCGOP First Vice Chairman Senator Katrina Shealy of Lexington County and SCGOP Second Vice Chairman Mr. Nse Ekpo of Greenville County had resigned their positions. Chairman Moore said that Senator Shealy had a primary election opponent, and that by the State Party Rules she must resign. Chairman Moore said that Mr. Ekpo had taken a work position in Washington state and would soon be moving. He thanked both for their service to the committee and stated that they would both be missed.

Chairman Moore stated that according to State Party Rules, the committee needed to elect replacements for both positions. Chairman Moore reminded the committee that only one vote shall be cast for each county by the Executive Committeeman and if that person is not present, the automatic proxy would be the County Chairman. Chairman Moore stated that votes would be cast by secret ballot.

Nominations for First Vice Chairman were opened and Moye Graham, Chairman of Clarendon County, nominated Mrs. Cindy Risher, Executive Committeewoman and SCGOP Reading Secretary from Clarendon County. Mr. Mal Weatherly, Chairman of Florence County, seconded and Ms. Sandra Bryan, Chairman of the Sixth Congressional District, made an additional second. All three were recognized to speak on behalf of Mrs. Risher.

Mrs. Kay Maxwell, Executive Committeewoman from Bamberg County, was recognized and nominated Mrs. Eaddy Roe Willard, Chairman of Richland County, for First Vice Chairman. Mr. Drew Johnson, Executive Committeeman from Chester County made a second and Mrs. Brenda Neal, Executive Committeewoman from Cherokee County, made an additional second. All three were recognized to speak on behalf of Mrs. Willard.

Mr. Moye Graham, Chairman of Clarendon County, then made a motion to close nominations and Mr. Bill Conley, Chairman of Spartanburg County seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and Mrs. Risher was recognized to speak first, followed Mrs. Willard. A vote was taken by secret ballot and Mrs. Willard was elected First Vice Chairman of the State Executive Committee.

Nominations for Second Vice Chair were opened and Mrs. Beverly Owensby, Fourth District Chairman from Spartanburg County, nominated Mr. Joe Semsar of Charleston County. Mrs. Shery Smith, Chairman of Sumter County, made a second and Mr. Jonathan Hoffman, Executive Committeeman from Charleston County, made an additional second. Mr. Roy Lindsey, Executive Committeeman from Orangeburg County, was recognized and nominated Pastor Leon Winn from Sumter County. Mr. Moyer Graham, Chairman of Clarendon County, made a second and Mrs. Cindy Risher, Executive Committeewoman from Clarendon County, made an additional second. Nominations were closed by unanimous consent. Mr. Semsar was recognized to speak first, followed by Pastor Winn. A vote was taken by secret ballot, with a recount, and Pastor Winn was elected Second Vice Chairman of the State Executive Committee.

### **Announcements**

Mr. Jim Dickson, Executive Committeeman from Beaufort County, was recognized and spoke on behalf of Mrs. Laura Sterling who is running for Congress against Congressman Jim Clyburn. Mr. Dickson encouraged the committee to help Mrs. Sterling with her campaign.

Mr. Moyer Graham, Chairman of Clarendon County, was recognized and gave an update on the Sixth Congressional District. He recognized Ms. Sandra Bryan as the new Chair of the Sixth Congressional District.

Mr. Bill Conley, Chairman of Spartanburg County, was recognized and gave an update on Spartanburg County.

Mrs. Katrina Jørgensen, Chairman of the South Carolina Federation of Young Republicans, was recognized and gave an update on the federation and told the committee that their group is ready to help candidates during the election cycle.

Pastor Leon Winn, SCGOP Second Vice Chairman, was recognized and invited the committee to his fundraiser for State Senate District 36.

Mr. Will Galloway, Chairman of South Carolina Teenage Republicans, was recognized and gave an update on the TARS and told the committee that their group is looking to start more chapters and help candidates during the election cycle.

### **Adjourn**

Mr. Moyer Graham, Chairman of Clarendon County, made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Shery Smith, Chairman of Sumter County, seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn was approved unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nikki Trawick, Recording Secretary  
South Carolina Republican Party

*Approved by the South Carolina Republican Party State Executive Committee – August 20, 2016*