

**Republican Party of Bexar County Executive Committee**  
**Quarterly Meeting – March 22, 2021, 6:30 pm**  
**Aggie Park Banquet Hall, Castle Hills, Texas**

The County Executive Committee (CEC) of the Republican Party of Bexar County (RPBC) convened for a Quarterly Meeting on Monday, March 22, 2021 at Aggie Park Banquet Hall, 6205 West Avenue, San Antonio, TX 78216. **Presiding Chair:** County Chair John Austin. **Secretary:** Marilyn Jowdy (PC 3180). **Parliamentarian:** Curt Nelson (PC 3104). Attendance included 10 Elected Officials; 12 Candidates; 42 Guests, of which 7 were Volunteers helping at the Check-In tables; and 145 Precinct Chairs.

The Meeting Call was sent via e-mail to the Precinct Chairs, and by postal mail to those Precinct Chairs who had opted in for postal mail. Applicants who filed Vacancy Forms by the deadline of March 15, 2021 were notified by e-mail. Health & Safety protocols were observed with masks and social distancing. The Castle Hills Police Department was present to provide security. Screen projection of Agenda and motions, adjusted for amendments, was provided throughout the meeting by Technology Committee Chair Steven Jordan.

Chair Austin called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm and called upon: Adam Salyer (PC 4058) to offer the Invocation; and Kris Coons (SREC SD25, PC 3030) to lead the pledges to the United States flag and to the Texas State flag.

The Chair appointed the following to assist him Pro-Tem during the meeting:

|                           |                          |           |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Sergeants at Arms:</b> | Warrington Lee Austerman | (PC 4198) |
|                           | Joseph Michael           | (PC 4006) |
| <b>Head Teller:</b>       | Mike Hoffman             | (PC 4050) |
| <b>Assistant Tellers:</b> | Shelby Sanders           | (PC 2108) |
|                           | Jamie Mathis             | (PC 2003) |
| <b>Timekeeper:</b>        | Patsy Taylor             | (PC 3038) |

The Chair introduced the Elected Officials and Candidates attending the meeting, and welcomed US Representative, The Honorable Tony Gonzales, from Congressional District 23 (CD 23) to address the CEC. Rep. Gonzales spoke about the challenges on the Border, and in the House of Representatives led by Speaker Pelosi. He emphasized our Party message on the Border issue is that Republicans are a Party of Legal Immigration; and of Law and Order. He also urged all to get involved with the local elections, because they do matter.

Agenda. Marian Stanko (PC 2110) moved to amend the New Business portion of the proposed Agenda distributed with the Meeting Call by moving the two agenda items in VIII.c to the top of VIII.d and renumbering. The motion was seconded, debated and failed on standing vote of 45-47. The Agenda was then adopted as the Order of the Day on voice vote.

The Chair reminded CEC members that: “The Republican Party of Bexar County Executive Committee is governed by the current edition of *Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, unless those rules are inconsistent with the Statutes of the State of Texas (including the Election Code), the General Rules of the Republican Party of Texas, the Bylaws, Rules of Order, and any rules adopted by the Executive Committee”.

Quorum: The Chair called upon the Secretary to announce the status of the Quorum. The Secretary announced: The voting members of the Executive Committee are the Precinct Chairs and the County Chair. The number of Precinct Chairs after the December 14, 2020 Quarterly Meeting was 244. During the interim, the following six Vacancies occurred:

|               |                         |                       |
|---------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Precinct 1069 | Clemente Echevarria     | Resignation           |
| Precinct 1124 | Sylvia Webster          | moved out of precinct |
| Precinct 2140 | Jacqueline Rivera       | moved out of precinct |
| Precinct 3107 | Elizabeth Amy Hernandez | moved out of precinct |
| Precinct 3195 | Lillian Miess Frei      | moved out of precinct |
| Precinct 4123 | Denise G. Homer         | Resignation           |

With the six vacancies, the number of Precinct Chairs going into the March 22, 2021 CEC Quarterly Meeting was 238. **With the County Chair, the CEC voting membership was 239.** One-fourth (1/4) of the membership constitutes a quorum for conduct on non-statutory business and the filling of vacancies of Precinct Chairs at Executive Committee meetings [RPT Rule No. 8i., Rule No.9, and TEC 171.024]. One quarter of the CEC is  $239/4 = 59.75$ . Therefore, **quorum for the March 22, 2021 CEC Quarterly Meeting was 60.** The Secretary advised the Chair that Quorum had been met, based on the report from the check-in team that 123 Precinct Chairs had signed in.

Minutes. The Secretary reported on two typo corrections that had been made to the Minutes of the CEC Quarterly Meeting held on December 14, 2020 as distributed to each Precinct Chair with the Meeting Call.

Patricia Spaeth (PC 2122) requested that the Minutes include in the list of appointed precinct chairs the annotation of whether they were in attendance to take the Oath of Party Office. Her request was ruled out of order by the Chair since (1) the sign-in sheet for the appointees is an attachment to the Minutes, and (2) the Oath of Party Office is strictly ceremonial, in that Precinct Chairs are not public officials, and taking the Oath is not a prerequisite for the privilege of receipt of precinct chair tools provided by the Party.

The Minutes of the December 14, 2021 CEC Quarterly meeting as corrected for the typos were approved on voice vote and were filed as corrected.

#### REPORTS OF OFFICERS

County Chair Report. Chair Austin enunciated his vision for the County Party, its resources, and its Precinct Chairs as focused on supporting Republican candidates, getting out the vote in precincts, and winning elections. He stressed that the desired outcome of the CEC meeting is a unified membership re-energized to accomplish that vision. He noted that most of the Party's activities need to function at the Standing/Special Committee level, and that all the Committees were nearly assembled and now working hard.

Chair Austin announced his appointments for:

|   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| Officer, Parliamentarian                      | Curt Nelson (PC 3104)   |
| Chair, Technology Standing Committee          | Steven Jordan (PC 3105) |
| Chair, Campaign Activities Standing Committee | Brad Kessler (PC 4043)  |

The CEC ratified the County Chair's Officer and Standing Committee Chair Appointments on voice votes.

Chair Austin reviewed the options and financials for relocating Headquarters to the suites next door to the current office with the advantage of below market pricing and significantly larger space. He noted that most options appear to require at least 2-year leases, which may require CEC involvement before entering a new lease.

Chair Austin announced that the Job Description for the Executive Director which had been requested at the September 14, 2020 CEC Organizational Meeting #2 was distributed to the CEC in its meeting Call package and would be posted at Headquarters.

Chair Austin noted that inappropriate and erroneous negative information tearing down another precinct chair was totally inappropriate, and the need to remember all are on the same team. He requested each CEC member respect each other, and that each Precinct Chair work their precinct.

Charlie Bush (PC 3201) requested everyone refrain from hitting “Reply All” on emails, and that e-blasts to precinct chairs need to use Bcc for the precinct chair email distribution list.

Vice Chair Report. Vice Chair Charlotte Eisenhauer reiterated the need for everyone to focus on backing local candidates. She urged each Precinct Chair to speak no evil of another Republican, remembering all are on the same team. She recommended Precinct Chairs take one of the Training classes being given by the Precinct Organization Committee; then choose a candidate and work to get out the vote; and then back whomever gets into the runoff against the opposite party’s candidates.

Treasurer’s Report. Treasurer Lille Gough distributed copies of her financial report to each table and reported that all ethics reports and the 2020 Primary report had been submitted. She summarized the Income/Disbursements for the period 1 July 2020 through 20 March 2021: \$180,xxx income; \$141,xxx expenses; giving net of \$39,xxx and balance of \$68,xxx. Federal Campaign Victory Fund total for period 1 September through 20 March 2021: \$235,xxx receipts; \$161,xxx disbursements; giving net of \$74,xxx and balance of \$76,xxx. The report was filed for review.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Candidate Recruitment & Appointments Committee Chair Todd McCray (PC 3051) reported that in the local San Antonio election there were 81 candidates of which 20 were considered conservative Republicans. He noted that: the candidates were working hard and had access to Precinct Chairs and voter data bases for their districts; and that they were receiving campaign training and advice. He urged Precinct Chairs to help the candidates with block walking, fund raising, and getting out the vote. Todd announced that his Committee was working towards the 2022 election, and recruiting candidates.

Precinct Organization Committee Chair Joe Leatherwood’s (PC 3181) report was included in the CEC Call package and noted that: Precinct Chair recruitment, training, and development of utilities supporting the Committee were being accomplished; and that initial targeted precincts for recruitment were those for whom activists, delegates and volunteers had been identified.

Data Analytics Committee Chair Michael Hoffman (PC 4050) reported that the initial task assigned by the County Chair has been completed. He explained that Precincts without Chairs were classed according to Republican Presence (based on November 2020 election results), and then ranked in order of registered voters for each County Commissioner Precinct, which identified 160 targeted precincts

ranked in order of most “bang for buck” for use in recruiting Precinct Chairs, which were forwarded to the Precinct Organization Committee. Mike noted that sixteen of the Applicants to be appointed by the CEC at its meeting were in the 160 precincts, accomplishing 10% of the effort to fill Vacancies in high priority precincts.

Financial Review Committee Chair Cheri Creekmore’s (PC 4144) report was included in the CEC Call package, documented the Committee’s review of the Party’s financial records for 2020, and commended Treasurer Lille Gough on a job well done.

Communications Committee Chair Deana Abiassi (PC 3125) reported that tasks involving new branding, social media messaging expansion, development of Core Belief position statements, and selection of a new email marketing management system were being accomplished. Deana presented to the CEC the selected logo that will be trademarked and used in developing style guides for the newsletter, website, and other communications, and noted that the transition to use of Constant Contact for transmitting the CEC Meeting Call resulted in increased open rate to above 50%, an improvement over use of Mail Chimp. She presented the newly refined Top Ten Core Beliefs of the Party and explained they would be used to develop position papers from which would come extracts for press releases. She reported that the Committee promoted Texas Independence Day with a post created by David Moore, and would be launching a series of posts highlighting Republican Party of Bexar County Women Trailblazers for their grit and years of service to the Party. Deana explained that, prepared in time for National Women’s History Month, the HerstoryoftheRepublicanParty for social media would feature daily posts March 25-29, 2021 that included recognition of: BCRW Club (First Republican Women’s club in Texas); Carol Van De Walle (PC 3119); Shirley Martinez; Anna Maria Farias; Freida Wright, and ACRW Club (largest conservative group in South Texas). Deana announced that a new website was under development; and that strategies were being developed for the May 1, 2021 elections, to include: events; targeted mail and social media campaigns, candidate resources, and press releases. She reported that postcards had been prepared as tools for Precinct Chairs to help get out the vote in the local election, and requested Precinct Chairs sign up to receive the quantity they needed for their precincts.

Technology Committee Chair Steven Jordan (PC 3105) reported on his Committee’s mandate; addressed the specific areas that will be targeted; and itemized the Committee’s near-term goals: standardization and efficiency; retention of records; fuller use of Office 365 features; replacement of obsolete office technology; and training of office staff on use of tools.

Volunteer Coordination Committee Chair Yvonne Clouser (PC 4057) reported that her Committee was obtaining the assistance of women’s clubs with campaign postcards and phone banking, and was developing a data base and processes for coordinating with new volunteers. She encouraged Precinct Chairs to sign up to volunteer to help candidates in their districts’ election, and to recruit additional volunteers from their precincts.

Voter Registration Committee Chair Karen Marshall’s (Pct 3086) filed report noted that: new places were needed for registration drives; a list kept at the Headquarters reception desk of Deputy Voter Registrars was available if a visitor needed to be registered to vote; and individuals could now become certified Deputy Voter Registrars via an online course accessible through the Elections Department

website. Karen reported she is tracking bills being filed in Legislature affecting Voter Registration, and would send alerts if actions needed for/against.

Finance Committee Chair Kris Coons (PC 3030) reported plans were progressing for three major fundraising events: Lincoln Day celebration in May; a summer BBQ; and a Hall of Fame dinner in October. She urged all Precinct Chairs to participate in the Elephant Stampede (\$120 annually) to help with overhead expenses.

Campaign Activities Committee Chair Brad Kessler (PC 4043) reported on events being planned.

Bylaws & Rules Committee Chair Carol Van De Walle (PC 3119) reported that none of the “motions” or “bylaws amendments” included in the Call/Agenda had been submitted to her Committee for review as would be appropriate to ensure compliance with Bylaws and RPT Rules, as well as appropriate wording and format, and confidence of the CEC membership that the items they were being asked to vote upon had been thoroughly coordinated.

Elections Integrity Committee Chair Francisco Canseco (PC 3135) reported that activities engaged by the committee included: enlisting Secretary of State assistance to confirm legal requirements for clearing voter rolls were being accomplished; engaging a vendor for machine training for judges as an initial step towards their certification through the Elections Department; tracking legislation and preparing letters for use by constituents to lobby their representatives; preparing/sending letters to state legislature committees voicing election issues needing to be addressed; and preparing a Writ of Mandamus to the Court of Appeals.

Budget Committee Chair Lille Gough reported that her Committee would be meeting in May and June to develop a Budget for the July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022 Fiscal Year. She requested all Committees submit their budget goals for the next fiscal year to the Budget Committee by April 15, 2021. She noted that the Budget for the next Fiscal Year would be presented to the CEC for approval at its quarterly meeting on June 28, 2021.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Precinct Chair Appointments - Uncontested. The Secretary announced the Slate of thirty-three uncontested Applicants seeking appointment by the CEC to fill vacant Precinct Chair positions.

#### PRECINCT

|      |                        |
|------|------------------------|
| 1056 | OSCAR R. GONZALES, JR. |
| 1065 | JORGE E. GALLEGOS      |
| 1069 | LILLE GOUGH            |
| 1071 | CAREY A. SCHNEPP       |
| 1094 | JOEL J. GOOLSBAY       |
| 1118 | EARL GIBSON, III       |
| 1142 | SYLVIA SOTO            |
| 1149 | MANUEL G. GARCIA       |
| 2055 | DEBORAH L. FAUNCE      |
| 2058 | CASSAUNDRA N. REVILLA  |
| 2069 | ALEX G. DOMINGUEZ, SR. |

2091 KARIN E. LYNN-HILL  
 2120 JOY L. ANDERSON  
 2144 ALBERT C. MCGEHEE, JR.  
 3001 ROBERT L. CHRISTIE  
 3009 KELLY L. KNIGHT  
 3026 JERRY S. PIERCE  
 3043 DONALD L. SHAPIRO  
 3106 RONALD F. LAMMERT  
 3153 JORGE E. RODRIGUEZ  
 3155 RAQUEL M. SCATES  
 3202 NATHANIEL T. LEE  
 3209 CHRISTY A. RUPP  
 4024 GEORGE BLAND  
 4026 JOHN A. LOPEZ  
 4041 HENRY J. FARIAS  
 4059 ZACHARY T. RATHBUN  
 4073 ARTHUR G. BROWN  
 4093 MAJBRIIT R. YOUNG  
 4110 MARC A. R. CRANE  
 4155 CHARLOTTE B. NERIO  
 4171 KATHLEEN M. MORTON  
 4200 KEVIN H. ROSHANAIE

The Slate as read by the Secretary passed on Voice Vote. The duly appointed Precinct Chairs in attendance were administered the Oath of Party Office by The Honorable Jeff Wentworth, Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3, and former State Senator, District 25.

Quorum. With the addition of 33 precinct chairs, CEC membership, including the County Chair, increased to 272, and the quorum (272/4) increased to **68**.

Precinct Chair Appointments - Contested. There were no contested races due to withdrawal of an applicant from each of the competitive positions.

Buckets were passed to collect donations for the Republican Party of Bexar County, with instructions for Precinct Chairs to use the envelopes they received at check-in.

Commissioner Precinct 4 Caucus to Elect Management Committee Member. Chair Austin announced that Jeanne Melendez (PC 4085) had resigned her position on the Management Committee. The Chair appointed Jeanne Melendez as Temporary Chair of the Precinct 4 Executive Committee (PEC-4). The Chair recessed the CEC meeting to permit the PEC-4 to caucus for the purpose to elect a new Permanent Chair (vacated by Bradley Chandler when he moved out of county) and a new Member (woman) of the CEC Management Committee.

***The CEC was in recess 8:22 p.m. to 8:37 p.m. during Caucus of PEC-4.***

The Chair called the CEC back to order and called for the PEC-4 report of its Caucus.

Precinct 4 Executive Committee Report

Permanent Chair

Jeanne Melendez (PC 4085)

CEC Management Committee Member

Yvonne Clouser (PC 4057)

Motions Submitted by Precinct Chairs.

Joe Leatherwood (PC 3181) moved that the Republican Party of Bexar County appoint a Special Committee on Redistricting. The motion was seconded, debated and passed on voice vote.

Joe Leatherwood (PC 3181) moved that the Republican Party of Bexar County Executive Meetings (1) take place every other month starting with April 2021 (e.g., April, June, August, October and December); (2) that those meetings be held on the second Monday of those months; and (3) that meetings be held in January and February 2022 to conduct Republican Primary business. Mr. Leatherwood declined to move for an amendment to the Bylaws. The motion was seconded.

Richard McDonnell's (PC 2134) motion to amend Leatherwood's motion by striking item (3) "*and (3) that meetings be held in January and February 2022 to conduct Republican Primary business*" was seconded, debated and passed on voice vote.

In response to query, the Chair of the Bylaws and Rules Committee Carol Van De Walle (PC 3119) explained that the Bylaws document approved by the CEC at its September 14, 2020 Organizational Meeting allows the County Chair to call more than quarterly meetings, but does not force him to call more than quarterly meetings.

Marian Stanko's (PC 2110) motion to refer Leatherwood's amended motion to the Bylaws and Rules Committee for review was seconded, debated and failed on voice vote.

Leatherwood's motion as amended to schedule bimonthly meetings on the second Mondays of each month during 2021 beginning in April passed by simple majority on standing vote 56-32. The Bylaws were not amended.

Proposed Bylaws Amendments by Precinct Chairs.

Jeff McManus (PC 3022) moved to amend the Bylaws of the Republican Party of Bexar County as Adopted September 14, 2020 by the addition of Section C to Article II, Section I – Objectives:

**C. Promote Conservative Constitutional views on issues in line with the Republican Party of Texas Platform and Planks to educate Bexar County voters on what the Republican Party of Bexar County represents regarding beliefs and issues.**

McManus' motion was seconded, debated and passed on standing vote 55-17 with the required 2/3 vote of the CEC members present and voting, a quorum being present.

Jeff McManus (PC 3022) moved to amend the Bylaws of the Republican Party of Bexar County as Adopted September 14, 2020 by the addition of Paragraph 12 to Article IV, Section 1, Paragraph A -- (Duties of) County Chair:

**12. Responsibility for the identification and conformation of each and every Election Judge (Presiding or Alternate) no later than 60 days prior to each election. Coordinate with Bexar County Elections Department to fill any identified deltas for appropriate election judges.**

McManus' motion was seconded and debated. Motion to correct the spelling of "conformation" to "certification" was seconded and passed on voice vote. McManus' amended motion failed on standing

vote 35-27 without the required 2/3 vote of the CEC members present and voting, a quorum being present since in response to a request for a quorum check, the attendees counted off to 80.

The Presiding Chair recognized Jeff McManus (PC 3022) to present his next item (Bylaws Amendment) in the Agenda. McManus moved for a suspension of the Rules, which was seconded and passed on voice vote, to allow an item neither on the agenda nor provided in the Call package – a motion by another precinct chair. McManus yielded the floor to Francisco Canseco (PC 3135), Chair of the Election Integrity Special Committee. Mr. Canseco moved for the CEC to authorize \$3000 to help defray legal costs of a Writ of Mandamus his Committee was pursuing, which had not been brought to the Budget Committee. No copy of the Writ of Mandamus was provided to the CEC, County Chair or Secretary for review or record, nor were the contents itemized. The motion was seconded, and the Question was called and passed precluding debate. The motion from the Election Integrity Special Committee then passed on voice vote.

McManus and Stearns (PC 4130) withdrew their remaining agenda items and Leatherwood moved adjournment which passed on voice vote, precluding CEC consideration of Bayne (PC 3130) and Austerman (PC 4198) agenda items included in the Call package, and reports/announcements from SREC Members and Affiliated Clubs.

Adjournment at 9:50 p.m.

Final signature sign-in counts: Precinct 1 (12 of 31 members attended); Precinct 2 (27 of 50 members attended); Precinct 3 (60 of 111 members attended); Precinct 4 (27 of 46 members attended) for sub-total of 126 precinct chairs (of 238 members) in attendance (53%). Of the 33 precinct chairs newly appointed: Precinct 1 (5 of 8 attended); Precinct 2 (5 of 6 attended); Precinct 3 (4 of 9 attended); Precinct 4 (5 of 10 attended) for sub-total of 19 appointed precinct chairs (of 33) in attendance (58%). In total, 145 of the 271 member Precinct Chairs attended (54%) the CEC March 2021 Quarterly Meeting.

Precinct Chairs donated \$1,311 within their contribution envelopes to help cover the event costs, plus \$40 in Snack/Drink Donations.

Submitted by  
Marilyn Jowdy, Secretary

#### Attachments

Meeting Call (Including Agenda)

Sign-in Sheets

Proposed Agenda Amendment – Marian Stanko (SREC 26, PC 2110) (Failed)

Job Description – Executive Director

Treasurer's Report

Committee Reports

    Candidate Recruitment and Appointment

    Precinct Organization

    Data Analytics

Financial Review  
Communications  
Technology  
Volunteer Coordination  
Voter Registration  
Election Integrity  
Budget

Precinct 4 Caucus Report

Amendment to Article II, Section 1 – Jeff McManus (PC 3022) (Passed)

Writ of Mandamus for which \$3000 approved and paid as reimbursement to Jeff McManus (PC 3022)

*(To be provided)*