

**Bexar County Democratic Party
County Executive Committee Minutes
March 11, 2010**

I. CALL TO ORDER

County Chair Roberto Flores called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. He stated the first portion of the meeting is the Statutory Business required by both the State of Texas and the Texas Democratic Party.

II. STATUTORY BUSINESS

- A. Primary Manager Cheryl Novack reported the Primary Committee met and reviewed the results of the March 2nd Democratic Primary Election. She reported they found no irregularities with the election results. A motion and second were made to approve the election results as presented. The motion was approved with no discussion.
- B. The Chair introduced those candidates and officials present.
- C. Ms. Novack conducted the three drawings for candidate order on the April 13th Runoff Ballot. Placement is as follows: District Judge, 290th Judicial District – 1. Norma Gonzales, 2. Sylvia Marie Lopez
County Clerk – 1. Tim Ybarra, 2. Carla Vela
Justice of the Peace, Precinct No. 4 – 1. Rogelio “Roger” Lopez, Jr., 2. Avery “AD” Walker

III. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM FOR REGULAR BUSINESS

- A. The Chair announced a quorum is not present at this time. He requested Ms. Novack read the names of those Precinct Chairs not signed in to see if any present need to sign.
- B. The Chair announced we would continue with the meeting in anticipation of a quorum being reached.

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Sterling Camp moved to approve the agenda adding that all reports be limited to no more than five minutes. Mark Camann seconded the motion and it carried with no discussion.

V. OPENING CEREMONIES

- A. The Chair led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.
- B. Newly arrived Elected Officials and Candidates were recognized.

VI. Held until a quorum is present.

VII. REPORTS

- A. The Chair reported the primary is now history except for the three runoff races. There was one tie in the Precinct Chair race in 3011. However, one of the candidates chose to withdraw instead of having a runoff. The office has been very busy, even receiving a packet today. One third of the county precincts did not hold a convention. He thanked the many who worked on February 24th preparing the packets and signs for the Precinct Conventions. He named many of those who worked at the office entering the information. He announced the location of each of the SD Conventions and the number of delegates to each.
The Party has received over \$14,000 to help our financial situation and read a list of all those donating at least \$100. We must move the office before April 30th so it can be used for Roberto Rios’ Campaign office. He will work with County Chair Elect Dan Ramos to find a new location. He invited Mr. Ramos to come up and address the meeting.

Mr. Ramos said that, unlike the past, all decisions will be made by the CEC. If we can recruit more people we can get Bill White elected. Linda Chavez Thompson is running for Lt. Governor. Mr. Ramos confirmed he also had received a copy of the letter to vacate. He thanked Mr. Flores for helping us weather the storm. There are 622 precincts and we will fill the vacancies. Over 20 thousand voted in the Primary and that is where we will recruit the Precinct Chairs we need. Concerning the money situation he stated the press has not been kind to us. But he will not wait on getting action on the legal charges filed.

Mr. Flores announced we now have a quorum (66 chairs). Mr. Camp moved the agenda be approved, limiting reports to no more than five minutes. There was a second and the motion was approved with no discussion.

VI. The Minutes of the February 2nd CEC meeting were presented. In Part V., Section B. Treasurer’s Report, an objection was voiced concerning the sentence, “Mr. Jepson then left the podium, and walk out of the meeting.” A vote taken to remove the sentence carried with only 1 dissenting vote. The minutes will be corrected accordingly. There were also 2 grammatical errors corrected. John courage moved to strike the discussion on the corrections. There was a second and the motion carried with no discussion.

VII. REPORTS

- B. Primary Report – Cheryl Novack

The Chair took a few moments to introduce additional candidates and officials who have arrived.

- C. Executive Council – Melanie Aranda reported the Council accepted Mr. Tom Jepson’s resignation as Treasurer.
- D. Budget & Finance – Frank McDonald said the committee met and interviewed Leslie Beasley. The Committee recommends her to the Executive Council and introduced her to the meeting. Ms. Beasley briefly spoke on her experience and plans for opening up the office giving everyone more visibility where the money is concerned.

- E. Executive Council – Ian Straus
 - 1. Mr. Straus moved that Leslie Beasley be approved as the new Treasurer, adding that no 2nd is necessary since it is a committee motion. There was no discussion and the motion carried.
 - 2. Mr. Straus read a motion to dissolve and reform the Budget & Finance committee. Nancy Froment requested the word “reconstitute” be changed to “re-formed.” Mr. Straus accepted this change to the motion. There were some questions answered. The motion carried.
 - 3. Mr. Straus read the names of those recommended for the new Budget & Finance Committee. The motion to accept carried with no discussion.
- F. Treasurer’s Report – Leslie Beasley reports a \$2,575.25 balance with some bills current but still some old bills due. John Courage moved the report be received as presented. Ruby Krebs seconded the motion and it was approved with no discussion.
- G. Committee Reports
 - 1. Primary – Roberto Flores
 - 2. Campaign – Ian Straus reported the need to meet with Mr. Ramos to obtain his views on the upcoming campaign. They would like to accomplish the after the SD Conventions. Motion to accept the report carried with no discussion.
 - 3. Precinct Chair Recruitment – Mark Camann – Two precinct chair resignations leaves us with 253 chairs. There were 180 elected in the primary of which only half are currently chairs. He gave number status of the precincts. They want to use the May meeting to elect additional chairs who applied after the election deadline. There are already 34 applicants. We will have an orientation for new chairs prior to May meeting. The reported was accepted with no discussion.
 - 4. Rules – Ian Straus reported there was no meeting last month but will meet again before the April meeting. The newest rules are now posted on the website.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Mr. Straus spoke on behalf of the Steering Committee. They recommend we set meeting dates for the remainder of the current term as April 22nd, May 4th, June 1st, and July 6th. There was discussion. The motion carried.
- B. Sylvia Pena asked if there is any way we can control the negative publicity we have been receiving. Mr. Flores recommended waiting until the new Chair takes office. Kevin Lopez moved a letter be written from the CEC to the elected officials that while we recognize their right to free speech they refrain from speaking negatively on matters pertaining to the party. There was a second. During the discussion it was suggested we make sure our own officials not speak negatively about other officials. They need to respect the will of the voters. George Windrow and Ruby Krebs spoke against the motion. A voice vote was indecisive. The results of a standing vote were 25 (for) and 43 (against) with 3 abstaining. The motion was defeated.
- C. Nancy Froment, Secretary, reported on her meeting with Det. McMaster. While she could not go into details she did say he requested she write a chronological statement for him.

- X. **RECESS for 15 minutes** – Each SD group present will meet to determine time and place of select Committee Members for the convention.

XI. RECONVENE

The Temporary Chair of each SD reported on their meeting.

XII. ADDITIONAL NEW BUSINESS

Bryan Gerard moved any documents given to the SAPD are to be first reviewed by the Executive Council. There was a second. There was discussion. There was a call for the question. The motion to end debate carried. The motion carried with 1 abstaining.

XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. The Claude Black Heroes Dinner is March 29th. Several Democrats are being honored.
- B. Ruth Stewart announced the Bexar Co. Democratic Women will have a Mexican Breakfast on March 27th. Sam Millsap is the guest speaker.
- C. Ruby Krebs informed everyone she manages a hotel across the street from the Omni in Corpus Christi and is giving good rates for convention.
- D. Bryan Gerard announced the next meeting of the Stonewall Democrats is March 13th at Luby’s at Nacogdoches Rd.
- E. Melanie Aranda said the Young Democrats State Convention is April 23-25 in Austin.
- F. The Cesar Chavez march is March 27th from Plaza Guadalupe to the Alamo. It starts at 11:00 a.m. with the program beginning at 1:00 p.m.

- XIV. **Motion and second to adjourn** carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy T. Froment, Secretary
Bexar County Democratic Party