

# 2011 Convention Minutes

## *Libertarian Party of California*

April 8-10, 2011

Harrah's Resort and Casino

15 Highway 50

Stateline, Nevada 89449

Host: Terry Floyd, 2011 Convention Committee Chair

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# Business Session 1

Saturday, April 9, 2011, 09:05 a.m. - Noon

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## Welcome

09:05 a.m. 2011 Convention Committee Chair Terry Floyd

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## Credentials Committee Report

Wayne Meyers reported 52 delegates; 26 Majority; 35 2/3

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## Adopt Agenda

10:10 a.m.: Gary Tutin (San Mateo); Motion to adopt agenda with balance of officers' reports to be given after speaker.

Motion to adopt the amended agenda passed.

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## Officers Reports

### Chair's Report

Kevin Takenaga

### Northern Vice Chair's Report

Donn Coenen

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## Keynote Address

10:35 a.m.: Steven Greenhut; *How the GOP is Heading Toward Irrelevancy*

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## Officers Reports

### Southern Vice Chair's Report

11:13 a.m.: Mike Seebeck

### Treasurer's Report

Brian Darby

## **Secretary's Report**

Gale Morgan (Daniel Wiener has archive minutes)

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## **Committee Reports**

### **Financial Standards Committee Report**

Susan Marie Weber, Financial Standards Committee Coordinator.

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## **Recess**

Noon

## **Business Session 2**

April 9, 2011

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## **Reconvene**

01:55 p.m.

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## **Credentials Committee Report**

Wayne Meyers; 53 delegates; 27 Majority; 36 2/3

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## **Committee Reports**

### **Electronic Communications Committee Report**

Flavio Fiumerodo

### **Credentials Committee Report**

Wayne Meyers; 72 delegates; 37 Majority; 48 2/3

### **Bylaws Committee Report**

Gale Morgan, Committee Chair, presented No Debate items for delegate consideration.

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### ***Proposal 2: Wording Relocation***

(No Debate Item)

Recommended 5-0

**Location:** Bylaw 5, Sections 1 and 3 (amend)

**Change:** Move the second sentence in Bylaw 5, Section 3 up to the end of Section 1.

**Reason:** It makes more contextual sense. Technical change, no wording change.

Motion: Starchild; proposed postponing for full discussion.

The motion to postpone failed.

The motion to adopt the proposed revision passed.

### **Proposal 3: Terminology Correction**

(No Debate Item)

Recommended 5-0

**Location:** Bylaw 12, Section 8 (amend)

**Change:** Reword to clarify.

**Reason:** Make terminology consistent with the rest of the Bylaws.

“Failure of an Executive Committee member to attend two consecutive Executive Committee meetings shall be cause for removal [from the Executive Committee](#).”

The motion to adopt the proposed addition passed without objection.

### **Proposal 4: Fix Voting Flaw for Vice-Chairs**

(No Debate Item)

Recommended 5-0

**Location:** Convention Rule 13, Section 3 (amend), and Bylaw 10, Section 1 (amend)

**Change:** Move the last sentence of Convention Rule 13, Section 3, to Bylaw 10, Section 1.

**Reason:** Vice-Chairs should be elected by members in their regions only. As it stands as a Convention Rule now, it can be suspended and allow cross-region elections, which doesn't make any sense. Elevating it to a Bylaw fixes the problem.

The motion to adopt the proposed revision passed.

### **Proposal 5: Posting of Convention Minutes**

(No Debate Item)

Recommended 4-1

**Location:** Bylaw 10, Section 5 (amend)

**Change:** Amend to make consistent posting times for both convention and Executive Committee minutes.

**Reason:** Previously omitted. Makes convention minutes available in timely manner once adopted by the Executive Committee.

The motion to adopt the proposed addition passed without objection.

**Proposal 21: Move to Convention and Caucus Nomination of Partisan Candidates**

(Debate Item)

**Location:** Bylaw 22, Sections 1 and 5 (amend)

Changes:

1. Amend Section 1 to make all nominations for partisan office to be done at convention, by delegates, with exceptions being for special elections where it logistically cannot be accomplished, at which point it would be delegated to the Party leadership (the Executive Committee for statewide, or the county officers within the district as determined by the regional Vice-Chair of the most populous part of the district, respectively).
2. Amend Section 5 to remove the obsolete language regarding notifying the Secretary of State of nominees and to indicate that the Executive Committee is limited to supporting nominated partisan candidates.

Discussion ensued.

Motion: Aaron Star (Ventura County): Postpone vote on proposed Bylaw 22 amendments until Sunday morning.

The motion to postpone voting on the proposed revisions failed.

Call for division.

The motion for division carried 25 Yea to 14 Nay.

The motion to postpone voting on the proposed revisions passed.

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## **Orders of the Day**

Scott Lieberman (Santa Clara County).

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## **Speakers**

02:55 p.m.: Tad Lumpkin and Harold Uhl discussed and answered questions about their animated featurette "The American Dream". They also granted permission to use the feature on public television with a link to their website

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## **Reconvene**

03:25 p.m.

## ..... **Credentials Committee Report**

Wayne Meyers

## ..... **Orders of the Day**

Aaron Starr objected to ruling of the Chair.

Call for division.

9 Nay, division failed.

## ..... **Committee Reports**

### **Bylaws Committee Report**

#### **Proposal 1: Clarify Debate Procedure**

(No Debate Item)

Recommended 5-0

**Location:** Rule 5 (amend)

**Change:** Revise to differentiate between motions from the floor and motions from committee reports, and debate time limits per main motion.

**Reason:** Rule 5 does not differentiate between motions from the floor and motions from committee reports. RRONR 35:1-10 indicates that when a committee report contains proposals (such as these), the proposals do not require a standing second since the committee of State Central Committee members, in recommending them, acts as its own second. However, currently the Rule 5 requirement of a 10% standing second overrides RRONR per Rule 1, creating a problem. This proposal fixes that problem by elevating the RRONR section interpretation to the Rule to create the desired exception to the standing second requirement, and cleaning up the language for clarity, including debate time limits.

Motion: Suspend the rules to have Proposal 1 take effect immediately.

Standing second: 8.

The motion to suspend the rules to have Proposal 1 take effect immediately failed.

#### **Proposal 6: Initiation of Force Cause for Suspension**

(Debate Item)

Recommended 5-0

**Location:** Bylaw 5, Section 5-C (new)

**Change:** Add violations of the Statement of Principles to explicit “cause” for membership suspension.

**Reason:** That really should be there anyway as it’s the core of the Libertarian philosophy, and its omission is an error.

Call the question.

The motion to call the question passed.

The motion to adopt the proposed addition failed.

### **Committee Formation**

Motion: Starchild; Suspend the rules for the purpose of changing how committees are formed.

The motion to suspend the rules to consider changing how committees are formed carried.

Starchild proposed striking Bylaw 15 Section 2 from the bylaws.

Section 2 “For each convention the Executive Committee shall appoint a committee of five members of the county central committees to recommend changes in the bylaws and convention rules.”

Section 3. “There shall be a Platform Committee, **Bylaws and Convention Rules Committee**, and Program Committee for each convention.”

A motion to table discussion of striking Bylaw 15 Section 2 carried.

A motion to suspend the rules and resume consideration of the Bylaws Committee Report recommendations, starting with Proposal 9, passed.

### **Proposal 9: National Convention Delegates**

(Debate Item)

Recommended 5-0

**Location:** Bylaw 24 (amend)

**Change:** Place the impetus on nominations by attendance or notifying the Party rather than relying on proxy nominations.

**Reason:** Nominations being made for people not aware they are nominees.

The question was called and seconded.

The motion to adopt Proposal 9 failed.

### **Proposal 15: National Committee Representative Attendance**

(Debate Item)

Recommended 4-0-1

**Location:** Bylaw 17, Section 5 (amend)

**Change:** Create automatic vacancies from attendance problems



**Reason:** The region should be represented at all times on the LNC.

Aaron Starr moved to amend the proposal to retain the first sentence of Bylaw 17 Section 5 and alter the second sentence to state, "A vacancy shall occur whenever an LNC representative misses two consecutive meetings during a term," and to retain the last sentence as written.

The proposed amendment passed.

Move to extend time for 3 minutes.

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## Orders of the Day

Motion failed.

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## Recess

05:30 p.m. until Sunday morning at 09:00 a.m.

## Business Session 3

Sunday, April 11, 2011

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## Reconvene

10:12 a.m., Kevin Takenaga

- Rich Vanier announced that Ed Bowers, Michael Warnken, and Melisse Lusin respectively won 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 1<sup>st</sup> place in the Saturday nightPoker Tournament.
- Scott Lieberman announced the next National Committee Meeting next weekend.
- Kevin Takenaga read Ted Brown's announcement that Libertarian John Harrington won election to the San Gabriel City Council.

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## Credentials Committee Report

Wayne Meyers reported 76 delegates, 39 simple majority, 51 2/3rds majority.

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## Committee Reports

### Bylaws Committee Report

Gale Morgan, Bylaws Committee Chair, re-presented Proposal 21, to amend Bylaw 22: Sections 1 and 5

**Proposal 21: Move to Convention and Caucus Nomination of Partisan Candidates**

(Debate Item)

**Location:** Bylaw 22, Sections 1 and 5 (amend)

Changes:

1. Amend Section 1 to make all nominations for partisan office to be done at convention, by delegates, with exceptions being for special elections where it logistically cannot be accomplished, at which point it would be delegated to the Party leadership (the Executive Committee for statewide, or the county officers within the district as determined by the regional Vice-Chair of the most populous part of the district, respectively).
2. Amend Section 5 to remove the obsolete language regarding notifying the Secretary of State of nominees and to indicate that the Executive Committee is limited to supporting nominated partisan candidates.

Aaron Starr asked for Richard Winger to address the body regarding the proposed bylaw change.

Winger expressed philosophical agreement with the proposal.

Starr and Morgan discussed ramifications of the proposal if Proposition 14 would be invalidated.

The Bylaws Committee submitted Proposal 21 for adoption, debate ensued.

Barnes motion to table the proposal was seconded.

The question was called and met no objection.

The motion to table Proposal 21 passed.

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## **Endorsements**

Motion: Dana McLorn motion to suspend rules to consider candidate endorsements met no objection.

Boomer Shannon moved to endorse Steve Collett's campaign for the 36<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Special Election, and spoke in favor of the endorsement.

Collett addressed the audience regarding the May 15<sup>th</sup> special election and his campaign.

The motion to endorse Collett's campaign passed without objection.

## **Business Session 4**

04/11/11

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### **Reconvene**

01:25 p.m.

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### **Credentials Committee Report**

Wayne Meyers reported delegate figures adjusted for early departures.

Aaron Starr objected to having a second Credentials Committee report in one day.

Motion: Boomer Shannon moved to suspend the rules to allow Meyers' second Credentials Committee report.

The motion to suspend the rules to allow a second Credentials Report for the day passed.

## **Elections**

### **Officer Elections**

#### **Nominations**

##### **Chair**

- Kevin Takenaga (49)
- C Michael Pickens (17)
- NOTA (3)

Starr's motion to set rules aside to allow questions of candidates carried 47-17

##### **Northern California Vice Chair**

- Gale Morgan (16)
- C Michael Pickens (19)
- NOTA (1)

##### **Southern California Vice Chair**

- Dana McLorn (12)
- Matthew 'Boomer' Shannon (15)
- NOTA (1)

##### **Secretary**

- Gale Morgan ()
- Lauren Hilton (ALL)
- NOTA ()

##### **Treasurer**

- Brian Darby (ALL)
- NOTA

## **At-large Representatives Elections**

Current At-large Representatives:

Paul Darr (San Bernardino)

Flavio Fiumerodo (Ventura)

Dana McLorn (Ventura)

Alan Pyeatt (Los Angeles)

At-large Representatives votes in decending order:

Carlos Rodriguez (Los Angeles) 53

Nancy Zardeneta (Los Angeles) 46

Armando Romero (Los Angeles) 45

Gale Morgan (Sacramento) 44

Starchild (San Francisco) 40

Rich Vanier (Contra Costa) 39

Brian Andresen (San Bernardino) 34

Casey Aplanalp (Butte) 28

Mike Paster (San Diego) 28

NOTA (0)

## **At-large Alternates Representatives Elections**

Brian Andresen 1<sup>st</sup> Alternate

Mike Paster 2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate

Casey Aplanalp in second place withdrew after the first round of voting.

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## **Endorsements and Resolutions**

### **Candidate Endorsements**

### **Resolutions**

Delegates considered and passed the following resolutions:

Regulate Marijuana Like Wine (Steve Kubby, Judge Jim Gray (ret.))

Increase Number of California's Legislative Districts (Michael Warnken)

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## **Adjournment**

Call for Orders of the Day met no opposition.