



## Williamson County Republican Party Executive Meeting

Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.  
GracePointe Healthcare  
311 W. Main St. - Franklin, Tennessee 37064

### Minutes Regular Meeting

Call to Order by Mr. Martin Plumlee, Parliamentarian

Prayer by Mr. Martin Plumlee/ Pledge of Allegiance by Chairman Brown.

Members Present	Members Present	Members Participating Virtually	Other Members Present
Cheryl Brown, Chair	Susan Jamison	Sherry Anderson	Connie Allison, Attorney
Omar Hamada, Past Chair	Kilynn Schueler		Martin Plumlee, Parliamentarian
Sean Raesemann	Debbie Ballard		Marykate Brown
Stevie Giorno	Kendall Matas		
Tony Roberts	Cyndi Miller		
Shiri Anderson	Steve Allbrooks		
Rob Tiede			

Administration of the Oath of Office conducted by Ms. Cyndi Miller, State Executive Committee (“SEC”).

- Chairman Brown provided an overview of the leadership for the Executive Committee of the Williamson County Republican Party (“Executive Committee” or “WCRP”). [A copy of this document to be maintained with the minutes.]

#### Review of Bylaws

Connie Allison, Legal Counsel provided introductory comments relative to county Bylaws versus state Bylaws and the coordination thereof. In addition, Attorney Allison discussed the revision, clarification, and approval process of the Bylaws.

#### Correspondence from the Bureau of Ethics and Campaign Finance

Chairman Brown discussed the correspondence dated April 29, 2021 from the Bureau of Ethics and Campaign Finance/ Registry of Election Finance addressed to the past Treasurer, Mr. Robert Verell. The WCRP was found in violation of the Campaign Financial Disclosure Law, pursuant to T.C.A § 2-10-101, et seq. The allegations as referenced in the letter (1-6) may result in a Class 2 civil penalty against the WCRP. Chairman Brown informed the Executive Committee that a hearing will take place on July 23, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. in which Chairman Brown and Mr. Verell will attend the hearing. Discussion was opened to members to address the allegations. Vice-Chairman Raesemann asked when the Chairman was made aware and Chairman Brown indicated it was following the April 22, 2021 Mass Convention. The question was raised to Attorney Allison as to who was held liable. In this case, the sole responsibility lies on the past Treasurer. Vice-Chairman Raesemann wanted clarification on the course of action and Chairman Brown stated that a correspondence was emailed to her and the Executive Committee must submit sworn statements along with pertinent attachments as to why the civil penalties



should not be assessed or simply attend. Sworn statements must be due no later than July 9, 2021 as specified in the correspondence dated April 29, 2021. Additional questions/ comments were discussed regarding how to ensure we do not miss deadlines and eliminating future occurrence through teamwork and compliance. Confidentiality was mentioned as an important focus. [A copy of the correspondence will be maintained with the minutes.]

a. Internal Audit

Chairman Brown requested an internal audit in which discussions were brought forth concerning the difference between the internal audit and a certified external third-party audit. Treasurer Jamison discussed transparency, granularity, and cash accounting versus accrual accounting. Attorney Allison stressed documenting every expenditure to ensure check and balance. Vice-Chairman Roberts sought clarification regarding the signatory and the use of a debit and credit.

**A motion was made by Parliamentarian Martin Plumlee to add a second signature authorized on the WCRP's banking account. Seconded by Omar Hamada.** The vote count was 7-7.

Members voting in the affirmative: Cheryl Brown, Omar Hamada, Shiri Anderson, Sherry Anderson, Debbie Ballard, Kilynn Schueler and Steve Allbrooks;

Members voting No: Sean Raesemann, Stevie Giorno, Susan Jamison, Kendal Matas and Rob Tiede.

Introduction of Committee Members/ Reports

Committee Members gave a brief introduction and provided personal comments.

Events and Outreach

Insurance for the director and officers ("D&O") was mentioned in which Chairman Brown suggested the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer work together to ensure coverage for events. Assistant Treasurer Schueler will follow-up.

a. Mix & Mingle- May 20th (Marriott Cool Springs)

Speakers will include Sen. Johnson, Rep. Casada and Rep. Cepicky. Marykate Brown provided a general overview information regarding the event.

Chairman Brown mentioned the Marriot is covered for the Mix and Mingle through the rest of the year. Thanks to sponsors.

b. Juneteenth Celebration- June 18th and 19<sup>th</sup> (Downtown Franklin)

Overview of the event was provided by Chairman Brown. Sponsorship request is for \$1,500 which will provide WCRP display logo in printed materials, and will include two tickets to the gala on Friday night. Event details were distributed to the Executive Committee along with an overview of the historical significance of Juneteenth. The Franklin Justice & Equity Coalition ("FJEC"), and whether this organization is in alignment with GOP initiatives. Marykate Brown suggested that WCRP participate in the event considering it is an opportunity to be present among prospective members. Vice-Chairman Raesemann suggested that we hold off on voting and suggested that he conduct research to identify if the organization is in alignment with GOP initiatives. The Executive Committee agreed to proceed with the research. [A copy of the FJEC flyer and Juneteenth overview will be maintained in the minutes.]



c. African American Heritage Society- June 19<sup>th</sup> at Pinkerton Park- 10 a.m.

Flyer was distributed to the Executive Committee. Chairman Brown mentioned there will be an unveiling of the Juneteenth statue during this event and members were encouraged to attend. [A copy of this document will be maintained with the minutes.]

Chairman's Circle

Chairman Brown stated that this event is set for June, but is waiting on the host to confirm a date.

School Board Vetting, Marykate Brown/ Vice-Chairs

Vice-Chairman Raesemann stated WCRP will form a committee that will thoroughly vet all candidates. Ms. Brown will join the committee and an invitation was extended for other members to join.

Old Business

D&O insurance - see section on Events and Outreach. Ms. Schueler is working on information about the insurance and should have information at the next meeting.

New Business

Reagan Dinner - Chairman Brown provided an update that she is confirming details with the Embassy Suites. There is a speaker in mind; however, details are still unfolding.

The "Get to Know You Meeting" will be held this Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at the home of Julie Hannah. Chairman Brown asked for members to please submit their responses to Julie.

Chairman Brown mentioned the upcoming elections for Commissioners, Alderman, Mayor races, and Governor; and distributed the 2021-2022 Williamson County Election Calendar. [A copy of this document will be maintained with the minutes.]

Chairman asked the CEC to please send a photo to Pastor Bob Gerstenberger for the website and informed us the email account has been set up for the Treasurer, Secretary and 1st Vice-Chair.

Constant Contact: Ms. Bagby has been helping Chairman Brown with the Newsletter. Vice-Chairman Raesemann volunteered to develop the content for the newsletter, but approved by Chairman

Brown before posting. Also, the monthly Marketing Assistant with constant contact of \$150 will be cancelled immediately.

Assistant Treasurer Schueler will assist with coordinating social media efforts with Pastor Bob Gerstenberger.

Chairman Brown mentioned she would meet with the Vice-Chairs to coordinate efforts for District Captains Outreach. Vice-Chairman Raesemann suggested developing a strategy to focus efforts on applying the eight purposes contained in the Bylaws throughout the county, utilizing outreach. Chairman Brown mentioned they will connect to develop the strategy.

Vice-Chairman Giorno will assist with vetting online volunteers who sign-up on the website.



Miscellaneous

Chairman Brown mentioned the Secretary will email the agenda five days prior to the monthly meeting along with a copy of the Treasurer's report. Treasurer Jamison stated that she will try to provide the report to the Secretary during this timeframe.

Vice-Chairman Raesemann and Vice-Chairman Roberts discussed membership and outreach goals and Chairman Brown reiterated she will connect with them to develop the strategy.

Ms. Matas discussed the use of Google and Microsoft Teams for future online meet-up and information systems. A follow-up conversation will be held regarding additional findings.

Chairman Brown also mentioned protocols for the transfer of materials to include minutes and financial information. She asked that copies of all documents be housed within the Party Office as a back-up. Discussions were held concerning office keys in which Chairman Brown suggested those who have keys to inform Prudence at Regus for their office records.

Chairman Brown reminded everyone to send contact and emergency information to have on file.

Chairman Brown stated that all meetings with former Executive Committee members should now be complete. Chairman Brown and Treasurer Jamison discussed the "Check Request Form" and provided a copy of the form to all Executive Committee members. [A copy of this document will be maintained with the minutes.]

Ms. Miller mentioned a presentation that she would like to make on behalf of the SEC at the next meeting and Vice-Chairman Raesemann requested a copy of the minutes from the previous Executive Committee meeting. Mr. Allbrooks mentioned WCRP generated the highest revenue of all GOP county organizations.

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

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Date Minutes Approved

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J. Shiri Anderson, Secretary

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Rob Tiede, Assistant Secretary