



Good Morning,

I attended the quarterly State executive meeting on Saturday February 10. Here is a brief overview.

43/46 Counties were represented.

The elephant club membership is growing at a slow pace still over 1500 but not 1700 which is Drew's goal.

The SCGOP will probably put on Leadership Institute schools one in each congressional district. I had a taste of what one is like at the First in the South convention. They teach you the basics of fundraising and activism.

There was discussion about the fear of Democrats crossing over in the primary. Of course we are anticipating that, but 750,000 Republicans voted in the primary in 2016 and Drew expects that to be close to a million. He said he believes that there will be a significant number of Democrats who cross over because they actually support a republican President, and we will probably see that at the top of the ticket in November.

While all the names of those who filed for the office of President will be on the ballot, there will be notices at the polling places of who has dropped out.

Poll watchers are retained by campaigns. [Eric.Hollander@djtfp24](mailto:Eric.Hollander@djtfp24) is who to contact for the Trump campaign.

There was discussion about poll workers being able to work split shifts and that is something that needs to be worked out. There is not a clear hierarchy from the State Elections Committee to the local level per Hope and Drew when it comes to making changes.

There has been no movement in replacing the ERIC system for the voter rolls...when I asked the answer and defense of the system was rather disappointing.

South Carolina gets 50 delegates to the National Convention 3 are automatic, State Chair and 2 Committeeman. The Congressional Districts (7) vote on 3 each April 13 in Greenwood and then we have a state convention May 4 in Columbia to elect the other 26.

The cost will be about \$3000 out of pocket to attend the NATIONAL convention. You MUST stay at the hotel that the delegates are assigned. You can't lobby EC or Chairman email lists. If you want to run you contact Abby in the office and they will send out any "resume" etc. The deadline is 7 days prior to the convention to submit your desire and money to run. Elephant members will be charged \$75, and their names will be in bold on the ballot, others will be \$100.

A platform committee was announced. Our Platform was revised in 2019 and a few new issues will be addressed and voted on at the convention.

Each county is to provide their credentials committee/check in, and it should be the same person if available that did it at the last state convention.

Our Congressional District convention will have a \$20 attendance fee and a \$40 Ballot fee. We will need a credentials person there as well.

In addition to the Delegate race, a new District Chairman, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer will be elected. It is a 4-year term. Your greatest responsibility is to put on the 2028 Convention.

If you have a county sheriff or coroner who is running and files in your county that IS NOT an incumbent contact Drew and Hope as there is a different set of qualifications that must be met for any candidate.

Mr. Odom gave an update on the Robert Smalls group, that is our minority outreach program. It has been well received. Ms. Kizzie Smalls has been speaking at events which have featured community fish-fries as a "lure". There are 5 Black candidates running as Republicans this cycle! \*\*\*If we were to do an African American outreach this is who I would invite\*\*\*\*

There are 71 lawsuits that the RNC is involved in. The one of note is in Mississippi. There they want to count mail-in ballots received up to 10 days after election day.

A Resolution condemning rank choice voting, and another one supporting partisan voter registration passed.

Respectfully,

Terri Meyerring  
Occonee Committeewoman

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF  
PARTISAN VOTER REGISTRATION AND AFFILIATION**

**WHEREAS** the nomination of candidates to public office is one of the most fundamental functions of a political party; and

**WHEREAS** under current law, any person can currently run and/or vote in a Republican primary, regardless of their true beliefs or affiliation; and

**WHEREAS** we often see efforts by candidates and/campaigns to encourage Democrats to vote in our Republican Primary; and

**WHEREAS** limiting primary voters to only Republican voters and primary candidates to only Republican candidates would allow for a greater, more accurate representation of the South Carolina Republican Party's platform in our elected nominees and prevent "tipping the scale" and meddling from Democrats or third-party voters or candidates, and

**WHEREAS** the South Carolina Republican Party Platform calls for partisan voter registration, and **WHEREAS** more than 84% of Republican primary voters answered "YES" in favor of partisan voter registration on the 2018, 2020, and 2022 primary ballot advisory question and **WHEREAS** that question will also be put to our presidential primary voters on February 24<sup>th</sup>;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the South Carolina Republican Party hereby condemns efforts by candidates, campaigns or third-party groups to draw Democrats to vote in Republican Primaries; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the South Carolina Republican Party calls on the South Carolina General Assembly to pass SC House Bill 3695, also known as the "Voter Registration and Party Affiliation Act", to alter our state's voter registration process to allow for partisan voter registration and prohibit Democrats from voting in Republican primaries, and to tighten qualifications for candidates wanting to run in a partisan primary to ONLY candidates registered with that Party and who have voted in at least two of the three most previous primaries for that Party.

## **A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA REPUBLICAN PARTY CONDEMNING RANKED-CHOICE VOTING**

**WHEREAS**, the use of ranked-choice voting has led to the discarding of ballots when no candidate secures more than 50 percent of the vote in the initial tabulation, resulting in the dismissal of voters' preferences, and

**WHEREAS**, this practice of discarding ballots is not an incidental flaw but an inherent feature of the ranked-choice voting system, where single-choice voters face disenfranchisement when their selected candidate is no longer in contention, and

**WHEREAS**, in Maine's 2018 Second Congressional District election, more than 8,000 ballots were thrown in the trash. Bruce Poliquin (R) received 46.33 percent of the vote ahead of Jared Golden's (D) 45.58 percent. But since Poliquin didn't receive 50 percent, there was a second round of tabulation. The secretary of state threw out more than 8,000 ballots and Golden was declared the winner—but with only 49.2 percent of the total ballots cast., and

**WHEREAS**, a similar situation occurred In Alaska's 2022 congressional special election, Republican candidates received 60 percent of the vote in the first round, but the Democrat won. Nearly 15,000 were trashed, and the Democrat won by a little more than 5,000 votes, and

**WHEREAS**, the implementation of ranked-choice voting has resulted in delayed election results due to multiple rounds of counting and significant errors, as witnessed in New York's primary election, causing unnecessary uncertainty and eroding public trust in the electoral process, and

**WHEREAS**, the forced ranking of all candidates on the ballot, as opposed to a straightforward vote for a single preferred candidate, imposes a confusing and burdensome requirement on voters, compelling them to support candidates with whom they may fundamentally disagree, thereby undermining the principle of genuine choice in a democratic election,

**WHEREAS**, Florida, Tennessee, South Dakota, Idaho, and Montana have already passed legislation banning ranked-choice voting;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the South Carolina Republican Party on behalf of its members, adamantly condemns the use of ranked-choice voting in public elections and calls upon elected officials and legislators to reject this system by passing legislation that bans ranked-choice voting in South Carolina.