# Gaston County Republican Party Executive Committee Official Meeting Minutes

## September 14, 2015 Hillbilly's BBQ - 930 E. Garrison Blvd., Gastonia

Chairman Anne Huggins called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and an agenda was provided. Julie Stroupe gave the invocation and Neil Moore led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **OFFICERS REPORTS**

**Secretary:** The Minutes from the August meeting were emailed to the Executive Committee and were available at the meeting. The Minutes were approved by acclamation without objection.

## Chairman:

Chairman Anne Huggins recognized current and former elected officials present. She gave an overview of the National Republican Women's Convention in Phoenix, Arizona. She said that Carly Fiorina and Ted Cruz were the top two vote-getters in the straw poll held there.

## **SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER:**

Craig Collins introduced NCGOP Chairman Hasan Harnett as the guest speaker for the meeting.

Chairman Harnett reiterated the need for the party to remain alive and alert with a positive attitude. He said that the party must focus on showing Democrat and Unaffiliated voters how the GOP offers different solutions to current political issues. He said that the GOP's message must be focused on freedom, liberty, and empowering citizens.

#### **CLUB REPORTS**

**GCRW:** Juanita Wagner reported that five members of the Gaston County Republican Women had attended the NFRW Convention in Phoenix. She said that Gaston County and eleven other NC clubs received a top-level diamond award for the second consecutive term. The club's next meeting will be Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm at Jackson's Cafeteria with School Board member Dot Cherry as the speaker.

## **COUNTY COMMISSIONER REPORT:**

Commissioner Mickey Price reported that the county's Adoption Committee would be giving an update in October. He also said that the county was looking into ways to deal with the \$20 million surplus.

### TENTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT REPORT:

Brett Keeter reported that Congressman McHenry had held 7 town hall meetings throughout the district in the month of August. The Congressman also spent a week in Israel, including personal time with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. He also reported that the House had voted to disapprove the Iran deal, but that the Senate had failed to secure the 60 votes needed to defeat the measure. The House is now looking at ways to defund Planned Parenthood.

#### **SCHOOL BOARD REPORT:**

None present.

**Treasurer:** Treasurer Edward Dunlap gave a report on the finances of the party for the month of August. He submitted copies of his report to the Chairman and Secretary, which reported the opening balance of the General Operating Fund on August 1, 2015 as \$833.26. There was income of \$50.00, expenses of \$8.54, and transfers to savings of \$783.26, resulting in an ending balance of \$91.46 on August 31, 2015. With transfers in of \$783.26 and \$1.08 in interest received, there is \$25,879.22 in the Money Market (Savings) Fund, bringing the total operating cash to \$25,970.68. There is \$5,100.00 in the building fund.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business discussed.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no old business discussed.

Edward Dunlap announced that a Montcross Charter Foundation had been formed to apply for a new charter school in the eastern end of Gaston County. More information can be found at www.montcrosscharter.org.

Chairman Anne Huggins presented the Chairman's Spotlight for the month of October to the Honorable Pearl Burris-Floyd. Rev. Frank Milton, Pastor of the 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church in Dallas, accepted the award on Pearl's behalf.

Barbara Hammerle noted that the Board of Elections line changes for precincts would not go into effect until 2017, if approved by the State BOE.

Mary Frances Forrester invited members to attend a special ceremony on October 30<sup>th</sup> for the renaming of a portion of Highway 27 to the Senator James S. Forrester Highway. The ceremony will be held in the Family Life Center of the 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church in Stanley at 12:00pm.

Upon a motion made by Mickey Price, the meeting was adjourned at 8:08pm.

Jonathan L. Fletcher, Secretary

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