



Bell County Republican Party  
County Executive Committee Meeting  
October 16, 2023



## Minutes

### *Call to Order*

*The meeting was called to order by County Chair Addie Baird at 6:00 pm*

### *1. Invocation*

*The invocation was given by County Chair, Addie Baird.*

### *2. Pledges*

*The pledges were led by Zenia Warren, Precinct Chair 214.*

### *3. Minutes*

*Addie Baird, Chair, presented the September 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes as posted on the website. The minutes were accepted unanimously.*

### *4. Treasurer Report*

*See posted,*

*Jason Timothy motioned to approve \$1500 allowance for purchase of laptop for Republican Party use, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dennis Faulkner, Precinct Chair 215.*

### *Motion Passes*

#### *September 2023 Report*

*New Budget Report Template coming next month to include:*

- *Previous month*
- *YTD reporting*
- *Annual Budget Amount*
- *YTD Annual Budget %*



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*Special Projects Budget Template* - each committee/board team to submit • Due to belltxgop@gmail.com by 11/13/23 for review by Chair & Treasurer • 2024 Annual Budget will be posted to CEC for review 12/04/23 • 2024 Annual Budget will be presented for approval by CEC 12/11/23

5. Outreach Report

*See posted*

6. Election Report

*See posted*

7. Introduction of Elected Officials, Candidates, and Representatives of Elected Officials

*Elected Officials:*

*District Judge, 426<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, Steve Duskie, County Tax Assessor-Collector, Shay Luedeke, County Commissioner, Precinct 2, Bobby Whitson, Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3 PL 2, Larry Wilkey*

*Candidates:*

*Congress TX31, Mack Latimer, JP Precinct 3 PL 1, Velva Johnson, US House District 31, Willaim Abel, 27<sup>th</sup> District Court, Cheyenne Minick, JP Precinct 3 District 1, Timothy Taylor, Tax Assessor-Collector, Shay Luedeke, 27<sup>th</sup> District Court, Debbie Garrett, Bell County Commissioner, Precinct 3, Isen Ismaili*

*Representative of Elected Official:*

*Representative of TX House District 54, Brad Buckley, Jessica Diem*

8. 2024 Kickoff Dinner

*Former County Chair Nancy Boston announced the upcoming 2024 Kickoff Dinner on January 19<sup>th</sup> at Tenroc Ranch in Salado 5471 Thomas Arnold Road, Salado, TX 76571, Doors will open at 6:00 pm and program will start at 7:00 pm with Special Guest Speaker, Steve Munisteri,*

*Need volunteers – set up and breakdown, and welcoming committee.*

*Motion to accept approval of the cost of the room for \$1500, Sandra McCleney, Precinct Chair 415, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Andrew Eller, Precinct Chair 315*

*Motion Passes*



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**9. Precinct Convention**

*Motion to accept Precinct Chair Convention date moved from March 16, 2024 to March 9<sup>th</sup> 2024 and two phase start time 100's and 200's 8:30 AM call to order, 300's and 400's 10:30 AM call to order, Sandra McCleney, Precinct Chair 415, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Janet Brown, Precinct Chair 104.*

*Motion Passes*

**10. Precinct Chair Resignations and Appointments**

*Motion to accept resignations for Precinct Chair 114, Paul Thomas, Precinct Chair 307 Tyler Dixon, Precinct Chair 317, La-Juana Jones*

*Motion to accept appointments for Precinct Chair 308, La-Juana Jones*

*Accepted by Steve Moody, Precinct Chair 216, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Danney McCort, Precinct Chair 213*

*Motion Passes*

**12. CEC Rules Committee Appointment**

Committee Members: Roy Vaydak, Andrew Eller, Dennis Faulkner, Steve Moody

Any other CEC Members welcome! The committee will meet on an as needed basis and announce meetings via Slack and Email.

First Meeting - **Wednesday October 18th, 2023 @ 5:30 PM** Bell County GOP Headquarters - 204 N East St, Belton, TX 76513

**13. Primary Candidate Info**

*Candidate packet will be available at the Headquarters Monday-Saturday 9am-12pm, will have a Candidate open house on November 11<sup>th</sup> from 10am-2pm, Notary will be available.*

*Available for pickup below. Please provide proof of current TEC Filing.*

*Monday - Saturday | 9 AM - 12 PM Bell County GOP Headquarters 204 N East Street, Suite A-1 Belton, TX 76513*

*Email: [addie@rancholago.com](mailto:addie@rancholago.com)*

*Subject Line: 2024 PRIMARY CANDIDATE PACKET*



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**November 11th - Candidate Filing Begins**

*Candidate Filing Open House | 10 AM - 2 PM  
Headquarters - 204 N East St. Suite A-1, Belton, TX 76513  
Notary available, please bring your own application forms  
December 11th 5 PM - Candidate & Precinct Chair Filing Deadline  
Filings may be submitted to any of the following:  
Email: [belltxgop@gmail.com](mailto:belltxgop@gmail.com)  
Mail: 204 N East St, Suite A-1, Belton TX, 76513  
Attention: Chair - Addie Baird  
In person: M-Sat 9 AM - 12 PM @ same address*

**14. Slack Guidelines**

*Motion to accept Slack guidelines, Danny McCort, Precinct Chair 213, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Janet Brown, Precinct Chair 104.*

*Motion to 3 for and 3 against 2 minutes each, by Andy Eller, Precinct Chair 315, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeff Howard, Precinct Chair 103*

*Motion Passes*

*Amendment to Slack Guidelines - .Dennis Faulkner, Precinct Chair 215: Disagree ability to remove from public forum. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Steve Moody, Precinct Chair 216*

*For the Amendment*

*1. Dennis Faulkner, Pct Chair 215 - Requires decision by the body. Encourage free speech, limit channels forum to state their opinion. Reserve the right to move people from the platform.*

*2. Christy Wilbanks, Precinct Chair 414: Freedom of Speech*

*3. Paul Strang, Precinct Chair 101: Freedom of Speech, change subject to guidelines are being misused.*

*Against the Amendment:*

*1. Jeff Howard, Precinct Chair 103: If the guidelines are not followed, the County Chair reserves the right to remove user's specific channels, restrict permissions.*

*2. Janet Brown, Precinct Chair 104: Disciplinary meeting for people to be talk about the way they present themselves.*

*3. Zenia Warren, Precinct Chair 213: Communication becomes a social media platform tool was eliminated anything to do with our party.*

*Discussion Closed -*

*Motion passes (13 for, 12 against)*



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*Move the Question - Andrew Eller, Pct 315. Motion to vote on amendment by raise of hands, Dennis Faulkner, Precinct Chair 215, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Danney McCort, Precinct Chair 213.*

*Motion Passes*

*Vote to approve Slack Guidelines as amended. Motion Passes*

**15. Amendments**

*Amendment to the Bylaws Article VI Section 5 (2nd Reading) - "The notice requirement of this Article may only be suspended with unanimous consent." Moved by Andrew Eller, Precinct Chair 315, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Zenia Warren, Precinct Chair 214*

*Motion Passes*

*Amendment to the Bylaws Article VII Section 3(d) (2nd Reading) - "The notice requirement of this Section may only be suspended with unanimous consent." Moved by Andrew Eller, Precinct Chair 315, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeff Howard, Precinct Chair 103*

*Motion Passes*

**16. Resolutions**

*Motion to suspend reading of second reading, by Jeff Howard, Precinct Chair 103, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Larry Robison, Precinct Chair 202.*

*Motion Passes*

**A) Resolution to Implement HB900 in Texas Public Schools - Andy Eller, Pct 315**

*WHEREAS, graphic illustrations and/or descriptions of sexually explicit conduct as defined in 18 U.S.C § 2256 (8) are being found in books marketed to children, including graphic novels and young adult literature; and*

*WHEREAS, the 88<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature passed with bi-partisan support The R.E.A.D.E.R Act which was set to take effect on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 but was temporarily enjoined from taking effect by a Federal Judge which was then stayed until further order by the court on 26 September by the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals; and*

*WHEREAS, school districts have always had the moral imperative and legal right to remove sexually explicit, pervasively vulgar, and educationally unsuitable materials, according to current Texas State Library and Archives Commission guidelines and as supported in the plurality opinion in Pico vs. Board of Education; now*

*THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bell County Republican Party urges Academy ISD, Bartlett ISD, Belton ISD, Bruceville-Eddy ISD, Copperas Cove ISD, Florence ISD, Gatesville ISD, Holland ISD,*



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*Killeen ISD, Lampasas ISD, Moody ISD, Rogers ISD, Rosebud-Lott ISD, Salado ISD, Temple ISD, and Troy ISD School Boards to direct their superintendents and administrators to comply with HB 900, conduct an audit of each schools reading materials, and to ensure removal of all materials that are sexually explicit, pervasively vulgar, and educationally unsuitable from their school and classroom libraries immediately upon identification.*

*Motion to approve resolution, by Jeff Howard, Precinct Chair 103, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Larry Robison, Precinct Chair 202.*

*Motion Carries*

*Objection by Janet Brown, Precinct Chair 104 to considering Resolution B - Resolution for Precinct Chair Training Completion Author: Steve Moody, Pct 216*

*Motion to vote by raise of hands for objection, by Jeff Howard, Precinct Chair 103, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dennis Faulkner, Precinct Chair 215.*

*Motion Carries*

*19 voted in favor of the Objection - Objection carries*

**C) Resolution in Support of Israel**

**Author: Andrew Eller, Pct 315**

*WHEREAS, both chambers of the Texas Legislature – the House of Representatives and the Senate – overwhelmingly passed resolutions to condemn the terrorist organization Hamas and its brutal, highly organized, and unprecedented attack upon the state of Israel and on her citizens in the early morning hours of October 7, 2023, and to request others to join them in denouncing hatred toward the Jewish people; and*

*WHEREAS, the foundational belief of Hamas is in the destruction of the State of Israel and the murder of Jews, and in its endeavor to fulfill that mission, Hamas has, for decades, waged war against Israel, which manifested on October 7 in a coordinated land, sea, and air invasion, which resulted in the deaths of at least one thousand innocent civilians, including several United States citizens, the highest number of Jews to ever be killed in a single day since the Shoah, the Holocaust; and*

*WHEREAS, in addition to the mass murder of Jews, Hamas terrorists kidnapped children, women, elderly, and infirm civilians as hostages, and by timing the operation to coincide with the observance of the final High Holy Days of the Jewish faith, targeted family gatherings, celebrations, and ceremonies of remembrance to maximize civilian casualties and terror; and*

*WHEREAS, the level of logistical sophistication of the attack and the boastful admission of guilt by the Iranian regime in supporting Hamas indicate the involvement of state sponsors of terror, including Iran, in these atrocities; and*

*WHEREAS, referring to Israel, Genesis 12:3 states, “I will bless those who bless you, and will curse those who curse you.”; now*





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*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bell County Republican Party*

- 1) Drawing inspiration from Psalm 122, prays for peace in Israel and in the Middle East and condemns all enemies of Israel and those dedicated to the destruction of Israel and the West;*
- 2) Reaffirms its support of the State of Israel and its unwavering commitment to its welfare, security, and survival;*
- 3) Recognizes Israel's right to act decisively and unilaterally in self-defense to protect its citizens;*
- 4) Expresses condemnation of Hamas and support for Israel's right to pursue without interference the total elimination of Hamas and its agents;*
- 5) Conveys its most heartfelt condolences to all Israeli victims, their families, and their communities;*
- 6) Calls upon Texas law enforcement to remain vigilant in protecting Israeli Americans, Jewish Americans, and all supporters of Israel from acts of crime; and*
- 7) Condemns organizations such as the Democratic Socialists of America, and other entities, officials, and activists who refuse to acknowledge Israel's right to exist or Israel's right to defend her people.*

*Motion to suspend the rules regarding notice requirement - Andy Eller, Pct 315. 2nd - Sandra McCleney, Pct 415*  
*Motion carried unanimously*

*Motion to adopt Resolution C - Andy Eller, Pct 315. 2nd - Kate McKinley, Pct 108*

*Motion to vote by standing - Kate McKinley, Pct 108, 2nd - Janet Brown - Pct 104*

*Motion carried unanimously.*

**Objection to considering Resolution D on the grounds of undiplomatic and improper matter by Linda Atkins, Precinct Chair 303**

**Motion to vote by raise of hands, by Steve Harris, Precinct Chair 413, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Danney McCort.**

**16 votes in favor of objection. Not enough to pass objection (2/3 's required).**

***D) Resolution Call to Action of Bell County House Representatives on the Impeachment of AG Paxton. - Pct 215***

***WHEREAS, Texas Attorney General Warren Kenneth Paxton, Jr. was impeached by the Texas House of Representatives on May 27, 2023, after a report was issued by the House Committee on General Investigating (GIC), which contained 20 articles of impeachment. The GIC submission, which consisted solely of a transcript of the GIC hearing, was considered by the House for approximately 48 hours before the impeachment vote was called and taken; and***

***WHEREAS, no testimony was taken in the House, and Attorney General Paxton was not allowed to speak to the House or to offer any rebuttal evidence or testimony despite his offer to do so, which was refused.***



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*WHEREAS, the impeachment occurred under illegal circumstances.*

*WHEREAS, the Texas Senate has since voted, by wide majority, on 16 Sept acquitting Attorney General Paxton and finding him innocent of all Charges.*

*WHEREAS, Texas House Impeachment Managers and presumably under the guidance of, or at best association with, Speaker Phelan have inappropriately released personal information about Attorney General Paxton and his family members.*

*WHEREAS, Bell County House Representatives have not renounced their part in this national embarrassment and continue to suggest or allude to that there is reason to sustain the persecution of Attorney General Paxton and his family, rather than to seek forgiveness of their, at best, hasty actions.*

*WHEREAS, no action on the part of the Bell County Republican Party or our House Representatives likely will inflame large segments of the Republican base and ensure a call for primary challengers for one or both Bell County House Representatives.*

*THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Bell County Republican Party CONDEMNS the politically motivated impeachment of Attorney General Paxton by the Texas House of Representatives and the subsequent inappropriate conduct of and statements made by the House Impeachment Managers and Speaker Phelan and hereby IMPLORE Representatives Brad Buckley and Hugh Shine to acknowledge the damage caused by this imprudent, ill-informed and hasty action and to take steps to distance themselves from the leaders of this action and the inappropriate actions since the acquittal of Attorney General Paxton; House Managers and Speaker Phelan have continued to engage in unsavory and inappropriate conduct unbecoming them and the constituents they represent.*

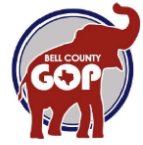
#### *Announcements*

- 1. November 11, CEC meeting Canceled*
- 2. Next Meeting: 12/11 @ 6 PM Announcements (MUST sign up at check-in)*
- 3. SARW – Luncheon Meeting Thursday October 26 @ 11:30 AM a. @ Salado Civic Center - Speaker Clarence Enochs, National Mounted Warrior Museum*
- 4. Sherry Eller - Tea Party - Meeting Tuesday 10/17 @ 6 PM Harris Community Center - Speaker Cindi Castilla, President of Texas Eagle Forum*
- 5. Janet Brown - CTRW – Chili Luncheon 10/24 @ 11 AM Harris Community Center- Special Guest Speaker – Judge Michelle Slaughter*
- 6. An Evening with Karl Rove - Hosted by Representative Hugh Shine, 10/25 @ 6:30 PM @ Bell County Expo Center Tickets - \$50 per person or \$75 per couple.*





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*Adjournment*

*Chair Addie Baird Adjourned meeting at 7:25 pm*

*Respectfully Presented by Secretary,*

*Katrina Callahan*