



**Harris County Republican Party  
Organizational Meeting Minutes, 18 August 2020  
Glorious Way Church  
11611 Champion Forest Drive, Houston, Texas 77066**

Chairman Keith Nielsen called the meeting to order at 6:39PM.

The invocation was led by Pastor James Buntrock, Precinct 486. The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag was led by Kevin Fulton, Vice-Chairman. The National Anthem was led by Chris McDonald, SREC SD-6. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas flag was led by Randy Elms, Precinct 90.

Michael Robertson, Precinct 415, moved with a second to approve the Agenda as distributed in the meeting packet. Motion passes by voice vote.

Chairman Nielsen appointed Josh Flynn, Precinct 407, as Temporary Secretary and Aurora Ortiz, Precinct 539, as Assistant to the Secretary, Jeff Larson, Precinct 349, as Temporary Parliamentarian, and Kendall Baker, Precinct 566, as Temporary Sergeant at Arms.

Texas Supreme Court Justice Eva Guzman administered the Oath of Office to the elected Precinct Chairs from the 2020 March Primary.

Josh Flynn, Precinct 407, was recognized to certify a quorum for the Organization Meeting. With 412 elected Precinct Chairs the necessary quorum of 25% is 103. Registered Precinct Chairman at the time of Call to Order was 289 (70%).

Chair Nielsen opened the floor up to elect the Republican Nominee for the November election for Harris County Clerk. Tom Zakes, Precinct 221, nominated Stan Stanart. Susan Rutherford, Precinct 217, nominated Michelle Fraga. With 300 votes cast, 233 for Stan Stanart and 67 for Michelle Fraga; Stan Stanart was elected the Harris County Clerk Republican Nominee for the November 2020 General Election.

Scott Bowen, Precinct 416, moved with second the Rules of Order as published in the meeting call. Motion passes by voice vote.

Scott Bowen, Precinct 416, moved with second the Bylaws as published in the meeting call. Tom Zakes, Precinct 221, moved with second to amend the name of the Judicial Screening Committee to Judicial Recruitment and Screening Committee and add "This committee will recruit well qualified candidates for judicial offices in Harris County" to the committee's description. Motion passes by voice vote. Scott Bowen, Precinct 416, moved with send to amend the Bylaws as follows:

**Article IV, Section 4 (A) 2:** "To have the usual powers of supervision and management necessary to maintaining a well ordered County Headquarters including employment of an executive director subject to the approval of the Advisory Board as described in Article VII Section 3, and such supportive staff as warranted."

**Article VII, Section 3:** "The Advisory Board shall advise the County Chairman on party matters. The County Chairman shall present a financial report to the Advisory Board for review at its regular meeting. The hiring of an Executive Director by the party shall be subject to approval by a majority vote of those present and voting at a meeting of the Advisory Board. Any expenditures by the Harris County Republican Party that would cause the Party to expend more than \$50,000 within a twelve



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(12)-month period, including salaries, consulting fees, retainers, and contractual commitments, must be approved by a majority vote of those present and voting at a meeting of the Advisory Board. A majority of the members of the Advisory Board may instead approve such expenditures by email outside of a meeting, provided that a hard-copy record of any such approval is included in the minutes of the next meeting of the Advisory Board. All contracts entered into by the Harris County Republican Party shall contain provisions so that precinct chairs and Advisory Board members are not individually or collectively liable for contracts, fulfillment, or disputes arising from contracts.

Howard Barker, Precinct 121, moved with send to “and an annual budget” in Article VII, Section 3, second sentence after “The hiring of an Executive Director by the party”. Motion passes by voice vote. Rolando Garcia, Precinct 33, moved with a second to substitute \$25,000 for \$50,000. Motion passes by voice vote. The original amendment as twice amended passes by voice vote. The Bylaws as amended passed by voice vote.

Chair Nielsen opened the floor up to elect the Permanent Secretary for the Harris County Republican Party. Vergel Cruz, Precinct 578, nominated Josh Flynn. James Hotze, Precinct 128, nominated Mary Jane Smith. With 239 votes cast, 143 for Josh Flynn and 96 for Mary Jane Smith; Josh Flynn was elected Secretary of the Harris County Republican Party.

Without objection Chair Nielsen made the following appointments: Kevin Fulton, HCRP Vice-Chair; Steven Mitby and Chris Carmona, joint General Council, Kendell Baker and Joe Pennington, joint Sergeant at Arms. R.J. Boatman, interim Executive Director; Pastor Ericka McCutcheon, Chaplin; Jeff Larson, Parliamentarian; Carmen Cuneo, Treasurer.

Rolando Garcia, Precinct 33, moved with a second to appoint the list of applicants for filling vacant precincts chairs from the meeting call. Pamela Joyce, Precinct 149, moved with a second to add Lyric Gillett, Precinct 59; Kay Smith, Precinct 50; Joe Landon, Precinct 624; Josh Flynn, Precinct 407; Tanya Whaley, Precinct 640. Rolando Garcia, Precinct 33, moved with a second to add Mary Jane Beisert, Precinct 577. John Stewart, Precinct 760, moved with a second to add Mike Machemehl, Precinct 469. Motion as amended three times passed by voice vote.

Harris County Justice of the Peace Russ Ridgeway administered the Oath of Office to the appointed Precinct Chairs.

HCRP stood at ease to allow the Senate Districts to caucus and elect their respective leadership. After receiving the Senate District Leadership election results by the secretary, the meeting adjourned without objection at 12:30AM 19 August 2020.

Respectfully submitted,



Josh Flynn, Secretary