



## LNC MEETING MINUTES

MAY 31, 2010, RENAISSANCE ST LOUIS GRAND, ST LOUIS, MO

**To:** Libertarian National Committee

**From:** Alicia Mattson

**CC:** Wes Benedict

**Date:** June 3, 2010

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CURRENT STATUS: **AUTO-APPROVED 6/30/2010**

VERSION LAST UPDATED JUNE 25, 2010

REVISION RELEASED 14 DAYS PRIOR TO NEXT MEETING: JUNE 26, 2010

W/O OBJECTION, MINUTES OFFICIAL 10 DAYS PRIOR: JUNE 30, 2010

\* AUTOMATIC APPROVAL DATES RELATIVE TO JULY 10<sup>TH</sup>-11<sup>TH</sup> MEETING

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The meeting commenced at 1:30pm Central, May 31, 2010, Renaissance St. Louis Grand Hotel, St. Louis, MO.

### OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the gallery addressed the LNC:

- Jo Silvestri (NV) suggested creating a national spokesman position and appointing Wayne Allyn Root.
- Admiral Colley (AL) urged us to be results-oriented, and he volunteered to be a consultant for the next Convention Oversight Committee.
- Pat Dixon (TX) invited us to the Texas convention, to be held June 11-13, more information available at [www.lptexas.org](http://www.lptexas.org).

- James Babb (PA) invited the LNC to schedule our next meeting in Philadelphia, where they would like to present us with a pitch for the 2012 convention.
- Lou Jasikoff (PA) spoke in favor of moving the date of the 2012 convention earlier to 2011.
- Roger Gary (TX) indicated he felt that we're behind on planning for the 2012 convention, that he hopes we get on the ball and go ahead and start on 2014 planning as well.
- Alex Snitker (FL) spoke about his candidacy as a Libertarian for US Senate.
- Richard Burke (OR) encouraged the LNC to focus on things like fundraising / candidate training / elections, to build foundations for ongoing success, and to lay out priorities to accomplish such goals.

Time having expired for public comment, Ms. Hawkridge moved to extend time for 5 minutes. The motion failed.

## ATTENDANCE

Attending the meeting were:

Officers: Mark Hinkle (Chair), Mark Rutherford (Vice-Chair), Alicia Mattson (Secretary), James Oaksun (Treasurer)

At-Large Representatives: Kevin Knedler, David Nolan, Bill Redpath, Wayne Allyn Root , Mary Ruwart

Regional Representatives: Doug Craig (Region 1), Stewart Flood (Region 1), Dan Wiener (Region 1), Rachel Hawkridge (Region 2), Rebecca Sink-Burris (Region 3), Norm Olsen (Region 4), Jim Lark (Region 5), Dan Karlan (Region 5), Dianna Visek (Region 6)

Regional Alternates: Scott Lieberman (Region 1), Guy McLendon (Region 1), Brad Ploeger (Region 1), Vicki Kirkland (Region 2), Andy Wolf (Region 3), Don Wills (Region 4), Carl Vassar (Region 5), Randy Eshelman (Region 6)

LNC Counsel Gary Sinawski was not present.

Staff included Executive Director Wes Benedict and Operations Director Robert Kraus.

The gallery contained numerous other attendees in addition to those listed above.

## APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Starting from the standard agenda format in the Policy Manual, without objection, the following items were added:

- Ed Coleman as 1<sup>st</sup> item - 5 minutes
- Under "New Business Without Previous Notice", California Proposition 14 (Flood)
- Under "New Business Without Previous Notice", Previous notice for Bylaws Committee appointments (Karlan) - 2 minutes
- Under "New Business Without Previous Notice", Future LNC Meeting Schedule (Redpath)
- Under "Reports of Standing Committees", Populate Standing Committees - 15 minutes
- Under "Special Committees", Formation of an IT Committee (Flood) - 5 minutes
- Under "Special Committees", Creation of an Outreach Committee (Visek) - 5 minutes

The resulting agenda which became the main motion was as follows:

	<u>(minutes)</u>
Ed Coleman Report of Potential Conflicts of Interest	5

**Officer Reports**

Chair's Report  
Treasurer's Report  
Secretary's Report

**Staff Report**

**Counsel's Report**

**Reports of Standing Committees**

Populate Standing Committees	15
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**Reports of Special Committees**

Formation of an IT Committee (Flood)	5
Creation of an Outreach Committee (Visek)	5

**Items Postponed from Previous Meeting**

**New Business With Previous Notice**

**New Business without Previous Notice**

California Proposition 14 (Flood)	
Bylaws Committee appointments (Karlan)	2
Future LNC Meeting Schedule (Redpath)	

**Opportunity for Public Comment**

10

**Adjournment**

The revised agenda was adopted without objection.

**ED COLEMAN**

Ed Coleman addressed the LNC regarding his experiences and future as the nation's highest-elected Libertarian.

**CREDENTIALS AND PAPERWORK CHECK**

The Secretary reported the information in the following table, which lists the composition of the current LNC as accepted at the May 31, 2010 meeting.

## Regional Formations for the 2010-2012 LNC Term

Region #	States	Representative(s)	Alternate(s)
1 (triple region)	AL, AR, CA, GA, LA, MS, NC, OK, SC, TX	Doug Craig (GA) Stewart Flood (SC) Dan Wiener (CA)	Guy McLendon (TX) Brad Ploeger (GA) Scott Lieberman (CA)
2	AK, FL, ID, MA, NH, TN, VT, WA	Rachel Hawkridge (WA)	Vicki Kirkland (FL)
3	IN, KY, MI, OH	Rebecca Sink-Burris (IN)	Andy Wolf (IN)
4	AZ, CO, HI, KS, MT, NV, NM, UT, WY	Norm Olsen (CO)	Don Wills (WY)
5 (double region) <sup>1</sup>	CT, DE, DC, ME, MD, NJ, NY, OR, PA, RI, VA, WV	Jim Lark (VA) Dan Karlan (NJ)	Marakay Rogers (PA) Carl Vassar (CT)
6	IL, IA, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD, WI	Dianna Visek (IL)	Randy Eshelman (NE)

### POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Section 2.01.2 of the LNC Policy Manual requires that LNC members and employees disclose potential conflicts of interest “in a written disclosure statement provided to the Secretary”. As the LNC members had just been elected over the weekend, and there had been little opportunity for reporting to the Secretary prior to this meeting, time was taken to allow verbal reports for inclusion in these minutes. Future reports should be made in writing to the Secretary for inclusion in future sets of minutes. The following verbal disclosures were made during the meeting:

- Flood – in addition to previously reported items, he is the agent of record for Bob Barr’s new Liberty PAC
- Lark – Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Advocates for Self-Government, a member of the Board of Directors of the International Society for Individual Liberty, a member of the Board of Directors of the Libertarian National Congressional Committee, and a member of the Board of Advisors for Students For Liberty
- Nolan – candidate for US Senate

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<sup>1</sup> For internal purposes, Region 5 subdivides itself into R5 North (Connecticut, Maine, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, and Rhode Island) and R5 South (Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia).

- Ruwart – candidate for TX State Controller, Chair of International Society for Individual Liberty, Secretary of the Foundation for Free Society
- Redpath – candidate for US House, Treasurer of Fair Vote, member of the Board of Directors of Citizens in Charge
- Hinkle – candidate for CA State Senate in special election for District 15
- Rutherford – founder of Atlas Liberty PAC, member of Board of Directors of Advocates for Self-Government
- Ploeger – candidate for State House in Georgia, member of the Executive Committee of LP of Georgia, does fundraising for R L C Corporation d/b/a Lutheran Towers (a non-profit that provides affordable housing for low-to-moderate income seniors), Secretary of the LP of Atlanta
- Oaksun – incoming Chair of Outright Libertarians, Vice-Chair of LP of Maine
- Mattson – Treasurer of Libertarian National Congressional Committee

## OFFICER REPORTS

### CHAIR’S REPORT

Chairman Mark Hinkle reported that he had been elected Chair of the LNC.

### TREASURER’S REPORT

Treasurer James Oaksun reported that he had been elected Treasurer of the LNC.

### SECRETARY’S REPORT

Secretary Alicia Mattson asked LNC members to familiarize themselves with the Policy Manual, and she briefly discussed its structure.

## STAFF REPORTS

Executive Director Wes Benedict introduced the staff members that were present: Operations Director Robert Kraus and Kyle Hartz. He named the staff members who were not present as being Art DiBianca, Nick Dunbar, Casey Hansen, and Susan Dickson.

## COUNSEL’S REPORT

(none)

## REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Rather than hearing reports from Standing Committees, the Standing Committees were populated with new board members as follows:

## ADVERTISING & PUBLICATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

The following people volunteered for APRC duty: David Nolan, Rebecca Sink-Burris, Doug Craig, Dan Wiener, Mary Ruwart, Alicia Mattson. Stewart Flood nominated Dan Karlan. Doug Craig withdrew. Dan Karlan withdrew.

Mr. Flood moved to appoint the remaining 5 above, and they were elected without objection. The Policy Manual specifies that the APRC selects its own chair. (The APRC subsequently selected Dan Wiener as its committee chair.)

## AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee is to be composed of one non-officer LNC member and two non-LNC members.

Julie Fox volunteered. Aaron Starr volunteered. Bill Redpath volunteered. Dr. Ruwart nominated Lee Wrights.

Mr. Redpath being the only LNC member nominated, the board elected him by unanimous consent to the non-officer-LNC-member seat of the Audit Committee.

Approval voting by ballot was used for the election of two others to the non-LNC member seats of the Audit Committee.

17 ballots were cast. Julie Fox received 15 votes. Aaron Starr received 11 votes. Lee Wrights received 7 votes. As the top two vote-recipients, and the only ones with a majority, Julie Fox and Aaron Starr were elected.

## CONVENTION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

The following were nominated: Stewart Flood, Rachel Hawkrige, David Nolan. When it was noted that in previous years the Secretary and Treasurer typically become integrally involved, Alicia Mattson and James Oaksun were also nominated.

Mr. Karlan moved to suspend the rules to consider amending the Policy Manual regarding the Convention Oversight Committee. There was no objection to suspending the rules.

Mr. Karlan moved to amend Section 1.03.1 of the Policy Manual regarding the Convention Committee by striking the word "Three" and inserting "Five" so that the size of the committee would be "Five LNC Members" rather than "Three LNC Members".

Without objection, the Karlan amendment was amended to allow for more than 5 members by inserting "or more", so that the size of the committee would be "Five or more LNC Members".

Ms. Sink-Burris moved to further amend the Karlan motion to require that the Secretary and Treasurer be on the Convention Oversight Committee. The motion failed for lack of a second.

The resulting motion to amend Section 1.03.1 of the Policy Manual (change size of Convention Oversight Committee from "Three LNC Members" to "Five or more LNC Members") passed without objection.

Returning to the election of Convention Oversight Committee members, the nominees Stewart Flood, Rachel Hawkridge, David Nolan, Alicia Mattson, and James Oaksun were elected without objection. When it was noted that the Policy Manual requires that these members be selected by the LNC Chair, rather than elected by the LNC, the LNC Chair opted to appoint those same individuals.

## EMPLOYMENT POLICY AND COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

Doug Craig volunteered. Norm Olsen volunteered. Ms. Sink-Burris nominated Andy Wolf (Region 3 alternate).

Ms. Mattson noted that the Policy Manual requires three LNC “members”, and members and alternates are not equivalent. Mr. Karlan moved to suspend the rules and amend 1.03.1 of the Policy Manual regarding size of the EPCC to insert “or Alternates” so that it would now read “Three LNC Members or Alternates”. The rule suspension and amendment passed without objection.

When it was noted that the LNC Chair appoints the EPCC, Chairman Hinkle announced that he was naming Doug Craig, Norm Olsen, and Andy Wolf to the EPCC. The Policy Manual specifies that the EPCC selects its own chair.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The LNC officers are ex-officio members of the Executive Committee, but the Policy Manual permits any additional number of LNC members to be appointed. Chairman Hinkle nominated Bill Redpath, Jim Lark, and Mary Ruwart. Ms. Sink-Burris nominated Kevin Knedler. Mr. Flood nominated himself. Mr. Root nominated himself. Mr. Nolan nominated himself.

Since there were more people nominated than would be practical to serve on the Executive Committee, following a discussion of how many committee members there ought to be, Mr. Flood moved a substitute motion to appoint Mr. Redpath, Dr. Lark, and Dr. Ruwart instead of electing from the large pool of volunteers and nominees. The substitute motion passed and became the main motion. The main motion to elect Mr. Redpath, Dr. Lark, and Dr. Ruwart passed without objection. The Policy Manual specifies that the LNC Chair serves as chair of the Executive Committee.

Mr. Redpath moved that the LNC empower the Executive Committee to make encumbrances for ballot access. When it was pointed out the previous LNC had enacted that for the duration of the 2010 budget, (see p. 18 of the Dec. 5, 2009 minutes) the motion was withdrawn with unanimous consent.

## AFFILIATE SUPPORT COMMITTEE

No election or appointment was necessary for the Affiliate Support Committee, as the Regional Representatives and the Vice-Chair are ex-officio members of that committee. The Policy Manual specifies that the LNC Vice-Chair serves as chair of the Affiliate Support Committee.

## REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

### IT COMMITTEE

Mr. Flood moved “to appoint an IT Committee with the following tasks: Work with staff to assess our current IT infrastructure and short-term needs, determine language for the policy manual to create a standing IT Committee, and report the committee’s findings at the next LNC meeting. The committee shall be composed of Stewart Flood as chair, Dan Karlan, and other members appointed by the Chairman of the LNC.” (seconded)

Mr. Olsen volunteered to be appointed by the chair if the motion passes.

The main motion passed without objection.

Chairman Hinkle announced that Olsen is appointed to the newly-formed IT Committee.

### OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Ms. Visek moved that “we immediately appoint a committee to organize LP outreach to appropriate areas of society to support our fundraising, candidates, and media presence”.

Mr. Redpath indicated uncertainty that a committee is needed, but suggested that if another employee were added it should be a media/communications director.

Ms. Mattson was uncomfortable with the vagueness of the motion, as it was not clear what power would be given to the committee, or if they are just going to make recommendations to the LNC for our action. Ms. Visek clarified her intent was that they would explore ideas and report back to the LNC.

Mr. Karlan moved to commit the motion to a committee appointed by the Chair to immediately develop enabling language for the definition of this committee. (seconded) The motion to commit passed unanimously.

Chairman Hinkle appointed Dianna Visek, Dan Karlan, Wayne Allyn Root, Mary Ruwart, and Rachel Hawkrige to that language-developing committee. (After the meeting, Chairman Hinkle empowered this language-developing committee to select its own chair, and Ms. Visek was selected without objection.)

Mr. Wiener moved that we divert from the agenda to immediately take up discussion of the Future LNC Meeting Schedule agenda item. The motion was adopted without objection.

## FUTURE LNC MEETING SCHEDULE

Mr. Nolan requested that we meet in conjunction with the Illinois meeting on Sept 10<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Flood suggested a mid-summer meeting in Philadelphia. Mr. Nolan suggested a Las Vegas meeting in conjunction with FreedomFest around July 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>. July 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> would be the potential LNC meeting date.



As several LNC members will be guest-speaking at FreedomFest and our potential meeting time that weekend may overlap their speaking schedules, the Chair plans to follow-up with each about their schedules and issue a meeting call after more details are known.

There was general consensus for a holding a budget meeting on November 20-21<sup>st</sup>, 2011 in Philadelphia.

Ms. Hawkrige noted that we could meet in conjunction with the LSLA meeting in Seattle February 19-20, 2011, and Chairman Hinkle agreed.

The near-future LNC meeting schedule:

July 10-11, 2010 in Las Vegas, NV

November 20–21, 2010 in Philadelphia

February 19-20, 2011 in Seattle

## REVERTING TO THE AGENDA, TO REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Chairman Hinkle did not request agenda time for a report from the previous Convention Oversight Committee regarding the St. Louis convention, but rather suggested we delay it until later when the final numbers are available.

An Audit Committee report was not specifically itemized on the agenda. Ms. Visek moved to suspend rules to hear an Audit Committee report. There was an objection and the committee moved on in the interest of time.

## NEW BUSINESS WITHOUT PREVIOUS NOTICE

### CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 14

Mr. Flood noted that the LNC in Friday's pre-convention meeting decided to give \$10K to the Libertarian Party of California to fight Proposition 14 (aka "Top-Two"). He reported that CA had a radio ad ready to go into production, and the goal was to buy radio time for Thursday and Friday (June 3rd/4th) and also Monday and Tuesday (June 7th/8th) during drive-time.

Mr. Flood moved that the LNC donate an additional \$15,000 to the LP of CA for this effort, in addition to the \$10,000 granted three days ago.

Dr. Lark inquired whether it was necessary for the committee to make a decision today, or whether it would be acceptable to allow the Executive Committee to make the decision within the next two days. Beau Cain of the Libertarian Party of California indicated that the LPCA intends to make the media purchase on Wednesday morning (June 2).

Ms. Mattson moved to refer the decision to the Executive Committee and authorize them to make the decision on spending the money after some more details could be provided.  
(seconded)

The motion to refer the decision to the Executive Committee passed 16-0 with the following roll-call votes:

Ayes: Craig, Flood, Hawkrige, Karlan, Knedler, Lark, Lieberman, Mattson, Nolan, Oaksun, Olsen, Root, Rutherford, Ruwart, Sink-Burris, Visek

Nays: (none)

(NOTE: Mr. Redpath and Mr. Wiener had departed for the airport at 4:00pm, and Dr. Lieberman was voting in Mr. Wiener's absence.)

Chairman Hinkle announced an Executive Committee teleconference for tomorrow (June 1<sup>st</sup>) at 8:00pm Eastern, with conference access info to be provided soon.

Secretary Mattson announced her need to depart within the next few minutes, and requested that business be either expedited or that someone else be found to take over minutes at that time.

#### BYLAWS COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Karlan announced that he would like the LNC to learn from the experience of 2 yrs ago, that it worked well to appoint the Bylaws Committee early. He requested that the national office print a notice in LP News to solicit applications, and that we place selection of the Bylaws Committee on the agenda for the November LNC meeting.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Due to the Secretary's travel schedule needs, she requested that the LNC formally adjourn so she could be done with the official minutes, and allow public comments to unofficially continue after her departure. Dr. Lark moved to adjourn. Without objection, the meeting adjourned at 4:15pm Central. As the Secretary departed, public comments continued.