

MINUTES
STATE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION
JULY 1, 2024
By Melvin Williams, State Party Secretary

State Chair Anderson Clayton called the Convention to order at 1:00PM at Ragsdale High School in Jamestown, North Carolina. She also welcomed all Delegates who were attending by Zoom.

The following Democrats addressed the Convention:

Wesley Harris for State Treasurer
Braxton Winston for Commissioner of Labor
Secretary of State Elaine Marshall
Maurice Green for Superintendent of Public Instruction
Natasha Marcus for Commissioner of Insurance
State Auditor Jessica Holmes
Ed Eldred for NC Court of Appeals
Justice Allison Riggs
Chuck Hubbard for 5th District Congress
Congresswoman Alma Adams
Justice Anita Earls

Our State Chair recognized Eighth Congressional District candidate Nigel Bristow and Seventh Congressional District candidate Marlando Pridgen.

The State Chair led the Convention in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A Moment of Silence was held during which Chair Clayton read a tribute to the life of the late Stephanie Goslen of Franklin and Wake counties. The Chair then recognized her husband, Jesse Goslen, who received a respectful round of applause.

The Quorum report was given. 51 counties were needed to establish a Quorum for the Convention. A total of 72 counties were present. Therefore, Quorum was declared to have been established. It was also reported that 386 Delegates were present in person and 285 Delegates were present by Zoom for a total of 671 Delegates.

Cliff Moone made a motion to approve the Agenda for the Convention. Connie Green-Johnson seconded his motion. The motion was passed without opposition.

Paula Shelton, President of the Democratic Women of North Carolina, gave the Land Acknowledgement.

The State Chair recognized former State Party Chairs David Parker, Randy Voller, and Wayne Goodwin.

David Parker, Parliamentarian of the Convention, presented the Rules of the Day. Due to suggestions from the floor, the numbering for some rules were adjusted. Soren Pederson gave accurate National Convention Delegate numbers.

Rule # 14 was pulled and sent back to the Rules Committee.

Jesse Goslen made a motion to accept the Rules of the Day. Kennis Wilkins seconded his motion. The motion was approved.

Cliff Moone said that Rule 15, Section A should call for a final vote on the Platform at today's Convention.

It was suggested that for clarification, Rule 8, Section B should state there are no demographic requirements in this section.

David Parker said he would add both of these suggestions to his Rules Report for today's Convention.

The Convention then approved the Report of the Rules Committee as amended.

The Chair stated that NCDP Secretary Melvin Williams was taking Minutes for today's Convention by Zoom from his home.

Stephanie Collins Frempong made a motion to approve the Minutes of the 2022 State Convention. Brenda Pollard seconded this motion which was approved by a voice vote.

NCDP Training Director Christie Boer presented instructions for operating the Election Buddy system which will be used for counting ballots at today's Convention.

David Barrios, State Director of the Biden-Harris Coordinated Campaign addressed the Convention. He reported that 13 campaign offices have already been opened in North Carolina. He said this is the earliest that a presidential campaign has ever staffed up in the state. He reported that Trump is talking North Carolina for granted.

A recess was taken so that technical difficulties could be worked out.

Matt Hughes, John Verdejo, and Senator Natalie Murdock came to the microphone. They are the heads of the National Convention Delegate Selection Committee.

Matt explained the procedures that will be used today to elect 25 At Large Delegates, 15 Party Leader Elected Officials (PLEO) Delegates, and 10 Alternates.

Matt reported that 173 people filed to be National Convention Delegates and that the Biden campaign officials approved 52 to be on today's ballots. Delegates then cast their ballots for the 25 At Large Delegate positions.

State Convention Delegates then watched videos from Jeff Jackson for Attorney General, Rachel Hunt for Lt. Governor, and Congressman Don Davis.

NCDP Third Vice Chair Elijah King spoke about this month's PRIDE events and celebrations.

NCDP First Vice Chair Jonah Garson spoke to the Convention about:

- 1 – Organizing Director Sarah O'Brien and the eight Regional Organizing Directors who are working fulltime. They have organized canvasses in 44 counties and already have canvasses scheduled for 36 more counties.**
- 2 – The work of Becca Zirkin and the Judicial Caucus.**
- 3 – The work of Voter Protection Director Kat Lawson who is training and supporting Board of Election members.**

NCDP Second Vice Chair Dr. Kimberly Hardy reported on her activities including appearing with Tamron Hall on national television. She has organized and spoken at rallies and meetings in dozens of counties.

Cassie Rice, President of the State Association of County Chairs reported about the many successful activities of this organization.

State Party Treasurer Deniese Chaney addressed the Convention. She reported on her activities and on the Treasurers' Handbook which she wrote and published.

Daniel Frank and Micheal Careccia gave a report on Project 100 whose goals are:

- Organize canvasses in all 100 counties**
- Develop two staging locations in all 100 counties**
- Growing neighborhood grassroots which will last for decades**

Daniel and Michael gave salutes to the following people who are heading this Project 100 drive with them: Sarah O'Brien, Brittany Lowder, Jay Walker, and MacKenzie Reedybacon .

Our candidate for Commissioner of Agriculture, Dr. Sarah Taber, addressed the Convention. She emphasized how racial minorities have been discriminated against in agriculture policies for generations.

Delegates then cast their votes for the At Large Delegate positions. When At Large Delegate voting ended, Conventions Delegates cast their ballots for PLEO Delegates.

The 25 people who were elected At Large Delegates were:

Charles DeLoatch	Mackenzie Reedybacon
Aisha Dew	Allison Allen
Allison Perry	Brandon Gray-Hill
Julie Puckett	Emerson Kirby
Eliazar Posada	Kennis Wilkins
Maytee Sanz Morales	Stephanie Wooley Pigues
Jacquez Johnson	Elijah King
Randy Voller	Nigel Bristow
Emma Kennett	Pricey Harrison
Cameron Pruett	Grayson Barnette
Diana Robinson	Diamond Staton-Williams
Rebekah Whilden	Larken Egleston
Chris Hardee	

The 15 Democrats who were elected as PLEO Delegates were:

G. K. Butterfield	Don Hardy
Jay Chaudhuri	Tina Willis Rodriguez
Chris Suggs	Deniese Chaney
Anita Earls	Renee Price
Sebastian Feculak	Leonardo Williams
Kimberly Hardy	Julia Mayfield
Jessica Holmes	Vi Lyles
Wesley Harris	

Matt Hughes explained the process that is being used to elect North Carolina's sixteen Presidential Electors.

At today's State Convention two statewide Presidential Electors and two Alternates will be elected.

Questions were asked by Eva Lee, Cynthia Wallace, Marlando Pridgen, Martin Erickson, Jane Whitley, and Rhonda Bond.

Although he had already spoken to the Convention by video, Congressman Don Davis arrived at the Convention and gave a live address to the Delegates. He received a tremendous round of applause.

It was then announced that Nervahna Crew's name had been omitted from the Electors ballot. New ballots which included Nervahna's name were distributed.

The Convention then voted for two At Large Presidential Electors. Vinod Thomas made a motion which said that the candidates receiving the highest number of votes will become the two At Large Electors and the candidates receiving the third and fourth highest number of votes would be the two Alternates. Mackenzie Reedybacon seconded his motion. This motion was passed by a voice vote.

The following people were announced as Presidential Electors:

- First District – Chris Hardee**
- Second District – John Verdejo**
- Third District – Tina Willis Rodriguez**
- Fourth District – Diana Robinson**
- Fifth District – Victoria Goldbach**
- Sixth District – Dianne Sartiano**
- Seventh District – Cramer Vaughn**
- Eight District – Michael McRay**
- Ninth District – Fernando English**
- Tenth District – Donna Luckey**
- Eleventh District – Mary Ebert Ostgard**

Twelfth District – Jane Whitley

Thirteenth District – Margaret Bilodeau

Fourteenth District – Vinod Thomas

Statewide At Large Electors

Nervahna Crew

Pam McAfee

Alternate Electors

Carl Newman

Stephanie Collins-Frempong

Matt Hughes talked about the one National Convention Delegate race for which the Biden Headquarters approved these four candidates:

Diana Robinson, Sue Counts, Linda Gunter, and Stephanie Collins Frempong.

He reported that none of the four had received a majority of the votes.

He said that these four candidates had talked with him and with each other.

They agreed that Diana Robinson would get the Delegate seat because she had received the most votes. They then agreed that each of the other three people would be added to the Alternate ballot – but not against each other.

Chair Clayton congratulated everyone on being persistent by staying at the Convention until the elections were completed.

Matt Hughes reminded all Delegates and Alternates that they must attend the Delegates' meeting on Zoom at 4:00PM on Sunday, June 2nd.

Ballots for Alternate Delegate positions were distributed.

The ten Alternate Delegates who were elected were:

Jenna Kubiak

Elliott Sheehan

Sue Counts

Tre Ricanek

B. J. Gibson

Linda Gunter

Fernando English

Stephanie Collins Frempong

Viola Figueroa

Diego Keller

Chair Clayton congratulated Platform and Resolutions Chair Floyd McKissick and his committee for their work. She announced that the Parliamentarian had ruled that due to the late hour, the report of the Platform and Resolutions Committee would be referred back to the Platform and Resolutions Committee.

Jeff Bierer made a motion to adjourn and Ben Spencer seconded it. It was passed on a voice vote and the Convention ended at 8:40PM.

**Respectfully submitted,
Melvin Williams, State Secretary
North Carolina Democratic Party**