



Boulder County Democratic Party 2017 Biennial Reorganization Meeting

February 4, 2017

The biennial reorganization meeting of the Boulder County Democratic Party's Central Committee was held on February 4, 2017, at the Centennial Middle School in Boulder.

Several candidates for the Colorado Democratic State Party elected positions introduced themselves and indicated the position they were running for so those who are elected to State Central Committee will potentially vote for them in the State Reorg meeting March 11 in Denver. Candidate Mike Johnston, one of the currently announced candidates for Governor, also spoke. The attendees also saw a video message from Congressman Jared Polis since he was unable to be in Colorado for our reorg meeting.

Ms. Josie Heath, the former President of the Community Foundation Serving Boulder called the meeting to order and recognized the volunteers for this meeting and those who worked so hard in the election. The meeting convened at 8:30 a.m., with Acting Chair Alex Gano presiding and Terrye Whitaker as secretary.

Alex reminded those in attendance that the mission of the Boulder County Democratic Party is to elect Democratic leaders and achieve political policies that reflect our values. He also gave a brief review of how we did in the 2016 election. Democratic turnout in Boulder County was 91.5% compared to the eligible voter turnout nationwide of only 58%.

Alex shared the agenda for the day with the business meeting being the first part of the agenda, the election of new officers being the second part of the agenda, and the breakout for the various HDs will end the agenda. He then explained the purpose of the business meeting at reorg and why the need to ratify the by-law changes. He also communicated the rules that will govern the meeting. **These were moved and seconded to adopt. They were approved by acclamation.**

Report of the Rules Committee

Bill Hyde, the IT Team Leader, indicated that a quorum was made for this meeting (170 members in attendance out of 423 CC members). A motion was made and seconded to approve the list. **The motion was approved.** A request was made to reopen the member list to reinstate Patricia Pearson to the Central Committee. A 2/3 vote is needed to approve suspending the rules to accept the change. The vote was 108-91 in favor of not reopening the list for the addition. A motion was made and seconded to approve the special rules of order for the reorg. **Motion approved without dissent**

Approval of proposed agenda

Alex indicted the agenda needed approval. A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda. **The agenda was approved without dissent**

Alex Gano moved that the Executive Committee (120) be the Vacancy Committee for County Commissioners. This motion was seconded. A motion to amend was brought by Dan Gould. He felt the entire Central Committee should be the Vacancy Committee (have 442 members instead of 120). Dan stated there is a need to fill the vacant position within 10 days and you need to have 50% of the vacancy committee to address the nomination. Call to question resulted in no more discussion on the amendment. **The amendment passed. The amended motion was seconded and it was approved the entire central Committee will be the Vacancy Committee.**

Ratification of By-Laws – Carolyn Powell (county legal team leader)

Carolyn indicated the Executive Committee (EC) and the legal team reviewed the by-law changes and posted them on our website. The changes were endorsed by EC and are consistent, legal, and easier to read. There was motion made and seconded to accept the by-law changes since the last reorg meeting. **The motion was approved by acclamation.**

Recognition of elected officials

Alex recognized the Boulder County elected officials, including Boulder County District Attorney, Stan Garnett; former State Senator Rollie Heath; Representatives Jonathan Singer, Mike Foote, Edie Hooton and Majority Leader KC Becker; State Senators Matt Jones and Stephen Fenberg. He also recognized former CU Regent Joe Neguse; State Board of Education Member Angelika Schroeder, County Commissioners Deb Gardner, Elise Jones, and Cindy Domenico; County Treasurer Paul Weissman; former County Assessor Jerry Roberts; current Assessor Cindy Braddock; Boulder County Coroner Emma Hall; County Surveyor Lee Stadele, Boulder City Council Members Mayor Suzanne Jones and former member Tim Plass,

Special Recognition of Retiring Elected Officials

Representative Jonathan Singer recognized four outstanding elected officials that Boulder County has been lucky to have – Speaker of the House Dickey Lee Hullinghorst, State Senator Rollie Heath, State Representative Dianne Primavera, and Boulder County Assessor Jerry Roberts. Jonathan talked about how much each of these individuals has impacted the lives of our County and our State. They each received a special plaque for our appreciation for what they did for Boulder County. They each provided brief comments about their time as an elected official.

Matt Jones also gave a shout out to other elected officials not previously mentioned. Judy Lubow (RTD), Joan Peck and Polly Christensen (Longmont City Council

Members); Josie Heath (former County Commissioner); Lorie Albright and Lesley Smith (former BVSD school board); Cary Kennedy (former State Treasurer), Mike Johnston, Karen Beaker (former RTD Director), former County Assessor and State Senator Terry Phillips, Shaun McCoy (former Longmont City Council member), Sally Martin and Gwen Dooley (former Boulder City Council members), and former Party Chairs, Dan Gould, Joel Davidow, and Britta Singer.

Ask for Money (Jonathan Singer)– Jonathan gave his pitch as to our need to pay for the space today as well as run our party to fight against the wrongs we see in our country. We need to stand up and fight back! The margin of victory for democratic wins in the state comes directly through Boulder County. Century Club members are those who donate \$100 or more each year. Over 20 people originally stepped up for Jonathan’s call to take a BRE to donate to the Centaury Club (over \$3,000 committed).

Report of the Audit Committee

Celeste reported that on January 11, 2017 an audit was conducted by accountants Jennifer Boucher-Reid and Lynn Mitton of the books of the Boulder County Democratic Central Committee for the two-year period ending 12/31/16. Both auditors determined that the books have been properly kept for the past two years. There was a motion made and seconded to accept the audit committee report. **This was approved by acclamation.**

Treasurer’s report – Celeste Landry

Celeste reported on the party’s finances since 2015 and provided an overview of current party cash on hand, and on the expenses and fundraising initiatives for the same period. Celeste also pointed out that by law or practice our party does not receive contributions from corporations, labor unions, PACs, the National or State Democratic parties, the government, or the GOP. That means the individual members of the BoCo Dems are where the County Party receives its funds. She also pointed out that the Century Club is the financial backbone of the BCDP. A motion was made and seconded to approve the treasurer’s report. **The treasurer’s report was accepted with no objections.**

Jim Johnson made a motion to fix the time of the next EC meeting to be on March 8, 2017, with the time and location to be set by the incoming Chair. The call for this meeting shall be disseminated by the Chair not later than February 28, 2017. The motion was seconded and the **motion passed.**

Alan Rosenfeld proposed the new chair schedule a second Central Committee meeting to be held in an appropriate location no later than seven months from today (no later than September 4, 2017) for the purpose of discussing strategies and structure of the party to best suit the unique historic circumstances of our time. Additionally, Alan proposed the new chair appoint a special committee made up primarily of volunteers from today’s meeting who will be responsible for planning that meeting as well as proposing rules of order and an agenda.

2/26 Revision: Motion as submitted by Alan Rosenfeld before the reorg meeting:

I move that the new chair of our party be directed by this body to schedule a second Central Committee meeting to be held in an appropriate location no later than seven months from today for the purpose of discussing strategies and structure of the party to best suit the unique historic circumstances of our time. (motion 1)

Additionally, the chair shall appoint a special committee made up primarily of volunteers from today's meeting who will be responsible for planning the second central committee meeting and who shall serve as a Permanent Organization Committee to establish the rules and agenda for that meeting. (motion 2)

It was requested that Alan split up this motion into two parts, with the 1st part being that the CC meets before September 4th 2017. Motion passed to have CC meet before 9/4/2017

A motion to amend the second part, by Johnathan Berner, was made so at least one member from each HD be on the planning committee. The amendment was seconded. Amendment passed to have at least one HD member on the planning committee. Motion passed to form a special committee for the CC meeting.

The vote regarding having a second meeting was then held and the ayes carried. People who are interested in participating in this should meet with the new officers to begin the process for this second Central Committee meeting for this year.

Election of new BCDP officers

- **Chair (6 minutes)**

First nomination for chair is Tom Grasso, nominated by Jonathan Singer.

Second nomination for chair is Mark Williams, nominated by Stan Garnett and seconded by Britta Singer.

A motion was made and seconded to close nominations.

Motion approved.

A show of hands determined that Mark Williams was elected chair.

Mark assumed chairmanship of the meeting.

A motion made from the floor to thank Alex for all the hard work that he has done. This was approved unanimously.

Oath was administered to Mark so he could assume leadership and run the rest of the day's meeting.

- **Vice-chair - External Communications and Community Engagement (3 minutes)**

Ellen Burnes nominated Katie Malzbender for Vice-Chair External.

Carolyn Powell nominated Nick Monck for Vice-Chair External.

Samantha Reynolds nominated Jylle Ryan for Vice-Chair External and seconded by Raffi Mercuri (multi-lingual).

Angie Layton nominated Cliff Smedley as Vice Chair – External. Cera Hedwick seconded this nomination.

A motion was made and seconded that nominations be closed.
Motion approved.

290 votes were cast with 145 needed as majority to win.

Katie Malzbender received 129; Nick Monck received 24; Jylle Ryan received 103; and Cliff Smedley received 34. The lowest vote getter, Nick, was dropped and there was a revote. For the second vote Katie received 148 votes. This was more than needed to be elected.

Katie Malzbender was elected as Vice Chair - External Communications and Community Engagement.

- **Vice-chair - Internal Planning and Implementation**

Geof Cahoon was nominated by Stan Gronek and seconded by Edie Hooton.

Paul Geissler nominated Lynette McClain as the second candidate.

Alex Gano nominated Brian Larson as the third candidate.

A motion was made from the floor by Alan Rosenfeld to nominate Tom Grasso. The motion was seconded and Tom became the fourth candidate for this position.

A motion was made and seconded that nominations be closed.

Motion approved

276 votes were cast with 139 needed to be elected outright.

Geof Cahoon received 157 votes which was more than enough to win this position.

Geof Cahoon was elected as Vice Chair - External Communications and Community Engagement.

- **Vice-chair – Capacity Building**

~~Lesley Leslie~~ Smith nominated Raffi Mercuri with a second.

Terrye Whitaker nominated Kitty Sargent for Capacity Vice Chair, but Kitty dropped out and threw her weight behind Katie Wallace.

Linda Lee nominated Katie Wallace.

A motion was made and seconded that nominations be closed.

Motion approved

274 votes cast – 137 needed to win the position outright. Katie received 138 votes.

Katie Wallace was elected as Vice Chair - Capacity Building.

- **Secretary**

Jason Sherry was nominated by Cliff Smedley.

A motion was made and seconded to close nominations.

Motion approved

Jason Sherry elected as Secretary by acclamation.

- **Treasurer**

Celeste Landry nominated Jim Johnson.

A motion was made and seconded that nominations be closed.

Motion approved

Jim Johnson elected as Treasurer by acclamation.

The new chair, Mark Williams, requested that people who wanted to work on the planning for the next Central Committee meeting should let him know of their interest during the breakouts.

Recess of County Central Committee reorganization meeting

As the reorg also applies to JD 20 (District Attorney, Stan Garnett) and breakouts for House and Senate Districts, reorg members broke into smaller central committees to conduct that business. The reorg meeting adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

Chair Elvira Ramos called the JD20 meeting to order where she made the motion that the membership of the JD20 would be the Vacancy Committee. This motion was seconded and passed unanimously. New officers elected for JD 20 were Elvira Ramos as Chair, Christina Suarez as Vice-Chair, and Maegan Vallejo as Secretary. Nominations were closed after each person's name was proposed and each was voted for unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:29 upon which members went into the Congressional Districts and then to House Districts and Senate Districts.

The Reorganization meeting reconvened at 1:30 pm to complete the final election requirement for the day.

Election of members to the State Executive Committee

Boulder County has been allocated 11 additional (aka "Bonus") members to the Colorado Democratic Party Executive Committee. There were 11 women candidates and 6 male candidates. Since the State Party would like to have a balanced membership in the State Executive Committee, votes were taken for the top 5 female vote getters. Then there would be a vote for the male top vote getters. The next highest number vote getters then would be in a runoff to select our 11th member.

The votes for women went as follows:

Pat Feeser – 9; Sally Martin – 10; Gladys Forshee – 5; Jylle Ryan – 23; Mickey Wood – 13; Audy Leggere-Hickey - 17; Shari Malloy – 9; Hermine Ngonnaere – 22; Jena Griswald – 16; and Sarah Reynolds – 18.

The votes for the men went as follows:

Rollie Heath – 20; Bill Hyde – 13; Alan Rosenfeld – 17; Erik ~~Kollwitz~~ Koller – 14; Bob Edwards – 18; and Matt Brian – 8.

The runoff for the 11th position was between Matt (4) and Mickey (17).

The elected delegates from Boulder County to the State Executive (EC) Committee were: Jylle Ryan, Hermine Ngonnaere, Samantha Reynolds, Audy Leggere-Hickey, Jena Griswald, Mickey Wood, Rollie Heath, Bill Hyde, Alan Rosenfeld, Kerik ~~Kollwitz~~ Koller, and Bob Edwards.

The remaining 11 candidates became alternates to the State EC.

Adjournment

The 2017 BCDP Reorganization Meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Terrye Whitaker
Outgoing Secretary
Boulder County Democratic Party

