

**MINUTES OF THE GENERAL SESSION  
RNC WINTER MEETING  
JANUARY 18 & 19, 2007  
WASHINGTON, DC**

The General Session of the Republican National Committee was called to order by Chairman Ken Mehlman at 12:35 p.m. on Thursday, January 18, 2007, at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Washington, DC.

Chairman Mehlman welcomed the members of the Committee and recognized Paul Senft, National Committeeman for Florida, who offered the invocation. The Chairman then asked Fredi Simpson, National Committeewoman for Washington, to lead the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Chairman introduced those seated at the head table, including Jo Ann Davidson, Co-Chairman; Bob Kjellander, Treasurer; Sara Gear Boyd, Secretary; Mike Duncan, General Counsel; and Kelley McCullough, Chief of Staff. He then announced the members serving on the Proxy Committee as follows: Chairman of the Proxy Committee and National Committeewoman for Wisconsin, Mary Buestrin; Gail Russell, National Committeewoman for Kentucky; Jim Herring, National Committeeman for Louisiana; Joyce Lyons Terhes, National Committeewoman for Maryland; Beverly Willard, National Committeewoman for Nevada; Ken Karls, State Chairman for North Dakota; June Burkhardt, National Committeewoman for Alaska; Katon Dawson, State Chairman for South Carolina; and Ed Gillespie, State Chairman for Virginia.

While the Proxy Committee assembled at the rear of the room to review the proxies received, Sara Gear Boyd, RNC Secretary and National Committeewoman for Vermont, called the roll. Upon conclusion, she announced that a quorum was present.

Chairman Mehlman then recognized Mary Buestrin, Chairman of the Proxy Committee and National Committeewoman for Wisconsin, who announced that the Proxy Committee received and reviewed nineteen (19) proxies and found all 19 proxies in order. She then motioned to accept the Proxy Committee report. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Chairman Mehlman then made remarks on the passing of President Gerald Ford recognizing his service to the Nation and to our Party and requested a moment of silence in his honor. Chuck Yob, National Committeeman from Michigan asked that the Chairman's remarks be made formal and sent to Mrs. Ford and the Ford family on behalf of the entire RNC. Without objection it was so ordered.

Chairman Mehlman then turned the gavel over to RNC Co-Chairman Jo Ann Davidson.

Co-Chairman Davidson announced that without objection, the RNC business would be conducted according to the agenda before the members. There was no objection and Co-Chairman Davidson proceeded with the agenda.

Co-Chairman Davidson asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the 2006 Summer Meeting in Bloomington, MN. A motion was made and seconded, and passed unanimously by voice vote.

Co-Chairman Davidson congratulated and welcomed nine new state chairmen elected since the 2006 Summer Meeting.

Co-Chairman Davidson then introduced Chairman Mehlman for his farewell remarks. Chairman Mehlman spoke of the successes that came out of the 2006 mid-terms elections. He highlighted the investment in new technology and the outreach to the Hispanic and African-American communities. Chairman Mehlman discussed the factors that hurt the party in the 2006 elections, and emphasized learning from both the victories and mistakes of the elections. Looking forward to 2008, Chairman Mehlman pointed out the importance of having both a good ground game, and remembering that good policy makes good politics. He reminded the audience the Republican Party must hold everyone to the highest ethical standards, and make the public trust important. The Chairman urged the Party to continue to be that party of Lincoln, reaching out to all Americans. He spoke of the continued need to reach out to Democrats and Independents to achieve common goals for needed reform in areas like immigration, defense and health care. Chairman Mehlman concluded his remarks by thanking the RNC for their support and hard work during his term.

Co-Chairman Davidson thanked Chairman Mehlman for his remarks and turned the gavel back to him.

Chairman Mehlman called on RNC committee chairmen to give their reports.

RNC Budget Committee Chairman and National Committeeman for Massachusetts, Ron Kaufman announced that the RNC ended 2006 with a net balance of \$100,000. The RNC received 2.1 million contributions in 2006, with an average contribution of \$54.82. Mr. Kaufman reviewed the proposed 2007 budget and then moved that the Committee adopt the 2007 budget. The motion was seconded and the amended budget was adopted.

Blake Hall, National Committeeman for Idaho, presented the Committee on Resolution's report. Since there was no objection to his motion to suspend the reading of each Resolution, he moved that all six (6) Resolutions adopted by the Committee on Resolutions be considered as a whole by the full RNC; (1) Resolution Recognizing the Service of Chairman Ken Mehlman; (2) Resolution Recognizing The Strength Of The American Economy; (3) Resolution Recognizing the Life and Service of Margaret Alexander Parker; (4) Resolution Urging the Congress to Support Common Sense Reform of Current Federal Campaign Finance Laws; (5) Resolution Recognizing the Need to Recommit to Traditional Conservative Principles; and (6) Resolution Honoring American Men And Women In Uniform For Their Sacrifice In The War On Terror. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by voice

vote. Mr. Hall then moved that all six (6) Resolutions be adopted. The motion was seconded and the six (6) Resolutions were adopted unanimously by voice vote.

Chairman of the Standing Committee on Rules and National Committeeman for New Jersey, David Norcross reported that the Rules Committee reviewed Rules 1 -11 during the Rules Committee meeting.

Chairman Mehlman then introduced Co-Chairman Davidson for the purposes of giving the Site Selection Committee report.

Co-Chairman Davidson recognized and thanked all members of the Site Selection Committee. She then reviewed the process that took place in order for the Site Selection Committee to select the location of the 2008 Republican National Convention. Co-Chairman Davidson also outlined the main criteria used throughout the process as cities were evaluated. Four cities – Cleveland, Ohio; Minneapolis Saint Paul, MN; New York, NY; and Tampa/Saint Petersburg, FL submitted bids to host the convention to the RNC. The committee traveled to all four cities for official site visits for two weeks in August 2006. Co-Chairman Davidson recognized the RNC Staff who assisted the Site Selection Committee as well as Bill Harris, Jim DiEleuterio, Mike Miller and Greg Lane who served as advisors to the Site Selection Committee. In October 2006, the Site Selection Committee convened in Washington, DC and voted to recommend Minneapolis Saint Paul as the host city for the 2008 convention. She noted the facilities for both the convention itself and the news media workspace, the excellent venues for other activities and the vast opportunities for a wonderful delegate experience as just a few of the criteria upon which the Site Selection Committee based their opinion. Co-Chairman Davidson then moved that the Committee vote to approve the Site Selection Committee's recommendation of Minneapolis Saint Paul to host the 2008 Republican National Convention. The motion was seconded by the RNC Members from Minnesota – Brian Sullivan, National Committeeman; Evie Axdahl, National Committeewoman; and Ron Carey, State Chairman. The motion passed by voice vote.

Chairman Mehlman thanked Co-Chairman Davidson for her leadership. He then invited the representatives from Minneapolis Saint Paul present at the meeting to the podium. Governor Tim Pawlenty began the group's remarks by thanking the Site Selection Committee and the entire RNC for the opportunity given to the state of Minnesota.

Senator Norm Coleman also addressed the RNC and highlighted the location of Minneapolis Saint Paul, along the Mississippi River in the heart of America to showcase the Party and the next President of the United States.

Senator Coleman introduced Saint Paul Mayor Chris Coleman. Mayor Coleman spoke of the Xcel Energy Center, the site of the convention, highlighting its distinction as one of the best arenas in North America.

Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak addressed the RNC next and talked about the high quality restaurants and venues of the Minneapolis Saint Paul area available for delegates and visitors to the convention.

The RNC next heard from Mayor Gene Winstead of Bloomington. Mayor Winstead expressed the exuberance and excitement that the entire area of Minneapolis Saint Paul feels about hosting the 2008 convention.

Jac Sperling, Chairman of the Minneapolis Saint Paul 2008 Host Committee, spoke next to the RNC. Mr. Sperling commented on the unity and the commitment of all the individuals involved in making the 2008 convention a success. He specifically thanked Jeff Larson and John Knapp for their assistance to the Host Committee and Bob Nagley and Pam Wheelock from the Xcel Energy Center.

Chairman Mehlman thanked all the officials from Minnesota for their attendance and their remarks. Chairman Mehlman announced his appointment of Jo Ann Davidson as Chairman of the Committee on Arrangements pursuant to Rule 10(a)(5) of the Republican Party.

The General Session was called to recess at 2:25 pm.

At 10:48 am on Friday, January 19, 2007, Chairman Mehlman called the General Session of the 2007 RNC Winter Meeting back to order.

The Chairman asked the Proxy Committee to convene with its Chairman Mary Buestrin to consider any proxies received since the committee last met. He then called upon Sara Gear Boyd for the roll call. Upon conclusion, Ms. Boyd announced that a quorum was present.

Proxy Committee Chairman Buestrin announced that an additional two proxies were received bringing the total number of proxies to 21. She moved to adopt the report of the Proxy Committee. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Chairman Mehlman then called upon the RNC officers to give their reports.

Chief of Staff Kelley McCullough gave her farewell remarks. She stated what an honor it was to serve with Chairman Mehlman and Co-Chairman Davidson, as well as the entire RNC staff. She highlighted the importance of looking back on the past 2 years not just on the result of the elections, but also on the impact of the Committee as an institution.

Chairman Mehlman then called upon Treasurer Bob Kjellander. Mr. Kjellander started by thanking the RNC leadership team for their support. He highlighted the work done by the RNC finance team and informed the members that an audit report would be completed in the coming weeks.

Chairman Mehlman gave brief farewell remarks.

Chairman Mehlman announced the next order of business, the election of RNC Chairman.

Chairman Mehlman recognized Ed Gillespie, State Chairman of Virginia, who nominated Mike Duncan, National Committeeman for Kentucky for Chairman of the RNC.. Mr.

Gillespie spoke of Mr. Duncan's loyalty to the RNC and his experience as a member of the RNC. Chairman Mehlman recognized Ron Kaufman, National Committeeman for Massachusetts who seconded the nomination. Mr. Kaufman spoke of the outreach work Mr. Duncan has done with young people in Kentucky and around the country. Chairman Mehlman then recognized Gail Russell, National Committeewoman for Kentucky who seconded the nomination. She spoke of Mr. Duncan's success as a team-builder and strategist.

Hearing no other nominations, Chairman Mehlman closed nominations. Mike Duncan was elected RNC Chairman by unanimous voice vote.

Chairman Duncan accepted the office of RNC Chairman and addressed the members. He thanked the Committee for electing him as Chairman, a lifelong dream. Chairman Duncan also thanked President Bush for asking him to take on the role. He spoke of the path the RNC must take to fulfill the goal of electing a Republican President, and regaining the Congressional majorities. He talked about his role as RNC Chairman, putting programs like political education and the 72-hour program and campaign strategies into action both in the states and in the RNC headquarters in Washington. Chairman Duncan assured the members that his job was not to make policy, but to win elections.

Chairman Duncan then announced the appointment of Blake Hall as General Counsel of the RNC pursuant to Rule 5 (d). David Norcross, National Committeeman for New Jersey, moved for his confirmation noting his excellent years of service to the RNC. The motion was seconded by Kirk Sullivan, State Chairman for Idaho, and Cindy Moyle, National Committeeman for Idaho. Blake Hall was confirmed general counsel of the RNC by unanimous voice vote.

Chairman Duncan then opened nominations for the election of the Co-Chair and recognized Bob Bennett, State Chairman for Ohio, who nominated Jo Ann Davidson for re-election. He noted her experience and excellence as both a public elected official and a party elected official. Louis Pope, National Committeeman for Maryland, seconded the nomination and pointed out the Co-Chair's experience in every level of politics and her experience in winning campaigns. Connie Nicholas, National Committeewoman for North Dakota also seconded the nomination, commenting on Co-Chairman Davidson's graciousness.

Hearing no other nominations, Chairman Duncan closed nominations. Jo Ann Davidson was re-elected Co-Chairman of the RNC by unanimous voice vote.

Co-Chair Davidson expressed her gratitude to the Committee and accepted the office of RNC Co-Chair. She commented on the team effort that guided the previous two years through the leadership of her fellow officers and the RNC staff led by Kelley McCullough. She acknowledged that challenges lay ahead for the Party, but expressed her confidence in the heart and soul of the party that exists throughout the nation.

Chairman Duncan then opened nominations for RNC Treasurer and recognized Lynn Windel, National Committeeman for Oklahoma. Mr. Windel nominated Tim Morgan, National Committeeman for California. He discussed Mr. Morgan's service to the state of California and the nation as a member of the JAG Corps, and his service to the RNC as a member of the

Budget Committee. Duf Sundheim, State Chairman for California, was recognized to second the nomination. He pointed out Mr. Morgan's knowledge of the issues, his exceptional work ethic, and ability to communicate.

Hearing no other nominations, Chairman Duncan closed nominations. Tim Morgan was elected RNC Treasurer by unanimous voice vote. Mr. Morgan gave acceptance remarks. He thanked his family and colleagues in California and at the RNC. He promised to maintain the highest ethical standards and to have an open line of communication with all the RNC members.

Chairman Duncan then opened nominations for RNC Secretary and recognized Rosie Tripp, National Committeewoman for New Mexico. Ms. Tripp nominated Sara Gear Boyd for RNC Secretary. She spoke about her excellent Party credentials, which include being the first woman in the country to serve as Majority Leader of both bodies in her State Legislature. Chairman Duncan then recognized George Schiavone, National Committeeman for Vermont, who seconded the nomination and praised her for the example she has set for women in Vermont and across the nation. Chairman Duncan then recognized Solomon Yue, National Committeeman for Oregon, for a seconding speech. Mr. Yue also praised Ms. Boyd's dedication to her work and her leadership abilities.

Hearing no other nominations, Chairman Duncan closed nominations. Sara Gear Boyd was re-elected RNC Secretary by unanimous voice vote. She gave brief remarks where she accepted the position of RNC secretary and thanked the members for the honor of serving them and expressed her excitement to serve with Chairman Duncan and the rest of the leadership team.

Chairman Duncan then entertained a motion for the creation of the position of General Chairman of the Republican Party. David Norcross, National Committeeman for New Jersey, made the motion based on Rule 5(a)(3) of the Rules of the Republican Party. In his motion he explained that the role of the general chairman of the party would include working with the other two National Republican Committees and providing political advice and counsel on the message of the party.

Curly Haugland, National Committeeman for North Dakota, rose for a point of order. Mr. Haugland expressed that the motion made by Mr. Norcross was out of order because it was an improper motion.

Chairman Duncan stated that based on the Rules of the Republican Party and Roberts Rules of Order that the motion made by Mr. Norcross was not improper, and ruled that Mr. Haugland's motion was not in order. Mr. Haugland then appealed the ruling of the chair. Randy Pullen, National Committeeman for Arizona, seconded the appeal. The appeal was put to a vote by the members, and by voice vote, the ruling of Chairman Duncan was sustained.

Rosie Tripp, National Committeewoman for New Mexico, seconded the motion for the creation of a General Chairman. She stated that she believed the creation of the position would benefit the party in working towards the 2008 election.

Hearing no other discussion, Chairman Duncan closed discussion. The motion passed by voice vote. The committee stood at ease in order to provide adequate time for petitions for nomination for the office of General Chairman of the Republican Party to be delivered to the Secretary of the RNC, Sara Gear Boyd.

Upon reconvening, Chairman Duncan opened the floor for nominations for the position of General Chairman of the Republican Party.

Sharon Day, National Committeewoman for Florida, was recognized and nominated Senator Mel Martinez of Florida. She described Senator Martinez as a believer in the principles of the Republican party, and described his strong faith and love for his family.

Joyce Lyons Terhes, National Committeewoman for Maryland rose to second the nomination of Senator Martinez. She stated that his passion and his perspective would be a valuable asset to the Republican Party.

Luis Fortuno, National Committeeman for Puerto Rico, also seconded the nomination of Senator Martinez. He spoke of the Senator's ability to reach out to all Americans, his passion, and the eloquence in which he conducted himself. Mr. Fortuno stated that Senator Martinez would strengthen the principles of the Party as General Chairman.

Hearing no other nominations, Chairman Duncan closed nominations. Senator Martinez was then elected General Chairman of the Republican Party by voice vote.

Senator Martinez then addressed the RNC as General Chairman of the Republican Party. He began by thanking President Bush, his wife, Kitty Martinez and family and friends, and the RNC members for giving him the honor of serving the Republican Party in such a way. Senator Martinez told the story of how he came to live in the United States as a 15-year-old boy, and how he worked to help the rest of his family so that they could all live together, Orlando, Florida. He stated his excitement in working as General Chairman to make the American Dream, whatever that may be, come true for every American. He said that he would work to take the message of the principles that make the Republican Party strong across the country as General Chairman.

Chairman Duncan then announced the appointment of Elliott Broidy as Finance Chairman of the RNC pursuant to Rule 5 (d). Peter Cianchette, National Committeeman for Maine, moved to confirm the appointment. He spoke of his past fundraising experiences and his many successes in the financial community. The motion was seconded and Mr. Broidy was confirmed by voice vote.

The results of the regional elections were announced as follows: *Western Region*: Budget Committee: Travis Thompson, National Committeeman for Hawaii; Vice Chairmen: Jan Larimer, National Committeewoman for Wyoming and Jeff Kent, National Committeeman for Washington; Executive Committee: Miriam Hellreich, National Committeewoman for Hawaii and Soloman Yue, National Committeeman for Oregon; *Southern Region*: Budget

Committee: Lynn Windel, National Committeeman for Oklahoma; Vice Chairmen: Bettye Fine Collins, National Committeewoman for Alabama and Alec Poitevint, National Committeeman and State Chairman for Georgia; Executive Committee: Morton Blackwell and Anne Petera, national Committeeman and Committeewoman for Virginia; *Northeastern Region*: Budget Committee: Priscilla Rakestraw, National Committeewoman for Delaware; Vice Chairmen: Jody Dow, National Committeewoman for Massachusetts and Louis Pope, National Committeeman for Maryland; Executive Committee: Joyce Lyons Terhes, National Committeewoman for Maryland and Tony Parker, National Committeeman for the District of Columbia and *Midwestern Region*: Budget Committee: Diane Adams, National Committeewoman for Indiana ; Vice Chairmen: Mary Buestrin, National Committeewoman for Wisconsin and Chuck Yob, National Committeeman for Michigan; Executive Committee: Mary Jo Arndt, National Committeewoman for Illinois and Ron Schmidt, National Committeeman for South Dakota.

Finally, Chairman Duncan requested a motion to adjourn the General Session of the 2007 Winter Meeting of the Republican National Committee. He recognized Paul Senft, National Committeeman for Florida who so moved. The motion was seconded and passed by a voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 12:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sara Gear Boyd". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Sara Gear Boyd  
Republican National Committee Secretary