

**MEETING OF THE RNC STANDING COMMITTEE ON RULES
2014 RNC WINTER MEETING
RENAISSANCE DOWNTOWN
WASHINGTON, DC
JANUARY 23, 2014**

Bruce Ash, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Rules and National Committeeman (“NCM”) for Arizona, called the meeting of the Standing Committee on Rules to order at 3:10pm on Thursday, January 23, 2014, at the Renaissance Downtown in Washington, DC.

Janet Beihoffer (National Committeewoman (“NCW”) Minnesota) offered the invocation. David Kramer (NCM Nebraska) led the Pledge of Allegiance.

RNC Secretary Demetra DeMonte (NCW Illinois) called the roll and declared that a quorum was present.

Chairman Ash gave introductory remarks and introduced the front table and the RNC Counsel’s Office staff.

Without objection, Chairman Ash ordered that any debate on amendment proposals be limited to 5 minutes.

Chairman Ash asked for a motion to approve the Minutes of the Committee meeting at the 2013 Summer Meeting in Boston, Massachusetts. The motion was properly made and seconded and passed unanimously by voice vote.

Chairman Ash then gave an overview of the work of the Rules Subcommittee, which had been appointed at the Summer Meeting. He next described three (3) Rules amendment proposals that had previously been approved by the Subcommittee.

Randy Evans (NCM Georgia) moved that the proposed Rules amendments be considered as a package. The motion was properly seconded by Steve Duprey (NCM New Hampshire).

Morton Blackwell (NCM Virginia) moved to divide the question. Chairman Ash ruled Mr. Blackwell’s motion out of order.

Mr. Blackwell then appealed the ruling of the Chair. A vote was taken, and the ruling of the Chair was upheld. Discussion on the original motion continued.

A vote was then taken. The motion on the previous question passed by voice vote.

Chairman Ash next called for a vote on Mr. Evan’s motion to consider the three (3) Rules amendment proposals as a package, and the motion passed by voice vote.

Mr. Blackwell moved to amend Rule 16(c)(2) to strike “March 15” and replace with “March 31.” The motion was properly seconded by Ashley Ryan (NCW Maine). Discussion ensued.

Mr. Little moved to amend Mr. Blackwell’s motion to replace “March 31” with “March 16.” The motion failed to produce a second, and the amendment was not brought to a vote.

Mr. Blackwell requested a standing vote be taken on his amendment. A standing vote was then taken on the motion, and Mr. Blackwell’s amendment proposal to Rule 16(c)(2) failed to pass.

Steve Munisteri (NCM Texas) next moved to amend Rule 16(c)(3), to clarify the amendment language to ensure it covered states that selected delegates by congressional district, in addition to those states that selected delegates statewide. The amendment was seconded by James Smack (NCM Nevada). A vote was taken and the motion passed by voice vote.

Mr. Blackwell moved to amend the proposal for Rule 20(a), changing the words “45” to “35.” Mr. Evans raised a point of order; that amending the Rule would be out of order because it would effectively be a “no vote” on the package as a whole. Mr. Blackwell clarified that his motion would not amend the language but strike the rule from the package. Chairman Ash ruled the motion in order, and Ms. Ryan seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Following, Mr. Ash called for a standing vote at the request of Mr. Blackwell, and the motion failed to pass.

Bob Bennett (NCM Ohio) moved to amend Rule 20(a) by adding the following language regarding penalty waivers: “Notwithstanding the above, if reasonable efforts to change the law are impractical due to non-Republican control over the office with authority to set the date for the delegate selection process, then a waiver shall be granted.” The motion was seconded by Mr. Ryder and discussion began. Mr. Blackwell offered an amendment to strike the words “office with” and replace with “government” Without objection, Mr. Blackwell’s amendment was accepted. Chairman Ash called for a vote on Mr. Bennett’s motion as amended, and the motion passed by voice vote.

Mr. Smack moved to amend Rule 16(c)(3) to change the threshold percentage from 20 percent to 15 percent. Mr. Little seconded and discussion began. Following, a voice vote was taken the motion failed to pass.

Chairman Ash called for a vote on the full Rules amendment package. The package passed by voice vote.

Chairman Ash adjourned the meeting at approximately 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Demetra DeMonte". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Demetra" and last name "DeMonte" clearly legible.

Demetra DeMonte (NCW Illinois)
RNC Secretary