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OKLAHOMA DEMOCRATIC PARTY  
STATE CONVENTION  
TAKEN ON MAY 30, 2015, BEGINNING AT 10:00  
IN OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

OKLAHOMA DEMOCRATIC PARTY  
OFFICER TEAM

- Wallace Collins, Chair
- Dana Orwig, Vice Chair
- Dave Ratcliff, Secretary
- Donna Russell, Treasurer

Reported by: Cheryl D. Glenn, CSR, RPR

1 CONVENTION

2 WALLACE COLLINS: Those who are seated, if  
3 I can have your attention. I appreciate everybody  
4 coming out this morning.

5 Welcome to the 2015 Democratic State  
6 Convention. I'll officially call this to order.  
7 We're only 10 minutes late and we want to stay on  
8 somewhat of a schedule.

9 At this point, Democrats, would you, please,  
10 take your seats. Please sit down. Democrats, would  
11 you please take your seats. Please lead by example.

12 Thank you. Again, I say welcome to the 2015  
13 Democratic Party Convention. I appreciate the  
14 turnout. I appreciate the enthusiasm. Thank you all  
15 for being here this morning. At this point I want to  
16 call on the veterans chair, Kevin McCray, to come up  
17 and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

18 KEVIN MCCRAY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
19 Good morning. If everyone would, please, rise, for  
20 the pledge.

21 (Pledge of Allegiance.)

22 WALLACE COLLINS: And would you, please,  
23 remain standing? We will have Ms. Trina come up and  
24 sing the National Anthem. Trina.

25 (Applause)

1 (National Anthem)

2 (Applause)

3 WALLACE COLLINS: Thank you, Ms. Trina.

4 Next we're going to call on Jason to come up  
5 and say a prayer.

6 JASON: If everybody would bow your heads,  
7 please. Oh, Mighty God AND God of our ancestors, as  
8 we gather together in this room from all directions  
9 of this great state, guide us as we go forward to  
10 elect new leadership and determine our Oklahoma  
11 Democratic Party's destiny. Give our leaders and  
12 those present here today the courage to stand up for  
13 what is right and the resolution to defeat what is  
14 wrong. Be with us as we stand with those being  
15 persecuted because of who they are, what they  
16 believe, who they love or where they come from. Give  
17 us the humility to heal strife and bestow on us the  
18 wisdom to set aside petty differences. Remind us  
19 that we should not overlook the good simply because  
20 -- because it is not perfect. As we endure an  
21 unusual season of rain, rain that many of us prayed  
22 for, let us not forget those public servants who have  
23 been out there protecting our homes and families from  
24 weather and the elements just as we seek to protect  
25 them from threats to their livelihood. We ask that

1 you guard over our beloved president and first family  
2 and impart wisdom to guide his decisions. Watch over  
3 our brave men and women in uniform fighting battles  
4 in distant lands and over their families awaiting  
5 their return here at home. Benevolent one, as we  
6 connect youth and first-time visitors with those with  
7 years of involvement, let us continue to be  
8 encouraged to carry on a legacy of this great party  
9 and reach our message out to every Oklahoman. Allow  
10 us to live up to the ideals imbedded in the  
11 foundation of our party as in the words that we are  
12 truly our brother's keeper.

13 All Mighty God, give us the strength to  
14 sustain us as we join together in common cause to  
15 fight for equality, peace, liberty and justice for  
16 all. And let us say Amen.

17 (Amen by audience)

18 WALLACE COLLINS: Thank you, Jason.

19 To introduce one of my predecessors, someone  
20 I look up to, a man that I think did a great job of  
21 leading the Oklahoma Democratic Party and now he's  
22 worked nationally to organize and help Democrats in  
23 several states across the country. So, we're proud  
24 to have him back in Oklahoma. He's actually a native  
25 of Oklahoman. Our next keynote speaker for the

1 convention is Mr. Jay Parmley.

2 (Applause)

3 JAY PARMLEY: I was talking and not paying  
4 a bit of attention, so when Wallace said my name, I  
5 -- I didn't hear it. It is good to be in a room full  
6 of Democrats.

7 (Applause)

8 JAY PARMLEY: Last time I was in this room  
9 was exactly 10 years ago for a Carl Albert dinner,  
10 and the room was packed and we had that -- not in  
11 conjunction with the state convention but in April of  
12 2005. It's also been a long time since I've been in  
13 front of this Democratic Party Convention. I spend a  
14 lot of time now all throughout the south working in  
15 14 different southern states as we formed one action  
16 organization that focuses on building our bench and  
17 electing Democrats from the really city council level  
18 all the way up, particularly with legislative  
19 districts, congressional districts. So, I want to  
20 talk to you just a little bit about -- let me just  
21 tell you honestly why -- why they asked me to be  
22 here. I got a phone call that said, we need to kill  
23 about 20 minutes before -- before we'd ready and we  
24 couldn't think of anybody who could kill 20 minutes  
25 better than you. So, I said okay.

1           So, a lot has been talked about since the  
2   2014 elections. You don't need to be told and most  
3   of my friends all throughout the south don't need to  
4   be told how terrible a day November 2014 was for our  
5   party. We lost more United States senators in one  
6   fail swoop than we had in almost a decade or more.  
7   We lost more legislative chambers than we had in  
8   quite sometime in one night. And everywhere I go  
9   people say to me, they want to talk about 2014 over  
10  and over and over. And so, today I'm going to share  
11  a few numbers with you. My main message is 2014 is  
12  over. And if we're going to get ready for 2016 and  
13  2018 and 2020, we need to learn a few lessons but we  
14  need to quit talking about the fact that Democrats  
15  had a rough night in November of 2014 because 2016 is  
16  really right around the corner.

17           (Applause)

18           JAY PARMLEY: You see, a lot of people want  
19  to talk about what's the Democratic party's message.  
20  Well, I want to spend just a few minutes talking to  
21  you about the fundamentals of the work we do. See, I  
22  think a lot of this begins with you have to believe  
23  that we can win. You have to know deep down that the  
24  party we believe in is worth working for whether we  
25  win or we lose, but we first have to believe that we

1 can win. And then we have to spend our time, effort  
2 and energy organizing to put us in a position to win.  
3 That is, if you don't get the basics first, we're  
4 going to be unable to compete year after year. I  
5 don't have to tell all of you a generation ago our  
6 state and others like our state, we were softly  
7 Democratic. We had supermajorities, quite frankly,  
8 in both houses, the state house and the state senate.  
9 A generation ago -- believe it or not, a generation  
10 ago now we had a Democratic governor. All 77  
11 counties were controlled at the courthouse by  
12 Democrats with maybe one or two rare exceptions. And  
13 that was the norm in Mississippi and Alabama and,  
14 quite frankly, Texas and Arkansas and Georgia, in  
15 South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia and West  
16 Virginia, in Kentucky and Tennessee. That was the  
17 norm. And today, in the 14 southern states as a  
18 block, there is only one legislative chamber out of  
19 28 controlled by Democrats. One. It's the Kentucky  
20 house.

21 (Applause)

22 JAY PARMLEY: Yeah. Good for Kentucky.

23 (Applause)

24 JAY PARMLEY: Screw the rest of us, but  
25 good for Kentucky.

1           The Virginia senate is two seats away from  
2 flipping. The Mississippi house is the next closest;  
3 they're seven seats away from flipping.

4           But we grew up, many of us, in a generation  
5 where Democrats just won by simply putting our names  
6 on the ballots. The fights were in the primaries.  
7 General election was just a phase. We just sort of  
8 sundered through it. And that's changed. And we  
9 need to remember that Republicans didn't get control  
10 in one day; they got control over a 30 and 40-year  
11 period of time. And it is, quite frankly,  
12 unreasonable for us to believe that we can flip  
13 things in a minute, but we have to start somewhere.  
14 I would argue that there's no greater place to spend  
15 our time and effort rebuilding this party,  
16 particularly in the south, than at the most local  
17 level, whether it be school board races in states  
18 like Mississippi where -- or where the parties in  
19 races, quite frankly, for the school board, or for  
20 city council raises that may be nonpartisan or  
21 partisan in some places. But absolutely we must be  
22 focused on winning legislative seats even if it is  
23 one at a time. Because, ladies and gentlemen, the  
24 reason the congress of the United States is  
25 controlled by Republicans isn't because Democrats got



1 fewer votes. In fact, there were more votes cast for  
2 Democratic candidates all across this country last  
3 year than Republican candidates. The reason we don't  
4 control the United States House of Representatives is  
5 because we don't control the state legislature  
6 because they draw the lines.

7 (Applause)

8 JAY PARMLEY: Today in the United States  
9 Congress in the 14 southern states there are 153  
10 members, 153. 46 are Democrats, 46. And it's simply  
11 because of gerrymandering. Now, we've seen a few  
12 cases in the Supreme Court recently which is giving  
13 Alabama and North Carolina a chance to redraw their  
14 lines, but one and two states doesn't do it.

15 You see, Oklahoma, if you look at the numbers  
16 and if we had a Democratic legislature, we could  
17 absolutely and quite easily draw the lines, easily  
18 draw the lines to give us a Democratic house seat  
19 just based on the numbers. But, you see, the  
20 Republicans, they play ball differently than we do.  
21 They're in it to win. They got control of these  
22 legislatures, and when it came time for  
23 redistricting, they didn't deal with the other side.  
24 They didn't have to. They just drew the lines. They  
25 cut long-term incumbents out of their districts.

1 They pitted Democrat against Democrat. They drew  
2 lines so crazy that the Supreme Court years later is  
3 now making those state legislatures go back and  
4 redraw the lines.

5 So, if you want to know the way of this  
6 party, it is that we must be focused at winning  
7 legislative seats because that's what we've not done  
8 a good job at. That will solve a huge part of our  
9 problem.

10 Now, how many do you have to win? In a lot  
11 of states we have to win 20 and 30 seats to get  
12 majorities back, but look at it this way. I saw  
13 David Riding (phonetic) over there. I can remember  
14 when we drew the lines -- the Democrats drew the line  
15 in 2001 before 2002. I know how hard it was to draw  
16 the lines. And Democrats controlled the chamber.  
17 But we have a Republican governor. And the fact of  
18 the matter is that, even though we had a majority, we  
19 didn't get to draw the lines because there were  
20 enough Republicans to really force a deal. So, you  
21 don't have to win back the legislative chamber to  
22 have great control and influence. We need to be  
23 winning back one seat and then a second seat and then  
24 a third seat and then a fourth seat. And we have to  
25 get serious as Democrats about prioritizing and about

1 finding out where we can really go in and pick off a  
2 seat. You guys did something here that, quite  
3 frankly, very few states didn't actually knock off an  
4 Republican incumbent in one legislative seat. And  
5 that's a big deal.

6 (Applause)

7 JAY PARMLEY: It's a big deal. It's a very  
8 big deal. But it must -- we must be realistic about  
9 where we are going.

10 Now, let me just say winning one or two seats  
11 is great, but how do we do it? Well, we sure don't  
12 do it by sitting around and talking about it. You  
13 have to believe first that we can do it and then we  
14 have to put our time, effort and energy into actually  
15 winning. And that means organizing. It's little  
16 things. Now, for some reason I got conned into being  
17 the chair of my county party in Columbia, South  
18 Carolina where I live now, in Richland County. We're  
19 the largest county -- we're the second largest county  
20 in the state but we're the most Democratic county in  
21 the state of South Carolina. We have 149 precincts.  
22 And let me just tell you, the way the party is  
23 organized there, I have 149 members of my county  
24 party executive committee. You -- you guys just have  
25 three. I have 149 people and we have to meet four

1 times a year. Have to. Must meet four times a year.

2 But what good is meeting if we're not  
3 organizing? Have we actually ever stopped -- we have  
4 the information. Have we stopped and called people  
5 who voted last year in the Democratic primary and  
6 have we ever said, "Thank you for voting. And, boy,  
7 your vote matters and we appreciate the fact that you  
8 voted", just to start a dialog.

9 Today you're going to take up a change to the  
10 party rules about allowing independents to vote in  
11 our primaries. You can do what you want. I really  
12 don't have a -- well, I do have an opinion, but --  
13 but you can do what you want, but my only point to  
14 you is, if you change it, it doesn't matter if we  
15 don't reach out to independents and talk to them  
16 about why they should participate in our primary and  
17 why they should vote for our candidates.

18 (Applause)

19 JAY PARMLEY: But before we get excited  
20 about independents, are we talking to our Democrats?  
21 Now, you see, in most of the states I work in we  
22 don't register by party. They just register to vote.  
23 And here's what happens. I'm in Mississippi right  
24 now because Mississippi and Alabama have elections  
25 this year. When you go to vote in the primary in

1 Mississippi, you just walk up to the table and say,  
2 "I want a Democratic ballot", or, "I want a  
3 Republican ballot", and you're just a registered  
4 voter. So, the only way we know where Democrats sort  
5 of live and exist is we have to look and see which  
6 primary ballots they pulled over and over and over.  
7 And you can watch. Do people pull a Democratic  
8 ballot year after year after year or do they jump  
9 around?

10           You see, you have the reverse problem and we  
11 have the reverse problem here, that you register by  
12 party. So people, of course as you know, Democrats  
13 register that way and then go vote that way, but  
14 they're not always a Democrat.

15           So, why don't we take the time in 2015 and  
16 early 2016 to cull through people in our counties and  
17 just have a conversation, say, "We're with the  
18 Democratic county party and, guess what, you vote  
19 year after year after year and I just want to talk to  
20 you". You don't need a script. You don't need to be  
21 told what to say. Have a conversation.

22           (Applause)

23           JAY PARMLEY: Have a conversation. And  
24 you're going to have to do the same thing with  
25 independents if that's the route you go. But we

1 certainly, certainly have to do this in the general  
2 elections.

3           Have you thought about -- I know it's 2015.  
4 Have you thought about taking a Saturday even if it's  
5 two people and canvas and go door to door and talk to  
6 people who vote in Democratic primaries or, better  
7 yet, have you thought about ever going door to door  
8 calling people who are Democrats and don't vote in  
9 party primaries but they vote in general elections  
10 only? Because we sure don't know what they think.  
11 We have no idea what they think because we have not  
12 communicated with them. They don't vote in our  
13 primaries.

14           You see, it's the little stuff that matters  
15 so much. It really matters. Use 2015. Go home -- I  
16 don't care if you have two people, if you have four  
17 people, if you have 75 people. Go home and forget  
18 about what the minutes say at your executive  
19 committee meetings. I mean, they're important.  
20 Forget about what that treasurer's report says.  
21 Don't argue over some procedural issue when we aren't  
22 winning elections because we're not talking to  
23 voters.

24                           (Applause)

25           JAY PARMLEY: Now, I'm a party guy through

1 and through, and parties matter. Parties matter  
2 greatly, because there's no one coming to save us  
3 nationally. It's not happening. Our Democratic  
4 party is not investing. They're just not. They're  
5 not investing in states all across the country at the  
6 level in which they were. Our big super PACs that  
7 you hear everybody talking about, they don't spend  
8 money in the south for Democrats. The Coke brothers  
9 do on the other side. Well, if no one is coming to  
10 save us, we have to save ourselves.

11 (Applause)

12 JAY PARMLEY: So, I'm just telling you,  
13 don't worry about somebody coming in to save the day.  
14 Get out there, go find your neighbors.

15 Let me tell you, we all want to get caught up  
16 on -- and issues are important and I know they  
17 matter, but let me tell you, you don't have to have a  
18 lot of facts and figures to share with people, just  
19 spend a few minutes looking at what's going on around  
20 you. Your legislature, thank goodness, adjourned  
21 finally.

22 (Applause)

23 JAY PARMLEY: And your house Democratic  
24 leaders so eloquently -- Scott Inman so eloquently  
25 said that the Oklahoma legislature this year failed

1 people in rural Oklahoma again over and over. But  
2 let me tell you what's going on. In state after  
3 state -- in Louisiana their adjournment is on  
4 June the 11th. They can't produce a budget because  
5 right now they have a \$608 million budget shortfall  
6 in higher education alone. They have a \$12 billion  
7 backlog in roads and bridges projects because they  
8 have a governor who has spent more time out of state  
9 than in state and a Republican legislature that  
10 believes tax cuts are the way to prosperity and  
11 everything else be damned. And the people of  
12 Louisiana are suffering because of it. And it's just  
13 like here. And it's just like in Alabama where they  
14 can't pass a budget and they're going to adjourn and  
15 have to come back because they can't put a budget  
16 together because they are cutting Medicare, they are  
17 cutting healthcare, they are cutting schools, they  
18 are closing 15 state parks because of 20 years of  
19 Republicans that have tax-cut their way -- tax-cut  
20 their way to prosperity. Yeah. So much for  
21 prosperity.

22           You don't need to know the facts and figures.  
23 You don't. You just need to have a conversation with  
24 people. You understand, these are the same states  
25 that won't accept the Medicaid expansion dollars. It



1 not only saves lives, it creates jobs and it's the  
2 right moral thing to do.

3 (Applause)

4 JAY PARMLEY: You don't have to know all  
5 the specifics to have a conversation with people.  
6 Talk to them. When your rural home -- when your  
7 rural hospitals are closing and doctors are leaving  
8 and you can't find care, that matters to you. Does  
9 it really matter to you how many people don't have  
10 health insurance in Oklahoma? Of course it matters,  
11 but when it's your hospital closing, it matters a lot  
12 more.

13 You see, unemployment figures don't mean a  
14 thing to people who don't have a job. You don't have  
15 to have facts and figures to talk to people. You  
16 should just have a conversation about what matters to  
17 you and about what matters to them. But, in order to  
18 have a conversation, you first have to listen to what  
19 they have to say.

20 (Applause)

21 JAY PARMLEY: So, here's the deal. We  
22 should organize, we should take the time to find  
23 people to phone bank, to door knock. We should spend  
24 time trying to find candidates. It is the hardest  
25 thing in the world to do, is find candidates. Jeff

1 Hamilton, thank you for sitting there nodding. It is  
2 the hardest thing in the world to do, but you have to  
3 start now. You have to start now. If you have  
4 Republicans on your county commission, you have  
5 Republicans in the courthouse, you have Republicans  
6 in the state legislature representing you, we have to  
7 start now. And it matters when you run somebody for  
8 office.

9 Joe Dorman, where are you, my friend? I saw  
10 you standing right over there. You need to thank  
11 this man.

12 (Applause)

13 JAY PARMLEY: I'll never forget it. Joe  
14 Dorman called me and said, "I'm going to run for  
15 governor". I said, "Excuse me, I have a bad  
16 connection". And this is the honest to goodness  
17 truth. When he called me, "Jay, no one else will do  
18 it. No one else will do it. Our schools are  
19 underfunded, our people are dying because they have a  
20 governor that's indifferent when it comes to taking  
21 Medicaid expansion dollars. We have a governor that  
22 who would rather call Barack Obama names than  
23 actually call him and get something done".

24 (Applause)

25 JAY PARMLEY: "So, I'm going to do it. I'm

1 going to run". And you know what, he ran a pretty  
2 good race.

3 (Applause)

4 JAY PARMLEY: In fact, not one phone call  
5 returned from the Democratic National Committee, got  
6 not one phone call returned from the Democratic  
7 Governors Association, but, yet, he ran and he spent  
8 every day campaigning in 77 counties and asking for  
9 your dollars and asking for your prayers and asking  
10 for your support so he could give Mary Fallin an  
11 honest to goodness challenge. And let me tell you  
12 what, it matters.

13 (Applause)

14 JAY PARMLEY: It matters. So, if you do  
15 your part, let's organize, let's spend time talking  
16 to people, let's find candidates to run and then  
17 let's actually help them when they run. Winning  
18 matters. Sure, it's great to win. I've lost a whole  
19 lot more than I've won, but winning sure matters.  
20 But what matters is running and what matters is  
21 competing and what matters is giving people a choice  
22 and what matters is talking to voters about issues  
23 that really affect their daily lives. That's what  
24 matters. But you must do the hard work to compliment  
25 those candidates. You have to talk to voters. We

1 have to register voters. We must be involved in our  
2 community. You see, it's not going to happen  
3 overnight. But the big picture is everybody is  
4 welcome in this Democratic party.

5 (Applause)

6 JAY PARMLEY: I'm going wrap up with this.  
7 Jim Frasier and Betty McElderry will remember these  
8 words a little bit. It's been a few years, but we  
9 had a former chairman of the DNC whose name is Joe  
10 Mangram (phonetic). Joe's from Indiana. Joe was  
11 chairman in the late 90s and through the 2000  
12 election cycle when I was the National President of  
13 the Young Democrats, Joe -- Joe was our party chair  
14 right before Terry McCall (phonetic). And he went  
15 all around the country and every speech he gave he  
16 wanted to remind people that everyone is welcome in  
17 our party, that we are not about leaving people  
18 behind. And he closed every speech for two years  
19 with these words: "You see, the difference between  
20 the Republican and the Democratic party is that you  
21 are always welcome in the Democratic party. But most  
22 Democrats don't care if you're black or white or  
23 brown or a nice shade of green; you are welcome in  
24 the Democratic party".

25 (Applause)

1                   JAY PARMLEY: Joe said, "We don't care if  
2 you pray in church, a synagog, a temple or a Mosque  
3 or just before a math test, you are welcome in this  
4 Democratic party".

5                   (Applause)

6                   JAY PARMLEY: He said, "We don't care if  
7 you are young or old or just don't want to tell your  
8 age, you are welcome in this Democratic party".

9                   Joe said, "We don't care what gender you are  
10 or what gender you want to hold hands with, just as  
11 long as you want to hold hands, you are welcome in  
12 this Democratic party".

13                   (Applause)

14                   JAY PARMLEY: He said, "We don't care about  
15 the size of your bank account, just the size of your  
16 heart. And we don't care where you are today, just  
17 where you dream you want to be tomorrow. You are  
18 welcome in this Democratic party".

19                   (Applause)

20                   JAY PARMLEY: You don't need a bunch of  
21 facts and figures; you just need to talk to people.  
22 And you need to remind everyone that, while the other  
23 side is trying to leave a bunch of people out and  
24 trying to leave a bunch of people behind, you see,  
25 the bottom line is we can disagree on policy issues

1 or how to get there, but everybody is welcome,  
2 everybody is welcome in our party. And that -- that  
3 is the best message we can share to Democrats, to  
4 independents and, quite frankly, to Republicans. You  
5 see, it matters, it matters. Believe you can win.  
6 Go home and actually do something about winning.  
7 Find candidates to help us and support them and then  
8 keep believing and talking and reminding everybody  
9 that they are welcome in this Democratic party. And  
10 I promise you, if you believe it and you work it, in  
11 2016 you can chip away two or three of those races,  
12 in 2018 you can chip away two or three of those  
13 races, in 2020 you can chip away. So, when we draw  
14 those lines again not only for the congress but for  
15 our own legislative seats, we have fair better lines.  
16 And when we have fair better lines, Oklahomans and  
17 Americans will be better represented by Democrats,  
18 and that's the bottom line.

19 Now let's go to work. Thank you.

20 (Applause)

21 WALLACE COLLINS: Great job, Jay. Now you  
22 see why I say he's a wise man and I'm proud to call  
23 him my friend. Great job. Very wise words.

24 I want to expand a little bit on what Jay  
25 said. You know, he talked about how this thing won't

1 get turned around overnight. I want to give you a  
2 few of those facts and figures. I know they don't  
3 matter, Jay, but I'm going to tell them anyway.

4           It started in 1958 when E.K. Gaylord -- and  
5 some of you don't remember E.K. The man was a  
6 billionaire. He got together with Fred Coke, the  
7 daddy of the two Coke brothers that you know now, and  
8 a few other millionaires and billionaires and they  
9 joined the John Birch Society. Their goal was to  
10 turn this world I guess or these United States into  
11 what we are seeing today. They spent over 50 years  
12 and who knows how many millions of dollars, but they  
13 finally achieved it. They were steadfast, they did  
14 what they wanted to do, they had the money to do it.  
15 And we basically kind of stood by and let them happen  
16 -- let it happen, let them do it.

17           I was elected to the House of Representatives  
18 in 1996. And another good friend came in the same  
19 year sitting over here. But the thing that was  
20 happening back then, we had 66 members in the house  
21 and 36 over in the senate. We had supermajorities.  
22 What did we care except that we had a Republican  
23 governor. And, as Jay pointed out, we really had a  
24 minority government because we could not override a  
25 governor's veto in the house. The senate could. We

1     tried many times; we never got it done. Frank  
2     Keating was more proud of his veto record, around 320  
3     vetos. He was more proud of that veto record than  
4     Bob Stoops was of his win/loss record.

5             And the thing was, we could pass a great bill  
6     and the Republicans would vote for it. If the  
7     governor vetoed it, they would not vote to override  
8     that veto and so you had a minority government.  
9     That's something that people don't really understand.  
10    They'll say, "Well, this happened when the Democrats  
11    were in power". We really weren't. But the thing  
12    that we didn't realize at the time, every time there  
13    was an election and we would lose a seat, the  
14    Democrats would say, "Oh, we just lost one seat, we  
15    just lost two seats. No big deal. We're still the  
16    majority". One day we woke up and we weren't the  
17    majority. That was that attitude that we just lost a  
18    seat or two, no big deal, until we one day we woke up  
19    and we were the minority. It's taken the legislature  
20    a long time to learn how to operate as the minority.

21            When we were the majority, a lot of times --  
22    most of the time you do whatever you want, kind of  
23    like the bull on the block; you could do whatever you  
24    wanted to. But when you're the minority, you have to  
25    be careful, you have to finesse and you have to



1 wangle and you have to beg and plead and do a lot of  
2 things.

3           So, I got the feeling in 2010 when George W.  
4 Bush carried Oklahoma by two thirds of the  
5 majority -- I'm hard headed, I ran for Cleveland  
6 County chair, served four years, came back in '06 and  
7 beat the guy that beat me and got that seat back.

8           (Applause)

9           WALLACE COLLINS: I was one of the few  
10 Democrats that had defeated an incumbent, a  
11 Republicans. I did.

12           In 2010 the same thing happened to me. The  
13 Tea Party came back and they swept me out of office  
14 again. But one of the things that I wanted to point  
15 out, and Jay alluded to this, and that's the  
16 importance of drawing these boundaries. Because  
17 Republicans knew I was so hard-headed and  
18 stiff-necked and I would probably come back, they  
19 redrew the party lines and took me out of the House  
20 District 45 and put me into House District 44 so  
21 that, if I were to run for office again, I'd have to  
22 run against a great Democratic in House 44 in Norman.  
23 So, that's how devious they are, scheming that they  
24 are. And they knew that a Democrat already had that  
25 seat. A good candidate tried in 2014 -- I mean, in

1 2012. Of course, they didn't make it. But we did  
2 have a great candidate come back in 2014 and put that  
3 seat back in the Democratic column.

4 (Applause).

5 WALLACE COLLINS: At this point, I would  
6 like to say, all our legislators, Democratic  
7 legislators, house members, senate, if you're here,  
8 please stand up. We can at least congratulate you.

9 (Applause)

10 WALLACE COLLINS: Well, that's one of the  
11 sad things, is this is the Democratic Party  
12 Convention. We've got 29 house members and we've  
13 still got 8 in the senate. I didn't see that many  
14 people standing. Some of the people I saw standing  
15 are alumni like me. Where are they?

16 But the point I'm trying to make is it took  
17 the Coke brothers and John Birch Society and all  
18 those other Republicans and millions and billions of  
19 dollars and 50 years of hard work to turn things in  
20 the direction that it is. It's going to take a while  
21 to turn it around. Jay is exactly right. You know,  
22 there's been a whole lot of talk about this party,  
23 though, this being a failed administration. I want  
24 you to know, in the last four years we've raised  
25 \$1.9 million and spent it all trying to elect

1 Democrats. That's a lot of money, folks.

2 (Applause)

3 WALLACE COLLINS: It wasn't enough, but I  
4 want to tell you something else. I was cleaning out  
5 my desk, because you know this is my last day. It's  
6 been a pleasure. It's been rough but it's been a  
7 pleasure. I was cleaning out my desk and I happened  
8 to come across an old budget from 2010, and out of  
9 curiosity I looked at it, and it had input -- or, you  
10 know, money that came in from the DNC and different  
11 national groups, but as far as statewide money,  
12 68,000. \$68,000 is all they raised. Can you hear  
13 me? In the last four years we've raised  
14 \$1.9 million. I don't believe we failed.

15 (Applause)

16 WALLACE COLLINS: The other thing I want to  
17 say is we started what I call building a farm team.  
18 I knew we weren't necessarily going to win a  
19 presidential race in Oklahoma, might not even win a  
20 governor's race, but we started working at school  
21 board level, city council level, mayors, even elected  
22 a police chief over in Poteau. So, we started  
23 building that farm team. We got two Democrats on the  
24 city council up in Enid, Enid, Oklahoma, Garfield  
25 County, home of Republicans. We put two Democrats on

1 their city council.

2 (Applause)

3 WALLACE COLLINS: We got involved over in  
4 Muskogee, which is Democratic country, but it was  
5 turning Republican. We got involved with ASKI  
6 (phonetic). They had a contract dispute because the  
7 county was saying we're not going to re -- we're not  
8 going to recommend or recognize that union contract  
9 anymore, we're not going recognize those municipal  
10 employees. But the Democratic party got involved  
11 over there and we won 3 out of 4 races for city  
12 council. We scared the mayor enough that he switched  
13 his vote and they recognized the ASKI union and now  
14 the people have a contract and they're over there  
15 working under union protection.

16 (Applause)

17 WALLACE COLLINS: We took the state party  
18 across Oklahoma in what we call the blue tour. We  
19 didn't get as far as I wanted to. We started off in  
20 Enid, Oklahoma, had a good event up there. We did  
21 get some candidates -- we got some candidates to run  
22 for office up there. We went to seven different  
23 communities across Oklahoma on the blue tour reaching  
24 out to Democrats and anybody that was interested. We  
25 didn't check credentials at the door. Just like Jay

1 said, anyone that wanted to come, they're welcome.  
2 But we had success. We led a strong foundation. As  
3 I said, we defeated the Republican, their House  
4 District 45, my old house seat in Norman this past  
5 cycle, 2014. Two cycles in a row we didn't have to  
6 say, "We only lost one seat or two"; we protected  
7 every Democratic incumbent two cycles in a row. That  
8 hadn't happened in probably 10 or 11 years.

9 (Applause).

10 WALLACE COLLINS: So, again, we laid the  
11 foundation. We're not a failed administration.  
12 We've laid the foundation. As Jay said, we're going  
13 to --

14 (Applause)

15 WALLACE COLLINS: 2016 is going to be a  
16 good one. We've worked hard reaching out to  
17 candidates. Another thing that maybe everybody is  
18 not aware of, Tulsa County -- Tulsa I should say, not  
19 Tulsa County. But Tulsa had a special election for  
20 the senate; a Democrat won that seat and retained it.  
21 And now there's an open house seat up there. The  
22 Democrats will retain that. We have a special  
23 election here in Oklahoma City, House District 85  
24 where, unfortunately, Dave Dank who's a Republican,  
25 he died. We don't wish him any ill. I kind of liked

1 old Dave. For a Republican, he wasn't too bad of a  
2 guy. The point is, he died, that's an open seat,  
3 we've got a strong Democratic candidate to run for  
4 that office, and we've a good chance to win that  
5 seat, too. So, we are building. I think we intend  
6 to have that success, but it isn't going to happen  
7 overnight. Just like Jay said, it takes a long time.  
8 It took a long time to get where we are and it's  
9 going to take a long time to get it back to where we  
10 want to be. But we're on that road, we're making  
11 progress. With your help, we will continue.

12 Thank you very much. I appreciate that.

13 (Applause)

14 WALLACE COLLINS: Here we have that  
15 candidate that I was just bragging on. I didn't look  
16 up to see if she was here. Cindy Munson, come up  
17 here.

18 (Applause)

19 CINDY MUNSON: I need to be really close.  
20 Right? I'm Cindy Munson and I am the Democratic  
21 candidate for House District 85. I'm incredibly  
22 excited about what's happening in our district.  
23 Obviously, a special election, but I look at it as a  
24 special opportunity for all of us to really come  
25 together which has already been happening and stay at

1 the table. Oklahoma County and Canadian County  
2 Democrats have been really coming together and  
3 helping pull support for me as well. So, I think  
4 this is a great opportunity for us to really band  
5 together.

6 I would ask you for to get behind me and  
7 support me as we flip House District 85 from  
8 Republican to Democrat.

9 (Applause).

10 CINDY MUNSON: When I'm out knocking doors,  
11 some people think I'm already their state  
12 representative, which is a good thing. But I  
13 attribute that to knocking over 10,000 doors in 2014,  
14 raising almost \$70,000.

15 (Applause)

16 CINDY MUNSON: And getting 44 percent of  
17 the vote.

18 (Applause)

19 CINDY MUNSON: And when I first started two  
20 years ago right about this time, I was absolutely  
21 no one. I was unknown. I would call donors who had  
22 no idea who I was who wouldn't call me back, who  
23 people in the district who wouldn't answer their  
24 doors to me. But now I'm known, and it's very  
25 exciting when I call people who remember me, who talk

1 about the hard work that I and my team put in in  
2 2014, and the momentum is just building every day.  
3 And so, I really need everyone in this room to come  
4 together and help support not only me and what's  
5 happening in House District 85 but what is happening  
6 in the State of Oklahoma.

7 This is not just for House District 85 or  
8 Oklahoma County; this is truly for the State of  
9 Oklahoma and for Democrats everywhere.

10 (Applause)

11 CINDY MUNSON: Good reinforcement.

12 I do want to give you a little background  
13 about who I am and why I'm passionate about running  
14 and why I decided to do this again just by six months  
15 later. I was raised by a single father who served in  
16 the military for 22 years. I grew up in a home with  
17 a lot of domestic violence prior to my dad raising my  
18 sister and I. And when he was able to take care of  
19 us, he pushed us to focus on education and to serve  
20 the community around us. And so, I'm the first  
21 person to go to college in my family, I'm the first  
22 person to get a graduate degree, the first person to  
23 study at Georgetown University for a summer, the  
24 first person to run for office. And so, my story is  
25 everyone's story in the State of Oklahoma whether



1 they're Republicans or Democrats, because really it's  
2 about hard work and it's about making a difference  
3 for your own life so you can make a difference for  
4 everyone else's. So, that's why I run. That's the  
5 story I take to the doors. And I listen to what  
6 people are saying, and I let them know that what I'm  
7 doing today, knocking doors and making phone calls,  
8 that is just a small glimpse of what I will do as a  
9 state representative.

10 So, I thank you for letting me speak for just  
11 a few moments. I know we have a busy day. For those  
12 of you who have already donated or come by and shook  
13 my hand or prayed for me or hugged me or signed up to  
14 volunteer or have already volunteered, I really  
15 appreciate everything you've done so far and I ask  
16 you to continue helping me to September 8th.

17 Thank you.

18 (Applause)

19 WALLACE COLLINS: One thing I want to point  
20 out about Cindy, I mean, she's unusual in a lot of  
21 ways, she's a great candidate. But one of the sad  
22 facts about Democrats is so many times we have a  
23 candidate that runs for office and lose. One and  
24 done. They say, "Well, I got beat, I'm out of here,  
25 I'm finished".

1           Republicans have got enough stick to it that  
2 they will run two and three times. Democrats  
3 sometimes just seem like, "Well, I ran, I'm done. I  
4 didn't win, I'm done". Sometimes you have to run  
5 over and over and over.

6           So, we're certainly thrilled and proud of  
7 Cindy as she tries to win, because we feel like she's  
8 got an excellent chance. She was a little bit humble  
9 when she said she got 44 percent. I want you to  
10 think about this. That seat had been held by Odilia  
11 Dank and then Dave Dank for about 20 years. So, a  
12 Dank had been in that position for a long, long time.  
13 She was not just running against an incumbent; she  
14 was almost running against a dynasty. Now it's an  
15 open seat. With all of our help, Cindy Munson will  
16 be in that seat come next January.

17           (Applause)

18           WALLACE COLLINS: And before we move on, I  
19 want to point out another one of those facts that Jay  
20 said doesn't matter. And they really don't, but it  
21 does -- when you know these things, it maybe gives  
22 you a little encouragement that you're doing the  
23 right thing.

24           I want to brag on Joe Dorman. I called him I  
25 don't how many times threatening, begging, whatever

1 it took, to finally get him to run for governor. But  
2 the last two quarters Joe Dorman out-raised Mary  
3 Fallin as far as money goes.

4 (Applause)

5 WALLACE COLLINS: The trouble was he was  
6 about three and a half million behind when he threw  
7 his hat in the ring. But the other thing that  
8 happened because of his hard work and involvement in  
9 the Democratic party, we actually suppressed Mary  
10 Fallin's votes. She got fewer votes in 2014 than she  
11 got in 2010. She wasn't even the top vote getter for  
12 the Republican party. So, I think that tells you  
13 something that the Democratic party was having an  
14 effect; it just didn't show up on the scoreboard, but  
15 we were doing some things right. It just simply  
16 didn't show up.

17 With your help and with your hard work, it  
18 will show on the scoreboard next time.

19 (Applause)

20 WALLACE COLLINS: I guess the next thing,  
21 now we're ready for the vice chair's report. After  
22 they give the report, we'll do some introductions. I  
23 already asked for the legislators to stand if we have  
24 any. Any county officers? Have we got any county  
25 commissioners? Any county officers that are in

1 attendance? Any sheriffs? Court clerk? County  
2 clerk? Anybody that's a Democratic party on the  
3 floor on the county level. I don't see any. There  
4 again, they're a part of our problem. We put people  
5 in office; they're not here to support the party.

6 What about mayors? I'm sorry. Mayors?

7 (Applause)

8 WALLACE COLLINS: City council, stand up.

9 (Applause)

10 WALLACE COLLINS: And I want you to know,  
11 one of the things, when we took over the van, the  
12 van, full accessed network, terribly out of date,  
13 hadn't been updated in months if not years. I don't  
14 know. It was at least 40, 50 percent out -- out of  
15 date. David now takes that thing monthly, monthly.  
16 So, every 30 days it's getting an update. It's as  
17 current as humanly possible.

18 (Applause)

19 WALLACE COLLINS: At this time I want to  
20 call Dana Orwig to come up and give the vice chair  
21 report.

22 (Applause)

23 DANA ORWIG: Thank you. I will say it's  
24 been a very busy two years with the Oklahoma  
25 Democratic Party. We have done a lot of events and

1 gotten a lot accomplished. I want to refer to just a  
2 couple of very specific statistics because I have --  
3 I want to make a point with this. In the 2014  
4 election cycle six of our counties went blue, Caddo,  
5 Cherokee, Cole, Latimer, Muskogee and Pontotoc, and  
6 nine other counties had a vote difference between  
7 blue and red of 205 or less. Now, that shows  
8 significant progress.

9 (Applause)

10 DANA ORWIG: Also, Democrats made 126,952  
11 phone calls that got logged into the van, knocked  
12 114,000-plus doors that got logged in and did 84,000  
13 canvases that got logged into the van. That's  
14 information that now we have for other Democratic  
15 candidates to use.

16 (Applause).

17 DANA ORWIG: And, finally, let me say this.  
18 Yeah, that's -- that's good news. State party  
19 volunteers made 30,618 phone calls from the  
20 headquarters and over a million robo calls were sent  
21 out.

22 Now, here's what I want to make the point  
23 about that. That was an indication of the state  
24 party coming together, volunteers and officers from  
25 counties across the state coming together to make, as

1 Wallace pointed out, a difference in the numbers that  
2 went up on the board. As he said, I mean, Joe Dorman  
3 got 46 percent of the vote in Oklahoma County.

4 Oklahoma City is purple right now. It is. There are  
5 things we can do.

6 (Applause).

7 DANA ORWIG: And here's what I want to say.  
8 Imagine if we put that kind of work, people across  
9 the state making phone calls for Cindy Munson in  
10 District 85. We'll be flipping another seat. We  
11 flipped 45 in Norman and this fall we can flip 85 in  
12 Oklahoma City. And that --

13 (Applause).

14 DANA ORWIG: That sends a message to not  
15 only the Republican party but to voters across the  
16 state, because they want -- the Republicans want  
17 people to believe the Democratic party is dead, but  
18 we're alive and well and working for candidates.

19 And so, I believe after we leave, your job 1,  
20 get Cindy Munson elected, and then we take that same  
21 energy and put it into 2016.

22 Thank you.

23 (Applause)

24 WALLACE COLLINS: Thank you, ma'am.

25 Are we ready for the credentials report? All

1 right.

2           Somebody is going to be embarrassed, but  
3 they'll be glad to hear this. We've got a black  
4 iPhone, a 5S. It was found in the men's bathroom.  
5 The campus police has it. If no one claims it, I'll  
6 take it. I've got an old flip phone.

7           Are we ready for the credentials report?  
8 Credentials committee, are you ready to give your  
9 report?

10           While we're waiting on the credentials  
11 report, I want to say another comment about the state  
12 of the Oklahoma Democratic party. A good friend of  
13 mine, an old longtime -- I say old, he's older than  
14 me so I guess that qualifies as being old. Cliff  
15 Scott, we used to call him Mr. Democratic, served for  
16 I think 28 years or something like that in public  
17 office, was a representative and then state auditor  
18 and inspector. But he used to always say -- because  
19 he would give a speech and tell his stories, and he  
20 used to end it always by saying, "Democrats leave the  
21 woodpile a little higher than we found it". And I  
22 believe that. That's true. And I think we're doing  
23 that this year. But I want to tell you this. When  
24 this administration came in four years ago, there was  
25 no woodpile, there was no woodpile to leave. We had

1 a deep hole, we had deep debt. I think we've  
2 accomplished a lot in our four years, and I'm proud  
3 of it and I'm proud to say that whoever is my  
4 successor will at least inherit a woodpile. They  
5 won't inherit all the --

6 (Applause)

7 WALLACE COLLINS: I think we're on the  
8 right road. We're on the road to recovery.

9 (Applause)

10 WALLACE COLLINS: Do we have any of the  
11 committees that are ready to give a report? Rules  
12 committee?

13 TO BE IDENTIFIED: I'd like to introduce  
14 the candidate for representative in 2016, Matthew  
15 Mallet.

16 (Applause)

17 WALLACE COLLINS: Claudia Griffin, Claudia,  
18 are you here?

19 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Yes.

20 WALLACE COLLINS: Yeah, there she is.  
21 Claudia Griffin.

22 (Applause)

23 DAVE RATCLIFF: All right. The credentials  
24 committee is ready with just a slightly snafu.  
25 They're still trying to pull out the number of



1 proxies. We do know that we have 701 potential  
2 delegates. We have 489 potential delegates and  
3 proxies. So, we do have a quorum. We can move  
4 forward with business, but we are still pulling out  
5 those proxies so you know exactly how many delegates  
6 are here and how many proxy holders are here. That  
7 should take just a few minutes, but we do have a  
8 quorum.

9 Yes, sir?

10 TO BE IDENTIFIED: (Inaudible)

11 DAVE RATCLIFF: Okay. We have 701  
12 potential delegates. We have 489 potential delegates  
13 and proxies. Yes, yes, we do have a quorum.

14 So, we can entertain a motion to accept it as  
15 is, and then in the next report we will tell you  
16 exactly how many proxies and we can move on with  
17 business or we can --

18 TO BE IDENTIFIED: I move we accept --

19 DAVE RATCLIFF: Okay. It's been voted and  
20 seconded. All those in favor, please rise. All  
21 right. You can be seated.

22 All opposed?

23 Thank you. The credentials report is adopted  
24 and we can carry on with business.

25 WALLACE COLLINS: Thank you, Dave. That's

1 Dave Ratcliff. He was secretary for four years and  
2 running for reelection.

3 What about the rules report, the rules  
4 committee? All right. Here's the rules committee  
5 report by Debbie Leftwich.

6 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Good morning. Now that  
7 we know how many of us are here, we can get on with  
8 rules and the business for the day so you delegates  
9 can conduct your business. That's what we're here to  
10 help facilitate.

11 I want to first thank the members of the  
12 rules committee. If you'll please rise when I call  
13 your names, Theresa McMillan from Tulsa County; Mike  
14 Woodson from Tulsa County; Brady Callahan, Pittsburg  
15 County; Mike Parks, Pittsburg County; Mike Miller,  
16 Major County; Mary Jane Rowell, Blaine County; Roger  
17 Callers, Stephens County; Betty Harris, Cleveland  
18 County; Marilyn Rainwater, Seminole County; William  
19 Molden, Oklahoma County; Aaron Waller, Oklahoma  
20 County; and (inaudible) of Oklahoma County.

21 Thank you all very much for your work and  
22 your dedication.

23 (Applause)

24 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: The committee met last  
25 Saturday, May 23rd, at the Democratic party

1 headquarters and had the final draft of proposed  
2 rules to the headquarters Tuesday, May 26th, to be  
3 posted the next morning in compliance with the  
4 72-hour rule. It is in our bylaws.

5 I want to give you just a brief summary of  
6 the rules, especially for anyone who's new or maybe  
7 like me, you forget. From year to year, you forget a  
8 few things. But what we have done is pretty much  
9 added a few things. We had the order of business, we  
10 had the purpose of the meeting, we had how to handle  
11 committee reports, minority reports, how to bring  
12 resolution, constitution bylaws changes from the  
13 floor, how to amend and require a vote for amending,  
14 limits, voting procedures, process of elections,  
15 speaking privileges and quorum.

16 There were a few of us that -- a few of these  
17 had not been in previous rule -- previous year's  
18 rules; however, the committee felt that they were  
19 important enough to point out and especially because  
20 they do directly come from your constitution and  
21 bylaws. We can't just subsume all delegates know,  
22 but some of these things are very important that you  
23 need to know to conduct your business.

24 First of all, the process for the roll -- for  
25 the roll call vote. I think it's important you all

1 know that, not just us individuals up here at the  
2 podium. Proxy voting. For example, if you're a  
3 delegate and if you leave the convention for whatever  
4 reason and you want to give your proxy to someone,  
5 you can't just pass off your badge. You need to go  
6 to the credentials room and go to your table and have  
7 that properly assigned there so they know exactly  
8 what has transcribed.

9           The election of the officers, the  
10 eligibility. Here's something that we haven't  
11 pointed out and I've had some people call and ask me.  
12 You do not have to be present to be elected. I  
13 always recommend it, however. It's a good idea if  
14 you want to be elected to something you might want to  
15 show up. But, also, that you do not have to be a  
16 member of this voting body. You do not have to be a  
17 delegate to run for office. So, I thought -- we  
18 thought that was an important part to point out.

19           And clarification for a quorum. That it is  
20 the delegates and the delegate proxies that are  
21 counted. Ex-officios and their -- their proxies are  
22 not counted for a quorum.

23           And, as we get to each item of business that  
24 the rules pertain to, we will do our best to try to  
25 stop and repeat that rule so you understand what

1 needs to be done to finalize that action.

2           If you will look just briefly at number 10  
3 and 11 that's been printed in your book -- and I  
4 realize these books got distributed pretty quickly  
5 and I don't know if there's enough. You may have to  
6 try to share if at all possible, but, again, they  
7 were made available 72 hours on the website prior to  
8 the convention as well as this morning.

9           But 10 and 11, it talks about when we do  
10 start to count votes for the election, because first  
11 we have to do our roll call vote and then the rest,  
12 the standing vote. It always says close the doors.  
13 Well, when the committee met, we did not visualize  
14 this room. And then, after we had already turned in  
15 the report, we realized, okay, we have no door. It's  
16 kind of like that movie Airplane, we have no tower.  
17 Well, we have no door. So, we have some really good  
18 that have been appointed today that are going to  
19 assist with us, and it actually has some yellow  
20 caution tape we're going to use to pretend like we've  
21 got doors. So, we have a plan.

22           So, that -- Mr. Chairman, that concludes the  
23 report from the rules committee.

24           WALLACE COLLINS: Do I have a motion to  
25 accept the rules committee report?

1 TO BE IDENTIFIED: So moved.

2 WALLACE COLLINS: Do I have a second?

3 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Second.

4 WALLACE COLLINS: Who made the motion?

5 Stand up.

6 TO BE IDENTIFIED: (Complies).

7 WALLACE COLLINS: Whoever made the motion?

8 TO BE IDENTIFIED: (Indicating).

9 WALLACE COLLINS: Okay. Who made the  
10 second? Who wants to take the second?

11 TO BE IDENTIFIED: (Indicating).

12 WALLACE COLLINS: All right. Thank you.

13 All of those in favor of the motion, signify by  
14 saying aye.

15 Any opposed, same sign.

16 Hearing none, I will show the motion has  
17 passed. Thank you.

18 At this point before we get on with the next  
19 order of business, I want to recognize Charles  
20 Walker. Stand up. Charlie has got a candidate  
21 already lined up for us. So, Charlie, do you want to  
22 introduce your -- your candidate? Come up here and  
23 use the microphone so we can hear you.

24 And by the way, I want to point out, I'm  
25 trying to yell loud enough, but some people are

1 complaining they can't hear, so please hold the  
2 conversations down. If you need to talk to someone,  
3 please go over to the back of the room or outside.  
4 Thank you.

5 Charlie, come up here and introduce your  
6 candidate.

7 CHARLES WALKER: I'm Charles Walker, chair  
8 of Comanche County. I have with me Jacoby Crawley,  
9 Democrat running for District 64. That's Ann Coody's  
10 old seat, Republican.

11 (Applause)

12 CHARLES WALKER: He's going to be a good  
13 representative, a good Democrat.

14 TO BE IDENTIFIED: You might need to repeat  
15 his name.

16 WALLACE COLLINS: At this point I'm going  
17 to turn the mic over to -- have you got something  
18 else?

19 CHARLES WALKER: Someone wanted me to  
20 repeat the name. His name is Jacoby Crawley,  
21 C-R-A-W-L-E-Y.

22 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Speech.

23 JACOBY CRAWLEY: I want to thank everybody  
24 for coming out. My name is Jacoby Crawley. I'm from  
25 Lawton, Oklahoma. I just graduated from Southeastern

1 Oklahoma State University with a special education  
2 degree. I plan to come back to Lawton, Oklahoma.

3 (Applause)

4 JACOBY CRAWLEY: I plan to come back to  
5 Lawton and do some type of transformation. In the  
6 City of Lawton we have a lot of things that need to  
7 be changed. It's a long process of governing that  
8 has been set that we need to change and fix for our  
9 future American citizens and for the future of this  
10 great nation. If we don't change it now, we're going  
11 to be going into a deep hole, so we need to get  
12 together, stop playing these party politics, get  
13 together and start coming together and fixing things  
14 for our future.

15 Thank you. My name is Jacoby Crawley.

16 (Applause).

17 WALLACE COLLINS: At this point I'm turning  
18 the mic over to Debbie Leftwich to conduct the rest  
19 of the affairs. Thank you.

20 Another person that's important in the 2016  
21 election cycle, the Oklahoma contact person for  
22 Hillary Clinton's campaign, Greg Robertson.

23 Greg, are you here? Stand up, please.

24 (Applause)

25 WALLACE COLLINS: He's where?



1 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Back at the table.

2 WALLACE COLLINS: Oh, okay. So, anyway, we  
3 have a point person for Hillary Clinton's campaign.

4 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Here he comes.

5 WALLACE COLLINS: All right.

6 (Applause)

7 WALLACE COLLINS: Let everybody know you're  
8 here. So thank you. We appreciate you.

9 Now, Debbie Leftwich.

10 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
11 Chairman Collins has asked me to help conduct the  
12 business today, which I enjoy helping the Democrats  
13 take care of their business. We've got a lot to get  
14 to today.

15 It's something very important, delegates, as  
16 we begin this process that, when you do have  
17 something to say, whether it's a question or if you  
18 have a motion or whatever, that you move up to these  
19 microphones. We need to hear your name and where  
20 you're from, what county you represent, particularly  
21 for our court reporter over here who is taking a  
22 transcript of today's proceedings for our record.  
23 That is very important, so we will need you to do  
24 that.

25 And ladies and gentlemen in the back, we do

1 need you to quiet down. We are about to begin some  
2 business. It's very important to the Democratic  
3 party.

4 (Applause).

5 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: You need to either move  
6 to the hall or, as they say in the state Senate, take  
7 your conversations outside or take your seats, it's  
8 up to you, but you can't do both.

9 Next on the agenda is the secretary's report  
10 and approval of minutes from two years ago.

11 I give you Dave Ratcliff.

12 (Applause)

13 DAVE RATCLIFF: All right. In the interest  
14 of time, we'll try to get through this pretty quick.  
15 First we'll -- let's -- we'll take on the minutes  
16 real quick.

17 The minutes were online 72 hours prior.  
18 There was also copies back there available. The  
19 minutes from last convention is basically a verbatim  
20 report done by our stenographer here. We do  
21 acknowledge that there were some misspelled names in  
22 there and things of that nature. We are going  
23 through and correcting the misspelled names. If you  
24 see something that jumps out at you, don't hesitate  
25 to come talk to me afterwards and we will get that

1 corrected. But I've read through it a couple of  
2 times, and that's -- that's all I have found was the  
3 names misspelled a couple of times, and that's being  
4 corrected on the master set.

5 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Thank you, Mr. Secretary.  
6 As Dave said, this is a complete transcript. So now  
7 we will entertain a motion to approve the minutes. I  
8 need name, I need you to stand up and either move to  
9 a microphone or say your name out --

10 MARK JACKSON: Brian Jackson, Cleveland  
11 County.

12 JULIO McGRALE: Julio McGrale (phonetic),  
13 Oklahoma County.

14 DONNA RUSSELL: Brian Jackson from  
15 Cleveland County and Julio McGrale from Oklahoma  
16 County has seconded.

17 Any discussion? Debate?

18 Seeing none, all of those in favor, say aye.

19 Any opposed, say nay.

20 Ayes have it. Minutes have been approved.

21 Next we have the treasurer's report. Donna  
22 Russell.

23 (Applause)

24 DONNA RUSSELL: Good morning. While I  
25 begin, the high school Democrats will be giving out a

1 one-page treasurer's report, and I will reference it  
2 later in my remarks.

3 David -- Dave, the secretary, was very short  
4 and, of course you all know, I'm a little longer  
5 winded.

6 I wondered what I should talk about in my  
7 treasurer's report. I thought I might review what  
8 the situation was when we were first elected, how we  
9 spent several years finding out what the party owed  
10 and paying the bills off, talking about the IRS  
11 problem and how we conquered it, and mentioning the  
12 copier one more time. But I decided not to do that.  
13 I figured most of you have heard that more than once  
14 and it's time to move on.

15 Today I want to let you know where we stand  
16 financially and how we are going to proceed in  
17 developing standard financial procedures to make the  
18 party's operations consistent for the future no  
19 matter who the leaders happen to be.

20 In 2012 we developed a finance committee  
21 which meets at least quarterly. Members of the  
22 committee are Judy Calvin, Kevin Korn, Anthony  
23 Douglas, Jim Frasier, Juanita King, Betty McElderry,  
24 Earl Mitchell, Bernice Mitchell, Andy Norman, Debbie  
25 Thompson, Troy Jones and myself.

1           The committee reviews the bank accounts,  
2 discusses the monthly bills and receives the budget  
3 update. In addition, these committee members are  
4 encouraged to ask questions and give suggestions  
5 regarding financial matters.

6           We use QuickBooks as our bookkeeping tool. I  
7 have only used QuickBooks as a ledger and balance the  
8 ledger from the bank statements -- thank goodness for  
9 internet banking -- at least two, sometimes three  
10 times a week, depending on the financial practice.  
11 This has kept us completed updated, and I'm proud to  
12 say that we have not bounced checks since I became  
13 treasurer.

14                           (Applause)

15           DONNA RUSSELL: Now, you may say that's not  
16 something to boast about. But often in the early  
17 days we were walking a pretty fine line.

18           But moving on. We discussed using QuickBooks  
19 more comprehensively. I thought, "How difficult can  
20 that be?" Well, more difficult than I thought. But  
21 I promise you, if you give me another two years, I'll  
22 give you the best darn QuickBooks report you can  
23 imagine.

24           So, what do I have for you today? The  
25 treasurer's report that's being passed out gives you

1 several pieces of information. There's been some  
2 discussion about the lack of money we've raised in  
3 the past four years in relation to what was raised by  
4 previous administrations. According to our records,  
5 QuickBooks -- QuickBooks was started in 2008. From  
6 2008 to April of 2011, records show that \$587,525.39  
7 was raised. From May of 2011 to May of 2015, this  
8 office raised \$1,577,303.59.

9 (Applause)

10 DONNA RUSSELL: Records and reports show  
11 that more money is raised in election years than off  
12 years.

13 While raising money is a constant activity,  
14 it's clear we've had some success in this area.

15 Next I'd like to do a brief review of our  
16 financial situation. I'm showing you our current  
17 bank balances for all four of our accounts. We're  
18 proud of the money that's in the bank. It's not only  
19 enough to pay for the Carl Albert dinner and  
20 convention but to pay for the first month of the new  
21 administration, whoever it may be. Revenue for the  
22 banquet, which is not included in these balances, is  
23 still coming in. The only expenses remaining from  
24 the dinner and convention are the food costs,  
25 printing and the signers and transcription. We're

1 proud to leave this cycle with money in the bank and  
2 to let you know that we do not have outstanding  
3 bills.

4           The last thing I'd like to talk about has to  
5 do with the discussions we've had in the finance  
6 committee. Audits is a constant discussion. Last  
7 year we adopted a bylaws change that reduced the  
8 number of times an audit by a certified public  
9 accountant needed to be done. In reviewing the cost  
10 of those outlays, we discovered that the cost was  
11 still prohibitive. The costs would range from \$7,500  
12 to 10,000 a year. And many CPAs do not do these  
13 audits anymore because of their insurance costs.

14           The committee supports proposed constitution  
15 and bylaws language which calls for an internal  
16 review of the party's books in even numbered years  
17 and an external review on odd numbered years. Each  
18 review would be done by individuals or groups  
19 recommended by the chair and approved by the central  
20 committee. We ask you to support this amendment in  
21 the section on constitution and bylaws.

22           Thank you for your time. If you have any  
23 questions, I'm available anytime to visit with you.  
24 I still volunteer at the office each day and would  
25 enjoy seeing you.

1 (Applause)

2 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Will there be any  
3 questions for the treasurer? Any questions? If you  
4 have any, you need to move to the microphone or stand  
5 up and state your name and your county where we can  
6 hear you up here for the transcriber.

7 Seeing none, the treasurer's report will be  
8 filed for audit.

9 We have another candidate I was just told,  
10 informed that is in the -- in the audience with us  
11 that we want to introduce briefly. Mickey A.  
12 Dollens. He is going to run for House District 93.

13 (Applause)

14 DONNA RUSSELL: We thank you. Now we are  
15 going to have the resolutions report by the chair,  
16 Bernice Mitchell.

17 BERNICE MITCHELL: Thank you, Debbie. And  
18 while I am giving the dates and all that we met, I  
19 would like for those members of the committee that  
20 are here to please come forward. Trenton Von Worth,  
21 Mike Thomas, Earl Catley, Patricia Elsley, Tim  
22 O'Connor, Donna Bordenkoff, Jim Huff and Eric  
23 Thermonson.

24 The reason why I'm having them come up here  
25 is so that you will know. We met on 5-17, we met on



1 5-23, and then I came down on Memorial Day holiday to  
2 try and saw through. We had close to a hundred  
3 resolutions. Many of them, of course, were  
4 duplicates. So, we were able to condense it down to  
5 what's in your booklet. Now, the problem with what's  
6 in your booklet is that there were two things that  
7 did not make it into the booklet. And Trent has  
8 accepted -- first of all, I want -- I want you all to  
9 give this young man a big hand. Okay? Please.

10 (Applause)

11 BERNICE MITCHELL: Trent is the one who sat  
12 there with me and the rest of the committee and got  
13 all of this in and went over and over, so, I think  
14 you can understand that it does happen that you do  
15 miss things. Your -- we gave out to -- at least to  
16 your chair, to your county chair -- you should have  
17 received a sheet of paper with the two things that  
18 were not listed in there. Kayland Bree, if you would  
19 please come up. And it says addendum to the  
20 resolutions report. Number 1, page 4, section 3 on  
21 the healthcare in the booklet -- you need to look in  
22 the booklet, not in the three or four copies that we  
23 had. Oh, and each of the district and each of the  
24 county chairs...

25 Under healthcare. We are really -- the one

1 -- the one that's in there simply states what -- in  
2 other words, we want to delete item I. And that --  
3 because it reads, advocates for continued research,  
4 and we want to add, we support the legalization of  
5 medical marijuana.

6 (Applause)

7 BERNICE MITCHELL: And then number 2, it's  
8 page -- it's page 6 in your convention booklet. And  
9 this is under the environment. There should be an  
10 item G which reads as follows: We acknowledge a  
11 direct link between injection wells and increased  
12 earthquakes that have damages -- have damaged homes  
13 and businesses in Oklahoma; therefore, we support a  
14 one to two-year moratorium on high-volume wastewater  
15 --

16 (Applause)

17 BERNICE MITCHELL: So, with those two  
18 things, the -- everything else stands. And at this  
19 point I move adoption of the resolutions. I'm sorry,  
20 hang on a minute. Of the report I should say. Oh,  
21 okay. Let me withdraw that.

22 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Because this is the --  
23 the committee, they met this morning and they had  
24 agreed that they -- this was inadvertently -- those  
25 were left out, so you know that's classified as a

1 Scribner's error. The other one they had voted on  
2 and it was inadvertently left out. This convention  
3 has the authority to adopt this as part of their  
4 report by unanimous consent if there is no objection.  
5 Is there no objection?

6 TO BE IDENTIFIED: No objection.

7 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Hearing no objection, we  
8 declare that that's been adopted as part of the  
9 committee report. Now we should move adoption of the  
10 report.

11 MARTHA SKEETERS: I have a question. My  
12 name is Martha Skeeters and I am the vice chairman --

13 TO BE IDENTIFIED: We can't hear.

14 TO BE IDENTIFIED: We can't hear.

15 MARTHA SKEETERS: I am Martha Skeeters and  
16 I am vice chair of -- I'm Martha -- hello. Hello.

17 (Applause)

18 MARTHA SKEETERS: Hi. I'm Martha Skeeters  
19 and I'm the vice chair of the McClain County  
20 Democrats. And my question is -- is simply, I'm not  
21 familiar enough with the rules to know. If this is  
22 -- if the report is adopted, is there still a period  
23 for --

24 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Yes. That's coming.

25 You just jumped way ahead of us.

1 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: All right. We've heard  
2 the report, we have moved -- Bernice moved to adopt  
3 it. This is to adopt -- according to the rule we had  
4 gotten earlier, to -- to adopt the report following  
5 -- not the individual resolutions. I need a second.  
6 Is there a second?

7 TO BE IDENTIFIED: I second.

8 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Second.

9 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Abdulla (phonetic) of  
10 Major County seconds the motion. Will there be  
11 discussion?

12 TO BE IDENTIFIED: No.

13 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Will there be debate?

14 Seeing none, all those in favor, signify by  
15 saying aye.

16 All opposed say nay.

17 Ayes have it. The report has been adopted.

18 Okay. I have an update. This is not an  
19 update for this report, but a breakdown from the  
20 report that was given to you earlier by Dave  
21 Ratcliff.

22 The breakdown for those delegates was 486  
23 delegates, and 391 delegates plus 95 proxies. So,  
24 that is the breakdown.

25 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Repeat.

1 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Now, the rules of order  
2 after the resolution report --

3 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Repeat.

4 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Pardon?

5 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Repeat.

6 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: 391 delegates plus 95  
7 delegate proxies. 91 people who didn't make it but,  
8 by God, they sent a proxy, and I'm proud of them for  
9 doing that.

10 Now, here's what we're going to do. Again,  
11 according to the rules, those of you that have a  
12 program on the resolutions, get them out and turn to  
13 the page the resolutions start. And those of you  
14 that don't have one, try to scoot next to someone who  
15 does. We ran out of program books. I think the dog  
16 must have ate them. But the -- what we're going to  
17 do with the procedure that you adopted is going to be  
18 to remove any resolutions or any section or portion  
19 of a resolution that you want to set aside for  
20 debate, then we're going to do that. And when we get  
21 through with these, then we're going to adopt those  
22 that are left and then we'll set those aside for  
23 debate later.

24 So, for example, I'm going to say the first  
25 resolution is -- what page -- is a memorial

1 resolution. So, you can say -- if you wanted to set  
2 all of it aside or just point A or point B or point  
3 A, B, C. Whatever portion or portions you want to  
4 set aside for debate, it requires one delegate making  
5 that motion and another delegate seconding it.

6 There's no vote. We just set them aside.

7           Is everybody clear on that? What you will  
8 need to do, if you want to set it aside, you need to  
9 be at a microphone. I'm not going to take hands  
10 raised and everybody shouting at me. We need this in  
11 an orderly fashion. You've had time to review them  
12 or at least most of you have. So, we need you to  
13 move to a microphone if you wish to set any aside for  
14 debate. Then our transcriber will hear and know  
15 exactly who is speaking and what portion or portions  
16 you want set aside.

17           So, again, it requires a motion and a second  
18 but not a vote. We will simply set that aside.

19           So, I'm going to begin. And if you have any  
20 -- anywhere in this room, you'll need to get to a  
21 microphone if you want to set aside.

22           Number 1 is memorial resolution. Is there  
23 any portion of that you wish to set aside? I see  
24 no one at the microphones; therefore -- where did the  
25 microphone go?

1 TO BE IDENTIFIED: There's only one.

2 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Okay. I understand we  
3 only have one microphone so we're happy to share.

4 The second resolution, the topic is  
5 education. Is there any portion or portions of  
6 resolution number 2 under education you wish to set  
7 aside? Is there any to set aside?

8 Seeing none, we move to number 3, healthcare.  
9 Is there any portion or portions of healthcare that  
10 you wish to set aside? You need to be at a  
11 microphone and state your name and your county and  
12 what portion or portions you want to set aside.

13 MARTHA SKEETERS: Martha Skeeters from  
14 McClain County. I would like to set aside C under  
15 healthcare.

16 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: You want C under  
17 healthcare. Do you have a second? Is there a  
18 second? I need you at a microphone, I need your  
19 name. I cannot conduct business from...

20 Microphone. And the next time I'm going to  
21 ignore the next person that does not come up to the  
22 microphone. I have said it three times, ladies and  
23 gentlemen. We need a little cooperation to run the  
24 meeting.

25 (Applause)

1 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: If you wish to set aside  
2 a portion or any portion or second, you must be up  
3 here at this microphone. The delegates have a right  
4 to hear you, not just me.

5 RENA GUAY: Rena Guay, G-U-A-Y, Oklahoma  
6 County. I second.

7 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: You second the motion?  
8 Thank you. Okay. We will set number -- under number  
9 3 we'll set C aside. Is there any others? Any  
10 others under healthcare?

11 Seeing none, we move on to economy, number 4.  
12 Resolution number 4, economy. Is there any portion  
13 or portions that a delegate wishes to set aside? Any  
14 portions that a delegate wishes to set aside? I see  
15 nobody coming up this way, so we are going to move  
16 on.

17 The next is number 5, labor. Any portion or  
18 portions under 5, labor, that you wish to set aside  
19 for debate? Any portion or portions you wish to set  
20 aside for debate? I see no one moving to the  
21 microphone, so we will move on to the next  
22 resolution, which is -- let me turn my page.

23 Human rights. Number 6 under human rights,  
24 is there any portion or portions under human rights  
25 you wish to set aside? Any portion or portions you



1 wish to set aside?

2 Seeing none, we'll move on to the next one,  
3 number 8, immigration. Any portion or portions of  
4 immigration you wish to set aside?

5 Seeing nobody moving forward, we'll move on  
6 to the environment, number 8. Any portion or  
7 portions of number 8 that you wish to set aside for  
8 debate? Any portion or portions you wish to set  
9 aside? You better hurry up and get to that  
10 microphone.

11 JIM BLOUCH: Jim Blouch, Rogers County. I  
12 would like to set aside --

13 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Microphone.

14 JIM BLOUCH: Jim Blouch from Rogers County.  
15 I would like to set aside number C.

16 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Number C. Do you have a  
17 second? It requires a second. Is there a second?  
18 Having failed to get a second, we will not set that  
19 one aside.

20 Moving on to water, number 9.

21 ANTHONY PERNA: Madam chair.

22 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Sir?

23 ANTHONY PERNA: On environment, I would  
24 like to set aside section G. Excuse me. Anthony  
25 Perna, Lincoln County.

1 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: That is one we added? G  
2 is one we added? What was your name again?

3 ANTHONY PERNA: Anthony Perna, Lincoln  
4 County.

5 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Tony?

6 ANTHONY PERNA: P-E-R-N-A.

7 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Lincoln County?

8 ANTHONY PERNA: Yes.

9 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Is there a second for  
10 that?

11 JOHN GOLLIVER: John Golliver.

12 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: John, last name?

13 JOHN Golliver: Golliver.

14 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Oliver?

15 JOHN GOLLIVER: Golliver, G-O-L-L-I-V-E-R.

16 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Okay. That will be set  
17 aside.

18 Now, we are back to water. There's been a  
19 lot of it lately. Number 9, water, any portion or  
20 portions of number 9 you wish to set aside for  
21 debate? Any portion or portions you wish to set  
22 aside for debate? Do we have something on the screen  
23 that I can't -- yeah. It's water. I've seen enough  
24 of that lately.

25 Seeing none, we're moving to number 10,

1 agriculture. Any portion or portions of number 10  
2 you wish to set aside for debate? Any you wish to  
3 set aside for debate? Any you wish to set aside for  
4 debate? Seeing none, we are moving on.

5 Number 11, gun rights. Anyone that has a  
6 portion or portions of gun rights you wish to set  
7 aside, state your name and your county and what you  
8 wish to set aside.

9 DENNIS WILHITE: Dennis Wilhite, chairman  
10 of the 2nd congressional district. All under number  
11 10, A, B and C.

12 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: All of number 10, A, B  
13 and C. Do you have a second?

14 KENNETH BORNE: Kenneth Borne, second.

15 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Yeah. Number 11, gun  
16 rights, he wishes to set the entire section aside.  
17 Was the motion made by Kenneth -- by Dennis Wilhite,  
18 and Kenneth Borne has seconded it. So, that entire  
19 section will be set aside.

20 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Point of order, madam  
21 chair.

22 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Yes.

23 TO BE IDENTIFIED: In reference to the  
24 procedure that you are following, I believe if you'd  
25 go back and read Rule 5 of the rules, and I'm going

1 to read this to you. And taking out of context. It  
2 says, "This shall require a second and shall be  
3 granted by unanimous consent unless there is an  
4 objection".

5 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Right. I did do that at  
6 the end to save a little of time.

7 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Well, what we're getting  
8 is a motion to take it out, a second --

9 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: And a second.

10 TO BE IDENTIFIED: -- you have to leave  
11 room for an objection to that motion to take it out.

12 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Well, since there's been  
13 no objection. Now, if you --

14 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Well, if you have --

15 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: -- if you -- if you wish,  
16 I'll stop now and we'll get --

17 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Oh. So, you're going to  
18 do it on -- in total?

19 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Yes, sir.

20 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Okay. Good enough.

21 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Okay. In an -- in an,  
22 you know, effort to save a little time here today.

23 I'm on 12, social justice. Is there any  
24 portion or portions of number 12 that you wish to set  
25 aside for debate?

1 MARK FAULK: Yes. My name is Mark Faulk  
2 from Oklahoma County and I would like to set aside B.

3 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: B. What's your last  
4 name, Mark?

5 MARK FAULK: Faulk, F-A-U-L-K.

6 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: F-A-U-L-K?

7 MARK FAULK: Yes.

8 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Okay. And is there a  
9 second?

10 TOM GUILD: Second, Tom Guild of Oklahoma  
11 County.

12 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Okay. Wish to set aside  
13 B, section B.

14 Is there any other under number 12, social  
15 justice? Any others?

16 And seeing none, we're moving on to 13,  
17 national security. Is there any under national  
18 security that you wish to set aside for debate? Is  
19 there any under 13 you wish to set aside for debate?

20 Seeing none, we're moving on to Social  
21 Security, number 15 -- number 14, Social Security.  
22 Any you wish to set aside? Anybody?

23 Seeing none, we're moving on to 15, voting  
24 rights. Under voting rights, any section or portions  
25 you wish to set aside for debate?

1           Seeing none, we're moving on to taxation,  
2   number 16. Any portion or portions of 16 you wish to  
3   set aside for debate?

4           DENNIS WILHITE: Madam chair, Dennis  
5   Wilhite, Congressional District 2 chair, item D.

6           DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Item B?

7           DENNIS WILHITE: Yes.

8           DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Do you have a second,  
9   sir?

10          DENNIS MORTON: Dennis Morton, Oklahoma  
11   County, second.

12          DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Dennis Morton seconds.

13          TO BE IDENTIFIED: Is that B or D?

14          DEBBIE LEFTWICH: D. I'm sorry. I circled  
15   rule B. Okay. D.

16          TO BE IDENTIFIED: Under taxation?

17          DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Under taxation, yes. Is  
18   there any others under taxation? Any others under  
19   taxation?

20          Seeing none, the next one is government  
21   issues, number 17, government issues. Government  
22   issues, any you wish to set aside for debate?

23          Seeing none, we're moving on to the last  
24   category, the Democratic party, number 18. Is there  
25   any portion or portions you wish to set aside for

1 debate? Yes, sir.

2 JEFF MARSEL: Jeff Marsel from Oklahoma  
3 County, A.

4 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: He wishes to set aside A.  
5 Is there a second to that? You better get to a  
6 microphone. Is there a second to that?

7 DENNIS HALL: I'm going as fast as I can.  
8 Hell, I'm old.

9 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: You're younger than me,  
10 Frank.

11 DENNIS HALL: Dennis Hall, Tulsa County, I  
12 second.

13 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Dennis Hall, Tulsa  
14 county, seconds it. Very good.

15 That is the last group of resolutions.  
16 Therefore, we ask by unanimous consent that all of  
17 those being set aside be agreed to. Is there any  
18 objection? Is there any objection?

19 TIM MAULDIN: Objection. I object. Tim  
20 Mauldin, Cleveland County.

21 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: You object? There is an  
22 objection, so, therefore, I need a motion to -- to  
23 set aside all those we have just identified for  
24 debate at a later time today.

25 GAYLON HAYES: So move.

1 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: And your name, sir?

2 GAYLON HAYES: Gaylon Hayes.

3 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Gaylon Hayes from?

4 GAYLON HAYES: Cleveland County.

5 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Is there a second?

6 KENNETH CORN: Second, Madam Chair, LeFlore  
7 County.

8 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Dennis Morton seconds  
9 that motion. Is there any discussion? Any debate?  
10 All in favor say aye.

11 Any opposed say nay.

12 Ayes have it. Now I will entertain a motion  
13 to adopt the remaining resolutions that have not been  
14 set aside.

15 KENNETH CORN: Madam Chair, I would move to  
16 adopt the rest of the resolutions that have not been  
17 set aside. Kenneth Corn, LeFlore County.

18 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Kenneth Corn moving to  
19 adopt the remaining resolutions that are not set  
20 aside.

21 MACK MILLER: Mack Miller, Major County, I  
22 second.

23 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Mack Miller of Major  
24 County seconds that motion. Will there be  
25 discussion? Will there be debate?



1 All of those in favor signify by saying aye.

2 Any opposed say nay.

3 Ayes have it.

4 Motion carries.

5 (Applause)

6 JENNY THOMPSON: Madam chair, may I make an  
7 announcement before we break?

8 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: This is Jenny Thompson.  
9 She has an announcement to make.

10 Yes.

11 JENNY THOMPSON: Jenny Thompson with  
12 Oklahoma County. At the silent auction last night  
13 there were a few people that left items that did not  
14 pick them up, so please come by. We've got a table  
15 set up in the vendor area. Steve Bruner, Ann Murray,  
16 Anne Mintz, Randy Rose and Oria Graber Harrison. And  
17 also an announcement on the silent auction. We will  
18 close the table 10 minutes after we break for lunch,  
19 so, please, come by and see if you won an item and  
20 pick it up.

21 Thank you, Madam Chair.

22 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Thank you. Yes, we want  
23 to make money. Ladies and gentlemen, delegates of  
24 this Oklahoma Democratic Party, we are close to  
25 12:00. It's entirely your decision if we want to

1 break for lunch or do we want to move on.

2 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Move on.

3 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Move on.

4 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Break for lunch.

5 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: I hear a lot of people  
6 who want to move on. We are going to move on.

7 We need an updated credentials report. How  
8 quickly can I get that? He said five minutes.

9 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Move on.

10 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Five minutes isn't very  
11 long. Does anybody have a good story to tell?  
12 Lorenzo, you always have a good story.

13 TO BE IDENTIFIED: You said break for  
14 lunch. Let's go eat.

15 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: We'll get the report in  
16 five minutes and start the elections or we can break  
17 for lunch.

18 All right. Hey, we are getting kind of rowdy  
19 in here, getting kind of rowdy. I just want a show  
20 of hands. How many want to break for lunch?

21 How many do not want to break for lunch?

22 I'm afraid there's a few more hungry bellies  
23 in the crowd.

24 We will stand in recess for 45 minutes.

25 (A break was taken.)

1                   DEBBIE LEFTWICH: All right. Delegates, we  
2 are reconvening the 2015 Oklahoma Democratic Party  
3 state convention.

4                   On behalf of the business committee, ready  
5 for report, they are working on it. What we are  
6 going to do is we have one speaker that wants to come  
7 up and say a few words. I say a very few. We're  
8 going to go ahead and start with the nominations for  
9 chair, and if we get -- if we have to go through the  
10 speeches, I want to give the business time to make  
11 sure they have an updated accurate report. We will  
12 give their report right before we do the roll call  
13 vote.

14                   So, without any objection there, that is  
15 going to be the process. We will stop and go through  
16 some of these rules as our speaker -- we introduced  
17 him earlier, but Mickey Dollens. He is running for  
18 House District 93. He wants to come and say a few  
19 words.

20                   (Applause)

21                   MICKEY DOLLENS: Hi, everyone. My name is  
22 Mickey Dollens and I am not related to the Monkeys.  
23 But I am running for state representative in District  
24 93.

25                   I'd like to share a story. I decided to run

1 for office while bobsledding for Team USA in 2014.  
2 We were on a tour in Europe when I struck up a  
3 conversation with an athlete from the Netherlands.  
4 He asked me what state I was from, and I said  
5 Oklahoma. The first thing he said was, "Oh, the  
6 Thunder. Very good. But your politicians are  
7 crazy".

8 (Applause)

9 MICKEY DOLLENS: For the most part, I had  
10 to agree with him.

11 This encounter made me realize that my home  
12 state, a land where my roots have run deep for four  
13 generations, is being misunderstood to some degree  
14 all around the world. I'm deeply inspired to make a  
15 difference and to work and serve the people of  
16 District 93 and represent all the great qualities the  
17 State of Oklahoma has to offer.

18 I've been considered an underdog throughout  
19 my life. I have time and time again come out on top.  
20 I graduated from high school where I earned a  
21 four-year scholarship to play football at Southern  
22 Methodist University. After graduating with a degree  
23 in English, I decided to try out for the NFL and  
24 ended up being on the bobsledding team. My work  
25 experience includes roughnecking on a drilling rig in

1 Oklahoma. I own a small business. I published a  
2 book. And I'm currently a teacher at US Grant High  
3 School which happens to be in the same district I'm  
4 running in.

5 (Applause)

6 MICKEY DOLLENS: The community in District  
7 93 has so much potential, and I believe the best way,  
8 the most effective way to maximize that potential is  
9 to provide new, young and energized leadership. I  
10 have a lot of good ideas. I also want to listen to  
11 yours. In this campaign I want to meet with as many  
12 Oklahomans as possible. I'm looking forward to  
13 meeting each and every one of you here and together I  
14 believe we can make a difference.

15 Thank you.

16 (Applause)

17 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Now, that's one young man  
18 you need to -- Mickey, I know you sat next to Al back  
19 there, but if you haven't met Wanda, she had the seat  
20 prior to him and she's got a lot of history of that  
21 district as well.

22 We've got one more candidate who wants to say  
23 a few words. I emphasize a few for us.

24 Forest Bennett, come up here and tell us what  
25 you're running for.

1 (Applause)

2 FOREST BENNETT: I didn't -- I didn't  
3 prepare a speech, but I did -- I am --

4 (Applause)

5 FOREST BENNETT: My name is Forest Bennett  
6 I'm running for House District 92. Richard Morris  
7 has given 12 years of his life to the state  
8 legislature, so a round of applause for him.

9 (Applause).

10 FOREST BENNETT: House District 92 is a  
11 strong Democratic seat and we need to keep it and I  
12 intend to. We have education problems, we've got  
13 working class problems, we've got a tricky middle  
14 class, and we need to fix it and I know that you guys  
15 can and I will, too. So, I appreciate your support  
16 and let's have a great convention.

17 Thanks.

18 (Applause)

19 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: We're still eating lunch  
20 over here. Did I hear that right? That's okay.

21 Yeah, I miss my Thunder, too. Are you ready  
22 to rumble?

23 All right. We're going to go over a few  
24 rules real briefly. The order of the elections, as  
25 you know, is the chair, then the vice chair, then the

1 secretary, then the treasurer. The chair and vice  
2 chair have to be opposite gender, so the chair's race  
3 decides the gender of the vice chair's race. Same  
4 thing with the secretary and treasurer; they have to  
5 be opposite gender.

6 The eligibility, according to the rules  
7 process, nominations cannot be closed; they have to  
8 remain open. Do not come up to the mic and try to  
9 close down -- close down nominations. You will be  
10 called out of order. They will remain open.

11 Nominating speeches, first of all, you have  
12 to come up to the microphone. You have to go to the  
13 microphones to make your nominations and seconds.  
14 Then the -- then we'll have nominating speeches, then  
15 seconding speeches and the speeches by the candidates  
16 in the order that they were nominated. You'll have  
17 all of the nominating speeches first, then all the  
18 seconding speeches, and then all the candidate  
19 speeches.

20 The nominating speech shall be -- not be more  
21 than two minutes, the seconding speech not more than  
22 one minute, and the candidate speech not more than  
23 two minutes.

24 The party has appointed some individuals to  
25 assist us in this process. I have John Bilbury.

1 John, where are you at?

2 JOHN BILBURY: Right here.

3 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: And Forest Bennett you  
4 just heard from. And Roger Gallagher from Pittsburg  
5 County. Roger, where are you?

6 ROGER GALLAGHER: Right here.

7 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Right here? Okay. These  
8 gentlemen are sergeant at arms. They're going to  
9 help us maintain order. And, again, since we don't  
10 have doors, they've got some yellow -- some yellow  
11 tape back there they're going to use for their  
12 imaginary doors to keep people from moving in and out  
13 during the voting process. Roger and -- and Forest  
14 are also going to assist me -- assist us in the  
15 counting when we get to counting votes. The first  
16 two races, your chair and your vice chair, is by roll  
17 call vote. And that is in the bylaws and  
18 constitution and that being about the 1999 challenge.  
19 That's a good story. If you're ever interested, I'll  
20 be happy to tell you but I don't have time today.

21 Those two have to be by roll call vote by  
22 county. That process is explained in the rules as  
23 well. The rest of them will be by standing vote.  
24 And when we get to that point, we'll have you stand  
25 by sections. You will start by row by row, be called



1 by the candidate you're supporting, and you will  
2 count out loud and sit down. The counters -- the  
3 tally counters will help keep you moving and keep you  
4 accurate on your number. We need you to sound out  
5 your number. Delegates in this room have every right  
6 to hear how many votes are being cast for whatever  
7 candidate that runs for whatever office in this  
8 Democratic party. So, you've got to be loud, you've  
9 got to be proud, and stand up and be counted and say  
10 is loud enough so we can hear you. And I know there  
11 isn't anyone in here that can't shout out their  
12 number or their name. So, shout out that number so  
13 we can count you and everybody knows. Remember,  
14 there's no secret ballots in the Democratic party.  
15 We stand up and cast our vote for who we want to  
16 support.

17 So, again, we're still waiting on the  
18 credentials report. We have the report? Okay. We  
19 have the credentials report.

20 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Madam chair.

21 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: You need to be at a  
22 microphone. If you want to be recognized, you need  
23 to be at a microphone. Yes, Senator.

24 TO BE IDENTIFIED: May I ask that for  
25 people who have disabilities, if they could have --

1 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: I think this is the only  
2 one that's still working, I apologize.

3 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Can you hear me? We're  
4 just making a request for those who have  
5 disabilities, if they could stand and hold their  
6 credential up if they're unable to stand.

7 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Oh, absolutely. We will  
8 definitely make accommodations for anyone in that --  
9 in that position. Absolutely.

10 So everyone is aware of that, particularly  
11 the people that are going to be helping us count,  
12 Forest and Roger. Absolutely. Thank you for  
13 pointing that out.

14 Okay. Credentials report, Dave Ratcliff.

15 DAVE RATCLIFF: I'm pleased to report at  
16 this time we have 413 credential delegates, 106  
17 credential proxies, a total of 519. We have a  
18 quorum.

19 (Applause)

20 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Thank you, Mr. Ratcliff.  
21 Did everybody get those numbers? That more than  
22 satisfies the quorum.

23 State your name and your --

24 JEFF MARSEL: Jeff Marsel, Oklahoma County,  
25 point of --

1 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Yes.

2 JEFF MARSEL: Could you, please, go over  
3 the process for voting proxies?

4 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: For voting proxies?

5 JEFF MARSEL: Yes.

6 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Okay. If you have a  
7 proxy, which I believe is a green badge, when you  
8 stand up to cast your vote, you have your vote as a  
9 blue badge. Right? You also hold up that green  
10 badge, so the counter will know you've got two votes.  
11 I'm 9 and 10, 11 and 12, whatever the number is. And  
12 you can only hold one proxy. If the counter sees you  
13 with two proxies, they are instructed to only count  
14 one. Because somehow you got a badge you shouldn't  
15 have. Somebody gave it to you illegally or whatever.  
16 But you can only carry one proxy. If you came as a  
17 proxy voter, if you do not have a delegate badge, you  
18 just have a proxy badge, you cannot carry a second  
19 proxy badge. Because it's not the delegate, it's the  
20 individual according to the rules.

21 Is that -- where did my questionnaire go?  
22 Jeff, is that sufficient?

23 JEFF MARSEL: Thank you.

24 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Okay. Are there any  
25 other questions of procedure before we begin the

1 nominations?

2 Gary Kline, a gentleman here, his bag has  
3 disappeared. He's got an expensive camera in it.  
4 Where were you sitting, sir?

5 GARY KLINE: Okmulgee County.

6 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Okmulgee County, right  
7 back there in the back. Sometimes it gets kicked  
8 under a chair. Everybody look over there. We'll  
9 keep you posted. Thank you.

10 GARY KLINE: Thank you.

11 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Now that we have your  
12 updated credentials report, I'll entertain a motion  
13 to accept the credentials report. I need people at  
14 the microphone for the court reporter.

15 BRENDA CALLAHAN: Brenda Callahan, vice  
16 chair, CD2. I make a motion that we accept the  
17 report.

18 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: We have a motion to  
19 accept the credentials report. Do I hear a second?

20 TIM: Tim, Cleveland County, I second the  
21 motion.

22 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: We have a motion, we have  
23 a second. Is there discussion? Will there be  
24 debate? Seeing none, all of those in favor signify  
25 by saying aye.

1 Any opposed say nay.

2 Ayes have it.

3 Motion carried. We have adopted the second  
4 credentials report.

5 Now, ladies and gentlemen, we are about to  
6 begin the process to elect your next state Democratic  
7 party chair. I'll need anyone who's going to make  
8 nominations and seconds to get up and move towards  
9 the microphones. You're not going to be able to  
10 nominate anybody if you're not at the microphone. If  
11 we have to, we'll get you up here.

12 So, now, ladies and gentlemen, the floor is  
13 now open for nominations for chair for state party.  
14 Our candidates must be out campaigning for -- you  
15 talk about missing the boat, this is a boat you don't  
16 want to miss.

17 Yes, sir, will you state your name and your  
18 county?

19 JOE DORMAN: Thank you, Madam Chair, Joe  
20 Dorman, Grady County, 4th District chair --

21 (Applause)

22 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Joe Dorman has nominated  
23 Mark Hammons. Is there a second?

24 ELAINE DODD: Elaine Dodd, Tulsa County,  
25 and I second the nomination of Mark Hammons.

1 (Applause)

2 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Are there any further  
3 nominations? Yes, please state your name.

4 CLAUDIA GRIFFITH: Representative Claudia  
5 Griffith. I nominate Dana Orwig for state party  
6 chair.

7 (Applause)

8 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Claudia Griffith has  
9 nominated Dana Orwig. And does she have a second?

10 JOE HARTMAN: Joe Hartman, chair of  
11 Oklahoma County, proudly seconds Dana Orwig for party  
12 chair.

13 (Applause)

14 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Joe Hartman seconds the  
15 nomination. Are there any further nominations? Are  
16 there any further nominations? Are there any further  
17 nominations? Seeing none, we will move to the  
18 nominating speeches first in the order that they were  
19 given. Mr. Dorman, you have the floor. You have two  
20 minutes.

21 Timekeepers, are you ready, timekeeper?

22 JOE DORMAN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thank  
23 you, delegates, to the Democratic convention. As  
24 this is my only time to speak at this convention, I  
25 want to first say thank you very much for allowing me

1 to be your nominee for governor this past election.

2 It was truly an honor to represent --

3 (Applause).

4 JOE DORMAN: We've got to work together.

5 As you've seen, there's been much -- we have good  
6 people running. We have people with sincere motives  
7 who are running, but we must see a positive change to  
8 bring about the message that we need to share with  
9 Oklahomans and the candidates that we need elected to  
10 office.

11 All throughout 2014, as I was traveling  
12 around the state working with each and every one of  
13 you in your counties, the backbone of my election was  
14 the county parties. You made it possible for me to  
15 receive 41 percent. As the little known state  
16 representative running against a woman who has served  
17 20 years in office. The money you helped me raise,  
18 the message we got out made a difference. We need a  
19 state party who will do the same. We raised  
20 \$1.5 million four years as the Democratic party. I,  
21 as a candidate, raised \$1.6 million. We must seek  
22 more of an effort to focus on fundraising. We need  
23 that to help you with the resources you need to share  
24 the message. It should be just gathering at our  
25 county meetings sharing the message with the people

1 who come over and over. We need the money to reach  
2 out to people who have left the party who --

3 (Applause)

4 JOE DORMAN: -- we must work to bring those  
5 people back.

6 We were successful in our race in sharing the  
7 message on Medicaid expansion, on a minimum wage  
8 increase. We shouldn't have candidates educating the  
9 voters; the party should be doing that for --

10 (Applause)

11 JOE DORMAN: We need you at the state  
12 convention so the candidates can simply go out and  
13 campaign on the principles of the Democratic party  
14 and win elections.

15 Thank you very much.

16 (Applause)

17 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Nominating speech for  
18 Dana Orwig by Representative Claudia Griffith.

19 (Applause)

20 CLAUDIA GRIFFITH: Thank you. What an  
21 honor it is today to be here because this is my first  
22 actual convention as a Democratic representative, so  
23 I'm very honored to be here today.

24 (Applause)

25 CLAUDIA GRIFFITH: My name is Claudia



1 Griffith and I'm a newly elected freshman for House  
2 District 45 in Norman. I'm the only Democratic in  
3 this state that beat an incumbent on November 2014.

4 (Applause)

5 CLAUDIA GRIFFITH: This would not have  
6 happened without the help of the state party, my  
7 county party and the effortless grassroots effort in  
8 my district. This is what we need to get back to as  
9 Democrats. So, I am here today and honored to  
10 nominate Dana Orwig for our state party chair.

11 (Applause)

12 CLAUDIA GRIFFITH: The stakes are higher  
13 this year than ever before. In 2016, '18 and '20 we  
14 need to be ready to make sure that we have the right  
15 people in place for re -- redistricting. This  
16 session before the ink was even dry on our budget, we  
17 are, as of June 1st, already in debt over five  
18 hundred million -- \$500 million for 2016. Our  
19 children are suffering, our schools are crumbling,  
20 and all we're doing is getting Republican rhetoric on  
21 how they want to make political points. We need a  
22 person with great experience. Dana has that  
23 experience. She's been there, she's done that, she  
24 can hit the floor running. We need somebody that  
25 will be there from day one, full-time, as their first

1 job, not their second.

2 (Applause)

3 CLAUDIA GRIFFITH: Our -- our focus needs  
4 to be on an individual who can talk her talk and  
5 walks her walk. We need Dana Orwig for our next  
6 state party chair of Oklahoma. Please consider  
7 voting for her. Thank you so much.

8 (Applause)

9 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Now we will have second  
10 speeches. The first seconding speech for Mark  
11 Hammons will be by Elaine Dodd. Elaine, you have one  
12 minute.

13 ELAINE DODD: It is an honor to second the  
14 nomination of Mark Hammons for the state chair. I  
15 don't know that it's an honor to follow Joe Dorman  
16 because he's a hard act to follow, but I think we'll  
17 see him again.

18 (Applause)

19 ELAINE DODD: I have a fellow delegate in  
20 the delegation with me with whom I have had a  
21 friendship for over 53 years. That's longer than  
22 I've known, biblically or otherwise, my husband.  
23 This friend and I are supporting different candidates  
24 for state chair, but I know that when we leave this  
25 convention today our passion for the Democratic party

1 will continue and we will continue to be loving  
2 friends. I urge you to vote for Mark Hammons who has  
3 the time, the talent and the ability to raise the  
4 treasure -- treasury for our Democratic candidates  
5 and our Democratic message.

6 (Applause)

7 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Our next seconding speech  
8 is for Dana Orwig by Joe Hartman. Joe, you have one  
9 minute.

10 JOE HARTMAN: Thank you, Madam Chair.

11 I'm Joe Hartman and I am the chair of the  
12 best and biggest county in Oklahoma, Oklahoma County.

13 (Applause)

14 JOE HARTMAN: So, I've known Dana for over  
15 a decade and I am proud to -- or to second her  
16 nomination for party chair. We work together. Dana  
17 and I actually ran against each other for state  
18 representative. Now, she beat me by 46 votes, but  
19 we're really not going to talk about that right now.

20 My goal in Oklahoma County is to modernize  
21 the party, and to do that we need a leader at the  
22 state level who can do the same thing, that has the  
23 experience, that can be the face of the party that we  
24 need to stand up to the Republicans and run better  
25 campaigns. Make no mistake, the stakes are high here

1 in Oklahoma. Our schools are crumbling, my brother,  
2 a gay man, is being treated like a second-class  
3 citizen. We need a woman like Dana who can put  
4 together a coalition, who's been endorsed by labor,  
5 and bring together the party to finally win some  
6 Republican seats.

7 Thank you. Please vote for Dana Orwig for  
8 chair.

9 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: We will now have the  
10 candidate speeches. We want the candidates to come  
11 up here to the podium. Mark Hammons, you have been  
12 nominated first. You have two minutes. It will  
13 start when you get here, though.

14 (Applause)

15 MARK HAMMONS: Thank you. I'm Mark  
16 Hammons. Let me tell you, first of all, if you think  
17 this isn't a full-time job for me, you haven't  
18 watched me campaigning and you haven't watched me  
19 today. I'm running because I'm dedicated to  
20 Democrats being elected, I am proud of our party, I'm  
21 proud of our principles, but I understand where we  
22 are. And you understand where we are with no  
23 statewide elected officials with a legislative  
24 contention that has gone down over the last  
25 four years. As a representative, as a chairman of

1 the State Young Democrats, as a county chairman, as a  
2 person who's worked for Democrats from the time I  
3 could vote for Democrats, let me tell you right now,  
4 we can do this but we can't do it following the same  
5 direction that we have followed.

6 (Applause)

7 MARK HAMMONS: We've seen what's happened.  
8 We have to move forward. There's a way to do that.  
9 I tried to set it out for you. Join me, be brave,  
10 take a chance, take back the House of Oklahoma, take  
11 back the Senate, take back the governorship, make  
12 Oklahoma blue again by going the new direction.  
13 Thank you.

14 (Applause)

15 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: The next candidate speech  
16 is Dana Orwig. Dana, come up to the podium. You  
17 have two minutes. And, again, it will start when you  
18 get here.

19 (Applause)

20 DANA ORWIG: I'm Dana Orwig and I'm running  
21 for your next state party chair. Some of you may  
22 have noticed that in the newspaper a couple of weeks  
23 ago the RNC chairman of Oklahoma, Steve Fair, said  
24 that that gathering that we had last weekend, the  
25 Republican leadership conference, was, quote, the

1 most significant political convention in Oklahoma  
2 history, unquote. Well, I beg to differ with the RNC  
3 chairman.

4 (Applause)

5 DANA ORWIG: This gathering today is the  
6 most significant convention we've had in Oklahoma's  
7 history, the political convention, and here is why.  
8 You know and I know that 2016 is going to be a great  
9 year for Democrats in the State of Oklahoma if we get  
10 out there and do what needs to be done. We've got  
11 more Republicans turned out than we do Democrats and  
12 it's a presidential primary which brings out surge  
13 voters that don't show up any other time at the poll,  
14 and that is exactly who we must work to get into our  
15 Democratic poll. I have always, through this  
16 campaign, maintained three things: One, working more  
17 closely with our county and district parties. We  
18 have got to get a positive Democratic message out  
19 year around, not just during campaign season.

20 (Applause)

21 DANA ORWIG: And we have got -- and we have  
22 got to increase our base of voters. We have got to,  
23 every single time that we come across an opportunity  
24 in all forms of media, remind people that the  
25 Democratic party in Oklahoma stands for good jobs,

1 good schools and good government.

2 I love this party and this state and I know  
3 you do, too, and I invite you to join me.

4 Please vote for me for state party chair.

5 Thank you.

6 (Applause)

7 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: All right. Now, county  
8 chairs, we are going to start the process of a roll  
9 call vote by county. The state secretary, Dave  
10 Ratcliff, will come up here and he will call your  
11 county and tell me how many -- how many delegates you  
12 have credentialed here today. And if you give that  
13 vote, it can't be any more than what he says has been  
14 credentialed according to the credential report, so  
15 watch your numbers.

16 So, I need you to start gathering your  
17 numbers, start lining up to submit them at the  
18 microphone. We're going to do this as quickly as  
19 possible. If we get to a county, maybe some of your  
20 bigger counties that are not quite ready, we will not  
21 wait. We will move on to the next county and then we  
22 will come back to that county. We'll make sure that  
23 we will get every county that is present and voting  
24 here today.

25 How close are we to being ready? Is

1 everybody over here ready? Everybody over here  
2 ready? We're getting close. Joe, are you about  
3 ready?

4 JOHN SCHMIDT: Madam chair, point of order.  
5 Was it -- John Schmidt from Texas County. Was it  
6 your intent to say that only the county chair may  
7 report the tally of their county?

8 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: There was a question  
9 raised, did it have to the county chair. The county  
10 chair can delegate it to someone other than them or  
11 if the county chair is not here, anyone in your  
12 delegation can come up and give your -- give your  
13 tally vote. It doesn't have to be but it could be  
14 your county chair. It does not have to be.

15 Is Oklahoma County ready and Cleveland  
16 County, are you guys ready? Cleveland County, are  
17 you ready? Joe, is Oklahoma County ready? All  
18 right. Start back there and get the yellow tape. No  
19 movement in and out of this while we're casting our  
20 votes. Counties begin moving your way up front to  
21 the microphones. We will start alphabetically, go  
22 alphabetically. We need to start lining up. County  
23 chair or whoever has been delegated, begin lining up,  
24 please. Is that one working now? All right.  
25 Delegates, let's have order. Delegates, let's have



1 order. All right. We're getting rowdy again. I  
2 know it's exciting, but we need order. We need to  
3 conduct your business. All right. Conversation,  
4 let's quieten down. Every delegate deserves to hear  
5 these counts and we cannot if you are talking. I'll  
6 ask, if have you a cell phone on, please turn it off.  
7 I don't want to hear some song, either. Delegates,  
8 are you ready to proceed? I'm not going -- until I  
9 get it quiet in here. That's the spirit. All right.  
10 Mr. Ratcliff?

11 DAVE RATCLIFF: All right. I'm going to  
12 call your county in alphabetical order. I'm not  
13 initially going to call counties that don't have any  
14 credentialed delegates. So, Alfalfa County?

15 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Alfalfa County, one vote  
16 for Mark Harmon (sic).

17 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Repeat it.

18 TO BE IDENTIFIED: I can't hear you.

19 DAVE RATCLIFF: Okay. Alfalfa County votes  
20 one vote for Mark Hammons.

21 Okay. Beckham County?

22 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Beckham -- Beckham  
23 County votes three votes for Mark Hammons.

24 DAVE RATCLIFF: Thank you. Beckham County  
25 votes three votes for Mark Hammons.

1 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Carmelos -- Carmelos --  
2 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Wait until you're called.  
3 DAVE RATCLIFF: Blaine County.  
4 CARMELOS: Carmelos, Blaine County  
5 co-chair, we vote two votes for Dana Orwig, two votes  
6 for Mark Hammons.

7 TO BE IDENTIFIED: How many?

8 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Two for Dana Orwig and  
9 two for Hammons.

10 DAVE RATCLIFF: Blaine County votes two  
11 votes Dana Orwig, two votes Mark Hammons.

12 Bryan County?

13 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Can I get clarification  
14 for how many votes we have?

15 DAVE RATCLIFF: Yes, you can. Bryan County  
16 has four credentialed delegates.

17 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Four for Mark Hammons.

18 DAVE RATCLIFF: Huh?

19 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Four for Mark Hammons.

20 DAVE RATCLIFF: Four for Mark Hammons.

21 Caddo County? One vote.

22 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Caddo County, one vote  
23 for Mark Hammons.

24 DAVE RATCLIFF: Caddo County votes one vote  
25 for Mark Hammons.

1 Canadian County?

2 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Canadian County votes 14  
3 votes for Mark Hammons, one vote for Dana Orwig.

4 DAVE RATCLIFF: Canadian County, 14 votes  
5 for Mark Hammons, one vote for Dana Orwig.

6 Carter County, you have five votes.

7 TO BE IDENTIFIED: How many?

8 DAVE RATCLIFF: Five.

9 ARLENE BROWN: Five? I'm Arlene Brown,  
10 vice chair for Carter County, we have six votes for  
11 Mark Hammon and two for Dana.

12 TO BE IDENTIFIED: And they only have five  
13 votes. I think it's the new math.

14 DAVE RATCLIFF: We are going to set that  
15 aside and we will come back.

16 Choctaw County, I show you have one  
17 credentialed delegate.

18 TO BE IDENTIFIED: One for Mark Hammons.

19 DAVE RATCLIFF: They vote one vote for Mark  
20 Hammons.

21 Cleveland County, 37 credential delegate.

22 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Chair of Cleveland  
23 County, we have 18 votes for Mark Hammons and 24  
24 votes for Dana Orwig.

25 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: How many?

1 TO BE IDENTIFIED: 18 for Mark Hammons and  
2 24 for Dana Orwig.

3 DAVE RATCLIFF: Cleveland County, 18 votes  
4 for Mark Hammons, 24 votes for Dana Orwig.

5 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Point of order. More  
6 information.

7 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: State your point.

8 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Can we clarify how many  
9 votes that county has? It doesn't quite add up to  
10 the calculation we're doing back here.

11 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: On Cleveland County?

12 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Yes.

13 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: What was the total?

14 TO BE IDENTIFIED: 18 and 27 equals 42.

15 They have -- 18 and 24 equals?

16 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Cleveland County has 43  
17 votes.

18 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: They are talking -- okay.  
19 They are talking to the credentials as we are  
20 conducting this process. They have a spreadsheet  
21 that they are sharing, and so, as the question comes  
22 up, sometimes you have a number misplaced, but as  
23 they're checking, they're verifying. So, they just  
24 verified that Cleveland County has 43 votes. So,  
25 we're not going to have to wait and go back. The

1 credentials are communicating as we go along. If  
2 there are any discrepancies, we can clear that up  
3 right away. Okay?

4 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Thank you.

5 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: You're welcome.

6 DAVE RATCLIFF: Comanche County?

7 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Isn't it Cherokee?

8 DAVE RATCLIFF: Yes, it is. Cherokee  
9 County.

10 MARVIN STEPP: I'm Marvin Stepp with  
11 Cherokee County. We have 11 votes for Mark Hammons.

12 DAVE RATCLIFF: Cherokee County votes 11  
13 votes for Mark Hammons. Verify.

14 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: How many do they have?

15 DAVE RATCLIFF: Okay. There was a  
16 discrepancy with Cherokee County. The chair is going  
17 to the credentials room to rectify that.

18 Okay. Comanche County?

19 CHARLES KOLKER: Charles Kolker, chair  
20 Comanche County, 13 votes for Mark Hammons.

21 TO BE IDENTIFIED: How many votes do they  
22 have?

23 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Excuse me. If you have a  
24 point of order, you need to say so.

25 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Point of order, ma'am.

1 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Okay. Please rise. We  
2 need -- rise, give your name and hear you and  
3 recognize you first, sir.

4 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Okay.

5 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: And then I'll be happy to  
6 entertain a point of order.

7 DAVE RATCLIFF: Come on up to the mic?

8 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: You're fine right there.

9 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Well --

10 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: State your name and your  
11 point of order.

12 WALLACE JOHNSON: My name is Wallace  
13 Johnson from Oklahoma County. I'm asking, can we  
14 hear the number of votes that they have before they  
15 make their report?

16 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Absolutely. I think they  
17 were on some of them. We need to do that on all of  
18 them, Mr. Secretary.

19 Okay. We're going to have to take a few  
20 moments here to get -- I want all -- all these tally  
21 sheets from the credentials committee report. On the  
22 last updated report they had tally sheets by county.  
23 I want them brought to the front. We need them up  
24 here. That way we won't be jumping back and forth.

25 (Applause)

1 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: That is why we designed  
2 tally sheets by county two years ago, for this very  
3 thing if it happened. Now it has, so now let's put  
4 it to work.

5 Voting delegates, you cannot leave the hall  
6 until we get this issue resolved. I'm sorry, but  
7 that's the rules. I need those tally sheets. We are  
8 wasting lots of time.

9 All right. Delegates, all right, all right,  
10 all right. Let's have order. I understand people  
11 did have to go to the bathroom. We are going to let  
12 a few of them out. Keep the tabs on who they are.  
13 They've already cast their vote. I believe we'll be  
14 okay. What we have done here is we have sent to the  
15 credentials room the tally sheets which was added up  
16 which was given and made the total of your last  
17 credentials report which you adopted, so that should  
18 give us the accurate vote by county on how many votes  
19 they actually have to cast. Okay? Is everybody in  
20 agreement with that?

21 (Applause)

22 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: All right. No  
23 conversation. I'll be happy to turn it over to  
24 Mr. Ratcliff if I can have it quiet in the hall.

25 Okay. The state secretary has that tallied

1 by county. When he calls your county, he'll tell you  
2 how many votes you have. Okay? Now, again, one of  
3 the problems we do deal with, delegates, is you  
4 cannot close credentials. You know, and somebody  
5 could very well go get a badge between the time Aaron  
6 walked up here with those sheets. Okay? If that  
7 happens, if somebody is over one or two, we'll set it  
8 aside and deal with it, but we're going to continue  
9 this process. All right?

10 (Applause)

11 DAVE RATCLIFF: We're going to start back  
12 with Cherokee County. Cherokee County has 11 votes.  
13 Cherokee County has 11 votes.

14 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Cherokee has 11 votes  
15 for Mark Hammons.

16 DAVE RATCLIFF: Cherokee County votes 11  
17 votes for Mark Hammons.

18 Choctaw County, you have one vote. We're  
19 starting back here.

20 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Point of order. I had  
21 asked that the number of voting delegates be  
22 announced before the --

23 DAVE RATCLIFF: I just did.

24 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Okay. His voice is so  
25 soft.



1 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Louder.

2 DAVE RATCLIFF: Okay. Choctaw County has  
3 one vote. Choctaw County has one vote.

4 TO BE IDENTIFIED: One for Mark Hammons.

5 DAVE RATCLIFF: Choctaw County votes one  
6 vote for Mark Hammons.

7 Cleveland County, you have 43 credentialed  
8 delegate votes. Cleveland County, are you ready? We  
9 will come back to Cleveland County.

10 Comanche County, you have 15 votes.

11 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Comanche County casts 13  
12 votes for Mark Hammons. The rest were absent.

13 DAVE RATCLIFF: Thank you. Comanche  
14 County, 13 votes Mark Hammons.

15 Cotton County, you have two votes.

16 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Cotton County casts two  
17 votes for Mark Hammons.

18 DAVE RATCLIFF: Cotton County, two votes  
19 for Mark Hammons.

20 Craig County, seven votes.

21 EARL HATLEY: Earl Hatley, Craig County, we  
22 cast off six votes present for Dana Orwig.

23 DAVE RATCLIFF: Craig County voted six  
24 votes Dana Orwig.

25 Creek County, you have seven votes.

1 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Creek County casts three  
2 votes for Mark Hammons, four votes for Dana Orwig.

3 DAVE RATCLIFF: Three votes Mark Hammons,  
4 four votes Dana Orwig.

5 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Yeah.

6 DAVE RATCLIFF: Thank you. Delaware  
7 County, four votes.

8 SUZANNE TEEHEE: Suzanne Teehee, chair,  
9 four votes for Mark Hammons.

10 DAVE RATCLIFF: Four votes Mark Hammons.  
11 Garfield County, eight votes.

12 JOE DALMON: Joe Dalmon, chairman, Garfield  
13 County, we cast seven votes for Mark Hammons and one  
14 for Dana Orwig.

15 DAVE RATCLIFF: Seven votes Mark Hammons,  
16 one vote Dana Orwig.

17 Garvin County, five votes.

18 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Vice chair, we have a  
19 total of five votes, five votes for Ms. Orwig.

20 DAVE RATCLIFF: Five votes Dana Orwig.  
21 Grady County, you have five votes.

22 TO BE IDENTIFIED: I thought we had seven.

23 DAVE RATCLIFF: Five. You could have had  
24 two delegates arrive since. Grady County, please sit  
25 aside and we will bring the sign-in sheet up.

1 Grant County, one vote.

2 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Grant County votes one  
3 vote, Dana Orwig.

4 DAVE RATCLIFF: One vote Dana Orwig.

5 Haskell County, five votes.

6 TO BE IDENTIFIED: I thought we had seven.

7 DAVE RATCLIFF: Stand back. We will have  
8 the sign-in sheet brought up.

9 Jackson County, one vote.

10 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Jackson County, one vote  
11 Mark Hammons.

12 DAVE RATCLIFF: One vote Mark Hammons.

13 Kay County, four votes. Kay? Okay. Step  
14 over here and we'll have the sign-in sheet brought  
15 up.

16 Kingfisher, two votes.

17 JAMES LAMBERT: Yes. James Lambert,  
18 Kingfisher County, two votes Dana Orwig.

19 DAVE RATCLIFF: Two votes Dana Orwig.

20 Latimer County, five votes.

21 BYRON BOHANON: Byron Bohanon, chair, four  
22 votes for Mark Hammons, one vote for Dana Orwig.

23 DAVE RATCLIFF: Four votes, Mark Hammons,  
24 one vote for Dana Orwig.

25 LeFlore County, nine votes.

1 Lincoln County, eight votes.

2 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Lincoln County, five  
3 votes for Dana, one for Mark -- or seven votes for  
4 Dane Orwig, one for Mark.

5 DAVE RATCLIFF: Seven votes, Dana Orwig,  
6 one vote, Mark Hammons.

7 Logan County, six votes.

8 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Logan County, six votes  
9 for Mark Hammons.

10 DAVE RATCLIFF: Six votes for Mark Hammons.

11 Major County, one vote. Major County?

12 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Major County casts one  
13 vote for Mark Hammons.

14 DAVE RATCLIFF: One vote, Mark Hammons.

15 Mayes County, six votes.

16 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Keeping in mind the  
17 continued need for voter integrity in the band  
18 system, Mayes County votes four for Orwig, two for  
19 Hammons.

20 DAVE RATCLIFF: Four votes, Dana Orwig and  
21 two votes for Mark Hammons.

22 McClain County, seven votes.

23 GLENN MEAD: Glenn Mead, McClain County.

24 Did you say -- how many votes?

25 DAVE RATCLIFF: Seven.

1 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Mark Hammons, two votes,  
2 Dana Orwig, five votes.

3 DAVE RATCLIFF: Two votes Mark Hammons,  
4 five votes for Dana Orwig.

5 McIntosh County, three votes.

6 DAVID JOHNSON: David Johnson, McIntosh  
7 County chairman, three -- two votes for Mark Hammons,  
8 one vote for Dana Orwig.

9 DAVE RATCLIFF: Thank you. Two votes Mark  
10 Hammons, one vote Dana Orwig.

11 Muskogee County, 16 votes.

12 TO BE IDENTIFIED: I have it as 17.

13 DAVE RATCLIFF: Okay. There's a  
14 discrepancy. We have called for the sign-in sheet  
15 for one -- one vote. As I said, we will get it  
16 cleared up.

17 Noble County, one vote.

18 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Noble County casts one  
19 vote for Dana Orwig.

20 DAVE RATCLIFF: One vote Dana Orwig.

21 Nowata County, one vote.

22 ROBERT JOBE: Robert Jobe, Nowata County,  
23 one vote Mark Hammons.

24 DAVE RATCLIFF: One vote Mark Hammons.

25 Oklahoma County, 121 votes.

1                   JOE HARTMAN: Oklahoma County, Joe Hartman,  
2 Chair, casts 45 votes for Dana Orwig, 70 for Mark  
3 Hammons.

4                   (Applause)

5                   DAVE RATCLIFF: 45 votes, Dana Orwig, 70  
6 votes for Mark Hammons.

7                   Okmulgee County, eight votes.

8                   TO BE IDENTIFIED: Okmulgee County casts  
9 all eight votes for Dana.

10                  DAVE RATCLIFF: Thank you. Eight votes  
11 Dana Orwig.

12                  Ottawa County, two votes.

13                  TO BE IDENTIFIED: Ottawa County casts two  
14 votes for Dana Orwig.

15                  DAVE RATCLIFF: Two votes, Dana Orwig.

16                  Pawnee County, five votes.

17                  TO BE IDENTIFIED: Pawnee County votes five  
18 votes for Dana Orwig.

19                  DAVE RATCLIFF: Five votes, Dana Orwig.

20                  Payne County, 16 votes.

21                  TO BE IDENTIFIED: Payne County votes 10  
22 votes for Dana Orwig and five votes for Mark Hammons.

23                  DAVE RATCLIFF: Thank you. 10 votes, Dana  
24 Orwig, five votes, Mark Hammons.

25                  Pittsburg County, 10 votes.

1 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Pittsburg County, home  
2 of Stever Albert, Governor Nigh and the longest  
3 serving state senator in US history, Gene Stipe, and  
4 my former law partner by the way -- proudly casts  
5 five votes for Mark Hammons, five votes for Dana  
6 Orwig.

7 (Applause)

8 DAVE RATCLIFF: Five votes for Mark  
9 Hammons, five votes Dana Orwig.

10 Pontotoc County, nine votes.

11 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Pontotoc County casts  
12 nine votes for Dana Orwig.

13 DAVE RATCLIFF: Nine votes, Dana Orwig.

14 Pottawatomie County, four votes.

15 TO BE IDENTIFIED: We cast three votes  
16 Dana, one vote Mark.

17 DAVE RATCLIFF: Three votes Dana, one vote  
18 Mark.

19 Rogers County, 10 votes.

20 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Rogers County casts six  
21 votes Dana Orwig, four votes for Mark Hammons.

22 DAVE RATCLIFF: Six votes Dana, four votes  
23 Mark Hammons.

24 Stephens County, eight votes.

25 ROGER CALVERT: Roger Calvert, chairman,

1 Stephens County. Stephen County votes four for Dana  
2 Orwig and four for Mark Hammons.

3 DAVE RATCLIFF: Four, Dana Orwig, four,  
4 Mark Hammons.

5 Seminole County, seven votes.

6 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Chair of Seminole  
7 County, all seven for Mark Hammons.

8 DAVE RATCLIFF: Seven votes, Mark Hammons.  
9 Sequoyah County, four votes.

10 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Sequoyah County casts  
11 three votes for Dana Orwig and one vote for Mark  
12 Hammons.

13 DAVE RATCLIFF: Three votes Dana Orwig, one  
14 vote Mark Hammons.

15 Texas County, four votes.

16 TIM BURTON: Tim Burton, chair, Texas  
17 County, we cast all four votes for Mark Hammons.

18 DAVE RATCLIFF: Four votes Mark Hammons.

19 Tulsa County, 85 votes.

20 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Tulsa County casts 29  
21 votes for Dana Orwig and 53 votes for Mark Hammons.

22 DAVE RATCLIFF: 29 votes Dana Orwig, 53  
23 votes Mark Hammons.

24 Wagner County, 11 votes.

25 SETH ROBINSON: Seth Robinson, secretary.



1 We cast all 10 votes who were here for Dana Orwig.

2 DAVE RATCLIFF: 10 votes Dana Orwig.

3 Washington County, one vote.

4 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Washington County casts  
5 one vote for Mr. Hammons.

6 DAVE RATCLIFF: One vote Mark Hammons.

7 Woods County, four votes.

8 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Woods County, all four  
9 votes for Mr. Hammons.

10 DAVE RATCLIFF: Four votes, Mark Hammons.

11 Cleveland County ready? Cleveland, 44 votes.

12 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Cleveland County has 20  
13 votes for Mark Hammons and 23 votes for Dana Orwig.

14 DAVE RATCLIFF: 20 votes Mark Hammons, 23  
15 votes Dana Orwig.

16 Haskell County, six votes.

17 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Six votes? I thought we  
18 had seven.

19 DAVE RATCLIFF: Okay. Haskell County,  
20 seven votes.

21 TO BE IDENTIFIED: All seven votes for Mark  
22 Hammons.

23 (Applause)

24 DAVE RATCLIFF: Seven votes, Mark Hammons.

25 Kay County, can you please step forward?

1 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Kay County, five votes  
2 for Dana Orwig.

3 DAVE RATCLIFF: Hold up, I'm sorry, we  
4 weren't ready for that. Go again. You have?

5 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Five votes for Dana  
6 Orwig.

7 DAVE RATCLIFF: That is correct. They have  
8 five votes credentialed and they vote five votes for  
9 Dana Orwig.

10 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: For those that ever  
11 wonder if a paper trail is still good? That's what  
12 we're doing; we're following the paper trail here.  
13 Aaron even says he's in tears. He's the youngest one  
14 around here. Hang on.

15 DAVE RATCLIFF: Muskogee County, 17 votes.

16 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Muskogee County chair.  
17 We cast 17 votes for Mark Hammons.

18 DAVE RATCLIFF: 17 votes Mark Hammons.  
19 LeFlore County, 10 votes.

20 TO BE IDENTIFIED: LeFlore County has six  
21 votes for Dana and four for Mark.

22 DAVE RATCLIFF: Six votes Dana, four votes  
23 Mark.

24 Grady County, seven votes.

25 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Chair, Grandy County,

1 home of our next governor, Joe Dorman, seven votes --  
2 (Applause).

3 TO BE IDENTIFIED: -- seven votes for Mark  
4 Hammons.

5 DAVE RATCLIFF: Seven votes, Mark Hammons.

6 All right. We're waiting on one sign-in  
7 sheet. I apologize. The process should go smoother  
8 from here out. We had a peculiar place on some of  
9 our spreadsheets that wasn't tabulating right and it  
10 wasn't updating, so we are doing it the old fashioned  
11 way. The important thing is we're taking our time,  
12 there's sign-in sheets, if there's a discrepancy,  
13 we'll get it right. We're about there. So, we're  
14 waiting for this one sign-in sheet.

15 Carter County, eight votes.

16 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Carter County has six  
17 votes for Mark and two votes for Dana.

18 DAVE RATCLIFF: Six votes Mark, two votes  
19 Dana.

20 TO BE IDENTIFIED: What county?

21 DAVE RATCLIFF: Carter. All right.

22 As we start tallying, are there any counties  
23 that have not reported? If there are any counties  
24 that have not reported, please make your way up here  
25 immediately.

1 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: All right, delegates.  
2 While they are tallying, I can report that we found  
3 six additional delegates that were not on this -- not  
4 counted on the sign-in sheets. We had the tally  
5 sheets and then we had the sign-in sheets and we  
6 counted. And what happened was, most of them where  
7 they signed the wrong line or was an alternate that  
8 signed on top of where they were supposed to and a  
9 couple of ex-officios that weren't counted in the  
10 right column. That's all I've seen. We have six  
11 additional votes to add to the total of 519 that was  
12 adopted on the credentials report earlier. We need a  
13 motion to add that six, bringing it to a total of 525  
14 as your final credentials number for this vote. I'll  
15 entertain a motion to add the six.

16 TIM MAULDIN: Madam Chair, Tim Mauldin from  
17 Cleveland County, I so move.

18 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: I need a second.

19 STEVEN COX: Steven Cox, Grady County,  
20 second the motion.

21 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Steven Cox, he's loud  
22 enough I can hear him. Steven Cox seconds the  
23 motion. Will there be discussion?

24 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Discussion. Can you  
25 break down the proxy and delegate vote, please?

1 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: I don't have it, I  
2 apologize. They're tallying right now. I'm more  
3 interested in the number, the total. We can probably  
4 get that for you later, but I need the total to make  
5 sure we added that number.

6 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Thank you.

7 DEBBIE LEFTWICH: Thank you, sir.

8 Anybody else? Any discussion? Any debate?  
9 Seeing none, all of those in favor of adopting the  
10 new report and adding that six making it a total of  
11 525, say aye.

12 Any opposed say nay.

13 Ayes have it. Motion carried. We're now up  
14 to 525.

15 Back in the old days, paperwork, paperwork.  
16 You know, we did this two years ago in this exact  
17 same fashion, the computers didn't fail us. You're  
18 pretty lost unless you've got the paperwork to back  
19 it up. Luckily, we did have the paperwork to back it  
20 up. So, I don't recommend any convention ever try to  
21 do this on computer alone.

22 Go ahead and visit while we're getting our  
23 totals.

24 (Whereupon, Oklahoma Democratic Party  
25 Secretary, Dave Ratcliff, announced the vote totals

1 as Mark Hammons, 306, and Dana Orwig, 216.)

2 MARK HAMMONS: We have spent a long time --

3 TO BE IDENTIFIED: I can't hear you.

4 MARK HAMMONS: We will be a 77-county party  
5 starting today.

6 (Applause)

7 MARK HAMMONS: Legislators with a  
8 repentance, we're going to bring past and present  
9 officials into your counties to energize. They're  
10 ready to go, I know you're ready to go. We will  
11 start today on that. Thank you, thank you, thank  
12 you.

13 Now, before we go forward, there's something  
14 I have to do because there is -- excuse me -- a  
15 person who --

16 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Speak up.

17 MARK HAMMONS: Can you hear?

18 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Yes.

19 MARK HAMMONS: All right. I will get  
20 closer.

21 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Thank you.

22 MARK HAMMONS: My youngest son, Collier, my  
23 beloved wife.

24 (Applause).

25 MARK HAMMONS: My next oldest son, Cole.

1 This is why I ran for chairman of the party, because  
2 I believe in them. That's why you are active in the  
3 party because you believe in your family and friends.  
4 We have that common goal. We all believe in the same  
5 thing and we're going go in the same direction.

6 Thank you. I could not ever do this without you.

7 (Applause).

8 MARK HAMMONS: Wallace Collins is an  
9 important part of this party and will continue to be.  
10 Dana Orwig has been an important part of this party  
11 and will continue to be.

12 (Applause)

13 MARK HAMMONS: There's always a winner and  
14 loser in the elections, but the party wins if we can  
15 keep everybody together. And, Dana, I want you to be  
16 part of the Democratic team.

17 (Applause)

18 MARK HAMMONS: Thank you very much. Let's  
19 proceed and hope that we can move things a little bit  
20 faster.

21 Are there nominations for the position of  
22 vice chair?

23 KAYLAND BREE: Kayland Bree from Latimer  
24 County. I place the nomination of Lori Phillips from  
25 Tulsa County for vice chair of the Oklahoma

1 Democratic party.

2 (Applause).

3 MARK HAMMONS: Now, are there further  
4 nominations for vice chair? I need a second. I'm  
5 sorry. A second. Is there a second or another  
6 nomination? Is someone approaching for a second?

7 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Yes, I am. I apologize  
8 for my late arrival. I am proud to second the  
9 nomination of Lori Phillips. Thank you.

10 (Applause).

11 MARK HAMMONS: Are there other nominations?

12 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Yes.

13 MARK HAMMONS: I recognize Earl Mitchell.

14 EARL MITCHELL: Earl Mitchell, Payne  
15 County, I nominate Senator Connie Johnson.

16 MARK HAMMONS: Is there a second for the  
17 nomination of Connie Johnson?

18 RUSTY BOYD: Rusty Boyd, House District 45,  
19 I second the nomination of Connie Johnson.

20 (Applause)

21 MARK HAMMONS: Are there any further  
22 nominations? Are there any further nominations?

23 If there are no further nominations, I  
24 declare the nominations to be closed. The -- there  
25 has been a request made for a break, a five-minute



1 recess. I do not see support for that so we will  
2 continue. The first nominating speech of two minutes  
3 for Lori Phillips. Kayland Bree is recognized.

4 KAYLAND BREE: Hello, Democrats. I'm  
5 Kayland Bree from Latimer County and I am pleased to  
6 nominate Lori Phillips for -- to be the next vice  
7 chair of our party. Lori is like me, a super liberal  
8 progressive young adult Democrat.

9 (Applause)

10 FREELAND BREE: Every issue that I hold  
11 important, whether it's prochoice, protection of the  
12 environment, workers' rights, unions, LGBT, I know  
13 that Lori is right there with me. She's been there  
14 for decades. She was born in a union household. She  
15 can tell you more about that. She's also a lawyer.  
16 Several years ago Lori brought the very first  
17 same-gender marriage case to the Oklahoma Supreme  
18 Court. She has been working on election challenges  
19 for well over a decade. Lori and I first were  
20 co-counsel for John Kerby in a very close election  
21 for city council. We both did that pro bono. I can  
22 tell you there's not another person in this room who  
23 I would rather have sitting next to me in an election  
24 challenge than Lori Phillips. And that's why in  
25 2011, four years ago, when the Cherokee Nation, Chief

1 Bill John Baker found himself in a quagmire down in  
2 Cherokee Nation, I called Lori and she helped me make  
3 sure that Chief Baker didn't get ripped off. And  
4 he's now the chief of the Cherokee Nation because of  
5 her excellent legal work.

6 (Applause)

7 KAYLAND BREE: She is challenging. Sheriff  
8 Lands right now representing --

9 (Applause)

10 KAYLAND BREE: She works tirelessly. I  
11 know this for a fact because she and I pulled many,  
12 many all-nighters to make sure that Democrats get  
13 elected across this state. I hope you will join me  
14 in voting for Lori Phillips as our vice chair of the  
15 Democratic party.

16 Thank you.

17 (Applause)

18 MARK HAMMONS: We will now have two minutes  
19 for the first nominating speech for Senator Johnson.  
20 Earl.

21 EARL MITCHELL: My name is Earl Mitchell.  
22 You have seen me campaigning for vice chair, and one  
23 of the things that I feel very strong about is that I  
24 think a chair has to have a vice chair that's  
25 compatible. And Connie ran really with Mark, and

1 both have experiences within the legislature. I  
2 really have worked with Connie on a number of issues  
3 since she's been in the legislature. She carried  
4 forward some legislation that was very important.  
5 And you know she ran for the senate in the past year,  
6 so, you know, it's -- it's not easy to lose, I'll  
7 tell you that right now. I lost in the senate, but  
8 on -- on the question of having a person supporting  
9 the party with a leader, I think it's important to  
10 have a person that's compatible with the chair.

11 Thank you.

12 (Applause)

13 MARK HAMMONS: We will recognize the second  
14 nominating speech for Lori Phillips. One minute.

15 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
16 Welcome aboard. You've got a big job.

17 Well, if I was at the helm, and I have been  
18 there in past, it is a rough job, it is a thankless  
19 job, and you need at your right hand a lieutenant  
20 such as Lori Phillips. I'm telling you not only does  
21 it give us the geographic balance that some people  
22 might be concerned about, not me, but I am telling  
23 you this, it will add a real element of enthusiasm  
24 and talent to your administration. You need Lori  
25 Phillips. I like Lori Phillips. I could say the

1 same things about Lori Phillips that Kayland said  
2 because she worked for me when she took on some of  
3 those unpleasant unpopular challenges for the right  
4 thing. That's the kind of gal Lori Phillips is. I  
5 commend her to you, sir, and to this group as an  
6 excellent combination for your administration and  
7 thank you.

8 (Applause)

9 MARK HAMMONS: We will recognize Rusty Boyd  
10 for a one-minute seconding speech for Senator  
11 Johnson.

12 RUSTY BOYD: Hi. I'm Rusty Boyd. I just  
13 returned from nine years in Europe. When I got back  
14 here, needless to say, I was suffering from severe  
15 culture shock. I immediately started looking for  
16 hope, a way to make a difference. Connie Johnson is  
17 that difference. Connie Johnson is a woman of  
18 action. And we've had words for decades from our  
19 Democratic party. Words aren't enough. We pursue  
20 money. Money is not enough. What we need is action.  
21 We need a smart, motivated, intelligent woman who can  
22 listen to people and help them with their everyday  
23 struggles. That's what the Democratic party is all  
24 about. That's why I support Connie Johnson, because  
25 I know her to be that person. I know she will put

1 everything into this position to make the Democratic  
2 party what it should be in Oklahoma.

3 Thank you.

4 (Applause)

5 MARK HAMMONS: Now we will recognize the  
6 candidate, Lori Phillips, for a two-minute speech.

7 (Applause)

8 LORI JOHNSON: Hi there. I'm Lori  
9 Phillips. I am the first district delegate from  
10 Tulsa County. I am a yellow dog Democrat. I first  
11 served on the central committee in the '90s. A lot  
12 of you may remember me. I used to have red hair. My  
13 daughter likes to tease me about that. She told me  
14 to remind you of that. In the '90s, while on the  
15 central committee, we initiated -- we followed  
16 through with President Clinton's initiative,  
17 healthcare for all, by making sure that all the staff  
18 had insurance, all the staff. I also was Tulsa  
19 County vice chair when computers were first brought  
20 into the office. Yes, I am older than I look. Under  
21 the leadership of Principal Ed Bolton, my mother  
22 wrote and developed the first statewide voter  
23 database. I spent countless hours helping her  
24 implement and maintain that voter database. I also  
25 grew up in a union home, machinist union and at the

1 labor council. My father was a labor leader. He was  
2 president of the Tulsa Labor Council, and under his  
3 leadership he became the Northeastern Oklahoma Labor  
4 Council where my daughter, Tiffany Phillips,  
5 presently works. Tiffany is first district secretary  
6 and has served as Tulsa County vice chair. My  
7 replacement daughter, Angela Wilson, is the second  
8 chair secretary. That is how you grow this party.  
9 This party is a family. You bring up your next  
10 generation of Democrats.

11 (Applause)

12 LORI PHILLIPS: I am no stranger to hard  
13 work. In addition to my work in the party and a  
14 Democratic candidate, I worked full-time and went to  
15 school full-time with the help of two legendary  
16 Democrats, Tommy Frasier and Jim Frasier. I became  
17 an attorney. As an attorney, pro bono, as Kayland  
18 previously mentioned, I have represented candidates  
19 in -- I'm sorry -- in election contests and I've also  
20 represented the first same-gender couple in a  
21 divorce. And my time is up. I just want to say  
22 really quick Democrats are family. You grow the  
23 party by growing your family.

24 (Applause)

25 MARK HAMMONS: And Senator Connie Johnson

1 is recognized for her speech, two minutes, starting  
2 when you get up here.

3 (Applause)

4 CONNIE JOHNSON: Thank you and good  
5 afternoon, Democrats. Let's hear it for Oklahoma.

6 (Applause)

7 CONNIE JOHNSON: Connie Johnson. First I  
8 want to thank you, Democrats, for electing me and  
9 making history as the first African-American and  
10 woman to win a statewide nomination to the US senate.  
11 Thank you very much.

12 (Applause)

13 CONNIE JOHNSON: Again, I'm a lifelong  
14 Democrat, a yellow dog Democrat, who began a team  
15 Democrat in middle school. I organized the team  
16 Democrats club. I've been a Democrat for all of my  
17 life. I've been a 33-year employee of the Oklahoma  
18 state senate for over half of my life. And I'm here  
19 asking for your vote today because I continue to want  
20 to serve. I retired after 33 years, I rested for  
21 four months, and the thing that came to the forefront  
22 was I still believe in the Democratic party.

23 (Applause)

24 CONNIE JOHNSON: And I ask for your vote  
25 today. Mark and I campaigned together. Mark asked

1 me to run for this chair. I felt it my duty to  
2 accept because I do want to continue to serve. But  
3 with Mark you have a quarterback; with me you have  
4 the captain of the cheerleaders. I am a committed,  
5 caring and capable Democrat which is what our  
6 constitution already is. Our constitution, it is a  
7 caring constitution, it is a capable constitution and  
8 it is a constitution that is committed to all the  
9 people of the State of Oklahoma.

10 I'm asking for your vote.

11 (Applause)

12 CONNIE JOHNSON: I believe that with Mark's  
13 leadership, we are able to get a message, we're able  
14 to raise money, we're able to organize and we're able  
15 to reform our processes. In those ways, we will be  
16 able to bring together all of the groups that make up  
17 this party. We're talking about the OCRJ, the ACLU,  
18 the NAACP, OEA, lawyers, LGBP, youth, young people,  
19 millennials. We have got to bring our party back  
20 together. Vote for Connie Johnson to help our county  
21 do that.

22 (Applause)

23 MARK HAMMONS: We will, at this point,  
24 start the counting process. Would each of the county  
25 chairs or their designees begin that process? Would



1 the sergeant at arms go and check the hallways and  
2 bathrooms and allow delegates who are out of the main  
3 hall to know that the voting is taking place? So, we  
4 should do that to avoid a delay. I am going to,  
5 unless there is an objection from the convention,  
6 allow the declaration of individual counties as those  
7 counts are made to avoid further delay in the  
8 counting process.

9 So, if you will start, let's give it about  
10 two or three minutes and make sure everybody is back  
11 here. When you are ready to announce, come forward  
12 and you will announce at the -- you will announce at  
13 the chair. Is there any question from any delegate?

14 We have counties ready to announce, so -- so  
15 let's start that process. We will go a little faster  
16 this time. Come up, whoever is ready first we will  
17 take the order. I think we can figure out the  
18 alphabet. Are you ready? We are not going to go  
19 alphabetically. Still not hear? Okay. We're going  
20 start not alphabetically but, as you finish, the  
21 secretary will -- the secretary will take the vote,  
22 come forward and make the announcement.

23 DAVE RATCLIFF: All right. We're going to  
24 go ahead and start. It looks like everybody may be  
25 done, so we will call them in alphabetical order. If

1 you're not ready, no problem, we'll come back to you.  
2 But we've got our list laid out here alphabetically.  
3 If you're not ready, no problem.

4 All right. Here we go. Alfalfa County, one  
5 vote.

6 TO BE IDENTIFIED: One vote for Lori  
7 Phillips.

8 DAVE RATCLIFF: One vote Lori Phillips.  
9 Beckham County, three votes.

10 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Beckham County, three  
11 votes Connie Johnson.

12 DAVE RATCLIFF: Three votes, Connie  
13 Johnson.

14 Blaine County, three votes.

15 TO BE IDENTIFIED: We have four.

16 DAVE RATCLIFF: Okay. Hold on, please.  
17 Blaine County, four votes.

18 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Yes. Three votes for  
19 Connie Johnson, one vote for Lori Phillips.

20 DAVE RATCLIFF: Bryan County, six votes --  
21 seven votes.

22 TO BE IDENTIFIED: I don't think that's  
23 right.

24 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Four for Connie Johnson.

25 DAVE RATCLIFF: Four votes, Connie Johnson,

1 Bryan County.

2 Caddo County, one vote.

3 TO BE IDENTIFIED: We should have three  
4 votes.

5 DAVE RATCLIFF: Okay. Well, that's not  
6 what we had last time. We'll call for the sign-in  
7 sheet.

8 Canadian County. Canadian County, 15 votes.

9 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Canadian County votes 13  
10 votes for Senator Connie Johnson, two votes for Lori  
11 Phillips.

12 DAVE RATCLIFF: Thank you.

13 Carter County, eight votes.

14 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Carter County votes six  
15 -- no. Eight for Connie Johnson.

16 DAVE RATCLIFF: Eight votes, Connie  
17 Johnson.

18 Cherokee County, 12 votes.

19 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Cherokee County casts 11  
20 votes for Lori Phillips and one vote for Senator  
21 Johnson.

22 DAVE RATCLIFF: Choctaw County, one vote.

23 TO BE IDENTIFIED: One vote Connie Johnson.

24 DAVE RATCLIFF: Cleveland County, 43 votes.

25 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Cleveland County casts

1 17 votes for Lori Phillips and 23 votes for Connie  
2 Johnson.

3 DAVE RATCLIFF: 17 Lori Phillips, 23 Connie  
4 Johnson, Cleveland County.

5 Comanche County, 15.

6 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Comanche County votes 13  
7 for Connie Johnson. The others were absent.

8 DAVE RATCLIFF: Thank you.

9 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Repeat the vote.

10 DAVE RATCLIFF: 13 Connie Johnson.

11 Cotton County, two votes.

12 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Cotton County has two  
13 votes for Connie Johnson.

14 DAVE RATCLIFF: Two votes Connie Johnson.

15 Craig County, seven votes.

16 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Six votes present, six  
17 for Lori Phillips.

18 DAVE RATCLIFF: Thank you. Six votes, Lori  
19 Phillips.

20 Creek County, seven votes.

21 TO BE IDENTIFIED: One vote for Lori  
22 Phillips, six votes for Connie Johnson.

23 DAVE RATCLIFF: One vote, Lori Phillips,  
24 six votes, Connie Johnson.

25 Delaware County, four votes.

1 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Delaware, four for  
2 Connie Johnson.

3 DAVE RATCLIFF: Four votes, Connie Johnson.  
4 Thank you.

5 Garfield County, eight votes.

6 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Garfield County casts  
7 eight votes for Senator Connie Johnson.

8 DAVE RATCLIFF: Eight votes, Connie  
9 Johnson.

10 Garvin County, five votes.

11 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Evans, vice chair of  
12 Garvin, Connie Johnson, five votes.

13 DAVE RATCLIFF: Five votes, Connie Johnson.  
14 Grady County, seven votes.

15 DAVID SANDERS: David Sanders, Grady  
16 County, six votes for Lori and one for Connie.

17 DAVE RATCLIFF: Thank you. Six votes, Lori  
18 Phillips, one vote, Connie Johnson.

19 Grant County, one vote.

20 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Grant County, one vote  
21 for Senator Connie Johnson.

22 DAVE RATCLIFF: One vote, Connie Johnson.  
23 Haskell County, seven votes.

24 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Seven votes for Connie  
25 Johnson.

1                   DAVE RATCLIFF: Seven votes, Connie  
2 Johnson.

3                   Jackson County, one vote.

4                   TO BE IDENTIFIED: Jackson County votes one  
5 vote for Senator Johnson.

6                   DAVE RATCLIFF: Thank you. One vote,  
7 Connie Johnson.

8                   Kay County, five votes. Okay. We will pass  
9 Kay County and come back to it.

10                  Kingfisher County, two votes.

11                  JAMES LAMBERT: James Lambert, Kingfisher  
12 County, two votes Senator Johnson.

13                  DAVE RATCLIFF: Two votes, Connie Johnson.  
14 Latimer County, five votes.

15                  TO BE IDENTIFIED: Four votes for Lori, one  
16 vote for Connie.

17                  DAVE RATCLIFF: Four votes, Lori Phillips,  
18 one vote, Connie Johnson.

19                  LeFlore County, 10 votes.

20                  TO BE IDENTIFIED: LeFlore County has eight  
21 votes for Lori and two for Connie.

22                  DAVE RATCLIFF: Eight votes, Lori Phillips,  
23 two votes, Connie Johnson.

24                  Lincoln County, eight votes.

25                  TO BE IDENTIFIED: Lincoln County has seven

1 votes for Lori and one for Connie.

2 DAVE RATCLIFF: Seven votes Lori Phillips,  
3 one vote Connie Johnson.

4 Logan County, seven votes.

5 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Logan County votes seven  
6 votes for Senator Connie Johnson.

7 DAVE RATCLIFF: Seven votes, Connie  
8 Johnson.

9 Major County, one vote.

10 TO BE IDENTIFIED: One vote for Lori  
11 Phillips.

12 DAVE RATCLIFF: One vote, Lori Phillips.  
13 Mayes County, six votes.

14 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Mayes County, birthplace  
15 of the great baseball player, Mickey Mantle, casts  
16 three votes for Connie Johnson and three votes for  
17 Lori Phillips.

18 DAVE RATCLIFF: Three, Connie Johnson,  
19 three, Lori Phillips.

20 McClain County, seven votes.

21 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Chair, McClain County,  
22 McClain County two votes for Connie Johnson, five  
23 votes for Lori Phillips.

24 DAVE RATCLIFF: Two votes, Connie Johnson,  
25 five votes, Lori Phillips.

1 McIntosh county, three votes.

2 TO BE IDENTIFIED: McIntosh County, two  
3 votes for Connie Johnson, one for Lori.

4 DAVE RATCLIFF: Two votes, Connie Johnson,  
5 one vote, Lori Phillips.

6 Muskogee County, 17 votes.

7 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Muskogee votes 17 for  
8 Ms. Connie Johnson.

9 DAVE RATCLIFF: 17 votes, Connie Johnson.

10 Noble County, one vote.

11 TO BE IDENTIFIED: One vote for Lori  
12 Phillips.

13 DAVE RATCLIFF: Nowata County, one vote.

14 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Nowata County casts one  
15 vote for Senator Johnson.

16 DAVE RATCLIFF: One vote, Connie Johnson.

17 Oklahoma County, 121 votes.

18 SHAWN ALLEN: Shawn Allen, vice chair,  
19 Oklahoma County, we have for Lori Phillips 16 votes  
20 and for Senator Connie Johnson 101.

21 (Applause)

22 DAVE RATCLIFF: 11 votes Lori Phillips, 101  
23 Connie Johnson. I don't know why I said that. 16  
24 Lori Phillips, 101 Connie Johnson.

25 Okmulgee County, eight votes.



1 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Okmulgee County, we  
2 declare all eight votes for Lori Phillips. And we're  
3 home of Troy Aikman and Jim Shelton.

4 (Applause)

5 DAVE RATCLIFF: Ottawa County, two votes.

6 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Ottawa County, home of  
7 Heisman Trophy Winner Steve Owens.

8 (Applause)

9 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Casts two votes for  
10 Phillips.

11 DAVE RATCLIFF: Two votes, Lori Phillips.  
12 Pawnee County, five votes.

13 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Pawnee County casts five  
14 votes for Senator Johnson.

15 DAVE RATCLIFF: Five votes, Connie Johnson.  
16 Payne County, 15.

17 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Six votes for Lori and  
18 eight votes for Connie.

19 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Six votes, Lori  
20 Phillips, eight votes, Connie Johnson.

21 Pittsburg County, 10 votes.

22 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Pittsburg County where  
23 the Democratic party first started national defense  
24 by building the Army ammunition plant, so it's not  
25 just a Republican thing.

1 (Applause)

2 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Democrats are for  
3 national security too, right? Anyway, we cast seven  
4 votes for Connie Johnson and three votes for Lori  
5 Phillips.

6 DAVE RATCLIFF: Seven votes, Connie  
7 Johnson, three votes, Lori Phillips.

8 Pontotoc County, nine votes.

9 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Pontotoc County casts  
10 nine votes for Lori Phillips.

11 DAVE RATCLIFF: Nine votes, Lori Phillips.  
12 Pottawatomie County, four votes.

13 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Pottawatomie County, we  
14 have three for Connie, one for Lori. We're also the  
15 birthplace of Brad Pitt.

16 (Applause)

17 DAVE RATCLIFF: The home of Brad Pitt casts  
18 three votes Connie Johnson, one vote Lori Phillips.

19 Rogers County, 10 votes.

20 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Rogers County casts all  
21 10 votes for Lori Phillips.

22 DAVE RATCLIFF: 10 votes Lori Phillips.  
23 Seminole County, seven votes.

24 TO BE IDENTIFIED: All seven votes for  
25 Connie Johnson.

1                   DAVE RATCLIFF: Seven votes, Connie  
2 Johnson.

3                   Sequoyah County, four votes.

4                   TO BE IDENTIFIED: Sequoyah County, the  
5 home of Shontel Smith, Miss America, casts four votes  
6 for Lori.

7                   DAVE RATCLIFF: Four votes, Lori Phillips.  
8                   Stephens County, eight votes.

9                   TO BE IDENTIFIED: Stephens County, we vote  
10 five votes for Connie Johnson, three votes for Lori  
11 Phillips.

12                  DAVE RATCLIFF: Five votes Connie Johnson,  
13 three votes Lori Phillips.

14                  Texas County, four votes.

15                  TO BE IDENTIFIED: Texas County, the bluest  
16 county in the panhandle of Oklahoma, casts four votes  
17 for Connie Johnson.

18                  (Applause)

19                  DAVE RATCLIFF: Four votes, Connie Johnson.  
20                  Tulsa County, 85 votes.

21                  TO BE IDENTIFIED: Tulsa County casts 35  
22 votes for Connie Johnson and 48 votes for Lori  
23 Phillips.

24                  DAVE RATCLIFF: 35 votes, Connie Johnson,  
25 48 votes, Lori Phillips.

1 Wagoner County, 11 votes.

2 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Wagoner County, 10  
3 votes, Lori Phillips.

4 DAVE RATCLIFF: 10 votes, Lori Phillips.  
5 Washington County, one vote.

6 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Washington County, one  
7 vote, Lori Phillips.

8 DAVE RATCLIFF: One vote, Lori Phillips.  
9 Woods County, four votes.

10 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Woods County, four votes  
11 for Connie Johnson.

12 DAVE RATCLIFF: Four votes, Connie Johnson.  
13 Caddo County, three votes.

14 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Caddo County, two votes  
15 for Connie Johnson, one vote for Lori Phillips.

16 DAVE RATCLIFF: Two votes, Connie Johnson,  
17 one vote, Lori Phillips.

18 Kay County? Anyone from Kay County wishing  
19 to cast your votes?

20 Okay. Any other counties? All right. Let's  
21 tally these real quick and we'll be right with you.

22 MARK HAMMONS: 542 is the updated  
23 credentials total. Is there any objection to the  
24 update? Hearing no objection, that will be the total  
25 number of votes. The count, if you will announce

1 that, Dave.

2 DAVE RATCLIFF: All right. By a count of  
3 322 to 198, your new vice chairman, Senator Connie  
4 Johnson.

5 (Applause)

6 MARK HAMMONS: The chair recognizes Senator  
7 Johnson. Connie, have you got anything that you  
8 would like to say?

9 CONNIE JOHNSON: Thank God. Thank you,  
10 Democrats. I am committed to working harder than  
11 ever to get Democrats elected and to do it in a way  
12 that brings back respect to our party and regard for  
13 our party in the state of Oklahoma.

14 (Applause)

15 CONNIE JOHNSON: I so appreciate the  
16 confidence you've placed in me. I want to  
17 congratulate Ms. Phillips for her candidacy as well  
18 and stepping up and run. I want to thank all of  
19 Oklahoma, all of the counties. I noticed my county,  
20 Hughes County, is not here. And that concerns me.  
21 We've got 17 counties that we've got to create a  
22 Democratic organization in, and I'm committed, if  
23 nothing else, to make one in Holdenville, Oklahoma.

24 (Applause)

25 CONNIE JOHNSON: Democrats, we have work to

1 do, and I believe with creative help and all the  
2 people, we can get this done. We can turn Oklahoma  
3 blue.

4 (Applause)

5 CONNIE JOHNSON: Thank you.

6 (Applause)

7 MARK HAMMONS: Thank you. Lori Phillips,  
8 thank you for running. And you need to be an  
9 important part of the leadership for this party, so,  
10 please understand that this party wants you. There  
11 are no losers in the Democratic party.

12 (Applause)

13 MARK HAMMONS: We want you as part of our  
14 party leadership.

15 We are going to proceed with the secretary's  
16 position. Does anybody need a break?

17 TO BE IDENTIFIED: No.

18 MARK HAMMONS: We will proceed with the  
19 secretary's position. Are there nominations for  
20 secretary of the party? Yes, your recognized.

21 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Sally Frasier, first  
22 district Tulsa County, it is my pleasure to nominate  
23 Dave Ratcliff for secretary of the Oklahoma  
24 Democratic party.

25 (Applause)

1 MARK HAMMONS: Is there a second to that  
2 nomination?

3 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Dennis Hall, Tulsa  
4 County, I second that motion.

5 MARK HAMMONS: Dave Ratcliff has been  
6 nominated. Are there any further nominations? Are  
7 there any further nominations? Are there any further  
8 nominations? Hearing none, David Ratcliff is  
9 reelected as secretary.

10 (Applause)

11 DAVE RATCLIFF: Thank you, sir.

12 TO BE IDENTIFIED: I demand a recount.

13 MARK HAMMONS: Nominations for the position  
14 of treasurer? Do I hear any nominations for the  
15 position of treasurer?

16 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Mr. Chairman, LeFlore  
17 County, I place the nomination of our current party  
18 chair -- or party treasurer, Donna Russell.

19 (Applause)

20 MARK HAMMONS: Is there a second for the  
21 nomination for Donna Russell?

22 AARON WILDER: Mr. Chair, my name is Aaron  
23 Wilder. I am the chair of the Fifth District  
24 Democratic Party, and I am proudly seconding the  
25 nomination of my mentor and adopted mother, Donna

1 Russell.

2 (Applause)

3 MARK HAMMONS: Thank you. Are there any  
4 further nominations? Are there any further  
5 nominations? Hearing no further nominations --

6 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Wait.

7 MARK HAMMONS: Are there further  
8 nominations?

9 LORENZO THOMPSON: Lorenzo Thompson,  
10 Oklahoma County, I nominate Steve Colbert.

11 MARK HAMMONS: Mr. Colbert has been  
12 nominated. Is there a second to the nomination?

13 TO BE IDENTIFIED: I think the treasurer  
14 has to be a male -- I mean, a female.

15 MARK HAMMONS: That is correct. They have  
16 be alternating male and female. So, to be qualified,  
17 it would be a female nominee. Are there any further  
18 female nominees for the position of treasurer? Are  
19 there any nominations for the position of treasurer?  
20 Hearing no further nominees for the position of  
21 treasurer, Donna is reelected.

22 (Applause)

23 MARK HAMMONS: And I will give an  
24 opportunity for our elected candidates to accept  
25 their positions, so starting with you, Dave, and then



1 following with --

2 TO BE IDENTIFIED: We can't hear you.

3 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Please speak into the  
4 microphone.

5 MARK HAMMONS: I'm -- I'm having trouble  
6 with this mic. I will try to do better. Personal  
7 privilege for our two newly elected --

8 DAVE RATCLIFF: I'd like to thank you for  
9 your support and, in keeping with the short speeches,  
10 I'd just like to say let's get back to work and get  
11 the hell out of here.

12 (Applause)

13 DONNA RUSSELL: I'd like to thank you all  
14 for your support. And we aren't going to have very  
15 many long speeches here, so let's get on to the rest  
16 of the elections. Thank you.

17 (Applause)

18 MARK HAMMONS: For the position of  
19 affirmative action, we will have four elections. The  
20 first two will be males, the second two will be  
21 females. Is there a nomination for affirmative  
22 action for one of the male positions?

23 MIKE MILLER: Mike Miller, CD3 vice  
24 chairman. I would like to nominate a great man, a  
25 great Democratic, Dr. Earl Mitchell.

1 (Applause)

2 MARK HAMMONS: Second for the nomination of  
3 Earl Mitchell?

4 JEFF PICKENS: Jeff Pickens, Payne County,  
5 I second the nomination of Earl Mitchell.

6 (Applause)

7 MARK HAMMONS: Are there further  
8 nominations for the position of male affirmative  
9 action?

10 MARK FAULK: Mark Faulk, Oklahoma County.  
11 I would like to nominate Victor Gorin.

12 MARK HAMMONS: Victor Gorin has been  
13 nominated. Is there a second for the nomination of  
14 Victor Gorin?

15 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Yes. Representative  
16 Jason Dunnington. I'd like to second the nomination  
17 of Victor Gorin.

18 (Applause)

19 MARK HAMMONS: Okay. There are two  
20 candidates nominated. Are there further nominations  
21 for the position of male affirmative action?

22 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Seminole County chair,  
23 Lorenzo Thompson.

24 MARK HAMMONS: Lorenzo Thompson has been  
25 nominated for the position of male affirmative

1 action. Is there a second to that nomination?

2 JASON LEONARD: Jason Leonard, Seminole  
3 County. I second that.

4 MARK HAMMONS: There is a nomination and a  
5 second. Are there any further nominations for the  
6 position of male affirmative action?

7 TO BE IDENTIFIED: I nominate William  
8 Molden.

9 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Who?

10 MARK HAMMONS: The nomination was of  
11 William Molden. Is there a second to the nomination?  
12 Is there a second to the nomination?

13 LORENZO THOMPSON: Lorenzo Thompson again.  
14 I second the motion for William Molden.

15 MARK HAMMONS: Okay. There has been a  
16 second to the nomination. So, there are four  
17 nominees requested for the two positions. Are there  
18 any further nominations for the position of male  
19 affirmative action? If there are no further  
20 nominations for the position of male affirmative  
21 action, then we will proceed with nominating speeches  
22 and statements by the candidates. The elections will  
23 be by a standing count of the delegates present. If  
24 there is anyone in the hallway who wishes to vote or  
25 in the bathrooms, they need to return to the premises

1 now so that they can vote. We will start then with  
2 Mack Miller as the nominator for Dr. Earl Mitchell.

3 MACK MILLER: Earl Mitchell inspired young  
4 people in teaching at OSU, doctor of biochemistry.  
5 He is a great -- he is a great grandfather. One of  
6 his biggest thrills is taking the grandson to school  
7 every morning. I've been associated with the third  
8 district for about 14 years now. Earl has always  
9 been involved. He's always been there. He believes  
10 in Democratic principles and he believes that  
11 everybody should be treated fairly and, if he's not  
12 doing all that, then he's involved in missionary for  
13 the church.

14 I will beg you to, please, vote for Earl  
15 Mitchell for affirmative action male position number  
16 1.

17 (Applause)

18 MARK HAMMONS: There will be a two-minute  
19 nominating speech. Mark Faulk is recognized for  
20 that.

21 MARK FAULK: My name is Mark Faulk, and I  
22 am honored to nominate Victor Gorin. There is no one  
23 in my mind who works harder for the Democratic party  
24 than Victor Gorin. He campaigns tirelessly, hour  
25 upon hour, for candidates that believe in the values

1 that he believes in, and those values are the values  
2 of the Democratic party. He is passionate, he's  
3 compassionate. And he works for everyone. He has  
4 worked for candidates from all walks of life and he  
5 looks for people who share the strongest values of  
6 the Democratic party.

7 I think we need to address something real  
8 quickly. There -- there was a question as to whether  
9 LGBT should be eligible to be in affirmative action.  
10 I would like to say, first of all, you know, that  
11 sounds more to me like some right-wing homophobic  
12 rant than what a progressive Democratic party. We  
13 are the inclusive party. We're the party of  
14 inclusion.

15 (Applause)

16 MARK FAULK: And I'd like to stand up to  
17 say that, in my mind, before major demographics of  
18 which there are 7 to 8 percent of each of these, of  
19 the African American, Latino, Native American and  
20 LGPT should all have representatives on the executive  
21 committee. That is only fair.

22 (Applause)

23 MARK FAULK: So, for future reference, I  
24 say we should debate that, and that's the change we  
25 need to make.

1           Finally, I will say this, Victor absolutely  
2 is eligible and Victor has earned his right for this  
3 and he has earned the right to that seat on the  
4 executive committee.

5           (Applause)

6           MARK HAMMONS: Leona Leonard is recognized  
7 to give the nominating speech for Lorenzo Thompson.

8           LEONA LEONARD: A lot of you know Lorenzo  
9 and he can be a little rough like sandpaper when you  
10 first get to meet him, but I will tell you what, I've  
11 never met a guy who would bend over backwards and  
12 give his shirt off his back to you. Seminole County  
13 was struggling. We lost our chair, we lost our  
14 secretary. They took my books away. And the first  
15 time I was running I was a vice chair. I had nobody  
16 to help me, but Lorenzo stepped up and tried to help  
17 me. We started reading on the van to find out why we  
18 were losing. We had precincts who were voters, who  
19 were nonvoters, and they were the same people in  
20 several precincts, Oklahoma County, Seminole County.  
21 We found them in Pott County. He helped me on my  
22 campaign. I had nobody backing me. Nobody backed my  
23 husband when he was running. We had no money and we  
24 ran the campaign with nothing.

25           He is a disabled veteran. He goes to the

1 veterans and helps these people. He's helped me with  
2 Seminole Nation. We are working with Seminole Nation  
3 veterans now. And we're going to be working with  
4 Pott County. Give him a chance. He can show you  
5 what he can do.

6 Thank you.

7 (Applause)

8 MARK HAMMONS: The chair recognizes Al  
9 Lindley to give the nominating speech for William  
10 Molden.

11 AL LINDLEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.  
12 Delegates, I rise to ask you to vote for William  
13 Molden for affirmative action. Last -- last election  
14 cycle William stepped up to the plate and challenged  
15 the -- took a seat that I had previously, and that  
16 was Mike Christian. But, anyway, we had absolutely  
17 hardly anybody at all. We had like \$3,000 going to  
18 stepping up, but William and I and two other people,  
19 we beat the past and we got 42 percent of the vote.  
20 And we were finally forced to get Mike Christian out  
21 into campaign duty. Mike has a lot of problem  
22 with -- we need to really call on that. Swear to  
23 God, people were telling me that they met Mike and  
24 his wife together on the doorstep. So, William --  
25 William did a really, really good job of representing

1 the Democrats without any hardly money at all. He  
2 got 42 percent of the vote. He's a hard worker and I  
3 know he'll do a good job representing the minority  
4 group on the executive committee. Thank you for your  
5 consideration and please vote for my friend, William  
6 Molden.

7 (Applause)

8 MARK HAMMONS: Now we will recognize Jeff  
9 Pickens for the seconding speech --

10 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Point of -- question,  
11 Chairman.

12 MARK HAMMONS: Yes.

13 TO BE IDENTIFIED: To clarify, we have four  
14 candidates, we have two positions. Do we take the  
15 two highest vote-getters to hold the position or do  
16 we renominate?

17 MARK HAMMONS: You have to be elected by a  
18 majority vote, which means that we will vote by  
19 standing count by section. The winner of the first  
20 position will be elected, and then the nominations  
21 technically will be open again for the second  
22 position.

23 TO BE IDENTIFIED: So, we'll have a second  
24 vote?

25 MARK HAMMONS: Yes. And that means there



1 can be a runoff for the first position. So, there  
2 will be sets of votes.

3 Now, with regard to the seconding speech, we  
4 are recognizing Jeff Pickens for the seconding  
5 speech.

6 JEFF PICKENS: I'm going to save time and  
7 not adjust the microphone. In 2009 I was an  
8 independent. I'm a lifelong resident of Stillwater,  
9 Oklahoma, and Earl lives in Stillwater. It was  
10 because of people like Earl and specifically Earl  
11 having an influence on my decision to become a  
12 Democrat. He was -- later -- that was around 2009 --  
13 I became more and more involved and he was always  
14 very helpful, gave advice that I found very useful  
15 when I later served as secretary in 2011 to 2012 and  
16 then chair 2012 to 2013. As chair I have served many  
17 qualities that you want in a leader within our party  
18 within Earl Mitchell. I found many qualities you  
19 want in a member of your team. He's a good listener,  
20 genuinely nice and always involved.

21 If you want to do well, vote for Earl.

22 MARK HAMMONS: Thank you.

23 (Applause)

24 MARK HAMMONS: Representative Jason  
25 Dunnington to give the seconding speech for Victor

1 Gorin.

2 JASON DUNNINGTON: First of all, thank  
3 everyone for being here today. To get right to the  
4 point, I am giving a second -- secondary speech for a  
5 good friend of mine, Victor Gorin. I've gotten to  
6 know Victor very well over the -- the past year and  
7 especially well throughout this first session, had  
8 the privilege to spend Fridays with him having coffee  
9 at a weekly coffee chat. Victor always came with  
10 questions, always came prepared to talk about issues.  
11 He is the kind of person that we want to take this  
12 position. The idea of affirmative action is to  
13 affirm the civil rights of all people and there isn't  
14 anyone in my mind that will affirm those rights more  
15 than Victor.

16 So, I say vote Victor Gorin.

17 (Applause)

18 MARK HAMMONS: The chair recognizes the  
19 seconding speech for Lorenzo Thompson.

20 JASON LEONARD: I would like to say my name  
21 is Jason Leonard. I second Lorenzo Thompson for a  
22 reason. The man has been working tirelessly in  
23 Seminole County and throughout the rest of the state  
24 trying to get everything working up from the bottom  
25 up. He's taught us quite a few things that we needed

1 to know. We were struggling, didn't know a whole lot  
2 when we first started. As a matter of fact, I call  
3 him my brother and I do this for a reason. He has  
4 been there for us, he has been there for me, he has  
5 been there for my family. And I'd like you to vote  
6 for Lorenzo Thomas (sic) because he's going to here  
7 for everybody here and then for the rest of the  
8 entire state of Democrats and we will change this  
9 from a red state to a blue state with him in our  
10 court.

11 Thank you.

12 (Applause)

13 MARK HAMMONS: Thank you. The chair  
14 recognizes Lorenzo Thompson to give the seconding  
15 speech for William Molden.

16 LORENZO THOMPSON: And this is not a trick.  
17 This is not a trick. William Molden and I -- I  
18 nominate him. What I'm trying to do is get somebody  
19 on there that has experience and understands state  
20 affirmative action. William Molden was previously --  
21 he was co-chair of the state affirmative action  
22 committee. And what I'm interested in is getting a  
23 team together to continue where we started with  
24 affirmative action. So, that's why I nominate  
25 William Molden, because we need experience. We don't

1 need to go back and teach somebody. We need  
2 experience. So, that's why I nominated William  
3 Molden.

4 (Applause)

5 MARK HAMMONS: All right. We will now hear  
6 from Dr. Earl Mitchell as the candidate -- the first  
7 candidate speech.

8 (Applause)

9 EARL MITCHELL: Thank you. Thank you.  
10 Thank you. Thank you.

11 I am an inclusive person, inclusive in all my  
12 life, in my lifestyle. Everything I do is inclusive.  
13 I want to be a member of the central committee of the  
14 Oklahoma Democratic Party. It's important for me to  
15 be part of that because not only am I interested in  
16 making sure of being included, but also take a total  
17 wholistic view of everything in the party. So, I'll  
18 be involved intimately with every part of the party,  
19 not just one, but I want to be sure that everybody is  
20 included. Little known fact, my inclusion means that  
21 I have a history of doing this. And one little known  
22 fact, in 1972, as a professor, a black professor at  
23 OSU, advising the black students, I filed a lawsuit  
24 -- a federal lawsuit in federal court, Kindred  
25 Cockett and Earl Mitchell versus Dewey Bartlett,

1 because of his propensity at that time to have a  
2 secret organization spying on all -- and I was one of  
3 the people who was a troublemaker. My time is up, so  
4 I want to you to know where I am. And I was not  
5 tenured, so I want you to know that. I got tenured  
6 and became full professor, then vice president.

7 Thank you.

8 (Applause)

9 MARK HAMMONS: The chair recognizes Victor  
10 Gorin to give his speech.

11 VICTOR GORIN: Well, good afternoon, fellow  
12 Democrats. As you know, I'm Victor Gorin, and I was  
13 appointed to be one of the male affirmative action  
14 central committee with unanimous approval and after  
15 the passing of Carl Downing. I'm ask -- now asking  
16 to serve.

17 I bring you experience on the committee, plus  
18 I've been involved with the Democratic party politics  
19 beginning in the first and second period, 1988. That  
20 was also a year I became my local CWA 65th  
21 representative to the central labor council. I've  
22 been a union steward and I still am a proud, active  
23 authority and am a member of the communications work.  
24 I think that's an important thing to bring the  
25 affirmative action committee, because no matter what

1 nondiscrimination laws get passed, there will never  
2 be better protection on the job for a minority or,  
3 actually, anybody else for that matter than a union.

4 (Applause).

5 VICTOR GORIN: And I believe in equality  
6 for everyone. And my record speaks for itself. And  
7 that includes the LGBT community. And I think we can  
8 take a proud stance on what's right, doing the right  
9 thing -- in the right side of history we stand on the  
10 crossroads. And like we need to be a vision for that  
11 family with the gay child or one that's merely  
12 conceived to be, for whom the public school systems  
13 the living hell rather than a learning experience,  
14 and for somebody who will lose their job just for  
15 being who they are or even being suspected as such  
16 with no legal protection whatsoever, and for those  
17 decent fair-minded people who care about them, I want  
18 the Democratic party to be a beacon of hope for them  
19 and to show that Oklahoma and America and can do  
20 better. If you share that vision, I respectfully ask  
21 for your vote.

22 Thank you.

23 (Applause)

24 MARK HAMMONS: The chair recognizes Lorenzo  
25 Thompson for his speech.

1                   LORENZO THOMPSON: Well, here we are once  
2 again. Every year, every -- every election. A lot  
3 of you know I'm still for affirmative action. Some  
4 of you have been around the Democratic party for 12,  
5 13, 14 years. You've seen me up here doing  
6 affirmative action. What you just seen is we -- the  
7 Democratic party don't care about the sexual  
8 preference. We don't have a platform for that.

9                   (Applause)

10                  LORENZO THOMPSON: If you're a Democratic,  
11 you're a Democratic. The sexual preference should  
12 have nothing to do with you being a human being. The  
13 same civil rights as everybody.

14                  (Applause)

15                  LORENZO THOMPSON: And, therefore,  
16 affirmative action has nothing to do with one's  
17 sexual preference or whether they're gay or what.  
18 The beauty of the Democratic party is that we are all  
19 Democrats. And affirmative action, its job is -- and  
20 I will do that -- be inclusive of everyone. So if  
21 you vote for me, I will still -- if you don't, I'll  
22 still do affirmative action. Because affirmative  
23 action now, affirmative action today, tomorrow and  
24 forever.

25                  (Applause)

1                   MARK HAMMONS: The chair recognizes William  
2 Molden for his speech.

3                   WILLIAM MOLDEN: My name is William Molden.  
4 I'm honored to have served for the last two years as  
5 the affirmative action vice chair. This is -- this  
6 is my district just east of here, this house District  
7 93. When I became involved and got involved with the  
8 affirmative action committee, there were a great deal  
9 of -- of dissatisfaction and complaining about our  
10 friend on the right, that they were being  
11 unchallenged. I was determined to not let that  
12 happen. I was -- I'm glad to report to you that on  
13 the affirmative action committee we have a candidate  
14 to run on every level, local, state, myself, and  
15 national, Connie Johnson. What I want to do is  
16 continue to build on the success that we've had in  
17 the past, what they said -- well, this -- this is  
18 what we ran on. We ran on a shoestring budget. This  
19 was the door piece mail that we would deliver, and it  
20 was delivered to over 1500 voters and persons. And  
21 so, what I will say to you is that we are not just  
22 blacks or Hispanics or Native American, Asian  
23 American or LGBT. We are blue, white and red. We  
24 are Oklahoma, we are the Democratic party.

25                   (Applause)



1 WILLIAM MOLDEN: So, vote for me as the  
2 next affirmative action committee member.

3 (Applause)

4 MARK HAMMONS: Okay. Thank you. That  
5 concludes the speeches for affirmative action. The  
6 vote will be by a standing vote. The election will  
7 require a majority. You may only vote one time.  
8 With that said, we will start to my right and go to  
9 the left unless we've got enough staff here to count  
10 all at the same time. So, are we ready on the right  
11 to take a standing vote? Where are the tally clerks?  
12 John? Where's Forest Bennett? John, we need you.

13 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Speak up.

14 MARK HAMMONS: Okay. We're still short.  
15 We've got one of our tally folks. We need the tally  
16 clerks, Joe Bilbury, Forest Bennett and Roger  
17 Gallagher. Is he here? Do we have our clerks  
18 present for all three sections? Okay. We're still  
19 short. We have one of our tally clerks.

20 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Microphone.

21 MARK HAMMONS: We have one of our tally  
22 clerks. We need all three. If they are not here  
23 shortly, I will ask consent to appoint an alternate  
24 to start that. There's John. We've got two. We're  
25 missing one. Okay. David, are we good? Do we have

1 all three?

2 DAVE RATCLIFF: Yes.

3 MARK HAMMONS: Okay. We will start to the  
4 right. It is a standing vote. You can only vote one  
5 time. The first vote is for Dr. Earl Mitchell.  
6 Everyone in this section who -- in this section who  
7 favors Dr. Mitchell, please stand until the tally  
8 clerk announces that everyone has been counted.

9 Do we have the tally for this section? If we  
10 could stand for the center section. Remember you  
11 only get to vote once. This is still on the  
12 nomination of Dr. Earl Mitchell. Those favoring that  
13 stand at this point, please.

14 Okay. Now we will do the tally for this  
15 section. All those in favor of the nomination of Dr.  
16 Earl Mitchell, please stand.

17 The last vote count was 541. It requires two  
18 -- 542. It requires essentially 271 votes for a  
19 majority. Dr. Mitchell has received a total of 274  
20 which would be a majority. And, absent an objection,  
21 I would declare Dr. Mitchell the elected official for  
22 the first affirmative action.

23 (Applause)

24 MARK HAMMONS: Now, to try to expedite the  
25 process a little bit --

1 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Speak into the  
2 microphone.

3 TO BE IDENTIFIED: From Tulsa County. My  
4 point of order was, since we -- since the nominations  
5 are probably going to be fairly fresh, if we proceed  
6 with the election of the second male position at this  
7 point, can we go to the two females?

8 MARK HAMMONS: I was getting ready to do  
9 that. I'm going to assume, unless anyone withdraws,  
10 that the other three candidates remain candidates for  
11 the second position. However, if there is another --  
12 if anyone seeks to withdraw, you need to advise. If  
13 there are any further nominations? Are there no  
14 further nominations? Then the three remaining  
15 candidates are Victor Gorin, Lorenzo Thompson and  
16 William Molden.

17 Now, I would request consents since each of  
18 them have provided nominating, seconding and their  
19 own speeches, that we dispense with further  
20 speeches --

21 (Applause)

22 MARK HAMMONS: -- and proceed.

23 And we would commence voting again on the  
24 right side. The first candidate to vote for is  
25 Victor.

1 (Audience speaking.)

2 MARK HAMMONS: I had asked for nominations  
3 and heard none, so we will proceed with the voting.  
4 The first candidate you are voting on is Victor  
5 Gorin. We will start here. Stand again. You can  
6 only vote one time.

7 Okay. I have been accused of favoring the  
8 right over the left. I would never do that. The  
9 next section will be to the left and then we will go  
10 to the center section.

11 Then if the center section will rise, you are  
12 voting at this point for Victor Gorin.

13 The chair has a count of 344, which is more  
14 than the majority.

15 (Applause)

16 MARK HAMMONS: That's the end of the  
17 election period for affirmative action. I'll allow  
18 personal privilege for each of the elected officials.

19 TO BE IDENTIFIED: We can't hear you.

20 MARK HAMMONS: But I'm going do that at the  
21 end of that period. We will now entertain  
22 nominations for the two female positions on the  
23 affirmative action committee. Yes. The chair  
24 recognizes.

25 GREG BLEDSOE: Greg Bledsoe, vice chair of

1 Tulsa County. I nominate Patricia Al-Sharif from  
2 Tulsa County.

3 (Applause)

4 MARK HAMMONS: Is there a second?

5 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Affirmative action  
6 chairman. I nominate Patricia Al-Sharif -- I second  
7 it.

8 MARK HAMMONS: The nomination of Patricia  
9 Al-Sharif has been made and seconded. Are there  
10 further nominations? Are there further -- oh, I'm  
11 sorry.

12 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Thank you.

13 MARK HAMMONS: Yes.

14 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Oklahoma City District  
15 5. I nominate Theresa Hill.

16 MARK HAMMONS: Theresa Hill has been  
17 nominated. Is there a second for the nomination of  
18 Theresa Hill? Please approach the microphone.

19 VONDA COLEMAN: Hi. My name is Vonda  
20 Coleman and I would like to second that. I am a  
21 delegate.

22 MARK HAMMONS: Okay. Now, I'm going to  
23 assume that she is a delegate for the moment until  
24 shown otherwise. Are there further nominations? Are  
25 there further nominations? If there are no further

1 nominations, then I declare Patricia Al-Sharif be  
2 elected.

3 (Applause)

4 MARK HAMMONS: And Theresa Hill shall be  
5 elected --

6 (Applause)

7 MARK HAMMONS: -- affirmative action  
8 people. I will remind you...

9 Okay. The bylaws require separate election.  
10 I'm going -- so, to speed things up, though, I'm  
11 going to ask for permission to suspend the procedure  
12 unless there is another candidate who wishes to step  
13 forward.

14 TO BE IDENTIFIED: There is.

15 MARK HAMMONS: There is? All right. Then  
16 let's proceed with the -- let's proceed with all the  
17 nominations.

18 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Chair of Cleveland  
19 County. I nominate one of our own, Giovanni Perry.

20 MARK HAMMONS: Giovanni Perry has been  
21 nominated. Is there a second to the nomination?

22 SARA BAKER: Sara Baker from Canadian  
23 County. I second the nomination of Giovanni Perry  
24 for affirmative action.

25 MARK HAMMONS: The nomination of Giovanni

1 Perry has been seconded. Are there any further  
2 nominations for the positions of female affirmative  
3 action?

4 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Point of order or  
5 inquiry. Hi. Vonda Coleman. I was explained to  
6 confirm that we're nominating all the female  
7 affirmative action people right now?

8 MARK HAMMONS: Yes. And we will vote the  
9 same way as we did on the males.

10 VONDA COLEMAN: Okay. Then I need to  
11 nominate.

12 MARK HAMMONS: Do you understand? Any  
13 further nominations? Any further nominations?  
14 Hearing no further nominations, that will close the  
15 nominations.

16 TO BE IDENTIFIED: She wants to nominate.

17 VONDA COLEMAN: I do.

18 MARK HAMMONS: Oh, I'm sorry.

19 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Mr. Chairman, you're  
20 good. I've gotcha.

21 MARK HAMMONS: We have a nomination  
22 pending, so we will wait until we have the nomination  
23 and accept that. If you have other nominations,  
24 please think about that, be ready, we'll present  
25 those.

1 TO BE IDENTIFIED: From Oklahoma County. I  
2 nominate Mary Sosa from Oklahoma County.

3 (Applause)

4 MARK HAMMONS: Mary Sosa has been  
5 nominated. Is there a second?

6 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Oklahoma County, and I  
7 second it.

8 MARK HAMMONS: Mary Sosa has been nominated  
9 and a second. Are there any further nominations?  
10 Are there any further nominations? Hearing no  
11 further nominations, the nominations will be closed.  
12 We will hear from the nominator of Patricia  
13 Al-Sharif, Greg Bledsoe.

14 GREG BLEDSOE: My name is -- my name is  
15 Greg Bledsoe. I've previously been CD1 chair and  
16 vice chair and I was just recently elected vice chair  
17 of Tulsa County. I've known Patricia for at least  
18 the last six years. She is an outstanding volunteer  
19 in Tulsa County. She's been there whenever we've  
20 asked for.

21 (Applause)

22 GREG BLEDSOE: She's registered more voters  
23 than anyone could possibly imagine. She's a small  
24 businessperson, and if you need a place to put a  
25 petition or a sign, she knows virtually every



1 individual quick stop in Tulsa County and she can get  
2 that Democratic stuff in there for the people. She  
3 -- she works on the north side of Tulsa and she's  
4 working registering voters on the south side at 61st  
5 and Peoria. She will be -- she bridges not only race  
6 but religion and she will be an outstanding  
7 affirmative action representative on the central  
8 committee. I urge you to elect Patricia Al-Sharif.

9 (Applause)

10 MARK HAMMONS: We will now hear the  
11 nominating speech for Theresa Hill. Again, two  
12 minutes. Thank you.

13 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Good afternoon,  
14 Democrats. I know you are tired, but I want to tell  
15 you about someone who should be tired but she doesn't  
16 have time to get tired. Her name is Theresa Hill.  
17 You all know her. I've been active in the party  
18 since 1986 and when I came in, guess who I met? I  
19 met the top voter registration person in the state  
20 history of Oklahoma in voter -- in the state question  
21 695. How many of you remember that? Right to work  
22 changed this state. And Theresa Hill was the top  
23 voter turnout and voter registration person for the  
24 State of Oklahoma. She has been involved in the  
25 Democratic National Committee, in a 50-state voter

1 turnout. She has worked with the Democratic party.  
2 She has been the vice chair of Oklahoma County.  
3 She's no stranger to Democrats. She doesn't just  
4 show up when it's time for a convention. She's the  
5 worker behind the scenes. And I'm asking you to join  
6 me and let's take this state to the top of the hill  
7 by voting for Theresa Hill.

8 Thank you so very much.

9 (Applause)

10 MARK HAMMONS: We will now hear from  
11 nominating speech for Giovanni Perry. Okay. I  
12 couldn't read my own writing, and I know Giovanni, I  
13 apologize. It's starting to get late in the day.  
14 Nominating speech. Thank you.

15 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Hello, convention. I'm  
16 Matthew (inaudible), I'm the chair of Cleveland  
17 County. I'm new to this job. You can probably tell.  
18 I look a lot younger than I actually am. But  
19 one person who was really welcoming when I just got  
20 elected was Giovanni Perry. She has been an active  
21 volunteer for the Democratic party since 2006, which  
22 is right at the same time she started her immigration  
23 law practice. We've heard a lot about the different  
24 groups in the party, but she really is one of those  
25 groups. She is those people. I'm half Puerto Rican

1 and I don't know near as much Spanish as I'd like to.  
2 I don't have as much roots in that community as I  
3 would like to. This lady over here, the limited time  
4 that I've got to know her, she's got that. And  
5 that's why I ask you to give her your vote.

6 (Applause)

7 MARK HAMMONS: We will recognize -- I wrote  
8 the name down. I'm going mispronounce it. Anna, I'm  
9 going to recognize you to -- for the nominating  
10 speech for Mary Sosa.

11 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Okay. Hi, everyone. I  
12 wish that I had the words to fully describe Mary to  
13 you. Probably -- I don't know if it was a year ago,  
14 two years ago now, I found Mary and I asked her to  
15 run for House District 89. After I learned that she  
16 had started -- not started, but was the president of  
17 her neighborhood association and a little  
18 neighborhood on the south side of Oklahoma City and  
19 that she had written grants to get street lights  
20 because there were no street lights in her  
21 neighborhood. It was dark at night and she worked  
22 together with her neighbors and they made it happen.  
23 They raised money selling pickles and popcorn so that  
24 they could keep the kids, have a movie night so they  
25 would stay off the streets. She -- when I first read

1 about her, the story that she told was about when she  
2 was in school in Lubbock, Texas, and the teachers  
3 told her to stop speaking Spanish, that she was in  
4 the United States and that she needed to speak  
5 English, and she refused. She said that Spanish was  
6 her language and she was going to speak it. I knew  
7 immediately Mary that would be a perfect candidate  
8 for House District 90, which is 60 percent Hispanic  
9 on the south side of Oklahoma City. And the Hispanic  
10 population is actually the largest minority  
11 population, at I think pretty close to 11 percent in  
12 the state of Oklahoma. Mary will serve excellently  
13 as an affirmative action committee member. She  
14 didn't win her election, unfortunately, but she  
15 continues to serve in the community, attending every  
16 community event, going to every meeting, still  
17 working in her neighborhood association, registering  
18 voters, and now I believe is a very active member of  
19 -- and values those youth every day, encouraging us  
20 to get involved with the political process. I cannot  
21 advocate someone more passionate and fitting for this  
22 position, especially with the change in demographics  
23 in Oklahoma, so please, please, please consider  
24 voting for Mary.

25 (Applause)

1                   MARK HAMMONS: Thank you. Now we will hear  
2 the seconding speech for Patricia Al-Sharif. Mr.  
3 Candidate, if you would approach. There's one minute  
4 on seconding speeches.

5                   TO BE IDENTIFIED: Yes. I couldn't wait to  
6 get here. How are you all doing, Democrats?

7                   (Applause)

8                   TO BE IDENTIFIED: I'm congressional one on  
9 affirmative action chair and also community  
10 organizer. Patricia is one -- a sister of mine  
11 because if we want to do anything in the community,  
12 we can actually go to her and she helps us out in the  
13 community. She actually does voter registration out  
14 of her store. Okay? And she's a very hard working  
15 person. I've been knowing Patricia a long time. And  
16 she will not only be working in the office coming  
17 down here and sitting on the -- the position she's  
18 running for, she also will be working in the  
19 community. And I think all the people in affirmative  
20 action, what you guys need to start doing is going  
21 out in these communities and working with the people  
22 in the community. Okay? Because they're saying that  
23 we need to have Democrats elected, but we need voters  
24 to vote for the Democrats, so I think Patricia would  
25 be doing a great job in this position right here.

1 Thank you.

2 (Applause)

3 MARK HAMMONS: Now we will recognize  
4 Ms. Coleman for the seconding speech of Theresa Hill.

5 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Good afternoon,  
6 Democrats.

7 AUDIENCE: Good afternoon.

8 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Good afternoon,  
9 Democrats.

10 AUDIENCE: Good afternoon.

11 TO BE IDENTIFIED: All right. Thank you.

12 Today I want to tell you it's an honor and a  
13 privilege to give the second nomination for  
14 Mr. Theresa Hill, the former president of house of  
15 Democrats in the State of Oklahoma. She has always  
16 been a great mentor, a great advocate and she has  
17 continuously been supportive of the youth within the  
18 Democratic party. And that -- that -- thank you for  
19 the clap because that's really -- it means a lot to  
20 us when we're recruiting youth and engaging youth and  
21 getting them involved. When you do have other people  
22 that are willing to teach you, give you information  
23 and insight, bring you in so we can also be a part of  
24 the party and active and engaged. She is a  
25 powerhouse of grassroots efforts, and that, alone, we

1 know as the Democratic party makes a drastic changes  
2 in all elections. So, with that being said, please  
3 take today, take your time out to make sure you vote  
4 for Theresa Hill because we are trying to make sure  
5 we take the party to the top of the hill.

6 Thank you.

7 (Applause)

8 MARK HAMMONS: We will now recognize Sara  
9 Baker for the seconding speech of Giovanni Perry.

10 SARA BAKER: Good afternoon.

11 AUDIENCE: Good afternoon.

12 SARA BAKER: It's 4:30. How much time do I  
13 have? Okay. Okay. So, let me ask you this? Did  
14 you know that the Oklahoma GOP elected a Latina to be  
15 the vice chair of their party? If you did not know  
16 that, I cannot emphasize to you how important it is  
17 that we have that representation on our affirmative  
18 action committee for the State of Oklahoma -- for  
19 Democrats in the State of Oklahoma. So, I would take  
20 this opportunity to recognize my beautiful candidate  
21 over there and ask you to vote for her because she is  
22 an active member in her community, she is an  
23 immigration attorney, she is very involved in  
24 fighting for the rights of the Latino community, and  
25 I have 10 seconds, so I'm going to take that

1 opportunity to ask you to vote for Giovanni.

2 Thank you.

3 (Applause)

4 MARK HAMMONS: Okay. And the chair  
5 recognizes Kristen Gadlin for the seconding speech of  
6 Mary Sosa.

7 KRISTEN GADLIN: Hi. I'm Kristin Gadlin.  
8 I'm going to yield my time to Cathy Peters.

9 MARK HAMMONS: You can do that  
10 automatically.

11 KRISTEN GADLIN: Thank you.

12 MARK HAMMONS: The chair allows that.  
13 Thank you. You're recognized to give the seconding  
14 speech.

15 CATHY PETERS: Hey, Democrats, how are you?  
16 Getting tired out there yet?

17 So, let me tell you about my friend, Mary. I  
18 was privileged enough -- Mary Sosa. I was privileged  
19 enough to help her with her campaign last time. Let  
20 me tell you about her efforts. Just over 600 people  
21 voted in her race. That's it. This district is  
22 60 percent Hispanic and only 600 people turned out to  
23 vote. Now, let me tell you. We had a huge portion  
24 of our Democratic population that we need to bring  
25 into this party and I know that we need Mary Sosa on



1 our affirmative action committee because she is  
2 working day in and day out in our Hispanic community.  
3 She is proud to be down there on the south side of  
4 Oklahoma City. She is a grandmother, she is a  
5 mother, and she became a grandmother and a mother to  
6 us when she was running. She will do a great job to  
7 reach out to more Hispanic voters and bring them in  
8 to vote in this party which we desperately need and  
9 will help turn Oklahoma blue. I urge you to vote  
10 Mary Sosa, my dear friend, for affirmative action.

11 Thank you so much.

12 (Applause)

13 MARK HAMMONS: That concludes the  
14 nominating speeches. Now we will hear from the  
15 candidates. Patricia Al-Sharif, if you would come  
16 forward.

17 (Applause)

18 PATRICIA AL-SHARIF: Hello, everybody. I'm  
19 Patricia Al-Sharif. For you all that -- for all you  
20 all that don't know me, I'm the kind of person that I  
21 analyze a situation and then I figure out what it  
22 takes to make it happen. And the first time I did  
23 that I was about 4. My sister was driving a tractor  
24 in the field. She was 5. And I figured, if she  
25 could pick corn, I could drive a tractor. So, that

1 was one.

2 And the next time I figured out the best way  
3 to make things happen is when I was 10 years old I  
4 started working in the cafeteria. I noticed the lady  
5 that was taking the trays was swamped. And I  
6 thought, if I helped her, she would -- she would do  
7 that faster. And I -- and they gave me a job.

8 And then the next time that affirmative  
9 action helped me was when I was 13, they had national  
10 youth corps which was a program and you could work in  
11 schools. And in the summertime I worked in the -- in  
12 the -- with the migrant children that came to school  
13 for training in the summertime while their parents  
14 worked in the fields. So, I had that affirmative  
15 action job. I worked in the library. When I was 15  
16 I got a job, a union job with Safeway. So I've been  
17 a -- affirmative action has given me a lot of gifts  
18 through the years and I'd just like to pursue that.

19 (Applause)

20 MARK HAMMONS: Thank you. The chair will  
21 recognize Theresa Hill to give her speech.

22 THERESA HILL: Hello. My name is Theresa  
23 Hill. I am no stranger to this convention. You  
24 either like me or you don't like me, but I tell you  
25 what, I've been a worker for this Democratic party.

1 I've worked for over 30 years. The deal of the  
2 Democratic party is to elect Democrats. You can sit  
3 there and you can talk about anything you want to,  
4 but if you do not work to elect Democrats, then  
5 you've not done what the mission of the party. I  
6 have done voter registration, getting out to vote.  
7 I've worked for candidates, Anastasia Pittman,  
8 Michael Shelton, Richard Marcet. I've worked in  
9 Muskogee for -- I can't think now I've worked for so  
10 many of them. I've worked for Willa Johnson. I just  
11 want to say this: Whoever wins this I will support  
12 them, but I want to tell you I can talk about what  
13 I've done all day. I made a sheet and I didn't make  
14 this sheet to brag. I made this sheet to tell you  
15 that I have been out there in the trenches. I have  
16 over 50 awards for my work in the community and for  
17 the Democratic party. I will continue to work for  
18 the Democratic party. Everyone know that. Call  
19 Theresa, she's going to voter registration, she's  
20 going to voter education, she's going to get out to  
21 vote. I don't go to watch parties because by the  
22 time you get to the watch party, I'm sick, I'm sick  
23 because I've worked seven days, 24-7. And I will  
24 continue to work 24-7. And we have to pull this  
25 party together, ya'll. We do. We have to pull the

1 party together. It's a shame that we have  
2 African-Americans, the Native Americans and the  
3 Hispanic and the gay and lesbian fighting against  
4 each other for positions. What are we doing? Why  
5 are we doing this? I've seen the fights. It's not  
6 worth it, ya'll. Our job is to elect Democrats. Any  
7 other reason, we are here for the wrong reason. And  
8 that's what I want to do, I want to elect Democrats.  
9 I gave my sheet. You guys know me. I'm going to  
10 stand here today and I'm going to ask you for your  
11 vote.

12 Thank you so much.

13 (Applause)

14 MARK HAMMONS: The chair recognizes  
15 Giovanni Perry.

16 GIOVANNI PERRY: I am Giovanni Perry. I'm  
17 an attorney here in Oklahoma City. I have been here  
18 almost 21 years now as an attorney working with the  
19 community.

20 And the other candidates are great  
21 candidates. I do not envy your position to choose  
22 one or choose two. I agree with what others have  
23 said, that maybe there should be representation of  
24 each of the minority groups in the central committee,  
25 not just making it be two people and then having to,

1 make two -- make such a difficult choice between  
2 people that are so qualified and so dedicated.  
3 Because I can promise you, regardless of the outcome  
4 today, I will continue to work hard for Democrats and  
5 the community in Oklahoma.

6 I do want Democrats to be voted or -- elected  
7 in Oklahoma because I believe in our values, our  
8 Democratic values. They're the ones that promote  
9 justice and equality for all regardless of race,  
10 religion or color of skin or ethnic background.

11 I ask for your vote -- your vote to the  
12 affirmative action -- state affirmative action  
13 position so that I can continue helping the Latino  
14 community, and I believe that all of us put in that  
15 extra perspective. And my perspective of having  
16 grown up in the canal zone, daughter of a military  
17 father and then coming to OU, now having an OU son, a  
18 son at OU and a daughter in high school, I can tell  
19 you that I'm an Oklahoman by choice. Maybe I wasn't  
20 born here, but I love this state. And one of my  
21 greatest experiences in the past has been being a  
22 member of the Leadership Oklahoma Class 16. And the  
23 one thing that a friend of mine said when I thought  
24 that maybe my message was getting old about  
25 immigration, he said, if not you, who? So I ask all

1 of you to remember that message. If not you, who?  
2 Keep fighting for electing Democrats here in  
3 Oklahoma.

4 Thank you.

5 (Applause)

6 MARK HAMMONS: Thank you. Now the chair  
7 recognizes Mary Sosa.

8 (Applause)

9 MARY SOSA: (Spanish spoken) My name -- my  
10 name is Mary Sosa. I am hoping to get your -- your  
11 vote. I believe that, as Democrats, it is our duty  
12 to elect people like ours that represent our values,  
13 our beliefs and that are willing to work not just for  
14 the party but for the community, for the city and for  
15 the state of Oklahoma and for our United States. I  
16 am a mother of two daughters and a grandmother of  
17 four grandchildren and one great grandson. I've been  
18 very active not only in my community but with the  
19 Democratic party. I run for office and I am very  
20 much wanting to continue the inclusiveness, not just  
21 the Latinos but, again, the Asian, the  
22 African-American. We are all in this boat together  
23 and we have to work together to be able to work  
24 together and to be able to elect Democratic people to  
25 represent them.

1 Thank you.

2 (Applause)

3 MARK HAMMONS: Thank you. That will  
4 conclude the nominating speeches. Will you, please,  
5 check in the outside restroom areas and ask all  
6 delegates to return so that we can start the count.  
7 We will start the count this time to the left, then  
8 the center and then the right. We'll mix it up a  
9 little bit. Will the tallying clerks take their  
10 positions, please? Okay. We will start to the left.  
11 Is everyone seated? Are all the delegates in the  
12 room? All the delegates are in the room. Then we  
13 will start to the left. And the first tally will be  
14 with regard to Patricia Al-Sharif. Those who are  
15 voting for Patricia, stand.

16 In the center section, if you are in favor of  
17 Patricia Al-Sharif, please stand.

18 Okay. And in the -- to my right-hand  
19 section, all in favor of Patricia Al-Sharif, if you  
20 will stand.

21 Okay. The next candidate will be Theresa  
22 Hill. We will start again on the left, move to the  
23 center and then to the right. All those in favor of  
24 Theresa Hill, if you will stand, please.

25 For the center section, if you will stand for

1 Theresa Hill.

2 And on the section to my right, if you will  
3 stand if you favor Theresa Hill for affirmative  
4 action.

5 Okay. We will start with the center section,  
6 those in favor of Giovanni Perry, if you will stand,  
7 please.

8 Okay. And we'll go back to right. Those in  
9 favor of Giovanni Perry stand to be voted.

10 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Point of order.

11 MARK HAMMONS: On a point of order I will  
12 not recognize that during the vote, but before the  
13 next vote is counted, I will recognize it. During  
14 the vote count I will not.

15 Okay. And to my left, for Giovanni Perry, if  
16 you will stand, please.

17 Okay. Someone had a point of order. Do you  
18 still wish to present that? If you do, approach the  
19 microphone.

20 TO BE IDENTIFIED: I'm okay. Thank you.

21 MARK HAMMONS: Then for the position of  
22 affirmative action female the candidate is Mary Sosa.  
23 I'll ask the center section to stand. We will take  
24 the count to the right for Mary Sosa.

25 And to the left section, please, on Mary Sosa



1 affirmative action.

2           There is not a majority on the first vote.  
3 The top two vote-getters are Patricia Al-Sharif and  
4 Theresa Hill. There will be a runoff between those  
5 two candidates. However, there is a second elected  
6 position, and the -- and all three candidates you  
7 will need to vote for when we get to the second  
8 elected position. This will not eliminate any of the  
9 other candidates. So, on the runoff we will proceed.  
10 We will start to the right. And those that favor  
11 Patricia.

12           TO BE IDENTIFIED: Point of -- can you tell  
13 us the vote count, please?

14           MARK HAMMONS: I will tell you the vote  
15 count. We have a vote count of 221 for Theresa Hill,  
16 122 for Patricia Al-Sharif. We have a total of 95  
17 for Giovanni Perry. That does not exceed the number  
18 of delegates. That is consistent with the  
19 registration. And that includes Mary Sosa as well.  
20 Yes. We will start to the right for Patricia  
21 Al-Sharif. If you want to wish -- to vote for her,  
22 please stand.

23           TO BE IDENTIFIED: It's a runoff. Right?

24           MARK HAMMONS: Yes. The runoff is between  
25 Patricia Al-Sharif and Theresa Hill.

1           If we will go to the left, mix it up, those  
2 favoring Patricia Al-Sharif, if you will stand,  
3 please.

4           On the center section, those favoring  
5 Patricia Al-Sharif, if you will stand, please.

6           We will now proceed to the count for Theresa  
7 Hill. We'll start in center section, if you favor  
8 Theresa Hill, please stand.

9           Counting from the right on Theresa Hill,  
10 those favoring, please stand.

11           Now those to the left, in this section, for  
12 Theresa Hill, if you will stand, please.

13           Okay. The chair would recognize the winner  
14 of the affirmative action position as Theresa Hill.

15           (Applause)

16           MARK HAMMONS: The vote count was 303 to  
17 124, which is a majority of the quorum.

18           Now, there are three candidates. I will  
19 presume that all three of these will remain as  
20 nominees unless any of the candidates wish to step  
21 down. Do any candidates wish to withdraw their  
22 nomination? If not, we will proceed. You have heard  
23 the nominating speeches and speeches for each  
24 candidate. We will proceed with the vote count in  
25 the same order that we proceeded before. That means

1 Patricia Al-Sharif first, Giovanni Perry second, Mary  
2 Sosa third in order of presentation.

3 So, with regard to Patricia Al-Sharif, we  
4 will start with the center section. If you will  
5 stand if you favor Patricia Al-Sharif for the  
6 affirmative action position. This is a new vote.  
7 This is a new vote, so you only get to vote once in  
8 the process.

9 We will vote from the left -- my left section  
10 for Patricia Al-Sharif. If you support Patricia, you  
11 need to stand.

12 Okay. And to the right side, if you favor --  
13 this section, Patricia Al-Sharif, if you would stand,  
14 please.

15 Those persons favoring Giovanni Perry, we'll  
16 start to the right this time. If you will stand,  
17 please.

18 We will go to the center section for Giovanni  
19 Perry. Those favoring Giovanni Perry, if you will  
20 stand, please.

21 Okay. And those to the left section favoring  
22 Giovanni Perry, if you will stand, please.

23 Those favoring Mary Sosa, if you would stand  
24 starting in the left.

25 We will move to the center section, those

1 favoring Mary Sosa.

2 And to the right, if you favor Mary Sosa,  
3 please stand.

4 Okay. There is not a majority of those  
5 voting, so we will have to have another vote. The  
6 vote totals were Patricia Al-Sharif, 101; Giovanni  
7 Perry, 206; and Mary Sosa, 109. The runoff will be  
8 between Giovanni Perry and Mary Sosa.

9 Those favoring Giovanni Perry starting in the  
10 center section, if you will rise.

11 Point of information or point of order.

12 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Point of information.

13 MARK HAMMONS: Would you approach so we can  
14 hear, please? Why don't you go ahead and be seated  
15 and we'll start here.

16 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Sorry about that. Who  
17 are we currently voting for?

18 MARK HAMMONS: You are voting on Giovanni  
19 Perry and Mary Sosa who were the two high  
20 vote-getters out of the three. So, this is the final  
21 runoff on this. Whoever gets the majority on this  
22 gets the seat.

23 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Thank you, chairman.

24 MARK HAMMONS: All right. Starting, again,  
25 with Giovanni Perry. The center section, if you will

1 stand, those who favor Giovanni Perry.

2 Okay. To the right, those favoring  
3 Ms. Perry, if you will stand.

4 To the left, those favoring Giovanni Perry,  
5 if you will stand.

6 Those in favoring of Mary Sosa, I would like  
7 to start on the left again, please rise.

8 Those in the center favoring Mary Sosa, if  
9 you would stand, please.

10 And to the right, those favoring Mary Sosa,  
11 please stand.

12 Okay. I have Giovanni Perry as the winner of  
13 the affirmative action.

14 (Applause)

15 MARK HAMMONS: Affirmative action  
16 candidates personal privilege, but we have to leave  
17 here in 30 minutes. I would ask everyone to stay,  
18 please. I know that there's a great deal -- I know  
19 that there's a great deal of interest in the open  
20 primary issue. We only have half an hour in which to  
21 consider that matter. There is a resolution and a  
22 bylaw proposal. I'm going to ask, if there's no  
23 objection, that the vote on those two matters be  
24 joined so that approval of the bylaw would be  
25 considered and approval of the resolution and vice

1    versa to make sure that we do have appropriate votes  
2    on that issue.  If there's no objection --

3                   TO BE IDENTIFIED:  Objection.

4                   TO BE IDENTIFIED:  Objection.

5                   MARK HAMMONS:  Okay.  There's an objection.  
6    I'll ask for a vote by acclimation.  Those favoring  
7    the chairs proposal to bind the vote on those two  
8    issues, say so by saying -- a vote in favor will  
9    favor both the bylaw resolution -- both the bylaw and  
10   the resolutions so that there would be debate, a time  
11   for a vote.

12                   TO BE IDENTIFIED:  Point of order.  Tulsa  
13   County.  We'll have an opportunity should someone  
14   wish to have any of the four constitutional proposals  
15   poled for discussion or any of the six bylaws poled  
16   for discussion?

17                   MARK HAMMONS:  We will have the opportunity  
18   if it takes place before 6:00; otherwise, they kick  
19   us out, and there -- and there would not be time to  
20   do that.

21                   So, I have requested approval to consolidate  
22   those two measures so that we can have a debate and  
23   vote on them.  Those in favor --

24                   TO BE IDENTIFIED:  Point of order.

25                   MARK HAMMONS:  Point of order.  You are

1 recognized.

2 TO BE IDENTIFIED: As I understand it, the  
3 chair is essentially asking to change the rules and  
4 to amend the rules by -- by changing the order of --  
5 of the agenda and by combining agenda items?

6 MARK HAMMONS: Yes.

7 TO BE IDENTIFIED: And I think that  
8 requires more than just an acclimation vote.

9 MARK HAMMONS: It requires a majority vote  
10 and the chair will make a determination about whether  
11 a standing vote or other reported vote is required.  
12 So, we'll start by acclimation first.

13 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Point of order.

14 MARK HAMMONS: Yes.

15 TO BE IDENTIFIED: This is a change in the  
16 order of business. This will require a two-thirds  
17 majority vote according to the rules.

18 MARK HAMMONS: I am going to ask for a vote  
19 by acclimation with regards to the matter. The  
20 matter is on the question. Those in favor of  
21 consolidating the issue, please signify so by saying  
22 aye.

23 Those opposed signify so by saying no.

24 Okay. The chair is not going to rule based  
25 on an oral vote. I will ask all those in favor to

1 stand and we will count them across.

2 TO BE IDENTIFIED: I think a lot of us  
3 don't know what we're voting on.

4 MARK HAMMONS: We are saying that the first  
5 item that we will vote will be to -- on a combined  
6 approval or disapproval of the question. To the  
7 extent time remains and we have to leave by 6:00,  
8 then we will take up all other items we can take up.

9 TO BE IDENTIFIED: So, we're voting right  
10 now just to approve that one thing, not to say that  
11 we're going to --

12 MARK HAMMONS: No.

13 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Thank you.

14 MARK HAMMONS: Okay. Everyone understands.  
15 Continue to vote. Okay. Those who oppose the  
16 consolidation of the open primary action, I think I  
17 made it too confusing by standing all at once. Why  
18 don't you start on the left, we'll go to the center  
19 and to the right. Those who are opposed to that,  
20 stand, please.

21 Those on the left who are opposed.

22 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Point of order.

23 MARK HAMMONS: You can't call a point of  
24 order during a vote. You'll have to wait.

25 The vote count at this point is 282 in favor,



1 it would be 33 opposed, which is a supermajority and  
2 would allow those actions to be consolidated. Now,  
3 if you will give me a moment, I know that everyone is  
4 concerned about the resolutions and the bylaw  
5 changes. There is a way to address that. And if  
6 you'll give me a minute, I will explain that, because  
7 we aren't going to get it done in 19 minutes. And  
8 that's not my time limit; that's the building time  
9 limit on it. The -- we can recess this convention to  
10 a date to be set by the chairman if you give me the  
11 authority, and I promise you we will take up all  
12 resolutions and all of the bylaw changes that we  
13 cannot reach. I -- I am attempting, because there  
14 are time considerations on the open primary where  
15 that cannot be done unless approved prior to -- to  
16 November 1st to allow a vote and debate on that prior  
17 to that time and while we have a quorum. That's --  
18 it is not my intention to cut off anyone's vote on  
19 any issue. So, does everyone understand that there's  
20 no way that we're going to get to those matters but,  
21 with the consent of the convention, we will recess to  
22 a date certain. I'm going to ask you to give me the  
23 authority because I won't pick a date right now, but  
24 in at least the time period provided for a central  
25 committee call, then we will do that. Yes.

1           Now, I tell you every minute that goes by  
2 makes it less and less likely we're going to be able  
3 to vote on the open primary issue today.

4           TO BE IDENTIFIED: Mr. Chairman.  
5 Mr. Chairman.

6           MARK HAMMONS: Yes.

7           TO BE IDENTIFIED: I move that we recess to  
8 a date certain to be established by the chair of our  
9 Democratic party of Oklahoma.

10          TO BE IDENTIFIED: Point of order.

11          MARK HAMMONS: A motion to recess is always  
12 a prior motion. It is not subject to debate.

13          TO BE IDENTIFIED: Tom Guild, Oklahoma  
14 County, I second the motion.

15          MARK HAMMONS: So, there's no debate.

16          TO BE IDENTIFIED: Quorum call.

17          MARK HAMMONS: A quorum call does not  
18 affect a motion to recess to a date certain. It is  
19 one of the few actions that can be done without a  
20 quorum call. According to the last vote count, there  
21 were 315 votes which is more than a quorum. A quorum  
22 -- a quorum would take 272.

23          TO BE IDENTIFIED: Mr. Chairman, I move the  
24 previous question.

25          TO BE IDENTIFIED: Mr. Chairman,

1 information. Is it the opinion of the chair that  
2 doing this would be unjust to the rural delegates  
3 here today and not favorable for them?

4 MARK HAMMONS: Well, I don't want -- I  
5 didn't want to get to this point, but it is unjust to  
6 not allow people to have an opportunity to vote on --  
7 on any of the issues that are presented.

8 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Mr. Chair --

9 MARK HAMMONS: So, I'm going to --

10 TO BE IDENTIFIED: I second the motion to  
11 move previous question.

12 MARK HAMMONS: There was a motion to be  
13 seconded. There is no debate on a motion to recess.  
14 I'm going to try and do it by voice vote. If the  
15 voice is not clear, we'll have to do a standing count  
16 and probably at the end of that count, one way or the  
17 other, we will --

18 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Point of information.  
19 Mr. Chair, concerning the last item on the agenda,  
20 the constitutional amendment or change in order to --

21 MARK HAMMONS: That is actually a bylaw  
22 change.

23 TO BE IDENTIFIED: It's what?

24 MARK HAMMONS: It's a bylaw change.

25 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Okay. Can we vote on

1 that before we leave?

2 MARK HAMMONS: Well, there has been a  
3 motion made and there -- it's been seconded and there  
4 is no debate on that. So, I have to call the  
5 question on it. All those in favor of recessing and  
6 allowing the chair to set a date certain consistent  
7 with the time -- time limits set for a central  
8 committee call, signify so by saying aye.

9 All opposed say nay.

10 TO BE IDENTIFIED: Excuse me. This is a  
11 point of order long before any of those people lined  
12 up --

13 MARK HAMMONS: I understand. But a recess  
14 -- a motion to recess takes precedence --

15 TO BE IDENTIFIED: His point of order was  
16 made before they were, before the recess.

17 MARK HAMMONS: There has been a vote --  
18 tell me what the point is.

19 TO BE IDENTIFIED: The point of order is --  
20 is the motion that was made by the chair was not  
21 seconded in regard to finding --

22 MARK HAMMONS: The chair -- the chair can  
23 call for a vote. The vote is --

24 TO BE IDENTIFIED: The chair -- the rules  
25 say the chair has --

1                   MARK HAMMONS: I overrule any point of  
2 order. So, those -- I am not, however, satisfied  
3 that I have the vote clear on the oral vote, so,  
4 please, if you're in favor of recessing to a date  
5 certain to be set by the chair in a time period  
6 consistent with the bylaws, stand starting here and  
7 then we will proceed.

8                   TO BE IDENTIFIED: Here in Oklahoma City or  
9 where will it be?

10                  MARK HAMMONS: We are required by the  
11 constitution to be in Oklahoma City.

12                  Okay. The votes in favor are one -- excuse  
13 me -- 265.

14                  Any votes opposed you will have to stand.  
15 Anyone who is voting, please sit unless you are  
16 voting. If you are voting, stand, but, otherwise,  
17 please sit, so we can get an appropriate count.

18                  If you are standing, you are presumably  
19 voting.

20                  Okay. The vote is 265 to 21. The motion  
21 carried.

22                  Members of the convention, I -- I feel your  
23 pain as our last president before Obama that I dare  
24 to mention says, "It is not desirable to have a  
25 second convention and to require people to travel to

1 do that. It is also not desirable to deny people the  
2 right to debate and vote on issues. Neither of those  
3 are the principles that we want".

4 So, we are faced between a choice of two  
5 evils. The best that I can do is give you as much  
6 notice as possible, but I would suggest to you that  
7 if you can think of ways for reliable remote voting  
8 and participation, we should entertain that to take  
9 care of our distant delegates, because I know it's  
10 not fair. I've driven to those places; it's a long  
11 way away. And by our constitution, we must meet in  
12 Oklahoma City. We don't have a choice to move that  
13 location as it stands.

14 So, please, help me to make this a better  
15 process so that every -- that we can accomplish the  
16 dual goal and easy participation and fair  
17 participation. That's what we want to do.

18 Thank you for your time and attendance. I  
19 appreciate that.

20 (Applause)

21 (Convention recessed, 5:53 p.m.)

22

23

24

25

1 CERTIFICATE

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 SS

4 OKLAHOMA COUNTY

5 I, Cheryl D. Glenn, Certified Shorthand Reporter,  
6 Registered Professional Reporter, within and for the  
7 state of Oklahoma, certify that the foregoing  
8 convention was taken in shorthand and thereafter  
9 transcribed; that it is true and correct to the best  
10 of my ability; and that it was taken on May 30, 2015,  
11 in Oklahoma City, county of Oklahoma, state of  
12 Oklahoma, and that I am not an attorney for nor  
13 relative of any of said parties or otherwise  
14 interested in the event of said action.

15 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand  
16 and official seal this 9th day of July, 2015.

17

18

19

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21

22

23



24

CHERYL D. GLENN, CSR, RPR

25

State of Oklahoma, No. 1448

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