

Orange County Republican Party County Executive Committee Regular Meeting Minutes

August 11, 2026, 7:00 PM
Mauriceville Community Center

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Patrick Rainey.

Secretary Andrea Bilbo was present.

Invocation and Pledge

Invocation

An opening prayer was offered by Joseph Reimers.

Pledge of Allegiance

The members recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognition of Elected Officials and Guests

The Chair recognized the following elected officials and guests in attendance:

Jeff Rogers – President, Texas Forestry Association
Kirk Roccaforte – Commissioner, Precinct 3
Christy Roccaforte – County Treasurer
Joy Simonton – Justice of the Peace, Precinct 3
Brad Childs – Orange City Councilman

Roll Call

A roll call was conducted. A quorum was present.

Adoption of the Agenda

Motion by Lydia Damrel: Adopt the Agenda.

Motion carried

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the July 21, 2026 Regular Meeting were approved as corrected.

Motion by Lydia Damrel: Approve the previous minutes as corrected.

Motion carried.

Financial Report

The Treasurer reported a General Account balance of \$8,826.04, with one outstanding check for \$1,000.00, resulting in an anticipated balance of \$7,826.04 after the check clears. No other outstanding transactions were reported for the General Account.

The Primary Account balance was reported as \$1,661.48, with the last documented transaction being a \$6.72 payment to the Texas Workforce Commission on July 31. The Treasurer stated that he did not have possession of the checkbook for the Primary Account and therefore could not confirm whether additional outstanding checks or transactions existed.

The Chair opened the floor for questions and discussion regarding the financial report.

Motion by Lisa Bukowsky: Approve the financial report.

Motion carried.

Formation of Committees

Election Action Committee

Discussion was held regarding the formation of an Election Action Committee to coordinate voter outreach and election-related activities. Proposed activities included door-to-door voter outreach, distribution of campaign literature and yard signs, social media outreach, and volunteer recruitment.

Members discussed coordinating with candidate campaigns and precinct chairs to obtain and distribute campaign materials, with approximately 10,000 pieces of literature or door hangers discussed as an initial outreach goal. Members emphasized that election outreach should involve the entire organization and not be limited to precinct chairs.

Volunteers will be recruited to assist with door knocking, literature distribution, driving, and other election activities. An email will be sent to the membership requesting volunteers.

Amanda Volkmann will lead the committee, assisted by Genevieve Garrison. One additional committee member is being sought.

Selections/Vacancy Committee

The Selections/Vacancy Committee was established to address vacant Precinct Chair positions.

Tim McCarver will chair the committee, with James Crocker and David Beck serving as committee members.

Fundraising Committee

A Fundraising Committee was established to coordinate fundraising activities.

Lisa Bukowsky will chair the committee, with Camille Franklin and Theresa Rainey serving as committee members.

Scholarship Committee

Discussion was held regarding the formation of a Scholarship Committee and the development of guidelines for future scholarship awards. The committee will develop recommendations regarding eligibility, application and essay requirements, selection procedures, award amounts, and appropriate uses of scholarship funds.

Members discussed using an anonymous application review process to help ensure impartiality and avoid favoritism or conflicts of interest. The committee will develop a recommended

procedure for consideration at a future meeting.

Discussion also included promoting scholarship opportunities through local schools and encouraging participation by students interested in government, leadership, patriotism, and civic involvement.

Volunteers were requested to serve on the committee.

Committee members will be Camille Franklin, Mikayla Bourque, and Dana Horton.

Motion by Justin Powell: Accept the committee appointments as presented.

Motion carried.

Scholarship Program

The Chair read a thank-you message from scholarship recipient Kayla Silvas regarding her experience at Patriot Academy.

The Chair reported that Lydia Covey had contacted him regarding a \$150 late fee associated with Kayla Silvas's attendance at Patriot Academy. The Chair noted that funds had previously been allocated for three \$1,000 scholarships, of which two had been awarded, and requested that the Party cover the \$150 late fee.

Motion by Lydia Damrel: Authorize payment of the \$150 late fee for Kayla Silvas's attendance at Patriot Academy.

Motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding the development of a future scholarship program, including eligibility, potential conflicts of interest involving relatives of Party officials, and procedures to ensure an impartial selection process. Members discussed the possibility of using an anonymous application review process to prevent favoritism or conflicts of interest.

Discussion also included whether scholarships should support attendance at Patriot Academy, attendance at a college or university, or other educational opportunities.

The Scholarship Committee will work with the Republican Women's Organization to develop recommendations for the scholarship program and selection process and present those recommendations at a future meeting.

Old Business

Election Materials

A member of the Election Action Committee asked when campaign and voter-outreach materials would be available, noting plans to begin block walking in late September and October. Coordination with candidates and campaigns regarding materials will continue.

Party Computer

The Chair asked whether anyone knew the location of a computer belonging to the Party. The Chair stated that the computer may need to be written off and a replacement requested.

No other old business was presented.

New Business

Newspaper Publication Opportunity

A member reported that a local newspaper had recently published a statement submitted by the Democratic Party Chair and had extended an invitation to the Republican Party Chair to submit a statement as well.

Get-Out-the-Vote Event

The Chair discussed plans for a Get-Out-the-Vote event to be held October 15, featuring candidates Dr. Ray Callas and Trent Ashby, with additional candidates invited to participate. The event is planned as a family-oriented event leading into early voting.

Discussion included a proposed 6:00 p.m. start time, candidate participation, Republican campaign and voter-registration materials, food, advertising, and audio/visual needs.

The Chair initially suggested a budget of \$1,000. Following discussion regarding anticipated expenses, members indicated that a larger amount may be necessary.

Motion by Robert Simonton: Authorize up to \$3,000 for the October 15 Get-Out-the-Vote event.

Motion carried.

Voter Outreach Postcards

Discussion was held regarding the possible purchase and use of postcards for voter outreach. Members shared information regarding obtaining postcards and other materials for individual outreach efforts. No action was taken.

Closed Session

No closed session was held.

Adjournment

Motion by Chris Smith: Adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.