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National Committeewoman Vera Ortega

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# VERA ORTEGON

REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEEWOMAN ELECT



Friends,

During my campaign, I promised if elected as your next National Committeewoman, I would submit a report following every Republican National Committee meeting. Therefore, as your National Committeewoman-Elect, I am delighted to submit my first report from the 2016 Spring Meeting held in Hollywood, FL from April 20<sup>th</sup> to April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Based on the committees I attended as a guest, and not as an official member yet, here are my notes from the discussions that took place.

## **BUDGET COMMITTEE:**

- The RNC was very successful with fundraising in the first quarter of 2016. In fact, it was much better than the DNC's first quarter.
- The projected revenue for the entire year is set at \$151 million dollars
- The RNC is solvent and debt free.
- As soon as the presidential nominee is selected, fundraising will intensify and coalesce around that nominee.

## **COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS:**

- The committee held a comprehensive briefing on how the Republican National Convention will run.
- Specific information was shared concerning transportation, security, media accessibility, hotel assignments and convention activities that will take place throughout the convention.
- The dates and location of the convention are July 18<sup>th</sup> to July 21<sup>st</sup> in Cleveland, OH.

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- The committee considered 10 separate resolutions that were recommended for approval. All were approved. The approved resolutions were as follows:
  - Resolution Concerning Timing of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Selection
  - Resolution Calling for Support of Sanctions Against Iran's Ballistic Missile Testing Program
  - Resolution Reaffirming Strong Support for the Republic of China (Taiwan)
  - Resolution Calling for Inquiries into the 2012 Benghazi Attacks to be Sustained and for the Responsible Parties to be Held Accountable
  - Resolution Supporting Republican Leaders' Fight Against the President 's Unlawful Executive Actions on Immigration
  - Resolution Condemning Hillary Clinton for the Usage of a Secret Email Server as Secretary Of State and Calling for Her to be Held Accountable
  - Resolution in Support of Criminal Justice Reform
  - Resolution in Support of the Regulation Freedom Amendment
  - Resolution Honoring Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia
  - Resolution Honoring the Life of Former First Lady Nancy Reagan

### **STANDING COMMITTEE ON RULES:**

- There was an incredible media presence during this committee meeting, which was predominantly focused on the proposed changes to Rule 30.
- Rule 30, "Rules of Order," dictates how the Republican National Convention will run procedurally. Rule 30 states, in its entirety:

*The Rules of the House of Representatives of the United States shall be the rules of the convention, except that the current authorized edition of Robert's Rules of Order: Newly Revised ("Robert's Rules of Order") shall be the rules for committees and subcommittees of the convention, insofar as they are applicable and not inconsistent with the rules herein set forth; provided, however, that the convention may adopt its own rules concerning the reading of committee reports and resolutions.*

- An amendment was presented to eliminate the House of Representatives Rules and only run the convention using Robert's Rules of Order.
- After considerable debate concerning how we should NOT change the rules in the middle-of-the-game, especially less than 100 days before the

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## GUESTS WHO SPOKE AT THE MEETING:

- Ted Cruz, Presidential Candidate
- John Kasich, Presidential Candidate
- Ben Carson, on behalf of the Trump Campaign
- Paul Manafort and Rick Wiley, members of the Trump Campaign
- Rick Scott, current Florida Governor
- Donald Rumsfeld, former Secretary of Defense for Presidents Gerald Ford and George W. Bush
- Mark “OZ” Geist and John “TIG” Tiegen, 13 Hours co-authors and Benghazi survivors.

As you can see, it was a busy few days but extremely informative. As such, here is my take-home message:

1. No rules were changed at this meeting.
2. Chairman Priebus affirmed to the media and the attendees that 1237 means 1237.
3. The RNC will be ready and prepared if we happen to have an “open convention.”
4. The RNC is financially solvent, but still needs more money to compete at all levels come November.
5. The overwhelming feeling from the meeting is that we **MUST** support and vote for whoever nominee emerges from Cleveland. This was true of Chairman Priebus, Committee-members, guests and advisers. The message was clear: WE MUST VOTE REPUBLICAN COME NOVEMBER.

Once again, a sincere “thank you” for making me your National Committeewoman-Elect and I will work hard to ensure Colorado’s voice is heard loud and clear in these national discussions.

Respectfully submitted,



[Vera Ortega](#)

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Board of Water Works; Pueblo, Colorado: 01/95 – 02/07

Southeastern Colorado Conservancy District Board: 04/04 – Present

Office of Economic Development and International Trade: 01/99 – 03/04

Small Business Owner and Concerned Citizen

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