

Dear Colorado Republicans:

The Republican National Committee (RNC) held our Winter Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada from January 31 to February 2, 2024.

Here is my report for the **Winter Meeting**:

COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS (CoA):

This is the committee in charge of the 2024 National Republican Presidential Convention, which will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin from July 15 to July 18, 2024.

As a member of this committee, we must approve every detail for the convention, including ticketing, logistics, vendors, delegate experience, media, and various other activities surrounding the convention. As we are a month ahead in the planning process, the most important topics for us are hotel reservations, transportation, and delegate experience.

Here are some highlights:

- Anna Ferguson, the Secretary to the Colorado GOP State Party, was recruited to help me with Colorado's involvement at the 2024 National Republican Presidential Convention.
 - If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me (719-671-3512) or Anna (303-758-3333) as preparations continue.
 - CoA will need over 8,000 volunteers. If you are interested, please contact us.
 - Our state delegation will also need a page and an aide. If you are interested, please contact us.
- 50,000 attendees, media, and dignitaries are expected at the convention.
- Colorado submitted our "Hotel Form Request" for our delegates, alternate delegates, elected officials, dignitaries, and guests. As a reminder, the Colorado delegation generally stays in the same hotel that is assigned by the CoA.
 - The CoA is working with over 100 hotels and 14,000 hotel rooms.
- Transportation – to the hotel and the Convention Arena– will be provided by the RNC.
- The CoA will host the "Convention Fest" where entertainment, exhibits, food, and marketplaces will be available so folks can enjoy their time and mingle when the convention is not in session. It will be free to convention-goers with free transportation from the convention arena to the large complex by the lake.
 - Convention Fest will accommodate over 50,000 people and run from July 15th to July 18th.
- ADA services will be provided.
 - If you need these services, please let Anna or I know.

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING:

- Despite some donor fatigue and a smaller donor pool, in 2023, the RNC raised \$85.2 million.
- Some items worth highlighting are:
 - The RNC ended with \$8 million cash on hand in 2023—when in my report from the Summer Meeting 2023 report, we expected a \$26 million deficit.
 - Even with an incumbent president, the DNC barely outraised the RNC.

- Our fundraising numbers from January 2024 was significantly better than any month in 2023.
- As soon as a presidential nominee is declared, we expect for fundraising efforts to improve dramatically.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS:

8 resolutions were presented to the committee and 6 resolutions were approved during the General Session, as one was withdrawn and another one was not filed on time.

The resolutions that passed were:

1. Resolution Opposing the Unconstitutional Efforts to Remove President Trump from the Ballot.
2. War Fighter Protection and Amnesty Resolution.
3. Resolution Condemning Biden's Open Border Policy Deliberately Inviting a Massive and Systematic Illegal Invasion of the United States.
4. Resolution Supporting a Transformative Energy Freedom Policy for America.
5. Support our Republican Electors.
6. Resolution in Support of Israel Calling for the Unconditional Release of Hostages and Surrender of Hamas.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON RULES:

- The committee passed an amendment to Rule 3(a). The amendment also passed at the General Session. This amendment asks for the National Committeemen and National Committeewomen to serve until the Winter Meeting Committee in the year after the national convention.
 - Now it must pass the Convention Rule Committee to be final.
- Two other proposals were submitted, but they were moved to the Summer Meeting since they were not submitted on time.

GUEST WHO SPOKE AT THE MEETING:

- Joe Lombardo, Governor of Nevada (R)
- Dr. Ralph Reed, Christian Coalition and Political Consultant
- Melanie Sturm, The Win Coach
- Heather Higgins, Independent Women's Voice

GENERAL SESSION:

Chairwoman Ronna McDaniel's message was of unity. If the 168 cannot unite, then how can we expect our country to do so. She reminded us, regardless of who we supported during the primary, any Republican is significantly better than the current occupant of the White House or any of his potential clones.

Here are my take-home messages:

Our party is indeed divided. There are factions that disagree on the future of this party and how to achieve it. This is healthy. This is needed. To quote Proverbs 27:17, "*Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.*"

However, some members of our party would rather tear down other Republicans. They would rather throw stones at our fellow compatriots and burn down this party in the process. All in the name of being smarter and knowing better than everyone else.

But shouldn't we tear down those who are destroying this economy? Shouldn't we throw the stones at those who allow open borders? Shouldn't we burn down the party that allowed the failed exit of Afghanistan and started three separate wars (i.e., Russia/Ukraine, Israel/Hamas, and Iran/Houthis in the Red Sea) in one term?!

We need to win this election cycle! We need to regain the White House to bring back the policies of Trump that were so effective during his tenure as the 45th President.

So, please do not shy away from disagreement and debate on how to best beat the democrats this November, but please "disagree without being disagreeable." We will not win if we continue to fight amongst ourselves and forget who the real villains to our freedom and democracy are.... Biden, "Bidenomics" and the democrats.

Remember, it is easy to burn down a house. It is much harder to build one.... especially one that needs to win this November.

Respectfully submitted,

Vera Ortegon

Republican National Committeewoman-CO

P.S. To review past reports and for more information, please visit <http://verarnc.com/>

P.S.

- As an update to the lawsuit where I am intervenor that was seeking to remove the signature curing process from the election cycle. We were supposed to go to a 10-day trial starting January 2024. Yet, on January 3, 2024, the Court issued an order holding that the challenged signature-verification provisions are non-severable from the mail-voting law.

In simple words, we won! Ensuring election integrity is a high priority for me and the RNC.

- Also, just a reminder, I am running for re-election. If you like my reports and you like how I have represented Colorado for the last 8 years, then I ask for your support and vote if you become a State Delegate. If reelected, it will be my last term as your National Committeewoman.