

**Stafford County
Republican Committee**



Meeting Minutes

Call to Order - A Mass Meeting of Stafford County Republican voters was held at the Falmouth Fire Station, 250 Butler Road, Stafford, VA on Monday, 09 February 2026. The meeting was called by the Stafford County Republican Committee (SCRC) Chairman, Steve Schwartz, the purpose of which was to (1) reconstitute the SCRC and (2) elect a new SCRC Chairman.

Following the invocation, Pledge of Allegiance and reading of the Republican Creed a motion was made to waive the reading of the call. The motion was properly seconded, and the motion was approved, without discussion, by a majority voice vote of the Mass Meeting participants.

New Business

The SCRC Chairman announced that the Mass Meeting would hold an election for the Temporary Chair for this Mass Meeting and opened the floor for nominations of Temporary Mass Meeting Chair. A nomination was made by Sandy Pace to elect Steve Schwartz as Temporary Mass Meeting Chair. The nomination was properly seconded by Tony De Tora followed by a motion to close the nominations for Temporary Mass Meeting Chair. The motion was properly seconded, and the motion was approved, without discussion, by a majority voice vote of the Mass Meeting participants.

The Temporary Mass Meeting Chair then announced that the Mass Meeting would hold an election for the Temporary Mass Meeting Secretary and opened the floor for nominations for Temporary Mass Meeting Secretary. A nomination was made by Jenni Soult to elect James Fisher as Temporary Mass Meeting Secretary. The nomination was properly seconded by John Roy followed by a motion to close the nominations for Temporary Mass Meeting Secretary. The motion was properly seconded, and the motion was approved, without discussion, by a majority voice vote of the Mass Meeting participants.

Following the election of the Temporary Mass Meeting Secretary, the Temporary Mass Meeting Chair proceeded to the appointment of Mass Meeting committees and officers as follows:

- Credentials and Nominations Committee - Jenni Soult as Chair, Stephen Rosza and John Roy as members.
- Rules Committee – Tony De Tora as Chair.
- Registration Committee - Sandy Pace as Chair, Jenni Soult and Stephen Rosza as members.
- Resolutions Committee - Tony De Tora as Chair.
- Arrangements Committee - Stephen Rosza as Chair and Jenni Soult and John Roy as members.
- Sergeant-at-Arms – John Covey

Following the appointment of committees, all committees convened to finalize their reports. During this time, Doug Ollivant, Republican candidate for Virginia's 7th Congressional District spoke to the Mass Meeting participants about his candidacy and his areas of focus, if elected.

Next, the various committees provided their respective reports to the Temporary Mass Meeting Chair and Mass Meeting participants, as follows:

- **Credentials and Nominations Committee** – The committee reported that a total of 55 individuals met the requirements to participate in the Mass Meeting as voting members. In addition, one individual was late to the meeting. A motion was made to allow the one individual who showed up late to be allowed to vote as a Mass Meeting participant. The motion was properly seconded, and the motion was approved, without discussion, by a majority voice vote of the Mass Meeting participants, bringing the total number of individuals meeting the requirements to participate in the Mass Meeting as voting members to 56.

The committee also reported that, in addition to the 56 participants allowed to vote at the Mass Meeting, three (3) additional individuals (Philip Chichester, Justin Klein, and Jessica Terrell) had submitted their Mass Meeting filing forms after the deadline for submission. A motion was made to allow the 3 individuals who registered late to be allowed to participate as voting members in the Mass Meeting; however, since they had not properly submitted their applications on time, they will be voted in at the next regular meeting. The motion was properly seconded, and the motion was approved, without discussion, by a majority voice vote of

the Mass Meeting participants. In addition, a fourth individual (Aman Naveed), submitted a regular SCRC membership application after the Mass Meeting filing deadline and requested to be allowed to vote as a Mass Meeting participant. A motion was made to allow Aman Naveed to be allowed to vote as a Mass Meeting participant. The motion was properly seconded, and the motion was approved by a majority voice vote of the Mass Meeting participants. At that point, a “point of order” was raised that there was no discussion regarding why Aman Naveed should be allowed to vote. However, the vote had already been taken, so any discussion at that point would have been out of order. This brought the total number of individuals meeting the requirements to participate in the Mass Meeting as voting members to 60.

There was no further information provided by the Credentials and Nominations Committee and a motion was made to accept the committee’s report as presented. The motion was properly seconded, and the motion was approved, without discussion, by a majority voice vote of the Mass Meeting participants.

- **Rules Committee** – The Chair of the Rules Committee announced that the rules for the Mass Meeting had been distributed to all known participants in advance of the Mass Meeting. Following the distribution of the rules, three minor changes were made, and those changes were discussed with the Mass Meeting participants. A motion was then made to accept the rules and the committee’s report as presented. The motion was properly seconded, and the motion was approved by unanimous consent via voice vote of the Mass Meeting participants.
- **Arrangements Committee** – The Chair of the Arrangements Committee reported there were three candidates who met the requirements to run for the position of SCRC Chairman. Those individuals being Jim Tully, Peter Doran, and Hank Scharpenberg.

There was no further information provided by the Nominations Committee and a motion was made to accept the committee’s report as presented. The motion was properly seconded, and the motion was approved by a majority voice vote of the Mass Meeting participants.

Next, the Mass Meeting Chairman proceeded to the election portion of the Mass Meeting. The Chairman explained the rules and voting process and that each

candidate would be allowed five minutes to address the Mass Meeting participants followed by a short question and answer period.

The three candidates for SCRC Chairman, Jim Tully, Peter Doran, and Hank Scharpenberg, each spoke, in turn, about why he was seeking the position of SCRC Chairman and his areas of focus, if elected. Following each candidate's speech, they were asked to answer the same two questions. Specifically:

- What contributions have you made to the SCRC in the past year?
- The ancestors of most of the SCRC members are from Europe or the British Isles. What are your ideas to expand the SCRC's membership to other groups?

Following the speeches of the three SCRC Chairman candidates, the first round of voting for the position of SCRC Chairman commenced. Each voting member of the Mass Meeting reported to the Arrangements Committee and received a paper ballot.

While the Arrangements Committee tallied the votes, Wade Washington, Republican candidate for Virginia's 7th Congressional District spoke to the Mass Meeting participants about his candidacy and his areas of focus, if elected. Next, a surrogate for David Williams, Republican candidate for U.S. Senate in Virginia spoke to the Mass Meeting participants about candidate Williams and his areas of focus, if elected.

The Arrangements Committee tallied the first-round voting and the Chair of the Arrangements Committee reported that one individual was mistakenly not counted in the initial number of members meeting the requirements to participate in the Mass Meeting as voting members. A motion was made to add the one member to the list of qualified voters in the Mass Meeting. The motion was properly seconded, and the motion was approved, without discussion, by voice vote of the Mass Meeting participants. That brought the total number of individuals meeting the requirements to participate in the Mass Meeting as voting members to 61.

The Chair of the Arrangements Committee then reported the results of the first-round voting. The results of the first round of voting were as follows:

- Jim Tully received 23 votes
- Peter Doran received 10 votes
- Hank Scharpenberg received 28 votes.

Per the voting rules for the Mass Meeting, since none of the three candidates received a majority (50% + 1) of the votes, a second round of voting was required. The candidate that received the fewest votes (Peter Doran) was removed from the ballot and a second vote was taken. All ballots were then counted by the Arrangements Committee and the results reported by the Arrangements Committee Chair. The results of the second round of voting were as follows:

- Jim Tully received 25 votes (41.7%)
- Hank Scharpenberg received 35 votes (58.3%)
- There was 1 no vote

The second vote resulted in a majority vote for Hank Scharpenberg as the new SCRC Chairman.

Administrative Notes

The Mass Meeting Chairman congratulated Hank Scharpenberg for being elected as the new SCRC Chairman and indicated there was no other business to be conducted at the Mass Meeting.

The Mass Meeting Chairman also announced, subject to the direction of the new SCRC Chairman, that the March business meeting of the SCRC will include elections for the positions of 1st Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and Magisterial Chairs, as well as voting on the revised SCRC Bylaws.

Adjournment

The Mass Meeting Chairman then accepted a motion to adjourn the Mass Meeting. The motion was properly seconded, and the motion was approved by a majority voice vote of the Mass Meeting participants. Meeting adjourned.