

# CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES DECEMBER 11, 2015

DISTRIBUTION DATE: DECEMBER 11, 2015

CURRENT STATUS: AUTO-APPROVED DECEMBER 25, 2015

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Nick Sarwark called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. (all times Eastern)

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Executive Committee members participating were: Nick Sarwark (Chair), Arvin Vohra (Vice-Chair), Alicia Mattson (Secretary), Tim Hagan (Treasurer), Sam Goldstein (At-Large), Jim Lark (Region 5), Bill Redpath (At-Large)

Other LNC participants were: Gary Johnson (At-Large), Vicki Kirkland (Region 2), Kevin Ludlow (Region 7 - joined approximately 15 minutes into the meeting), Joshua Katz (Region 8 Alternate)

Staff participants were: Wes Benedict (Executive Director), Carla Howell (Political Director)

Other participants were: Oliver Hall (LNC Special Counsel), Caryn Harlos (party member), George Phillies (party member)

### **PURPOSE**

The meeting was called for the purpose of discussing a possible lawsuit regarding ballot access in Maine.

#### **MAINE BALLOT ACCESS**

Mr. Hall summarized the situation. A 2013 Maine statute provides that a new party may become recognized by submitting 5,000 voter registrations for that party by December 1 of the year before the election year. The Libertarian Party of Maine submitted more than 5,000 registrations by the deadline. Under the statute, the Secretary of State has only 5 days to verify whether the submissions are sufficient to qualify the new party. The submissions are made to the local election officials, not to the Secretary of State. In a few jurisdictions the local officials did not process the submissions in time to meet the 5-day window for the Secretary of State to verify the status. The Secretary of State only credited our affiliate with roughly 4,600 members and said it did not qualify,

although the Maine affiliate met the legal requirement (submission of at least 5,000 registrations prior to December 1) and the failure is on the part of government elections officials. The Maine affiliate believes there are a sufficient number of unprocessed submissions such that if they had been counted, the new party would have been qualified.

Mr. Redpath moved to authorize the Libertarian National Committee to expend \$4,000 from the litigation budget to file a lawsuit to challenge the ballot access statute in Maine on behalf of the Libertarian Party of Maine.

The vote on the main motion was as follows:

Voting "aye": Goldstein, Hagan, Lark, Mattson, Redpath, Sarwark, Vohra

Voting "no": (none)

The motion was adopted with a vote total of 7-0.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned without objection at 5:51 p.m. Eastern.