



## **LNC Executive Committee Conference Call Minutes**

**To:** Libertarian National Committee  
**From:** Bob Sullentrup  
**CC:** Joe Seehusen  
**Date:** 9/16/2004  
**Re:** Conference Call September 16, 2004

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### **Attendance**

Dialing in to the conference call were EC members: Michael Dixon, Bob Sullentrup, Joe Seehusen, Mark Rutherford, Mark Nelson, Lee Wrights, Aaron Starr, BetteRose Ryan, Bill Redpath,

George Squyres and Mark Cenci also dialed in.

The purpose of the meeting was primarily to exchange information. No motions or votes were conducted. Most of the discussion was for clarification and for possibility.

### **Raiser's Edge Update**

Michael Dixon reported Raiser's Edge initial data were loaded into the server at HQ. Validation / client acceptance testing begins the following morning, 9-17. The contract calls for a 10 day grace period to find and report errors which would be fixed at no cost. After that, we own the application.

Data entry should end during the week of 9-20 through 9-24. Additional customization including building files, procedures and queries proceeds according to plan.

Staff attended a three-day training course off site this week.

Michael Dixon confirmed for Aaron Starr that field layouts of data transfer files will be identical to those previously generated by FoxPro.

Raiser's Edge is expected to be operational in October and to produce the October FEC report.

### **Badnarik Campaign Update**

Michael Dixon reported the Kerry campaign in Nevada "within the last five minutes" stated its opposition to the draft. This underscores the Badnarik campaign's belief it is driving the debate in that state.

In addition, on 9-20 the Libertarian Party will launch a fundraising drive for TV advertising for federal campaigning with monies collected in accordance with BCRA statutes.

## **Candidate Support Update**

Michael noted two points regarding ongoing candidate support:

1. Our mailing list is being rented to candidates who wish to use it. While two campaigns are using it, others are free to request it as well. Rental fee stands at \$125 per 1000 names.
2. Press releases will continue through Election Day.

The Badnarik campaign has provided several hundred names including many from outside the Party from its fundraising roster. Many of them have capture dates that precede the convention. While address exchange is not proceeding on a weekly basis, the campaign is providing addresses as well as they can considering the limited resources available.

## **Financials and LNC Directed Matter**

Treasurer Mark Nelson reported there are no financial reports for July or August since the data he has been provided are not acceptable. The reports raise certain questions almost immediately with adequate detail to explain anomalies not forthcoming.

With Rod Severson having resigned Mark Frye, an auditor by training, was brought in as a stopgap to produce financial information in a format prescribed by the LNC. Joe needs fundamental bookkeeping services, and the need to move beyond a stopgap measure has become clear.

Joe had asked for another 10 days to produce the reports the LNC requested by September 15 at the Cleveland meeting. Joe has been granted those days and expects to be able to comply by September 25.

## **Responses to Audit 03**

The responses to the 2003 audit are expected to be finished around September 22.

## **Budget 05 Preparation Plan**

Michael Dixon and Mark Nelson reported the initial draft of the 2005 budget is expected to be complete by October 5. The EC should reserve the weekend of October 16-17 for conference calls, as opposed to a meeting in Chicago, to resolve issues with the 2005 budget and other matters.

Following that, the 2005 budget should be in the hands of the LNC by October 20, well in advance of our DC November meeting.

**Action Item: Mark Nelson to put the documents distributed in May to the newly created YahooGroup.**

## **Ballot Access Report – LPNH Recap**

Bill Redpath described the fumbled ballot access drive in NH as a 'crying shame' that resulted from 'sloppiness, incompetence and lack of communication'. In a state where ballot status can be gained via obtaining 4% of the vote for Governor or US Senate, and in a year when a 94-year-old is on the ballot in one of those races, the prospect of gaining ballot status had been very likely.

The most charitable interpretation of the confusion that developed is a simple miscount arose in enumerating the signatures. Signatures for Badnarik could not have been gathered before he was nominated, while those for US Senate and Congress where the candidates were known earlier could have been gathered. However, May 30-Aug 11 provided 73 days to collect signatures, but simple arithmetic and confusion in counting petitions without Badnarik on the document versus those that had his name listed, resulted in the error.

Two 'intricacies' in obtaining the 3000 signatures were also involved: The mix of signatures must be 1500 per congressional district. Further, there is a two-stage process to reject signatures.

Bill Redpath has gotten a variety of stories and explanations from the principals involved including chair John Barbiarz and petition drive organizer Howard Wilson. A common thread among LPNH members is their profound disappointment.

Not only is Badnarik not on the ballot, but candidates for US Senate and Congress are not on either.

NH spent its own funds in conducting its petition drive. Any mistakes are not likely to be repeated there.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the LNC is scheduled for November 13-14, in DC at the Crystal City (VA) Sheraton.