

**ORANGE COUNTY GOP CONVENTION 2025
MEETING MINUTES**

March 29th, 2025 9:00am to 12:00pm
Whitted Building
300 West Tryon Street, Room 230
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Precinct Meetings were called to order at 9:34 am by John Gaither, County Chairman. Camilla Zapolsky read the instructions for the precinct meetings. Meetings were conducted and delegate and officer election forms collected.

Precinct meetings were adjourned at 9:50 am.

Call to County Convention John Gaither, County Chairman
Chairman Gaither called the County Convention to order at 10:00 am.

Invocation Larry Smith, 2nd Vice Chair
Pledge Edward Zapolsky, 1st Vice Chair

Convention Officers were announced and appointed.

- Chairman Mike Phillips, Wake County
- Secretary Catherine Gutman
- Parliamentarian Glenn Sawtelle
- Sergeant-at-Arms Larry Smith
- Timekeeper Michael Kuhn
- Tellers Jeff Hoagland, Amy Rosenthal

Guest Speakers:

- Brad Briner – NC State Treasurer
- Amy Galey¹ – NC State Senate District 25 (Majority Whip)
[Shawnee Seese asked Amy what NC is doing to prepare for dissolution of Federal Department of Education.]
- Mike Magnanti² (1st Vice-chair, 13th District & former GOP Chair, Granville Co &)
Mike gave a short talk asking for support for his election as Vice-chair of NC GOP, and described issues and concerns with the NC GOP Plan of Organization and why to vote 'yes' to proposed changes to the POO at the NC GOP Convention.

Quorum is present.

¹ Delivered just prior to Convention adjournment.

² Delivered just prior to commencement of precinct meetings.

Credentials Report

Camilla Zapolsky

- 36 qualified delegates are present and 4 are qualified in absentia; 0 alternates to County Convention
 - The list of delegates in absentia was read into the record: Katherine Brodie [Cedar Grove], Deborah Hodson [Cedar Falls], Emily Rajappan [Rogers Eubanks], Earl Tye [Orange Grove]
- Motion to adopt the Credentials report; motion carried.
- Motion to nominate delegates to District and State conventions; motion carried.

Seating of Delegates

Mike Phillips

Adoption of Convention Rules

Camilla Zapolsky

Motion to adopt Convention Rules; motion carried.

Nominating Committee Report

Waddy Davis

Motion to adopt Nominating Committee report; motion carried.

Bob Castona [St. Mary's] rose to offer an amendment recognizing any past county chairmen who wish to serve and all precinct chairs as elected members of the County Executive Committee, per the County Plan of Organization. Ed Zapolsky [Hillsborough North] seconded; motion carried.

Nominations for OCGOP Officers

Each was asked to stand and be recognized.

Chair	Larry Smith
1st Vice-chair	Earl Tye
2nd Vice-chair	Shawnee Seese
Secretary	Becky Mela
Treasurer	Kevin Winpisinger

Nominations for 4th Congressional District

At-large Member	Waddy Davis
At-large Member	John Gaither
At-large Alternate	Sridhar Rajappan

Chairman Phillips accepted the Nominating Committee's report and, recognizing that the officers were running unopposed, the nominations were accepted by acclamation.

Approval of 2024 Minutes

Mike Phillips

With no amendments to the minutes offered, the Chair accepted the minutes as published.

Treasurer's Report

Kevin Winpisinger

(See attached Treasurer's report)
Unanimous voice vote to approve.

Plan of Organization

Edward Zapolsky

No changes to POO, pending POO changes at state level.
Motion to readopt existing POO; motion carried.

Resolutions Committee Report

Waddy Davis

(See attached Resolutions)

Resolution of Concern - Term Limits, Waddy Davis [Rogers Eubanks] (motion to adopt, Rachel Orstad [Hillsborough East]; from Committee, no second required)
Ken Rothrock [Cedar Grove] spoke against
Resolution carried

Resolution to Support US Citizens Election Bill of Rights, Rebecca Mela [Cedar Falls] (motion to adopt, Rebecca Mela; seconded Patricia Randall [St. Mary's])
Daniel Oldman [Weaver Dairy Satellite], spoke against
Shawnee Seese [Cheeks], spoke in favor
Ken Rothrock [Cedar Grove], spoke in favor
Holly Meschko [Hillsborough East], spoke in favor
Resolution carried

Resolution to Defund Planned Parenthood from all State and Federal Government Funding, Denise Hallfors [Colonial Heights] (motion to adopt, Denise Hallfors; seconded Kenton Ward [Caldwell])
Resolution carried

Resolution to Support Keep Nine Amendment, Martha Jenkins [White Cross] (motion to adopt, Martha Jenkins; seconded Edward Zapolsky [Hillsborough North])
Resolution carried

New Business

John Gaither³ announced the dates of the upcoming district and state conventions:

4th Congressional District Convention
April 12th, 2025, 10:00am, Registration 9:00am
Whitted Building
300 West Tryon St, Room 230
Hillsborough, NC 27278

³ Delivered during precinct meetings and referenced during convention.

NCGOP State Convention
June 5th-8th, 2025
Koury Convention Center
3121 W. Gate City Blvd
Greensboro, NC 27407

Rebecca Mela presented information about TPUSA's 'MAHA' and 'Gen Z' Coalitions.
John Gaither, memorial for OCGOP members and friends who passed away in last year.

Current County Chairman's Address John Gaither

Installation of Executive Committee Mike Phillips

Bob Castona [St. Mary's] motioned to adjourn; Ed Zapolsky [Hillsborough North] seconded.
Meeting adjourned at 11:19am.

Respectfully submitted,



Catherine Gutman

Convention Secretary