

**Green Party of Texas  
2021 Annual State Meeting (June)**

**Day 1: June 26, 2021**

**In Attendance:** Nancy & Wesson Gaige, Don & Laura Palmer, Alán Alán Apurim, David Prout, Colin DeLosSantos, David B. Collins, Hunter Crow, Kayleen Williams, Matt Bauman, Delilah Barrios, katija gruene, Natalie Upchurch, Trey Legall, Rachel Muldez, Alexander James, Jeremy Scheid, Tykisha Murphy, Alma Williams, Bernadine Williams, Andrew Smith, Travis Christal, Manuel Aranda, Nancy Saibara-Naritomi, Emily Nghiem, Kellis Ruiz, Christa Schelter, Alfred Molison, Aly Schmidt

10:03 Meeting called to order. Orientation to facilitation process by Cochair Laura Palmer.

10:07 Facebook livestream shut off due to glitch.

10:08 **Review of Meeting Schedule**

10:12 Gubernatorial Candidate **Delilah Barrios** speaks.

10:15 George Altgelt is unavailable, Laura speaks about him & Greens in local elections.

10:18 Laura explains the convention process, primaries, ballot access, & getting involved.

10:32 **Treasurer's Report** - Travis Christal

\$2,264.00 - \$300ish for shirts. So about \$1900.

NationBuilder payment will be due soon - about \$1,300.

Please consider running or a statewide race, phone banking, block walking, etc.

Other fees are small - Electric Embers, P.O. Box, etc.

Please donate.

10:36 Laura speaks about NationBuilder

10:38 **Officer Nominations**

10:40 Alán Alán Apurim suggests replacing At-Large SEC positions with representatives from geographical areas.

10:42 Laura explains the National Committee & addresses Mr. Apurim's comments.

10:45 Asks for clarification about a candidate for Nat. Comm.

Travis Confirms that both Rachel Schelter & Rachel Muldez are running for NC.

Secretary makes the adjustment, removes his name from race.

10:48 Trey nominates Matt Bauman for Secretary

Also Alma Williams & Nancy Saibara-Naratomi to At-Large.

Matt Bauman declines, Alma Williams accepts, Nancy

10:50 Alán Alán Apurim would like to run as alternate for Nat.Comm.

Wes explains that there is not a separate race for alternate.

10:52 Nancy accepts, nominates Trey Legall.

Nancy clarifies - not accepting, encourages people from outside Harris County

Trey declines Nancy's nomination.

10:54 Per a request, Laura reads the candidate list & adds their county affiliations.

10:57 Alán Alán Apurim will remain on ballot, Matt Bauman removes his name.

He asks how the election will be conducted.

10:58 Laura explains that we will be using Opavote & elaborates on the process.

11:00 Time limits for officer speeches is 2 minutes, for amendments/resolutions: up to 1 minute.

11:01 Inspirational speech about unity & Green spirit from Trey Legall.

11:05 Laura thanks him & proceeds to Bylaw Amendments.

11:06 **Affiliate Nominating Conventions**

11:10 Nancy responds to Laura's comments about attending an affiliate meeting.

11:10 Manuel Aranda speaks about the Harris County situation.

11:12 Laura apologizes for referencing the Harris conflict, redirects discussion to the proposal.

11:13 Wesson Gaige clarifies that the amendment is not about any specific county & would apply to all affiliates.

11:14 katia gruene explains that this is similar to state requirements for national affiliation. She strongly supports it.

11:16 Colin comments

11:17 Nancy Saibara-Naritomi tells about an issue with the Harris County website. Laura attempts to redirect the conversation to the amendment being discussed. Nancy concludes her comment about the website, then speaks against the item, because it focuses on shrinking the party, when it needs to grow.

11:20 Laura explains the website issue.

11:21 Xander & Wes speak about the amendment.

11:24 Laura speaks about

11:25 Bernadine points out that in the past, wordsmithing has been done at the ASM. Wes says the bylaws have a date for amendment submissions. Bernadine points out this is for bylaw submission, not wordsmithing. Laura says that has led to overly long meetings in the past. kat clarifies that friendly amendments have been allowed if the submitter accepts & adds that the proposals have been available for critique & wordsmithing. Laura says last minute

11:32 **DBA amendment**

11:33 Travis reminds the group that we are aiming to spend 4 minutes on each proposal. Manny, Nancy, Wes, Nancy, & Trey speak on the amendment.

11:38 **State Meetings amendment**

11:40 Bernadine (on stack for previous item) speaks about her experience wrt DBAs.

11:41 Trey suggests dividing the amendment, as it is large & covers different elements. Wes responds. kat speaks to how the amendment relates to state laws.

11:46 Xander asks for clarification, Wes explains.

11:48 Natalie Upchurch asks if a rural caucus exists, requests its creation. Laura suggests we explore that option at a later point.

11:49 **Anti-Oppression Language amendment**

Laura points out that the proposal is only the italicized text & requests that discussion be kept relevant to those portions for this meeting.

11:50 Trey asks a question about beliefs & due process. kat points out the older portion of the bylaw germane to Trey's question & discrimination.

11:53 AAA raises the question about representatives of affiliate groups. Laura responds.

11:55 **Updated NOTA Language amendment**

11:56 kat makes a clarification regarding NOTA / None of These, & None / No Candidate.  
11:57 David B. Collins asks 2 questions. Laura & Wes repond.  
11:58 Trey asks for more information. kat explains the usage of each option.  
12:04 Time for refreshments, bathroom break. Meeting will resume at 1PM,  
George Altgelt will be speaking during lunch break.

~~~~recording divided here~~~~

12:05 Laura Palmer introduces guest speaker  
12:08 **George Altgelt** (former Laredo City Council) speaks about democracy & making a difference on the local level.

[lunch break]

13:01 3 more bylaw amendments to cover  
**Presidential candidate qualifications**  
13:03 Kat, Wes, David, & Nancy Saibara-Naritomi speak.

13:10 **Geographic Diversity**  
Trey speaks about the intention of the bylaw, asks if Wes' proposal could be split up for voting. Laura says no, suggests choosing "table" option to alter an amendment.  
13:12 Bernadine & Wes speak  
13:15 Travis says we need to know where the bylaw is intended to be added.  
Laura says that can be determined after approval.  
13:18 Emily Nghiem speaks  
Alán Alán Apurim suggests adding spanish-language material to boost diversity.  
Manny has been working on this, invites others to help.

13:20 **SEC Vacancies**  
Xander, Bernadine, Laura, Emily, Manny,  
13:32 Laura asks if secretary is ready to send the voting emails.  
Matt Bauman confirms the voters and amendments.  
13:38 Platform Amendment items.  
13:41 Laura clarifies voting options.  
13:43 Trey suggests "end police brutality" in place of "reduce police brutality"  
Great suggestion, but Laura says we're not wordsmithing at this point.  
She suggests choosing "table" and proposing the change for November.  
13:44 Hunter asks (in chat) if candidates should make a speech for each race.  
Laura says it isn't necessary, unless people want them to.  
13:45 Voting email has been sent, break until 1:50 for voting on Bylaw Amendments.  
13:46 Travis reminds everyone that the options are randomized for each race,  
so don't assume they'll be the same.  
13:48 Alán Alán Apurim would prefer to have the text of the amendments on the ballot.

- Nancy Saibara-Naritomi concurs & asks where it can be found.
- 13:50 Emily has not received the ballot, Laura asks secretary which email address her link went to. He answers & apologizes for the text not being on the ballot, explains there is no option for it.
- 13:52 Voting is extended for 2 minutes.  
Some discussion of our process. (AAA, Nancy SB, kat, & Trey)
- 13:56 Laura proceeds with review of Platform Amendments
- 13:58 AAA is having trouble focusing, requests silence for 5 additional minutes. Granted.
- 12:04 Laura has received requests for more time. One more minute.
- 12:05 AAA repeats his frustration with the vote.  
Bernadine requests that his comment be recorded. It is.
- 14:07 The **UBI** proposal is read, discussion begins.  
AAA supports it. Trey asks if there is a jobs guarantee in the state platform.
- 14:10 Emily has not received the vote email, but she will focus on grassroots level
- 14:11 kat explains that many items from the national platform were left out of the state platform to avoid redundancies.
- 14:12 Emily suggests putting in “cooperative economics” to avoid contradictions.  
Laura suggests proposing that change at the next meeting.
- 14:13 Secretary posts names in chat that haven’t cast a vote.  
Travis says Krista will probably not vote.
- 14:14 The proposal “**Economics**” is read, discussion begins.  
Trey supports it, Nancy SB asks about Criminal Justice Reform.  
She will make a note for how she wants to vote as we look over the different items, encourages others to do the same.
- 14:18 Emily says she will continue to work on the formation of the state council.
- 14:25 “**Government Secrecy**” amendment is read.  
Trey speaks in support.
- 14:26 “**Public Health**” amendment is read.
- 14:27 “**Economic Sustainability**” amendment is read.  
Trey speaks in support, mentions Houston’s transportation crisis.
- 14:29 Laura asks if ballots are ready to go for Platform Amendments.  
Secretary says they are combined with Resolutions, encourages people to contact him if an alternate email address needs to be used.
- 14:31 Laura reads “State Council” resolution, calls for comments.  
None.
- 14:34 “Financial Documents Transfer” resolution  
Nancy SB says this was intended to be a bylaw.  
Laura explains why it was entered as resolution & reads it.
- 14:40 Secretary says it would be easy to change the wording on the ballot if desired.  
Manuel & kat discuss the item.  
Nancy SB explains the background & need for it.

Travis asks a question, Nancy SB answers.

14:50 Travis speaks in favor of some parts, voices concerns about others.

14:53 Nancy SB responds. Nancy Gaige & Manny speak.

14:56 "Reparations for Abuses by Government" resolution is read.  
Alán Alán Apurim & Emily ask questions.

15:00 "Medical Alternative for Benefits" resolution is read. Emily speaks about it.

15:06 Secretary proposes changing "Treasurer" resolution to Bylaw Proposal.  
Laura agrees, "unless others object."  
Emily suggests using the revised version.  
Laura says yes, Emily will send the revised text, secretary will update site.

15:10 5 minute break to do that.

15:13 [video interrupts]

15:17 Wes clarifies that Texans can only vote in 1 convention/primary, etc.

15:19 Matt reminds voters that the options are shuffled.  
Travis asks a question about the Financial Transfer amendment.

15:21 Laura reads the revised version. Agrees with Travis about State Council.  
Travis says if it passes, he would need to resign to not be in violation of law.  
Nancy SB addresses the concerns.  
Manny asks Travis what he thinks would be good.  
Travis says chairs should have access to online banking system, paypal, & TEC.  
AAA speaks, Emily elaborates on the concept of the council.  
Voting link was sent, but Hunter wanted to change a vote.  
Secretary will check Opavote FAQ to see if there's a way to reset/replace his ballot.  
Hunter wants to change his vote on Treasurer amendment from accept to reject.

15:41 Travis received error "this ballot has already been cast."

15:43 Secretary will recreate the election & send out new links. 5-10 minute break.

15:44 Bernadine Williams says that should be voted on.  
Travis calls for objections - there are none.  
Matt estimates 10-15 minutes to redo election.

15:48 Candidate Speeches  
Wes

15:52 Xander

15:54 Emily asks a question, both respond.

15:58 Hunter Wayne Crow

16:04 Matt Bauman

16:05 Travis received the same error when submitting his ballot.

16:09 He says to proceed, 3rd attempt not needed.

SEC At-Large

16:10 Tykisha Murphy

16:11 Alfred Molison

16:13 David Prout  
16:14 Alma Williams  
National Committee  
16:16 Alán Alán Apurim  
16:18 Travis declines  
Nancy Gaige  
16:19 katija gruene  
16:20 Rachel Muldez  
16:25 Bernadine Williams

16:30 Secretary reads out the ballot.  
16:33 kat explains voting procedure for multi-seat races  
16:34 Bernadine asks in chat if candidates counties could be added.  
There isn't space, but Laura says which county each candidate is from.  
16:36 Secretary continues, reading NatCom delegate candidates.  
He asks if Travis would like to use a different email address. He does.  
16:39 Break for voting, we will resume at 4:50PM to wrap things up.  
16:43 kat points out that the ballot only allows 5 approvals on At-Large & 10 for NatCom.  
Secretary will make new ballots. Cochair Laura explains & apologizes.  
16:49 Laura speaks about tomorrow's Volunteer Orientation & Training.  
16:52 Laura encourages group to use Slack, suggests people use this time to get it set up  
if they have not already.  
16:54 Hunter brings Laura's attention to an error on the website. She fixes it.  
16:55 Secretary has finished remaking the ballots, confirms settings, then sends them out.  
16:56 Hunter clarifies state law requirements about JOP & similar positions & how  
candidate names & party affiliations will appear on the ballots.  
16:59 Laura encourages voters to use the new link to cast their votes.  
17:00 Travis says Krista might vote.  
Secretary says Bylaw election is still open, so she can cast votes for that as well.  
17:03 Hunter says Tarrant County has a new volunteer. He will send the info.  
17:05 Secretary says for Resolution & Platform - all voted. Bylaws - all voted.  
Platform & Resolutions - 9 left.  
17:07 Secretary says 3 ballots remain uncast.  
17:09 Manuel says Delilah's dog was bit by a snake, her vote may be delayed.  
17:13 Secretary goes over Bylaw Amendment results. (shown below)  
Laura clarifies that amendments must reach  $\frac{2}{3}$  majority.  
kat calculates 19.3 approvals would be  $\frac{2}{3}$ . So 20 approvals to pass.  
Secretary continues.  
17:18 Trey asks for clarification on "tabling." Laura explains.  
17:19 Secretary reads/shows Resolutions & Platform Amendments.  
kat clarifies that resolutions need simple majority, but amendments need  $\frac{2}{3}$ .  
Don Cook will check bylaws to confirm. Secretary proceeds with results.  
17:23 Still waiting on 1 ballot for Officer Elections. Laura will call the voter.

- 17:27 Don posts the relevant section of bylaws -  $\frac{2}{3}$  for ANY proposal.  
In light of this, secretary goes back over Resolutions results per Trey's request.
- 17:31 Wes clarifies that it's  $\frac{2}{3}$  of cast ballots, not total voters.  
kat calculates that 18.6 approvals would be  $\frac{2}{3}$  of 28, so 19 for approval.
- 17:34 Nancy Gaige suggests setting a time limit for voting at next State Meeting.
- 17:36 Secretary goes over results for officer elections.
- 17:38 Secretary asks about "none of the others." Laura explains.  
Secretar proceeds, reading Nat Com results.
- 17:40 Laura asks if anyone has questions or comments before concluding.  
Hunter asks if Wes is still a Regional Coordinator.  
Wes explains process for RC appointment. They discuss.
- 17:46 Laura suggests postponing Regional Coordinator discussion.  
Meeting concluded.

[video recording available by request]

## **Day 2: June 27, 2021**

**In Attendance:** Nancy & Wesson Gaige, Don & Laura Palmer, Alán Alán Apurim, David Prout, Colin DeLosSantos, David B. Collins, Hunter Crow, Matt Bauman, katija gruene, Natalie Upchurch, Trey Legall, Rachel Muldez, Tykisha Murphy, Alma Williams, Bernadine Williams, Andrew Smith, Manuel Aranda, Emily Nghiem, Aly Schmidt

[Laura goes over the POM & shows how to use Slack, NationBuilder, etc.]  
Hunter Speaks about his campaign for Tarrant County Judge.

## **Bylaw Amendments**

### **Item 1 - Obligation of County affiliates to cooperate with nominating convention process**

Counting ballots using Plurality at Large/Block Voting/MNTV. There are 3 candidates competing for 2 seats. The number of ballots is 29 and there were 28 valid ballots and 1 empty ballot.

20Accept, 7Reject, 5 Table - APPROVED AT 71.43%

**Item 2 - Individuals shall not hold Green Party DBAs**

Counting ballots using Plurality at Large/Block Voting/MNTV. There are 3 candidates competing for 2 seats. The number of ballots is 29 and there were 29 valid ballots and 0 empty ballots.

19A, 8R, 4T - 65.52% - NOT APPROVED

**Item 3 - [Changes to Article VI, Sections 1-3 regarding State Meetings](#)**

Counting ballots using Plurality at Large/Block Voting/MNTV. There are 3 candidates competing for 2 seats. The number of ballots is 29 and there were 28 valid ballots and 1 empty ballot.

21A, 5R, 8T - APPROVED AT 75%

**Item 4 - Anti-oppression language**

Counting ballots using Plurality at Large/Block Voting/MNTV. There are 3 candidates competing for 2 seats. The number of ballots is 29 and there were 29 valid ballots and 0 empty ballots.

21A, 5R, 4T - APPROVED AT 72.41%

**Item 5 - No candidate / None of these / None of the rest - updated language**

Counting ballots using Plurality at Large/Block Voting/MNTV. There are 3 candidates competing for 2 seats. The number of ballots is 29 and there were 28 valid ballots and 1 empty ballot.

21A, 5R, 6T - APPROVED AT 75%

**Item 6 - Presidential candidate qualifications**

Counting ballots using Plurality at Large/Block Voting/MNTV. There are 3 candidates competing for 2 seats. The number of ballots is 29 and there were 29 valid ballots and 0 empty ballots.

14A, 11R, 11T - 48.28% - NOT APPROVED

#### **Item 7 - Geographic Diversity**

Counting ballots using Plurality at Large/Block Voting/MNTV. There are 3 candidates competing for 2 seats. The number of ballots is 29 and there were 29 valid ballots and 0 empty ballots.

12A, 13R, 10T - 41.38% - NOT APPROVED

#### **Item 8 - SEC Vacancies**

Counting ballots using Plurality at Large/Block Voting/MNTV. There are 3 candidates competing for 2 seats. The number of ballots is 29 and there were 28 valid ballots and 1 empty ballot.

11A, 15R, 7T - 39.29% - NOT APPROVED

#### **Item 9 - Treasurer Amendment**

Counting ballots using Plurality at Large/Block Voting/MNTV. There are 3 candidates competing for 2 seats. The number of ballots is 29 and there were 28 valid ballots and 1 empty ballot.

10A, 13R, 11T - 35.71% - NOT APPROVED

## **Platform Amendments**

Amendment text must be submitted by May 12 for inclusion in the agenda packet & posting for discussion.

### **Item 1 - Criminal Justice Reform update**

Counting ballots using Plurality at Large/Block Voting/MNTV. There are 3 candidates competing for 2 seats. The number of ballots is 29 and there were 28 valid ballots and 1 empty ballot.

22A, 1R, 6T - APPROVED AT 78.57%

### **Item 2 - Explicit endorsement of minimum income/universal basic income**

Counting ballots using Plurality at Large/Block Voting/MNTV. There are 3 candidates competing for 2 seats. The number of ballots is 29 and there were 28 valid ballots and 1 empty ballot.

24A, 0R, 4T - APPROVED AT 85.71%

### **Item 3 - Eco-socialist affirmation**

Counting ballots using Plurality at Large/Block Voting/MNTV. There are 3 candidates competing for 2 seats. The number of ballots is 29 and there were 28 valid ballots and 1 empty ballot.

22A, 4R, 3T - APPROVED AT 78.57%

### **Item 4 - Government secrecy**

Counting ballots using Plurality at Large/Block Voting/MNTV. There are 3 candidates competing for 2 seats. The number of ballots is 29 and there were 28 valid ballots and 1 empty ballot.

22A, 1R, 6T - APPROVED AT 78.57%

### **Item 5 - Update Public Health policy**

Counting ballots using Plurality at Large/Block Voting/MNTV. There are 3 candidates competing for 2 seats. The number of ballots is 29 and there were 28 valid ballots and 1 empty ballot.

26A, 0R, 3T - APPROVED AT 92.86%

### **Item 6 - Economic Sustainability**

Counting ballots using Plurality at Large/Block Voting/MNTV. There are 3 candidates competing for 2 seats. The number of ballots is 29 and there were 28 valid ballots and 1 empty ballot.

26A, 0R, 3T - APPROVED AT 92.86%

## **Resolutions**

### **Item 1 - State Council**

Counting ballots using Plurality at Large/Block Voting/MNTV. There are 3 candidates competing for 2 seats. The number of ballots is 29 and there were 28 valid ballots and 1 empty ballot.

9A, 11R, 10T - 32.14% - NOT APPROVED

### **Item 2 - Financial Documents Transfer**

[changed to Bylaw Item 9]

### **Item 3 - Reparations for Abuses by Government**

Counting ballots using Plurality at Large/Block Voting/MNTV. There are 3 candidates competing for 2 seats. The number of ballots is 29 and there were 27 valid ballots and 2 empty ballots.

17A, 6R, 8T - 62.96% - NOT APPROVED

### **Item 4 - Medical Alternative for Benefits**

Counting ballots using Plurality at Large/Block Voting/MNTV. There are 3 candidates competing for 2 seats. The number of ballots is 29 and there were 28 valid ballots and 1 empty ballot.

15A, 10R, 9T - 53.57% - NOT APPROVED

## Officer Nominations

### **Co-chair - candidates:**

Wesson Gaige - 15

Alexander James - 13

Neither - 2

Of the 29 voters in this election, 29 cast ballots.

### **Secretary - candidates:**

Matt Bauman - 26

Hunter Wayne Crow - 4

Neither - 0

Of the 29 voters in this election, 29 cast ballots.

### **5 At-Large - candidates:**

There are 9 candidates competing for 9 seats. The number of voters is 29 and there were 29 valid votes and 0 empty votes.

Counting votes using Plurality at Large/Block Voting/MNTV.

| Candidate            | Raw Approval Count | Reweighted Placement |
|----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Hunter Wayne Crow    | 20                 | 5                    |
| Alexander James      | 24                 | 3                    |
| Wesson Gaige         | 21                 | 4                    |
| Tykisha Murphy       | 24                 | 2                    |
| Alfred Molison       | 20                 | 6                    |
| David Prout          | 25                 | 1                    |
| Alma Williams        | 12                 | 7                    |
| [None of the others] | 7                  | 8                    |
| [None of these]      | 0                  | -                    |

**10 National Committee Delegates - candidates:**

There are 14 candidates competing for 14 seats. The number of voters is 29 and there were 29 valid votes and 0 empty votes.

Counting votes using Plurality at Large/Block Voting/MNTV.

Candidate | Raw Approval Count | Reweighted Placement

=====

|                      |         |    |                                           |
|----------------------|---------|----|-------------------------------------------|
| Alán Alán Apurim     | 15 *Alt | 7  | (Alt position was requested by candidate) |
| Travis Christal      | 24      | 4  |                                           |
| Hunter Wayne Crow    | 21 *    | 8  |                                           |
| Nancy Gaige          | 24      | 3  |                                           |
| Wesson Gaige         | 21      | 9  |                                           |
| katija gruene        | 26      | 1  |                                           |
| Alexander James      | 23 *    | 5  |                                           |
| Alfred Molison       | 19      | 10 |                                           |
| Rachel Muldez        | 26 *    | 1  |                                           |
| Christa Schelter     | 23 *    | 6  |                                           |
| Rachel Schelter      | 23 *    | 2  |                                           |
| Bernadine Williams   | 14 *Alt | 11 |                                           |
| [None of the others] | 9       | 12 |                                           |
| [None of these]      | 0       | -  |                                           |

\* = was not on natcom last year