

[00:00:00.03] - Ross Little
State convention delegates.

[00:00:02.10] - Sherri Watson
State convention delegates, we have 55.

[00:00:05.04] - Ross Little
I thought we have 32 that filed.

[00:00:08.02] - Sherri Watson
Oh, I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I'm sorry, I'm sorry. We have 55 available positions, 32 have been filed.

[00:00:13.23] - Ross Little
Okay.

[00:00:14.14] - Sherri Watson
Yes.

[00:00:15.06] - Ross Little
All right, for the state delegates, since fewer than 55 people were nominated, the 32 who did file are therefore, according to our procedural rules, declared elected. Without opposition. Congratulations to 32 state delegates.

[00:00:40.08] - Brian Lester
Mr. Chair, are you going to take nominations from the floor?

[00:00:44.16] - Ross Little
Uh, no, we're not.

[00:00:46.02] - Brian Lester
And were those procedural rules passed out 10 days before the vote on which they were taken?

[00:00:53.08] - Ross Little
These are not local rules, they are procedural rules subject to amendment.

[00:00:57.12] - Brian Lester
And from where do you get that?

[00:01:00.17] - Ross Little
Okay, I would like to explain a few things about this. Robert's Rules of Order gives 4 or so different ways by which we could proceed. We could proceed the way we did, which is by nominations and off balance. Number 2, you can proceed by ordinary motion. One committee has done this. They had a motion saying 48 people be elected, and they were elected. That was Benton County. You can do it by nominating committee. Some people do it that way. Robert's Rules allows all these ways of doing it. What we did this time was let people know in advance what we were doing, and we did it in writing by ordinary motion, which means these rules are subject to change, amendment, and the like by a majority vote. Majority would vote in this— would rule in this case. So that's what we did, and instead of waiting until the meeting to tell people how we're going to proceed, we did it in advance. And I've talked to a lot of people about this, And everyone thinks it's a good idea. It was actually discussed in the State Executive Committee meeting, and people were positive on it from there.

[00:02:25.16] - Ross Little
One of the main people I talked to was Diana Lowe, who is the 4th District Chairman and probably the best authority on the rules of all the people on the District Chairman level. So, um, just the turnout that we're having tonight is more significant than any other time we've had. And we allow people weeks and weeks to be nominated, not just one hour of the meeting. And we now have 23 continued vacancies, and we're going to vote on them in the future, in a future meeting, at the next meeting we

have. We're not going to adjourn the convention, we're going to recess it, and, uh, there's a chance we could have all 55. I believe we already have more elected than we had last time, so I think it has been a success.

[00:03:32.20] - Matt Mendenhall

Point of inquiry Mr Chairman I'm not sure I understand you. *hard to understand -- something about filling out the form...

[00:03:33.14] - Ross Little

We will at the May meeting be able to do that, to add more members.

[00:03:39.23] - Ross Little

Sharon?

[00:03:51.29] - Ross Little

We're going to be on a very tight schedule, and it may be a good idea to think about that. But Sharon, I think you make a very good point, but we'll talk about that later on in agenda.

[00:04:04.09] - Susan Gessler

Can we go ahead and do that since we're on a time frame? I know several

[00:04:24.15]

—start filling the slots so that we would have a headway. Because for it not to be decided in a meeting, we would go ahead and start filling the slots tonight. That makes sense because a lot of people that are here remains— we're not on the same page. My flip-flop is to urge Mr. Chairman— ma'am—

[00:04:47.15] - Julia Robinson

but we thought it was a good idea to start Because we thought the deadline was at noon, but it was at 11. Yes, ma'am.

[00:05:00.09] - Ross Little

And as a delegate, you can still file, and we can— you will still be a delegate. That's not the way the rules say.

[00:05:20.26] - Sharon Stuthard

What order? Madam Chairwoman, I would like to make a motion to amend the procedural rules that we've already passed and make our next meeting for the reconvening of the— Point of order, Mr. Chairman. That's not in order right now. This man's point of order Mr. President, over— What was your point of order? I rose to make a motion, Mr. Chairman. You cut me off halfway through it.

[00:05:51.15] - Ross Little

Excuse me. You said these rules were amendable.

[00:05:53.22] - Sherri Watson

Yes. I'm rising to make a motion to amend the rules to allow further nominations to take place at this very meeting before we have such a regular session.

[00:06:02.19] - Ross Little

Second. Okay. It's been moved and seconded. Would anyone like to speak to that?

[00:06:11.05] - nikki lockett

Nikki. Yeah, so I think— so we were in the meeting last month and we all, the members here, voted to adopt the rules that were going to happen for the convention. Right now we're looking at delegates and the committee chairperson, chairwoman, the chairman, And now it feels like there's people who have not been attending the monthly meetings that all of a sudden want to represent us at the state or district level. But I'm curious, if they don't attend our meetings regularly, how do they know what

our issues are to fairly represent what we want at the state and at the district? You're here. So—

[00:07:00.11] - Brian Lester
I speak in opposition.

[00:07:05.05] - Ross Little
Uh, go ahead.

[00:07:07.14] - Brian Lester
The RPA rules are clear that when you pass a local rule, you have to give 10 days notice. Procedural rules are nowhere found in the Robert's Rules of Order.

[00:07:16.13] - Brian Lester
Therefore, they don't supersede.

[00:07:19.02] - Brian Lester
And therefore, the chairman is putting all of Washington County's delegates in jeopardy of not being seated at convention if he doesn't follow the proper rules. And therefore, Mr. Chairman, I ask that you sustain the motions by Mr. Mendenhall because these rules have not been followed. And whether you call them procedural rules for your own benefit or not, it is a local rule that requires a 10-day notice, which did not happen in this case.

[00:07:51.13] - Ross Little
Do we have other—

[00:07:54.06] - Joe Maynard
Yes, this is spoken by the man who believes the Executive Committee can overrule a convention. Take that into consideration.

[00:08:01.18] - Brian Lester
Only when it's illegal. You're right, sir.

[00:08:03.21] - Joe Maynard
Wrong.

[00:08:04.24] - Brian Lester
As a judge said in federal court, only when it's—

[00:08:07.16]
Point of order. Point of order. Yes, Your Honor.

[00:08:10.28]
Point of order, sir.

[00:08:11.06] - Paul Sagan
Point of order, Mr. President. Address your comments to the chair.

[00:08:16.29] - Brenda Vassaur Taylor
Notices were sent before these rules were adopted to all the membership. Notices given, the copies of procedures were attached. We ? More than the 10 day notice, and then they were sent. So I would challenge the idea that these were something new that was not—

[00:08:37.20] - Brian Lester
One day before the meeting,

[00:08:39.14] - Ross Little
excuse me, you've already spoken. You have not been recognized, Susan.

[00:08:45.19] - Susan Gessler

I would like to say that my name is Susan Gessler and I'm third district chairman. To insinuate that I haven't been to the meetings, I think is not right. But anyway, I would like to make a point that we have several members here that desire to go to the state convention. We are already here and willing to submit in her name. I see it imperative that we be allowed to vote on this, if we're going to vote for them to have a name change. I may not— I elect Bill Mudge, but I may not be back after May 1st. So I am here now wanting to add my name as 3rd District Chairman to attend the state— the ability to the state committee And I see that it's kind of crazy to be denied that when we have several members that are sitting in our audience. We're not trying to cause trouble or go against you, Mr. Chairman. We're just trying to do a solid job serving the residents. There are probably 6, maybe 8, maybe 4, maybe 3 people in this

[00:10:02.23] - Ross Little

Do we have further discussion.

[00:10:25.24] - Valerie B

Those proposals were sent out, they were voted on by this committee.

[00:10:32.21] - Valerie B

You had the opportunity to say you disagree with them and vote against them. Then this past month, per the rules, notice was sent out to anybody that wanted to be on the state committee, also the district committee to put their names in. There was an attachment too to sign up. Also, that same email said if you did not get your, your email, your name in at this point on this day, you still had an opportunity to go to the is next month. So, you missed this first deadline. Why? I do not know. But you still have an opportunity to next month to put your name in. You just have to fill out the form like everybody else. And I'm sorry that you feel you need to be extra special people. That's a breaker rule. You cannot do this. I downloaded the form. I printed out the forms, I sent the forms, everybody else on that list did it. Somehow you are special, special people, and I don't think we should be offering special privileges to you folks.

[00:12:03.07] - Valerie B

I'm done now.

[00:12:04.05] - Sharon Stuthard

We should have a two minute timer on anybody that speaks

[00:12:14.07] - Sharon Stuthard

Our main objection has always, always been Washington County Republicans wants for all we get as many people from Washington County to go to the convention. I'm very disappointed. I'm just talking.

[00:12:49.14] - Kim Maynard

Make a motion to move to close debate

[00:12:49.22] - Ross Little

Second. It's been moved and seconded that we close debate. That requires a two-thirds vote. All in favor of closing the debate?

[00:13:02.26] - Sharon Stuthard

There is a motion and a second. —before to amend the procedures.

[00:13:09.29] - Ross Little

That's what we're closing debate on. We're voting on it. That's what we voted on. What did she say?

[00:13:16.29] - Ross Little

Did you call the question? Yes, I did. Yes. It was a motion to close debate, which is the same exact thing as a motion to call the question. There's no difference between the two. Y'all got that? Okay, so

a motion to close debate. A motion to call for question requires a two-thirds vote. So we're going to vote on that right now, whether or not to close debate. All in favor of closing debate, signify by saying aye. Aye. All opposed, say nay. Nay. In the opinion of the chair, the ayes have it, and we'll vote. We're now voting to change the rules to allow nominees to be able to be nominated today from the floor. That's the motion, right? So all in favor of that motion signify by saying aye. Aye. All opposed signify by saying nay. Nay. In the opinion of the chair, the nays have it.

[00:14:24.00] - Brian Lester
Offer division of assembly.

[00:14:25.12] - Ross Little
He wants a division. All in favor of closing debate, stand up. Oh, I'm sorry, all in favor of the motion to allow nominees tonight, stand up. I need some help counting. I need some help counting. You want to count this side? So we got— this is in favor 3. You got them all on this side? How many? Huh? 30 on this side. 30 to 3— 23. All opposed to this motion, stand up. I think it's fair to say, being in the chair, that the nays have it. Don't satisfy with that.

[00:15:27.18]
2 more votes. Okay. 6, 7, 8, 8. 9, 9, J, 10, 10, 11, 11, 12, 13, 14.

[00:16:31.22] - Ross Little
Are you counting? 27. Okay, it's 15 to 22. The day is passing. So what I previously said, I'm going to repeat, is those 32 people who filed are hereby declared elected.