

Minutes.

Libertarian National Committee Executive Committee. Regular Meeting, Monday, July 22, 1996. [Second Draft.]

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Libertarian National Committee was held on Monday, July 22, 1996, at 8:40 p.m. Eastern Daylight Saving Time by telephone conference call.

All six of the voting members were present at the meeting:

- Stephen L. Dasbach, the chair;
- Karen A. Allard, the vice chair;
- Gary E. Johnson, the secretary;
- Hugh A. Butler, the treasurer;
- Ron Crickenberger, LNC representative; and
- William W. Hall, LNC representative.

Non-voting observers Joseph W. Dehn III, Mark A. Tuniewicz, and Perry Willis were also present.

The national director, Perry Willis, reported that the national headquarters had been renovated with new walls to create 3 additional offices. Sharon Ayres, Terry Bronson, Geoff Braun, and George Goetz had started working in the office. He said a new graphic designer would be hired.

Perry Willis reported that checks for donations received in the mail were being processed slowly because of a bottleneck in the data entry system for the computer. This was due in part to the large volume of donations received immediately after the national convention.

Perry Willis and Steve Dasbach said that part of the reason that the checks were being processed slowly was because John Famularo, working as a computer consultant, had not allowed information about donors to the Harry Browne for President campaign to be entered into the Libertarian Party data base until after Browne had won the nomination. Perry Willis said the checks received after the convention were "piling up" while information about the Browne campaign contributions -- the "P (for Presidential) transactions" -- was being entered into the computer. He said this would

not have been a problem if the "P transactions" had been entered into the computer before the convention.

Perry Willis reported that radio advertising for Harry Browne had started in the Washington, D.C., area. He said due-paying membership was 16,323. He said "Operation Drumbeat" would rally grass roots support to lobby for including Harry Browne in the national television debates.

Hugh Butler expressed concern about the slow processing of checks, especially if they are held for more than 10 days.

Perry Willis said that some former members of the Libertarian Party whose dues had lapsed had contributed to the Harry Browne campaign. He said their memberships were being reactivated if they had given at least a certain amount.

LNC member Joe Dehn asked about this and said that it should be publicly stated that some contributors to the Browne campaign were being made members of the Party based on their donations. Hugh Butler said this should be part of the agreement between the Libertarian Party and the Browne campaign.

In answer to a question from Ron Crickenberger, Perry Willis reported that 11,500 calls had been made to the toll-free number, 1-800-682-1776, during the national convention. He said there were problems with the processing firm, Operators Standing By, and it would be replaced.

In answer to a question from Bill Hall, Perry Willis said Stuart Reges was preparing software to automate the reporting of coordinating expenditures to the Federal Election Commission.

Steve Dasbach reported that he had been served with a lawsuit against the Libertarian National Committee and others by Peter Schmerl in Arizona over the issue of the recognition of the state party affiliate in Arizona. The lawsuit claimed that the Arizona Libertarian Party is a group that Schmerl represented and not the group the LNC recognized. The suit sought to force the defendants to recognize Schmerl's group as the Arizona Libertarian Party.

Without objection, it was agreed that Bill Hall would represent the LNC in this case and, if necessary, hire local counsel in Arizona.

In answer to a question from Hugh Butler, Bill Hall said that initially the case could cost the LNC from \$2,000 to \$5,000. Perry Willis and Steve Dasbach said there was more than that amount of money in the Contingency line item in the budget. Steve

Dasbach said no Executive Committee action was required, but it was his intent to spend at least \$2,000 on this matter.

The Campaign Area manager, Ron Crickenberger, reported that some funds would be given to the campaigns of Jon Coon in Michigan and Don Gorman in New Hampshire.

Ron Crickenberger said the Jon Coon campaign wanted to send a fund raising appeal to the party's largest donors. Perry Willis said that the general policy was not to make the "heavy-hitters" list available, but an arrangement could be made for the national headquarters to make the actual mailing. Ron Crickenberger said the Coon campaign was willing to provide the LP with the names of its donors. Perry Willis and Ron Crickenberger said they would discuss the idea. Steve Dasbach emphasized that the LP needed to control its mailing list.

Future meetings of the Executive Committee were set for Wednesday at 8:30 p.m. Eastern Time on August 21, September 18, and October 23.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m. EDT.

Respectfully submitted, Gary E. Johnson, secretary.