



MINUTES
2023 SENATE DISTRICT 50 DEMOCRATIC-FARMER-LABOR PARTY CONVENTION
March 11, 2023
Southdale Library Second Floor Meeting Room

2:00 PM Convention called to order by Sharon Billings, who then presided over:

Flag ceremony/Pledge of Allegiance;

Welcome to delegates and guests; and

Reading of Affirmative Action, Outreach, and Inclusion Statement.

Election of Convention Chair. Chris Thorp was elected Convention chair, unanimously.

Chair Thorp called on the pre-convention Constitution Committee for its report on the adoption of Agenda and Rules. Constitution Committee Chair David Fisher presented the report, thanking Committee members Sharon Billings, Joni Bennett, JoAnne Plein, and Barry Rosenthal. Mr. Fisher stated that the Committee recommended adoption of the proposed Rules. Chair Thorp then put the matter to a vote and the Agenda was adopted unanimously.

Committee member Joni Bennett then presented the Committee's report for adoption of proposed Rules for the Convention. Ms. Bennett stated that the Committee recommended adoption of the proposed Rules. Chair Thorp put the matter to a vote and the Rules were adopted unanimously.

Chair Thorp then announced the appointment of Convention officials, as follows:

Secretary – David Fisher

Parliamentarian – David Fisher

Head Teller - JoAnne Plein

Chair Thorp then called for a Credentials Committee Report, which was presented by Sarah Lukowski, who reported there were 46 delegates registered and in attendance.

Chair Thorp then invited the pre-convention Constitution Committee report on the adoption of amendments to the SD50 DFL Constitution and Bylaws. Committee Chair David Fisher outlined changes proposed for the governing documents, after which Chair Thorp called for discussion. There was discussion about the change from an annual Senate District DFL convention to a convention only in even-numbered years. It was noted that the change was not unanimous among Committee members. Chair Thorp then put the matter to a vote and the proposed amended Constitution and Bylaws were adopted.



Chair Thorp then asked Sharon Billings to introduce speakers wishing to come before the Convention. The following individuals addressed the delegates:

- Maxwell Collins, candidate for Bloomington City Council
- Lona Dallessandro, Bloomington City Council member, District 3
- Heather Edelson, House District 50A
- Steve Elkins, House District 50B
- Debbie Goettel, Hennepin County District 5
- Jenna Carter, Bloomington City Council, At-Large
- Alice Mann, Senator District 50

Chair Thorp then called for a report from the pre-Convention Nomination Committee Report, which was presented by Sharon Billings. She advised that candidates for each of the officer positions with the Senate District DFL Party were screened by the Nomination Committee and that said Committee recommended the named individuals below for the respective offices indicated. In each case, the Convention elected the individuals to the indicated positions by unanimous vote to a one-year term ending in 2024:

- Chair – Sharon Billings
- First Vice Chair – David Fisher
- Second Vice Chair – Barry Rosenthal
- Outreach Officer – Sarah Lukowski
- Secretary – JoAnne Plein
- Treasurer – Patrick Meyer
- Communications Officer – Anita Smithson
- Data and Technology Officer – Brandon Rimnac

Just after the election of the Outreach Office, Chair Thorp invited State Auditor Julie Blaha to address the Convention, which she did by video feed from Coon Rapids. The election of Party officers then proceeded.

Following the election of Party officers, Chair Thorp invited Laura Calbone, of FairVote Minnesota to address the Convention, concerning legislation before the State Legislature concerning ranked choice voting.

At this point, seeing no other business to be addressed, Chair Thorp adjourned the Convention at 3:15 p.m.