



**Nebraska Democratic Party**

**State Central Committee Meeting  
May 31, 2025  
Minutes**

**Saturday, May 3**

**Agenda for SCC Meeting, May 31, 2025**

- **Meeting Called to Order at 10:45 a.m.**
  - Land Acknowledgment
    - Led by Native Caucus Chair Cynthia LaMere
  - Pledge of Allegiance
    - Led by Veterans and Military Families Council Chair Jerry Johnson
- **Actions of the NDP Secretary, Stephanie Matejka**
  - Quorum We have 78 voting members present.
  - Seating of Delegates
    - CD Chairs report any actions from their caucus on seating of delegates
    - **CD1 Caucus**
      - Chair, Tom Hanson
        - Seated Melissa Crouch as LD 26 female delegate
        - Seated Michael Dryud as LD 26 male alternate, who has been seated as a delegate for today because the LD 26 male delegate is not in attendance.

- **CD2 Caucus**

- Chair, Sarah Hanify
  - Elected Reyna Tesla as the Female / NB Alternate for LD 12
  - Seated Lacey Merica for Margo Juarez, LD 5
  - Seated Neil McCarthy for Ralph Ross, LD 8
  - Seated Ean Rye-Craft for James Vihstadt, LD 31
  - Seated Ryan Nickell for Darin Tompkins, LD 36

- **CD3 Caucus**

- Chair, Randy Fair
  - Seated Judy Vohland for LD35

- **VOTE:** Approval of Minutes

- **Minutes from our March Meeting are online**

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- Passed with Accumulation, no changes.

- **Chair Jane Kleeb**

- DNC and ASDC updates
  - Currently meeting in Little Rock. Precious McKesson was recently elected as vice of the
  - Chair Martin unveiled committee Appointments. Some at large seats given to
  - Updates to amount of support to State Parties. Over 20% of the DNC Budget.
  - Investments
  - Next steps for candidate recruitment and growth of our party!

- **State Party Officer Reports**

- **CD Caucus Reports, Chairs Tom Hanson, Sarah Hanify, and Randy Fair**

- Reports and updates

- **Committee, Caucus and Council Reports**

- Rules Committee, Chair Ben Cass

- **Bylaw 5.10.1.1.4-5 Amendment - SCC Resolutions**

- Rules Chair Cass moved amendment from the floor, second by Tom Havelka. 58 Ayes 1 Nay Passes

- Rules Chair Cass moved Bylaw 5.10.1.1.4-5 Amendment - SCC Resolutions as amended 63 Ayes and Motion carries.
- Resolutions Committee, Co-Chairs Shannon Graves & Quinton Corwin
  - **Resolutions Committee Report**
    - Moved by Cynthia Lamere to approve the report, seconded by Tom Havelka
      - 66 ayes, committee report is adopted
    - Motion to suspend rules and move resolution condemning federal overreach from Gage Co to the floor by Chuck Riedesel, seconded by Ryan Griffin
      - 59 ayes, motion passes
    - Moved by to approve Gage Co Resolution by James Dake, seconded by Penny Greer
      - Friendly amendment to add sending a copy to Nebraska's federal delegation
        - 54 ayes, motion passes, resolution is adopted
    - Motion to suspend rules and move a memorial resolution for Marta Nieves to the floor
      - Moved by Laurey Steinke, seconded by Alan Snyder
        - 54 ayes, motion passes
    - Moved by Jennifer Reyna to approve Marta Nieves resolution, seconded by Jose Flores
      - 60 ayes, motion passes, resolution is adopted.
- **Staff Reports**
  - **Precious McKesson, Executive Director**
    - In our closed session in March, we discussed the 2025 plans, but staff will review their goals and highlights.
    - Preview of upcoming events:
      - SCC Meetings
        - August 16th, Omaha, 9 am-4 pm
          - Full-day meetings of CD Caucuses, Caucus and Councils, and SCC Meetings. The day before is the Ben Nelson Gala, and on Sunday will be a candidate training...Big Blue Weekend!
        - December 6th, Zoom 10 am-1 pm, Zoom

- CD Caucuses and then SCC meetings. All councils and caucuses can be planned on Friday or Sunday.
- Fundraisers
  - Big Blue Weekend, August 15th-17th
    - Ben Nelson Gala on Friday
    - SCC Meeting and Party Leader Trainings on Saturday
    - Candidate and Campaign Staff Trainings on Sunday
- **Ron Rivera, Political Director**
  - 2025 City Elections
    - Lincoln Results
      - Turnout, clean sweep
    - Omaha Results
      - Flipped Mayor, Protected 4 Wards
    - [2025 Candidates](#)
      - Data will be available after June due to certification of elections in Omaha
  - Candidate Outreach
    - [Run for Office](#)
  - 2025 NDP MOU Contracts
    - If you want VAN access (we give basic access for free, unlike any other state party in the nation), you must complete the MOU
      - [SCC/County Chairs](#)
      - [Candidates/Vendors/Allied Groups](#)
- **Gina Frank, Outreach Director**
  - Block Captain update
  - Welcome to the Party Calls
  - Website Updates
- **Jose Flores Jr, Communications Director**
  - On social media, we need help amplifying our posts

- We have a new system to track content creators; please send us their names, handles, etc.
- Newspaper ads target rural papers monthly, a “Message from a Rural Democrat.”
- **Hannah Wroblewski, Party Affairs Director**
  - SCC Growth: 86% of Voting Seats are currently occupied!
  - Listservs update
  - Young Democrats update
  - We need your help with ideas for the calendar of events!
- **Kris Kinzie, Kathy Jensen, and Tara O’Dell, Rural Organizers**
  - Rural Outreach update
    - Calendar of rodeos, pow-wows, county fairs, and other cultural events across small-town Nebraska
    - County Party Building updates
    - Updates on what we have been doing so far, and give us your ideas.
- Announcements and Adjournment
  - Jayden Speed, candidate for Legislative District 2

## **CLOSED SESSION (end of FB Live)**

- Treasurer’s Report, Ted Kessler
  - Summary of accounts.
    - Detailed P+L statement available from Ted
  - Reports filed with FEC and NADC.
    - Copies of the latest FEC and NADC report available from Ted

## **Additional Information**

**[SCC Governing Documents](#)**: All of our SCC meeting documents, agendas, bylaws and the training manual for SCC Delegates are on the NDP website.

**Statewide Officers, Standing and Special Committee Chairs:** The work of party operations happens in our committees, caucus, councils and county parties. Thank you to the Chairs, SCC Members, County Officers and Committee Members for serving.

### **SCC Agenda Packets**

- Archived Agenda Packets can be found under “2017-2023 Archive Meetings”

### **SCC Resolutions**

### **SCC Meeting Facebook Event:**

- We stream our SCC meetings on FB, except the closed session portion.

### **SCC Delegate Training Manual**

### **County Chair Manual**

### **Block Captain Program**

**NDP Candidate Manual + Trainings:** We now have a Candidate Manual (thank you Sen. Blood and staff!) and a monthly candidate training series. We do not publish these on the website. Candidates must first complete the MOU -- please email [ronr@nebraskademocrats.org](mailto:ronr@nebraskademocrats.org).

- If you or someone you know wants to run for office, please promote this link. Once a person completes this form, staff hold a meeting with the candidate and then they get added to a listserv and trainings:  
[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe6kCBwlpu5YNR7e4yIUrA\\_776V5saFxCGMyIV9I\\_sbIcCthw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe6kCBwlpu5YNR7e4yIUrA_776V5saFxCGMyIV9I_sbIcCthw/viewform)

**Events:** A reminder that we post our events and volunteer opportunities here:  
<https://www.mobilize.us/nebdems/>

- Gina leads the outreach plan, please email her if you need a mobile office (i.e. materials to use at county fairs, parades, etc) or materials sent to you for meetings and events.

**#NebDems Store:** You can purchase t-shirts and sweatshirts to show your #NebDems pride!

**Monthly Donor Program:** Sign up (or increase your monthly amount) during the SCC meeting and you get a special gift!

At least \$10 a month:

- Exclusive Monthly Donor Sticker

\$25 a month:

- 1 ticket to the annual Salute to State Senators
- Exclusive Monthly Donor Sticker
- Exclusive Lapel Pin

\$50 a month:

- 1 ticket to the annual Ben Nelson Gala with VIP Reception
- Invitation to Donor Briefings with Party Leaders and Elected Officials
- Exclusive Monthly Donor Sticker
- Exclusive Coin

\$100 a month:

- 1 ticket to the annual Salute to State Senators and Ben Nelson Gala with VIP Receptions
- Invitation to Donor Briefings with Party Leaders and Elected Officials
- First access to and reserved seats for NDP special events and national events for which we receive tickets (e.g., special guest speakers).
- Exclusive Monthly Donor Sticker
- Exclusive Lapel Pin & Coin

**Trainings:** The NDP offers SCC, Block Captain, Blue Bench, and Candidate trainings as well as access to other national training resources. We can come to your county or caucus meetings as well to tailor a training to your needs.

**Blue Bench Training:** We have a new training page that focuses on what we officer candidates and staff:

**Block Captains:** Gina Frank is our Block Captain Director. We currently have 700 Block Captains. Email [gina@nebraskademocrats.org](mailto:gina@nebraskademocrats.org) for more information on the Block Captain program.

**NDP and National Democratic Training Committee:** The NDP partners with the DNC and the National Democratic Training Committee to provide all candidates and party leaders trainings to help elect Democrats. You can access a free training account to support your local work.

**DNC Trainings and Resources:** The DNC offers an in-depth online training program for both volunteers *and* party leaders/elected officials!

## **NDP Contact Info:**

**Email:** [info@nebraskademocrats.org](mailto:info@nebraskademocrats.org)

**NDP Offices:**

**LNK:** 3701 O Street, Suite 200, Lincoln, NE 68510 / 402-434-2180

**OMA:** 1102 S 76th Ave, Omaha NE 68124 / 531-867-4343

**Socials**

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#): @NebDems

[Instagram](#): @nebraskadems

**TikTok:** @NebDems

**Hashtags:** #NebDems, #NELeg

**Party Members**

[Staff](#)

[Party Leaders](#)

[Elected Democrats](#)