



## State Central Committee Meeting February 7, 2026 Minutes

### Agenda for SCC Meeting

- **Meeting Called to Order at 11:15 a.m. CT**
  - Land Acknowledgment
    - Native Caucus Chair Cynthia LaMere
  - Pledge of Allegiance
    - Veterans & Military Affairs Council Chair Jerry Johnson
- **Actions of the NDP Secretary, Stephanie Matejka**
  - Quorum
    - We have quorum
  - Seating of Delegates
    - CD Chairs report any actions from their caucus on the seating of delegates
      - CD1 sat Michael Dyrud as the delegate for LD26
      - CD2 sat Ryan Nickell as the delegate for LD36
      - CD3 sat Annette Wozniak for LD 37 & Doc Moore for LD47
  - **VOTE:** Approval of Minutes
    - [Minutes from our November Meeting](#) are online.
    - Approved without objection
- **Chair Jane Kleeb Report**
  - Review of ASDC and DNC programs
    - Early Presidential Primary States
    - 2028 Convention Cities

- 12 states have applied; it's been a very fair and transparent process
    - Caucus and Council Project
      - Improving coordination between state and national orgs
    - Voter Registration + Voter Protection
  - No Kings Day events on March 28—drive-thru yard sign events, action flyers, rally signs, wear a Dem shirt
  - **VOTE:** [Allowing nonpartisan voters to vote in the 2026 Democratic Primary](#)
    - Moved by Wes Jensen, LD7
      - Seconded by Sean Alcorn, LD33
        - Terri Alberhasky, LD12, requests an edit to change the word “them” to “nonpartisans.” Edit is made in the letter.
        - Passed unanimously (60 yes, 0 nays)
  - NDP's Fundraising Strength
    - Federal contributions (2023-2024): \$6.6M (NDP) vs. \$2.8M (NEGOP)
    - Non-fed (2024-2025): \$1M/\$336k (NDP) vs. \$196k (NEGOP)
    - 2025-2026 fed: \$322K (NDP) vs. \$252k (NEGOP)
    - NDP's fundraising is up, consistently ahead.
- **State Party Officer Reports**
  - Ryan Griffin, Vice Chair of County Parties
    - County party infrastructures have been growing.
    - Thank you to all of our volunteers and volunteer County Party Officers!
    - Reminder: go to your County Conventions! (March 28-April 18)
- **CD Caucus Reports, Chairs Tom Hanson, Jo-El Chiles, and Vice Chair Ben Cass**
  - Reports and updates
  - CD1: Will be bringing a resolution to the floor with regard to Trump's racist post from Friday. Thank you to Pastor Banks and Penny for your work on this.
  - CD2: Nothing to report at this time.
  - CD3: Had a great time at the Panhandle Tour, nothing else to report at this time.
- **Staff Reports**

- Precious McKesson, Executive Director
  - ASDCED Update
  - Summer Internship Program
    - Choosing a few high schoolers to participate, starting in June, will meet weekly with fellows across the country. 10-15 hours per week in the State Party Office or with the CD2 candidate's campaign.
  - Jennifer Reyna was chosen to be a DNC fellow, congrats!
- Ron Rivera, Political Director
  - 2026 NDP MOU Contracts
    - Candidates and Allied Groups
    - County parties, SCC members, Caucuses/Councils
  - Filing Deadlines
    - Feb 17 incumbent filing deadline
    - Mar 2 non-incumbent filing deadline
- Gina Frank, Outreach Director
  - Impact of the Block Captain program!
  - County Conventions coming up (March 28-April 18, excluding Easter weekend)
    - Feb 13th is the deadline for Counties to schedule their conventions.
- Jose Flores, Communications Director
  - Social Media Overview
    - Promoting our counties, caucuses, councils, and candidates.
    - Launching a video project, for example, LCDP Chair Hannah Wroblewski will be doing one about the LNK clean sweep last year.
  - Launching our new Latino Organizing Program!
- Alma Rosa Infante & Miriam Lachica, Latino Organizers
  - Welcome to the NDP Team!
  - Still looking to hire organizers for Omaha and Western Nebraska
- Hannah Wroblewski, Party Affairs Director
  - Young Dems organizing update
    - Hit the ground running in all three CDs with candidate forums, social events, and tabling events
  - Party Affairs Update
    - State Convention coming up April 24-26 in Norfolk
- Karin Waggoner, Grassroots Donor Organizer
  - Monthly Donor Updates

- Monthly Donor Grams: Karin & Precious will come to your house in costumes.
  - SAVE THE DATE: Blue Dot Bowling on Sat. Feb 14th
- Kris Kinzie & Kathy Jensen, Rural Organizers
  - 11 new county parties, 1102 new registered voters, 17 new block captains. Visited counties across rural Nebraska.
  - Hosted events throughout rural Nebraska, including town halls, food drives, social events, and more.
- **Committee, Caucus, and Council Reports**
  - Platform and Resolutions Committee
    - Co-Chairs Shannon Graves and Quinton Corwin
    - **VOTE:**
      - NDP Platform and Resolutions Committee Report 2-7-2026
        - Moved by Gina Frank, LD29, to approve the Resolutions Committee Report
          - Seconded by Ben Cass, LD7
          - Ryan Nickell, LD36, points out the need for actions to go with resolutions
          - 55 yes, 1 no. Motion passes.
    - Reading of the NDP Black Caucus Statement on Trump's racist post by NDP Black Caucus Chair Mike Lee
      - The Nebraska Democratic Party Black Caucus condemns the racist social media post depicting former President Barack Obama and former First Lady Michelle Obama as monkeys. This imagery is dehumanizing, offensive, and rooted in some of the most vicious anti-Black racism in American history. While we are outraged, we are not surprised. See full statement here: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/17CBWp77zc/>
  - Resolution submitted from the floor:
    - FINAL as approved by SCC resolution:
 

On Friday, February 6th, President Donald J. Trump created a post on Truth Social containing a video of President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama's faces pasted onto the bodies of two apes.

The post was racist, deeply offensive, and damaging - especially to Black and Brown Americans. It further corrodes the trust of EVERYONE in our country and one another; therefore, be it,

RESOLVED, That we see and stand with our Black and Brown neighbors, who have been deeply wounded by this post and the attitudes and perceptions it continues to foster, and be it further,

RESOLVED, That the Nebraska Democratic Party STRONGLY CONDEMNS this horrific action and invites all Nebraskans to join us in this condemnation.

RESOLVED that the Nebraska Democratic Party State Central Committee affirms the statement of the Nebraska Democratic Party Black Caucus. [insert statement as attachment]

- Moved to consider resolution by Tom Havelka, LD22, seconded by Larissa Schultz, LD23. Motion passes to consider this resolution from the floor. 69 yes, meets  $\frac{2}{3}$  threshold.
- Discussion on the resolution.
  - Motion to amend “his wife” to “First Lady”. Moved by Wes Jensen, LD7, seconded by Ron Kaminski, LD10. 65 yes, majority, so the amendment passes.
  - Motion to switch the last two resolved clauses moved by Brenda Council, LD11, seconded by Jane Kleeb, LD33. Motion carries with over  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Amendment passes.
  - Motion to amend “pictures of” to “with a video of” by Liz Tompkins, LD36, seconded by Brian Murray, LD21. Friendly amendment from Brenda Council, LD11, to rephrase the sentence for grammar. Amendment passes with unanimous consent. Moved by Penny Greer, LD30, and seconded by Laurey Steinke, LD9. No objection, passes with unanimous consent.
  - Motion by Joel Wentworth after “our condemnation clause” adds “we invite all Nebraskans to join us.” Seconded by Brenda Council, LD11. No objection, passes with unanimous consent.
  - Motion by Jane Kleeb, LD33, to add “we reaffirm the statement of the Black Caucus and insert their statement,” seconded by Brenda Council, LD11. Amendment from Tom Havelka, LD22, to change “reaffirm” to “affirm.” No objection, passes with unanimous consent.

- Motion by Jacob Carmichael, LD9, to replace the whereas clauses with NDP Black Caucus Chair Mike Lee's comments in the Zoom chat, replacing the first two paragraphs and first two resolves. Seconded by Shannon Graves, LD24. ED Precious McKesson points out that the Black Caucus made a statement and wants to make sure that the introducers of this resolution are heard as well. Amendment fails.
- Shannon Graves, LD24, moves to ensure consistent standard formatting from the Resolutions Committee is included in this, seconded by Brian Murray, LD21; no objections. Staff will edit.
- Cornelius Williams, LD11, makes grammar corrections to the resolution. No objection, it is amended.
- Brenda Council, LD11, point of clarification.
- Vote on amended resolution: Opinion of chair, over  $\frac{2}{3}$  have voted in favor. Resolution is adopted.

■ Resolution from the floor to censure Sen. Jane Raybould

- Brought to the floor by Larissa Shultz, LD23, and Chloe Fowler, LD27. 55 yes, has met  $\frac{2}{3}$  threshold. The resolution is before the body.
- Discussion on the resolution
  - Larissa Schultz, LD23, speaks on why she brought forward this resolution. The voters made their opinions clear on this matter.
  - Laurey Steinke, LD9, does not believe we should censure State Senators for their votes or micromanage them in public. Encourages people to speak with their Senators privately.
  - Chloe Fowler, LD27, brings up statements from Nebraska Young Democrats on boycotting Raybould's businesses and that Young Dems have tried to speak to her already on this.
  - Penny Greer, LD30, points out that we need Raybould for other issues. Penny doesn't agree with the word "censure."
  - Ryan Griffin, LD48, speaks to his opposition to censuring Senators. Ryan makes an amendment to change the word "censure" to condemn." Seconded by Ron Kaminski, LD10. Gina Frank, LD29, makes a friendly amendment to say "and this action is hereby condemned."
- Objection from Ryan Nickell, LD36, calls for a vote on the amendment.

- Opinion of the Chair, the ayes have it. The amendment to the amendment passes.
- Tom Havelka, LD22, moves to refer this resolution to the Platform & Resolutions Committee. Seconded by Chloe Fowler, LD27.
  - Larissa Schultz, LD23, speaks in neutral capacity to referring to committee.
  - Jacob Carmichael, LD9, speaks in opposition to referring to the committee because the body voted to consider it to being timely and considering it today.
  - Shannon Graves, LD24, speaks in neutral capacity and understands this couldn't go through the committee prior to this meeting by the deadline.
  - Ben Cass, LD9, suggests referring to the SEC's upcoming meeting. Shannon Graves moves to amend the motion to refer to refer to the SEC instead and authorize the SEC to adopt or not this resolution at their next meeting. Seconded by Brian Murray, LD21.
    - Point of Information: Next SEC meeting is on March 2nd.
    - Vote on motion to refer to SEC: 34 yes, opinion of the Chair is that the ayes have it.
    - An objection to the Chair was called to ask for the nays.
    - A point of clarification was called. Chair restated the motion on the floor to allow the SEC to vote on this resolution at their March 2 meeting. 25 nays
    - Amended motion passes.
  - Back to the main motion on referring to the Platform & Resolutions Committee.
    - Jacob Carmichael, LD9, speaks against the motion because this bill is fundamentally anti-Democratic and would like to vote on this now and not push it back for later, when it's not timely anymore.
    - Laurey Steinke, LD9, point of clarification, that this would allow the committee being referred to to either adopt or not adopt this.

- Jo-El Chiles, LD16, does not believe in pushing this off too far; it should be handled today.
    - Cynthia LaMere, LD17, points of clarification and points out that NDP has made a statement on this. Focus on senators not following the will of the people. Supports sending to the Platform & Resolutions Committee for their help on this.
    - Larissa Schultz, LD23, calls the question.
    - Motion on tabling: 45 ayes, 16 nays
  - Motion has been tabled.
- Platform Committee Hearings are coming up.
  - Sign up here: <https://www.mobilize.us/nebdems/event/874258/>
- Rules Committee
  - Chair Ben Cass
    - **VOTE:** 2026 State Convention Delegate Allocation
      - Moved by NDP Rules Committee, seconded by Ron Rivera, LD14. No objection. The State Convention Delegate Allocation is adopted by the SCC.
    - The Rules packet also included attachments. One is a rules clean-up, and the other attachments are coming to the State Convention. Send any feedback you have, send to [rules@nebraskademocrats.org](mailto:rules@nebraskademocrats.org).

## CLOSED SESSION (end of FB Live)

- Treasurer's Report, Ted Kessler
  - Summary of accounts.
    - Detailed P+L statement available from Ted, Precious McKesson Reported for Ted in his absence.
    - Precious reminds us to make sure we get physical addresses for all donations, not just PO BOXES.
  - Reports filed with FEC and NADC.
    - Copies of the latest FEC and NADC report available from Ted
- Audit & Review Committee
  - Chair Brian Murray
  - Staff was great to review all the filings and all expenditures were clear and labeled



- Chair Jane KleeB
  - Update on VAN access
    - Independent Candidates Given Access
    - Democrats Withheld VAN Access
- Wes Jensen, LD7, moved to accept this list of candidates on the screen.
  - Second from Brian Murray LD 21
    - Motion passes.
- Moving review of 2025 Voter Engagement, Party Building, Communication Plan and Finance Plan to the March 2nd SEC meeting. This SEC meeting will also include a presentation from BCom on digital fundraising. Hannah will email the zoom link to SCC, Finance Committee, and SEC members.
- Jacob Carmichael, LD9, moves to take the Raybould resolution off the table and reconsider at this meeting. Seconded by Chloe Fowler, LD 27. Not a debatable motion. Vote: 22 ayes, 27 nays. Motion to pull from the table fails.
- Announcements and Adjournment
  - Gaveled out at 2:03 PM CT.

## **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:** Party operations happen in our committees, caucuses, councils, and county parties. Thank you to the Chairs, SCC Members, County Officers, and Committee Members for serving.

### **SCC Agenda Packets**

- Archived Agenda Packets are under “2017-2023 Archive Meetings.”

### **SCC Resolutions**

### **SCC Governing Documents:**

- Governing Documents can be found under “Key Party Documents.”

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

- We stream our SCC meetings on Facebook, except for 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).

- Please share this link if you or someone you know is interested in running for office. 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/1FAIpQLSe6kCBwlpu5YNR7e4yUrA\\_776V5saFxCGMyIV9I\\_sb1cCthw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe6kCBwlpu5YNR7e4yUrA_776V5saFxCGMyIV9I_sb1cCthw/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 (e.g., materials for use at county fairs, parades, etc.) or if you require materials to be sent to you for meetings and events.

**Listserves:** We send emails to the lists on key information, messaging memos, and updates. If you are not on one of the following listservs and need to be, please email [hannah@nebraskademocrats.org](mailto:hannah@nebraskademocrats.org)

- SCC Members
- SEC Members
- County Chairs
- County Officers
- Block Captains
- Elected Officials
- State Senators
- 2026 Candidates

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

### [Monthly Donor Program](#):

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 & Coin

\$50 a month:

- 1 ticket to the annual Ben Nelson Gala
- Invitation to Donor Briefings with Party Leaders and Elected Officials
- Exclusive Monthly Donor Sticker
- Exclusive Lapel Pin & 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 and reserved seats to 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 also visit your county or caucus meetings to tailor training to your needs.

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

**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 training to all candidates and party leaders, helping to 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 volunteers, party leaders, and elected officials!

**NDP Contact Info:**

**Phone:**

LNK: 402-434-2180

OMA: 531-867-4343

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

**NDP Offices:**

**LNK:** 3701 O Street, Suite 200,  
Lincoln, NE 68510

**OMA:** 1102 S 76th Ave,  
Omaha NE 68124

**Socials**

[Facebook](#)

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**TikTok:** @NebDems

**Hashtags:** #NebDems, #NELeg

**Party Members**

[Staff](#)

[Party Leaders](#)

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