

AZ DEM State Committee Meeting
Saturday, 9/17/22 Noon - 2pm
Virtually via Zoom

Opening Statement- 12 noon-Chair Raquel Teran

Good morning. Welcome to our State Committee. I call this meeting to order. I am so happy to join you today. I am joining you from the Pinal County democratic Party office and it is a joy to be here today. So Let's get started with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Hannah Bullock of Girl Scout Troop 545. Hannah is a fifth grader, and she is the Girl Scouts National Honor Society and K kids. Thank you so much for joining us and now over to you Hannah.

Pledge of Allegiance- 12:01pm-Hannah Bullock Troop 545

Tribal land acknowledgement 12:02pm- Colorado River Indian Tribes Chairperson Amelia Flores.

My name is Amelia Flores. I'm the chairwoman of the Colorado River Indian tribes, and we acknowledge with respect that we are on ancestral homelands of the indigenous people of Arizona that have inhabited these lands for centuries. We know that the land on which you gather is preoccupied traditional homelands and that their culture is older than the concept of Arizona or the United States. And we take this opportunity to offer gratitude to the ancestors of this land and encourage all people who live and work here to explore the impact of colonization and Western assimilation that directly affect indigenous peoples. They are a collective body of work, bring people together and uplift the fight for balance in nature and healing the spirit.

Introduction of Parliamentarian- 12:04pm Chair Raquel Teran

Coby King- Guest Parliamentarian of the California Democratic Party.

In Memorium- 12:05pm

Former Adp Chair Mark Fleisher, Barry Garron, John Babicz and Barbara Cain.

Chair Raquel Teran 12:06pm

Hello, Arizona Democrats and thank you all for joining us today. It is so amazing to see all of you. I know that many of you have had a busy morning, knocking doors or maybe even attending the Maricopa County Democratic Party's Champaign brunch so I hope that everybody had a lot of fun with We've made a lot of contacts with voters. And before we get started, though, I have a very special guest that we'd like to introduce to you. And we want you to hear from him before we move on to our official remarks.

Video- 12:06- Special Guest Doug Emhoff, Second Gentleman of the United States.

Opening Remarks Chair Raquel Teran 12:10pm

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Thank you so much to our second gentleman for opening up this meeting energizing us, reminding us of the victories that Arizonans and Democrats have delivered and with that I'll get started with my remarks but I don't know about you all but I feel like my foot has been consistently on the gas pedal and we are on course to win big in November. And I must tell you that the Arizona Democratic Party, Mission for Arizona, the ADLCC we are all ready to win. And I want to specifically shout out our amazing County and LD chairs who every day are organizing in their communities so that this November we elect Democrats up and down the ballot, I think many of you have seen my op ed in the Arizona Republic just a few weeks ago. Now I want to say a little bit more about why I was compelled to write it after the primary and seeing that slate of absolute danger and the GOP, the folks that the GOP nominated to run for statewide, I was shocked to read articles and hear the narrative that Democrats are still in disarray. That notion is not only false, but an insult, an insult to the blood, sweat and tears of decades of Democrats and community leaders that put in all the work to make sure that Arizona is a battleground state. And I think people needed to be reminded of just how much winning Democrats have done in the past few cycles, voters delivered for President Joe Biden, we delivered Arizona for President Biden, we elected two Democrat, US senators, solidified our majority in the congressional delegation, we delivered a Secretary of State, a Superintendent of Public Instruction two Corporation Commissioners, and we've grown our Legislative Caucus, to just a one seat deficit in each of our chambers. Now, I'm not naive, there is so much, much more work that needs to get done. But right now, we have a major opportunity. While Republicans are busy trying to out conspiracy each other Democrats are united in our values that we know voters share with us that is on our side. And we're focused on putting that unity on display for everyone to see. today. I'm still frankly writing on the high of our unity rally that happened in Maricopa County just a couple of weeks ago, where we heard from every single statewide candidate about their vision for a better and a stronger and more inclusive Arizona in our first major live event in person. To be honest, I was excited, and I'm so thankful that we were able to show Arizonans our amazing candidates and our unified Democratic base. My favorite part of this event was on how many partners and organizations joined us, including our Arizona Democratic Party endorsed ballot initiatives, health care rising and stop predatory medical debt, which is now proposition 209. And also, the folks from Proposition 308, but legislation to ensure that everybody has access to, to college. We with all of these great candidates and our values literally on the ballot with these initiatives, I am confident that in November, our work is going to pay off. And we're going to make sure that Arizona is a better and more inclusive place to live. Now, I know we have a lot of business to attend to today. So, I'll keep my remarks brief and move on to some folks I think you're going to be excited to hear from but before I leave you I want to take a moment to express really my sincere gratitude to each and every one of you. We will do this thanks to all of you at the county and at a local level for creating a space for Democrats everywhere in red areas and rural areas to get involved and participate in our democracy. You are building this movement from the ground up, and this infrastructure will continue to put us at an advantage for decades to come. I will say it every single day. The Arizona Democratic Party would not be what it is without you. Ballots are hitting our mailbox

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boxes in less than one month, less than one month. So, the time for all of us to dig in deep is now. One more shift. One more phone call. One more dollar can mean the difference between extremism and a government that reflects our values. So, thank you all for being in this fight. I am so proud and I'm so grateful to be in it with each one of you. So now let's get the party started.

Arizona Candidates Video- 12:15pm

Charlie Fisher Executive Director, Arizona Democratic Party-12:18 pm

Good afternoon, Arizona Democrats. Thank you so much, Madam Chair, and thank you to all our statewide nominees. As you all know, my name is Charlie Fisher, and I am so proud to be the executive director of our state party. There are only 25 days until early voting begins and 52 days until Election Day. We have a lot of work to do so I am going to be brief. The last two years have been a roller coaster to say the least you know what started with the jubilation of two historic wins in the Georgia Senate run offs, delivering a Democratic Senate Majority turned dark as the very next day we watched in horror as violent conspiracy theorists stormed the US Capitol because their candidate lost killing five police officers and wounding hundreds more in the process. Here at home. Unfortunately, we quickly moved on to the GOP led audit of the 2020 election and endured continued attempts to increase barriers to voting and subvert the will of the Arizona voters. Through all the highs and lows of the last two years we have done our absolute best to stay the course. In 2021. We found a new home for our state party headquarters. We invested in our organizing and party infrastructure in historic ways. We advocated in coalition for fair maps, and we stood up to Republican legislators as they continue to push unpopular, divisive policies at the state capitol. Republicans have shown us time and time again that they are unwilling to speak obvious objective truth to their base, even if it means threatening and attacking the very foundation of our democratic system. When given real choices, this Republican Party chose to nominate the most extreme the most fringe and the most dangerous set of nominees in recent memory. These individuals have no shared set of values, they have no shared policy positions. And frankly, they seem to have lost all grip on reality. But now we have an opportunity to elect leaders who share our values. And it's going to be difficult. We all know the history of midterm elections for the party and control of the White House. We know that we're facing headwinds in November. And despite all of that, a combination of democratic legislative victories, horrifying Supreme Court rulings and continued Republican lies and hypocrisy have provided us with an opportunity to buck tradition to continue our progress, solidify our recent successes and deliver victories this November at all levels of the ballot. In 52 days, we can and must elect Katie Hobbs is our next Governor, Adrian Fontes, as our next Secretary of State, Chris Mays as Attorney General and Martin Quezada as Treasurer, we can and must elect Cathy Hoffman as our school superintendent, Commissioner Sandra Kennedy, back to the Arizona Corporation Commission and give her one more

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democratic colleague in Lauren Kuby, to get a Democratic majority in that body. We can flip the balance of power at our state legislature and defend our slim majorities at the federal level. We can elect leaders who will defend and strengthen our democracy and protect access to safe and legal abortion. Leaders who will fund our public schools and protect our water supplies. Leaders who will create an Arizona where everyone is respected and valued and given an opportunity to thrive. All we must do, is work as hard as we possibly can for the next 52 days, every single one of these races is going to be won or lost on the margins. So literally every volunteer shift every conversation with a voter could be the difference come November. I know that I'm preaching to the choir here, because everyone on this call is a leader of our party, who has worked unbelievably hard over the past years and decades and deserves an enormous amount of credit for us being in this position. But now it's time to double down. And I know and I believe that together we can accomplish all of this and more. So, with that, I just want to say thank you all so much for your time for the work that you've done and will continue to do, I can't wait to get to work with you all over the next 52 days to deliver the Arizona that we all believe in. So, with that I'm going to close, and I am incredibly proud to introduce our next speaker, the person who is leading the charge to flip our state legislature, ADLCC Executive Director Elsa Callahan.

Elsa Callahan Executive Director ADLCC- 12:22pm

Hi, everyone. It's great to have you all here today and to see so many people turnout. As Charlie mentioned, you know, you all have been doing the work year over year to make sure that we make gains in this state. And it's something I think about a lot at ADLCC. You know since ADLCC founded; we have made gains every year in the legislature in 2020. You know, we were one of two states across the country that made any gains in the state legislature, and we plan to do that again this year. You know, there's no difference between the statewide Republicans and the legislative Republicans. Everyone's running from an incredibly radical right extremism, people who want to actively dismantle our election system, there were over 100 bills to prevent access to the ballot in 2021 introduced in the legislature. As you know, a number of those are being referred to the ballot here this year, we continue to see how Republicans want to block pregnant people from getting care. They're ignoring the gun violence epidemic in our country; they are making it easier for people to get guns and to make it harder for people to vote. We have to stop that at the at the at the legislative level. You know, we have a strong team of Democrats running for the State Legislature across the state and in battleground districts in Arizona. Our teams are out every day knocking doors to make sure that we can talk to the voters who will get out and make these changes. Some of our races will be decided by a couple 100 votes at the most, and we really need to talk to every single voter that we possibly can to make that happen. We do that through a range of support for our candidates, including, paid communications and primarily making sure that we're talking to voters on the phones and doors. Those are the strongest conversations we can have to make sure that people turn out and understand what's at stake this year. Right. We've seen what's happening with abortion. There's an ongoing battle in Arizona of whether we're going to have a permanent ban on

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abortion, or a 15 week ban, and we really need to protect this in legislature, we need a Democratic majority, we need a democratic tie, we need a bigger slate of Democrats there to make sure that we can protect the rights and our state and the freedoms in our state to choose. And to make sure that we can really lead Arizona forward. So, we are out you know, knocking 60,000 a month give or take and making attempts on phone calls and, and doors. We want to make sure that you can all join us. So please come out, knock doors, help us get to a Democratic majority in the legislature and protect all these rights that, you all have been working so hard to, to fight for over the years. W never been closer than we are right now to getting that done in Arizona. So, thank you all for being here today. We're excited, as we get down to the end here, you know, we need all hands-on deck. So, thank you so much. I'm going to hand it off to my dear friend Sean McEnerney from a mission.

Sean McEnerney Director Mission for Arizona- 12:25pm

Awesome. Thank you so much, Elsa, it's good to see everyone. Today. I'm sure on that committee, I'm the coordinator director with Mission for Arizona, you know, our statewide coordinated campaign to support you know, Mark Kelly and Democrats down ballot, you know, I want us to say, you know, we started you know, earlier than ever before, you know, our mission for Arizona building up a really strong team all across the state to elect and reelect Democrats. And that early start is really bearing fruit now, you know, over the over the spring over the summer, we not, you knocked 10s of 1000s of doors, registering folks on to vote by mail, registering folks to vote across the state. And all that work has set us up for right now. You know, as Raquel and Charlie and folks have said, I mean, we have less than a month between Arizonans are going to be voting every single day to win, millions of Arizonans are going to be receiving their ballots in the mail. And now is the time to continue to push. You know, as Raquel said, to knock that extra door to make that extra phone call. And, you know, to, to push a little bit more, because we have a moment of just tremendous opportunity to make a huge change in Arizona and across this country. Now with that, I want to pass it to a couple of members of my team to give you more of an idea of the work, you know, that that we are up to, we've got both Grace McCain from our Deputy Organizing Director with our organizing team, and Mariah Gould, our Voter Protection Director. So, I'll start by kicking it over to Grace.

Grace McCain Deputy Organizing Director Mission for Arizona- 12:27pm

Thank you, Shawn. And thank you so much for being here. My name is Grace McCain, I'm the Deputy Organizing Director. I have been with this campaign, and here in Arizona working with all of you for the past couple of years. And I am so honored to be crossing the finish line of this election with each and every one of you. I will echo Shawn and saying you know, the work we've done over the past year as we've gotten Mission for Arizona off the ground once more. And the doors that we've knocked the phone calls we've made and the events that we've held to make sure that we are engaging Democrats early were engaging Democrats often have been pivotal.

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But I think I walk out everyone and saying that these final weeks and this final month ahead of voters voting is when we really all see it come to fruition, right? These are our final opportunities to make sure the voters know how to vote, that they know who to vote for that they know every one of our candidates and that they know what that stake We're across the state and knocking every door in every corner of the state every day. And I think it's notable right like everyone here on this call. Everyone here who's part of the Arizona Democratic Party at the state committee meeting knows how much is at stake in this election. But there are so many Arizonans who don't yet know whom how much is at stake who don't yet know how to cast their ballot and our job in these final days so that we can re-elect Senator Mark Kelly, elect a new Governor in Katie Hobbs, elected a new Secretary of State and Adrian Fontes right? Our job in these final days is to make sure that we're able to share that information with our voters. So, September 24, and 25th. Next weekend is our final weekend of action ahead of our GOTV get out the vote operation. I hope you will join us I asked you all to join us. We need your help knocking doors, knocking on doors is absolutely the most impactful way that we can have as many conversations with voters as possible. As the weather starts to cool. We're ramping up that program and bring more people into the fold. And so please, I'm sure you're all in touch with your local organizer. Please join us I'm so grateful for the work that each of you do every single day to make this reality to make this field margin to make this turnout margin a possibility. And I'm happy to cross the finish line with all of you. So, join us for our final weekend of action again September 24 and 25th. I think Mary Darling will go ahead and share the links to sign up in your local area and you haven't been able to reach your local organizer haven't gotten in touch. Feel free to reach out to me and feel free to reach out to our team. I'd love to get you connected. But thank you. Let's knock every door let's cross the finish line. And let's win this thing. I will pass it over tomorrow our Voter Protection Director

Mariah Gould Voter Protection Director Mission for Arizona- 12:30pm

Awesome, thank you so much Grace. Hi, everyone, it's so great to be here with you today. My name is Mariah Gould. I am the Voter Protection Director for Mission for Arizona. And I'm so excited to talk a little bit about the work that we've been doing and what as Grace mentioned, will get us across the finish line. So, for the past year, voter protection has been working to gather information, build relationships to prepare to protect the vote this fall. We've also been so lucky to work so closely out in the counties and with our county chairs to ensure that we're empowering volunteers to be observers at the polls, to help on our voter assistance hotline, and to generally get engaged with the work that we're doing here and voter protection. I think everyone on this call probably knows that all eyes will be on Arizona this fall to not only ensure that voters can cast their ballots, but ensure that those ballots are then counted, and we protect the vote at each step of the voting process. So, it's absolutely critical that we have volunteers to be the eyes and ears in the places where ballots are being cast and ballots are being counted. We ran a pretty great primary program, working so closely with the chairs to make sure that we were learning as much information as possible during the primary election, which led us to not

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to the knowledge that we needed to run a really strong general election program where we're going to be needing observers for early voting, we need observers for Election Day voting, we need observers, and in tabulation centers across the state in all 15 counties. And not only that, we also need supporters and volunteers on our voter assistance hotline to help voters every single day that right now are working to register to vote register to vote on AVEL and down the road, we'll need support making sure that they can get to the ballot box this fall. So, we have a lot of work coming up. I think we're just about three and a half, almost four weeks out from the voting period beginning. So please, please sign up to get involved with voter protection as leaders across the state. I know that many of you are already involved, but please motivate the people around you to get involved. Again, we need folks on the ground to be the eyes and ears of the work that we are doing every single day. Election integrity truly is on the line every single day here in Arizona. So as Grace mentioned, Mary Darling is going to be sending around some more information about getting involved with voter protection this year. But I will echo grace and say thank you for the work that all of you have already done. And I look forward to working with many of you very, very soon. And with that, I will pass it back over to Chairwoman Teran.

Chair Raquel Teran- 12:31pm

Thank you so much, Mariah and thank you, everybody from our team who reported back for our state committee members. We appreciate all your leadership. We can't do this work without having people who are every day thinking about the ins and outs of how we contact voters to elect more Democrats. With that I will pass it back to Jeanne for our quorum vote

Quorum Call- Jeanne Lunn- 12:32pm

Short Review of Election Buddy Process. -12:32pm

Quorum vote started 12:33 Started

Quorum vote ended 1:24pm- Quorum not meet.

Coby King Guest Parliamentarian 1:25pm

The recommended procedure would be to go into the Committee of the Whole, take whatever reports that don't require votes.

Chairwoman Raquel Teran- Motion to enter "Committee of the Whole" ended 1:27pm.

Rick McGuire Treasure- 1:28pm

First thing first, I wanted to just underscore what Charlie said it's been a roller coaster, probably a little more so than previous years, just because they've had so many things that have happened. But like any good book, you never quite know where the plot is going to take you. We are under a little less stress now. Remember that the treasurer's reports conclude on the last day of the quarter immediately preceding the state committee meeting, which in this case

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would be the second quarter, so the first half of the year. But don't worry, I will update you with numbers that are from this week. So, you will have a good idea of where we're at even though this is the second quarter report that you're hearing. We spent about the same and our cash on hand didn't change much in the first half of the year. Revenue was pretty much in good shape. (Official Report redacted because of confidentiality) We are now giving some money out for county mobilization. So, our thanks to Charlie and to Raquel, who are doing that. We couldn't be where we are right now, without the two of them.

Comment Chair Raquel Teran 1:40pm

We are we are proud that you are our Treasurer. You are a model treasurer for the rest of the country. So thank you for everything that you do Rick. and UNM are a power. So, with that, I'm going to pass it over to Anne Greenberg for the rules report.

Anne Greenburg Rules Chair 1:41pm

Thank you, Madam Chair. This will be a report as opposed to a vote. The rules committee received two proposed bylaw amendments prior to the 30-day deadline, and we met as a committee on August 27, to consider the two amendments. I hope all of you had a chance to review the bylaws, the proposed amendments. The first one has to do with elections for state committee membership. Article Two section one of the bylaws. Redistricting has created several legislative districts whose boundaries are not solely within a single county but indeed encompass parts of multiple counties. Currently, the way our bylaws read, we basically say that state committee members will be elected at county organizational meetings but in Maricopa and Pima they will be elected at legislative district meetings. We have several legislative district committees that are being organized that are outside the boundaries of Maricopa and Pima exclusively. So, this bylaw amendment will allow us to align our bylaws with statute. It does change the order in bylaws to match what is in statute, which is that legislative district committees organized first, County second, and so we have recommended this wording so that we simply say state committee person shall be elected at the legislative district committee organizational meetings and in areas in which there are no legislative district committees. State Committee persons will be elected at County committee organizational meetings. this meets what is in ARS 16 :825. We have added a section that is completely new. These are intended to reinforce the proportionality of county representative representation on the state committee and provide guidance and structure to the elections for state committee members. This maintains that proportionality the first edition be one says that in legislative districts whose boundaries encompass multiple counties state committee membership shall be proportioned to include the number of state committee persons allocated per section one. So again, this is absolutely saying and reaffirming that state committee membership remains proportional based on the original allocation per county. The second addition, in legislative districts whose boundaries encompass multiple counties state committee members shall be elected by in from

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the elected PCs from their respective counties. So, it ensures that a PC from one county can't run for a state committee slot allotted to another county simply because both counties are part of an LD. It maintains the set number of state committee slots per county as originally determined. The third section is in essence saying where there are no LDS elections will be held at the county committees for the number of slots that are available. Now, this is section five of the same article section, excuse me article to state committee. This is the section that outlines how vacancies are filled. Vacancies will be filled by the state chair which is required by statute. And it's an advice and consent by the county chair in counties that are less than 500,000. The county and LD chairs in counties that are 500,000 or greater in population. And the added section says that if you have an LD that crosses multiple county lines, the chair of that LD will also provide advice and consent. So, it is simply saying that that LD chair has the same ability to do that as LD chairs within the larger counties.

The other amendment proposal we received was to include something that is in the DNC charter. And as you can see in the rationale, Article Nine, section 16 of the DNC charter requires membership of democratic state central committees to be equally divided between men and women. I'm not going to read what is all you know, everything that's in Section 16. But it is requiring that the body be equally divided as practicable, between men and women determined by gender self-identification, meaning that the variance between men and women in the group cannot exceed one. That's what's in the charter. There is nothing in state statute that would conflict with this provision. So, the bottom line is that this provision calls for the membership of the state committee to be equally divided between men and women with a variance of one. So, continuing the rationale. ADP bylaws does require us to be in accordance with DNC rules regarding delegate selection. A new section or Subsection C was added, and it reads as follows state committee persons elected at the county and legislative organizational meetings shall be as equally divided as practical, practicable between men and women determined by gender self-identification, in the case of gender, non-binary delegates or committee members, they shall not be counted as either male or female, and the remainder the delegation shall be equally divided as practicable. So without effort to gain parity, we can we probably can expect a loss of autonomy in our 2024 delegates election, and possible other consequences, including deterioration of relationship with DNC, the amendment, and actions could help maintain that, even without a bylaw amendment, which we are undoubtedly not going to be voting on, we can still start this journey of 1000 steps with a first step of as we reorganize after the elections, reorganize with a look towards slightly more gender parity than we have achieved. And with that, I will turn it back over to you Chairwoman.

Closing Remarks- Chair Raquel Teran- 2:02pm

We still do not have enough Attendees to meet Quorum so I will move to my closing remarks. With that we are just so grateful. I know that it's disappointing that we don't have quorum, but the good news is that we know that people who are not here are out in the field. And they are

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making sure that we are connecting with voters. Just look at your Twitter feed. I know that if I opened my Twitter feed, we see people across the state, connecting with voters volunteering for our amazing candidates. They are working with our candidates and with Save Our Schools because remember, we have a deadline on Save Our Schools petition and like our statewide candidates say it is going to take all of us. Again, I want to say thank you to each one of you for being leaders in the Arizona Democratic Party and doing this work. I am pleased to announce that the next time that we gather we will gather in person. We will gather January 28. For our next state committee, including the Arizona Democratic Party reorganizational action. We're super excited that we will be meeting in person, and this will be in Phoenix. So please, please mark your calendars. But there is somebody that we'd like to specifically thank today and recognize as this is her last State Committee as a member of Congress, Congresswoman Anne Kirkpatrick. Ann you are such a treasure and have delivered time and time again for Arizonans for the people of your district. So from me and the entire Arizona Democratic Party, we want to say thank you and most importantly, please enjoy your retirement from Congress, with your family of course. and a few other special people also had a few words to say they wanted to share for you with you. With that, I'll turn it over to Lily.

Thank you, Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick Video-2:05pm

Motion to adjourn- Chair Raquel Teran-2:14pm

Jeanne Lund-So Moved

Anne Greenburg- Seconded

Adjournment 2.15pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa Sanor, ADP Secretary