The annual Reorganization meeting of the Kansas First Congressional District was held Saturday, January 28, 2017, at 1 p.m., at the Dodge House Hotel Convention Center in Dodge City, Kansas.

Chair Johnny Dunlap called the meeting to order at 1:43 p.m.

Sage TeBeest read the Treasurer’s Report, reporting a balance of $681.16 as of January 28, 2017. Motion to accept the Treasurer’s report, seconded, and the motion was passed. Mrs. TeBeest reported that county dues of $50.00 for large counties and $35.00 for small counties were due at this time. If counties had not paid by Washington Days, those counties would be unable to vote. It was noted by a member that there was nothing in the bylaws stating that counties were required to pay dues. Dues were tabled until the newly appointed Rules and Bylaws Committee could take the matter into consideration at a later date.

Mr. Dunlap reviewed the election rules with the body. Two amendments to the election rules had to be approved before continuing: 1. Parliamentarian is automatically chair of the Rules and Bylaws Committee and is appointed by the Chair. 2. In the case of a contested ballot, all votes must be signed. Jeff Zamrzla of Saline County moved, and Jeremy Adkison of Lyon County seconded, motion to approve amendments passed.

Gloria Hannon of Lyon County moved and Jeff Zamrzla of Saline County seconded the motion to adopt the election rules. Motion passed. Nominations for Chair were opened. Gloria Hannon of Lyon County nominated Sage TeBeest of Pottawatomie County. Jeremy Adkison of Lyon County seconded the nomination. Mrs. TeBeest accepted. Andrea Pfeifer of Saline County nominated Jeff Zamrzla of Saline County. Kenny Riffel of Dickinson County seconded. Mr. Zamrzla accepted. Rick Comfort of Ottawa County moved to close nominations, Jeremy Adkison seconded. After a question and answer session, vote by secret ballot was taken. Mrs. TeBeest received 25 votes, Mr. Zamrzla 9 votes. After discussion it was agreed by the body that signatures would not change the outcome of the vote and decided that a re-vote would not be taken. Jeff Zamrzla made a point of order stating he would accept the results as is, and that was accepted by the Chair.

It was decided by the body to sign all ballots moving forward. Jeremy Adkison made a point of order as to whether there needed to be a vote on all candidates or if a candidate could be declared by acclamation if only one candidate was nominated for an office. Chair Dunlap said there would be no need for a vote if that was the case.

Nominations for Vice Chair. Karen Hawes of Riley County moved and Gina Long of Reno County seconded the nomination of Jeff Zamrzla for Vice Chair. Mr. Zamrzla accepted. It was moved and seconded that Von Peterson of McPherson County be nominated. Mr. Peterson accepted. Shelley Dunham of Morris County moved and Jeff Zamrzla seconded the nomination of Dan Knupp from Pottawottomie County. Mr. Knupp accepted the nomination. Jim Hannon of Lyon County moved and Jeremy Adkison seconded that nominations cease. The motion passed.
The first vote by signed secret ballot was as follows: Dan Knupp – 16, Von Peterson – 9, Jeff Zamrzla – 9.

Point of order by Jeremy Adkison to clarify run-off voting. As confirmed by Chair TeBeest, Mr. Peterson and Mr. Zamrzla would have a run-off vote, then the winner of that ballot would have a vote against Mr. Knupp to determine the final winner of the Vice Chair position. After a short recess, Chair TeBeest made the announcement that Mr. Zamrzla and Mr. Peterson had decided to step aside in favor of Mr. Knupp for the Vice Chair position. This would allow Mr. Knupp to be confirmed by a vote of acclamation. Mr. Zamrzla would then be interested in the post of Secretary and Mr. Peterson the post of Treasurer, also by acclamation, if no one else were interested in those positions. Mr. Zamrzla stated that he was abdicating his nomination for Vice Chair. There was then a voice vote taken for Mr. Knupp for the position of Vice Chair. Ms. TeBeest reminded the body that the voice vote did not count as Mr. Peterson was still in the running for Vice Chair, and as such, a written ballot must be taken. The results of the run-off election between Mr. Knupp and Mr. Peterson was Knupp – 21, Peterson – 12. Totals changed from earlier vote as a member had left to return home.

Nominations opened for the post of Secretary. Matt Otte nominated Paula Roegge of Cloud County with Jeremy Adkison seconding. Ms. Roegge accepted. There were no other nominations. Jeremy Adkison moved and Ruth Kerr of Pottawatomie County seconded that nominations cease. Motion passed. Matt Otte moved to accept Paula Roegge for Secretary, the motion was seconded and passed.

Chair TeBeest opened nominations for Treasurer. Ryon Carey of McPherson County moved and Cole Rush of Reno County seconded the nomination of Von Peterson. Mr. Peterson accepted the nomination. Shelley Dunham moved to nominate Jeff Zamrzla. Mr. Zamrzla declined. Mr. Otte moved to close nominations and elect Mr. Peterson by acclimation with Mr. Carey seconding. Motion passed.

Members grouped into their Senate districts to choose delegates and alternates to the State Committee. Members of the body were also encouraged to sign up for First District committees.

Ryon Carey moved to adjourn the meeting. Matt Otte seconded. Motion passed.

Paula Roegge
Secretary, First Congressional District
Kansas Democratic Party