

**League of Women Voters of New Mexico Convention
Staybridge Suites, Las Cruces, New Mexico
May 19-20, 2005**

Saturday, May 19

Call to Order: LWVNM President Marilyn Morgan called the 2007 Convention meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Welcome: Marilyn welcomed registered members.

Credentials Committee: The Credentials Committee chair, Johnnie Aldrich, stated that a quorum (40% of possible number of voting delegates, with representation from a majority of local leagues) was present for the Convention 2007. Present were 26 members, 3 board members, and 3 directors, with all leagues represented.

Appointments: Marilyn Morgan had appointed Jo Tice Bloom as Parliamentarian, Mary Pearson and Bonnie Votaw as timekeepers, Christina Little and Vicki Simons as counters for tabulating votes, and Jane Gaziano and Connie Lee to read and approve the minutes.

Announcements:

1. Marilyn Morgan announced the convention meeting logistics.
2. She reminded attendees of the Silent Auction

Introduction of LWVUS Board Members: Marilyn recognized past presidents of the NM State LWV who were present, Christina Little and Marjorie Burr. Marilyn introduced Regional Director Carolie Mullen, who spoke briefly and presented a certificate of appreciation to Marilyn Morgan for her service. Carolie briefly spoke about elections and election reform. Carolie then spoke about the priority of increasing and retaining membership and developing leadership.

Welcome by Las Cruces Mayor – Bill Mattiace, Mayor of Las Cruces, was introduced by Las Cruces LWV President Cathy Mathews. The Mayor spoke briefly about managing proper growth of the city.

Self-Introduction of LWVUS Delegates:

Each delegate present briefly introduced himself/herself.

Adoption of Agenda and Rules for the Convention: Marilyn directed delegates' attention to the Order of Business and Rules for the Convention. There being no objections, the agenda and rules were adopted as presented.

Minutes of the 2005 Convention: Readers of the minutes for the 2005 Convention were Vicki Simons and Barbara Calef. They have approved the minutes, which will be filed for the record.

Treasurer's Report: Janie Johnston submitted the Treasurer's Report for 2005-2007. The report is up-to-date as of April 30, 2007, the end of the fiscal year, and will be filed for the record.

Introduction to Committee Reports: Marilyn stated that a series of presentations about reports regarding Convention business were next on the agenda. She announced that motions, discussion, and votes on the items would take place on the following day. Clarification questions only are acceptable for today.

Bylaws Committee: Donna Herbst, Chair, was unable to attend the Convention today. Meg Wente, member of committee, gave the report. Two amendments made, 2/3 vote needed to amend. Art 2, section 1, purposes and policies change, came down from National. They ask

that we take out “of citizens” The 2nd change is in Art 5, new section 6, new section is electronic board meetings, meeting can be conducted by e-mail and phone.

Budget Committee: Connie Lee, chair of the Budget Committee, presented the proposed budget. A change in PMP is recommended; that it is to be reduced. Expenses, Part D, on meetings, should add to \$2500 not \$2600. Phone card costs are listed under ‘telephone’. Income, B, education reimbursement, is a large number because of the publishing of the Voters Key. Expenses included under position support are mailing, postage, printing of materials on League Day at the Legislature, and other incidentals.

Nominations Committee: Helen Wright, chair, thanked Joyce Williams, Dee Watkins, Becky Shankland, and Johnnie Aldrich, members of the committee. The proposed state board includes Kathy Campbell, president, Linda Moscarella, vice-president, Bonnie Burn, secretary, and Diane Albert, treasurer. A board of Directors was listed. Nominating committee members were named. Marilyn Morgan asked if there were any other nominations from the floor, none noted.

Action Committee: Delores Watson, and Dick Mason, co-chairs, presented the following report. Areas of focus for the year were campaign finance and ethics, abolishing the death penalty, drug policy, election issues, health care, and natural resources including energy and water..

State Program Committee: The LWVNM program, with current positions, was included in the convention packet. Johnnie Aldrich gave a short presentation on the recommended program changes and stated that the Board recommends retaining all positions unchanged, with the exception of the Legislative Compensation, Election Procedures, Campaign Finance and Ethics Reform, Death Penalty, Drug Policy, Health Care, Education, Public School Finance positions.

Proposed Position Changes: The LWVNM currently has positions on Government, Natural Resources, and Social Policy. Several delegates spoke on the various proposed changes, Legislative Compensation, Election Procedures, and Campaign Finance and Ethics Reform, Death Penalty, Drug Policy, Health Care, Education, Public School Finance. Kathy Campbell spoke on the proposed changes to the LWVNM positions, including Legislative Compensation, Election Procedures, Campaign Finance and Ethics Reform.

Health Care: Dick Mason explained the proposed changes to the Health Care Position. Per direction from the 2005 convention, new words are to be added to the current position, speaking to coverage for all New Mexicans, Effective Cost Management, Improvement of Health Care Quality and Safety, Equitable Financing, and Simplified Administrative.

Drug Policy: Dee Watkins spoke to the change in position on Drug Policy and the change in position on DWI. People need pain management, and that does not mean they are drug addicted. Dee recommends that the DWI position be placed in the Drug Policy position, because the two positions have much in common.

Education: Jane Gaziano spoke to a review for a possible update.

Public School Finance: Jane Gaziano spoke to the proposed change to bring the League’s position in alignment with the new state bureaucracy. The Public Education Department was created by the state during the past 2 years.

Due to completed studies, two new positions are proposed.

Death Penalty: (Interim position, accepted by LWVNM Board 2006). Barbara Calef presented the results of the study. The LWV lobbied to pass a new bill, which passed the House and was hung up in the Senate Judiciary Committee. The Convention delegates will vote on whether to adopt the new position. The state board approved the adoption of an interim position on the Death Penalty.

Sustainability: Kathy Campbell discussed the 2-year study process. Consensus was reached on a broad statement only. The state board decided to create a new category for this position because this position did not fit into the other categories. Noted that Natural Resources has only one position.

Proposed New Studies:

1. **Achieving Fair Representation:** proposed a two-year state study (2007-2009) of Achieving Fair Representation in NM, leading to a consensus for a state position. The study entails the LWV being involved in studying and understanding new systems of voting and representation, prompted by the next census, and would involve 13 volunteers and a website at www.lwvnm/fair, during the timeframe of 2007-2009, the study group would conduct public meetings, and other outreach methods. The study will involve state and federal level elections and possible re-districting.
2. **Water Supply and Demand:** Barbara Calef proposed a 2-year state study on Water Supply and Demand. 3 objectives include the current state of water in NM, investigate water ownership in NM, and study the values in NM, and the 3rd objective is to investigate the financial situation.
3. **Education:** Jane Gaziano presented a request for possible clarifying or revision to make the Education Position less vague, due to Jane's difficulty in lobbying the past few years. There are several people in Santa Fe already interested in working on this. This sounds like a direction to the Board. This is not a proposal for a new study.

Continuing Activities: The convention recessed for the day. After lunch, Carolie Mullan presented a workshop on immigration. After the workshop, delegates participated in activities. At the evening banquet, Marnie Leverett and Johnnie Aldrich presented "Harry and His Mother."

Sunday, May 20

Call to Order: LWVNM President Marilyn Morgan called the 2007 Convention meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Silent Auction: Shelly Shepherd reported that the silent auction has garnered almost \$1000.00.

Credentials Committee: Johnnie Aldrich reported that there was a quorum present, with 36 voting delegates, 5 state board members, and representatives from all four Leagues.

Timekeepers: Mary Pearson and Bonnie Votaw serving as timekeepers, with a one-minute limit on speeches.

Thanks: Marilyn Morgan thanked individually all those who served on the state board during the past two years.

Bylaws: Meg Wentz moved for adoption of bylaws changes as proposed by the committee. There was no discussion. Passed unanimously.

Budget: Connie Lee moved, seconded by Dee Watkins that the PMP be reduced as noted. Linda Moscarella moved that the motion be amended to reduce PMP from \$12 to \$10, and \$6 to \$5,

seconded by Kathy Campbell. Much discussion, pro and con, ensued. Becky Beckett called the question; a 2/3 vote needed to call the question, with 1 no, 2 abstentions, and 33 yes. The question was called. The amendment must pass by a simple majority. 17 yes, 16 no. The main motion must pass by a 3/5 vote, or 22 votes. 16 yes, 17 no, 1 abstains. Main motion is defeated. Next, Connie Lee moved that the Budget as amended be approved. Barbara Calef seconded. Much discussion ensued. Members were invited to serve on the budget committee and to give direction to the board. 31 yes, 1 abstention.

Proposed State Program Changes: Johnnie Aldrich moved that the current proposed state program changes (the State Board approved as amended) be adopted. The Board of Directions recommends the delegates adopt the state positions.

1. Kathy Campbell moved the adoption of the new position, as included in the packet, on Campaign Finance and Ethics Reform, seconded by Mike McKay. The motion passed.
2. Dick Mason moved the adoption of the Health Care position, as included in the packet. Dee Watkins seconded. The motion passed.
3. Dee Watkins moved the adoption of the DWI position to be included in the Drug Policy position, seconded by Jan Bray. The motion passed. Mike McKay moved to strike amendment 2, seconded by Connie Lee. 14, yes, 19 no, and 0 abstentions, motion fails. Dick Mason called the question; passed. 19 yes, 11 no, 4 abstains. Motion passed. Jane Gaziano moved that the language be added “A drug is a chemical substance that affects the body” at the bottom of the position. The motion was declared out of order. Dee Watkins moved to adopt the first proposed change, seconded by Dick Mason, which was to change the wording of the Drug Policy position to recommend treatment for “all persons with drug addiction” rather than “drug-dependent persons including jail-based treatment for drug-dependent prisoners.”. Motion passed, 26 yes, 0 no, 0 abstained. Motion passes unanimously.
4. Jane Gaziano moved the adoption of the Public School Finance position, as amended. Dorothy Reynolds seconded. Kathy Campbell moved to strike the entire paragraph, seconded by Meg Wentz. Passed, yes 28, 0 no, 0 abstention. Dick Mason called the question, passed with 1 abstention. Delegates next voted on the original motion, 32 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention.
5. Barbara Calef moved to adopt the position on, Death Penalty position, seconded LaJune Smith. No discussion, passed unanimously by voice vote, 1 abstention.
6. Kathy Campbell moved the adoption of the position on sustainability, in a new category of positions, called Sustainability, seconded by Christine Chandler. Passe, with 1 no and 1 abstention.

Johnnie Aldrich moved the adoption of the following positions, to comprise the 2007-09 program: Government, including the Constitution, the Executive, the Judiciary, Local Government, Election Procedures, Apportionment, Term Limitations, Legislation Compensation (as amended), State Personnel, State Finance, and Campaign Reform (as rewritten), Natural Resources, Social Policy, including Death Penalty, Drug Policy, Education, Public School Finance, and Sustainability; seconded by Bonnie Burn. Motion passed.

Proposed Studies

Fair Representation: Cheryl Haaker moved adoption of the study on Fair Representation, seconded by Dick Mason, passed unanimously.

Water: Barbara Calef moved, seconded by Joanne Ramponi, a new study on water supply and demand.

Education: Jane Gaziano moved, seconded by Bonnie Burns, that the Education position be reviewed. Motion passed.

Nominations: Helen Wright, Chair of the Nominating Committee moved acceptance by acclamation of the slate proposed by the Nominating Committee, seconded by Connie Lee. Motion passed unanimously.

Officers

President—Katherine Campbell
Vice President—Linda Moscarella
Secretary—Bonnie Burn
Treasurer—Diane Albert

Directors

Action & Health—Richard Mason
Membership—Johnnie Aldrich
Election Issues – Cheryl Haaker
Education – Jane Gaziano
Natural Resources—Lora Lucero

Nominating Committee (05-07)

Chair—Marnie Leverett
Member—Jan Bray
Member—Rebecca Shankland

Directions to the Board:

1. Secure an office in Santa Fe
2. Develop budget to support aggressive advocacy campaign to support LWVNM positions
3. Discourage LWVNM members from underwriting their out-of-pocket expenses
4. Develop membership program outreach to persons of color
5. Board should develop a revenue-sharing plan with local leagues. This revenue sharing will be in the form of a bonus funding amount from the state league to local leagues in an amount to be determined each year based on the amount of surplus available.
6. Board should consider budgeting for all committees, including Study Groups
7. Board should review the Public School finance position
8. The Budget Committee should explicitly spell out all line items in the budget
9. Video or podcast speakers or outstanding events, and make funding available; in order to increase visibility of LWVNM
10. Consider emphasizing LWVNM visibility through special projects such as LWVNM sponsored community forums

11. Record donations in kind for budgeting purposes
12. Forums on state studies be filmed and made available to league and non-league
13. The treasurer's report and proposed budget should be stapled together at Convention
14. Treasurer's report should show net YTD income less YTD expenses
15. All major changes in LWV activities have a statement of financial impact attached
16. A Public comment period for observers provided on first day of Convention
17. Provide a roaming mic. for any speakers at convention
18. Provide short bios of proposed state board and a short 'meet the candidates' event prior to voting
19. Bylaws need revision regarding Board approval of positions in line with National standards; perhaps reconsider all provisions regarding positions and procedures.
20. The order of the program as listed on the agenda should match the order of handouts in the packet.
21. Distribute a list of attendees and their affiliated local league to attendees
22. Direct all resource committee members to focus on information citizens need to make their own informed decisions
23. Do a detailed chart of accounts so that it is clear what is covered by each line item
24. Engage in appropriate lobbying during the entire year; an ongoing effort instead of during session.
25. Expand teleconferencing capability of committee or other meetings
26. Investigate joining Progressive Network organization in Santa Fe; provides free space to organizations (in a church) in Santa Fe during the legislative session.
27. Provide video monitor at subsequent conventions to reduce confusion regarding the motion on the floor.

Adjournment: President Katherine Campbell declared that the new board and directors will meet after adjournment, and the meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.