



August 25, 2026
EMERGENCY MEETING MINUTES
Warren County Fiscal Court

IN ATTENDANCE: Cathy Adams, Eric Aldridge, Phyllis Causey, Mark Doggett, Tommie Driver, Robert Duvall, Timothy Gilliam, Jenean Hampton, Brett Hightower, Tyler Hopkins, Kevin Jackson, Scott Lasley, Stephanie Matthews, Michael Meredith, Kevin Modlin, Semir Nailovic, Alex Rich, Patti Sawyer, Laura Towe, Eric Tuttle, Jeb Veeck, Hunter Whitaker, Courtney Wiesbrook, John Williams

ONLINE: Tommy Adams, Troy Brooks, Doug Gorman, Jenean Hampton, Micheal Meredith, Laura Towe, Hunter Whitaker, Courtney Wiesbrook

ABSENT: Mark Lord (E), Earnie Smith (E), David Graham (E), Ron Cummings, John Downing, Brett Guthrie (E), Kevin Jackson (E), Mark Lord, Rand Paul (E), Rex McWhorter, Mary Pierce, Patti Sawyer (E), Mike Wilson (E)

Communications Plan Request

- Request to spend \$15,638 for a NationBuilder-based communications system.
 - Includes website redesign, integrated database, templated workflows, email and SMS, and optional AI chat.
 - Proposed vendor will build workflows so one input pushes content to website and social platforms.
- Goal is a durable, volunteer-friendly system to manage events, targeted emails, donor history, and opt-ins.

Finance Committee Assessment

- Finance committee proposed a reduced approach that was discussed (~\$2,500 build + platform fees).
 - Platform fee for NationBuilder starts around \$2,700/year; vendor work adds separately.
 - The full \$15k request represents about 25% of current cash on hand.
- Communications team proposed a phased approach: phase one ~ \$1,100 (7 weeks), phase two later ~ \$11,000.

Platform Functionality & Risks

- NationBuilder is a communications engine (database + email + SMS + workflows), requires opt-in for voter outreach.
 - SMS has regulatory risks and requires careful opt-in/opt-out handling.
 - Importing large lists increases platform costs (each imported contact counts toward totals).

- Data access and continuity: subscription cancellation turns site off; data must be exported (CSV) before termination.
 - Ongoing annual cost estimate for current proposal ~ \$5,100/year (platform + maintenance).

Comparative Context And Fundraising

- Other county parties reported much lower build and maintenance costs (examples cited: Jefferson County ~\$2,100 build, ~\$199/year maintenance).
 - State party / RNC may offer negotiated or free options if leveraged; several members recommended researching those routes.
- Multiple members suggested targeted fundraising (e.g., Lincoln Day sponsorships, per-member gifts) to cover the expense rather than using general cash reserves.

Motion Outcome

- Motion to table the \$15,638 expenditure passed (16 in favor).
- Motion to end debate passed earlier (21 in favor).

Headquarters Location Options

- Previous preferred site asked \$4,400/month.
- Other leads: \$1,400/month option; Jason Mills property ~\$1,000/month; Kathy's potential location ~\$800–\$900/month.
- No final HQ decision made; further follow-up requested.

Next Steps

- Compile vendor comparison, phased costs, and a side-by-side summary (include cheaper builds, NationBuilder-only option, and full-build option). Owner: Stephanie (Communications Committee).
- Research state party and RNC negotiated/hosted website options and report feasibility. Owner: Tim (Finance Committee).
- Produce detailed annual cost projections for membership growth scenarios (>2,000 contacts). Owner: Stephanie.
- Confirm renewal process, export procedure, and required lead time to safeguard data if subscription lapses; document responsibilities. Owner: Stephanie.
- Obtain confirmed pricing and lease terms for HQ leads (Jason Mills and Kathy location) and present recommendation. Owner: Warren GOP (organizer).
- Launch targeted fundraising drive to cover the proposed communications project if committee decides to proceed (goal and timeline to be defined). Owner: Stephanie and Tim.