

MINUTES
STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
NORTH CAROLINA DEMOCRATIC PARTY
December 16, 2025

State Democratic Party Chair Anderson Clayton called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

State Party Secretary Melvin Williams performed the roll call which showed tha 53 of the 66 members were in attendance. Therefore, a quorum was declared to be present.

Chair Clayton welcomed Marilyn Baker who is the new Chair of the Rural Caucus and Michael Haywood who was recently elected President of the African American Caucus.

John Verdejo made a motion to adopt the proposed Agenda and Wesley Boykin seconded his motion. This motion was passed without objection.

The Chair saluted Ni Lavien and Beth Kimball for their outstanding work on recruitment of legislative candidates. She also promoted the upcoming Google Meet on legislative recruitment which will be held next Wednesday.

LaVon Barnes brought up the subject of unaffiliated voters who want to run as Democrats and whether the party should support them.

A wide ranging discussion of unaffiliated candidates ensued. This discussion included remarks by Matt Hughes, William Mitchell, Diane Roberson, Pam McAfee, and Grayson Barnette.

Chair Clayton said that no unaffiliated candidates will be recruited unless approved by the County Chairs of the district.

Ni Lavien reported that there are prospective candidates for all 50 Senate seats and for 115 of the 120 House districts.

Jonah Garson made a motion to go into Closed Session. Pam McAfee seconded the motion which was passed without opposition.

MATTERS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION
ARE NEVER REPORTED IN THE MINUTES

After a period of closed discussion, Kevin Jones made a motion to return the meeting to open session status. John Verdejo seconded the motion. The motion was passed without opposition.

Members expressed a round of birthday wishes to Third Congressional District Chair Wesley Boykin who was recently elected Mayor of Warsaw.

A member who did not state their name made a motion to adjourn. Several members who did not state their names seconded the motion which was passed unanimously.

Chair Clayton declared the meeting to be adjourned at 8:14PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Melvin Williams, State Secretary
North Carolina Democratic Party