

Thank you for considering our request to help solicit support for our effort to remove Chairwoman Tonkins from her position and appoint a new Republican organization to represent El Paso County. The accompanying petition to the state Chairman explains our request for a special state central committee meeting in January for the purpose of appointing a new county party. It outlines a few of the bylaws she has consistently violates.

If you, or someone in your county, are willing to sign the petition that is attached to this message please send an email to me at loislandgraf@msn.com or to Suzanne Brannon at skiingsquid@gmail.com. Please also send a text to 719-963-4773 so I will know to expect an email. I will keep track of all incoming messages.

If you, or someone in your county, supports our efforts but would rather remain anonymous please have them send an email and text to the addresses or phone numbers above. I will keep those on file but will not divulge their names.

To convene the meeting we will need at least 25% of the state central committee to sign the petition, over 50% to be successful.

If you have any questions please call. Thank you.

To: Chair, Colorado Republican State Central Committee

Section VII.D. of the Bylaws of the Colorado Republican State Central Committee (“CRC”) provides that CRC Meetings may be called “[2] Upon the call of the Chairman . . .; or [3] Upon the written request of one-quarter of the [CRC] voting members.”

El Paso County is the most populous county in Colorado. Historically El Paso County played a critical role in supporting statewide Republican nominees and electing Republican legislators. In the 2022 election El Paso County failed to do this – providing only 50.7% of its vote to the Republican nominee for Governor – Jared Polis’ votes from El Paso County were 22.2% more in 2022 than in 2018. In HD16 Republican Dave Donelson lost to Democrat Stephanie Vigil – the same candidate who got only 41% two years before – giving Democrats three El Paso County state representatives for the first time in more than 40 years.

These dramatic increase in votes for Democrats did not occur by accident. Instead of supporting Republican candidates, the Chair of the El Paso County Republican Party instead led an effort to attack our party’s nominees. On December 5, 2022, the CRC Executive Committee formally censured El Paso Chair Vickie Tonkins:

WHEREAS, in this capacity, Vickie Tonkins called a special meeting of her Central Committee four days before the 2022 General Election for the purpose of **censuring seven Republican candidates¹ who were on the ballot without any constructive or valid reason;** and

WHEREAS, Vickie Tonkins rejected repeated requests to hold her special meeting after the election and to focus on GOTV efforts in El Paso County instead; and

WHEREAS, Vickie Tonkins flagrantly and intentionally violated her duty as County Chairman **and instead of supporting these seven Republican candidates in the General Election, she actively opposed them,** be it

RESOLVED, That for these reasons alone, the Colorado Republican Committee hereby formally censures El Paso County Chairwoman Vickie Tonkins for her rejection of her duty to Republican candidates on the ballot in the 2022 General Election.

COGOP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RESOLUTION TO FORMALLY CENSURE VICKIE TONKINS, 5 Dec 2022 (emphasis added)

Other problems with the Tonkins-led organization have been widely publicized, including the court overturning the results from her county assembly for illegally overriding the votes of grassroots caucus attendees.

When it became apparent that Tonkins-led organization was not going to assist Republican nominees, a number of concerned Republicans banded together to work with a different organization using the DBA of Peak Republicans. Peak Republicans worked to support 19 Republican nominees in El Paso County, including all six of the statewide campaigns, Congressman Doug Lamborn, and 12 legislative or county candidates running in El Paso County. Peak Republicans opposed no Republican nominees.

We need a county organization in El Paso County that will support our Republican nominees – not attack them. As a member of the CRC, I therefore request that you **call a special meeting of the CRC to determine whether Peak Republicans or a third party should be designated as the El Paso County Republican Party and designate a neutral person, outside El Paso County, to conduct the elections for new El Paso County Central Committee leadership in February 2023** as provided by state law and under the guidance and direction of the Chair of the CRC using the precinct committeepeople elected at caucus and filed with the El Paso County Clerk and Recorder as required by law.

Date: _____, 202__

Signed: _____

Printed Name: _____

County: _____ Basis of Membership on State Central Committee: _____

¹ Including Dave Donelson, the Republican nominee defeated in HD16 by 2.2%