



Ranch Democrats

Meeting Minutes

March 25, 2026

6:30 PM - 7:00 PM meet and greet

7:00PM - 9:00 PM meeting

The Rienda Plunge Great Room
31720 Williams Way
Rancho Mission Viejo, CA 92694

1. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order by: Gary Kephart, President
- Time: 7:06 PM

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Introductions

- Board introduced themselves
- New members were invited to introduce themselves

4. Announce Quorum

5. Adoption of Consent Items

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of General Meeting minutes from previous meeting
- Consent items were approved by the voting membership

6. Speaker: JJ Galvez for State Assembly District 71

7. New Business

- None

8. Officer Reports

- Chair Gary Kephart
 - No Kings events
 - Gary reported on the CA Democrat Convention
 - No endorsement for governor
 - No endorsement for CD 40
- Vice Chair Mike Baker
 - Discussed governor candidates
 - Raised the idea of having a No Kings rally in RMV and brought up logistics/site issues.
- Secretary Michele Lynch
 - Reminder that meeting minutes are available on our website
- Treasurer Herb Richter
 - Reviewed financial report, which can be found on the website
 - Total in bank (combined accounts) \$462.00
 - March, April, May meetings paid for
 - Have not yet received donation from Katrina Foley
 - Encouraged a recurring monthly donation from members. \$10/month from 40 people would fund us for the year.
 - \$70/recurring donations currently scheduled
 - 146 on mailing list; 59 paid members - goal of 100 paid members by end of year
 - Monthly financial details can be found on the website - ranchdemocrats.org

9. Committee Reports

- Membership Committee: Chair Anita Alverson
 - 2 members joined today
 - Recruiting begins slow and is ongoing
- Programs: Gary Kephart and Anita Alverson
 - Posed question of whether we want issue speakers, all political speakers, or a mix
 - Big name candidates may be difficult to bring in due to our number; issue speakers may also be interesting to the membership and draw new members
 - Gary discussed how we are allowed to endorse candidates
 - National Committee has right to endorse President and VP and all state/county/club must follow along.
 - CA Democrat Committee can endorse all state candidates through convention.
 - County level organizations can endorse county candidates
 - Clubs cannot endorse candidates. We can only support.
 - Board will propose a structure for supporting candidates at the next meeting
- Field Team: Samuel Penrod
 - Was unable to attend today. Gary explained that he has volunteered to help us set up literature drops based on PDI.
- Communications: Herb Richter.
 - Maintaining information about events on website. Need a communications chair to manage social media and monitor content.

10. Announcements

- “No Kings” March | Sat March 28 | times differ
 - CA-1 and Selva Rd., Dana Point (9 miles) 12-2
 - El Toro and Paseo de Valencia, Laguna Woods (11 miles) 1-3
 - Aliso Creek Rd, and Enterprise, Aliso Viejo (11 miles)
 - S. El Camino Real and Avienda San Dimas, San Clemente (13 miles)
 - Main Beach, Laguna Beach (14 miles)
- Discussion of whether we want to sponsor a protest in RMV
 - Safety concerns
 - Parking concerns
 - Potential spots - Antonio and Cow Camp; Ortega and Antonio
 - Contact us if you have ideas or want to take a role in organizing

11. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm

Signature

- Secretary: Michele Lynch
- Date: March 25, 2026