

Dubuque County Central Committee

Meeting Minutes

March 13, 2023

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Chair opened meeting with Pledge of Allegiance and singing of God Bless America.

The motion was made to approve the minutes, duly made, seconded and passed without dissent.

Chairman Report: John Darrah (no report)

Co-Chair Report: Nick Molo (no report)

Secretary Report: Jayne Uelner (no report)

Treasurer Report: Phil Crnkovich

Phil reported the ending balance as of 2/28/23 of \$9,453.46

Communicator Report: Paul Hemmer

- The Facebook followers continues to grow significantly

Guests Speakers:

Supervisor Wayne Kenniker discussed the potential of moving the City and County Assessors Office to the building previously occupied by Med-line. A large day care is also going into this space.

Treasurer Michael Clausen reported he is working with the IT department to improve functionality and support through technology to make the citizens of Dubuque experience greater efficiency and a more pleasant experience and it 'won't cost a ton of money'. He is visiting schools to get kids excited about government as a whole and explain how it works.

County Attorney Scott Nelson said he is working diligently to prosecute criminals and bring a better state of competence to this office. The office is short two attorneys from past years, but with the budget short-falls, he is going to try to fill only one of these positions.

New Business:

- Committee Assignments
 - *Caucus Chair: Dr. Jennifer Smith (not present)
 - *Organization: Tom Pfeiler (Fill precinct openings) and Chuck Spielman
 - *Budget & Finance Committee: CC Treasurer and Board
 - *Event Planning & Logistics: Paul Hemmer
 - * August Picnic

The motion was made and approved for the picnic to be on August 6, 2023

* Dubuque County Fair: Paul Kurt said the fair is held July 25 through July 30
Phil Crnkovich has reserved 2 tables at the Dubuque County Fair
Paul will bring a sign up sheet to the next meeting

*Candidate Screening Committee: Kurt Kiessling said he is pursuing candidates for the School Board and City Council positions. Cindy Mueller has expressed interest in running for School Board.

*Youth Outreach Committee: needs a chair

*Rules Committee: Karl Stieglitz (Not present)

New Business

School Board Member Lisa Whitman discussed the upcoming election and that she will be running. Lisa presented information regarding the middle school consolidation and building of a new junior high school on the present Washington Junior High site which will include acquiring 5 residences. This will be approximately 12 acres and the cost are estimated to be \$110,000,000. A General Obligation bond would include air conditioning for four schools that are not completely air conditioned and a gym for Eisenhower elementary school that is using the cafeteria for their gym. The board is also looking at land acquisition for future school needs. The sale of the soccer field will be closing in the near future and Fulton sale has been completed. Student population is down to around 10,000 students and the indication is that it will continue to decrease. Two of the current junior highs are over 100-year-old buildings. The cost to maintain the building and double the staff has become cost prohibitive.

Tom Pfeiler had a presentation to fill Central Committee positions. Tom showed a map of precinct and reviewed the names of registered Republicans in that precinct. Tom will email the information for all the precincts that do not have representation to Central Committee members for us to review. If we recognize names of individuals, we think are qualified and interested in serving, contact Tom and he will contact them. Chuck Spielman volunteered to work with Tom.

Concern was expressed regarding the Democrats having their caucus on a different date from the Republicans which could result in Democrats registering as Republicans and throw our results. It is being proposed that you have to register 45 days prior to the caucus to change party.

Comments from the gallery:

It was asked how to find out about the School Board meetings. Paul Hemmer will add this information to the Dubuque GOP website.

Upcoming Event:

Jackson County Spring dinner will be held Friday, April 21st at the Timber Lanes Event Center, 1005 E. Platt St., Maquoketa, IA. Doors will open at 5 pm, dinner at 6 pm and speakers at 7 pm. Vivek Ramaswamy, a 2024 Presidential Candidate is the featured speaker. Tickets are \$35 each or \$60 per couple. Tables of 8 are available for \$225. Contact Darla Chappell for tickets.

Adjournment: 8:12 pm

Attendance: 32

Minutes by: Jayne Uelner