

Dubuque County Central Committee

Meeting Minutes

February 13, 2023

The Meeting was called to order at 7:05 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

John sent out a fund-raising letter asking for support for this year's expenses and to date has received \$2,600.

Co-Chair Report: Nick Molo (no report)

Secretary Report: Jayne Uelner

Jayne asked for help with the Sign-in table at the meetings. Steve volunteered to help.

Treasurer Report: Phil Crnkovich

Phil reported the ending balance as of 1/31/23 is \$7,658.15.

Communicator Report: Paul Hemmer

- Social media is regularly updated and includes Koelker and Bradley newsletters. A link to ESGHURTS.com has also been added.
- Paul has been in contact with Tim Scott's campaign and hoping to schedule Tim to be a guest at our summer picnic
- Laura Gillespie from Decorah, IA is pursuing ineligible voters or voters who no longer live in the county but are still shown as registered in Dubuque County
- Drafted statement forming City Council and School Board search committee
- Old website has been deleted

Guests Speakers:

Supervisor Harley Pothoff said this is not a good year for expenses in part because of an error the State made and has to be corrected. State wants to go back to January 2022 to collect the overpayment and will affect our Budget by approximately \$1 million.

Supervisor Wayne Kenniker discussed the potential of eliminating the County Recorder's Position. He said this is a decision by the voters presenting a petition. The petition states that the responsibilities would transfer responsibility to Auditor's position. Discussion pursued that the Auditor already has a significant work load. Wayne spoke with past and present employees in the Recorder's office and there is an advantage to a checks and balance with keeping the offices separate. Eliminating the Recorder's position would save about \$125,000 with pay and benefits a year.

Michael Clausen reported the Telegraph Herald was inaccurate in the reporting of the Treasurer's Report. The TH indicated that the Treasurer wanted to raise fees. This is done at the state level. Michael Clausen does not control this.

New Business:

- Committee Assignments
 - *Caucus Chair: Dr. Jennifer Smith
 - *Organization: Tom Pfeiler (Fill precinct openings)
 - *Budget & Finance Committee: CC Treasurer and Board
 - *Event Planning & Logistics: Paul Hemmer
 - * August Picnic
 - * Dubuque County Fair: 2 booths
Paul Kurt volunteered
 - *Candidate Screening Committee
 - *Youth Outreach Committee

- The following were nominated and confirmed to CC:
 - Precinct 7: Chuck Spielman
 - Precinct 23: Brian Cose
 - Precinct 5: Walt Webster

- School Board Elections:
 - George Davis
 - The School Board will have 4 open seats in the next election.
 - Election will be held November 2023
 - Kurt Kiessling will serve on Candidate Screening Committee

- Discussion regarding speakers at every meeting
 - Suggested for a State Central Committee member to visit
 - Consensus was if we have presenters like George and Karl no need for speakers

- Voting Law Initiative:
 - Karl Stieglitz
 - *Return to Election Day voting with Voter ID
 - *Eliminate all in person early voting
 - *Eliminate all mail in balloting except for military, infirmed or special exceptions
 - *Elimination of electronic voting machines
 - *We need to figure out the game or change the laws. It is a state legislature Decision. Motion made, moved and approved to have Karl Stieglitz chair the Voting Law Initiative Committee

- Comments from the gallery:
 - *Mike Pence was going to be in attendance at the Linn-Mar School Board Meeting
 - *Speed cameras initiative

Adjournment: 8:37

Attendance: 42

Minutes by: Jayne Uelner