

Linn County Republican Central Committee Meeting - January 17, 2017, Meeting Minutes
Longbranch Hotel, Cedar Rapids

Call to Order – 7:00 pm Justin Wasson, Chair

Invocation - Dale Nordby (CR 14)

Pledge of Allegiance - led by Dan Kauffman (CR 17)

Contribution bucket for meeting expenses was circulated.

Robert's Rules Minute, a brief tutorial on Robert's Rules of Order, was presented by Laura Kamienski (CR16), Co-chair

Guest Speakers were introduced -

- Gerald Retzlaff, Chair of Jones County Central Committee - Info on Convention of States
- Mike Gonzales, LeClaire, Iowa Police Department - Candidate in HD 89 (Davenport) special election Jan 31

Contribution bucket was circulated a second time for contributions to Mike Gonzales campaign for Iowa House.

Althea Cole presented the credentials report from the Membership Team, reporting 52 voting members, 13 associate members, and 4 guests present.

Proposed agenda was approved by voice vote.

November 15 meeting minutes were distributed at each table. Motion to approve the minutes carried.

Treasurer's Report

Robin Tucker presented the Treasurer's Report. The report for November & December was distributed in printed form. Income for the current month included a donation of \$1918.12 in funds remaining from the Foster for Iowa campaign.

Executive Committee Report

Laura Kamienski presented the Executive Committee Report. The executives met 3 times since being elected in November. Meetings included planning the Christmas/Holiday held in December. A new office lease has been signed with rent at \$275 per month through March 2017. A contract has been signed with the Longbranch for meetings at a rate of \$125 for one room, with the option to reserve a second room when needed.

The following people have asked to resign as precinct representatives: Dan Kauffman (serving instead as Parliamentarian), Andrea Wasson, Deb Howington, Roger Walton, Kristin Carlson, Tad Fundermann, Denise Todd, Alexah Rogge. Executive Committee moves to accept these resignations. Motion carried.

Executive Committee moved to accept new precinct representatives Barb Thumma (CR 09), Tim Reineke (CR 35), Tami Soukup (CR 17), and Michael Lindsay (CR 23), and Dan Kauffman as associate member (CR 17). Motion carried.

The pass-the-bucket total for the Mike Gonzales campaign was \$252.35. (With the addition of checks written by members to the campaign, the total amount raised for the campaign was \$512.35.)

Chelle Atkins, member of Iowa State Central Committee, reported on SCC activities. The committee met in December and discussed plans for the off-year and the 2018 election year. The Organization Committee is looking at changes and better definition of SCC role. The SCC looked at providing instruction for county chairs and co-chairs, as well as a system for pairing newly elected chairs or co-chairs with seasoned officers for orientation and training purposes. The SCC emphasized door-knocking rather than phone calls in the 2016 campaigns. This may have underemployed some potential volunteers who are less mobile. The state had a record 92% return of Republican absentee ballots in 2016. With no presidential election and no Iowa Senate seat up for election in 2018, the state is expecting less campaign support from the RNC, but Iowa U.S. representative campaigns will still need support. The current Chair and Co-Chair of the SCC are running for re-election. Secretary of State Paul Pate has announced efforts for voter ID to improve election integrity. This has encountered opposition from Iowa Democrats. More information is available at sos.iowa.gov/news.

Old Business - Election of District 1 Executive Committee Members from Linn County

The Linn County delegation to the District 1 Executive Committee needs to be reorganized after election of our officers. The county Chair and Co-chair are automatically members of the executive committee, and Linn County because of its population is allowed four additional members. The following people were nominated from the floor with seconds: Randy Lucore (HIA02), Althea Cole (CR07), Dan Hess (CR14), Robin Tucker (CR25), Tim Reineke (CR35), Don Nelson (CR24). There were no further nominations so a formal vote to cease nominations was not needed. Paper ballots were distributed to credentials representatives. Elected were Randy Lucore, Dan Hess, Robin Tucker, and Don Nelson.

Old Business - Proposed budget

A proposed budget for 2017-2018 was presented by Robin Tucker, Treasurer. Projections for predictable income and usual operating expenses were included in the budget. Some line items for revenue and expenses, such as costs and income from fundraisers, are yet to be determined. This budget is intended as a starting point and can, once adopted, be amended later by the LCRCC as details and needs become known. It is anticipated that LCRCC may contribute to candidates running in 2018, but these funds are not included in the budget yet. \$600 toward signs and advertising is included. Revenue and expenses for caucus and

revenue for the county convention will be added to the budget later when the relevant committees / teams have met to plan the activities.

Motion by Althea Cole (CR07), seconded, to postpone approval of the budget until the February LCRCC meeting. Motion carried.

Motion by Robin Tucker (CR25), seconded, to approve those past expenditures and pending expenditures for January currently listed in the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Karl Schewe (MR 03) pledged to contribute \$50 per month toward LCRCC activities and urged other members to do the same.

Laura Kamienski, co-chair, announced the District 1 Executive Committee election results and moved the ballots be destroyed. Motion carried.

New Business - Advisory Committee election

The body was divided up into groups by Iowa House districts to elect representatives to the Advisory Committee. Elected were:

HD 65 - Linda Dvorak

HD 66 - Tina Hess

HD 67 - Megan Hippensteel

HD 68 - Karl Schewe

HD 69 - Ariel Jimenez

HD 70 - James Sanford

HD 95 - John Haible

Althea Cole (CR07) moved to reassign Dwayne Farmer from his current status as CR07 precinct representative to precinct representative for MAR13, which is an open seat, due to change in his residence , and to appoint Mary Ernzen to replace Wayne as a precinct representative for CR07, to be effective at the next LCRCC meeting. Motion seconded and carried.

Announcements:

Randy Lucore has been asked by the Executive Committee to begin planning for the upcoming 2018 caucuses. He requested that those interested in being involved in the planning contact him. He hopes to have the first planning meeting later in January.

Steve West requested help and volunteers for the SAPADAPASO (St. Patrick's Day) Parade March 17 in Cedar Rapids.

Emma Nemecek announced that there will be Naturalization Ceremonies January 27 at 1:30 PM at the Northern District of Iowa Courthouse, and February 10 at 1:30 at the Czech and Slovak Museum.

Jim Conklin announced that two of his granddaughters will be selling Girl Scout cookies after the meeting. The Iowa Conservative Union will have a meeting Wednesday April 12 at Godfather's Pizza;

Rod Blum has agreed to be at the meeting. The ICU will meet January 18 at MJ's in Marion and the guests will be Brent Oleson and John Harris, Linn County Supervisors.

Chris Williams provided an update from Ken Rizer regarding activities at the Iowa Legislature, including the voter ID issue and budget concerns.

Saturday January 21 the League of Women Voters will have a forum.

Iowa Grassroots Day at the Iowa Capitol in Des Moines will be February 1. Meet at the RPI office at 10:30 AM.

There will be an inauguration party in Coralville at the Radisson Hotel Friday January 20.

The next Advisory Committee meeting will be Wednesday January 25, 6PM at KTOS, 1770 Boyson Road, Hiawatha.

The pass-the-hat (bucket) total for meeting expenses was \$145.00.

Robin Tucker moved that we approve the \$50 entry fee for our participation in the St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Passed without objection.

Motion to adjourn carried at 9:07 P.M.

Email the Secretary at Secretary@LinnCountyGOP.com with comments.

Minutes prepared by Don Nelson, Secretary