

Linn County Republican Central Committee- May 9, 2024 Meeting Minutes

The May LCRCC monthly meeting was held at Hazel Point Intermediate, Marion

Call to order 7 pm

Invocation Althea Hasse

Pledge Todd Corley (HIA02)

Announcements

Emma Nemecek (MR08) FSRW will be hosting speaker Amy Sinclair- IA Senator Dist. 12, 5/14 11:30 at Elmcrest
Randy Walker (CR03) Announced a multi-church Tent Crusade May 24-26, 7-9pm corner of 1st St. & I Ave. NW.
Contact Randy for more information. Promoted General Michael Flynn's new book: The Citizen's Guide to 5th Generation Warfare.

Guest Speakers

Paul Siver (TBNL) Spoke on behalf of John Thompson's Campaign for state house Dist. 80. He has a fundraiser at the Pines and Pizza Pub, May 11, 12-2pm. Encouraged members to unify and solidify John's victory

Cindy Golding (TMON1) Iowa state house Rep. Dist. 83. Gave a report on the accomplishments of the recent legislative session: strengthened religious freedom, protecting women's sports, school choice, reduction in income tax, tightening laws on illegal immigration (Sheriff's/Police are now allowed to arrest illegal aliens if caught a second time), provided funding for the Attorney General to investigate/prosecute fraudsters, "back the blue" legislation, there will be an amendment on the ballot this November to declare you must be a US Citizen to be a registered voter in the state of Iowa, secured Veteran's benefits. She also sponsored a bill that would give Veterans equal status to participate in the small business grant program that is afforded to women, minorities and those with disabilities. She also spoke on things that need to be done: stopping the CO2 Pipeline boondoggle, abuses of eminent domain, voter integrity laws, reducing executive emergency powers (bringing it back to legislative control). They need to be done and can only done with a Republican Majority. Cindy introduced Tom Gerhold, Iowa state Rep. Dist. 84 (Benton/Linn County). He along with Cindy are a part of the Iowa Freedom Fighter Caucus, along with two dozen other Reps. Cindy emphasized being proactive in working to turn our local governments Republican to ensure what is passed at the state level is upheld at the local level. Tom spoke on the destruction and cost that illegal immigration poses for local governments. He encouraged the committee to review the book by JJ Carrell- Invaded: Intentional Destruction of American Immigration.

Membership Committee Report Heidi Barnhart (ROB) 67 voting members, 20 voting associates, 5 associates, 15 guests. Motion from committee to approve: associate members- Christian Deloy (CR08), Keith Smith (CR19), Teresa Deloy (CR08), Pamela Severson (MR06), James Smith (CR01), Dan Blinks (TWAS), motion from chair to approve, so moved.

Heidi explained the color code represented on member badges: yellow= full voting rights on **all** LCRCC business (state and county), blue= vote on LCRCC business, white= no voting rights.

Approve Agenda motion to approve, seconded, passed.

Chairman's Minute Bernie Hayes (CR26) Invited new members to meet and address the executive committee. One of the focuses of the night is getting members involved in a subcommittee. Introduced the idea of a campaign committee. This committee will focus on helping support the various candidates in the county by helping with resources, volunteers, recruitment. We need to fill the ballot with Republicans. Moved to approve the meeting minutes from February, March, April. Motion from the floor to approve April minutes, seconded, discussion. Dan Hess (CR15) asked that his name be removed from the minutes as making the motion to approve the by-laws as amended. He merely suggested that it be done. Upon further review of the video recording it appears that the motion came from Randy Walker. Motion passed.

Treasurer Report Chair reviewed the report in the absence of the treasurer. Motion to approve, seconded, discussion. Passed. The executive team has received an audit report. It is getting finalized.

Committee Reports

Advisory Kevin Thumma (CR10) Chair. Reported that not many advisory committee members attend meetings. Due to caucus, the advisory committee will be selecting new advisory committee members later in the meeting. Kevin explained that the role of the advisory committee is to procure ideas and suggestions from the membership to help direct RPI and LCRCC activities. Bernie reminded the committee that we have fliers to explain what the committees are responsible for.

Faith Engagement Barb Holub (ROB) Meeting 5/10 in Robins 9am. See Barb for details. Their focus has been on coming alongside churches and offering assistance in the form of voter guides, platform comparison sheets and offering Biblical Citizenship Courses to their members. Special speaker from Turning Point Action 5/17 630pm 2700 Stonegate Ct. Hiawatha, will lend instruction as to what works and what doesn't.

Legislative Randy Walker, Chair. They meet the first Tuesday of the month, 630pm at CR Sanctuary Church, 912 18th Ave. SW, room 201. Their focus is to watch legislation across the government from the federal to local level that would impact faith, family, finances and freedom. They track politicians who vote against our conservative values. Cindy Golding attended the last meeting to explain how legislation becomes law. See Randy for details on how to get involved.

Fundraising Kathleen Banowetz (TPUT) Chair. Meets every other Monday at the LCRCC office. 6-8pm.

Public Relations Emma Nemecek (MR08) Reminded the committee that there are 45 days before the Linn County Fair. She asked anyone who can help to please do. LCRCC will not be participating in the Freedom Fest Parade. The focus will be supporting candidates as much as possible in these events. They meet the second Monday at Perkins on Collins Rd. See her for details.

Election Integrity Anne Fairchild (CR28) Chair. Meets 4th Monday of the month. (This month will meet on the 20th due to Memorial Day) at Noodles & Company on Collins Rd. 630pm. Current focus is the primary on 6/4. They will be conducting 4 poll watcher training sessions prior to the primary. If interested please send a request to pollwatching@linncountgop.org. Last meeting, Auditor Joel Miller attended to underscore the need for poll watchers/workers. Go to the auditor's website to fill out the form to be a poll watcher. Deadline for

applications is September 1st to be considered as a poll worker. Being a poll *worker* is a paid position. Pamela Severson (MR06) serves as a chairperson for Linn County elections. She gave a brief overview of the Whole Book System; the new system being implemented in the county to replace the previous IPAD system. She stated that it's not much different from the last system.

Membership Heidi Barnhart, Chair. Meets monthly and verifies membership against current voter registration. Contact Heidi for details on how to be involved.

Communications Brett Mason (CR02) Chair. Maintains the website and Facebook page. The committee duties include, but are not limited to: all communications from the subcommittees to the membership and pertinent events to LCRCC members. See Brett for more information.

Bernie mentioned that there is a convention committee that facilitates our County Convention, Chaired by Mike Dupree (CR04). He also mentioned the Office Committee, Chaired by Matthew O'Neal (CR43). He also noted that there is a page on the LCRCC website that overviews the various committees and duties.

Bernie entertained a motion from the floor to approve the February minutes, seconded, passed. Motion from the floor to approve meeting minutes from March, seconded, passed.

Old Business none

New Business Voter Engagement Program (Build the Base). Initiated in Polk County over a year ago. That group reached out to LCRCC with the intention of helping set up a similar program here. Spearheaded by Trisha Maloney (CR01), Jody Wilson (CR08), Heidi Barnhart. They gave a presentation on the program. It is a volunteer-based program. The focus is to build on the energy of the current political environment. A PowerPoint presentation was distributed to the membership on 5/20 overviews the program. Training will be provided to facilitate the various functions of the committee. Including but not limited to: door knocking, fundraising, sign placement, phone banking, poll watching, volunteer placement, etc. They will supply supplemental information to the newly elected advisory committee house district reps. They have an email for more information. buildthebase@linncountygop.org.

Begin the process of electing house district representatives: Attendees broke into their HD groups and elected LCRCC representatives for the advisory committee. Elected Reps: HD73 Geralyn Jones, HD74 Megan Hippensteel/Mike Dupree, HD77 David Bickford, HD78 Steve Harvey, HD79 James Sampers, HD80 Steve Parr/Todd Corley, HD83 Terry Chostner, HD84 Grant Gardner

Bernie mentioned that the next meeting will be held at the Hiawatha Community Center, June 20th, the 3rd Thursday. During the election process John Thompson arrived to speak about his fundraiser at the Pines.

Pass the Hat \$353

Motion to Adjourn 8:45pm

Respectfully submitted, Matthew O'Neal (CR43), LCRCC Secretary