

Linn County Republican Central Committee- July 18, 2024 Meeting Minutes

The July LCRCC monthly meeting was held at Hiawatha Community Center

Call to order 6 pm

Invocation Janice Woerner

Pledge Tim Stevens

Announcements: Bernie Hayes (CR26) Reminded the group of some 'lost and found items' left behind from the last meeting. He also recognized the Benton County Central Committee visiting members in attendance, including the Chair.

Janice Woerner (CR32) Announced that she is the chair of Woman's Coalition for Turning Point Action Eastern Iowa. A Turning Point USA affiliate. Their first major event will be door knocking for the Trump Campaign, targeting low propensity voters. 7/27 11 am in Solon at Randall Park.

Emma Nemecek (MR08) Invited members to attend the Five Season Republican Women's event 8/13 11:30 am, Elmcrest Country Club, Rod Blum will be the guest speaker. September will feature former director of the Red Cross, October the guest speaker will be Ashley Hinson.

Bernie Hayes, event at Calvary Community Church, sponsored by Faith and Freedom Coalition. 7/25 5:30 pm. Rep. Cindy Golding (TMON1) and John Thompson (CR09) will be speaking with others about human trafficking. Bernie encouraged members to go to our website for event schedules. Linncountygop.org

Justin Wasson (HIA02) spoke on behalf of John Thompson running for HD 80. Lauded John for putting in the work to turn this seat red. He has also been targeted by the DNC as a must win seat for them. Justin encouraged members to do what they can to support his campaign.

Joe Golding (TMON1) invited members to attend a fundraiser for Cindy Golding and John Thompson. He provided fliers. 7/24 5:30 pm at Sweet Maple Farms. Tamara Scott and Jeff Kaufmann will be guest speakers.

Barclay Woerner (CR32) announced his candidacy for HD 79. Tracy Ehlert is his opponent.

Terry Chostner (TOTT) announced his candidacy for Linn County Auditor. His opponent is Todd Taylor.

Membership Report Heidi Barnhart (ROB) 61 voting members, 21 voting associates, 16 guests. Motion from the chair to elect Merle Olsen (CR38) as a voting member. Passed. Next membership meeting is 7/33 at the LCRCC office. Contact her for more information.

Approve Agenda Motion from the chair to approve the agenda as amended to reflect we are approving June minutes not May, passed.

Approve Minutes Motion from the chair to approve June's meeting minutes as amended to reflect that: it was Ely's mayor who supported Cindy Golding, not the mayor of Mt. Vernon, passed.

Treasurer Report Matt Limbert (MR05) reviewed the current budget. Gave a brief overview of the structure of the report. Receipts versus expenses. Convention refunds have been issued, waiting for members to cash those checks. Motion from chair to approve the report, passed.

Old Business Bernie Hayes gave a brief synopsis of the campaign committee. Comprised of 3 members from each of the following committees: the advisory committee, fundraising committee and data analysis/voter integrity committee. Had a meeting on 7/17 to review viable races. Encouraged members to support these candidates as one is able.

New Business Party Nominating Convention: Bernie Hayes called to order the LCRCC party nominating convention at 6:32 pm. Chair opened nominations for the Linn County Auditor's race. Terry Chostner was nominated, seconded. The Chair asked if there were any further nominations; seeing none the Chair moved to close nominations, second, passed. Chair moved to accept Terry's nomination by acclamation, passed. Bernie explained that HD nominations will be called by the RPI Chair, date TBD. Chair moved to close the party nominating convention, passed 6:37 pm.

Fundraising Committee Joe Golding spoke about the Lincoln Dinner 8/20. The keynote speaker will be AG Brenna Bird. Also speaking will be Gov. Kim Reynolds, Paul Pate, Joni Ernst, and many others. Part of the program will include video and pictures custom built around last year's event. This year's theme is "Taking Back America". The attire is red, white and blue. Encouraged members to use the graphic that was distributed to promote the event on social media and amongst prospective attendees. There is a signup sheet for those who are available to volunteer for the event (clean up, ticket table etc.).

Faith Engagement Barb Holub (ROB) announced she has Trump signs available for \$5. Group meets at the office every 2 weeks on Friday's at 9 am. They have developed a flier with a QR code to hand out to local churches and other prospective organizations to encourage voter registration. The QR code sends voters to the state of Iowa online registry. Copies will be available for members at the next meeting.

Data Analysis/ Voter Integrity Anne Fairchild (CR28) July meeting is moved to the 29th 6:30 pm at Noodles and Company Collins Rd. Had a good meeting with the Linn Co. Auditor's Office going through the process for poll watchers and poll workers. Auditor has been very receptive to LCRCC input.

Legislative Randall Walker (CR03) had a meeting 7/2. Discussed the atrocities of the J6 lawfare taking place. Talked about the voting record of Joni Ernst, Chuck Grassley, Ashley Hinson. Their records have been lackluster as it pertains to conservative values. Also discussed judges for Dist. 6 retention. Working on developing profiles on each of those judges. Mentioned the victory of the Iowa Supreme Court upholding the Heartbeat Bill. The committee is also monitoring the school board vote 9/10 on decommissioning area schools. They meet the first Tuesday of the month at Sanctuary Church. See Randy for details.

Public Relations Linda Dvorak (CR27) gave a thank you to everyone who helped with the Freedom Fest, Ely and Mt. Vernon parades. Thanks to Jeff Hoffman (MR05) for the use of the Elephant. They will be participating in the Walker Pickle Days parade 8/17 5 pm by the park.

Voter Engagement Trisha Maloney (CR01) spoke about the 'Build the Base' program. The goal is to develop a pool of people who are willing to participate in upcoming events as needed. Including but not limited to: door knocking, sign waiving events, candidate support events etc. Looking at an 'Overpass for Trump' event before

the DNC convention. Updates to follow. Also looking to develop meet and greet events within members communities and neighborhoods to develop local relationships.

Ethan Williams new field director for Rep. Ashley Hinson. Hinson voted for the SAVE Act. Reminded the members about her upcoming fundraiser: BBQ Bash at Hawkeye Downs. 8/3 12-3 pm. Rep. Jim Jordan will be in attendance as well as Tom Emmer.

John Thompson, candidate for HD 80 gave an update on his campaign. Was asked on short notice to participate in the RNC convention. Was allowed to speak to a forum regarding Veterans Affairs during the convention. Got a lot of endorsements from major political figures including Vivek Ramaswamy, Gov. Ron DeSantis. RPI has also promised to run TV ads for his campaign. Internal polling is showing his district leaning red for the first time in years. John is asking for door knockers. Looking to hit every door in the district at least 4 times.

Members were asked to break into their HD groups for discussion and for people to sign up for the Build the Base program.

That was followed by the opportunity to watch some of the closing Republican National Convention that was being held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where Grant Gardner, Cindy Golding, and GERALYN JONES were in attendance in addition to John being there for one day.

Pass the Hat \$411

Motion to adjourn 7:17 pm

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