

Linn County Republican Central Committee Meeting- April 10, 2025 Meeting Minutes

The April LCRCC meeting was held at Noelridge Park Church 1147 Clifton St. NE

Call to Order 7:00 pm

Invocation Don Nelson (CR26)

Pledge Brett Mason (CR02)

Chairman's Minute Bernie Hayes (CR26) explained that we were meeting at Noelridge because our last location (Calvary Comm. Church) currently has other things it's working on. James Sampers (CR20) made a motion to form a committee to find a permanent location for meetings to present to the body. Seconded, passed. It was noted that this would be taken up by the Advisory Committee. Bernie went on to overview the meeting agenda.

Membership Report Heidi Barnhart (ROB) 46 voting members, 25 voting associates, 4 associates, 6 guests. She noted that at their next meeting they will be reviewing the member list for those who have not had consistent attendance at monthly meetings.

Approve Minutes the Chair entertained a motion to approve March meeting minutes; seconded, passed.

Advisory Kevin Thumma reviewed the proposed new bylaws. The proposed bylaws are an all or none document to be ratified by the body. Don Nelson motioned to delay the vote until next month, seconded, discussion. Motion failed 49-6. Vote to approve the new bylaws as proposed passed, 54-8.

Election of DEC Members Discussion of proposed rules for the election of DEC members, passed. Per DEC rules, the Chair and Co-Chair of each county are automatically members. Extra members are awarded to a county based partly on population. Nominations for offices at large: Matthew O'Neal (CR43), Grant Gardner (TGRA), Anne Fairchild (CR28), Dean Soenksen (CR13), Geralyn Jones (MR10), Dan Hess (CR15), Heidi Barnhart, David Chung (CR29)- declined nomination. Each candidate gave a short speech as to their desire to serve on the DEC. Results of election:

Anne 58, Geralyn 46, Dean 44, Matthew 43, Heidi 36, Dan 21, Grant 13. The top 4 were elected.

Audit Report Ruth Soenksen and Mark Banowetz (TPUT) gave an overview of the current financial status of the LCRCC as it relates to our public disclosures via the DR2 reports. Our checking balance is slightly above what is reported in the DR2 due to the rules regarding reporting income. Since the DR2's do not require reporting of income under \$20, it is possible for the amounts not to be in total alignment. Bernie also gave a brief overview of the upcoming LCRCC budget that will be voted on in May.

Treasurer Report Bernie gave a brief overview of the treasurer report as Matthew Limbert was unable to attend.

Legislative Randy Walker (CR03) reviewed some of the bills that are still lingering in the legislative process.

Faith Engagement Barb Holub (ROB) reminded the group that they meet on the 2nd and 4th Friday of the month at 9 AM at the LCRCC office.

Voter Engagement Jody Wilson (CR08) thanked all of those who went out gathering signatures for the Supervisor 2 race. She encouraged the body to continue to volunteer as the need arises. Sandy Thurm (CR04) shared about her group that is helping educate Christians about current possible action items that may be of interest to the Christian community. Info cards are available upon request.

Fundraising Terry Chostner (TOTT) shared details about the upcoming Lincoln Dinner. There will be a silent auction. The tentative date is August 1. 530-830 pm. Dinner will be served at 6 pm and wrap up around 8.

Special Elections Bernie expanded on the upcoming potential special elections; both for Supervisor 2 and to replace Sami Sheetz for HD78. Bernie declared that he will run for HD78. We are still awaiting the results of the recently passed SF75 bill that will determine dates and procedures for the elections in question.

Guest Speakers

Joe Golding (TMON1) gave a legislative update on behalf of Cindy HD83 Rep. A bill of particular importance is HF936, which prevents corporations from taking private land for their financial gain. He also mentioned HF418 regarding property tax. Brett Mason (CR02) expanded on the intricacies revolving around the Supervisor 2 special election.

Announcements

Bernie mentioned the passing of Lauren Wolcott (former LCRCC member). Bernie provided a card for members to sign.

Bernie announced that Addie Lavis, Hinson Campaign Manager had a death in her family.

Bob Cody (CR08) announced that on 4/30 they will be having a flag waving event on the Emmons St. Bridge in Hiawatha 4-5:30 pm to commemorate Trump's 100 days in office. He also mentioned that the FOX News personality Tyrus would be at the Vet's Memorial Colosseum in July.

Emma Nemecek (MR08) announced an event for the Five Seasons Republican Women 5/20 at 11:30 am at the Elmcrest Country Club. The guest speaker will be Supervisor Brandy Zumbach Meisheid.

Anne Fairchild alerted the body to a fundraiser at the Calvary Comm. Church 5/4 4-6 pm 5245 Northland Dr. NE. Food trucks and silent auction are on the venue.

Geralyn Jones spoke on behalf of Moms for Liberty. They will be hosting an educational event on 4/17 at 6pm.

Rachel Cadena (MR04) alerted the body to the "Eats Act" and strongly encouraged members to oppose it.

Bernie announced that the annual Good Friday Prayer Breakfast would be held at the Double Tree 6-9 am. He also mentioned the Iowa Faith and Freedom Coalition spring kick-off 4/12, 5:30-8:30 at the Horizons Event Center.

Dean Soenksen talked about going to school board meetings as it relates to the upcoming bond referendum proposed by the city.

Pass the Hat \$299

Motion to adjourn seconded, passed 8:55 pm

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