

Linn County Republican Central Committee Meeting- March 12th, 2026 Meeting Minutes

The LCRCC meeting was held at the Kirkwood Hotel in Cedar Rapids

Call to Order 8:03 pm (Meeting time and location were rescheduled so members could attend Governor Reynolds' Legacy tour event at Kirkwood Hotel)

Invocation Chair, Bernie Hayes (CR26)

Pledge Treasurer, Matt Limbert (MR05)

Bernie passed the hat and announced the renewal of the office lease.

Drew Johns campaign manager for Joe Mitchell running for Congress (D2) updated the members on Joe's campaign progress. He received an endorsement from President Trump and is the only candidate "officially on the ballot" at this point.

Paul Talley (CR46) Announced that he is running for Linn Co. Treasurer. He asked the members to sign his nomination petition. Paul ran in 2022.

Randy Marzen (MR03) is running for the SD73 seat. He announced that he is officially a candidate with a website and it can accept donations.

Cindy Golding HD83 Rep. announced that she is running again for the HD83 seat. She had one of her bills passed through committee and is working its way through the House. She is also working on legislation to monitor the water usage by existing data centers and those being constructed or proposed.

Grant Gardner (TGRA) spoke on behalf of Brad Sherman (candidate for Governor) and Abigail Maas (candidate for Auditor). He noted that both have acquired the necessary number of signatures needed to be on the ballot.

Membership Report Heidi Barnhart (ROB) 67 voting members, 20 voting associates, 2 associates, 4 guests. Motion from the committee to approve John Smith (HIA02) as a voting member and Kristy Chase (CR13), Melvin Koski (TMAR1), Joyce Folkman (TMON2) as associate members. Seconded, passed.

Bernie noted that there is no old or new business.

Treasurer Report Matt Limbert (MR05) gave an overview of the checking account and some of the remaining receipts from the fundraising event (Reagan's Big Birthday Bash).

Fundraising Terry Chostner (TOTT) announced details from the Reagan fundraiser. We had 132 guests. Terry thanked all those that volunteered or otherwise supported the event, including these local businesses: Country Kitchen, Signs Etc., Heros Lawncare, Mr. Beans, A1 Rental, Novak Auto and Otter Creek Country Store. Please be sure to frequent these businesses to show our thanks.

Bernie moved to accept February's meeting minutes. Seconded, approved.

Trish Maloney (CR01), **Barb Holub** (ROB) reminded the members of the start of the Patriot Academy. They will be holding 3, 1 hr. sessions prior to the LCRCC meetings at Christian Life Church, starting 4/9. They will begin at 5:30 pm. Feel free to bring food.

Brett Mason (CR02) announced that Eddie Andrews, Candidate for Governor, has enough signatures to be on the ballot.

Keith Smith (CR19) announced that Barclay Woerner (CR32), Candidate for HD79, has enough signatures to be on the ballot and turned his petitions in.

Rachel Cadena (MR12) mentioned that Iowa Federation of Republican Women (IFRW) is having a fundraiser 4/17 and is taking donations.

Legislative Randy Walker (CR03) talked about the website “Iowa Baptist”. He also mentioned HF2563 that addresses abortion and HF2719 that talks about judge retaliation. He also touched on HF2557, HF2487 and SF180. They address gender ID, stopping the woke agenda and vaccine conscientiousness respectively.

Emma Nemecek (MR08) elaborated on the IFRW fundraiser. It will be held at Double Tree on 4/17 at 9am.

Bernie encouraged the members to be poll watchers/workers in the upcoming elections. He has flyers for anyone interested. He also noted that district 2 committee meetings will be held 3/28 and that our next meeting will be 4/9 at Christian Life Church. District Convention will be on 4/25 at Oelwein High School.

William Dahlsten (CR26) also encouraged members to be poll watchers/workers.

Paul Talley announced at the end of the meeting that he had the necessary number of signatures needed.

Pass the Hat \$329.38

Motion to adjourn seconded, passed 8:33 pm

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