

1 Minutes of the Linn County Democratic Central Committee

2 May 24, 2017 – 7:00 pm

3 Hiawatha Community Center

4 101 Emmons Street, Hiawatha, IA

5 Officers Present: Bret Nilles, Sam Gray, Diane Peterson, Laura Geary Bell,
6 Mike McGree, Sarah Stutler

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8 ACTIONS TAKEN AT THE MAY CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING:

- 9 ➤ The Draft Minutes of the April 26, 2017 Linn County Democratic
10 Central Committee Meeting were approved as distributed.
11 ➤ The April Treasurer's report was approved as distributed.
12 An expenditure \$75 to purchase a table at AsianFest was approved.
13 ➤ A motion to identify the cost of participation in the July 1, 2017
14 Freedom Festival Parade was approved.
15 ➤ The election procedures of and results from the April 26, 2017
16 Alternate Committeeperson were ratified.

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18 1. CALL TO ORDER

- 19 a. A regular monthly meeting of the Linn County Democratic
20 Central Committee was held on May 24, 2017, at the Hiawatha
21 Community Center in Hiawatha, Iowa. Chair Bret Nilles called
22 the meeting to order at 7:04 PM, and Michael McGree,
23 Recoding Secretary, was present. A quorum was present.

24 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- 25 a. Chair Bret Nilles led the Central Committee of the Pledge of
26 Allegiance.

27 3. .RECOGNITION OF GUESTS AND ELECTED OFFICIALS

- 28 a. Chair Nilles welcomed elected officials in attendance.
29 i. Linn County Supervisor Jim Houser, Ben Rogers, and
30 Stacey Walker

- 31 ii. Linn County Treasurer Sharon Gonzalez
- 32 iii. City of Ely Council Member Kay Hale
- 33 iv. Representatives Kirstin Running-Marquardt (HD 33) and
- 34 Art Staed (HD 66)
- 35 v. Senator Rob Hogg (SD 33)
- 36 b. Chair Nilles recognized candidates for elective office in
- 37 attendance
- 38 i. Scott Foens (Candidate for HD 68
- 39 ii. Molly Donahue (Candidate for HD 68)
- 40 iii. Eric Gjerde (Candidate for HD 67)
- 41 iv. Courtney Rowe (candidate for US House Iowa District 1)
- 42 c. Chair Nilles recognized Special Guests Tammy Wawro,
- 43 President of Iowa State Educators Association, as well as
- 44 potential candidate for Governor Mike Matson and declared
- 45 gubernatorial candidate Representative Nate Boulton (SD 16).
- 46 d. Chair Nilles recognized new attendees. These individuals
- 47 briefly introduced themselves.
- 48 e. Candidate Nate Boulton, Mike Matson, and Courtney Rowe
- 49 delivered brief remarks regarding their campaigns.

50 4. SEATING OF ALTERNATE COMMITTEEPERSONS

- 51 a. The following Alternate Committeepersons were seated in the
- 52 absence of one or more Committeepersons from their
- 53 respective precinct
- 54 i. Ayman Amar (CR11)
- 55 ii. Steve Almond (CR14)
- 56 iii. Helane Golden (CR14)
- 57 iv. Tom Fuller (CR19)
- 58 v. Sara Riley (CR25)
- 59 vi. Elyse Garlock (CR27)
- 60 vii. Isaac Kurth (MR04)

- 61 viii. Frank Reynolds (MR09)
- 62 ix. Kimberly McDaniel (MR13)
- 63 x. Pamela Agan (TBOU)
- 64 xi. Sharon Gonzalez (TFAI)
- 65 xii. Mary Burke (TFRA)
- 66 xiii. Susan Benderson (TMON2)

67 5. SECRETARY’S REPORT

- 68 a. Approval of minutes
- 69 i. A motion to approve the April 26 2017 Draft Minutes of
- 70 the Linn County Democratic Central Committee was
- 71 moved, seconded, and passed on a voice vote.
- 72 b. Resignations/Nominations
- 73 i. Resignations
- 74 1. The resignation of Matthew Barnhart from CR17
- 75 was accepted by the Central Committee.
- 76 ii. There were no nominations for Linn County Central
- 77 Committee Vacancies
- 78 c. First District Central Committee Nominations
- 79 i. Harvey Ross moved that Tammy Wawro and Devin Kelly
- 80 be confirmed as Alternates to the Iowa First District
- 81 Central Committee. The motion was moved, seconded,
- 82 and passed on a voice vote.

83 6. TREASURER’S REPORT

- 84 a. Approval of monthly report
- 85 i. Treasure Diane Peterson presented the April 2017
- 86 Treasurer’s Report. Ms. Peterson requested a motion to
- 87 approve the report. The motion moved, seconded, and
- 88 carried on a voice vote
- 89 b. The “Pass the Hat” fundraising activity at the June 2017
- 90 meeting raised \$279.40 for the Central Committee.

- 91 c. Audit Results
- 92 i. Chair Nilles reported that an official Report of Audit will be
- 93 forthcoming and is scheduled to be presented at the June
- 94 Central Committee Meeting.
- 95 ii. Audit Committee members were Sam Gray, Sharon
- 96 Gonzalez and Joe McCalmant.

97 7. COLLECTIVE BARGAINING LEGISLATIVE IMPACT: TAMMY WAWRO (IOWA

98 STATE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT)

- 99 a. Tammy spoke about impact of collective bargaining restrictions
- 100 recently enacted into law on public employees and their ability
- 101 to deliver services.
- 102 b. Ms. Wawro took questions after the discussion.

103 8. COMMITTEE UPDATES

104 a. Affirmative Action Committee

- 105 i. No report

106 b. Disability Caucus: Caucus Chair Member Karen Black reporting

- 107 i. Ms. Black reported on the formation of subcommittees
- 108 within Disability Caucus.

109 1. Administrative

110 2. Political Action

111 3. Technology

112 4. Fundraising

- 113 ii. Ms. Black invited individuals interested in getting involved
- 114 with Disability Caucus to contact her.

115 c. Stonewall Caucus: Caucus Chair Harvey Ross reporting

- 116 i. Stonewall Caucus meets monthly on the 2nd Wednesday
- 117 of the month at 6:30 PM in the Market Grille at the Mount
- 118 Vernon Road Hy-Vee.

- 119 ii. Mr. Ross noted that the date of the next First District
- 120 Central Committee meeting on July 8 conflicts with
- 121 PrideFest and therefore Representatives who are also

122 members of Stonewall Caucus will be unable to attend.
123 Mr. Ross requested that 5 Alternate Delegates from Linn
124 County attend the July 8th meeting to ensure a full
125 delegation from Linn County is present and seated.

126 d. Labor Caucus: Chair Tammy Wawro reporting

127 i. Ms. Wawro reported that Labor Caucus is in the process
128 of organizing, and she invited individuals interested in
129 getting involved to contact her.

130 9. NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

131 a. Representative Kristin Running-Marquadt expressed gratitude
132 to the Central Committee for its support during the previous
133 legislative session. She noted that expressions of support and
134 outreach from individual members was especially appreciated,
135 and urged individuals to continue to have conversations with
136 others regarding the personal impact of recent legislation that
137 reduces funding for resources such as medical care.

138 b. Linn County Hall of Fame Oct. 21, 2017

139 i. The venue for the 2017 Hall of Fame dinner will be the
140 Long Branch Hotel in Cedar Rapids.

141 ii. A search for a featured speaker is ongoing.

142 c. A motion to authorize an expenditure of \$75 for the purchase of
143 a table at Cedar Rapids AsianFest was moved, seconded, and
144 passed on a voice vote.

145 i. AsianFest will be Saturday, July 8.

146 ii. Linn County Democrats have had an ongoing presence at
147 this annual festival

148 d. Freedom Festival Parade: July 1, 2017

149 i. Linn County Democratic Central Committee will explore
150 participating in upcoming Freedom Festival Parade.

151 ii. A motion to identify cost of participation in this parade
152 was moved, seconded, and passed on a voice vote.

153 e. Ratification of Alternate Committeeperson Election

- 154 i. A motion to ratify the election procedure and results of the
155 Alternate Committee person election was moved,
156 seconded, and passed on a voice vote.
- 157 f. Monthly Meeting Agenda Discussion
- 158 i. General discussion about ways to improve the monthly
159 agenda was held. Ideas included:
- 160 a. Arranging tables by House District
- 161 b. Supporting the work of nonprofit agencies
162 involved in social justice work
- 163 c. Central Committee Members showing up at
164 city council meetings
- 165 d. Central Committee Member performing
166 activities such as letter writing or preparing
167 mailing for elected official or Democratic
168 candidates during meetings
- 169 e. Maintaining a centralized event calendar
- 170 g. Iowa State Democratic Central Committee member Mike
171 Robinson briefly reported on recent activities of the SCC and
172 upcoming special elections in Iowa legislative districts.
- 173 h. Linn County Supervisors briefly presented updated on current
174 activities:
- 175 i. Modification of Social Host ordinance
- 176 ii. Naming the Linn County Public Health Building in honor
177 of the late Dr. Percy and Lileah Harris
- 178 10. Old Business
- 179 a. No old business was taken up by the Central Committee.
- 180 11. Adjournment
- 181 a. The meeting adjourned at 8:39 PM.