

1 Draft Minutes

2 Linn County Democratic Central Committee

3 March 28, 2018 – 7:00 PM

4
5 OFFICERS PRESENT: Bret Nilles, Valerie Smith, Sam Gray, Andrew Leonard,
6 Sarah Stutler, Laura Geary Bell, Michael McGree

7
8 ACTIONS TAKEN AT THE MARCH 28, 2018, MEETING:

- 9 1. The Draft Minutes of the March 22, 2018, meeting of the Linn County
10 Central Committee was moved, seconded, and carried on a voice vote.
- 11 2. Lori Martins (CR07), Kelli Harrison (MR08), Shawn Caldwell (Alternate, CR
12 22), Noreen Tonkin (MR06), and Diane Kamp (Associate, MR11) were
13 elected to respective offices on the Central Committee.
- 14 3. A motion to publish name and precinct information only on the roster
15 available on the Central Committee website was moved, seconded, and
16 carried on a counted vote
- 17 4. A motion to approve March 2017 Linn County Democratic Central
18 Committee Treasurer's Report was moved, seconded, and carried on a
19 voice vote.

20
21 I. Call to Order

- 22 a. A regular monthly meeting of the Linn County Democratic Central
23 Committee was held on March 28, 2018, at the Hiawatha
24 Community Center in Hiawatha, Iowa. Chair Bret Nilles called the
25 meeting to order at 7:04 PM, and Michael McGree, Recording
26 Secretary, was present. A quorum was present.

27 II. Pledge of Allegiance

- 28 a. Chair Bret Nilles led the Central Committee in a recitation of the
29 Pledge of Allegiance.

- 30 III. Recognition of Guests, Elected Officials, and Candidates
- 31 a. Chair Nilles recognized elected officials in attendance.
- 32 i. Municipal
- 33 1. Kay Hale (City of Ely Councilor), Aime Wichtendahl (City
34 of Hiawwatha Councilor)
- 35 ii. Linn County
- 36 1. Ben Rogers (Supervisor, District 3), Stacey Walker
37 (Supervisor, District. 2), Sharon Gonzalez (Treasurer)
- 38 b. Chair Nilles recognized candidates for elective office or surrogates
39 in attendance.
- 40 i. Governor
- 41 1. Cathy Glasson
- 42 ii. US House of Representatives, IA 1st District
- 43 1. George Ramsey, Courtney Rowe
- 44 iii. Iowa House of Representatives
- 45 1. Molly Donahue (HD 68), Scott Foens (HD 68), Eric Gjerde
46 (HD 67)
- 47 c. Chair Nilles recognized other notable attendees
- 48 i. Amb. Swaki Dandekar, former IA Legislator and former US
49 Director for the Asian Development Bank
- 50 ii. Candidate reported updates on their activities to the Central
51 Committee.
- 52 d. Two students from Linn-Mar High School spoke about student
53 political activism particularly as it relates to gun violence and March
54 for our Lives

55 IV. Secretary's Report

56 a. Seating of Alternates

57 i. The following Alternates were seated:

- 58 1. Eric Gjerde (CR06), Sunny Story (CR14), Andrew
59 Leonard (CR19), Sarah Hinds (MR04), Charles Holecek
60 (MR11), Robert Zahorick (TFRA)

61 b. Approval of Minutes

- 62 i. The Draft Minutes of the March 22, 2018, meeting of the Linn
63 County Central Committee was moved, seconded, and carried
64 on a voice vote.

65 c. Resignations/Nominations

66 i. Resignations

- 67 1. None

68 ii. Nominations

69 1. Committeeperson

- 70 a. Lori Martins (CR07), Kelli Harrison (MR08)

71 2. Alternate Committeeperson

- 72 a. Shawn Caldwell (CR22)

- 73 b. Noreen Tonkin (MR06)

74 3. Associate Committeeperson

- 75 a. Diane Kamp (MR11)

- 76 4. The election of the slate of individuals named above to
77 their respective offices was moved, seconded, and
78 passed on a voice vote.

- 79 d. Website roster
- 80 i. A motion referred by the Executive Board to publish name and
- 81 precinct information only on the public website roster was
- 82 brought before the Central Committee. This was moved and
- 83 seconded. After debate, the motion carried on a counted vote.
- 84 V. Treasurer's Report Andrew Leonard reporting
- 85 a. Approval of monthly report
- 86 i. A motion to approve March 2017 Linn County Democratic
- 87 Central Committee Treasurer's Report was moved, seconded,
- 88 and carried on a voice vote.
- 89 ii. Cash on hand is \$29,632.41, and \$1,336.64 in a CD.
- 90 b. Pass the Hat
- 91 i. Pass the Hat fundraising activity raised approximately \$400 for
- 92 the Central Committee.
- 93 VI. Finance Chair: Financial Secretary Sarah Stutler
- 94 a. Ms. Stutler discussed tentative plans for future fundraising events
- 95 such as trivia nights
- 96 b. Sunny Story spoke about fundraising through the purchase of
- 97 advertising in the Linn County Convention book
- 98 VII. Committee Updates
- 99 a. Affirmative Action: Committee Chair Lindsey Elickson reporting
- 100 i. Mrs. Elickson spoke about her vision for the Affirmative Action
- 101 Committee as conducting outreach to foster a more diverse
- 102 Party.
- 103 b. Disability Caucus: Caucus Chair Catherine Crist Reporting

- 104 i. Ms. Crist reported on the success of efforts to make the Linn
105 County Democratic Convention accessible for all people
106 including those with disabilities.
- 107 ii. Ms. Crist reported that the 2018 Linn County Democrat
108 Convention was the most accessible county convention in the
109 state,

110 c. Labor Caucus: Caucus Member Joe Zahorick

- 111 i. Mr. Zahorick discussed the newly form Labor Caucus and
112 urged interested individuals to come to their meetings for more
113 information
- 114 ii. Next meeting is Thursday 4/12 at 6:30 PM at the IBEW 405 Hall
115 located at 1211 Wiley Blvd in Cedar Rapids. Otherwise Labor
116 Caucus meets at the same place and time on the 3rd Thursday
117 of each month.

118 d. Stonewall Caucus: Caucus Chair Harvey Ross Reporting

- 119 i. Mr. Ross reported that Stonewall Caucus meets on the 2nd
120 Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Starlite Lounge
121 located at 3300 1st Avenue NE in Cedar Rapids.
- 122 ii. Harvey Ross 2nd Wed Starlite 6:30 PM

123 VIII. Convention Review Discussion

- 124 a. This discussion was tabled without objection due to time constraints.

125 IX. 1st District Convention – April 28

- 126 a. Chair Nilles reported on the 1st District Democrats Convention to be
127 held in Linn County on Saturday, April 28.

128

129 X. New Business/Announcements

130 a. IDP 1st District Organizer Kevin Burgess discussed efforts to build
131 the Coordinated Campaign at a local level.

132 b. 2018 Campaign office

133 i. The office located at 2706 1st Avenue NE is one option for a
134 campaign office for Linn County Democrats.

135 c. Next meeting of the Iowa 1st District Central Committee sd4/14 1st
136 district meeting 1-3

137 d. Angie Spink (MR08) discussed whether an endorsement of a
138 candidate by a Party Chair constituted an endorsement by the
139 Central Committee. Chair Nilles clarified that each Member of the
140 Central Committee has the right to endorse the candidate of their
141 choice, and such endorsement does not reflect the sense of the
142 Central Committee.

143 e. Linn County Democrats participation in upcoming parades was
144 discussed.

145 XI. Adjournment

146 a. The meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM.