

1 Draft Minutes

2 Linn County Democratic Central Committee

3 March 28, 2018 – 7:00 PM

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

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9 ACTIONS TAKEN AT THE MARCH 28, 2018, MEETING:

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

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24 I. Call to Order

25 a. A regular monthly meeting of the Linn County
26 Democratic Central Committee was held on March
27 28, 2018, at the Hiawatha Community Center in
28 Hiawatha, Iowa. Chair Bret Nilles called the meeting
29 to order at 7:04 PM, and Michael McGree, Recording
30 Secretary, was present. A quorum was present.

31 II. Pledge of Allegiance

32 a. Chair Bret Nilles led the Central Committee in a
33 recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

34 III. Recognition of Guests, Elected Officials, and Candidates

35 a. Chair Nilles recognized elected officials in
36 attendance.

37 i. Municipal

38 1. Kay Hale (City of Ely Councilor), Aime
39 Wichtendahl (City of Hiawwatha Councilor)

40 ii. Linn County

41 1. Ben Rogers (Supervisor, District 3), Stacey
42 Walker (Supervisor, District. 2), Sharon
43 Gonzalez (Treasurer)

44 b. Chair Nilles recognized candidates for elective office
45 or surrogates in attendance.

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i. Governor

1. Cathy Glasson

ii. US House of Representatives, IA 1st District

1. George Ramsey, Courtney Rowe

iii. Iowa House of Representatives

1. Molly Donahue (HD 68), Scott Foens (HD 68), Eric Gjerde (HD 67)

c. Chair Nilles recognized other notable attendees

i. Amb. Swaki Dandekar, former IA Legislator and former US Director for the Asian Development Bank

ii. Candidate reported updates on their activities to the Central Committee.

d. Two students from Linn-Mar High School spoke about student political activism particularly as it relates to gun violence and March for our Lives

IV. Secretary's Report

a. Seating of Alternates

i. The following Alternates were seated:

65 1. Eric Gjerde (CR06), Sunny Story (CR14),
66 Andrew Leonard (CR19), Sarah Hinds
67 (MR04), Charles Holecek (MR11), Robert
68 Zahorick (TFRA)

69 b. Approval of Minutes

70 i. The Draft Minutes of the March 22, 2018,
71 meeting of the Linn County Central Committee
72 was moved, seconded, and carried on a voice
73 vote.

74 c. Resignations/Nominations

75 i. Resignations

76 1. None

77 ii. Nominations

78 1. Committeeperson

79 a. Lori Martins (CR07), Kelli Harrison
80 (MR08)

81 2. Alternate Committeeperson

82 a. Shawn Caldwell (CR22)

83 b. Noreen Tonkin (MR06)

84 3. Associate Committeeperson

85 a. Diane Kamp (MR11)

86 4. The election of the slate of individuals
87 named above to their respective offices was
88 moved, seconded, and passed on a voice
89 vote.

90 d. Website roster

91 i. A motion referred by the Executive Board to
92 publish name and precinct information only on
93 the public website roster was brought before the
94 Central Committee. This was moved and
95 seconded. After debate, the motion carried on a
96 counted vote.

97 V. Treasurer's Report Andrew Leonard reporting

98 a. Approval of monthly report

99 i. A motion to approve March 2017 Linn County
100 Democratic Central Committee Treasurer's
101 Report was moved, seconded, and carried on a
102 voice vote.

103 ii. Cash on hand is \$29,632.41, and \$1,336.64 in a
104 CD.

- 105 b. Pass the Hat
- 106 i. Pass the Hat fundraising activity raised
- 107 approximately \$400 for the Central Committee.

108 VI. Finance Chair: Financial Secretary Sarah Stutler

- 109 a. Ms. Stutler discussed tentative plans for future
- 110 fundraising events such as trivia nights
- 111 b. Sunny Story spoke about fundraising through the
- 112 purchase of advertising in the Linn County
- 113 Convention book

114 VII. Committee Updates

- 115 a. Affirmative Action: Committee Chair Lindsey
- 116 Elickson reporting
- 117 i. Mrs. Elickson spoke about her vision for the
- 118 Affirmative Action Committee as conducting
- 119 outreach to foster a more diverse Party.
- 120 b. Disability Caucus: Caucus Chair Catherine Crist
- 121 Reporting
- 122 i. Ms. Crist reported on the success of efforts to
- 123 make the Linn County Democratic Convention

124 accessible for all people including those with
125 disabilities.

126 ii. Ms. Crist reported that the 2018 Linn County
127 Democrat Convention was the most accessible
128 county convention in the state,

129 c. Labor Caucus: Caucus Member Joe Zahorick

130 i. Mr. Zahorick discussed the newly form Labor
131 Caucus and urged interested individuals to come
132 to their meetings for more information

133 ii. Next meeting is Thursday 4/12 at 6:30 PM at the
134 IBEW 405 Hall located at 1211 Wiley Blvd in
135 Cedar Rapids. Otherwise Labor Caucus meets
136 at the same place and time on the 3rd Thursday
137 of each month.

138 d. Stonewall Caucus: Caucus Chair Harvey Ross
139 Reporting

140 i. Mr. Ross reported that Stonewall Caucus meets
141 on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM
142 at the Starlite Lounge located at 3300 1st Avenue
143 NE in Cedar Rapids.

144 ii. Harvey Ross 2nd Wed Starlite 6:30 PM

145 VIII. Convention Review Discussion

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

148 IX. 1st District Convention – April 28

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

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153 X. New Business/Announcements

154 a. IDP 1st District Organizer Kevin Burgess discussed
155 efforts to build the Coordinated Campaign at a local
156 level.

157 b. 2018 Campaign office

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

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

163 d. Angie Spink (MR08) discussed whether an
164 endorsement of a candidate by a Party Chair
165 constituted an endorsement by the Central
166 Committee. Chair Nilles clarified that each Member
167 of the Central Committee has the right to endorse the
168 candidate of their choice, and such endorsement
169 does not reflect the sense of the Central Committee.

170 e. Linn County Democrats participation in upcoming
171 parades was discussed.

172 XI. Adjournment

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

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