

LINN COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE

28 SEPTEMBER 2016

Hiawatha Community Center, 101 Emmons Street, Hiawatha IA

Minutes

1. **Pre-meeting events: Persons with Disabilities Caucus Listening Post: Catherine Crist, Chairperson**
  - **Guest Speakers Dias: State Senator Liz Mathis, State Representatives Art Staed, Kirsten Running-Marquardt, and Liz Bennett, Linn County Supervisors Ben Rogers and Brent Oleson, Linn County Sheriff Brian Gardner, and City Councilpersons Aime Wichtendahl (Hiawatha) and Kay Hale (Ely). Supervisor Candidate in District 2 Stacy Walker was also a guest speaker.**
  - **Also in attendance: Linn County Democratic Central Committee Officers: Nilles, Robinson, Sterzenbach, Story, and Chairperson of the Affirmative Action Committee Joy Mincey Powell.**
2. **LCDCC Meeting: Called to Order by Chairman Nilles at 7:04 pm: Officers in attendance. Chairman Bret Nilles, First Vice Chairman Mike Robinson, Second Vice Chairman Norm Sterzenbach, Treasurer Diane Peterson and Financial Chairperson Sunny Story. Absent were Secretary Angie Spink and Parliamentarian Roy Porterfield. (Mike Robinson was appointed to document the minutes of the meeting.)**
3. **The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Chairman Nilles acknowledged all guests and elected officials present.**
4. **Early Activity by the body: A motion and second were submitted that the LCDCC spend \$25.00 on a gift for Secretary Spink, who was recovering in the hospital. No discussion was offered by the body, and the motion and the second carried unanimously. (M/S/C)**
5. **Campaign Updates were provided by: Candidates: Candidate for US Congress Monica Vernon, State Representatives Staed, Marquardt and Bennett, Supervisor Rogers, Sheriff Gardner and Supervisor Candidate Walker; Candidate Surrogates: For State Senate Candidate Scott Peterson, Myrt Bowers; for State Representative Candidates Molly Donahue, Kathy Ulrick, and for Dick Whitehead, Mike Robinson. (Senator Mathis and Supervisor Oleson had other obligations following the Listening Post.)**
6. **Additional Guest Speakers: Affirmative Action Committee Chairperson Joy Mincey Powell thanked the body for volunteers who assisted at Festival Latino, as did Mr. Richardo Campos. Ms. Sylvia Yacoub of the IDP Coordinated Campaign gave updates on the Iowa campaign efforts and the tentative calendar of events for the remaining days in the election cycle. Deputy Auditor Stacy Law informed the body that early voting would commence on Sept. 29, but would be held at the Linn County Community Services Building at 1240 26<sup>th</sup> Ave, Cedar Rapids on Sept 29 and 30, and then would return to the Jean Oxley Building on Monday, October 3 and remain at that location through the end of early voting in November. Mr Tom Peffer gave position speech on the Linn County Water and Land Legacy Bond on the ballot this**

year. Mr. Pepper favors the bond. Ms. Cristina Kinsella and Mr. Daniel Zena representing the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) gave a presentation on knowing one's voting rights.

**7. Secretary's Report:**

- There were no reports of resignations this month
- **Nominations to Fill Vacancies:** In Precinct Marion 04, a vacancy existed in one of the positions (out of two) prior to the meeting being called to order. The other position was occupied, but by a member that had not been active since the time of the Iowa Caucuses. The body submitted a motion and a second to remove member Ron Tines of Marion 04. No discussion was offered, and the member was removed from the rolls. M/S/C. The body then voted to suspend the rules with a unanimous vote that permitted the LCDCC to fill the same position on the same night that it became available. M/S/C. The body then heard nominations for and speeches from Ms. Maria Shebetka and Ms. Sarah Hinds of Marion 04. The body unanimously elected these same women to both vacancies in Marion 04.

**8. Treasurer's Report;**

- Received approval by the body without discussion or objection. M/S/Approval
- Pass the Hat free will donations were \$143.00 for the evening.
- The Treasurer reported that there were surplus funds, \$5,000.00, available for possible dispersal among candidates. The motion and second were made for candidates Mathis, Peterson, Donahue, Whitehead and Mark Seidl to receive \$1,000.00 each. After a brief discussion period, the vote was called. M/S/C. (non-unanimous majority)
- An additional motion and second were made to allow for Execute Committee (E-Board) to have the authority to dispense additional funds to candidates as they deemed necessary without the need to call special meeting to do so. M/S/C.

**9. Old Business:** No old business was reviewed at this meeting.

**10. New Business:** The flood of 2016 was discussed as to its impact on voters and voter precincts.

**11. Adjourn:** M/S/C. 9:10 pm.