



## *24th Legislative District Republican Committee*

### **24<sup>th</sup> GOP Organizational Meeting, March 17, 2019**

Location: Brinnon Community Center, Jefferson County

Committee Members Attending: Jill Warne, Lisa Zaborac, Cathy Colley, Sue Forde, Bob Edmunds, Jon Cooke, Jodi Wilke – **Quorum established.**

Also Attending: Danille Turissini, Chair; Jim McEntire, Emeritus Chair; Justin Matheson and son, Senate Republican Campaign Committee (SRCC); Shane Zaborac, Grays Harbor Republican Party; Kevin Carns, House Organization Committee (HROC)

### **3:30pm – Called to order by Chair**

Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation by Jon Cooke

Appointment of temporary secretary:

- Jodi Wilke as temporary secretary

Treasurer:

- Mail received in P.O. Box, in Hoquiam
- Discussion about Treasurer duties and PDC compliance.
- No one was in a position to accept the Treasurer position. Outgoing Treasurer Lisa Zaborac agreed to continue for now.
- Lisa Zaborac was nominated by Sue Ford, seconded by Cathy Colley, all present voted “Aye”.

Secretary:

- Needed to help organize the meetings for LD 24 GOP, help follow up on emails.
- Chair requested more efficient responses to email communications.
- Chair suggested a rotating secretary position where the host county would provide a secretary for that meeting.
- Chair will be responsible for reviewing and distributing minutes, secretary will forward meeting notes to chair following the meetings.
- Bob Edmunds volunteered to record the meetings and forward notes to Chair.

Vice chair:

- Discussion about duties included the need to have a Vice Chair, so there is a person in line to step in and maintain a continuum should the Chair become incapacitated in some way or is unavailable due to other activities (such as campaign requirements, family obligations).
- Jodi Wilke was nominated as Vice Chair by Cathy Colley and seconded by Sue Ford.
- Discussion regarding the need to stay abreast of the group’s agenda.
- All present voted “Aye”.

Website discussion:

- Bob Edmunds has volunteered to help with website – keep dated matters current, update content as needed, and post new materials as provided.
- Need to get committee member bios and pictures for website – send to Bob Edmunds.
- Members are encouraged to author blog posts on issues they are passionate about.

- Recruit 24<sup>th</sup> LD “Reporters” to author articles about issues that are important to our district. These will also be published on our website.
- SRCC has suggested issues to consider, and a weekly blog we can also link to.
- Need to build online payment system, Bob and Justin Matheson to discuss independently. (Discussion below.)
- GOAL – Website to go live before the end of March.

#### Fundraising:

- The 24<sup>th</sup> GOP is not interested in competing with the local county parties for fundraising dollars.
- Chair proposed a plan to cover operating costs, without compromising funds for county committees: 20 people from each county donate \$5 per month, which would effectively raise/maintain \$3600 operating funds.
- Discussion regarding the mechanics of collecting these donations:
  - Paypal - with treasurer having access to PayPal.
  - Need to also have a web form to collect PDC info – Sue knows how to set up.
  - Other systems discussed – stripe, merchant banking, etc.
  - Justin Matheson also has some experience we can learn from, will connect with Bob at a later date.
  - Jim McEntire suggested we encourage individuals to set up monthly bill pay through their own banks to make payments.

#### Other fundraising ideas:

- MAGA or 24<sup>th</sup> LD hats - \$20.20 monthly commitment gets a free hat of choice. Bob will provide ordering information for hats at a good price
- Cathy Colley suggests a flyer to hand out, and a web page to promote the program.

#### Justin Matheson from the Senate Republican Campaign Committee (SRCC):

Narrative – SRCC is planning to invest resources in the 24<sup>th</sup> Legislative District.

Handout provided showing polling or actual votes on issues, which indicates there is a disconnect between how we vote on issues and how we elect candidates. We need to show that Republican ideas are closer to what the people support and how the Democrat representatives are not supporting and voting for these ideas, in Olympia.

SRCC will soon post a fuel calculator showing the effect of all the new fuel taxes and their effect on gas prices. Coming soon, increases of up to \$0.49 per gallon State taxes and \$1.10 per gallon Federal taxes. This includes the Low Carbon Fuel Standard costs. They are also planning to run ads on other critical issues, such as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment, Sex Ed for kindergarteners, etc. Issues that concern voters generally increase the number of sign ups for email newsletters. Justin asked the 24<sup>th</sup> GOP to include opt-in opportunity for our email recipients to sign up for the SRCC newsletter at SRCC.org.

#### Kevin Carns from the House Republican Organization Committee (HROC) called into the meeting.

Narrative: Data modeling was done state-wide and district rankings done, with the goal of ID’ing people based on issues. Our district demographics show increasing Republican-issue support.

Planning to conduct profile surveys to determine the candidate recruitment that will be most effective – we typically draw on former or current elected officials, but an “outsider” may be needed. Kevin and Justin agreed to put together a report on the 24<sup>th</sup> LD issues that people care about in order to help us identify swing voters.

Continuation of meeting:

Draft business card suggested.

- Need to agree on tag line. Suggested – Unified for Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness.
- If anybody wants to suggest another idea, please email.
- Jodi suggested putting the web address on top and the PO Box address on bottom.
- Sue moved to accept the card design, Jodi seconded.
- All present voted “Aye”.

Database report – Limited time to discuss.

- Jodi will circulate the current description documents presented to the parties.
- Regarding additional fundraising ideas, Bob Edmunds suggested subscriptions to Life Flight emergency helicopter service as a fundraising idea. More info needed.

Coalitions - Groups may be headed by committee members or by other volunteers united around a common interest. Members are encouraged to lead or support these in each county since these groups have a relatively permanent and continuous life cycle not connected to the political campaign cycle.

- Cathy Colley – Education issues.
- There may be others in future, had to move on.

Future meetings

- Need to set future dates, which different counties can suggest dates around local events.
- Looking at next meeting no sooner than June.

Additional comments:

- Shane suggests we need to promote the Republican Party and our philosophy. The media has been defining what we are about (wrongly) and we need to be telling the story, not just promoting the candidates.
- Chair reiterated that the need for committee members to respond more quickly to emails.
- We need to name names, rather than groups, when highlighting the acts and statements of an offence, such as bad votes, things that were said, etc.
- Finally, we need a contribution stream to get going. Please work hard to find donors.

**6pm – Meeting adjourned.**

Minutes approved by Chair, April 2, 2019