

**Mason County Republican Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**January 7, 2025**

**Call to Order** – 6:40 pm.

**Invocation** – Pastor Brian Ford

**Pledge** – Sheriff Kim Cole

**Roll Call by Tina Shirshun – Present:** Prosecutor Beth Hand, Sheriff Kim Cole, County Clerk Cheryl Kelly, Co Com Lewis Squires, Kirk Chavalia, Verna Chavalia, Bill Chye, Pastor Brian Ford, Sheila Genter, Duane Hobart, Cynthia Johnson, Jason Kirkpatrick, Shaun Shoemate, Nicole Norton, Charles Robinson, Rebecca Robinson, Tina Shirshun.

**Excused Absences:** Margaret Greiner, Tom Johnson, Cindy Muzzo.

**Guests:** Aldon Maleckas, Phil Yarbrough, Linda Johnson, Lois London, Ryan Howe, Renee Howe, Peggy Hastings, Joe Hastings, Randy Williams, Brittany Carsten, Ryan Roberts, Loretta Anderson, Cathy Ingraham, Carole Johnson, Miguel Pilar, Carolyn Cater, Elaine Cater, Emma from Congressman Moolenaar’s office.

**Oath of Office for Committee Members -**

County Clerk Cheryl Kelly had all Committee Members rise and raise right hands as she administered their Oath of Office.

**Approval of the November 12, 2024 Minutes –**

**\*Motion** made by Verna Chavalia to approve the November 12, 2024 Meeting Minutes. Seconded by Duane Hobart. No discussion. Motion carried.

**Treasury Report** – Sheila Genter provided financial statements for both November and December of the State and Admin accounts to committee members in the Treasurer’s absence. Sheila reported in detail the income and expenses for each month, November and December, along with the account balances.

**\*Motion** made by Bill Chye to approve the Financial Report. Seconded by Jason Kirkpatrick. No discussion. Motion carried.

**Speaker Miguel Pilar –**

Miguel Pilar introduced himself and reviewed many areas he has been and is currently active in and is now a candidate running for the next MIGOP Youth Vice-Chair. Miguel stated that we need a Youth Vice-Chair that represents the entire state and not just one side of the state and after working with Turning Point Action and Garrett Soldano, he’s had the privilege and honor to travel the entire state, knock on thousands of doors and make thousands of phone calls to help President Trump get elected. Miguel also shared on his off and individual time he has helped other candidates throughout the state of Michigan. Miguel entertained questions from committee and supporting members and shared his contact info 616-755-2917, [Miguel.Pilar@TPAction.com](mailto:Miguel.Pilar@TPAction.com), [miguelpilarmichigan@gmail.com](mailto:miguelpilarmichigan@gmail.com) and his website at [miguelapilar.com](http://miguelapilar.com).

**Official Business - Reports from Committee Members –**

**Unfinished Business:**

1) Sheila reported the Official Election Results for all precincts and townships in Mason County.

### **New Business:**

- 1) Sheila spoke on the purpose of the Call to County Convention which will be held at Hamlin Town Hall on Thursday, January 30, 2025, at 7:00 pm. Sheila explained what was happening on Friday night at the District Caucus and then what was happening on Saturday at the State Convention.
- 2) The District Caucus/State Convention will be held on February 21-22 at the Huntington Place in Detroit, Michigan.
- 3) Charlie Robinson explained the importance of the 2<sup>nd</sup> District Delegates and explained more detail on what happens at the District Caucus on Friday night. Then good discussion opened with questions and answers on both District Caucus and State Convention.
- 4) The MIGOP Chair candidates to date are MeShawn Maddock, Jim Runestad (named Bernadette Smith as his Co-Chair), Joe Cella and Scott Greenlee.
- 5) An Annual Report for 2024 was given.
- 6) The 2025 Budget will be prepared for the February meeting. Some good discussion on Bus Trip to Lansing.

### **Reports from Federal and State Elected Officials –**

- Emma from Congressman John Moolenaar's office introduced herself and then reported that John Moolenaar will be on the Select Committee of the Chinese Communist Party again and looking forward to working with the Trump Administration. Emma also reported on legislation passed such as the Bill to stop deadly TB outbreaks, the Bill to honor American Hero Duane Dewey and the Laken Riley Act.
- Sheila read report from Senator Jon Bumstead.
- Sheila read report from Representative Curt VanderWall.
- Charlie read report from Representative Joe Fox.

### **Reports from County Elected Officials and D-2 Member –**

- Sheila read a report from Janet Anderson, Chair of the Mason County Board of Commissioners.
- Co Com Lewis Squires shared additional information on the land reported on in Janet Anderson's report. Lewis shared an update on how the security at the courthouse is working and that he has also requested to stay on the Safety Committee. Lewis talked some on the solar issue and how some townships are wanting to get out of the County Zoning and do things themselves. Lewis confirmed next meeting is January 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am at the Airport. Lewis then entertained questions from committee members.
- Prosecuting Attorney Beth Hand reported she has hired a Chief Assistant Prosecutor on January 2<sup>nd</sup> and reviewed many of his accomplishments. Beth also shared they lost one office staff personnel and she is in the process of interviewing for that full-time position and will also be attending several job fairs around Detroit recruiting for another Assistant Prosecutor for Mason County.
- Sheriff Kim Cole reported he had the honor to be the keynote speaker at the new Sheriff School Banquet in Lansing a few weeks back. Kim also reviewed many MSA Legislative Committee issues and then spoke on the county wide swearing in of all the deputies at the Mason County Reform Church and the negotiations happening to provide police services in Amber Twp for the summer months. Kim shared he will be attending the National Sheriff's Conference in Washington DC at the end of the month.
- Co Clerk Cheryl Kelly reported they still have 4 audits on the Election work to be completed by the end of January, just waiting on the State to give us who the Jurisdictions are. Nine days of early voting went very well this year.
- Rebecca Robinson shared that a Meet & Greet is planned for Friday night probably around 5:00ish by D2 at the District Caucus and will announce location when confirmed.

### **Announcements –**

-Sheila announced the following:

-The County Convention is January 30<sup>th</sup> at Hamlin Town Hall at 7:00pm.

-The D2 Caucus is February 21<sup>st</sup> at the Huntington Place in Detroit, MI. Registration opens at 5:00pm and the Caucus starts at 7:00pm.

-The State Convention is February 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Huntington Place in Detroit, MI. Registration opens at 7:00am and the Convention Call to Order is at 9:00am.

-Rebecca announced the Right to Life Memorial Candlelight Service for the unborn is on January 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm at the Radiant Church. There is also a March to the Courthouse where we pray. Flyers are available.

**Public Comments** – Aldon Maleckas spoke on some interesting information he provided ranging from some history of the United States, the Constitution, the District of Columbia, the Corporation of the United States and citizenship; Randy Williams commented on the Inflation Reduction Act, an article from Epoch Times on Wind Energy and Natural Gas, and some highlights from Kash Patel’s book “Government Gangsters;” Ryan Roberts commented on gangsters in government and shared his opinion on some MIGOP candidates; Miguel Pilar shared he is not bought and paid by anyone😊; Carolyn Cater commented on getting info on candidates for MIGOP.

### **Adjournment –**

**\*Motion** made by Nicole Norton to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Cynthia Johnson. No discussion. Motion carried.

Next meeting date is February 4, 2025, 6:30 pm, Hamlin Town Hall.

Submitted by Tina Shirshun