# Mason County Republican Executive Committee Meeting Minutes September 2, 2025

Call to Order – 6:30pm Invocation – Pastor Brian Ford Pledge – Charlie Robinson

**Roll Call by Tina Shirshun – Present:** State Rep Joe Fox, Co Prosecutor Beth Hand, Co Sheriff Kim Cole, Bill Chye, Pastor Brian Ford, Sheila Genter, Margaret Greiner, Cynthia Johnson, Tom Johnson, Jason Kirkpatrick, Cindy Muzzo, Charles Robinson, Rebecca Robinson, Tina Shirshun.

**Excused Absences:** Kirk Chavalia, Verna Chavalia, Duane Hobart, and Nicole Norton.

<u>Guests:</u> Peggy Hastings, Joe Hastings, Carole Johnson, Daniel Jensen, Loretta Anderson, Lyla McClelland, Cathy Ingraham, Brittany Carsten, Emmah Coker, Lance Elliott Griffin, Aldon Maleckas, Randy Williams, Carolyn Carter.

## Approval of the July 1, 2025 Meeting Minutes -

\*Motion made by Pastor Ford to approve the July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, meeting minutes. Seconded by Cynthia Johnson. No discussion. Motion carried.

**Financial Report** – Margaret Greiner reported the State acct 7/1 balance followed by 2 expenses occurring in July and August, then confirming EOM balance for 8/31. Margaret reported the Admin acct 7/1 balance followed by income and expenses occurring in July and August, then confirming EOM balance for 8/31.

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

# Official Business – Executive Committee Reports from Committee Members – Unfinished Business:

- <u>1)</u> Sheila reported on Adopt-a-Highway litter pick-up for 8/14 that 9 people participated and picked up 12 bags of trash. Charlie then reported another Adopt-a-Highway clean-up is coming up this September 20<sup>th</sup> through the 28<sup>th</sup>. After some discussion on dates, Sheila advised will send email out to everyone so availability for dates and timeframe can be checked.
- 2) Sheila reported on fair booth donations (per financial report) for signs (\$6 per sign/2 for \$10).

#### **New Business:**

- <u>1)</u> Sheila reported on the resignation of EC member Shaun Shoemate. Charlie Robinson nominated Joe Hastings and Joe accepted nomination. Sheila inquired any other nominations, no other nominations. Joe introduced himself and shared experiences.
- \*Motion made by Cynthia Johnson to re-nominate and elect Joe Hastings to the Executive Committee. Seconded by Sheriff Kim Cole. No discussion. Motion carried. Welcome aboard Joe!
- 2) Sheila reviewed donation amounts on yard signs, 1 for \$6 and 2 for \$10.
- <u>3)</u> Sheila reported on Fall Picnic thanking all our volunteers and being a bump/boost for the upcoming year. Discussion opened on available dates and locations for September. Sheila confirmed Hamlin Town Hall is available for October 5<sup>th</sup>. It could be a potluck between the hours of 1:00–4:00pm. It is \$100 to rent the hall and \$75 deposit. The \$75 deposit would be refunded to the GOP.

- \*Motion made by Rebecca Robinson to approve the Annual Fall Picnic be a potluck at the Hamlin Town Hall on October 5<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-4:00pm. Seconded by Tom Johnson. Some discussion. Chair put motion to the floor. Motion carried.
- <u>4)</u> Sheila reported on Ranked Choice Voting and need to get the word out and get signatures for our petition. Tom will get palm cards printed off and have them for our picnic. Some discussion. Sheila presented a Resolution to Oppose Ranked-Choice Voting from the MCREC and looking for a motion to proceed with Resolution.
- \*Motion made by Charlie Robinson to approve the adopted Resolution to Oppose Ranked-Choice Voting. Seconded by Cynthia Johnson. No discussion. Motion carried.
- <u>5)</u> Sheila reported the date for the November MCREC meeting is the 11<sup>th</sup> due to the Special Election on the 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Guest Speaker** – Sheila introduced **Lance Elliott Griffin** with **"10X Votes"** and many of his accomplishments. Lance spoke on the research done by **10X Votes** on how many Republicans in Michigan are not voting consistently. Lance also went over data from Mason County and some other counties in Michigan and advised everyone to go and sign up at <a href="www.10XVotes.com">www.10XVotes.com</a>. Lance explained how to find people and encourage them to vote and to get on the permanent absentee voter file. Lance then entertained questions which led to good discussion.

### Reports from Federal & State Elected Officials -

- Emmah Coker from Moolenaar's team reported John Moolenaar had a busy summer. He headed back to DC today and they will focus on the FI-26 Budget. He will be attending the MIGOP Conference in Mackinaw and is hosting an event on Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> at the Conference. Rebecca added he is the speaker at the Right To Life event in Owosso. Emmah then entertained questions.
- Representative Joe Fox provided booklets and passed out a newsletter for everyone and also advised to visit his website at <a href="www.RepJosephFox.com">www.RepJosephFox.com</a> to get the newsletter on a regular basis. Joe talked about several bills he's working on and the four committees he's on, sharing that the Election Integrity Committee is the most fun (visit State House Website and look at video archives). Joe also went over on printout "Value for MI Dollars Budget" he provided with 10 key highlights from the House Republican budget. Joe also announced he will be running for the Senate in the 33<sup>rd</sup> District in 2026. Joe then entertained questions.

### Reports from County Elected Officials & D-2 Member -

- D-2 Member Brittany Carsten talked about the "Citizen Only Petition", a petition which if enough signatures are obtained, would bring to the ballot a vote to require proof of citizenship to vote among other things. Good discussion on Do's and Don'ts when obtaining signatures.
- Prosecutor Beth Hand reported the Chief Assistant that started in June is doing very well and also what's happening to get rid of the backlog in the felony docket. Beth is still working on getting additional help approved with the Board of Commissioners, going over several examples why the request is important. Beth shared some other challenges she's dealing with in hiring, overtime, etc.
- Sheriff Kim Cole shared some concerns with his dept involving overtime, other County Board issues and school safety funding. Kim talked about his upcoming trip to McAllen, Texas for border security. Kim also shared they have a full staff and have been very busy including arresting a lot of people on serious and dangerous offenses. Kim also spoke some on retiring in the future and an upcoming announcement soon?

#### Announcements -

- -9/2 at 8:00pm, Zoom, Topic: D2 Activist by Bree Moeggenberg. Sheila will forward the Zoom meeting log-in information to anyone that wants to join.
- -Rollback at the Ross's, September 13<sup>th</sup>, starts at 3:00pm, Circle R Ranch, 1652 Kingston Rd, Ionia, \$10.00. Ryan Kelly will be the featured speaker. Tickets go to D2CREW.ORG
- -November 6<sup>th</sup> bus trip to the Capitol for March for Life.
- -Right to Life is hosting a Pastor Event on November 13<sup>th</sup> at Cornerstone Church.

**Public Comments** – Aldon Maleckas provided a printout for everyone and spoke at the County Board of Commissioners meeting and attached a letter he wrote to them June of 2025; Randy Williams commented on climate change, solar panels, power commands and rare earths; Lyla McClelland commented on what used to be farmlands and see what they built with the money received, so disheartening, and also mentioned meeting tomorrow night looking for public comments at 6:00pm at City Hall; Daniel Jensen commented on info sent in his emails; Cathy Ingraham commented on important things that need to be correct on petitions; Lance Elliott Griffin spoke again on **10X Votes** and thanked everyone for having him.

## Adjournment -

\*Motion made by Charlie Robinson to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Pastor Ford. No discussion. Motion carried.

Submitted by,

Tina Shirshun
MCREC Secretary

Next meeting will be held on October 7, 2025, at 6:30pm at Hamlin Town Hall.