

Mason County Republican Executive Committee Minutes
June 9, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

Invocation – Wayne Kelly

Pledge – Jim Bachelder

Roll Call – Tina Shirshun Present: Senator Curt VanderWall, Clerk Cheryl Kelly, Treasurer Andrew Kmetz IV, Susan Boes, Gary Castonia, Ron Bacon, Jim Bachelder, Dick Boes, Sheila Genter, Wayne Kelly, John Kreinbrink, Lyla McClelland, Cindy Muzzo, Ed Bear Schuitema, Tina Shirshun, Diane VanderWall.

Excused Absences: Sheriff Kim Cole, Janet Anderson, John Beckett, Tim Muldoon, Heather VanderVest, Derrek Wilson, and Cynthia Johnson.

Guests: Carmen and Pete Stehouwer, Jake Davenport, Charlie and Rebecca Robinson, Charles J. Ritchard, Verna and Kirk Chavalia, Carol Johnson, Brenda Freeman, Ryan E. Roberts, Margaret Greiner.

Approval of the May meeting minutes –

***Motion** made by Wayne Kelly to approve minutes from the May 12, 2022 meeting. Jim Bachelder seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report - John Kreinbrink reported on Profit & Loss Budget vs Actual, Expense Detail, and Balance Sheet. No questions on report.

***Motion** made by Jim Bachelder to approve Treasurer’s report. Andrew Kmetz seconded. Motion carried.

Reports from State Elected Officials

Senator Curt VanderWall reported on updates from Lansing. “We passed the budgets out of the House and Senate.” In the Senate budget there is a very sizeable tax cut, about 2 billion dollars to the citizens of the state. Still has to go to Governor. Bill packages to be aware of, one is the Child Care package passed by the House and just passed the Senate and it’s going to the Governor. Representative O’Malley was a big part of that. Foster Care package coming with clear standards and some oversight in there. I will be working on a Bill on Kinship (grandparents)

but it won't come out till next year. The state runs the Kinship and if the grandparents adopt the child, it doesn't let them go into the system and therefore, they get zero assistance. We did pass a gas tax holiday for the summer. The Governor's not going to approve that but it sets the stage for really doing true gas tax reform. We are one of the very few states that have sales tax on gas. We need to restructure our gas tax. Another bill came through for 17 year olds to be able to work at restaurants and serve tables and deliver the alcohol and right now they can't, but 15 year olds can clear tables. Telepsych package of bills came through today and we're hoping to get that passed. Next week for folks who have guardianship when it comes to elders, right now state of Michigan has no rules on that. So there's going to be 2 bills on this and Senator Johnson has been working tirelessly on this package. Any questions? A few questions came regarding gas tax, lottery money used for schools, and guardianship. Further discussion continued with Senator VanderWall following th meeting

Reports from County Elected Officials – none.

Reports from Committee Members

Unfinished Business:

1) Sheila reported on Headquarters at 107 S. Loomis St. Jim Carr owns the building. \$500 per month rent includes utilities, air conditioning and restroom. Rental contract is from June 9th to November 9th.

***Motion** made by Susan Boes to accept the contract for Headquarters at 107 S. Loomis St. for 5 months. Jim Bachelder seconded. Motion carried.

2) Sheila reported \$750 scholarship winners were Sydney Gage from MCE and Andrew Quinn from MCC. They were presented with their checks on 5/24 at their awards assemblies. Andrew questioned how many applications for scholarships, Sheila reported 11 total.

3) Lyla proposed that we have 2 meet & greets, Districts and Commissioners at 1st one and Congressional and Senate at 2nd one. Location to be possibly at the Resource Center. Susan Boes suggested governor candidates should be invited.

***Motion** made by Cindy Muzzo for 2 Meet and Greets with a budget of \$150 per each. Andrew Kmetz seconded. All in favor with one opposed by Ed Bear Schuitema. Motioned carried.

New Business:

1) Sheila read James Dodson's resignation from Executive Committee, effective immediately, due to his busy schedule over the summer months. Sheila advised that we have one opening on the Executive Committee as a result of his resignation. Cindy Muzzo nominated Verna Chavalía to fill position, Susan Boes seconded that. Verna accepted the nomination. Sheila asked if there were any other nominations? No other nominations, therefore, nominations were closed.

***Motion** made by Susan Boes to elect Verna Chavalía to Executive Committee. Seconded by Jim Bachelder. Motion carried.

2) Sheila requested approval to purchase items for the Headquarters (Republican pins, pens, bags, candy). Also discussion on purchasing t-shirts. Discussion on requesting donations for items (\$2 for pins, \$5 for hats).

***Motion** made by Susan Boes for approval of items such as pins, pens, bags, candy, and possibly t-shirts, staying within a \$200-\$300 budget for both fair and Headquarters. Jim Bachelder seconded. Motion carried.

3) John Kreinbrink reported Chamber of Commerce renewal dues are coming up and started discussion on pros for renewing dues. Along with using the facility as space for literature and advertising, The Chamber will promote any events that we schedule by making flyers, posting on their fbpost and website. Dues average approximately \$12 per month.

***Motion** made by Wayne Kelly to approve renewal dues for Chamber of Commerce. Andrew Kmetz seconded. Motion carried.

4) John Kreinbrink reviewed fee of \$28.16 for parade. Need volunteers to decorate and also people to walk behind float.

***Motion** made by Diane VanderWall to approve fee of \$28.16 for parade. Seconded by Jim Bachelder. Motion carried.

5) John Krienbrink reported Highway Clean-up coming up the week of July 16-24. We have date set for July 18th. Right to Life has event scheduled July 19th so the rain date is set for July 20. Meet at the PM Township parking lot at 6:00pm.

Announcements

Sheila announced a Primary Election Candidate Forum will be held on Thursday, July 21st, from 7:00pm to 8:30pm at the Rotary Park, 100 N. Lewis St, Ludington. Meet the candidates who are challenged on the August 2nd Primary Election Ballot.

The event is sponsored by the Ludington and Scottville Area Chamber of Commerce and the Ludington Daily News.

Public Comments

Brenda Freeman introduced herself from Hamlin Township. Kirk Chavalia introduced himself, wants to get more involved in what's going on. Pete and Carmen Stehouwer introduced themselves from Walhalla. Carole Johnson introduced herself. Jake Davenport from Moolenaar's team, he has yard signs, and also will stay after for any questions. Wayne Gort introduced himself. Elaine and Caroline Cater introduced themselves. Margaret Greiner running for precinct delegate position and ready to volunteer. Charlie and Rebecca Robinson reported they are precinct delegates now and running again. They are also a Kristina Karamo's contact for the area and yard signs and rack cards are coming soon. Ryan Roberts reported running for State Representative 102nd District and reported previous accomplishments. Chuck Ritchard reported running for 32nd State Senate and reported previous accomplishments.

***Motion** made by Jim Bachelder to adjourn meeting. Ed Bear Schuitema seconded. Motion carried.

Next meeting scheduled for July 14, 2022, 6:30 pm at the Lakeshore Resource Network Building, 920 E. Tinkham Ave, Ludington.