

Montrose County Republican Central Committee
Thursday, April 13, 2017
Minutes of the Meeting

DRAFT

Call to Order: Chairman Geoff Schram called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Chuck Rehfeldt gave the Invocation. Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Chairman Spencer Hamner.

Welcome Elected Officials, Guests & Attendees: Chairman Schram welcomed the committee and new members, and recognized the Officials attending: Coroner Dr. Tom Canfield, Commissioner Keith Caddy, Treasurer Rosemary Murphy, and Assessor Brad Hughes.

Minutes Approval: Minutes from the March 9, 2017 meeting were provided. A motion to approve was made by Coroner Tom Canfield, and was seconded by Chuck Rehfeldt.

Treasurer's Report: Deb Hunter gave an update of the account as of February 28, 2017; the current balance of \$2,018.17, and the checks written from that account. She reported checks had been written out by former Executive Committee Members to rectify State requirements from the performed audit. Not all donations from those checks have been contributed back by the individuals, and in reading those names the Treasurer asked if anyone knew someone on the list to check with them regarding intended reimbursement.

The Treasurer's report was approved unanimously by voice vote.

New Business: Chairman Schram reported on the April 1st State Central Committee Meeting in Denver, and the officers elected; Jeff Hays, CRC Chairman; Sherrie Gibson, Vice Chair and Brandi Meek, Secretary. Committee member Elaine Pigford was recognized by standing ovation at the event for her service and was honored with a commemorating trophy presented by attending legislators to Chairman Schram in her absence. Betty Oglesby from Delta also received such honors for her outstanding contributions to the Republican Party. Chairman Schram gave further comment on their dedicated service, and the Committee applauded their appreciation.

The national organization "Indivisible," organizing to affect town hall meetings, public and political events, was reported on and discussed. Also reported was information from the Farm Bill forum held by Senator Bennett staff on April 13th, and the associated SNAP Program. Treasurer Deb Hunter explained obstructing mandates in the SNAP Program. Commissioner Keith Caddy reported on local farm bill effects concerning water, conservation, over-regulation, and hemp deregulation.

Chairman Schram spoke to ideas to encourage Party discussion, membership and fundraising such as scheduled luncheons with Montrose County Republican Women. Strategy and Planning Chairwoman Tricia Joy spoke to volunteering, involvement and commitment.

Old Business: Secretary Charli Oswald reported on the officers elected at the State Central Committee Meeting for Districts CD3, SD6, HD58 and JD7.

A report on Propositions 107 and 108 and the current court battles affecting it's impact on Colorado was given by the Chairman.

A ByLaws Committee is being formed to address policy to be followed in matters of interpretation. An Attendance Sheet will be forthcoming for easier meeting sign in.

Elected Official Reports:

Commissioner Keith Caddy gave a report on funding the new events center, current conflicts, and hopes for results coming soon. He also spoke about the impact fee that was recently eliminated and what to do with the unused collected funds. A new Health and Human Services Director has been hired, and a new organization oversees the Road & Bridge Department. A Citizens' Advisory Group is being formed to aid the commissioners and staff.

Coroner Dr. Tom Canfield stated it was his busiest two weeks - budget concerns, and the need for a deputy coroner.

Treasurer Rosemary Murphy commented about the latest residential foreclosure numbers and hard sells.

Assessor Brad Hughes spoke to the upcoming property tax increases and listed the local areas. Residential increased dramatically and agricultural land is going up 20-22%. Notices go out May 1st.

Committee Reports:

Strategy & Planning - Chairwoman Tricia Joy reported about Club 20 and the impact and areas they are involved in. Also about ideas gained from the State Convention for bringing in new people, and her encouragement by members of the young republican groups. She brought forth the need to look at our messaging, unification of the party, the important upcoming governor's race, and the need for committee feedback. Combined GOP meetings from neighboring counties is also being discussed.

Events & Fundraising - this position became available when Chairwoman Deb Hunter became our party Treasurer, and we are seeking someone to replace her. Chairman Schram stated that he is also seeking help from the Republican Women's group. Vice Chairman Spencer Hamner informed us Thomas Jefferson was born today and quoted some of his wisdom. We were informed of comments he receives from some in the Hispanic community, and he encouraged Republican outreach.

Public Relations Chairwoman Kerri Catlin passed along Happy Easter wishes from Diana Coram. The next Republican Women's meeting is April 21st, 12 noon, Hampton Inn. Lori Riewaldt will be speaking on her speech given to the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Reagan Library earlier this year. They are fundraising for two \$1,000 scholarships to be given to qualified high school students on the idea of being a Republican.

Closing Remarks:

Chairman Geoff Schram gave final thoughts on the many serious challenges that will require focus in order to win against the many assaults being waged here locally against conservative issues and candidates.

Adjournment:

Dr. Canfield moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:59.

Respectfully submitted by Charli Oswald, Secretary