

Latah County Republican Central Committee Meeting

February 26, 2013

Schierman's Event Center, 3225 Robinson Park Road, Moscow, ID

Meeting called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Vice Chair Thomas Lawford.

Richard Walser led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Paul Agidius led in prayer.

Introductions were made. There were 33 attendees including 22 precinct chairs. List will be attached to the original minutes.

A motion was made by Tom Anderson and 2nd by Will Greene to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2013 meeting. Motion passed.

Treasurer's report presented by Treasurer, Peggy Gottschalk with a beginning cash balance of 1/1/13 of \$2,770.48 and an ending cashing balance of \$4,004.00. Income and expenses were outlined from the Lincoln Day Event. There was a net income of \$2600.80 from the event. A motion was made by Roger Falen to approve the treasurer's report, second was by Will Greene. Motion passed.

Thomas Lawford gave a Lincoln Day Report and there was discussion regarding other venues in the future such as Moose Lodge, Latah County Fair Grounds, Schweitzer Engineering Event Center, and Best Western. There was also discussion about catering and whether or not State Elected Officials and U.S. Congressionals should be encouraged to speak at these events. There had been logistic problems with the nametags and lists of people who had prepaid for the event. Thomas stated that these problems have been noted. Thomas explained that Latah County GOP used Eventbrite for pre-registration and payment for Lincoln Day and Square One in collecting from credit cards for auction items as a trial to test how these tools might be used during the 2014 Convention. There were no comments from those present.

Thomas reported that on February 9, Idaho State GOP Executive Director, Joshua Whitworth and Administrative Assistant Dedra Morris meet with Latah County Chairman, Walter Steed, Best Western personnel, U of I event planners, and Chamber of Commerce Director Gina Taruscio for a tour of the Best Western convention rooms and a tour of the Kibbie Dome. They covered possible convention floor plan layouts. Both Idaho Executive Director Joshua Whitworth and State Party Administrative Assistant Dedra Morris were very pleased and impressed. Motel rooms though out Moscow and Pullman have been blocked for the event scheduled for June 12, 13, & 14, 2014.

We had received a contract from Latah County Fair Board offering the same space we have rented in the past for the fee of \$290 for the Fair on September 12-15, 2013. Tom Anderson made a motion that the contact be signed and space rented, Gresham Bouma 2nd the motion. Motion passed. Thomas pointed out that since this is a not an election year that everyone will need to help staff the booth because we won't be able to count on candidates.

New Business:

Gresham Bouma moved to have a vote of no confidence in Chairman Walter Steed and ask him to voluntarily step down as County Chair for his apparent stand on gun issues which are contrary to views of several current Precinct Committeemen. Motion was 2nd by David Klingenberg. Discussion followed, and many spoke from varying viewpoints on the possible results of a vote of no confidence. Vice Chairman, Thomas Lawford read from Article III; Section 6 of the current County By-Laws to clarify the limited scope of how the Central Committee can proceed. "Said officers, if found unwilling or unable to perform the duties of their office as described herein, may be removed from office by the vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the duly elected precinct committeepersons present and voting." The motion was clarified. Secret Ballot was called for, and ballots were passed out to the 22 precinct chairs present. The motion of "no confidence" passed 12 to 10.

Roger Falen moved to have a committee write a strongly worded letter as a press release clarifying the Latah County GOP position on guns. The press release is also to be sent to Idaho Senate Majority Leader, Bart Davis, who was a recipient of the Moscow City Council letter. The motion was seconded by Doug Whitham. Motion passed. The following were appointed to write the letter with Thomas Lawford: Gresham Bouma, Roger Falen, Dave Klingenberg and Al Baker.

A question was raised about re-writing the By-laws to allow things to come to the Central Committee before going through the Executive Committee. Mary Steed mentioned that Idaho State GOP Rules were passed in January at the Winter State GOP Meeting that now require County By-Laws to be changed to conform with State Rules.

Thomas said a motion to begin the process of amending our by-Laws would be in order. A motion was made by Dave Klingenberg to have a By-laws Committee started to update our By-laws, 2nd was by Kelly McManus. Motion passed. Thomas clarified that the County By-Laws require that the Chairman appoint standing committee members. From the County By-Laws, Article IV; section 2 "standing committee(s) shall be composed of a chairperson and such other persons who shall be appointed by the Central Committee Chair with the confirmation of the Central Committee." The following people volunteered and were appointed to Rules Committee by acting Chair Thomas Lawford: Committee Chair Thomas Lawford, Jared Larsen, Eric McGilp, Dave Klingenberg, and Ron Smith. The motion to approve the committee, passed with unanimous consent.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mary Steed, Secretary, Latah County GOP.