

CLALLAM COUNTY DEMOCRATS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

June 17, 2016 at Port Angeles Party Headquarters, 124-A West 1st St.

Attendance: Executive Board Members: Chair Roger Fight, Treasurer Kris Grier, Recording Secretary Catherine Harper, Corresponding Secretary Paula Doherty; Voting Members: Steve Vause, Lisa Unger and Barbara Jepson; Members Jenny Petersen, Paul Martin, Doc Robinson. Absent: Executive Board Vice Chair Carlyn Syvanen, State Committeewoman Julie Johnson, State Committeeman Joe McGimpsey, LeRoy Martin. These absences are due to members' attendance at the State Convention.

Chair Roger Fight called the meeting to order at 11:32.

- Additions to the Agenda

Roger Fight added one item to the agenda: that Clallam County Democrats consider giving financial support for Clallam County Democrats attending the National Convention.

Motion to approve the Agenda as amended, Barbara Jepson; Catherine Harper seconds. Voice vote, motion carries unanimously.

- Approval of Minutes of May 20 Executive Board Meeting

Paula Doherty and Roger Fight had several corrections. These were noted and Recording Secretary Catherine Harper will revise the Minutes.

Motion to accept the Minutes as amended, Kris Grier; Barbara Jepson seconds. Voice vote; motion carries unanimously.

- Treasurer's Report

Kris Grier noted that the bill for the caucus venues (school district) just came in; it is \$882.00, more than we hoped. It was itemized and the biggest expense was extra manpower.

Kris Grier stated that we have \$3,735.15 in our Unlimited Account, and \$8,745.96 in our Limited Account, which can be contributed to campaigns.

We now have 299 paid members – almost there!

Kris Grier also noted that the Carter Foundation still has not cashed their check.

It was also noted that PCOs are automatically Members.

Kris said that we had an unusually large First Bancard bill this month; this reflects printing costs, Constant Contact, Hunts calendar.

Discussion ensued on PayPal expense. Carlyn Syvanen has a card reader, and she and Kris will work on this and try to have it operational before the Roosevelt Dinner.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted without formal vote.

- Reports

Program Chair -- Doc Robinson has agreed to work on Programs. It was decided that we can have Program meetings during the summer, if we can attract audiences. Doc Robinson is focusing on local business leaders. He has invited the owner of Platypus Marine, which is a large local employer embroiled in negotiations with the Port of Port Angeles. Platypus has threatened to leave if better conditions cannot be agreed upon with the Port. This first Program would be a lead-in to other employers in the area. He also plans to ask the new head of the Chamber of Commerce, who is working on initiatives to upgrade local businesses, suggest more consistent hours, etc.

He also plans to ask the head of Port Angeles Can (PA Can) (Addiction Recovery) in September. PA Can is being turned into a non-profit (is currently more or less just a website); and it will have a presence in the 4th of July parade. They have developed an Economics Committee and will be greatly expanding their operations.

Paula Doherty asked if we can plan some programs centering around candidates and the upcoming election.

Doc Robinson: We talked about that. It's a great idea.

Paula Doherty: We could ask someone from Hillary's campaign in Seattle, but would it be a large enough audience to draw them? It would be great to educate voters.

Roger Fight: And how that relates to an endorsement meeting would be important. In races where there is more than one democrat, we should discuss this with both/all candidates. I see no problem with using Program Meeting time this way. Make specific suggestions to Doc.

Volunteer Coordinator – We don't have anybody yet – will keep looking. Any volunteers? NO.

PCO Recruitment and Coordination – Record turnout of candidates filing. We should end up with 56 elected and 11 appointed PCOs. Roger Fight and Virginia Shogren will discuss training and ways to increase engagement.

Ron Richards reported that he is hosting a party for the PCOs on June 21st, but has not had much response. This is not a fundraiser. Robbie Mantooth is having a Mike Chapman event the same day as a League of Women Voters event; Norma Turner sent out 800 invitations and only 3 people came.

Roger Fight suggested that Virginia Shogren, who recruited many PCOs, make some phone calls. Ron Richards remarked that Virginia is a Bernie supporter, and very busy. Jenny Petersen, a Hillary person, volunteered to call; she will not identify herself as a Hillary person when calling.

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Lisa Unger asked if the Executive Board had been invited to Ron's party. Ron replied that the invitations went to PCOs and PCO candidates and that would be 140 people – couldn't invite everyone.

Roger Fight: Between Ron and Jenny, you'll get it done.

Roger Fight and Kris Grier discussed the pricing on Constant Contact – the price goes up with the number of e-mails. Paula Doherty reported that we are at over 500 now.

Jenny Petersen reported that she has lots of e-mails from people who attended the caucuses. She asked if Roger gets a report of these, and if he needs one. People have expressed interest.

Paula Doherty explained that with Constant Contact, we need documentation that the person has requested information. We have the legal requirement to keep this information and we cannot merge this list with other lists we keep.

Roger Fight: We need to figure this out.

Membership – LeRoy Martin is not present; we will take this subject up later.

Food Bank Challenge -- Kris Grier reported. So far, District 2 has contributed \$620.80; District 1 \$560.00, and District 3 \$124.40. These figures are approximate. The Port Angeles Food Bank is handling the collecting, weighing of contributions and will divide the food when the challenge is complete. The Food Bank Challenge has another two weeks to go; we should have some publicity before the end of the campaign. Kris Grier and LeRoy Martin will meet to discuss; Paula Doherty will follow up with reminders.

Fundraising -- Marcia Farrell is not present. She injured herself recently and is out of action for the time being. We do have a firm date for the Roosevelt Dinner; no response yet from Governor Inslee's people.

- State Committeewoman -- Julie Johnson

Julie Johnson is not present; there is no report.

Kris Grier noted that the 24th LD donated \$300 to help with Julie's trip to Philadelphia. Jessica Hernandez and the delegate from Jefferson County are also on the list; however, neither of these candidates needs any further funding.

Julie still needed \$3500, and at this time she is short by \$1200; after our contribution she still needs \$900.

Shall we provide some funding to Julie, who is both a Delegate and an Electoral College Elector (a huge honor)?

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Having expected to support both Julie and Jessica, now we can provide more to Julie.

Motion to provide some funding to Julie Johnson, Kris Grier (suggesting \$500); Paula Doherty seconds.

Discussion ensued; it was stated that we can afford to do this, and we should take it out of the "less flexible" account. It was stated that the PDC strongly suggests we keep the accounts separate, and that having two accounts gives us more flexibility.

Voice vote on the Motion; passes unanimously.

- State Committeeman – Joe McGimpsey

Joe McGimpsey is not present; there is no report.

- New Business/Discussion

It is proposed that we have an Endorsement Meeting on June 25th. We are not anxious to endorse in races where there are two Democrats, but we should discuss. If we are having the meeting, we need to send out the announcement ASAP; all candidates will be welcome to speak. The floor will be open for motions to endorse. Theoretically, this could include both Democratic and non-partisan candidates.

Motion to hold Endorsement Meeting on June 25th, Kris Grier; Steve Vause seconds.

Doc Robinson: That date has a lot going on, including the Orlando vigil in the evening, a kids' vote show event at Vern Burton. All this might curtail attendance. Why not have it on a weekday evening?

Roger Fight: Some people from off the Peninsula are interested.

Ron Richards noted that he has to be in Alaska from June 23-July 8. He needs endorsement and contributions; needs to be before the primary.

Roger Fight: All members are entitled to come and vote.

Jenny Petersen: How much notice is needed?

Roger Fight: The by-laws state five days – a short window. We would announce it today or tomorrow if it is going to be the 25th.

Lisa Unger: As with Mark Ozias, Ron could do a video presentation since he won't be here.

Ron Richards: Or I could send a surrogate.

Paula Doherty: Why couldn't we just automatically endorse Ron?

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Roger Fight: The by-laws require a vote of the Membership.

Doc Robinson: Could we do electronic voting?

Roger Fight: We have never done that for the whole Membership.

Kris Grier: We intend to donate to Ron's campaign.

Paula Doherty: Didn't we have to endorse early for Mark Ozias so he could receive contributions?

Kris Grier: We can contribute to Ron, he's a candidate.

Ron Richards: Endorsement and contribution are two different things; could do them separately.

Paula Doherty: I recall that we rushed the endorsement meeting so Mark Ozias could get the contribution.

Lisa Unger: The Executive Board hasn't voted to endorse.

Roger Fight: We can recommend that the Membership endorse him.

Kris Grier: There's only one Democrat in the race, so we can contribute without endorsement.

Roger Fight: So, is June 25th good? What other options would work?

Paula Doherty: We had discussed at the last meeting whether to endorse before the primary in case of multiple Democrats in a race.

Roger Fight: We should have the meeting.

Kris Grier: Should have the meeting on June 25th even if only one candidate.

Motion to hold meeting on June 25th has been made and seconded; Voice vote; motion carries unanimously.

Roger Fight: Proposed endorsement votes – which shall we recommend?

Roger Fight went through the list, as follows:

Governor: 4 Democrats in race. Motion to recommend to Membership that they consider the Governors' race Roger Fight; Paula Doherty seconds. Voice vote; motion carries unanimously.

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Lieutenant Governor: More than one Democrat in race. Motion to recommend to Membership that they consider the Lieutenant Governors' race –motion not seconded. This is tabled – will not recommend an endorsement in this race.

Doc Robinson: Why not just see who shows up to the meeting and endorse accordingly?

Roger Fight: The usual procedure is to address endorsements one by one, and not endorse if 2 or more Democrats are in the race (2/3 vote required).

Doc Robinson: If it's not required by the by-laws, why add an extra layer by including the Executive Board?

Kris Grier: It IS in the by-laws (thanks, Jenny).

Roger Fight: Continuing --

Senator Murray has 3 Democratic opponenents.

Motion to recommend to Membership that they consider the Senatorial race ; Paula Doherty seconds. Voice vote; motion carries unanimously.

Representative Kilmer has one Democratic opponent.

Motion to recommend to Membership that they consider the Representative's race
Kris Grier; Lisa Unger seconds. Voice vote; motion carries unanimously.

State Commissioner of Public Lands: This is a large field. Mary Verner is one of the candidates. The incumbent is not running for re-election.

Motion to recommend to Membership that they consider the State Commissioner of Public Lands' race and endorse; no second. This race will not be recommended to the Membership for endorsement.

Superintendent of Public Instruction: There are two great candidates; Kris Grier supports both Erin Jones and Chris Reykdal. Motion to Membership that they consider the race without a recommendation to endorse. We don't have to encourage endorsement here because there are two good candidates – the voters will decide.

Voice vote; no ayes, all noes. It will not be recommended to Membership that they endorse in this race.

State Auditor: 2 Democratic candidates.

Motion to recommend to Membership that they consider the State Auditor;'s race and make an endorsement; no second. It will not be recommended to Membership that they endorse in this race.

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State Treasurer: There are 3 Democrats in this race.

Motion to recommend to Membership that they consider the State Treasurer's race and make an endorsement; no second. It will not be recommended to Membership that they endorse in this race.

Secretary of State: There is one Democrat running, Tina Podlodowski.

Motion to recommend to Membership that they consider the Secretary of State's race , Roger Fight; Paula Doherty seconds. Voice vote; motion carries unanimously.

Attorney General: The incumbent is running for re-election (Bob Ferguson, Democrat).

Motion to recommend to Membership that they consider the Attorney General's race , Roger Fight; Paula Doherty seconds. Voice vote; motion carries unanimously.

Insurance Commissioner: Incumbant is Mike Kreidler, Democrat.

Motion to recommend to Membership that they consider the Insurance Commissioner's race , Roger Fight; Kris Grier seconds. Voice vote; motion carries unanimously.

Judge Position 2: This is a non-partisan office. There are 2 Democratic candidates: Brian Coughenour (incumbant) and Dave Neupert.

Motion to recommend to Membership that they consider the Judge Position 2 race and make an endorsement; Lisa Unger seconds.

Discussion: We are not sure whether this will be on the primary ballot, or decided at the General Election.

Roger Fight: Shall we table this?

Paula Doherty: Yes. So moved; Catherine Harper seconds. Voice vote; motion carries unanimously. This item is TABLED.

County Commissioner (District 2): Ron Richards is the Democratic candidate, has several Republican opponents.

Motion to recommend to Membership that they consider the County Commissioner's race , Roger Fight; Paula Doherty seconds. Voice vote; motion carries unanimously.

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State Representative, Position 2: Steve Tharinger is the Democratic candidate.

Motion to recommend to Membership that they consider the State Representative's race, Roger Fight; Paula Doherty seconds. Voice vote; motion carries unanimously.

State Representative, Position 1: Mike Chapman is the Democratic candidate, one opponent

(Tammy Ramsay). Ms. Ramsay has declined some recent speaking opportunities/events, we're not sure what's going on with this. Jefferson County plans to endorse in this race, shall we?

Motion to recommend to Membership that they consider the State Representative's race, Roger Fight; Barbara Jepson seconds. Voice vote; motion carries unanimously.

Senator, District 4: Kevin van de Wege is the Democratic candidate.

Motion to recommend to Membership that they consider the District 4 Senator's race, Roger Fight; Steve Vause seconds. Voice vote; motion carries unanimously.

Barbara Jepson: What about Judge Wiggins? Many of us know him.

Judge: Charlie Wiggins is a progressive that we supported in his previous race. His opponent is a city judge in Federal Way (appears to be supported by a right wing group. All three sitting justices up for re-election have opponents that are supported by the same coalition, which includes the pro-Charter Schools group.

Motion to recommend to Membership that they consider the Supreme Court race, Roger Fight; Kris Grier seconds. Voice vote; motion carries unanimously.

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Motion to recommend to Membership that they consider the other two Supreme Court positions, Roger Fight; Kris Grier seconds. Voice vote; motion carries unanimously.

- Unfinished Business

Motion that the Executive Board donate \$2,000 to Ron Richards' campaign upon his endorsement by the Membership, Kris Grier; Catherine Harper seconds.

Discussion ensued; it was stated that this amount is a typical first donation; can add more after primary. It's in line with what we have donated to previous candidates.

Voice vote; motion carries unanimously.

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Lisa Unger: We can't necessarily endorse judges (tabled), but we should still invite them to speak. Maybe at a Wednesday Program Meeting?

Paula Doherty: These races are different.

Kris Grier: This will take some research.

Roger Fight: Will it be final at the primary?

- Good of the Order

Next E-Board Meeting: July 8th is the scheduled date. Roger Fight won't be here, nor Lisa Unger, and probably not Carlyn Syvanen and Steve Vause. Kris Grier would be next in line to Chair the meeting on July 8th. It was discussed whether it is even necessary to hold an Executive Board meeting in July. By-laws call for a minimum of every other month.

It was decided NOT to schedule an Executive Board meeting for July. This can always be changed.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:30.