

# CLALLAM COUNTY DEMOCRATS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

May 20, 2016 at Port Angeles Party Headquarters, 124-A West 1st St.

Attendance: Chair Roger Fight, Julie Johnson, Marcia Farrell, LeRoy Martin, Kris Grier, Bill Dole, Jr., Barbara Jepson, Paula Doherty, Bob Hosek, Ron Richards, Paula Obrebski, Recording Secretary Catherine Harper.

Chair Roger Fight called the meeting to order at 11:38.

- Additions to the Agenda
  1. Bill Dole Jr. wishes to add a recommendation for reimbursement to Bill Marsh for having the office windows washed. (place under New Business).
  2. Bill Dole Jr. also suggested that since the Clallam County Republican Party has a listing in the PDN's "Organizations" page, we should have a listing as well. (Place under New Business).
  3. Paula Doherty will have an addition to Program Meeting information. (Agenda item).

Motion to approve the Agenda as amended, Marcia Farrell; Kris Grier seconds. Voice vote, motion carries unanimously.

## Approval of Minutes of April 15 Executive Board Meeting

Paula Doherty, Bill Dole Jr., and LeRoy Martin had several corrections. These were noted and Recording Secretary Catherine Harper will revise the Minutes.

Motion to accept the Minutes as amended, Bill Dole, Jr., LeRoy Martin seconds. Voice vote; motion carries unanimously.

- Treasurer's Report

Kris Grier stated that we have \$4,55.23 in our Unlimited Account, and \$8,300.75 in our Limited Account, which can be contributed to campaigns.

Our expenses and contributions were discussed; we came out ahead. Convention printing and auditorium rental expenses are yet to come.
- Reports

**Program Chair** -- It was noted that the June 8<sup>th</sup> Program Meeting (the last one Paula Doherty will be arranging) will feature Bob Larsen, Chief Executive Officer of the Composite Recycling Technology Center. Roger Fight noted that Doc Robinson, a new member, said that he would be willing to help as Program Chair. Ron Richards stated that he knows Mr. Robinson and that he would be a good choice for this job. Mr. Robinson is a writer from California, ran for Port Commission, and it involved in many groups such as Port Angeles Citizens Action Network. Roger Fight will follow up with Mr. Robinson.

**Volunteer Coordinator** – We still need a Volunteer Coordinator, and it is becoming increasingly important with many new members and PCOs. Paul Doherty suggested Chandra Masta; Ron Richards agrees. Kris Grier asks about the duties of the position; Roger Fight explains that we need a "go to" person when planning activities. The Volunteer Coordinator can gather data from VoteBuilder regarding members' skills and desire to help, and then recommend people for committees, etc.

**Membership** – LeRoy Martin reiterated that we currently stand at 273 members, with the goal of 300 members before the end of the month. The committee is currently looking at 2014 and 2015 members who have not rejoined. Additionally, Executive Board members are trying to get 5 new members apiece; Maja Cox and Marcia Farrell are in the lead with this effort. Roger Fight also suggested that another group to ask is the new

PCOs who have not yet become paid members.

LeRoy noted that the New Member Orientation in May went well, with a lot of good participation; may do another in late June.

The Food Bank Challenge is nearly ready to kick off on June 1. He hopes to get musicians to play for a Wednesday night concert. Kris Grier will work on this. We will need to pay an honorarium to the two rhythm session members. LeRoy would like to get Mark Ozias as the speaker for the event. We will also need more co-captains, particularly in District 3, and another helper for Bob Hosek in District 1. The event will start around 6 pm. LeRoy Martin will send Paula Doherty the information for a Press Release. LeRoy also noted that rather than individual cans being counted, like last year, this year the food donated will be weighed and its cash equivalent determined – this will make it easier. Marcia Farrell asked if there would be three separate containers for the three Districts; LeRoy replied that there will. The containers will be here at the Headquarters. Barbara Jepson asked how we report our donations; there will be a sign-up sheet.

**PCO Recruitment** – Roger Fight reported that this effort has been phenomenally successful. He thinks we will exceed 60 PCOs out of 67 precincts. It was noted that this is 26 more than the Republicans have. Ron Richards noted that four of the races are contested. Roger Fight plans to tell these four candidates about his plan to have assistant PCOs – maybe they can work this out among themselves, but if not, are welcome to go through the election process. Marcia Farrell stated she has just filed for Blue Mountain, which is a contested election. Kris Grier cautioned all candidates not to exceed the \$5K limit – after that, you must report.

Roger Fight stated how pleased he is with this result. LeRoy Martin asked what the next step should be, and Roger Fight stated that we will need some PCO training. We can wait until after the primary, and have more training in January.

30 or so PCOs will take office immediately after the primary. Paula Doherty believes that the terms officially start December 1, and there was agreement that this is the case. Marcia Farrell asked if PCO candidates are listed on the ballot; Roger Fight said they will be in contested races.

Ron Richards said that he is considering having a party at his home for PCOs, perhaps in a month or so. Roger Fight said that Marcia Farrell is also planning a picnic. Marcia said that the picnic event will focus on new members and PCOs and could certainly be held at Ron's home. Ron stated that his home can accommodate 65+ people; Marcia will work with Ron and Nina on this event.

LeRoy Martin asked if Kris Grier will be providing any PCO training. Kris said that it will be VoteBuilder training for PCOs and others. For the record, Kris was planning to hold his training sessions on the first Wednesday, in the late morning. Roger Fight, Kris Grier, and Jennie Peterson will handle this training. Roger Fight stated that this training will be very important; after locking down elected PCOs we will try to find PCO assistants.

Roger wants the elected PCOs and assistants listed on the website, with contact information. Ron Richards agreed, and said that it always used to be that way. Roger Fight suggests e-mail and/or phone, unless the PCO will not agree to having these listed. After some further discussion, it was agreed that the PCO's preferred contact route should be listed. Bob Hosek asked whether PCO e-mail addresses could be linked to our website; Paula Doherty feels this would be too cumbersome and more expensive. PCOs would then have to forward their e-mails to their own systems.

Hold off on this effort until after the General Membership Meeting on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, where we will have a table. After the meeting, we must work hard. We need someone to oversee this effort, a point of contact for the PCOs. It will be an ongoing role. Virginia Shogren volunteered to do this.

**Fundraising** -- Marcia Farrell reported that we now have a definite date for the Roosevelt Dinner – Saturday,

October 8. She has reserved the venue at 7 Cedars. She noted that we will need to be out by 8:30; our time frame will be tight. We will need to get committees together, particularly for the Silent Auction. She is working with LeRoy and Lorraine Martin and it should go well. LeRoy Martin asked what time we started last year; Marcia Farrell said that 5:00 was usual, but we might move it up to 4:30 this year. Roger Fight noted that the earlier time shouldn't be a problem as the event is on a Saturday. Marcia stated that we should have lots of dignitaries to participate in the meet-and-greet. Roger asked if Jay Inslee has been confirmed as Keynote Speaker. Marcia replied that he is not, but she is working on it; a letter from Roger Fight would be great. Paula Doherty, as Corresponding Secretary, can help. Marcia stated that it is planned to give a Lifetime Achievement Award to Senator Hargrove, and that it would be nice also to do one for Patsy Feeley if possible; she devoted her life to Senator Hargrove and is now in poor health.

Roger Fight spoke about planning for the County Fair. Ric Mahurin will help with shifts but is not available to do the organizing due to work pressures. Ron Richards stated that there will be a new format for the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade, including booths where the buses usually come in (not running on the holiday). Ron will have a booth; would like to borrow 1-2 white tents. Betsy Robbins also suggested campaign hats for Ron. This event should be well-attended in conjunction with the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade. Paula Doherty asked if this event used to be on City Pier. The Clallam County Fair is August 18-21 this year. Kris Grier feels that we should be fine with staffing our booth, but we will need a coordinator. It was noted that the primary is before the Fair.

Marcia Farrell stated that she is hoping to coordinate with the Tribes, the hospital, Mental Health and others regarding the Roosevelt Dinner. The idea is to have a number of events for Mr. Inslee to attend on the day of the Dinner, to make it worth his while to spend a day in Clallam County.

- State Committeewoman -- Julie Johnson

Julie is unsure of dates, may not be here at that time. She is helping with the 6<sup>th</sup> District convention at Suquamish, getting donations of 250 box lunches. Kris Grier noted that the Tribe is planning to provide everything at no cost, and will shred our check if they don't need it. Julie noted that the Tribal Chair is a staunch Democrat. This will be the first time that people will come to the Tribe to participate. They will need to be thanked appropriately, they've been great. It is hoped that many people from Clallam County will attend, noting that the 6<sup>th</sup> District is mostly Gig Harbor and Tacoma. Julie is working on the donations and plans for thanking the Tribe.

The State Convention is in June, and participation is being encouraged. There will be meetings, candidates asking for endorsement, a caucus on Saturday. Julie is the Chair of the Native American caucus and has received many requests for endorsement. Julie will coordinate with the State.

Julie will also be going to Oregon for Get Out the Vote events. A Native woman just won her primary for State Representative in Oregon; there are nine Native American people running for office in the Northwest.

- State Committeeman – Joe McGimpsey

Joe McGimpsey is not present; there is no report.

- New Business/Discussion

Discussion re endorsements; mostly not before primary. Roger Fight wondered whether we should have a Candidate Fair event for statewide and local candidates, as an information-gathering meeting. This would give us more information for making endorsements. Bill Dole Jr. wondered how that would work; Roger Fight explained that we would get a venue and give candidates five minutes each to make their pitch.

Julie Johnson asked when we normally make endorsements. Roger Fight said that it is usually done after the primary for non-partisan candidates. This year Coughenour and Nupert have

both filed for Judge, and there are two candidates for the PUD. Paula Doherty noted that the League of Women Voters usually sponsors such an event; we will be busy at that time and it might be a good idea for us to simply support the League's effort rather than holding our own event. Kris Grier noted that it would be valuable to get literature from all the candidates to have available at Headquarters when people come in for information. Marcia Farrell asked if it might be possible to add a Candidates Fair to the Membership Drive. Roger Fight said that it would depend on the turnout, but agreed that this idea is worth thinking about.

Kris Grier was asked who he supports for State Superintendent of Public Instruction; he replied that it would be a dual

endorsement as there are two great candidates. Julie Johnson asked if we have endorsed early.

Kris replied that it depends; can sometimes be done to block a Tea Party candidate claiming to be running as a Democrat, for example. This would have to be done at a General Membership Meeting.

**Resolutions Not Acted Upon at the County Convention** – Roger Fight noted that there were 12 or so Resolutions that were not acted upon at the Convention. Our purpose today is to recommend a yes vote at the next Membership Meeting.

It has been suggested that we call a Special Membership Meeting for May 28 (Saturday).

Roger's proposal for dealing with these Resolutions is to go down the list. If a Resolution needs discussion, set it aside; deal first with the Resolutions that can be presented in a "lump" for a yes vote.

Discussion: it was noted that there is a typo in R25 – this will be corrected. Paula Doherty suggested that the language in R26 needs to be refined – this one is set aside.

Roger Fight reiterated that all Resolutions except R26 can be sent to the Membership in a lump for a yes vote.

Motion to recommend yes vote on all but R26.

Paula Doherty asks if R26 could be included "as amended". Roger stated that we should deal with that one separately and make any amendments.

Roger asks again if we can do this as a package deal, or should we go through them individually? Julie Johnson asks what Roger recommends; he is willing to deal with these as a package. Paula Doherty asks if they will be presented individually; Roger replies that they will and they should go through easily. Will be voted on individually.

Kris Grier moves that we present these Resolutions to the Membership; Paula Doherty seconds. Roger Fight stated that this will mean moving these Resolutions to the Membership with a recommendation for a yes vote.

Paula Doherty stated that the Fluoridation Resolution (#27) is a problem; Roger recommends that we pull that one out.

Roger: So the motion to recommend all Resolutions except #26 and #27 --

Motion Kris Grier, Paula Doherty seconds. Voice vote; motion carries unanimously.

Roger Fight: Paula, do you have an amendment prepared for #26?

Paula Doherty: Yes. Shall I e-mail it or . . . ?

Roger Fight: Should do it now.

(Note that a hard copy of the amended text is appended to the filed copy of these Minutes – now renamed R14).

The other Resolution needing amendment is R26 – WA Democratic Party Should Switch from

the Caucus System to the Presidential Primary. (Note that the amendment text for this Resolution is also appended to these Minutes).

Roger Fight agreed that we need to edit this. Bob Hosek cannot edit it in the PDF format.

LeRoy Martin: So we're talking about a hybrid of caucus/primary?

Paula Doherty: Eliminate the caucuses and utilize the primary system.

Bill Dole, Jr.: That doesn't explain the election of delegates.

Ron Richards: We can still have the caucus, but will elect delegates using the primary system.

Kris Grier: The Republicans have used such a hybrid.

Ron Richards: Looking at how we found new PCOs, it was all made possible by the caucuses.

Resolutions, too. We may still need to have caucuses in Clallam County.

Kris Grier: We should still have caucuses, but use primary to elect delegates.

Roger Fight: The State is where this decision lies, and it doesn't arise for another 7-1/2 years, so it's not very important right now.

Marcia Farrell: Probably every county in Washington is submitting a similar Resolution.

LeRoy Martin: I've heard it was a big topic at the State level.

Paula Doherty: So we should use the primary, but not eliminate caucuses. Leave out "eliminate" from amended language. The intent is just to use the primary to elect delegates.

Ron Richards: This should all be done one way.

Paula Doherty: We will address this.

Kris Grier: I like the caucuses for the participation.

Ron Richards wondered how the attendance at the caucuses might change if we do not elect delegates.

Kris Grier states that having fewer attendees wouldn't be a bad thing.

Roger Fight: I'm not sure how this process would work.

Kris Grier: There are lots of ways to do this. We should tell the State we are unhappy with the caucus process.

Roger Fight asks if everyone understands this amendment.

Motion to accept amendment, Paula Doherty; LeRoy Martin seconds.

It was noted that this Motion includes the recommendation of a yes vote from the Members on this Resolution as amended.

Voice vote; motion carries unanimously.

Roger Fight: On R27, Water Fluoridation, are we doing an amendment, or just voting?

Ron Richards: I'm in the middle of the fluoride issue. I'm talking to the City Manager about settling this issue. Alternatives should be supported. It would be wise to forward this without a recommendation of a yes or a no vote

. There are pros and cons on both sides. The Membership should hash this out.

A motion to forward this to the Membership without a yes or no recommendation by the Executive Board would be good for the party, if the Membership discusses and decides this.

The anti-fluoride people are in an untenable position – no-win. There are ethics issues, "2<sup>nd</sup> class city" issues, nasty arguments and name-calling – this must end. The current situation hurts everybody. The City Manager has an alternative plan, endorsed by the Medical Director of VIMO.

Motion to forward Resolution #27 with no endorsement for General Membership to decide,

Kris Grier; Paula Doherty seconds. Voice vote; motion passes unanimously.

**E-Board Meeting Time** – We will have many new people in the Clallam County Democratic Party, so we may need to adjust the meeting time to accommodate people who are employed.

Kris Grier: We could do an online survey of E-Board members to find out the general feeling.

Roger Fight: Survey Monkey?

Kris Grier: Yes, or Google.

Bill Dole, Jr.: Survey Monkey has good options.

Roger Fight: This could be a good option to get input from a broader group.

Lisa Unger: Could we bring that to the Membership?

Paula Doherty: There is a fee for larger groups.

Kris Grier: Let's do the E-Board first, in the next couple of weeks.

LeRoy Martin: Couldn't we get the Membership to vote at the Meeting?

After some discussion, it was agreed that we could do that.

Paula Doherty: So the purpose of the question would be to ask for a time/day that more E-Board members could attend?

Roger Fight: Among the new members, some are younger and employed. Can we make an accommodation for these new people?

Paula Doherty: So this is observers (before January 2017).

Roger Fight: More of a consideration for the new year.

Bill Dole, Jr.: We mentioned Saturday as an option. We might get a better turnout, both younger E-Board members and interested parties.

Lisa Unger: How about trying a different time, like we did with the Wednesday Discussion Group, to see how it goes?

Roger Fight: A broader group would be more helpful. A survey would get more info.

Bill Dole, Jr.: Can Survey Monkey have a place to indicate whether the respondent is an E-Board member?

Paula Doherty: Yes.

Roger Fight: I'd be willing to table this topic for a later date.

Paula Doherty and Kris Grier agree.

- Good of the Order

Next E-Board Meeting: June 17<sup>th</sup> is the State Convention. We could still have the E-Board meeting on that day as it is earlier.

Discussion followed.

Roger Fight: So it sounds like we should keep it on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

May 28<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting of Membership (Ron Richards suggested)

Motion to have a Special Meeting of the Membership on May 28<sup>th</sup>, LeRoy Martin; Marcia Farrell seconds.

Discussion followed:

Bill Dole, Jr.: At the usual time, 10 am? (Yes)

Paula Doherty: We may want an earlier time. The Juan de Fuca Festival starts that day.

Ron Richards: 10 am would be good, parking would be better than usual. I think a lot of people would come.

Paula Doherty: So May 28<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.

LeRoy Martin: Because of the interest in the Resolutions, we should address them sooner rather than later.

Roger Fight: So there will be no other business, just discussion of the Resolutions.

Kris Grier: We have just enough time to schedule this. Paula will get the information out.

Motion to hold this special Meeting is on the floor. Voice vote; motion passes unanimously.

Marcia Farrell discusses T-shirts; it has been suggested that we all wear them at parades.

Suggested designs include logos "Party of the People", "Vote Blue", "Proud to be a Democrat" and others, with donkey and Clallam County Democratic Party lettering.

Ron Richards: My campaign advisor suggests NOT white T-shirts.

LeRoy Martin: I've ordered some that are black, with a donkey and four stars.

Paula Doherty: I suggest dark blue with white lettering/graphics. Blue is the Democrats' color.

Roger Fight: So there are two issues: someone willing to take on the planning and organizing details, and figuring out the money.

Kris Grier: I suggest that this be revenue-neutral; we won't try to make money but we will hope not to lose money.

Bill Dole, Jr.: People do come in asking for T-shirts.

Roger Fight: We might have one price for Members, and a slightly higher price for the general public. We'd have to figure out sizes/inventory, etc. I suggest we stick to larger sizes.

Marcia Farrell will research this. There are a number of options, including Captain T's.

Roger Fight: So do we have a Planning Committee? Marcia?

Marcia Farrell will work up some designs. Should be printed on the front only. She will try to get these done before the parades.

Kris Grier: I'm applying for Joyce, Forks and Port Angeles permits. Marcia is doing Clallam Bay and Quilleute. Julie Johnson takes care of Neah Bay.

Paula Doherty: So communication will be sent out, inviting Members to May 28<sup>th</sup> meeting. Resolutions will be appended, including the one without a specific recommendation. Do we need a complete agenda?

Roger Fight: I don't think there is any other business. Maybe just some information about parades.

Kris Grier: Suggests this be under Good of the Order.

Welcome

Pledge of Allegiance

Resolutions

Good of the Order

Bill Dole, Jr.: Bill Marsh paid for window cleaning. We should reimburse him \$35.00.

Paula Doherty: Did he intend this as a donation?

Bill Dole, Jr.: Yes, but . . .

Motion to reimburse Bill Marsh for window cleaning, Bill Dole, Jr.; LeRoy Martin seconds.

Voice vote; motion carries unanimously.

Motion to Adjourn, Kris Grier; Paula Doherty seconds. Voice vote; motion passes unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 1:23.

