

CLALLAM COUNTY DEMOCRATS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

August 19, 2016 at Port Angeles Party Headquarters, 124-A West 1st St.

Attendance: Executive Board Members: Chair Roger Fight, Vice Chair Carlyn Syvanen, Recording Secretary Catherine Harper, Corresponding Secretary Paula Doherty, State Committeewoman Julie Johnson, Barbara Jepson, Bill Dole, Jr., Marcia Farrell; Steve Vause and Barbara Jepson. Absent: Treasurer Kris Grier; State Committeeman Joe McGimpsey, LeRoy Martin, Lisa Unger.

Chair Roger Fight called the meeting to order at 11:34.

- Additions to the Agenda

Bill Dole, Jr. added one item to the agenda: a post-primary recap. This will be placed under Reports.

——Motion to approve the Agenda as amended, Steve Vause; Marcia Farrells seconds. Voice
——vote, motion carries unanimously.

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- Approval of Minutes of June 17 Executive Board Meeting

No corrections were noted.

——**MM**otion to accept the Minutes, Carlyn Syvanen; Bill Dole, Jr. seconds. Voice
vote;
——motion carries unanimously.

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- Treasurer's Report

Kris Grier is not present. Roger Fight reported briefly, noting that some fundraising will be needed to cover office rent and expenses. We do, however, have enough money in the Limited Account to give \$5,000 to Ron Richards' campaign.

- Reports

No Program Meeting in August -- Chair Roger Fight reiterated that there will be no program meeting in August, but that the Meetings should resume in the Fall. Doc Robinson is chairing this, and has some ideas for speakers.

New Office Hours – Vice Chair Carlyn Syvanen reported that we have volunteers for all shifts for the new office hours, which will be Monday – Friday from 11:00 – 2:00 and from 2:00 – 5:00, starting after Labor Day. Saturday shifts are not firmed up yet, but hopefully will be soon. Most shifts have one volunteer, and it would be good to have two per shift, so more volunteers are sought. Corresponding Secretary Paula Doherty will include a solicitation for volunteers in the next E-letter, and will make sure new hours are posted on the website.

Fundraising – Marcia Farrell

Marcia Farrell is working on the Roosevelt Dinner, now less than two months away. She asks for volunteers to approach Port Angeles and Sequim restaurants for donations of gift certificates. She also passed around a sign-up sheet for Executive Board members to donate items for the Silent Auction. Each E-Board member, it is hoped, will donate something.

Monthly donations should be started again. There was some discussion of how this could be done automatically. Roger Fight said that anyone with a checking account can set up a monthly contribution; Kris Grier can help set this up. An "automatic" system seems impractical, as it is more complicated, and would require staff and costs.

PCO Coordinator – Since there are so many new PCOs, Roger Fight feels that a team-building event should be planned for PCOs to meet and engage/what should they be doing? We need to capitalize on the new energy. We do not as yet have a PCO Coordinator; it was suggested that the most active PCOs be approached for this job. Paula Doherty recommended Norma Turner, who is a very active member and has recruited many people; she is already very busy but would be good in this position. Julie Johnson recommended Joe McGimpsey, as he is very outgoing. Julie recommends a committee be formed including both Norma and Joe.

Roger Fight noted that we have only about 10 empty spots, with one more to fill today.

Volunteer Coordinator – Still don't have one. Both Becky Acevedo and Jenny Peterson are spending a lot of time in the office; Roger Fight will ask one or both to take this on. Paula Doherty pointed out that Jenny is handling membership applications, which show the desire to volunteer, so she would probably be the best one to approach new members. She is busy, though, with data entry, and might be more comfortable handling this off. Note: Jennie agreed to be the volunteer coordinator. Thank you, Jennie.

There was some discussion here of VoteBuilder databases, including whether/how the caucus attendees were coded. It was determined that we can search locally and broadly, including those tagged with the "activist" code. Not yet in VoteBuilder are the 11,000 people who asked for primary ballots. We'll tag those records so we can search. The State Party may not do this in a timely fashion; their focus is gathering the data. Our Auditors' office does keep a list of rejected ballots, which would include people who did not specify a party; these will yield some of the information.

State Committeewoman -- Julie Johnson began by thanking the Clallam County Democrats for their support for her attendance at the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia. The expenses were much higher than expected at the hotel, etc.; in addition to the CCD support, she was advised to do a Go Fund Me page, and it raised \$1,700.

Julie reported that there was a lot of security at the Convention, and there were good speakers at breakfast meetings; Senator Murray was there, Senator Cantwell was there and sat with Julie and Jessica Hernandez. Julie especially enjoyed the speeches by President Obama, Vice President Joe Biden, and First Lady Michelle Obama.

Senator Cory Booker made a wonderful speech as well; Julie related that she was familiar with one of Senator Booker's articles, and quoted it for the Prayer at breakfast. People loved it.

Julie stated that Bernie Sanders had a large effect on tribal participation, and that he is going to try to get on the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. Senator Cantwell is the ranking Democrat on that Committee.

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Julie also discussed the importance of the Platform Committee, and the need to start work on the platform for a campaign early. The recommendations of this Committee go to the State party. Julie did say that the DNC usually develops its own platform, and that she feels they should streamline this system by having states submit their platforms and the DNC work with that input.

Julie noted that Washington state had the largest number of Native Delegates: 113. She found it interesting the way delegates are elected; it seemed a bit unfair as the hardest workers are often not rewarded. There is a lot of room for improvement in the system – coordination, organization, and participation all need work.

Julie discussed another delegate, Charles Atkins, an 18 year old Native; he also had funding problems and received assistance from Julie and others; he will be attending Evergreen College.

Julie thanked LeRoy and Lorraine Martin for the reception they held for her and Jessica Hernandez. Julie just did a fundraiser for Maria Cantwell (raised \$14-15K) and Erin Jones (raised \$7-8K). Local tribes were well represented, and a tribal member from Colville attended as well.

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State Committeeman – Joe McGimpsey

Joe McGimpsey is not present; there is no report.

Post-Primary Report -- Bill Dole, Jr.

Bill was in Philadelphia, outside the Convention. His main thrust is that many people feel the election was stolen; that the candidate was pre-chosen, and the will of the people was not considered. He stated that many people have said they will never vote Democratic again because of this. So, how do we retain people and rekindle interest in our Party? There are no easy answers. Marcia Farrell mentioned the Supreme Court. Bill Dole said that that argument does not work for him. Bill will never vote for Hillary, feels there are too many indictments, etc.; he wants the Party to think about how to bring disillusioned people back in.

Julie Johnson spoke in Hillary Clinton's defense, noting that she fought for Indian Health Care years ago, supporting it when no one else would. People agreed that Bernie Sanders made an impact on the Party platform and that he has helped moved the Party to the left.

Bernie Sanders will be giving a speech on September 24, and we will have a "Watch Party"; live streaming at 6 pm, so suggested start of the event is 5:30. Bob Hosek will host. Paula

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Doherty

— will get an e-mail announcement out.

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- New Business/Discussion

Roger Fight announced that Sam Woods has agreed to be PCO for the Port Williams precinct.

Motion to appoint Sam Woods as Port Williams PCO, Paula Doherty; Julie Johnson seconds. Voice vote; motion passes unanimously.

Roger Fight reported that we now have 57 PCO positions filled, and will try to fill the remaining 10 positions. He stated that we need contact information for each PCO to be posted on the website. Contact can be either e-mail or phone, as the PCO prefers.

Bill Dole, Jr., who is moving to Olympia, will be vacating his PCO position today. A new PCO has already been elected, and will be listed on the website.

Ron Richards' Campaign Donation – Per the Treasurer's Report, we have enough money to give \$5,000 to this campaign. That will bring our account down to some \$1,500. Bill Dole, Jr. asked if we are expecting to acquire any more money between now and the election, say from the Roosevelt Dinner. Marcia Farrell estimated that we will make \$3,000 - \$4,000 on the Dinner. Bill proposed that we give the campaign \$2,500 now with the promise of more later. Marcia Farrell stated that the money may be crucial now; Paula Doherty thinks that it might be better if the Executive Board authorizes the donation now but does not disperse it until it is needed, to avoid the campaign needing to report a large contribution. Paula feels the money will not be needed until they do their mailer, probably in September.

Motion: The Executive Board authorizes a donation of \$2,500 to Ron Richards' campaign, Paula Doherty; Bill Dole, Jr. seconds. Voice vote, motion passes unanimously.

More Endorsements – Roger Fight sent out the list of Jefferson County's proposed endorsements; their recommendations for Lieutenant Governor, State Auditor, and Commissioner of Public Lands are easy endorsements for us; Superintendent of Public Instruction has been deferred. Julie Johnson noted that Erin Jones is supported for this position by the tribes.

Initiatives for endorsement include 1491, the extreme protection orders (Kevin van de Wege supports); 732, the carbon tax initiative; 1501, protection for seniors and vulnerable persons (this is basically making financial advisors have fiduciary responsibility, which they do not have now); and 1464, which creates a State-funded campaign finance program.

Roger Fight notes that we have plenty of time to deal with this at the September meeting. Paula Doherty stated that we are already on record as supporting both 732 and Citizens United.

Roger Fight noted that Jefferson County approaches endorsements a little differently than we do, and asks the Executive Board if they are happy with our system. He said that our by-laws are the same as Jefferson's, and thus there is wiggle room to do this either way.

— Roger Fight reiterated our method of endorsement, including a reluctance to endorse in a race with two Democratic candidates. We have the option for candidates to speak to the Membership before endorsements are made. Steve Vause commented that our present system seems reasonable; Julie Johnson suggests that we might have a special meeting, including the PCOs, to which the candidates could be invited.

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Roger Fight finished by saying that this discussion is probably aimed towards the next election cycle.

- Unfinished Business

None noted.

- Good of the Order

Next E-Board Meeting: September 15 (Thursday). The scheduled date, September 16th, has a conflict.

Next Membership Meeting: September 24.

- Adjournment

Motion to adjourn, Bill Dole, Jr.; Marcia Farrell seconds. Voice vote; motion carries unanimously.

Chair Roger Fight adjourned the meeting at 1:05.

