

Hood County Republican Party
Minutes

May 12, 2020

Present: David Fischer, Terry McNew, Van Vernon, Bob Swearingen, Barbara Brashear, Matt Eagle, Kay Crain, Michael Musselman, Lisa Koiner, Melanie Graft, Michael McKee, Darla Louvin, Debra Sagan, Kathy Jividen, Mark Shackelford and Sandy Stultz. Denise Lizun was excused. We had a total of 27 attendees.

Meeting called to Order at 7:00 p.m. by David Fischer, County Chair

Welcome guests: Kyle Koiner, Madeline Koiner, Sharon Shelander, Caroline McLeod, Zach Maxwell, Terry Louvin, Nathan Criswell, Cliff Criswell, Trish Relnen, William Turner Miles, Ron Massingill, Dave Eagle, Debbie Gregston, Greg Corrigan, Lorri Streiff, David Streiff, Brenda Massingill, Steven Rhodes, Nannette Samuelson, Kellye Sorelle. Run off candidates were allowed to introduce themselves. Candidates attending: David Cook, Jack Wilson, Kevin Andrews
Kevin Andrews spoke to the audience and stated we need to all work together this election.

Invocation was given by Terry Louvin, followed by the pledges.

Review and approval of the Minutes: Motion was made by Van Vernon and was seconded by Bob Swearingen to accept the minutes. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report – Michael McKee

Final report on the Fundraiser: \$27,152.59 net. At end of April \$39,694.87 in bank State Farm Insurance increased our insurance by \$310.64 due to attendance in bldg. Mike thanked Lisa Koiner for a great fundraiser. Motion made by Terry McNew and seconded by Mark Shackelford to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion carried

Budget Committee: Kay Crain stated it is time to work on the budget and asked for new committee members. Van Vernon and Mike Musselman volunteered.

Precinct Reports:

David Fisher reported the resignation of Melanie Graft. Everyone thanked Melanie for her hard work and recommended "she not be a stranger." With that, Melanie had recommended Dr. Deborah Sagan replace her. A motion was made by Kay Crain and seconded by Terry McNew to accept this nomination. Motion carried.

Mike Musselman and Debra Sagan were sworn in by Chair David Fischer. Darla Louvin was approved as the new Vice Chair of Elections.

No one reported any precinct news.

Legislative Liason: Dr. Deborah Sagan stated G16 expired on April 30th.

Here is the latest on the mail-in ballot issue:

<https://www.texastribune.org/2020/05/13/texas-ag-seeks-mail-election-ballot-ruling-state-supreme-court/>The Texas election code defines disability as a “sickness or physical condition” that prevents a voter from appearing in person without the risk of “injuring the voter’s health.” Travis County District Judge Tim Sulak ruled lack of immunity to the virus falls under that definition.

The election officials Paxton is targeting — county clerks or election administrators in Harris, Dallas, Travis, El Paso and Cameron counties — have generally indicated they will process mail-in ballots that cite a disability in accordance with the law and court rulings.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

David Fischer will certify the election. The run-off will be July 14. There will be a forum at City Hall on June 25 at 6 pm and the office will be opened from 6/29-7/10 for early voting.

County Convention: Due to the Covid-19, the Convention has been moved again to Saturday, June 13th at Brazos Covenant Ministries. Sandy Stultz explained that help is needed the Friday before the Convention and asked all Precinct Chairs to meet at 6 to help set up. Van Vernon will chair the Resolutions Committee and Kay Crain will chair the Rules Committee.

Rule 44 Sanctions and Resolutions

Due to Tripp Bryant of the SREC not attending, the Sanctions were not discussed.

Resolutions:

Censure for Cause of Judge Vincent Messina was presented to the committee by Van Vernon regarding the Resolution to Censure Judge Vincent Messina. (Resolution will be attached to original minutes to be kept on file.) After a lengthy discussion and a rebuttal to this by Judge Messina, a motion was made by Barbara Brashear to table this. Motion failed. A motion was made by Kay Crain that the vote to go forward with a verbal vote and was seconded by Mike Musselman. The vote was 4 yeses (Mark Shackelford, Van Vernon, Bob Swearingen, Barbara Brashear) to 4 nos (Mike Musselman, Terry McNew, Kay Crain, Debra Sagan), therefore without a 2/3rds vote, the resolution failed to go forward.

Discussion:

Motion made by Van Vernon, seconded by Terry McNew to adjourn. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10

Submitted by Sandy Stultz, Secretary