

1 Draft Minutes

2 Linn County Democratic Central Committee

3 December 06, 2017 – 7:00 PM

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5 OFFICERS PRESENT: Bret Nilles, Valerie Smith, Sam Gray. Sarah Stutler,
6 Laura Geary Bell, Michael McGree

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8 ACTIONS TAKEN AT THE DECEMBER 06, 2017, MEETING:

- 9 1. Central Committee Member Andrew Leonard was elected Treasurer
10 of Linn County Democrats.
- 11 2. Motion to approve the Draft Minutes of the October 25 2017, meeting
12 of the Linn County Democratic Central Committee as amended was
13 moved, seconded, and carried on a voice vote.
- 14 3. Motion to approve the October 2017 Treasurer's Report was moved,
15 seconded, and carried on a voice vote.
- 16 4. Resignations of Charles Menge (CR36) and Pat Wolf (TCOL) were
17 accepted by the Central Committee.
- 18 5. Shawn Caldwell was elected Alternate Committeeperson from CR22
19 on a voice vote.
- 20 6. Tristan Hines was elected Alternate Committeeperson from CR22 on
21 a voice vote.

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23 I. CALL TO ORDER

- 24 a. The holiday combined November/December meeting of the
25 Linn County Democratic Central Committee was held on
26 December 06, 2017, at the Hiawatha Community Center in
27 Hiawatha, Iowa. Chair Bret Nilles called the meeting to order at
28 7:16 PM, and Michael McGree, Recording Secretary, was
29 present. A quorum was present.

- 31 II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- 32 a. Chair Bret Nilles led the Central Committee in a recitation of the
- 33 Pledge of Allegiance.
- 34 III. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS, ELECTED OFFICIALS, AND CANDIDATES
- 35 a. Chair Nilles welcomed elected officials in attendance.
- 36 1. IA Sen. Rob Hogg, IA Rep. Art Staed, IA Rep. Todd
- 37 Taylor, IA Rep. Kirsten Running-Marquardt, IA Rep.
- 38 Liz Bennett ; Ely City Councilor Kay Hale, Hiawatha
- 39 City Councilor Amy Wichtendahl, Linn County
- 40 Supervisor Jim Houser, Linn County Supervisor
- 41 Brent Oleson, Liinn County Supervisor Ben Rogers,
- 42 Cedar Rapids City Councilor Dale Todd, Cedar
- 43 Rapids City Councilor Ashley Vanorney
- 44 2. A special welcome was extended to Troy Price,
- 45 Chairperson of the Iowa Democratic Party
- 46 b. Chair Nilles welcomed candidates for elective office in
- 47 attendance.
- 48 i. Eric Gjerde (HD 67), Molly Donahue (HD 68), Scott Foens
- 49 (HD 68)
- 50 ii. Representatives from following campaigns briefly spoke.
- 51 1. John Delaney (US President), George Ramsey (IA
- 52 1st District), Abby Finkenhauer (IA 1st District), Jim
- 53 Mowrer (IA Secretary of State), Nate Boulton
- 54 (Governor), Fred Hubbel (Governor), John Norris
- 55 (Governor)
- 56 c. Chair Nilles welcomed guests and first time visitors in
- 57 attendance.
- 58 IV. CAMPAIGN ANNOUNCEMENTS
- 59 a. Elected officials and campaign representatives reported
- 60 updates and announced upcoming events.

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- 62 V. ELECTION OF TREASURER
- 63 a. Outgoing Treasurer Diane Peterson was presented with a
64 Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of her service to Linn
65 County Democrats.
- 66 b. Nominations
- 67 i. Nominations for Treasurer were opened. The following
68 names were placed in nomination:
- 69 1. Andrew Leonard
- 70 2. Michael Bayliss
- 71 ii. Candidates were provided an opportunity to address the
72 Assembly. Andrew Leonard spoke briefly. Michael
73 Bayliss was not present to speak.
- 74 c. Vote
- 75 i. Alternate Committeepersons were seated prior to the
76 election of Treasurer.
- 77 ii. An election by a show of hands of Central Committee
78 Member present was conducted. Tellers tallied the
79 number of raised hand for each candidate.
- 80 iii. Andrew Leonard was elected Treasurer. He assumed
81 duties immediately.
- 82 VI. SECRETARY'S REPORT
- 83 a. Approval of minutes
- 84 i. The October 25 Draft Minutes of the Linn County
85 Democrats Central Committee as distributed were
86 approved on a voice vote.
- 87 b. Resignations/Nominations
- 88 1. Resignations
- 89 a. Charles Menge (CR37), Pat Wolf (TCOL)
- 90 ii. Nominations
- 91 1. Shawn Caldwell (Alternate, CR22), Tristan Hines
92 (Alternate, CR22) were nominated.

- 93 2. Shawn Caldwell was elected Alternate
- 94 Committeeperson from CR22 on a voice vote.
- 95 3. Tristan Hines was elected Alternate
- 96 Committeeperson from CR22 on a voice vote.

97 VII. TREASURER'S REPORT

- 98 a. Approval of monthly report
- 99 i. Chair Niles provided presented the September 2017
- 100 Treasurer's Report. The report was approved as
- 101 distributed on a voice vote.

- 102 b. Pass the hat
- 103 i. The Pass the Hat fundraising activity was conducted in
- 104 which members were encouraged to donate to Linn
- 105 County Democrat.

106 VIII. COMMITTEE UPDATES (AFFIRMATIVE ACTION, DISABILITY CAUCUS, LABOR
107 & STONEWALL)

- 108 a. Affirmative Action Committee
- 109 i. No report was given.
- 110 b. Disability Caucus: Caucus Chair Catherine Crist reporting
- 111 i. Linn County Democrats Disability Caucus will be moving
- 112 to a new meeting location and time to be determined.
- 113 ii. 1st District Democrats Disability Caucus will met prior to
- 114 the 1st District Central Committee meeting on 1/20/18.

- 115 c. Labor Caucus
- 116 i. Mike Olsen provided a brief update regarding Activities of
- 117 Labor Caucus

- 118 d. Stonewall Caucus
- 119 i. Stonewall Caucus will change meeting locations in
- 120 January to the Starlite Room in Cedar Rapids
- 121 ii. Date and time remain the same: 2nd Wednesday of each
- 122 month from 6:30-8 PM.

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- 124 IX. NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS
- 125 a. 1st Vice Chair Valerie Smith presented a brief overview of the
- 126 status of off-year caucus preparations.
- 127 i. Approximately half of the Chair and Secretary positions
- 128 have been filled.
- 129 ii. Upcoming Caucus trainings
- 130 1. An abbreviated training will be held after the
- 131 January Central Committee meeting
- 132 2. Cedar Rapids Public Library on Saturday Thursday
- 133 1/25 6-8 PM
- 134 3. Marion Public Library on Saturday 1/27 10 AM -
- 135 noon
- 136 a. Designed for general public, not caucus
- 137 leaders
- 138 4. Cedar Rapids Ladd Library, Monday 1/29 6-8 PM
- 139 5. Marion Sunday 2/4 3-5 PM
- 140 iii. Members are encouraged to visit the Linn County
- 141 Democrats Facebook page for a link to a Google Form to
- 142 sign up for a training. An updated list of training dates
- 143 and times can be found there.
- 144 b. Various Central Committee members reported on upcoming
- 145 events
- 146 X. FINAL THOUGHTS
- 147 a. Chair Bret Nilles thanked the Assembly for coming out and
- 148 showing support.
- 149 b. He spoke about continued evidence of momentum for
- 150 Democrats going into 2018 and beyond.
- 151 XI. ADJOURNMENT
- 152 a. The meeting adjourned at 8:16 PM.