

**CLINTON COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

April 4, 2024 – 7:00 pm

Victor Township Hall

Approved June 6, 2024

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman Steve Willis called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.
2. **Invocation** – Steve Willis
3. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Led by Sheriff Sean Dush
4. **Roll Call** – 12 members of the Executive Committee were in attendance; a quorum was established.
5. **Approval of Agenda** – **Motion** to approve agenda: Phil Hanses; Second: Mark Balfanz. *Approved.*
6. **Approval of 3-7-24 Minutes** – **Motion** to approve minutes: Andy Barrone; Second: Alan Cobb. *Approved.*
7. **Treasurer’s Report** – Tim Roberts
 - a) Hardcopies of the report were made available to Executive Committee members
 - b) Political Account – \$2,689.36 deposited from sponsorships & LDD registrations. Ending Balance \$15,086.55.
 - c) Administrative Account – No transactions. Balance \$3,228.37.
Motion to approve report: Lisa Barrone; Second: Sheriff Dush. *Approved.*
8. **Chair’s Report** – Steve Willis gave updates on the following:
 - a) 2024 CCRP Club Sponsorships
 - b) Lincoln Day Dinner registration, program ads, candidate tables - deadline is 4-20-24
 - c) Wind & Solar Petitions
 - d) Tom Barrett Petitions
 - e) Precinct Delegate Applications
 - f) Precinct Delegate Recruitment
9. **Vice-Chair’s Report** – Nancy Bareham shared the following:
 - a) Lincoln Day Dinner Update
 - b) Legislative Update
 - c) State Party/State Committee Update
10. **Committee Reports**
 - a) **Wind & Solar Update** – Theresa Owen
 - i) Clinton Co BOC has approved the Solar Ordinance. The Wind Ordinance. For now they are keeping the current (very limited) wind ordinance, which was largely written by one of the current commissioners, in place.
 - ii) Petition drive is going well (Ballot Initiative to Restore Local Zoning Control of Wind & Solar Projects)
 - iii) Circulators are needed to gather signatures – contact Ken Weiber, Theresa Owen, Steve Willis, or Andy Barrone
 - b) **St Johns Bond Issue** – David Smith reported they are hoping to do 2 informational mailers explaining why voters should NOT approve the bond, each mailer expected to cost ~ \$500. At the suggestion of another meeting attendee,

a hat was passed and \$450 was collected to put toward the cost of mailers. Question was asked if CCRP could donate from the Political Fund, the matter was set aside to be addressed later during New Business.

11. Candidates and Elected Officials Reports

Clinton County State House Seats – candidates were not present, announced by Steve Willis

- a) Patty McPhee (75th) – has not yet filed, will be opposed by another candidate who has lost in the past
- b) Cady Ness-Smith (77th) – has filed, she is a nurse who also farms (crops and stock)
- c) Tim Kelly (93rd) – has filed, will be at our Lincoln Day Dinner. District includes the 6 northern Clinton Co townships

Michigan State Supreme Court

- a) Andrew Fink – Legislative aide Caleb Lambrecht, spoke on Fink's behalf

Clinton Countywide Elected

- a) Sheriff – Sean Dush is running for another term; department has new black & olive uniforms due to brown uniforms being discontinued; SWAT team recently honored at awards ceremony.
- b) Drain Commissioner – Phil Hanses is running for one more term; currently focused on maintenance work and troubleshooting as farmers start working fields; working with Road Commission and individual townships to facilitate more timely road crossing repairs; annual report will be on posted on website soon.

Clinton County Commissioner – incumbents and candidates were announced by Steve Willis

- a) District 1 – Incumbent/Candidate Val Vail-Shirey (R)
- b) District 2 – Incumbent/Candidate Dave Pohl (R); Challengers Zach Rudat (R), Evie Quiroga-Klein (D)
- c) District 3 – Incumbent Bruce Delong has not filed
- d) District 4 – Incumbent/Candidate Ken Mitchell (R); Challengers Brian Hurtekant (R), Matthew Boak (D)
Ken Mitchell was present – reported he sees a lot of waste, works to keep taxes down and spend reasonably
- e) District 5 – Incumbent/Candidate Bob Showers (R); Challengers Brian Byars (R), Muhammad Rais (D)
- f) District 6 – Incumbent John Andrews (D) has not filed; we are looking for Republican challenger
- g) District 7 – Incumbent Dwight Washington (D) has not filed; we are looking for Republican challenger

Township/City Elected – incumbents were announced by Steve Willis

- a) Eagle Twp Supervisor – Incumbent/Candidate Troy Stroud (R)
- b) DeWitt Twp Trustee – Incumbent Dave Seeger (R), is not running again
- c) DeWitt Twp Trustee – Incumbent/Candidate Steve Smith (R)

12. New Business

- a) Let My People Go – we will screen the movie at our next meeting, May 2, 2024; 6:30 start time; precinct delegate forms will be collected/notarized; no business will be conducted
- b) \$500 Donation to Citizens for Responsible School Financing – *Motion made by Mark Balfanz; Second: Alan Cobb; passed by unanimous roll-call vote.*

13. Next CCRP Executive Committee Meeting - Thursday, May 2, 2024 – Victor Township Hall.

14. Adjournment – *Motion to adjourn: Philip Bareham; Second: Alan Cobb. Approved.* (Adjourned at 9:58 pm)

Submitted by Missy Porterfield, Secretary