

## Benton County Republican BPOU Meeting Minutes, May 11, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM by Chairman Blake Paulson followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, and invocation by Cocoa Robertson.

Board members present: Blake Paulson, Joshua Jones, Judy Hackett, Carol Rugar and Ruth Gruba (by remote)

Others present: Cocoa Robertson, Daniel Stephenson, Sam Olson, Beth Schlangen, Kevin Arnold, Philip Kameo, Jim Zitzmann and John Ulrick.

A motion was made by Judy Hackett and seconded by Joshua Jones to move items regarding the fair booth, committees and appointment of 2 more Reps to CD6 be moved to #4 on the agenda and table current item #4 until later. Motion approved.

Blake reported that he had the paperwork completed to submit for the fair booth. Charge for the double booth, same location as in the past, is \$425 plus a fully refunded deposit of \$100 provided we maintain booth open until 5 PM on Sunday. If the booth is closed early, we forfeit that \$100. Motion by Carol Rugar, seconded by Josh Jones to approve \$525 payable to Benton County Fair Board. Motion approved.

The motion was made by Josh Jones and seconded by Judy Hackett to table appointment of BPOU representatives to CD6. Motion approved.

Blake appointed the following committee chairpersons:

Events and Fundraising: Carol Rugar

Public Relations and Media: Kevin Arnold. Josh Jones.

Candidate Research and Campaign: Beth Schlangen

Motion made by Josh Jones and seconded by Judy Hackett to approve the above committee chairpersons. Motion approved.

There was a discussion on caucus training and information.

It was noted that summer parades are coming up. Congressman Tom Emmer will participate in the Sauk Rapids parade and we can join that unit. For the Foley parade Benton will have their own unit at a cost of \$75.00. Others we will participate in are Gilman and Rice.

A motion was made by Judy Hackett and seconded by Josh Jones to approve the Secretary's report with the correction requested by Sandra Brakstad to read: "all banking may now be conducted online as well as in person". Motion approved with correction.

Blake reported that the Treasurer's Report showed that \$3,693 as total receipts from April 12<sup>th</sup> fundraiser less expenses of \$2,014.84 (books, food and space rental) yielded a net profit of \$1,678.16. Balance in checking account is \$702.80 and savings is \$2976.41 for a total balance of \$3,679.21. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Judy Hackett and seconded by Josh Jones. Motion approved.

There was mention by Blake of the following items:

Ideas for the fair booth

Items available from Henry's in Foley

Shirts for Benton BPOU

End of Session Wrap-Up to be held the Tuesday or Wednesday after Memorial Day. Carol Rugar to check on availability of Sauk Rapids Government Center. Check on Thursday, June 1 or Monday June 5<sup>th</sup>. It was consensus to invite Rep. Wolgamott and Sen. Putnam.

Possible speakers mentioned for future events were Jason Lewis, Kendall Qualls, Parents Alliance, Kids over Politics, Tik Tok.

SD14 will hold Rick Weibel for an event in June.

A motion to adjourn was made by Judy Hackett and seconded by Joshua Jones.

Motion adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Rugar, Secretary