

**April 2010**

**Ferry County Democratic Central Committee Minutes**

April 21<sup>st</sup>, Republic

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM. Attending were: Michael Sternberg, Kisa, Melissa Rose, Bryan Bremner, Ron Bacon, Marianne Bremner, Ralph Bremner, Lillian Montague, Dorothy Ferguson, Denise Zipperer, Joann Marshall, Jean Booher, Elizabeth May, Cynthia Bonneau-Green, Kevin Green, Joe Abraham, Madilane Perry, Sandra Sweetman, Katherine Meade and Jan Hartford.

**Guest Speakers – Candidates for County Offices**

**Cynthia Bonneau-Green**

Cynthia is running for County Commissioner District 2. She has a background in finance mostly in the investment field. She had her own investment company dealing mostly with investing in municipal bonds for 13 years. She was also an arbitrator for a municipal securities board. Currently she has had a local business for 10 years earning her the reputation of “Yarn Lady”. She wants to be a commissioner because she plans on growing old here and she wants to give her family hope for a good future in Ferry County. She is committed to moving the county in more positive directions and to make the most of our funding. She is set up and ready to campaign with her team and an informative website.

**Jean Booher**

Jean is the incumbent County Clerk and is running for that office. She started out in 1989 as a part time employee in the Clerk’s Office and knows her job. This will be her 3<sup>rd</sup> term. Besides her experience she brings continuity and a sense of history to the office. Among her concerns are that County Officials are not all working well together. She would like to have the chance to change that for a more cooperative workplace.

**Ron Bacon**

Ron is running for County Commissioner District 2. He was a County Commissioner and is very aware of what the job entails. He was the only Democrat elected to any county office the in the state the year he was elected. He states that the Board of Commissioners’ only power is to manage the budget. Further, there have been decisions made at the county level that have encumbered our funds, money that should not have been encumbered and has in a continuous way that jeopardizes our resources. Resources need to be protected. He is currently working on a Mental Health Advocacy Board, for Seniors and with the Emergency Medical District. He identifies the way the Growth Management Act is dealt with as the main issue. He estimates the Commissioners spend about \$1,500 a month in legal expenses fighting GMA. He says we need to find a way to deal with GMA or we may never elect a Democrat again.

There followed a lot of discussion of possible candidates. Kathleen Rupp will run again. Cynthia stated that she felt she would have a good chance in the General Election as she is well known in the North County as she lived there for a number of years.

Filing for office is June 6<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup>. The Primary is August 17<sup>th</sup>. To be elected to their Precincts people need to file with the Auditor's Office in the filing period. The Business and Professional Women will hold their Candidates Night before the Ballots are mailed.

### **Top Two Primary**

There was discussion of how the Top Two Primary affects how we run our election. Basically the Nomination process has been obviated by the new laws. However, because of the lawsuit to have it changed, Dwight Pelz and the Washington State Democratic Central Committee wants us to continue the nomination process. However due to time restrictions we would be hard pressed to hold ours on time. An alternative would be to endorse candidates and later ask Mr. Pelz to nominate them in lieu of a Nominating Convention. Another difference is that the state party defines how a Nominating Convention is run. Endorsing rules can, however, be made by the local central committee.

The upshot is that if we have more than one candidate for an office running in the primary it may split the vote to the point that no Democrat for that office will appear on the November ballot. If this does happen we can hold a Nominating Convention and nominate a write-in candidate or endorse one. To be an official write-in the candidate needs to register with the Auditor's Office.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes for Feb. were read and approved. Michael commented that Kisa is trying to get a big name here to attract interested people to a fund raising event. He also mentioned that we want to have a Democratic Social in June just to get together and mingle. The need for more participation to work on the election was also mentioned.

### **Endorsement**

Kisa made a motion to have an endorsement meeting in June. Jean seconded and all were in favor. Since the motion was not elaborated upon the meeting will probably be discussed and more defined at the May meeting.

### **New Precinct Committee Officers**

Following a call for PCOs Joe Abraham was appointed to Curlew precinct. Melissa Rose was appointed to either Curlew Kai or Copper Butte depending on availability. Denise Zipperer was appointed to either Malo or South Malo precinct.

### **Donations**

An informal report of our treasury resulted in approximately \$175 in donations.

### **Good of Order**

Dennis Morgan, the Independent candidate for Prosecuting Attorney, was invited via Jean Booher to speak at our May meeting. We adjourned at 8 PM. Minutes by Kisa with help.