

## **February 2010**

### **Ferry County Democratic Central Committee**

Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>, Republic

The meeting was called to order by Melissa at 6:10 PM as Michael was late. Present were: Melissa Rose, Sikander Jaad, Zena Johnson, Lillian Montague, Jean Booher, Bob Whittaker, Lyn Edgel, Kisa and Michael Sternberg. The Flag was honored. The minutes for January were read and approved with 3 corrections.

### **Treasurers Report**

There was none.

### **State Representative Reports**

Bryan was not present. Melissa made many calls to Ferry County Democrats to generate interest in finding candidates, meetings and conducting a convention. She reported that the main issue for most was Health Care Reform and concern that the Single Payer option that they voted for was no longer an option. In the election cycle 67% of voters surveyed wanted Single Payer Now. Beyond that there is confusion about the Bill. There followed a long discussion about how unclear the situation is, how to vote when the Senate, House and White House have differing versions. A motion was made and passed that Lyn and Kisa frame an email request for clear information about Health Care Reform and an expression of frustration at being expected to support something so unclear. After approval this would be sent to the Senate, House and White House.

Bob W. brought an article to our attention that ranked Washington counties by health. Out of 39 counties, Ferry came out 39<sup>th</sup>. San Juan county was the healthiest on the survey. This brought another aspect of health reform importance to light. The survey link is on the website.

### **Old Business**

#### **Secretary Position**

There was no volunteer for appointment as Secretary.

#### **2010 Elections**

##### Candidate Search

Kisa requested that Michael list the Precincts in District 2 to put below the map on our website. He said that all the precincts in #2 are whole not partials as they appear on the map. In our discussions Michael shared an email he received from Dennis Wuerth with suggestions about fundraising and a comment about our website. Looking at the Republican website which seems

little more than a blog it was discovered that they have a hefty bank account. We need to do some serious fundraising.

It was mentioned that PCOs could be appointed to precincts other than the one that they live in and that we are short on PCOs. No one asked to be appointed.

No new potential candidate names have been brought forward.

### Elections Committee

So far no committee has formed. There was a lot of discussion about the lack of participation by local Democrats in this election process. Sikander made many good suggestions. She indicated that there was a lack of leadership in defining issues and a platform. Both Chairs indicated their belief that a platform needs to come from the party members along with a clearer picture of their issues. Being sensitive to possible differences of issue identification by the National Central Committee and local members, the Chairs want to hear from local members and/or see what the 7<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Caucus has to say. A very clear and comprehensive draft of resolutions for a platform has been sent to us for ideas from acting Sec. Ellen Miller.

Sunday March 14<sup>th</sup> is the date set for Legislative District Caucuses, Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM is the time set for County Conventions. A credentials committee needs to be named and reported to the WSDCC on March 11<sup>th</sup>. Melissa plans to attend the WSDCC Convention in June.

### Ad in View for February Report

The ad voted on in Jan. did not get to the View in time.

Bob will help Michael get an ad ready for the View that states some issues to help generate interest. The deadline for the ad is Feb. 24<sup>th</sup>. Michael brought a sample. We agreed that it was reasonable to spend \$69 on this ad. It was agreed that identifying the issues would be the focus of the ad.

There was a long discussion generated by the above topics about what we could do to motivate and inspire county residents to take part in the Elections Committee, help us find candidates and do fund raising. We did not finish our agenda and adjourned at 8 PM.

Minutes by Kisa with help.