

**September 2010**

**Ferry County Central Committee Meeting minutes**

Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>, Republic

**Meeting called to order** at 6:43 pm. Attending were: Sikander Jaad, Cynthia Bonneau-Green, Kevin Green, Dennis Boone, Erin Boone, Steve Van Slyke, Madilane Perry, Michael Sternberg, Bryan Bremner, and Melissa Rose.

As the meeting began quite late, after asking for corrections or additions to the agenda, it was agreed to postpone regular business in order to give the floor to attending candidates.

**Dennis Boone** introduced his wife Erin and campaign manager Steve Van Slyke and began by asking for questions. When asked how to increase the number of officers, he replied that there are a number of non-matching grant opportunities available including COPS and Rural Child Victims and more. The present administration never applied for these; he has no idea why but he would actively pursue all funding opportunities.

When it was mentioned that those grants typically fund for only 3 years, it was agreed that to a crime victim, any additional officer for even a 3 year term would be welcomed. Mr. Boone explained that we are lowest paid Sheriffs Department in Washington State and while a government methamphetamine grant funds one full time drug enforcement officer now; this money could be pulled at any time. We have seven officers (including 2 currently deployed to Afghanistan and not including the sheriff & under sheriff); however this per capita national standard is very insufficient considering the amount of square miles/roads miles officers must cover. 30% of the Sheriffs time is required to fulfill administrative duties: this can be done while still allowing sufficient time for the Sheriff to be working patrol, which the current Sheriff does not do.

Regarding sex offenders: the sheriff office used to be funded one thousand dollars per offender annually to monitor up to fifty offenders and five hundred dollars annually after fifty which includes going to registers offender's homes to verify such quarterly. Mr. Boone's wife Erin held this position until her resignation in February 2010. Currently he is unsure if this is still being done according to statute, but her position has not been filled. While this monitoring is subject to state audit, it could be challenging to accurately determine whether it is occurring as required. He explained that of the three levels of sex offender registration, level ones are not subject to public disclosure to the same extent that level two and three are. The Ferry County Sheriffs website home page has a link to "Offender Watch" for more information.

Regarding issues brought up in the Prosecuting attorney race: in order to successfully prosecute, you must have sufficient evidence. The lack of successful prosecutions can be tied to the fact that under the current administration, officers are not often being allowed to collect sufficient evidence to support potentially successful prosecutions. When a major crime occurs here, State Patrol is called in first and our county officers stand by and observe what the state does, thus their skills are underutilized and the motivation to use those skills can even degrade over time.

Relationships with other agencies (other than the Border Patrol): are basically either non-existent or poor at best. We must fix this ASAP especially with the Colville

Tribe. He plans to be an active leader/ mentor and to motivate all to improve the whole department.

Regarding reserves: he explained that under the current administration the reserve program evaporated as soon as Sheriff Warner came into office. We had had 20 or so reserves then that took care of all tertiary duties such as County Fair patrol for example. No funds were sought to keep these reserves trained or outfitted with equipment and vehicles. If elected, Mr. Boone intends to reinstate program but explains it will be a huge undertaking to begin from scratch to rebuild this unit.

While he has maxed out his campaign contributions (due to the mini-reporting disclosure method he used) he would welcome any ads etc others would like to put forth on his behalf, as long as he can ok the ads first of course.

Regular Business resumed in a much annotated format due to time constraints.

**Minutes of the August Meeting** were approved unanimously with two minor corrections to be submitted to the acting Secretary for addition.

**Treasurer Report** No Report

### **State Committeepersons Report**

Bryan Bremner plans to attend the October meeting on Moses Lake and mentioned that it was great for a change that this meeting is being held much closer and in a much more affordable location than past meetings.

Melissa reported that due to catastrophic medical expenses she has had to decline attendance. With Melissa abstaining, it was agreed to contribute the cost of a motel room and meals for her to attend.

### **Old Business**

Select Secretary No one available at this time.

### **New Business**

Primary Election Results As the results are known to the community and due to time constraints this was skipped except to note that Cynthia Bonneau-Green made the Top Two and will run against Brian Dinsel for District # 2 Commissioner.

Utilizing Vote Builder Bryan is working with specific candidates on an individual basis.

Campaign Contributions & Signs It was unanimously agreed that if a check of our finances dictate, to contribute \$250.00 to Cynthia Bonneau-Green's campaign; \$100.00 to Daryl Romeyn; \$50.00 to Patty Murray and \$50.00 to Barbara Mowrey, with some held in reserve in case it is needed for any last minute rebuttal ad in a local race, for example.

There was discussion about getting four large Patty Murray signs from the state party possibly at little or no cost to us. It was agreed that Michael will contact Dwight Pelz following tonight's meeting to determine if that is still possible and he will then coordinate with Bryan and Melissa to plan pick up and placement.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm. Minutes by Melissa with help.

