

Cass Co GOP Executive meeting 10-22-2024

Mark Howie called to order, Will Beadenkopf led in prayer and Paul Boggs the Pledge.

Roll Call: The following were present: Steve Carra, Brad Paquette, Johnathan Lindsey, Jeff VanBelle, James Lawrence, Rosann Marchetti, RJ Lee, Wally Berndt, Dan Adams, Kim Adams, Mike Egan, Nate Wilder, Mark Howie, JD Glaser, Wendy Glaser, Rose Kelsheimer, Roger Boyer, Mike Grice, Lynn Schantz, Brian Woodbury, and Tom Langley.

Not present: Monica McMichael, Rick Behnke, Victor Fitz, Thomas Stephenson, Ryan Laylin, Joyce Sheteron-Locke, Jeremiah Jones, Samuel Barrera, Kevin Kelsheimer, and Debbie Burke.

Excused Absence: Hope Anderson, Mary Howie, and Jerry Duck.

Secretary's Report: Wally Berndt – Stacy Wilder motioned to approve seconded by Tom Langley. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Kim Adams – Copies are on the table in the back. In the campaign account the balance is \$12,798.64. The admin account balance is \$2,257.58.

Mark Howie wanted to publicly acknowledge and express his appreciation for the multiple large contributions by Malcom Tuesly, a strong Conservative Republican Supporter to the Cass County Republican Party. He is a partner of THK Law Office.

The County Convention will be on Monday the 25th. June 25th was the cut-off date for dues to be paid to qualify to run for the executive board. The list of those running for 17 spots on the executive board are; Stacy Wilder, Lynn Schantz, Kim Adams, Dan Adams, Brian Woodbury, Karen Tan, Lisa Smith, Roger Boyer, Jerry Duck, Mike Egan, Jim Gillis, Nate Wilder, Julia Roberts, Kay Keenum, Will Beadenkopf, Brenda Beadenkopf, Riley Kass, Wally Berndt, JD Glaser, Wendy Glaser, Dave St. Clair, Steve Smith, and Sue Smith.

A question regarding the time of payment for Stacey and Nate Wilder came up. The dues were paid but to the Cass County of another state through "Win Red." Tom Langley made a motion to allow the payment to be considered as on time, seconded by Dan Adams. The motion passed.

The new committee members will elect the new officers by 20 days after the convention.

County Committee: Roger Boyer – Our last meeting was on October 1st with Carter Chain and Poll Challenge training. At the December meeting will be orientation with a welcome package to be presented to new and old ones too. There will be no November meeting.

Drain Commissioner: Jeff VanBelle – We are taking advantage of the drought condition to other jobs like tree removal from storm damage, working drains, at the Eagle Lake dam.

The Solar farms are coming. At Howard Township there were signatures on 2,500 acres. M-60 between Dailey Road and Cassopolis in 2 years will look vastly different. Come to the township meeting involving this movement.

County Commissioners:

District 8: RJ Lee – The old County Court House has its grand opening. You should go see the results of all the work that was done. Mason township has done a ton of work behind the library, putting in a basketball court, a pickleball court, fencing, and a track. Trees are being cleaned up around graveyards. Really good work is being done in both Porter and Mason townships.

District 7: Roseann Marchetti – We will have early voting at the Road Commission starting on the 26th of October thru November 3rd from 8 AM to 4 PM.

District 2: James Lawrence – Thanks to Roger and Susie Boyer and all those who helped me.

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State Senate: Johnathan Lindsey – This Saturday at the Republican Headquarters in the Sinclair gas station at the Women for Trump rally, Allison Lindsey will be speaking along with other great speakers.

Last week I was at an event in Battle Creek along with Brad Paquette and Steve Carra. We asked Kellogg to change the way they make foods, with-out toxins. We delivered over 400,000 petitions. Look up “Make America Healthy Again” and get familiar with it.

In 2023 a bunch of bills were passed around “Materials Management” that was previously known as “Waste Management”. This has been dumped in the lap of the County Commissioners. The legislature did not fund it. Our representatives know little about this. The Southwest Michigan Planning Commission has met about this unfunded mandate. Democrats pushed this through with their control of the House and Senate.

I introduced legislation that would enshrine voter identification requirements. If you choose to go the affidavit route to vote, you need to bring in all the identification you would need to get a driver’s license to verify who you are.

Representative: Brad Paquette – We will be on a call with them tomorrow on the Materials Management. The New York Times has put out an article saying the University of Michigan’s DEI program is causing discord and division. I was speaking with 2 of the Republican Regents who said they were going to defund DEI 2.0. They also took a position to go back to academic neutrality.

Make America Healthy is a group that is super cool. The people at the forefront of this are down to earth people who will talk to you and help with legislation.

I met with a mental wellness person from Corewell Health. They think that more children should be taken away from their parents because they are not using the pronouns and affirmations. They are also doing a “Trunk or Treat” and have “Trans” flags flying. They need to be called out on this. The tide is turning.

Representative: Steve Carra – I want to connect the two things Brad Paquette was talking about with LGBTQ and the food industry. They are connected. Some Junk food is loaded with estrogen. Bisphenol A (BPA) is a gender bending chemical along with hormones in the meat and milk affect kids reaching puberty. The food and medicine are harming our children.

Women for Trump: Brenda Beadenkopf – This Saturday, you all must come to this rally 2:00 PM at the Sinclair gas station. Speakers will be Sue Walberg, Allison Lindsey, Dr Sherry O’Donnell, Maryn Sctuda, and Wendy Glasser. Ben Balos will perform including his inspirational song “Fight, fight, fight”. Paul Boggs will talk about early voting. Johnathan Lindsey and Brad Paquette will be speaking. We will have shirts, signs, and other information.

Larry Westgate made a motion to adjourn seconded by Tom Langley.

The motion passed unanimously. The meeting is Adjourned

Respectfully submitted by Wally Berndt.