

MINUTES
POLK COUNTY
DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE
April 6, 2017

6:35 Welcome and Introductions, quote of the month

1. **Approve of Previous Minutes** - Steve Emerson moves to approve 2/2/2017 minutes, George Neujahr seconds. Passes. Greg Greg moves to approve 3/2/2017, Steve Emerson seconds--question about attendance. Passes.
2. **Approve Agenda** - Shannon moves to approve agenda, Amanda seconds. After changes made. Motion approved.
3. **Renew Oregon Presentation** - Gary Walmart, member of 350.org presented. Member of local Salem Chapter.

Discussed SB 557: Warmest year on record was 2014, then 2015, then 2016. Scientists say there is a correlation between CO2 in the atmosphere and climate. CO2 levels have been steadily rising. 350 parts per million, according to scientists, is the highest safe level of CO2 in the atmosphere. We are currently at 408.07 -- The CO2 can linger in the atmosphere for up to a century.

Since 2007 Oregon has established emission goals. The legislation did not spell out what steps could be taken. Clean fuels bill introduced bill to reduce emissions from the gas pump over 10 years. Banned coal power imported by 2030. Increase renewables by 2050. Nowhere near on track even with the newest legislation.

Renewal Oregon SB 557---Clean Energy Jobs Bill. Establishes in Oregon a cap and invest system. State established emission maximums. Requires producers to have license at a certain level---allowances. Heavy fines for those that go over emissions. Over time, the number of allowances will be reduced up until 2050.

Gary stressed the importance of focusing on climate change and the importance of contacting our local legislators. Bill is in committees. Should be coming out of the Senate committee at the end of the month. Urged body to visit 350.org. Important to write letters to the editor and directly lobby legislators.

Gary answered questions from body and provided a sign-up sheet to assist in various ways.

4. **Debrief of the State Central Committee Meeting** - 100% turnout at the reorganization meeting

Evan Sorce attended Events and Fair committee. Rick Hartwig and Alan Holland Chair and vice Chair. Many emerging parties from Eastern Oregon excited to begin showing up at their fairs. Looking to establish toolkit to help these folks. Evan stressed importance of helping staff the state fair, 4 hour shifts, get a free pass. Our booth provides free water.

Evan also attended the rural Caucus. Discussed Greg Walden. How to stress to the DPO that the party is more than just the I-5 corridor. Polk is on the rural urban divide. Rural counties want to stress that we can win in the mid-valley. Important for the party to provide supplies to these small counties.

Patti Nevue attended the chair vice chair meeting. Was very energizing to be around that many people.

Patti also attended the health care caucus. Will share information as she receives it via email. They shared a film for Healthcare for all Oregon.

George Neujahr attended the labor caucus. The importance of educating people about unions, including union members was stressed.

George Neujahr also attended the small business caucus. The caucus had a reorganization meeting. Spoke about who won

Steve Emerson attended the gun owners caucus. Largely discussed possible disbanding of caucus, an idea largely railed against. There will be a re-org at the upcoming meeting.

Steve Emerson also attended the environmental caucus. Most was taken up from a reorganization.

Shannon Cockayne attended Women's Caucus. She is the chair. They missed two meetings this year due to extreme circumstances. Created a legislative committee. They will regionalize the caucus to help get the program out of the SCC construct. Caucus went from 44 to 132 members after the November election. Even though Oregon is ahead, still many threats to women's rights. Shannon also talked about the energy and passion that was shown in the room even though some may have been disappointed. Shannon discussed the need for the SCC structure to be shaken up to help improve the caucus system.

Greg Greg mentioned you could sign up for any caucus via the dpo.org

Steve Emerson also stressed the importance of signing up for the lists before meetings.

Carol Infranca spoke to the lack of diversity represented at the SCC. Listening to the young folks speaking for positions was very uplifting. Believes that the party is in good hands.

Evan Sorce talked about Valdez Bravo.

Wanda Davis also attended the women's caucus as well as the veteran's caucus. Stressed the need for more to join.

Evan Sorce discussed the trainings at the SCC. A VAN training and a Neighborhood Leaders program was provided. The NL program has showed

great results. He briefly discussed difference between elected and appointed PCPs.

Timothe reminded us that elected only elected PCPs can vote for officers.

- 5. Hosting an SCC Meeting** - Shannon Cockayne discussed hosting an SCC meeting in Polk County. Shannon spoke with the DPO about the requirements to host the SCC. Need a space for up to 100 people and 10 rooms with meeting rooms for up to 35 people. Discussed several possibilities. Event space for up to 150 people. Need short list of hotels. Requires a list of caterers and 5 volunteers signed up for the event. Polk County cost would be more or less coffee and pastries in the morning. The Saturday before we would be able to host a fundraiser. Last year Grant County provided a great SCC location, great food. One was hosted at Western around a decade ago.

Suzie Price discussed how easy it was to work with Western Oregon on the Folk Festival.

Shannon let us know that it was the DPO that would be doing all the work with contracts and the like. Asked how to proceed.

- 6. Precinct Committee Person Conformation** - Evan discussed the requirements.

Timothe Seelbach discussed why she wanted to be a PCP.

Timothe Seelbach appointed by acclamation. Precinct 146

Norman Baxter discussed why he wanted to be a PCP.

Norman Baxter appointed PCP by acclamation. Precinct 146

Julia Brown discussed why she wanted to be a PCP.

Julia Brown appointed PCP by acclamation. Precinct 122

Carol InFranca discussed why she wanted to be a PCP

Carol Infraco appointed PCP by acclimation. Precinct 152

7. **Discussed April 4th Monmouth City Council Meeting** - George Neujahr attended the Monmouth City Council meeting on April 4th. Spoke about the Inclusivity resolution passed and the enthusiasm behind it.

George Neujahr also spoke about Senate Joint Resolution 34 at city council meeting. He discussed some of the issues that it may cause and is now working on a resolution to counteract the changes.

8. **Polk County Standing Committees** - discussed the meeting set for April 15th. Bylaws committee already in place. Evan discussed the functions of the committees, their importance, and importance of the meetings.
9. **Process and Rules Committee Report** - Timothe Seelbach discussed bylaws report. Committee spoke to the DPO about some possible changes. Set up priority list of items to discuss. Looking to set up a meeting time to discuss report. Discussed names of standing committees differing from bylaws.
10. **Executive Committee Report** - George Neujahr briefed the body about the previous executive committee.

11. **Shout outs**

12. **Adjournment** - Steve Emerson moves to adjourn. Greg Greg seconds. Passes.