

**Cass County Democrats
Officers Meeting Minutes – September 24, 2024**

1. Call Meeting to Order – called to order by Sarah at 6:01 p.m.
2. Roll Call – Sarah Slattery, Jayden Speed, Wendy Callahan
3. Motion to Excuse Absences – no absences to be excused
4. Approval of Minutes

Jayden made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 20, 2024 Convention; June 19, 2024 Officer Meeting; July 10, 2024 Officer Meeting; August 20, 2024 Officer Meeting; and August 28, 2024 Officer Meeting. Sarah seconded. All present voted aye. Motion passed.

5. Treasurer's Report

Report not given due to resignation of treasurer. Sarah is awaiting binder full of documents from Brandy. Sarah obtained checking account balance from bank. Current balance is \$1,353.86. She obtained a print-out of all transactions from August 1 to September 23, and everything seems to be in order. We will work together to put together a report in October.

Random small donation amounts come in via ActBlue through the Win2024 fund.

We will have shirts and earrings, donated by Maud, to sell at events. Maud recommends pricing of \$15-\$20 per item for jewelry.

6. Old Business

a. Plattsmouth Harvest Festival

We walked in the Grand Parade on September 7, 2024. Walkers included Sarah, Wendy and 7-8 volunteers, mostly new faces except Melinda and Ellie. We received mostly positive feedback from parade goers. Some negative remarks from watchers.

\$40 in parade candy was donated by Sarah, to be added to in-kind donations.

We held a Debate Watch Party on September 10, 2024. There were 18 attendees and many new faces at the debate watch party. Attendees enjoyed chili, cinnamon rolls and Kamala monster cookies.

\$200 was raised from event: \$90 from t-shirt sales and \$90 in concessions. Barb also donated \$20 in tips from the jar on the bar, as well as donating the venue. \$200 cash was deposited in the bank account on September 11, 2024.

b. Party on the Rocks in Weeping Water

We are vending/tabling at this event on September 28, 2024. We will sell t-shirts and jewelry donated by Maud. Wendy reports that we have 3 volunteers signed up. Sarah has asked Michelle, too. We will pay the \$20 cash for our space on the day of the event. We will also have samples of the new sweatshirts and can start taking preorders on Saturday. Maud is bringing the donated jewelry to Wendy's house on Thursday. We will have tablecloths, runner, signs, etc.

7. New Business

a. Land acknowledgment

This is something we would do after any motion to excuse absences. Sarah thinks it's important, even if it's only a symbolic gesture. We may open for inspirational quote/reading as appropriate, as well, and rotate the responsibility. Wendy made a motion to add land acknowledgement and recognition of person, holiday or event as appropriate to that meeting. Jayden seconded by Jayden. All present voted aye. Motion passed. Will work on specifics outside executive meeting.

b. GOTV (Get Out the Vote)

Per Sarah, waiting on slate cards from NDP. Discussed how to get them to people – at community events, by throwing an event, or both? Jayden suggested a GOTV rally, inviting candidates and folks, where we would review ballot initiatives, hand out slate cards, etc. He also recommended adding a voter guide email to the newsletter with all info folks need to vote, and all candidates and initiatives. Sarah said we could add a digital copy of slate card and voter ID brochure, and link pertinent websites. She asked if we would consider turning Maud's bonfire (item 7e) into this kind of event. Wendy said yes, with Maud's approval, once event voted on. Motion to be combined with 7e – Bonfire Potluck Social.

c. VP Debate Watch Party

We are hosting a Vice Presidential Debate Watch Party on October 1, 2024 at Slattery Vintage Estates. Sarah said we approved a \$50 budget for the debate watch party last time and a similar budget is appropriate. We discussed food ideas. Jayden recommended leaving the food up to Sarah. Jayden motioned to approve a budget of \$50 for the October 1 VP Debate Watch Party. Wendy seconded. All present voted aye. Motion passed.

d. Sign event

Sarah reported that we will have signs on Saturday and Tuesday, and she learned from the chairs meeting via Ryan Griffin that he was doing sign canvassing. They go to people's doors and offer sign. They recommend using VAN to find areas with several Democrats to offer signs. If we do this, we would have to recruit volunteers and do small turfs in neighborhoods using the buddy system.

Sarah is fulfilling sign requests as she can. Jayden asked about the farm sign for Bobbie Gruber in Manley and suggested asking Gina or Hannah. Sarah texted Hannah during the meeting to ask. (We later learned that barn signs are slow in rolling out).

Sarah will compile a list of who is outstanding for signs and try to get them to people. She suggested we do research on sign canvassing and maybe test one neighborhood. We will carry this over to the next meeting's agenda, and also discuss if volunteers can put signs up near polling places.

e. Bonfire Potluck Social

Per Sarah, Maud would like to hold a Bonfire Potluck Social on her property on October 26 at 6 p.m. She has offered to host an event free of charge and will pay for the burn permit as a donation. Everyone will bring a dish, BYOB, etc. Jayden made a motion to approve the event. Sarah seconded. All present voted aye. Motion passed.

f. Fundraising dinner after the election

Sarah brought up the discussion where the name Rural Victory Dinner proposed. This connects the branding of the event to our Rural Victory Fund. Credit to Jayden for originally coming up

with the Rural Victory Fund. Sarah made a motion to adopt the name Rural Victor Dinner for the event. Wendy seconded. All present voted aye. Motion passed.

We further discussed setting a date around the time of Jayden's spring break, March 8 – March 16. Friday, March 14 gives Sarah time to prepare food. Sarah motioned to approve the date of the event. Jayden seconded. All present voted aye. Motion passed.

Sarah proposed Jess Piper as the keynote speaker. Jess is holding that date for us. Her speaking fee is \$300. Sarah will also offer her an overnight stay as an additional thank you. All present agreed to table the remainder of the discussion for the next meeting.

g. Constitution & By-Laws

Jayden reviewed proposed changes to the Constitution and By-Laws, specifically:

Clause 9 to clarify duties of treasurer, with Sections d, e, and f to be added.

Clauses 13 to clarify expenditures and votes.

Sarah said something should be added regarding the debit card since the clause calls for 2 signatures to clarify expenditures and votes. In a previous meeting, all officers approved expenses in regard to ordering shirts to keep at a level of inventory, so Sarah ordered those to ensure a full run of sizes for the event on Saturday. Erin will send her invoice at end of September.

Jayden asked if we needed to add a line about merchandise expenditures, or approve them at the end of month when the invoice is received. All present agreed it was okay to approve at end of month upon receipt of invoice.

Clause 14 clarifies publication of agenda and approval of minutes.

Sarah motioned to approve all proposed changes to the Constitution & By-Laws. Wendy seconded. All present voted aye. Motion passed.

h. Treasurer

Sarah opened the floor to discuss the resignation of Brandy Jordan as treasurer. Wendy expressed that Brandy had a lot to offer and Sarah shared her sadness about the situation. She stated that she hoped stepping away from the stress of treasurer duties away will be beneficial to Brandy. Jayden motioned to approve Brandy's resignation. Wendy seconded. All present voted aye. Motion passed. Sarah recommended seeking a new treasurer after the election.

Sarah will work on completing the NADC paperwork. Jayden will check the By-laws, as he believes the secretary is allowed to take the role of treasurer when needed. Sarah will change the address with the bank to the P.O. Box and make any other necessary changes to ensure all is running smoothly. Michelle may be of help getting what we need from Brandy.

8. Announcements

9. Adjournment – Meeting is adjourned at 6:58 p.m. by Sarah.