



## Union County Democratic Central Committee

### Meeting Minutes:

**Meeting Called to Order:** 5:00

**Present:** Glen Scheele, Mary Calder, Carole Halvorson, Jamie Gustafson, Gray McGuire, Jerry Sebestyen, Jackie Fitzgerald, Dick Mc Daniel, Sharon Evoy, Cheryl Simpson Whitaker, Bill Whitaker, Kathleen Cathey, Heidi Van Schoonhoven, Rebecca Tilley

**Introductions:** Introductions were made.

### Treasurer's Report and Minutes Approval:

**Item:** Adopt a highway Friday April 20 meet @ 9:00am @ 204 Spring Contact Sharon Evoy 541-963-4612

**Item:** State Platform Convention April 21-22 No UC delegates, maybe some funds for registration, by-laws don't have any specific language, depends on our treasury, may register by the 17<sup>th</sup>, let Glen know if interested.

**Item:** Precinct Committee Person – occasionally a vote comes up that requires PCP approval. There are still openings for PCP, could have a write in (doesn't usually take too many write in votes) PCP helpful in presidential campaign, may do some calling or canvassing

**Item:** Request for campaign support from state general attorney, our by-laws state that we don't get involved in primary there are two Democrats running, request for a campaign tracker from state to let us know what candidates are up to. Anyone willing to video tape these appearances?

**Item:** Rep. Walden visited Elgin, he discussed deficit solutions with tax breaks and cutting medicare & medicare, advocates for Rep. Ryan's budget, topics covered mainly were road closures, wolves, timber industry, John Lackey, local insurance agent asked about R's alternative to ACA, Rep. Walden talked about incentives to med students and practice in rural areas – already a part of ACA, Balanced budget amendment was advocated. Rep Walden's handout was shared Dick comments that Rep. Walden commented that neither party has done a good job of balancing the budget, has written to him requesting that Rep Walden share specifics about plans, Raising the debt ceiling was discussed & Rep. Walden did some education about the consequence of government default,

Bill & Glen discuss cuts in medicare in ACA vs. cuts in Ryan plan



Dick brings up that further discussion of these issues, such as “death panels” (we already have death panels called “insurance plans”).

A suggestion was made that we send a community comment that is a response to Walden’s comments during his visit.

We may also consider responding to letters from our congressperson

Bill shares other experiences with town hall meetings where attendees are well prepared to meet the candidates, maybe a role playing ahead, will send a model from other groups & how they handle/prepare for town hall meetings

**Item:** Bill shares Health Care for All –Oregon (chapter) a draft of principles, mission, etc, goals of a statewide campaign, ensuring that everybody has health benefits, more comprehensive than governor’s plan, Bill & Cheryl are chairs for Oregon Rural Action working on health care, 10-11 folks from E.O. currently working together as a committee, coming together quicker than expected on a state wide basis, central model is Vermont’s “health care is a human right. Dems in Baker County considering a joining the coalition, still taking photographs – you sign with name & zip code, ORA maybe could organize photo opportunity to next Dems meeting, - Bill & Cheryl will look into this Where will photos appear? Possibly on website, Gray is working on ORA (? Or Health Care) website,

Straw vote on Supreme Court’s decision on ACA, a few think that it will be overturned on commerce clause.

Item: woman who challenged ACA (in Supreme Court arguments), a small business women, has withdrawn, she got sick, went bankrupt and left the hospital bill for all us to pay to cover her medical costs.

**Item:** Heidi Van Schoohoven, candidate for state rep. won’t have a candidate statement in voter pamphlet, will save that money for fall, has visited Wallowa Dems, attended Eastern Oregon Patriots forum (not invited to speak), money & volunteers needed, can she send info on to Glen this is appropriate since she is unopposed, will run a centrist campaign, suggests she contact nurses association, Rebecca provides some info & offers to be a contact, interview process etc,

Kathleen refers to Observer article regarding multiple candidates,

**Item:** Appeal on email account regarding donations for office, Sharon will contact Janet Hume’s office for further info.

**Item:** Senator Merkley coming to Cove @ high school Monday April 9<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00, and Senator Wyden @ senior center Sat April 14<sup>th</sup> @11:30

**Announcements:** Mary shares an article from a Catholic periodical which states opposition to Tea Party policy,



**Adjourned: 5:57**

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Evoy, Secretary