

Benton County Democratic Central Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday, July 18, 7PM

Location: Shilo Inn, 50 Comstock St, Richland WA 99352

- 1) Call to order 7PM
- 2) Flag salute (no flag)
- 3) Adopt agenda: Moved/2nd approved
- 4) Approve minutes for June Meeting (moved/2nd approved) and Emergency Meeting (moved/2nd approved). Moved to ratify decision at emergency meeting/2nd/approved
- 5) Presentation: Lieutenant Tracy Baker, communications from Benton Fire District 1: Spoke on behalf of the Emergency Medical Levy. District 1 covers 320 square miles. There will be an EMS levy on Aug 7th ballot. Provide basic life support by engine for 911 call, another organization sends the ambulance. Takes resources out of the city at a time when cities are growing. Often need to get an ambulance from Pasco. We want to do better, so we're asking for \$0.50 per \$1K value of property to fund EMS advanced life support, would put one on west side (Badger Canyon), another on the east side (Finley). Should be 7 minutes faster per call. Mutual aid will mean that if another agency is closer, they'll attend, and if District 1 is available and closer to a city call, District 1 will attend. Big growth in Badger Canyon.
- 6) Elections Committee Report & Candidate Introductions
 - Jennifer Goulet--9th LD Position 1 – Jay Clough remarks – see notes at foot of minutes. Motion to endorse Jenn Goulet for 9th LD Position 1/2nd/carried.
 - Tyson Fellman--Benton PUD Commissioner, position 3: Running to reform the cost basis for utility rates. Impacts low income – paying more than their fair share. Has website: fellmanforbentonpud.com. Benton has fiberoptic lines but are not investing while loan rates are affordable. Law says rate needs to be fair and non-discriminatory, but not enforced. Motion to recommend/2nd/carried
 - Everett Maroon--16th LD Position 1: Everett. Technical difficulties playing video at meeting. Will put video on website.
 - Jenn Goulet – 9th LD Rep Position 1: Jay Clough speaking on her behalf (speakers notes appended at the end of the notes.)

7) Leslie Guerazzi, SEIU 1199NW Organizer, represents Healthcare workers at Trios, Lourdes, and Kadlec. Providence has cut staffing and wages at Kadlec. Asking for when we strike, please support us. Also circulated community support petition. Has website WeAreKadlec.org. Hospital used to be on top of nation for infections gotten in the hospital, now at the bottom. Nurses voted to strike at first bargaining with Providence. SEIU wants wage scale, COL, adequate staffing. 27th of August is last bargaining date.

8) Chair's report—GOTV John Harder and John Masulonis to be appointed. Need to work your precinct. Personal contact is the biggest difference-maker in voter turnout.

Yakima County fundraising dinner coming up this Saturday. They are struggling. We know how important work all over our CD for our mutual congressional candidate is.

Motion: donate \$750 for a table at the Yakima County dinner, donate tickets/2nd/carried.

Need more signage and business cards. Motion to authorize spending no more than \$500 on new promotional materials, such as business cards and signage/2nd/approved.

9) Field Organizer, Savannah Steele – Working 8th, 9th, 16th LDs. Office in Pasco, grand opening this Saturday, Tina will be here to open at 1212 N 20th Ave, Suite B, Pasco (by Rite Aid and Albertsons). Coordinated campaign game plan on calendar distributed to PCOs. Will post calendar on website. Phone banking, canvassing, GOTV. Who are we targeting? Sporadic vote only Dems, sustained voters 50-70%. Need chairs, coffeepots, clip boards, pens, tables. Will get tables and chairs from storage unit on Friday.

10) Treasurer's report –

Savings: \$7672, Checking: \$18,977. Includes \$3.5K in June income from Norm Miller dinner, 6764.11 in June expenditures for Norm Miller dinner, \$1400 for fair booth, campaign contributions authorized last month.

IRS filing: Heather Hess at state pointed Micki to David Green, CPA. State and local committees of a political party are exempt from IRS, so no need to file.

Website vs Newsletter. Can't publish candidate generated information on website without accounting for it in campaign finance reports as an in-kind

contribution subject to campaign donation limits because website is a mass communication. CAN do so on newsletter, even if linked on our website, since it is a communication pointed to our members. Can put Candidates' Corner on a newsletter. Hoping to get a newsletter out before the end of July.

Cannot donate to candidate campaigns we cannot vote for, e.g., Zahra Roach for Franklin County Commissioner. Can contribute unlimited funds to other bona fide party committees, e.g., Yakima County Democratic Central Committee, Franklin County Democratic Central Committee.

11) Organizing Committee

- Peter Gerhard-Roberts—Fair: signup volunteer sheet, look on website. Candidate signup coming soon. Picnic. Have large canvassing event in September, with picnic afterwards to celebrate. Peter is doing paid consulting for Rebecca Francik, will not influence assignment of times. Move to have \$500 authorized to provide parking, entry, bus fares for volunteers/2nd/Carried.
- John Harder--PCO, Canvass info (passed)

12) Old business

13) New business

14) Good of the order

Jay Clough: Sad news, Elaine Phelps passed away. Voice for justice at state level.

Kitty Tominey: comment about Fire District 1, moved her in 68. Moved out to the county in the 70s. More to the county than Tri-Cities. Most of the county has own well, own septic, maintain own roads. Have had one fire call.

Tony Ramirez: Christine Brown's field director. Field team with him. Offices in Tri-Cities and Yakima. July 21st event, 10AM-12PM, Christine will be door knocking with other candidates, starting from office 8350 W Grandridge Blvd, Suite 200, Kennewick (by Great Harvest behind Costco), Phone banking coming up Monday – data pre-cleaned up. Targeting Democratic party sporadic voters and Republicans. Canvassing every weekend. Phone banking.
tony@christinebrownforcongress.com, hello@christinebrownforcongress.com.

Judi Johannesen: On Tyranny: 10 copies of book provided, take one if you'll read and redistribute. Tri-Cities Dems potluck every 2nd Friday of the month, library comes to the potluck. Can redistribute through the library,

Christopher Tracy for 8th LD Position 2. Have spots running. Thank League of Women Voters for candidates' forum at library. Please help yourself to a sign for your front yard.

Joe Francik: speaking for Rebecca Francik. Rebecca is at League of Women Voters event tonight. Thank BCDCC for contribution and endorsement. Fund raisers coming up. Benton County 103207 Badger Canyon Road, fundraiser. 7-8:30 (event on FB). 3 other events coming up. Weakest link in Benton County – Benton City and Prosser. Looking for hosts in that area, or volunteers to help with events listed on the rebeccafrancik.com website. Donate (suggested amount: \$20.18) Rebecca's key issues are education, infrastructure, mental health.

Move to adjourn/2nd/carries 8:45

Jenn Goulet (Jay Clough's speaker notes)

Jenn Goulet, Candidate for State Representative, 9th LD

Basic info:

- Mother of two teenagers
- Small business owner / online training development for Microsoft
- Member of the board of directors for Planned Parenthood of Greater Washington and North Idaho
- Former chair of the Franklin County Democrats

Background / why running:

- Angry at a broken political system that favors crony capitalists and ignores the will of regular Americans
- Have been personally harmed by this system and have watched too many others suffer
- Want to affect change from within the Party/Legislature to restore the power to the people

Platform:

- *Education*

- Expand trade school and union apprenticeship programs for high school students
- Increase funding for our universities and community colleges
- Invest in school infrastructure, new technology, and the educators and support staff
- *Infrastructure*
 - Revitalize and expand highways to accommodate for a rapidly growing population
 - Improve and promote trails and recreation spots, especially Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail
 - Expand broadband Internet access into rural communities via electric co-ops
 - Protect and redirect depleting water resources in the Odessa Aquifer region
- *Economic Development*
 - Fund programs that provide financing to help launch businesses in targeted communities
 - Ensure affordable housing is available and schools and other resources are equipped for growth

General campaign info:

- Raised almost 44k to date (6k ahead of Mary Dye for now)
 - Almost exclusively backed by human donors with some unions and non-corporate PACs, compared to Mary Dye who has almost no human donors and almost all corporate PACs
- At least 23 endorsements received to date, including MoveOn, National Organization for Women, Win With Women, Washington State Labor Council, Children's Campaign Fund, several elected officials, county organizations, and other unions and non-corporate PACs
- Odds of winning are promising, but heavy GOTV efforts needed, especially in West Pasco

What donations will be used for:

- Money raised now will be put primarily towards advertising campaign in October/November (radio, online and traditional media ads, direct mail)

Tonight's ask:

- BC Dems' Endorsement
- Donations from individuals
- Doorbelling/phone banking support
- People willing to put up 4' x 4' signs this week
- Letters to the editor

Donate and volunteer at www.jenngoulet.com!