

ARCHULETA COUNTY REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES Jan 16, 2019 at Ramon's

CALL TO ORDER Meeting called to order by Marilyn Harris at 12:08pm

INVOCATION was given by Carl Mellberg

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was led by Ron Maez

APPROVALS: ADOPTION OF AGENDA, motion to approve by Molly, 2nd Natalie, unanimously approved

Tom Zilhaver is resigning as ACRCC treasurer. The board recommends Samantha Armitstead be nominated for interim treasurer. Motion by Tom, 2nd Natalie, unanimously approved. Needs to be updated through Secretary of State's website.

CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS: Marilyn – 42 Republican Women groups are supporting the LE/1st Responders Education Fund

Minutes taken by Laura in absence of Ronnie.

Roll Call: 7 committeemen / Elected Sheriff Valdez, Assessor Woodruff, Commissioner Maez, Commissioner Wadley, former Commissioner Whiting, Treasurer White, Deputy Treasurer Samantha Armitstead, 2 guests: new Undersheriff Derek Woodman and Carol Mellberg

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Treasurer Report - \$3,679.36
Website hits for Dec: 1,807 YTD: 1,202
Vacancy Committee Report - none

OLD BUSINESS: August & September 2018 minutes will be emailed so we can approve them at the next meeting.

October 2018 Fundraiser – Chili Chow Down raised \$2,721 with ½ transferred to the Education Fund & ½ to the General Account.

December 2018 Christmas Party at Ramon's. State Senator Don Coram came to thank us.

NEW BUSINESS: **February 11 meeting** - Organizational Meeting by statute must happen between Feb.1-15 to vote for officers.

OTHER BUSINESS: Jail Update – Commissioner Maez said they are looking at \$13-14million for a jail facility only at Harman Park. They solidified the property yesterday with a Certificate of Participation. Looking at 10-20yr payment plan so the budget will need to be tightened. He's hoping for a 2yr completion date. Carol asked him if we can ask voters for a sales tax again when they see the project has to go ahead anyway and Ron said yes, but since voters rejected it twice, more time can't be wasted and he wants construction to start in the Spring. Brad Ash is the consultant for the jail.

Sheriff Valdez says we need 54 beds minimum. We currently have 32 inmates in the La Plata county jail and Archuleta's former facility had 34 beds. The best operation is at 80% capacity. 54 beds probably isn't enough 5+yrs from now, but it's a start as long as there is room for expansion. 67-70 people are in pretrial services. He believes there is less incentive to not commit offenses (failing drug/alcohol tests) when people know they won't be put in jail. Unfortunately because the work release program is also out of the county now recidivism is up. He expressed his concerns regarding the sheriff's office still needing to be built, how it affects morale and opens up the county to numerous potential lawsuits. He also noted that many officers don't have body armor and each pack costs around \$2500. You can go to www.shield616.org to sign up for Archuleta county and donate.

Michael Whiting thanked us for 2 terms, announced his run for LPEA board seat and asked for our support. He said the J.R. Ford biomass project rejected by Tri-State would've yielded 25-30 high-paying jobs and been great for our forest, but they needed to advocate more to Tri-State. He wants to depoliticize the board and do what makes sense.

Informal discussion - Midterm results, Republican future.
Marilyn informed us that an equal % of voters exited the Republican and Democrat parties mainly due to open primaries now.

ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 1:07pm

Next meeting Feb 11, 2019