

Payne County Democrats  
Meeting Minutes from 13 February 2025  
Stillwater Community Center    Stillwater, OK 74074  
Snacks and socializing at 6:00pm, meeting at 6:30pm

Present at Meeting: Lisa Bozeman, David Copley, Sam Cypert-Worley, Cynthia Gedra, Harlan Hinds, Kathy Huston, Jim Huston, Diane Lowe, Clay Ness, Sheralyn Williams, Justin Worley-Cypert, Sierra Wikel, Joshua Phillips, Abigail Martin, Dale Ingram, Clarence Benes, Martha Williford-Avertt, Bonnie Hammond, Barbara Carlozzi, Ellen Ingram, Maria Moccia-Wolff, Neal Ketchman

### **Officer Reports:**

President's Report and announcements: Justin Worley-Cypert called the meeting to order at 6:31pm. He said that the Ok State Democratic Party is looking inward right now. There is a [Campaign Academy](#) being offered in Midwest City for those who want to be more involved in the Party or if they want to run for office. February 22 and 23rd. See info in the link or see Justin to find out more.

**-Justin Worley-Cypert will not be running for Chair, so that position will be open. He will run for President of National Young Democrats. Good luck and thank you, Justin!**

-We also had representatives from Blue Dot Group, Red Wine and Blue, and The Stillwater Consortium at this meeting. They will be given an opportunity to speak here.

Finance Report: from our last financial report ( October 17, 2024), we have \$17,590.83 in our account, which is still accurate.

-Clay Ness gave a donation tonight that will cover the two scholarships to be awarded at Diamond Donkey in April. Thank you Clay!!!

Secretary's Report: Cynthia Gedra stated that the November 2024 minutes were about reviewing the election results, December meeting was to clear out the Headquarters on Husband St., and there was no January meeting due to bad weather. Minutes from November 2024 were approved . (Bob Henderson/Sam Cypert-Worley)

Affirmative Action Report: Sam Cypert-Worley There has been a lot of discussion at OSU about the announcement that on-Campus Housing will only be for freshman next year. So non-freshman students will need to look for housing off campus, which is an issue in Stillwater. OSU student organizations have posted resolutions opposing this move by OSU.

OSU College Democrats Report: none

CD3 Report: none

### **Committee Reports:**

Communications Sam Cypert-Worley none

Hospitality Florence Degler none

Budget No Report

Political Affairs Sam Cypert-Worley

-Stillwater School Board elections are **Apr 1, 2025** [Marshall Baker](#) ([www.bakerfortheboard.com](http://www.bakerfortheboard.com)) and [Greg Adams](#) are the candidates. Links to information about them are linked to their names. This is a non-partisan election and if you live in the school district you can vote.

-OSDE lost several Board Members due to federal cuts. This has caused a rift between Stitt and Walters. Trump is to start up an Education Advisory Board that Walters wants to be on. We do not support the formation of this Board.

-Special elections on June 10, 2025 for several State House seats and one State Senate Seat. More information soon. We can support these candidates with our donations or our time (phone banking, knocking doors, etc.)

House candidates: Amanda Clinton, Dennis Baker, Amy Hossain

Senate candidate: Nathan Brewer

Community Engagement no report

Events See New Business

Veteran Affairs Ed Noltensmeyer no report

Membership and Recruitment Lisa Bozeman Please sign in tonight if you have not

Precinct Engagement Jim Huston No report

## **New/Old Business**

-Diamond Donkey will be held on April 9 at the OSU Alumni Center. Kim Howerton is in charge of organizing the gala style event. Justin is working on getting guest speakers. Two \$500. Scholarships will be awarded to students that evening.

-Upcoming Conventions:

\*Precinct elections: March 13 6-7:30pm

\*County Convention: April 19 from 10am-12pm

\*State Convention in Broken Arrow: June 28-29

**Activity** – discussion about how to kick up our social media presence.

Bonnie Hammond moved to form a group to post events and activities to social media for next semester. Bob Henderson amended that to make it a paid position using some of our general funds. This was amended to be a fundraised paid position or perhaps a paid scholarship for an intern. A group would provide the content, and the intern would be responsible for posting things to our social media and website.

Ellen Ingram volunteered to help with Social Media postings for now.

This was passed, with one no vote.

## **Discussion/Announcements**

-Representatives from Red wine and Blue, and Stillwater Blue Dots

Community spoke about ways that we can be more involved:

-On President's Day there will be a protest march at the State Capitol

-February 28-National Day of not Buying Anything

-Use the 5 Calls App to help you call your legislators

-Help people sign up to vote. This Sunday and next (Feb. 23) there is a voter registration drive at WorkIt on Main Street

-League of Women Voters and Payne County Election Board has cards with a QR code that takes you to the Voter Registration Page

-Read posts on Substack that have independent news

-Atlantic Magazine has an article about Project 2025

-Join Amnesty International-a recommendation from Neal

-A request was made to make it easier to find out about Payne County Democrats meetings.

Adjourned 7:58 pm (Cypert-Worley/J. Huston) Next meeting is Thursday, March 13th at the Stillwater Community Center at 6:00pm. This will be a Precinct Officers Election instead of a regular general meeting. Respectfully Submitted by Cynthia Gedra