

April 4th, 25th LD meeting Minutes

By: Melissa Thompson

We started the meeting at 7:06 pm had a flag salute. Then we did a roll call of officers which Merv Swanson was absent and Ellen Zuluaf arrived late.

We went over the proposed 2011 Budget. The Budget categories were the same categories over the last 4 years and we took the average of those 4 years and came up with the totals for the 2011 Budget. There was a motion to approve the Budget which passed unanimously.

There was a short report of the recall of Dale Washam campaign by Jerry Beckendorf. There is a recall booth at the Spring Fair. The Pierce County Library system does not mind if people are standing outside getting signatures outside their buildings. He also talked about at the luncheon club that Bill Baarsma was the speaker and talked about recall efforts that have taken place in the past. Jerry announced that there was going to be a Union rally on the 8th on the capitol steps and he also talked about SB 5566 Worker Comp Bill and its progress in the legislature.

State Committeeman Cliff Allo gave a report about what happened at the State Rules Committee meeting. He reported that there was a stronger feeling for going with the caucus. The whole caucus process should be based on the precincts on Election Day 2011. They will be asking for us to report Affirmative Action results from the caucuses. The State Central Committee meeting will be in Wenatchee at the end of April where they will vote on the process. At this time, Washington State has 84 National Delegate slots to the National Convention. 21 at large spots and 63 spots will be picked at the Congressional level. It is possible that we could pick up more spots if we hold our caucuses in April at the same time as other states in our Region which are Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, and maybe Wyoming. The people who make the choices of the At Large Delegates will be the 98 LD State Committee people. Precinct and LD Caucuses will be in April 2012, the Congressional District Caucuses will be in May 2012, and the State Convention will be the end of June 2012.

State Party Chair Dwight Pelz was our Guest Speaker. He gave a great speech about the agenda of the Congressional Republicans are trying to get through Congress. His main aspects were about eliminating Retirement and how they don't want people to retire until age 70 or if at all. He also talked about how the Republicans want permanent tax cuts for the rich. He also talked about giving out vouchers for Medicare to people at age 69 ½. He also said that our country is 70% retail driven and that we must raise taxes, especially for the rich to actually stimulate the economy and to reduce the deficit. Republicans are for the Supply concept and Democrats are for the Demand concept. The last thing he talked about was about Precinct Committee Officers (PCOs), and how we should still have the right to elect them.

