



LCCDCC August 16, 2022 IN PERSON AND VIA ZOOM

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Call to Order and Introductions:

- **Chair Jacob Torgerson** called the meeting to order at **6:30 PM** in person at Lewis and Clark Library and via Zoom. In attendance (sign in sheet and Zoom identification): **Tonia Bossell, Shani Henry, Jakob Miles, Benjamin Kuiper, Bob Schmitt, Kev Hamm, Joe Cohenour, Jan Clinard, Michael Bayuk, Mark Mackin, Thai Nugyen, Sheena Wilson, John Driscoll.**

Legislative Redistricting: Jacob Torgerson

- The Republican maps exhibit extreme partisan gerrymandering. Although Dems received 57% of the vote in the elections analyzed, Republicans drew districts that would win them 72% of the seats. This would guarantee a solid Republican legislative majority FOR THE NEXT TEN YEARS. Helena needs to maintain FIVE competitive House seats.
- R's eliminated a majority-minority (Native) Senate district, contrary the VRA.
- The Central Zone Zoom hearing (includes Helena) is September 9. Jacob Hopkins at the MDP is lead on analysis and talking points. (jacob@montanademocrats.org)
- **UPDATE:** Links and information on how to comment on proposed maps were emailed.

2022 Montana Democratic Platform Convention

- The Convention was July 29 to 30 in Butte. Our Chair, Vice Chair, State Committee reps, as well as legislators, attended as voters. The new platform is [here](#). **A summary is attached.**
- **Jan Clinard** noted that legislators summarized the main points at the convention conclusion. Addressing the Climate Crisis was not included in the summary.

Fundraising: Group

- **Jakob Miles** needs to assume the treasurer position after handoff of records from **Jacob Torgerson**.
- **Jacob T** proposed a "holiday ball" with Senator Tester in early December.
- **Shani** noted that Gulch Distillers could do a "mixology" fundraiser.
- **Linda** noted the tradition of LCCDCC sponsoring an Election Night watch party.
- **Kev** noted that donations were diminished community-wide for all causes.
- **Jacob T** said he would call donors to raise seed money for a fundraiser venue, etc.

New/ Old Business:

- MDP Caucus Cookout Fundraiser on Sunday August 21 at the Quarry. **Sheena** generously offered sponsor tickets she was unable to use.
- The library is not available for the September meeting. The executive board will seek an alternate. **UPDATE:** The September meeting will be Zoom only. The Library IS reserved for October.
- **Sheena** encouraged support for **John Repke** (<https://repke4psc5.com/>) as Democratic candidate for the Public Service Commission.
- **Dunwell for SD42 team** (including **Jacob T**) plans to do the NAMI Walk on Sept. 18.
- There were no volunteers for precinct representative appointment.
- Secretary **Linda Beischel** submitted July minutes. **Jakob Miles** moved/ **Mark** seconded to approve the minutes.

The meeting was adjourned with the Chair's thanks at approximately 8:00 PM. **Next meeting THIRD Tuesday September 20, 2022 via Zoom ONLY at 6:30 PM.** Respectfully submitted, Linda Beischel, Secretary.



MT DEMS FIGHTING FOR RURAL MONTANA



DEFENDING MONTANA RANCHERS

The Montana Democratic Party has continually worked to support Montana beef, with every single Democratic legislator voting for COOL (Country of Origin Labeling) in 2021, while every Republican except one voted against it. It's time we put our ranchers on a level playing field and defended them from corporate interests. President Biden also has directed the Department of Agriculture to fix loopholes allowing foreign products to be labelled as "Product of USA".

INVESTING IN RURAL MONTANA

In the last two years, President Biden and Senator Tester have allocated:
\$3 Billion for Rebuilding Local Economies and **\$382 Million** for Montana K-12 schools
\$5 Billion in Debt Relief for Farmers and Ranchers and **\$3.8 Billion** for Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services
\$110 Billion for Roads and Bridges and an additional **\$50 Billion** for Resilience and Western Water Projects
Over **\$10 Billion** for Farmers to engage in Sustainable Farming and **\$9.7 Billion** for Rural Electric Cooperatives
\$65 Billion for expanding High Speed Internet Access
This is finally bringing our hard earned tax dollars back to Rural Montana!

BUILDING THE RURAL ECONOMY

The Montana Democratic Party has taken action to invest in rural manufacturing and industries to create good paying jobs across the state. Montana Democrats have also written bills to create more accessible housing, as well as to address the need for more high speed internet access.

RIGHT TO REPAIR

If you own something, it is your right to be able to fix it. President Biden directed the FTC to enact new rules that would help allow farm equipment owners to get their equipment repaired at home or independent shops, finally helping to restore our right to repair.

SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS

Senator Tester's PACT Act expands veterans healthcare, works to improve VA access, and helps provide healthcare to our veterans who have been exposed to toxic materials and burn pits.

KEEPING RURAL HOSPITALS OPEN

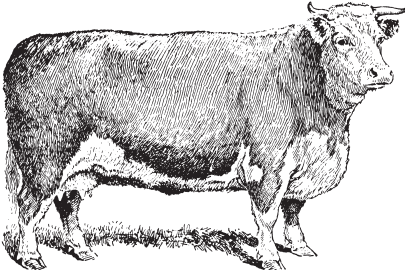
Medicaid Expansion has helped ensure that not a single rural hospital in Montana has closed, while cutting average healthcare costs for rural residents by over **40%**!



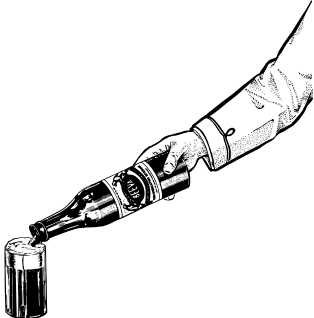
PAID FOR BY THE MONTANA DEMOCRATIC PARTY
LANCE FOUR STAR, TREASURER
P.O. BOX 802, HELENA MT 59624



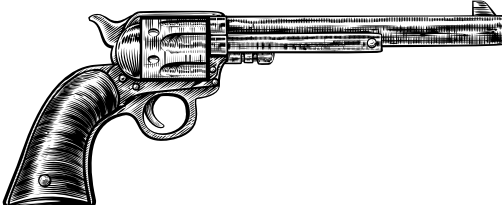
MONTANA DEMOCRATS SUPPORT



MONTANA BEEF



MONTANA BEER



MONTANA RIGHTS

