



**LCCDCC September 20, 2022 VIA ZOOM (meeting room unavailable)**  
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### Call to Order and Introductions:

- **Chair Jacob Torgerson** called the meeting to order at **6:30 PM** via Zoom. In attendance (by Zoom identification): **Vice Chair Shani Henry** (while attending “Rock the Vote” event), **Jakob Miles, Benjamin Kuiper, Joe Cohenour** (Sen Jill Cohenour was at a legislative meeting), **Jan Clinard, Mark Mackin, Carole Mackin, Ciara Maxwell, Sheena Wilson, Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell, Catherine Ockey**. Catherine noted she has attended CC meetings off and on for years, and appreciated the virtual option,

### Legislative Redistricting Report: Jacob Hopkins

- **Jacob H** thanked all who gave comments. They were effective. There is still time to comment about the Helena Community online or via email. The commission will meet again in late November to discuss comments and vote.
- Dems had more favorable public comments. Decision will be up to the chair, who will want compromise. **Rep. Dunwell** asked the next steps. By agreement of the commissioners, they will wait until after the election. **Jacob H** said there will likely narrow to two maps. None of the current maps will be the final selection.
- 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.

### Treasurer’s Report: Jakob Miles

- **Jakob** provided a written report showing contributions via Act Blue, deposits, and withdrawals. He reported a start of quarter balance of \$1428.56 and a current balance of \$1,278.10. The average contribution was about \$10.

### Executive Board Report: Jacob T and Shani

- The executive board received an invitation in June from the Lewis and Clark Republican CC (LCCRCC). They requested joint sponsorship of a legislative candidate forum. At the same time, the LCCRCC had voted and received media coverage saying the 2020 election was not free and fair (it was) and Joe Biden is not the elected President (he is). Based on that bad faith, our CC officers agreed to decline the LCCRCC invitation. However, that decision was not effectively communicated to the LCCRCC. Recently, the Republican CC directly invited Dem legislators to a joint forum. Most, but not all, declined. Jacob T apologized for putting legislators in a difficult position.
- **Jacob T** pledged more transparency from the officers going forward, “we are a team”. A report from the executive board will be included at each monthly meeting. Jacob would like to explore a joint activity with the LCCRCC after the election.
- The group’s comments were constructive and helpful.

### Fundraising Update: Group

- Some legislative candidates have asked about LCCDCC sponsoring a candidate forum and/or fundraising event prior to election, as well as whether LCCDCC would be contributing to campaigns.
- **Jacob** and **Shani** agreed that there is insufficient time to fundraise before this election. The CC agreed previously to forgo a pre-election fundraising event in order to replenish the treasury. Possible CC fundraising events in 2023 include a Spring Soiree, a reception before the Mansfield-Metcalf dinner, and a fall dinner with keynote speaker.
- The group agreed to focus on mobilization and fundraising to elect Dems in 2024, when Senator Tester will be on the ballot. **Jacob T** committed to call time in the interim to ask for donations.
- **Jan Clinard** clarified that the Central Committee will certainly volunteer for Sen. Tester in 2024, but fundraising should focus on local legislative candidates. Jacob T agreed.

- **Rep. Dunwell** noted that the CC is in transition and needs to build active membership in 2023. The progressive Helena delegation “is not safe”.

#### **Candidate Updates:**

- **Mary Ann Dunwell**, running for SD42, reported she will mail 5 sets of issue-oriented cards to voters in her district. She has been knocking every door, but will soon focus on GOTV. She, Janet Ellis, and Jill Cohenour completed the League of Women Voters candidate survey (<https://my.lwv.org/montana/montana-house-and-senate-candidate-survey-2022-mid-term-election> ).
- **Laura Smith**, running for HD 79, said she is having great conversations on the doors and she is looking for volunteers.
- **Sheena** noted that Helena HOA/ condo owners can't have political signs in common areas.

#### **New/ Old Business:**

- **Lewis and Clark Democrats Weekend of Action:** 10/15 and 10/16 after ballots are mailed on October 14. Ciara noted that 106 packets (50 doors per packet) had been prepared for GOTV door knocking volunteers. A GOTV rally is planned on Saturday, 10/15.
- **Montana Farmers' Union Congressional Town Hall:** Open to the public on Saturday 10/15 at the Delta Colonial at 7PM. District 1 and 2 Congressional candidates are invited. UPDATE: Republican Congressional candidates refused to attend.
- **Election Night Watch Gathering:** November 8, in conjunction with MDP. Shani, Tonia, and Jacob T agreed to work on planning.
- There were no volunteers for precinct representative appointment.
- Secretary **Linda Beischel** submitted August minutes. **Sheena** moved/ **Jacob T** seconded to approve the minutes.

The meeting was adjourned with the Chair's thanks at approximately 7:35 PM. **Next meeting THIRD Tuesday October 18, 2022 in person and via Zoom at 6:30 PM.** Respectfully submitted, Linda Beischel, Secretary.