

**Claire Smith Roney
State Committeewoman
Jefferson County Democrats
Report of
Washington State Democrats
Reorganization Meeting
01-27-2017 to 01-28-2017
Red Lion Hotel
Olympia, WA**

To see a copy of the official WSDCC Meeting Minutes go to:

<http://www.wa-democrats.org/meetings/current>. All 78 County State Committee members and 98 LD State Committee members were present (some by proxy vote) for a total of 176 members.

Attending from Jefferson County:

Jeff Engels, 24th LD-State Committeeman (SCM)
Diane Jones, 24th LD-State Committeewoman (SCW)
Ryan McAllister, JCD-State Committeeman
Claire Roney, JCD-State Committeewoman
Matt Sircely, 24th LD-Chair
Linda Sutton, JCD-Chair, Political Action Committee
Carla Woodward-JCD Secretary
Matt Woodward-JCD Treasurer

On Friday, January 27th:

All were invited to a Welcome Reception at the Capitol Building. Attendees heard from Jaxon Ravens, WSD State Party Chair and from Hilary Franz, newly elected Commissioner of Public Lands

On Saturday Morning, January 28th:

Caucus Meetings were held: 2 sessions, the first between 7 and 8 AM and the second between 8:15 AM and 9:15 AM.

Claire Roney, JCD-SCW, attended the Labor Caucus meeting (see below for details).

Committee Open Houses were held: between 9:30 and 10:45 AM. The purpose of the Open Houses was to allow State Committee members to learn about the mission of each Committee. State Committee members were asked to decide by February 3rd on which Committee they would like to serve. Claire has been a member of the Finance Committee since 2009 (“follow the money”) but decided to explore serving on the Elections or Rules Committee (see below for details).

Ryan McAllister was considering serving on the Resolutions Committee and Diane Jones on the Rules Committee.

Our new WA State Party Chair, Tina Podlodowski, put out a survey that asked SC members to rank their interest in serving on one of the 8 WSD Party’s Working Committees; the 8 committees are: Affirmative Action, Communications/Training, Eastern Washington, Elections, Finance, Resolutions, Rules, and Technology. As of February 6th assignments are pending.

At 11 AM a special meeting of the 24th LD members attending was held: Matt Sircely, 24th LD Chair, called a meeting of 24th LD members attending to discuss the direction of the 24th LD and how to organize. In addition to SC-members named above also attending were: Julie Johnson, SCW-Clallam County and Vice Chair of the 24th LD, Robbie Myers, SCW-Grays Harbor County and soon to become our 6th CD Representative on the WSDs E-Board, Virginia and Andrew Shogren, Chair of Clallam County Ds.

WSDs Central Committee Meeting: 1:30 to about 5 PM:

The main purpose of the State Committee General Session was ReOrganization.

Tina Podlodowski was elected the WSDs new Chair having defeated Jaxon Ravens and Roger Flygare who also ran for Chair.

Joe Pakootas was elected the WSDs new Vice Chair without opposition.

Rob Dolin, incumbent, was elected as WSD Secretary.

Habib Habib, incumbent, was elected as WSD Treasurer.

6th CD State Committee members met separately and elected Robbie Myers of Grays Harbor County to be our new Congressional District (CD) representative. Robbie has served for 2 terms as SCW from Grays

Harbor County. Robbie can be reached at: (360) 581-8092, stitchesbystitches@gmail.com.

Nine Resolutions of a more urgent nature were passed by the body; to read the full text of each resolution go to <http://www.wa-democrats.org/meetings/current>. The resolutions that were passed concerned: Hate Crime Response Plans, the WA Investment Trust (State Bank), Continued Support for the Naselle Youth Camp, Support of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Limiting Disclosure of Information About the Religious Affiliation of Individuals, Supporting Funding for the John Wayne Trail, Supporting Teanaway Community Forest Budget Request, Resolution to Endorse and Support Medical Marijuana, Resolution in Opposition to US Visa and Green Card Holders Denied Entry to the US on the Basis of their Country of Origin (put forth by the WSDs Young Dems).

Treasurer's Report: Actual WSD income for 2016: \$ 8,280,083.20. Total Actual Expenses for 2016: \$ 8,586,284.98. Net loss: \$ - 306,201.78. Bank balance (all accounts): \$ 573,565.55. No outstanding debt as of 12-31-2016.

Labor Caucus information: Diane Jones, outgoing Vice Chair of the Labor Caucus, a JCD, and the newly elected 24th LD-SCW, opened the meeting. Election of officers was held. Jeremy Kamel, a member of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union Local 23 in Tacoma, WA for 16 years, was elected Chair. Jeremy is the SCM from the 25th LD. Katie Nelson was elected Vice Chair. Katie is a member of the WA Federation of State Employees, AFSCME Council 28, for 23 years. Katie was elected Thurston Co. Dems Chair in 2015 and recently was reelected for a new term. Jeremy asked anyone who could to come to the Grays Harbor Co. Council meeting on Monday January 30th to protest a bid by the Freedom Foundation for open contract negotiations which is the first step toward circumventing the Collective Bargaining Process and ultimately an attempt to make WA a "Right to Work" state. Postscript: People showed up and Labor won.

The Rules Committee Open House listed some of the activities of this Committee: Creating a delegate selection plan; developing Rules for the Convention, Developing a State Plan re: Caucuses vs. Primary to select

delegates from WA to the National Convention, work on Charter and By-Laws. The WSDs will need a Delegate Selection Plan by 2019 for 2020. The Rules Committee in 2017 and 2018 will do an “autopsy” of the Caucus process.

The Elections Committee: This Open House did not seem to be well organized and its mission and goals were not clearly stated.

WA DNC REPORTS:

David McDonald reported that there were 11 candidates running for National Chair. There are 447 DNC members and of these 130 have already committed their votes but 317 were uncommitted.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: The Annual Crab Feed and Grassroots Forum hosted by the WSDs will take place on Sunday, March 5th this year at the McGavick Conference Center at Clover Park Technical College in Lakewood, WA. Tickets are \$ 75 **but only \$ 60 if purchased by February 8th!** The Grassroots Forum offers a series of speakers, panels, or trainings designed for Party Leaders prior to the evenings festivities with guests: Gov. Inslee and US Representatives from WA.