

## **Juneau County Republican Party General Meeting Minutes, October 7, 2024**

**Submitted by Secretary, Marge Berger**

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm; Pledge of Allegiance/Prayer

We had an incident before the meeting as Mauston school board members wanted to speak at our meeting. There was much confusion as they had talked to several of our members who told them different ways in which to attend. They were told they had to be on our agenda to speak and they said they would contact us. Since then, an email was sent to us but they were unable to attend the meeting on October, 7<sup>th</sup> because the school board meeting was the same day.

Discussion was held on "Vote No" on the Mauston's school referendum. Paul Shirek, a pastor at Faith Christian Church called to complain that we should not be advocating against the referendum. We see the wasteful spending and feel it is time to hold school boards accountable and practice conservative spending agendas.

Early in-person voting starts on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. You can go to the clerks' offices in Mauston, Necedah and New Lisbon during open hours and vote using an absentee ballot. Smaller communities require an appointment or are not allowing early voting at all. You need to call your local clerk to find out what the early voting process is in your community. See Marge if you need your clerk's phone number or you can find it online.

We were looking for volunteers to attend the New Lisbon gun show on November 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>. Since then we have 1 more shift to fill on Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-8pm.

Events were announced: October 9<sup>th</sup> at the Cedar Shack in Adams, Scott Krug fundraising dinner featuring Rebecca Kleefisch as speaker. A few of us attended and gained new information that can help us in the future. Also, on October 19<sup>th</sup> there is a Prayer Breakfast fundraiser for Nancy VanderMeer. Invitations were available for those who were interested.

Lori Bondel talked about the \$6 million school referendum in the Royall school district. She has created hand-outs to show spending and how much it will increase local taxes and is going door-to-door asking residents to vote "no" on the referendum. She also is distributing "Vote No" yard signs in that school district.

Budget meeting on October 10<sup>th</sup>, 8am – attend if you are able.

Topics of discussion: Fema in Georgia is taking supplies from other organizations and not allowing them to distribute to people in need; North Carolina has lithium mines that some think our government is interested in; 75% of property taxes go to Washington D.C. and then trickled down to county levels with school and communities receiving very little of it; Schools must abide by what the federal government wants in order to get any funding from them; Kids are not learning to proficient levels but graduate at 95% as they are pushed from one grade to the next; Average salary of a teacher in Mauston is \$60,000 plus benefits; Homeless people are beginning to set up near the hospital in Mauston; Country's interest is higher than our military spending; the Juneau County Health Department is putting up 2 vending machines to hold toothpaste, gloves, bandages and other items for people to take for free-another waste of money that taxpayers will continually be paying for/locations are thought to be at the Better Buy store and at the Elroy Trail.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm