

**Maricopa County Democratic Party
Spring 2008 County Convention
Saturday, March 1, 2008**

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 1:05pm by Country Chair Mark Manoil.

Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence

Approval of Agenda

Moved and second, approved

Approval of Minutes from December 1, 2007 County meeting

Motion to approve, second, passed.

Report of Credentials Committee

155 elected precinct committee persons present.

Treasurer's Report – Dan Mallar, Treasurer

Balance as of February 28, 2008 is \$31,899.32.

Chair's Report – Mark Manoil, Chairman

- Diversity dinner had approximately 120 attendees, terrific fundraiser. We are going to make this an annual event.
- We have about 850 PCs and 110 precincts, so we need to get more Democrats involved. Utilize the VAN to identify active voters and recruit them.
- Through the Presidential Preferential Primary we learned more about how votes are counted.
- Our thoughts and prayers are with those who have passed away since our last meeting: John Bernstein, Elizabeth Lunn, William Podlich, Charles Ulsas
- Petition reminder: you can sign as many petitions as there are available seats. In case of duplication, the earliest signature counts.
- Law & Order Fund: we are raising money to run a fact-based campaign against Andrew Thomas and Joe Arpaio.
- MCDP will be backing up the ADP with help for Legislative candidates. We will be the primary source of resources for County and Statewide races

Presentation – How Our Votes Are Counted – Fred von Blume

- There are six ways to vote: vote by mail (VBM), polling place, early vote, provisional ballot, UOCAVA, direct electronic voting
- Audit tape and memory tap are removed from the voting machines, brought to a collection center, a modem sends the results to the elections dept., which then go through the tabulator
- VBM request goes to the elections dept., then to the voter file. Pitney-Bowes is the company who runs Relia-Vote which processes the request from the voter file and then sends out the actual ballots.
- After ballots are mailed back, the signatures are transferred electronically to the elections dept. There are people there who are trained to verify the signatures. Ballots are then opened, checked for damage, and checked for duplications. Good ballots are counted by both Republicans and Democrats. There is a recorded chain of custody and audit trail of all ballots.
- Tabulation time line: VBMs and early votes are tabulated as they come in. Vote counts are announced starting one hour after the polls close. Provisional ballots are counted last.
- Every 5,000 ballots the ballot counting machine is serviced (cleaned).

- Maricopa County Elections won the National Associations of County's award for Best Practices.
- Hand count: VBM - batches are pulled at random, run through the machine, a report is generated, all sealed in a box then later hand-counted. Election day: precincts are drawn, report is generated, then hand counted.

Meet the Candidates (3 min. each)

Congress

CD2 – John Thrasher

CD 3 – Bob Lord (not present)

CD 4 – Ed Pastor (not present)

CD 5 – Harry Mitchell (not present)

Corporation Commission

Sandra Kennedy

Sam George (exploratory)

Kara Kelty (not present)

Joe Arredondo (not present)

County Sheriff

Dan Saban

County Attorney

Tim Nelson

Gerald Richard

County Board of Supervisors

District 1 – Ed Hermes

District 2 – Joel Sinclair

District 3 – Marilyn Fox (not present)

District 5 – Mary Rose Wilcox (not present)

Community College Districts

District 3 – Pam Petty

Constable

Arcadia/Biltmore Precinct – Annette Clark

Arcadia/Biltmore Precinct – Tamara Thomas (not present)

Announcements

If you are interested in running for School Board, or know someone who does, contact Jason Williams at Jason@williamsforarizona.com or 602-910-0726

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn, second, adjourn at 3:15pm.

Minutes prepared by Angie Crouse, Secretary MCDP