



## Boulder County Democratic Party (BCDP) Executive Committee (EC)

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Boulder County Democratic Party Headquarters  
Boulder, CO 80309

### Program

**6:00 – 6:30 pm**

- Social Time (Meet and Greet) – Potluck.

**6:30- 7:30 pm – Program – Candidates who are interested in BCDP Officers**

**Gil Barela** – He is running for **State 1<sup>st</sup> VC** for the State Party. He lives in Loveland, CO. This position is responsible for lots of organizing, setting up meetings, etc. which he has experience doing. He wants to ensure those people who came out and voted in 2016 stay involved and vote again in 2018.

**Jim Johnson – Treasurer Candidate** – Currently he is the Assistant Treasurer under Celeste Landry. His experience includes being a retired Special Ed teacher, union member, and Vietnam Veteran. He is also a PCP in Allenspark. He has received extensive training from Celeste for this job. He stated that he has read the platform and supports it. He believes that we as a party need to work together harder and smarter for next elections.

**Jason Sherry (Izzy) – Secretary** – He stated he was heavily involved in the Bernie campaign, then Bob Seay's campaign, and was a national DNC delegate. He is an IT professional by training and would like to see this position expanded to get more info out to public and members. He stated he will work with FLAG to get them involved (Dem-Enter). Jason said he has the time to commit to the party as he works from home with a flexible work schedule. He has done lots of volunteer work for non-profits. He is a resident of Longmont.

**Kitty Sargent - VC-Capacity (Fundraising, Outreach/Inclusion, Volunteers, Recruiting Volunteers, and Truman Dinner)** – Kitty indicated she has been politically involved for a number of years in that she has worked on several local campaigns for candidates and issues. Currently she is the HD33 chair, and is a PCP in Superior. She stated "I am progressive but also liked Hillary Clinton." Her background is working in non-profits. Kitty indicated she wants

to raise more money for the County Party. She would like to cultivate donors and expand the Century Club (CC). She talked about the possibility of doing some type of event each month for the CC members to make them feel special and appreciated. She would also like to raise enough money so the Party can hire someone, at least part-time, to help offset the time requirements for the Chair. She feels Boulder County is crucial to the State staying blue or going blue.

**Katie Wallace –VC-Capacity** - Katie indicated she was a former OFA (2012) fellow. Additionally, she has worked on campaigns for Mike Foote, Joe NeGuse, Jonathan Singer, Deb Gardner, Erin Goldhammer's 2016 campaign in Denver. She also worked for Mike Foote and Jonathan Singer at the State Capitol. Currently she is a student at CU. Katie indicated she felt more young people need to be represented in the Party and in everything we do and that is not always the case now. She stated a need for a unified voice here in Colorado. Fundraising for campaigns has been something she's done previously so she feels this would not be a problem for her. She also stated that we need to engage all Dems in Boulder County. Campaign Finance Law is something she's good at.

**Katie Maltzbender** – She indicated she became political engaged in 2008 in high school when she heard Obama in Denver. His speech inspired her to not sit on the sidelines. She has worked for Mark Udall, Mayor Kristine Berg (manager of campaign in Lafayette), and was a delegate in 2016 for Hilary Clinton. She stated we as a party need to expand our base and get people more involved. Currently she works for the Climate Reality Project and fundraising is something she does along with interacting with volunteers. She stated she will do her work after hours since she does have fulltime job.

**Rafi Mercuri** – As an AmeriCorps volunteer he moved to Colorado to work with poor communities that were being neglected by the Government. He also worked on the Bernie campaign and was a national delegate. He has his Master's Degree and works with students. Recruiting candidates and volunteers, and raising money were things he did for the Bernie Campaign as well as the Angelique Espinoza campaign. He stated we as a party have to give people reasons to get involved. He also stated we need to actually be a big tent party, not one just in name only. Fundraising can be a communal effort. He stated that he worked on the soft money campaign for Morgan Carroll. He anticipated working part-time as a teacher or substitute teacher.

**Tim Howard** – Tim stated that he is a partner in an investment bank in Boulder. He has three young daughters who got him involved in the 206 campaign. Fundraising and outreach is something he can do. He then decided he would DROP OUT and not run for the Capacity VC position, but would work for whoever wins the election. He also stated he would be willing to be a chair for a fundraising team for the Party.

### **External VC Candidates**

**Cliff Smedley** – Cliff stated he has been active in both the County and State Party since 2010. He created a rally to celebrate the one-year anniversary of Citizens United. This resulted in doing statewide amendment 69 which passed with 69% advisory (not the most recent

Amendment 69 which did not pass). He stated he feels he can be a transformative member of the party since he feels there have been some issues between county members of the Bernie and Hillary campaigns. Cliff also stated he has done his own campaign finance reporting. IT is his educational and work background.

## **VC Internal Candidates**

**Geoff Calhoun** – Geoff commented on his work as President of the Boulder Labor Council. He has also been a PCP for about 15 years. In fact, the turnout in his precinct was 89%. Additionally he has worked to help candidates in Adams County in Commerce City. He stated he had a great team in his precinct. Geoff commented that 90,000 votes for Hillary came out from Boulder County and we need to expand our field team so we can help others and increase our numbers as well. We need to more broadly open our door to young people and people of color so they become more active in this party. He stated he has worked with and for young people in previous jobs and that we as a party need a younger profile. How do we open those doors? We hold more training sessions and constantly work to make what we do better. We need to actually be more inclusive (outreach to all communities in Boulder County) and we also need to reach out to other counties (field team, budget, GOTV, office)

**Brian Larson** – He has lived in Louisville for about 2.5 years. He indicated he is professionally trained as attorney and data (IT). He has been active in the Democratic Party since the age of 18. He has worked in the Democratic Party doing a number of things – worked for Tammy Duckworth in Illinois, was a delegate for Bernie, and worked on the voter protection team for Hillary in Colorado. Brian indicated he would like to see an increased accessibility and accuracy in our data; he would like to see more mobile operations and tech focus to make it easier to reach voters. His background is in GIS work. He would hit the ground running regardless of the issue that comes forward. He feels we need help on IT, Legal, VAN, and yes, he would continue to work on these even if not elected for the chair. He feels there needs to be a greater team effort for the Party.

**Lynette McClain** – Has lived in Longmont since 2013. She is retired. Lynette indicated she worked for Bernie starting in 2015 with Progressive Democrats of America and then was hired by his campaign for NE Colorado. She has experience and training in organizing. She was a National Delegate to Philadelphia. She was also a Field Organizer for Bob Seay. She believes that being cynical is not helpful as the Chair needs to pull everyone together. She also said she worked precincts that did not have PCP and listened to residents. Lynette indicated we have a chance to ignite and unite our base. She has a PhD in Education (Special Ed and English as second language). What can we do better for a candidate like Bob Seay (CD4) – need to work for them. She is also involved in LAD.

**Jacob Taylor** – Being afraid and angry will give us fuel for action, but we cannot lose control. He hopes to offer ways to do things intelligently and as a team. He was raised to be a Dem. What you can do for yourself is not a good measure. Innate dignity is something that we need to imbibe to our members and the people we talk with. Jacob indicated he worked for 2008

campaign for Obama – SMC development and director of programming after 2008. He is a finance controller. He stated he lives in Niwot. The biggest concern he has is the time required for this position, but he believes it is important to do. He is also running for the External VC position.

### **Chair Candidates**

**Emily Sheridan** – Emily is currently the chair for the CU Dems and will be graduating in May with her work in lab immunology development. She became politically involved when she came to CU. She first became involved in the Executive Committee (EC) when she started coming with the former CU-Dem Chair, Chris Muhich. She indicated she pulled together an event for Bernie to come to CU – 2500 people or so attended. She is a PCP at CU and was the supersite chair for caucus where about 800 people showed up and no one was turned away. She also participated in the Edie Hooton campaign as well. She stated she grew up in Ft. Lupton where 70% of students receive free and reduced lunches. She wants to bring more young people into the party and for them to be more involved. She feels to be more inclusive is a necessity for the party to expand and be successful. She said we need to be more representative of America. .

**Rose Lopez** – Rose indicated she is a biotech executive in S. Boulder (27 years). She feels she brings the skill set for setting goals, financial, etc. She worked her way up the ladder for her job and feels we as a party need to include more people and educate them on what we do and stand for. She wants to unite the party and not have two different camps. She commented on our platform being something we need to share and follow. How do we convince people who stand against our platform? This is an opportunity to cultivate candidates who support our platform. Political experience was growing up in a political house (Dem in Wyoming). She saw good examples and she received a great education in her Civics class. She has been a volunteer over the last 2 campaigns. She also stated we have no time to waste before we have another election which we need to win.

**Mark Williams** – He stated he wants to invite all people to play ball regardless of whoever wins. His daughters got him involved (13 yr. old). He acknowledged his political experience is minimal, but he is an Air Force veteran (Gulf War), AF Reserves (Intelligence Officer), ROTC Instructor at CU. Hispanic (mother immigrant – speaks Spanish) – grew up in Latin America. Have to build bridges. American Airlines pilot and striking (did not cross the picket line). Economics (political) talks about how wealth comes into power. Need to organize outreach of high performance teams. Need to give people a reason to get involved. He and his daughters worked for the Morgan Carroll campaign.

**Tom Grasso** – Tom stated that he wanted to come to meetings prepared with what we need to do and how to do it. He said he would listen to our people including those who built our party. We need to give people a reason to join and convince those who left to come back. He said he would follow Bernie's plan. He said people are suffering and we need to change how we do things to listen to voices of the future and the present. We should not exclude people, and we need to give everyone the opportunity to speak. He has been a volunteer firefighter for over 20 years. He has also been the Fire Commissioner where he got things done. He highlighted his care about people and hope that he will gain the EC members' support.

**Nicholas Monck** – Nick indicated he listened to the press conference and found it frightening to women, media, and Democrats. He felt this was a call to arms. What are we going to do in next 2 years? 4 years? etc. He stated he is a student at CU Law. He got involved in politics in 2008. His ideas for the county – (1) we need an Executive Director who is full time and paid to do logistics; (2) work on recruiting candidates up and down the ballot; and (3) engagement – we excel at GOTV. We need to find, identify, and engage people for the party. He also stated we need to involve CU in the county party more than we currently do. Finally, he stated he is committed to electing Dems up and down the ballot in 2018.

There will be a candidate forum on January 28 from 9:15 to 11:15 at East Simpson Coffee Company (414 E. Simpson St, Lafayette).

## **Meeting Agenda**

### **8:00 p.m. - Call to Order**

Acting Chair, Alex Gano, called the meeting to order.

**Approval of Proposed Agenda** – A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda as changed.

**Approval of Minutes** for December 14, 2016 Executive Committee Meeting – The motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes with a minor amendment. The motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report** – Celeste Landry (Presidential Elector) – She indicated we spent more money than we took in last month. Election night bills got paid this month. The problems with Excel may have gotten resolved but this could result in 4 months of bills showing up. The audit was ready for the issues with Excel. The State Party Dinner, March 11, State will cost \$125/ticket tonight. This dinner is the evening of the State Central Committee meeting in Denver. Cost will go up to \$150 if you don't purchase tonight. She indicated she was not aware of who the speaker will be for the event. At our Reorg meeting on Feb 4<sup>th</sup> she will give biennial report. She also reminded the candidates and the EC that the Vice Chair-Internal does the budget along with the treasurer. The new officers will present the proposed budget in March. She also reminded folks that she would be available and willing to help whoever the newly elected officers are. The Century Club is not where we want it to be regarding the number of people who are members. Motion made and seconded to accept report. The motion was approved and the report accepted.

Field Team Report – Jim McNeil

### **Field Team Summary**

Out of 41 Areas, we currently have 6 Areas without an Area Coordinator. However, three ACs are covering more than one area; so more work is needed to fill out our AC positions. Assuming approval of PCP nominations tonight, we will have 12 orphan precincts (out of 233). In addition we have 72 precincts with only one PCP. So again, we have some work to do to fill

the Field Team. We anticipate that the chaos of the incoming Trump administration will generate considerable political activism among progressives. We hope to direct some of that activism into filling out the ranks of our Field Team with energetic volunteers.

### **Field Team Activities**

The Field Team Leadership Group (FLAG) meeting of Jan. 3, 2017 featured a report and discussion of Volunteer activities led by Ron Weaver and Mike Hart. We also discussed the calendar for the first half of 2017 which will include team building and Precinct Leader training following the Reorganization meeting. The FLAG meeting included presentations by BCDP officer candidates.

The Field Team Leaders (Megan Dawson, Mike Page, and Jim McNeil) plan to meet with the new leadership following Reorganization to discuss their vision for the role of the Field Team moving forward.

Field has been working with office staff and BCDP Secretary, Terrye Whitaker, to clean VAN phone records based on returned call lists. Our next data entry session is tomorrow, Thurs., Jan. 12, at 11:00 at BCDP HQ. Volunteers are welcome (bring your laptop).

### **Field Team Personnel Actions**

Resignations:

<u>Area</u>	<u>Name</u>
12-5	Cliff Smedley (replaced by Linda Borchert)

<u>Precinct</u>	<u>Name</u>
629	Hazel McCoy
637	Kathy Simon
803	Brandon Del Campo
840	Amanda Hearty
840	Robert Meredith
864	Deron Dempsey

Nominations:

Area Coordinator: We need to correct several bureaucratic/clerical oversights to our Area Coordinator list. For reasons unclear to me, the following ACs are not yet officially listed in the BCDP records as ACs. We need to correct this oversight and make them all official.

<u>Area</u>	<u>Name</u>
11-11	Mike Altenbern

11-10	Ellen Burnes
13-1	Gretchen Diefenderfer
13-5	Ken Evans
13-8	Cerah Hedrick
11-8	Jen Wingard

Motion made and seconded to approve these. The motion was approved and passed.

Dan Gould requested that we break the PCP nominations into two separate actions, one for those who functioned as PCPs during the election and one for those who have volunteered to become PCPs after the election. During the last election, three persons worked in orphan precincts and have agreed to become Precinct Leaders. We wish to nominate the following to become PCPs

Precinct Committee Person Nominees:

<u>PCP</u>	<u>Name</u>
629	Suzanne McCue
803	Elli Johnson
869	Charles Beach

In the last week 27 other people emailed Field volunteering to become Precinct Leaders. Of these, one was already a precinct leader and 15 were in precincts that already had two leaders and their names were passed to their respective Area Coordinator to attempt to find a suitable role for them. Of the 11 remaining, we have asked the respective Area Coordinators to vet these potential volunteers and so far 6 have been vetted and will be nominated tonight (one as a PSP). The remainder will be interviewed in due course, and, if endorsed by their AC, be nominated at a later EC meeting.

Moved and seconded to accept them as functioning as PSP since 2016. Motion was approved.

Precinct Committee Person/Support Person:

<u>PCP</u>	<u>Name</u>
206	Amanda Jachym
626	Jay Douglas (JD) Gleitz
822	Chris O'Hara
832	Alana Eva Burman
864	Sandy Friedman

<u>PSP</u>	<u>Name</u>
840	Diane Michel

The rest have been vetted by ACs and Dan made motion to be effective after Reorg meeting adjournment in February. Motion seconded. Discussion – Jim McNeil disagreed with this because of the vetting process. Alan said this is a policy issue that is consistent with previous actions. Why has this not been made into by-laws – been part of December minutes for a number of years. Question called to close debate. Debate closed. Freeze CC membership – 25 for and 16 against. 6 appointments will be effective Feb 5<sup>th</sup>.

<u>PSP</u>	<u>Name</u>
634	Shari Malloy
840	Diane Michel

Based on recommendations from the Area Coordinators, we will be processing PCP removals at EC next month.

NOTE: When redoing by-laws in future need to clarify the CC membership being frozen as of December the year before. Also look at bylaws to allow for approval voting.

**Reorg Meeting - Consider having another CC meeting in 6 months after the one in February** (July/August) – Discussion on how the meeting will go took place. The agenda will be sent out with the call. Motion was made and seconded to accept the agenda with one change for our Reorg meeting. The motion was approved.

We agreed to an hour for intros.

2 hours for officer elections with voting will be tight (show of credentials/hands first – if close then do separation by candidates). There will be a ballot box at each location of the division. Alternative plan if we run over - can go to gym – chair, external, internal, capacity, treasurer, secretary – Deb Gardner and Celeste Landry will have rules for the breakout sessions.

Kellie Macomber agreed to bring coffee.

Candidates for chair will have a meeting on Sunday, January 29, to be trained to run the meeting.

The 1<sup>st</sup> notice will be sent out this weekend via email. January 20 the notices will be sent out via USPS. On January 25 – 3<sup>rd</sup> notice via email sent out

January 28 – East Boulder meeting for candidates

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the proposed special rules of order for all reorg meetings. This was approved.

**Resolution** – Cliff Smedley (was part of call) in support of unionization

Work with Boulder Labor Council and have public meetings – Hand that Feeds – documentary

Motion made to adopt the resolution and seconded. This was approved.



### **9:00 p.m. - Community Announcements & Sharing**

**Dan Gould** –Dan highlighted the importance of electing officers for county party and the role of said officers to get Democrats excited, to go to the polls and to actually vote for Dems. He reminded those in attendance that officers do not choose the candidates – they have to remain neutral in any primary race. It is the job of the party officers to run our part of the primary without bias and to support whatever Dem is chosen out of the primary. He felt this needed to be restated to avoid angst and hard feeling where party officials were seen to support one candidate over another.

Samantha Reynolds – started a group called **activism speed dating** to harness energy to know what organizations are about – monthly meeting getting 5 minutes to talk about what your group does. Also needs help to get website set up.

### **9:25 p.m. - Next Meeting**

#### **Reorg Date can go to gym – chair, external, internal**

Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup> – 7:30 am registration  
Centennial Middle School  
2205 Norwood Avenue  
Boulder, CO 80304

#### **Proposed Date:**

Wednesday, March 8, 2017  
BCDP HQ

### **9:30 p.m. - Adjourn Business Meeting**

Motion made and seconded to adjourn. Motion was approved.

Respectfully Submitted

Terrye Whitaker, Secretary