

**Barry
County
Republican
Party**

**January
2024
Newsletter**





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CHAIRS CORNER

THE Republican Party plays a crucial role at various levels of government, and it all starts on a local level. Here in Barry County, we strive to implement our core principles and policy objectives while engaging with our local community. The county party serves as a major building block for the district, state, and national party so it is crucial to have a strong county party if we want to have success on a larger scale. The Republican Party at the county level serves as a bastion for conservative values. County officials affiliated with the party should champion principles such as limited government intervention, fiscal responsibility, and individual liberties. This representation ensures that local policies align with the broader conservative ideology and builds the trust of the party with the voters.

ANOTHER significant aspect of the Republican Party's role at the county level is grassroots engagement. Party members should actively participate in local events, community forums, and outreach programs to connect with residents. This engagement fosters a sense of community and allows Republicans to better understand the needs of their constituents. This is the base role for any member of the party and is the very core of what a precinct delegate should be engaged in. We should all be constantly building coalitions with like-minded individuals, organizations, and interest groups. By forming these relationships, the party can amplify its influence and garner broader support for its initiatives.

IN CONCLUSION, the Republican Party plays a multifaceted role at the county level, encompassing local governance, representation of conservative values, and grassroots engagement. To achieve its political goals effectively, the party must employ strategies such as community outreach, coalition-building, data-driven decision-making, and the recruitment of diverse candidates. By doing so, the Republican Party can strengthen its presence at the county level and contribute to the overall success of conservative principles in local governance which benefits every member of society.

KEEP in mind that all of this is only possible with the help of **YOU**. We invite you to join us today and help keep Barry County a great place to live.

Barry County's Mission Statement:

The Barry County Republican Party embraces the core values of God, Family and Country. We are Patriotic Americans who believe in the protection of our Constitution, as it is the cornerstone of our God-given, inalienable rights to "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Property." We act on these convictions through participation in government, fundraising, service, and education within our community.

--

Phillip Joseph
Barry County Republican Party Chairman

CHRISTMAS
TIME IN
HASTINGS
WITH THE
GOP



Giving away cookies in downtown Hastings at Christmas time!

Old Glory and the Boys Marching in the Parade!



A rare sight of our Mascot without its head during the Christmas Parade!



January 11, 2024

Dear Barry County Precinct Delegate,

CALL TO CONVENTION

Barry County Republican Party

There shall be a meeting of the duly elected Precinct Delegates and At-Large Delegates to the Republican County Convention at 7:00p.m. on Thursday, February 15, 2024. The location will be Barry County Christian School, 2999 McKeown Road, Hastings, MI 49058. The purpose of this meeting shall be to elect Delegates and Alternates to the District Convention to be held at the Lansing Center in the City of Lansing on March 2, 2024.

Precinct Delegates and certain At-Large Delegates given the preference under Rule 8 of the Convention Rules, but who DO NOT attend the County Convention, must notify the Chair of the County Executive Committee (Phillip Joseph) or the following designee (Shelly Lake) in writing (the "Notification") of the person's intention to become a delegate or alternate delegate to the District Convention.

The notification can be in any written form, including by letter, text, or email, and must be received by the Chair of the County Executive Committee (or Designee) by no later than 4:00 p.m. on the day of the County Convention. Failure to provide the notification as provided herein shall mean that the person shall not be given the preference under Rule 8 of the Convention Rules. It is not necessary to send a notification if a person attends the County Convention.

ONLY duly elected Precinct Delegates and the Republican nominees for state legislative and county office shall be allowed to vote on matters as may properly come before the County Convention (in addition to Republican incumbent members of the state legislature and the Michigan congressional delegation, statewide officeholders, the Republican National Committeeman and National Committeewoman from Michigan and Michigan Republican Party Officers where such person resides).

Signed,



Phillip Joseph
Chairman

Barry County Republican Executive Committee

PAID FOR BY THE BARRY COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY, PO BOX 22, HASTINGS, MI 49058

CALENDAR OF MEETING

FEBRUARY 5, 2024

City of Hastings Library Board **4:30 pm**

City of Hastings Planning Commission **7:00 pm**

Assyria Township Board Meeting **7:30 pm**

FEBRUARY 6, 2024

Village of Middleville COW **4:30 pm**

Village of Middleville Planning Commission **7:00 pm**

Village of Nashville Planning Commission **7:00 pm**

Orangeville Township Board Meeting **7:00 pm**

FEBRUARY 7, 2024

Castleton Township Board Meeting **1:00 pm**

FEBRUARY 12, 2024

Village of Freeport Board Meeting **7:30 pm**

Village of Woodland Board Meeting **6:30 pm**

City of Hastings City Council Meeting **7:00 pm**

Carlton Township Board Meeting **7:00 pm**

Hope Township Board Meeting **6:30 pm**

Thornapple Township Board Meeting **7:00 pm**

FEBRUARY 13, 2024

Village of Middleville Village Council **7:00 pm**

Baltimore Township Board Meeting **7:00 pm**

Barry Township Board Meeting **7:00 pm**

Hastings Charter Township Board Meeting **6:30 pm**

FEBRUARY 14, 2024

Johnston Township Board Meeting **6:30 pm**

FEBRUARY 15, 2024

City of Hastings DDA **8:00 pm**

FEBRUARY 20, 2024

Village of Middleville DDA **6:00 pm**

City of Hast. Zoning Board of Appeals **7:00 pm**

Irving Township Board Meeting **6:30 pm**

FEBRUARY 21, 2024

City of Hastings Park and Rec Committee Meeting **10:30 am**

City of Hastings Joint Planning Committee Meeting **5:30 pm**

FEBRUARY 22, 2024

Village of Nashville Special Meeting of Village Council **7:00 pm**

FEBRUARY 26, 2024

City of Hastings City Council Meeting **5:30 pm**

FEBRUARY 28, 2024

City of Hastings City/County Airport Authority Meeting **4:30 pm**

BARRY COUNTY RP MEETING NOTES

On December 14th the Barry County Republican Party met for the final meeting of 2023. Below is a short summary of some of the topic of the meeting.

- A message from Representative Rochelle Smit was read regarding a wind/solar ballot initiative in progress which is in need of 550 thousand signatures by the end of May. There will be an informational meeting held on February 13th at 6:00 pm at the Hastings High School Performing Arts center. For other information please see page 9 of this newsletter and visit the Preserve Our FARM LANDS-Stop Solar Fields-Barry County page on Facebook.
- The Village of Middleville asked if the BCRP wanted to donate a podium to the village but added the caveat that we could not add a plaque of any type that references the BCRP. This discussion was tabled until a later meeting.
- There was a review of the BCRP bylaws regarding the endorsement of candidates in a primary election.
- Congressional District 2 will be hosting a mock convention in Ionia on January 27, 2024 as well as setting up an education project to instruct interested individuals on how to help candidates, poll watcher training, the Republican Platform, and other items. For more information visit www.ballotpedia.org/Michigans-2nd-congressional-district.
- The board passed a motion to switch to MailChimp for mass texting and communication within the party.
- A motion was passed to set up a booth at the Barry County House and Lifestyle Show at the BC Expo Center on January 26-27, 2024
- Information about an upcoming septic bill as well as discussion on the bill, which will wrest control over this vital rural issue away from the local municipalities and place it in the hands of state committees was also part of the agenda.

FULL MEETING MINUTES ARE AVAILABLE BY GOING TO OUR WEBSITE AT:

<https://www.barrycountyrepublican.org/>



Sandy Pensler

Peter Meijer

Michael Hoover

JD Wilson

Sharon Savage

Mike Rodgers

James Craig

Nikki Snyder

Samuel Bensson

Sherri O' Donnell

Alexandria Taylor

For the Love of Country

A US Senate Candidate Forum

Saturday, February 3rd 2024

Dinner, Drinks, Dessert, and Dancing

\$40 - Tickets
\$50 - Program Ad
\$100 - Table Sponsor

Barry County Expo Center

5-10pm





FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 5, 2023

CONTACT

Jenell Leonard

517-268-0889

citizensforlocalchoice@gmail.com

**Citizens for Local Choice Submits Initiative
Petition to the Bureau of Elections**

LANSING, Mich. - The Ballot Campaign Committee, “Citizens for Local Choice,” today submitted an initiative petition to the Bureau of Elections to amend the Clean and Renewable Energy and Energy Waste Reduction Act to, among other things, repeal Part 8 as added by Public Act 233 of 2023. The Committee has requested approval of the Summary of Purpose and pre-approval as to form.

The Summary of Purpose provided to the Bureau for consideration provides:

“A proposed initiated law to allow local units of government to retain authority to regulate the development of solar, wind, or energy storage facilities in their jurisdictions by repealing laws that mandate statewide standards for energy facilities and permit the Michigan Public Service Commission to override local energy facility development decisions. If enacted, this proposal will allow local units of government to continue to determine their own standards regarding setback distance, structure height, and the amount of light and sound emitted by energy facilities, and to exercise final authority over the construction of energy facilities within their jurisdictions.”

The summary will be prepared by the Director of Elections for consideration by the Board of Canvassers. The Board of Canvassers is expected to approve the petition within 30 days, following which the Committee will be granted a 180-day window to gather and file the necessary 356,958 valid signatures from registered voters. To ensure placement on the November 2024 ballot, valid signatures must be submitted by May 29th; otherwise, the initiative will proceed to the November 2026 ballot. For those wishing to participate in the effort, additional details can be found at www.micitizenschoice.org.

Paid for with regulated funds by Citizens for Local Choice, P.O. Box 14309 Lansing, MI 48901

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Delegate Appreciation Party January 13, 2024



The Audience Looks on during the performance!



Kailyn Rhodes & Sandy Schilz as "The Rapping Grandmas!"



Larry Bass on his way to accept his Award!



The Award!!

BCRP Executive Committee Meeting

Date: 1.25.2024

The Jefferson

Time: 7PM

103 W State Rd, Hastings, MI 49058

01. Call to order

- Invocation
- Pledge of allegiance
- Roll Call
- Approve Agenda
- Approve December Minutes

02. Officers Reports

- Chairman
- Vice Chairman
- Secretary
- Treasurer

03. Committee Reports

- FOP - Kelli C.
- D2/State committee -Jon R.

04. New Business

- New Business
- Elected officials
- Public comment
- Poll the members
- Adjournment



–Citizens for Local Choice–

County Captain Job Description and Expectations

Volunteer based position

Responsibilities

1. Identify, attend, speak (if applicable) at local events on the initiative.
2. Fundraise. Endeavor to raise \$5,000 per quarter, totaling \$20,000 by election day.
3. Gather signatures. Endeavor to gather a minimum of 50 signatures per day from January to May 2024.
4. Organize, recruit, and manage volunteers in your county to assist in the gathering of signatures, donations and attending events.

Time Commitment

- January-November 2024
- Estimated 5-10 hours per week to the effort (attending events, collecting signatures, fundraising)

Duties

Attending Events

- You know your county and know the priority events in your area. Your goal will be to have a presence at prominent events to speak to build awareness and gather signatures from attendees. This can include attending Chamber meetings, Kiwanis, Rotary, Farm Bureau, or simply standing outside of movie theaters or shopping malls. The more people, the more likely you'll get signers.

Signature Gathering:

***While we wait for petitions:**

- Identify 3-4 other individuals who can help you attend events, gather signatures and to simply be an assistant when needed or when you are unavailable
- Identify 4-5 local events for the month of January that you can attend and share information about the initiative, gathering signatures and supporters
- Identify fundraiser hosts in your community

***Once petitions are available:**

- Statewide the campaign needs to collect 550,000 signatures and we need to do it by the end of May 2024
- Each county should have a goal of collecting 50 valid signatures a day for 350/week
- Signers must:

- Be a registered voter and sign the petition with their registered address on the petition with the proper county heading
- NOT sign more than one petition

Fundraising:

- The entire campaign budget is estimated to cost between \$7-10M
- Each county can contribute to these goals by raising \$5,000/quarter or \$20,000/year

Receiving Contributions:

1. Writing a check to: Citizens for Local Choice and mailing it
P.O. Box 14390 Lansing, MI 48901
2. Online at: <https://transaxt.com/Donate/FPSSU2/CitizensforLocalChoice/>

As this is a ballot campaign committee, corporate checks **can** be received and there is no cap on donation limits.

Cash is not to be accepted nor checks made out to your name.

Regular Campaign Calls:

- The campaign will structure bi-weekly calls with county captains to answer questions, provide resources and information, and ensure efficiency with the petition gathering effort.

Other:

- Any materials for fundraisers, materials made for instructions for volunteers, etc. must be reviewed and approved by the Citizens for Local Choice committee prior to distribution.

Key Dates

January 2024: Petitions ready for signatures

January to May 2024: Collect 50 signatures per day

November 5, 2024: Election Day

Paid for with regulated funds by Citizens for Local Choice, 13725 Rouget Rd Deerfield, MI 41934

LOOKING FORWARD

-PUBLIUS

THE Republican Party has a problem. Outside of the typical ones that immediately spring to mind such as taxes, the corruption of government, and the destruction of the free market, we have a much more dire problem facing the security and preservation of the Conservative movement. As Pogo once said, "We have met the enemy, and they is us." Yes. That's right. It is high time we, as a party and as individuals started looking in the mirror.

DURING the course of prosecution by the North of the Civil War, the War Department argued with the President, the generals in the Western Theater vied with each other for promotions and authority over the region, and in the east a succession of generals who either had the confidence of their troops or the confidence of the war department, but never both collectively strove to cost the nation its existence. The South, on the other hand was committed to their president, to each other, and to their generals, leading them quickly and against impossible odds to stave off an opponent who was more numerous and in possession of better transportation, armaments, and staff. The difference between these two sides is the same as that which currently plagues our Party, whether on the national, state, or local stage, namely our refusal as a party to unify.

TOO often we allow petty and small differences to split the support and resources of the Republican Party. If a representative fails to vote on a particular issue or bill in the way that we thought they should, or the tone and rhetoric of a candidate grates up against our sensibilities, too readily it seems we are willing to abandon people in favor of high minded principles, principles which no one can ever hope to live up to. This self righteous bigotry against members of our own party is crushing our ability to achieve any meaningful success against the onslaught of the left, and their willingness to close ranks against us despite differences in opinion or character is why they have managed to take control of culture, education, and subverted the halls of justice for the better part of the last two generations.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN once said, "The combined armies of Europe and Asia could not by force take a drink from the Ohio River, nor make a track in the Blue Ridge in the trial of a thousand years. If destruction be our lot, we must ourselves be its author and finisher. As a nation of Free Men, we shall live forever, or else die by suicide." Oliver Stone's Coach Tony d'amato in "Any Given Sunday" echoed the same. "Either we heal NOW! As a team, or we will die as individuals."

IT is primary season. In just a few short months the fate of the House of Representatives, 1/3 of the Senate, and the office of the Presidency will, hopefully, be decided by we the people. Both now and going forward if we fail to come together to face the encroaching eradication of our Republic, if we fail to set aside our differences, if we fail to heal, both our Nation, and our Party will die. And we will only have ourselves to blame.