



Central Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 29, 2020, 7PM

Zoom Meeting

Call to Order & Quorum 7:00 PM

Officers Present: Victor Minjares (Chair); Danielle Westbrook (1st VC); Jordan Morris (Treas.); Kyrian MacMichael (Sec./Communications); Keoki Kauanoë (SCP); Ann Chaudhry (SCP); Meren Gadman (MAL); Neil Turner (MAL), Dave Little (LD22 rep.); Jeff Sowers (LD22 rep.); Vanessa Malapote (LD35 rep.)

Officers Absent: Deborah Lee (2nd VC) excused, John Thompson (LD20 rep.) - excused

106 present - PCOs Present: 52 ? Members Present: Guests Present:

Appointments/Agenda Minutes

- 1) Tracey Carlos appointed Sergeant at Arms and Parliamentarian
- 2) Consideration of May Minutes and June Agenda
 - a. Jim Lazar – POO – moves to amend agenda to put LD22 rep’s motion as first item of business
 - i. Chair – out of order – it is new business
 - ii. CS co-chair Pestinger – request over rule of chair, LD22 rep seconds
 - iii. Ralph Chappell – Point of Information – are we voting on the motion or
 - iv. Chair – motion is to move Sowers to first item on the agenda
 - v. Lazar – clarifies that last meeting was a mess and people couldn’t get in. Ratifying that vote is imperative. A motion to change the agenda is in order. Chair’s decision is challenged.
 - vi. Call to vote – yes vote amends agenda – no – sustains chair’s motion. Motion fails, 36 yes, 40 no
 - vii. Lazar withdraws motion
 - viii. Chair approves motion to withdraw motion
 - ix. May Minutes and revised June Agenda Approved by Acclamation

Officer’s Reports

- 3) Chair’s Opening Remarks (Victor Minjares)
 - a. The hoax flyer claiming that TCD was “paying anarchists” went viral online and caused a lot of issues for us. Chair filed reports with FBI and City of Olympia PD. Sheriffs and OPD were notified of a possible threat to the Union building where



we used to meet, as was the Union. Report filed and access to our digital information has been turned over to law enforcement for investigation.

- i. Addition security protocols for Zoom had to be updated due to hate mail and death/arson/bomb/shooting threats
 - ii. PCO list was temporarily removed from TCD website due to weird calls reported by PCOs
 - iii. Extra security had to be enacted to protect meeting from bombers this evening
 - iv. Meeting delayed due to George Floyd/BLM protests, armed militias, and other events. Was expecting resolutions to support our ideals but none were submitted.
 - v. Secretary and Chair crafted a resolution to support BLM
- b. Chair negotiated with NGP (website, PDC compliance, etc.). Chair modified existing deal to reflect better pricing in newer deals, our contract with NGP had been renewed by prior TCD boards without inquiry into better pricing available in the last several years, Chair was able to get refund for \$900 and lower pricing.
 - c. The old voter registration booth has been retrieved from Susan Stack property where it had been stored for several years. Chair and MAL Turner moved voter booth, got new tires, and hoping to use it to distribute supplies and voter materials, 1st VC storing at her place until repairs complete. registration booth has been retrieved from Stack property where stored and MAL Turner moved voter booth and hoping to use it to distribute supplies and voter materials, 1st VC storing at her place until
- 4) Membership (1st VC Danielle Westbrook)
- a. Addresses that admittance appears to be capped at 100 despite increasing subscription for larger meeting capacity – will work on resolving issue
- 5) Campaign Services (2nd VC Deborah Cano-Lee/CS co-chair Kevin Pestinger)
- a. SCP Kauanoë – presenting CSC report on behalf of 2nd VC who was called into work - – number of hours volunteered by CSC: 100 hours and 30 minutes discussing campaigns for CSC applicants, 65 hours coordinating candidate interviews, once approved 280 hours assisting candidates, with resources like training for candidates, etc.
 - b. Interviews: 28 candidates submitted for services from TCD – 2 applications received yesterday and did not have time to interview before meeting – 3 no shows who did not reschedule meeting – 3 received day before meeting and did not interview - 21 candidates interviewed. CSC will continue to assist candidates who have received services and/or are endorsed.



- 6) 2nd VC regrets not being at meeting since she was called to a work meeting – thanks members of CSC – KP Pestinger, Keoki Kauanoe, Vanessa Malapote, Cheyl Wapes’a-Meyes, EJ Zita, Kyrian MacMichael, and Zahid Cha. Thank to former members Kim Dobson, Walt Jorgenson, Luis Moscoso for all their hard work,
 - a. Recommendations based on interviews:
 - i. Veronica Whitcher-Rockett, Candidate for LD 2 State House, Pos. 2 - Recommendation is to grant Campaign Services and Endorse.
 - ii. William Rollet, Candidate for LD 20 State House, Pos. 2 - Recommendation is to grant Campaign Services and Endorse.
 - iii. Timothy Zahn, Candidate for LD 20 State House, Pos. 1 – recommend endorsing
 - iv. LeMay – Did not show-up for interview
 - v. Wallbrook – Did not show-up for interview
 - vi. Will Gardener CD 10
 - vii. Mike Pellicciotti, Candidate for State Treasury - Recommendation is to grant Campaign Services and Endorse.
 - viii. Mary Bacon, Candidate for Congressional District 10 - Recommendation is to grant Campaign Services
 - ix. Kevin Young, Candidate for LD22 State Senate – met threshold for Kevin Young to receive services (see KP Pestinger’s correction on page 5)
 - b. CS co-chair Pestinger – POI – is CSC to follow policy outlined on website
 - i. Steve Segal – CSC policy only applies to CSC – and we should follow bylaws
 - ii. Steve Drew – because TCD did not accept CSC Policy, then it is up to State Bylaws. Up to CSC to adopt rules since it has not happened since last organized
 - c. CS co-chair Pestinger – POI – CSC in TCD Bylaws is to be recognized by EC and voted on by body
 - i. Bylaws say nothing about when to provide services or endorsement
 - ii. Bylaws say that endorsements cannot be given in races with multiple democrats prior to primary
 - d. Chair – unsure about reference to bylaws, CSC policy was never approved – it is a draft that has been used – nothing has been resubmitted to the body
 - i. There is no 2/3 rule for endorsement of candidates, there is a policy that the body approved at the February 2019 meeting, by Drew and Segall
 - ii. There is another policy about candidate interview questions Minjares submitted (as a member) about ICE and immigration policies that was approved by the body in May 2019.



- iii. Would have to revote resolution by a super-majority
- iv. Walt Bowen – agrees with chair – CSC is operating on own rules and not on the bylaws – there is a paragraph on website was about using union printers that was approved by the body – asks to close debate
- e. Treasurer – PoI - who is other “Jordan Morris” in room – Jean Soliz identified herself as other “Jordan Morris”, 1st VC corrects name for participant
- f. Laurie Dolan – speaks
- g. LD 22 Rep. – moves to end meeting as meeting is out of order because entry is still capped at 100 and members and PCOs are being excluded because they are currently unable to get in, CS co-chair Pestinger seconds motion
 - i. Chair – out of order – LD 22 Rep is confused people aren’t being excluded, they can’t get in due to technical issues
 - ii. 1st VC – states she just fixed issue (participants rose to 105)
 - iii. Phyllis Farrell – wants to vote on motion
 - iv. Jim Lazar – motion to adjourn meeting is in order based on RRoO
 - v. Vote called to adjourn meeting. Motion fails: 31 yes, 56 no
- h. Chair – return to voting on granting campaign services and endorsing the five candidates in sole Democrat races: Mike Pellicotti, Veronica Whitcher-Rocket, William Rollet, Timothy Zahn, and Gael Tarleton: motion passes, 76 – yes, 7 - no
- i. SCP Kauanoë - moves to endorse Sharonda Amamilo, Tracey Carlos seconds
 - i. SCP Kauanoë speaks for motion
 - ii. Chair speaks for motion – for 168 years since this county’s inception, there has never been a person of color appointed to the district or superior court bench – please endorse Amamilo, right a wrong and injustice in this country
 - iii. CS co-chair Pestinger – PoO – regarding rules that we have, it is not allowed in our campaign services policy to give services to candidates in non-partisan races
 - iv. 1st VC – following that members can make motions from the body
 - v. Steven Drew – speaks to voting to grant services and endorse
 - vi. Darcy Huffman – speaks for motion
 - vii. Call the question. Motion passes: 86 yes, 1 no
- j. Secretary moves to endorse Washington Supreme Court Justices Helen Whitener and Raquel Montoya–Lewis to retain seats on the Washington State Supreme Court, CS co-chair Pestinger seconds



- i. Secretary – speaks to motion and reflects the powerful message of correcting historical disparities against Black and Brown people in their “Our Moral Imperative” open letter to lawmakers and judges
 - ii. SCP Kauanoë speaks for motion
 - iii. Chair – speaks for motion
 - iv. Linda___ calls the question. Motion passes, 86 yes votes - unanimous
 - k. Sam Hunt – moves to endorse Jay Inslee for Governor, many second motion
 - i. Sam Hunt – Governor Inslee exemplary in handling Covid Crisis and has been doing great for 2 terms
 - ii. CS co-chair Pestinger – trying to make a PoO – wondering how we are having endorsement votes when CSC hasn’t finished recommendations
 - iii. Chair - that is correct – let’s finish vote then return to CSC report
 - iv. Call the question. Motion Passes: 78 yes, 2 no motion passes
 - l. Chair – back to CSC report – Bacon, Gardener, Young
 - i. CS co-chair Pestinger – Phil Gardener was recommended for receiving campaign services, Kevin Young has no recommendation for receiving campaign services
 1. Chair – calls the question to grant campaign services to Phil Gardener. Motion passes: 57 – yes, 11 – no
 - ii. CS co-chair Pestinger – Mary Bacon was recommended for receiving campaign services. EJ Zita moves to provide services, and Secretary seconds
 1. Secretary speaks to motion
 2. Chair calls the question. Motion passes: 42 yes, 13 no
 - m. LD 22 Rep – PoO -
 - n. MAL Gadman – moves to approve Denny Heck, Candidate for Lieutenant Governor for services
 - i. Chair – not on the agenda right now, will address at new business
 - ii. Darcy Huffman – will wait to talk about Heck at new business
 - iii. Jesse Simmons – PoI – if you’re on a smart phone you can hover over items and the voting icons will appear so they can be toggled
 - iv. Kati Thompson – PoO why are we moving past Heck?
 - v. Chair – CSC agenda was not received so it is actually new business
- 7) Treasurer’s Finance Committee (Jordan Morris)
 - a. Discussed account balances and financial activity from May
 - b. Small contributions are helping keep us afloat, lowered cost of NGP by \$960 annually and saving on Verizon bill



- c. Members may request a copy privately finance report, but will not send out report without request
 - d. Zoom is currently an expense under “computer and data base”
 - i. Chair – submit as meeting space in financial reports
 - ii. Treasurer – agrees to make change
- 8) Burger Booth recertification status (MAL Neil Turner) –
- a. No burger booth season
 - b. Have voter booth and pulled it out of storage and cleaned it up, and hoping to put candidates in booth to meet voters – maybe at farmers market – to help get candidates out for public to meet
- 9) Communications Team (Kyrian MacMichael)
- a. NGP updates – still having issues with emails and members being deactivated and removed from mailing lists through NGP
 - b. Smore newsletter app costs approximately \$500 annually for services for up to 4000 email contacts, it is easier to manage mailing lists, use platform, and ensure members receive emailed communications versus NGP
 - i. Secretary moves to adopt Smore platform and have the body pay the approximate \$500 annual fee for email service, Jim Lazar seconds motion
 - ii. Chair calls the question. Motion passes, 77 yes, 0 no
- 10) Fundraising Chair (MAL Meren Gadman)
- a. Tough year for fundraising – will reach out to CSC to see expenses – will work with Jordan to figure out what are necessary
 - b. Minimal fundraising in fall
- 11) LD Chair Reports
- a. LD 2 (Dave Little) – Cook campaign – literature drop in July and phone bank that is operating 4 days/week
 - b. Annual Rosa Parks and Eleanor Roosevelt Event and Auction online on September 22nd, speakers and big attraction to hear candidates for that event
 - c. LD 20 (John Thompson) - excused
 - d. LD 22 (Jeff Sowers) – endorsed a number of candidates that can be seen on Facebook page and great forum and can see that on Facebook page, active campaigns and ballots are going to out, encouraging people to vote
 - e. 9:06 Chair – over time – request to extend meeting to 9:30 – approved by acclimation
 - f. CS co-chair Pestinger – wanted to speak to another motion, Chair will call on him later then



- g. LD 35 (Vanessa Malapote) – would like to invite all to meeting on Saturday, July 11th at 1pm – very proud of Huffman and Myers campaigns – and LD 35 voted to give \$2000 to each of their campaigns
- h. A lot of PCOs and members in 35th, please come to 35th meetings, happy non-confrontational meetings, please support Huffman and Myers with money

12) New Business (Chair)

- a. Steve Drew moves to approve Denny Heck for campaign services, Cynthia Pratt seconds – he reserves final word on motion
 - i. Susan Herring speaks for Heck as a champion for women
 - ii. Tracey Carlos – speaks for Heck
 - iii. Jeff Gadman – speaks for Heck and his ability to get a bill through congress for women’s rights, can get bills passed
 - iv. Jean Soliz – we need Heck and he’s an expert on education
 - v. Krystafer Brown – speaks against, voting record is lackluster on environment and is opposed to our values, multiple times said that he does not approve for whole health Washington or medicare for all
 - vi. Phyllis Farell – PoI – can we vote to endorse him too
 - vii. Jeff Gadman – PoO – motion can be amended in the middle of discussion
 - viii. Secretary – motion was Out of Order because we were taking discussion against motion, not another speaker for
 - ix. Phyllis Farell – withdraws question/motion
 - x. Phyllis Booth – against Heck needed to be talked with for
 - xi. CS co-chair Pestinger – speaks against – agrees with Krystopher and Phyllis because he has voted against the state platform – against medicare for all, took a long time to consider TPP etc. there is a lot of feedback, Heck has lied on his application – he has taken corporate money
 - xii. Mizanur Rahman – speaks for Heck
 - xiii. Eric Lidzbarski – follow-up on TPP and medicare for all is a big issue, but commends his impeachment hearing role, but if he is funneling funds from a pot of money that has corporate monies nested in it, then he has taken corporate monies
 - xiv. 1st VC – PoI - cannot funnel federal funds to a state race
 - xv. LD 22 Rep – objects to motion and reiterates pervious against – military force increasing, funding for black budget, cut billions from food stamps, expand fossil fuels and LNG, long range nuclear missiles, voted for nuclear waste – very inconsistent with our platform



- xvi. Steven Drew – motion for campaign services and yes you cannot receive monies from a federal account to a state account so that has not occurred. Heck only took one vote on TPP and he voted “no”. He supported pro-choice, George Floyd Act, anti-lynching act, etc.
- xvii. Chair – calls the question. Motion Passes: 61 yes 23 no
- b. Motion to adjourn meeting. Motion fails: 20 yes, 49 no
- c. Extend meeting to 9:45

13) Resolution (LD 22 Rep): **To Declare 5/18/20 CC Meeting as not valid** (Appendix A)

- a. Chair present’s LD22 Rep’s motion/resolution and speaks to his objections of the motion
- b. LD 22 Rep – PoO – LD22 Rep should present his own motion
- c. Chair – that is OoO because it has been in writing for 10 days
- d. Sandia Slaby – PoO – the motion should be stated in the meeting
- e. Chair speaks about notice having been sent out on time – if you did not receive notice, it is not the fault of the TCDEC, it was sent out on time and other issues may have affected your ability to receive it that have nothing to do with TCDEC can’t have same expectations in a virtual setting as in a physical setting.
- f. Bev Bassett – speaks out – Tracey Carlos – warns her to remain in order
- g. Chair – speaks about complications of hosting online meeting, warns that if that meeting is invalid, then this meeting is also invalid
- h. 9:38 – Chair hands gavel to 1st VC –
- i. 9:40 LD 22 Rep is given floor – the motion is addressing the need to have meetings that are in order based on RRoO – right to proper notice for meetings, fair access to attend meetings, ability to follow RRoO - he and many others were unable to make motions for order or division – moves to approve all business at that meeting ex post facto – and encourages that we adopt motion to allow for business to be conducted within RRoO, seconded in chat pod by multiple members
- j. Steven Drew – doesn’t approve of motion
- k. Jed Haney – PoO – that is not how a meeting is run
- l. Steven Drew – “no” vote means nothing that happened during the meeting is valid
- m. 1st VC – consulted with state party and if LD 22 Rep amends a motion that is on the table it requires a full approval from the body



- n. Tracey – that is correct based on RRoO
- o. 9:56 - Meeting needs to be extended to continue with business
- p. Secretary moves to extend meeting to 10:30. Motion fails, 36 yes, 44 no
- q. Meeting adjourned at 9:58

Items on Agenda that were not discussed:

- 14) Resolution (Nicolette Oliver): **To Endorse and Encourage a “Yes” Vote on Prop. 1 of Centralia School District no. 401** (Lewis and Thurston Counties, replacement educational programs and operations levy) (Appendix B)
 - 15) Resolution (Secretary and Chair): **In Support of Black Lives Matter** (Appendix C)
- GOOD OF THE ORDER (Announcements: 1 min max)**

Adjournment - 9:58 pm



Motions/Actions Summary

Motion/Discussion	Result
Motion to amend agenda to put Sowers motion as first item of business	withdrawn
Motion to challenge Chair’s decision to not move items in meeting agenda	Fails 36 yes, 40 no
Motion to approve May TCDCC Draft Minutes and June TCDCC Draft Agenda	Passes by acclamation
Motion to adjourn meeting	Fails 31 yes, 56 no
Motion to grant campaign services and endorse the five candidates in sole Democrat races: Mike Pellicotti, Veronica Whitcher-Rocket, William Rollet, Timothy Zahn, and Gael Tarleton	Passes 76 yes, 7 no
Motion to endorse Sharonda Amamilo	Passes 86 yes, 1 no
Motion to endorse Washington Supreme Court Justices Helen Whitener and Raquel Montoya–Lewis to retain seats on the Washington State Supreme Court	Passes 86 yes - unanimous
Motion to endorse Jay Inslee for Governor	Passes 78 yes, 2 no
Motion to grant campaign services to Phil Gardener.	Passes 57 yes, 11 no
Motion to approve campaign services for Mary Bacon	Passes 42 yes, 13 no
Motion to adopt Smore platform and have the body pay the approximate \$500 annual fee for email service.	Passes 77 yes - unanimous
Motion to approve Denny Heck for campaign services	Passes 61 yes 23 no
Motion to adjourn meeting	Fails 20 yes, 49 no
Motion to Extend meeting to 9:45	Passes by acclamation
Motion to approve all business at May TCDCC meeting ex post facto	
Motion to extend meeting to 10:30	Fails 36 yes, 44 no

Drafted by: Kyrian MacMichael Revised by Kyrian MacMichael and Victor Minjares

Drafted	6/29/20
Revised	7/3/20
Approved	7/27/20



Appendix A

Thurston County Democrats CC resolution to declare 5/18/20 CC Meeting as not valid, approving business transacted, and enacting rule allowing members to unmute themselves during meetings (submitted by Jeff Sowers)

Whereas, The 5/18/20 Thurston County Democrats CC meeting was substantially out of compliance with TCD bylaws, and seriously violated many PCO and member rights to participate in accordance with Robert's rules or Order, Newly Revised (RONR), and were excluded from participation, due to the following reasons:

a. Members could not unmute themselves to speak and raised hands were ignored. This effectively silenced and excluded some members from participating for large segments of the meeting. TCD bylaws (sec. 4D) require the meeting to follow RONR, and many core rights under RONR are exercised by interrupting the speaker, rights which could not be exercised by multiple members. This includes the following:

I. Point of order - may interrupt the speaker (including chair) to call attention to a rule being broken. Chair must rule on point of order (RONR Art 4, sec. 21). Multiple members who wanted to make points of order were unable to do so because they could not unmute themselves.

II. Appeal the ruling of the chair - if a member disagrees with the chair's ruling, they may interrupt to appeal the ruling, in which case it is decided by the body (RONR Art 4, sec. 21). Multiple members wanted to appeal the chair's rulings but were unable to do so because they could not unmute themselves.

III. Point of information, point of personal privilege, object to consideration of the question, division, motion to reconsider, and motion to take from the table all entail the right of a member to interrupt. All members were denied these rights at the meeting because they could not unmute themselves to exercise these rights. The extent that members wanted to exercise these rights but were unable to do so is unknown.

b. Member motions were made and ignored, including a recount motion and a motion to adjourn. Since members could not make a point of order, members could not draw attention to these motions being ignored or rules being broken.

c. The Zoom room size was not big enough to accommodate all members who were attempting to enter, and some members received a notice that the room was full. While total attendance came down into the upper 90's, how many PCOs and members received the "room full" notice and as a result did not participate is unknown.

d. Many members report not receiving proper notice of the meeting.

Whereas, TCD is committed to respecting member rights under the bylaws and RONR.

Whereas, Unity in TCD is based on a mutual respect for the rights of all members and the bylaws.

Therefore be it resolved,

1. That the TCD CC declares that the TCD CC meeting held on May 18, 2020 was substantially out of compliance with the bylaws and that all business transacted at the meeting is not valid.

2. That the TCD CC hereby approves all business transacted at the May 18th, 2020 TCD CC meeting except for endorsements requiring a vote of 2/3rds which shall be approved separately.

3. At all further TCD meetings held via Zoom, all members shall retain the right to unmute themselves at all times in order to exercise their right to participate under RONR, unless the body by majority votes to mute a member or remove them from the meeting as provided by RONR.



Appendix B

ENDORSEMENT OF “YES” VOTE ON PROPOSITION 1

WHEREAS RESOLUTION NO. 2020-09 was enacted by the Board of Directors of Centralia School District No. 401, Lewis and Thurston Counties, Washington, providing for the submission to the qualified electors of the District at a special election to be held therein on August 4th, 2020, of the proposition of whether excess taxes should be levied of \$2.00 per \$1,000 of assessed value in 2020 for collection in 2021, and \$2.00 per \$1,000 in 2021 for collection in 2022, said excess taxes to pay part of the cost of educational programs and operations support of the District.

WHEREAS, Centralia School District No. 401, Lewis and Thurston Counties, Washington (the “District”), for the past four years has had in effect an educational programs operations levy in order to enable the District to pay for its educational programs and services, including teaching, school supplies, athletics, buildings and transportation; and

WHEREAS, the current educational programs and operations levies expire this year; and

WHEREAS, the money in and to be paid into the General Fund of the District during the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years will be insufficient to enable the District to pay for necessary educational programs and operations and to properly meet the educational needs of the students attending District schools; and

WHEREAS, the existing authority for the imposition of local tax levies and use of local revenues (including the proceeds of tax levies) has been modified by Chapter 13, Laws of 2017 (65th Legislature, Third Special Session) and may be modified in the future by the State Legislature; and

WHEREAS, in the event the State Legislature increases education funding to the District, the District would, therefore, review annually and determine the need to roll back the levies;

THEREFORE, it is Resolved that the Thurston County Democrats hereby ENDORSES Proposition 1 and encourages electors in the above district to vote in favor of its passage on Election Day, August 4, 2020.

[Text of Proposition 1]

PROPOSITION NO. 1

CENTRALIA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 401

REPLACEMENT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS LEVY

The Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 2020-09 concerning educational funding. This proposition authorizes the District to levy the following excess taxes, to replace an expiring levy, on all taxable property within the District, to support the District’s educational programs and operations not funded by the state:

Collection Years	Approximate Levy Rate/\$1,000 Assessed Value	Levy Amount
2021	\$2.00	\$5,300,000
2022	\$2.00	\$5,400,000

all as provided in the Resolution. Should this proposition be approved?

- Yes
- No



Appendix C

Resolution In Support of Black Lives Matter

Whereas the Washington State Democrats Platform have adopted the statement, “We believe Human rights apply to all humans regardless of immigration status and include access to safe food, air, water, and shelter, as well as freedom of speech, freedom of religion, economic opportunity, personal safety, healthcare, education, employment, legal aid, and equitable due process (2020 WSDCC Platform, pg. 39, lines 1548-1550); ...as Democrats, we are, and will remain, at the forefront of the struggle to extend and ensure social, political, economic, legal, and cultural rights to all persons (WSDCC 2020 Proposed Platform, pg. 39, lines 1556-1557); ...(and that) Black Lives Matter (WSDCC 2020 Proposed Platform, pg. 39, line 1560)...”, and

Whereas the nine justices of the Supreme Court of Washington State issued an open letter on June 4, 2020, stating, “The devaluation and degradation of black lives is not a recent event. It is a persistent and systemic injustice that predates this nation’s founding. But recent events have brought to the forefront of our collective consciousness a painful fact that is, for too many of our citizens, common knowledge: the injustices faced by black Americans are not relics of the past. We continue to see racialized policing and the overrepresentation of black Americans in every stage of our criminal and juvenile justice systems. Our institutions remain affected by the vestiges of slavery: Jim Crow laws that were never dismantled and racist court decisions that were never disavowed.” “We go by the title of “Justice” and we reaffirm our deepest level of commitment to achieving justice by ending racism. We urge you to join us in these efforts. This is our moral imperative.”, and

Whereas we recognize our own county’s history in furthering and enshrining racial prejudice in that it was and is named for Samuel Royal Thurston, a white supremacist lawyer who testified before Congress for the enactment of exclusionary laws barring Black Americans from living in the Oregon Territory for fear they would intermarry with Native Americans and create a coalition against White Power (McLagan, 2009), for laws granting White Americans the stolen land of Native Americans, and that Samuel Thurston’s racist proposals were then enshrined into Oregon’s state constitution,

THEREFORE, be it resolved that we, Thurston County Democrats, fully support the Black Lives Matter movement, and will work to eliminate white supremacy in all its forms.

Presented by: Kyrian MacMichael and Victor Minjares

References:

WSDCC (2020). 2020 WSDCC platform passed June 13th, 2020. Retrieved on June 29, 2020 from <https://www.wa-democrats.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/WSDCC-2020-Final-Platform.pdf>

The Supreme Court State of Washington (2020). “Our moral imperative” open letter on June 4, 2020. Retrieved on June 28, 2020 from <http://www.courts.wa.gov/content/publicUpload/Supreme%20Court%20News/Judiciary%20Legal%20Community%20SIGNED%20060420.pdf>

McLagan, Elizabeth (2009). The black laws of Oregon, 1844 - 1857. Retrieved on June 28, 2020 from <https://www.blackpast.org/african-american-history/black-laws-oregon-1844-1857/>