**Franklin County Republican Party**

**Executive Committee Meeting**

**September 14, 2023**

Chairman Ed Strickland called the meeting to order. There were 36 members in attendance. A light meal of hotdogs, chips, cookies, cream puffs, vanilla pound cake, etc. and soft drinks was provided by members of the party.

Reverend Harry Upchurch gave the invocation and Colonel Wyatt McGee lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary, Opie Pearce gave an abbreviated version of the August 10th minutes. Motion was made to accept it as read, motion carried.

Treasurer Sidney Reynolds gave the Secretary’s report. We have a balance of $2,455.48 in our operations account and $66.93 in our Petty Cash account. Motion was made to accept the treasurer’s report as read, motion carried.

Web Master, John Edwards reported that on August 10th we had 202,320 visits to our website. sits. This month as of September 14th we had 203,970 website visits. This was an increase of 650 visits to our website.

**Elected Candidates:**

Commissioner Roxanne Bragg attended the meeting. Commissioner Bragg said there was quite a bit going on right now. One new topic Commissioner Brag shared was that the state was approving charter schools to come to the Commissioners to approve the same amount of funds as for county schools.

**Candidates:**

Es Stiles, candidate for Dist. 1 Congressional V-Chair spoke on behalf of his campaign and for Mary Helen Taylor who is also running. They both stand for a strong voter base in the county.

**General Business:**

Rose Holmes, Ginger Puge and Melissa Cogliotti spoke on behalf of the Republican Ladies Club. They have t-shirts for sale for $25/Ea. They are going to hand out literature at “Friday Night on the Tar” and at the “Bun Fun Day”. They have also been working on cleaning up the front entrance to our old republican headquarters. They want to put fresh paint on the front but will need someone to do this. The republican ladies club will pay half of the supplies expense. It was motioned to use $400 from the Republican Party to pay the painter. Morion carried. Rose Holmes announced they now have 260 members on their Face Book page. Their next meeting will be Tuesday, Sept. 26th at the Hudson Manor House. Topic will be on “Convention of State”. On October 24th they will offer a “Meet the Candidates” session and Representative Matthew Winslow will be there.

Chairman Strickland announced the Senate Bill #749 has not passed yet. The budget is delayed so Bill #749 will be delayed too. There will be a lot of changes in it. When the budget is finished the General Assembly will focus on redistricting.

Chairman Strickland announced the BOE will be registering voters in several places. Early voting runs from October 19th to the 24th. Chairman Strickland encouraged all to vote early. Municipal elections will start November 7th.

BOE representative, Harry Barrick said the topic of ID pictures is still fuzzy and they will not be checking addresses. Ed also announced the election judges are being given a luncheon (this is for election judges only).

Chairman Strickland reminded everyone the filing period starts in December. Candidates are still needed for the School Board. Our next meeting will be October 12th at the Youngsville Community Center at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Opie Pearce, Secretary