**Franklin County Republican Party**

**Executive Committee Meeting**

**September 8, 2022**

Second Vice-Chairman, Howard Lasher called the meeting to order. There were 26 members in attendance. A light meal of hotdogs, eclairs, chips, and soft drinks was provided by members of the party.

Harry Upchurch gave the invocation and 2nd Vice-Chairman Lasher led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman, Ed Strickland came in late and took over the meeting.

Secretary, Opie Pearce read the minutes from the August 11th meeting taken by Sidney Reynolds and John Edwards and given to her in absence. Pierre Giani motioned to accept the minutes as read, motion carried.

Treasurer Sidney Reynolds gave the Secretary’s report. We have a balance of $833.61 in our operations account.

Web Master, John Edwards reported we went from 193,890 to 194,560 visits on our Website.

There was supposed to be some Election Integrity training at the meeting but no one came to conduct it.

Chairman Strickland announced we still might be able to hand out campaign signs at our old headquarters but it will be very dangerous to do so. There is no electric or running water.

If anyone can offer another place to do this please let Chairman Strickland know.

The Public Relations Committee is still ongoing for email address contacts. Sidney expressed the need for precinct chairs to call and verify names/addresses etc. Chairman Strickland said we have permission to use the data base (can only use the list 3 or 4 times a month for contacts).

Parry is using his phone app “Campaign Side Kick”. It has pre-made surveys that can be used. He will still do the door knocking method too. He reported Saturdays have been successful for the door knocking. Volunteers are needed to help and training is available. If you can help please call Parry at 919-239-9267.

Harry Barrick, BOE Representative announced they will be sending out early ballots. Early voting will be using the same sites except Youngsville will be using Faith Baptist Church. Karen Allen inquired about whose responsibility it is to designate early voting sites – who decides where and when and why is it not in the newspaper. John Edwards said he puts all this information on our Republican Website. Karen just feels that this is something that needs to be in the paper.as not everybody uses a computer.

Rose Holmes inquired about our Franklin County Face Book page. Apparently we have several pages and feels we only need one. She will look into this and try to steer people to the appropriate FB page.

**Candidates:**

Chairman Strickland mentioned the special meeting of the Exec. Committee that was held on August 16th in Larry Norman’s office at 7:00 pm. This pertained to the Clerk of Court’s race and it really is a mess! According to the Franklin Times Patricia Chastain can be on the ballot for Clerk of Court. But if this does not pan out the party will still need someone to put on the ballot in her place. Bobby Cooper has volunteered to do this in her place. The party will send a letter to the Board of Elections to appoint Bobby Cooper if she can’t. The State GOP attorney call Chairman Strickland on September 7 and it is their opinion that Chastain can stay on the Ballot. Chastain herself has appealed to the State Court. If she is denied being on the ballot she will have to with-draw and a new ballot will be printed showing Bobby Cooper for Clerk of Court.

Kevin White, candidate for Franklin County Sheriff spoke briefly on his campaign. He announced he is having a function September 17th at Flat Rock Church. There will be chicken plates available for 300 people, give-aways, raffle tickets at $20 each and a cake auction. He needs volunteers to help. If you can help, please let him know.

Roxanne Bragg, candidate for Franklin County Commissioner spoke briefly on her campaign.

**Other Business:**

Chairman Strickland announced our next meeting will be October 13th and held again at the Youngsville Community Center, 115 East Main Street, Youngsville at 7:00 pm. Donations could still be considered to offset the rental cost.

Being no further committee business, Chairman Strickland adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Opie Pearce, Secretary