



Minutes from July 12, 2023 Regular Board Meeting
By Zoom

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Libertarian Party of Oregon (LPO) board of directors was held on Wednesday, July 12, 2023, at 8pm by Zoom, the Chair being in the chair.

Attendance was as follows:

Present Remotely

Nicholas Kaltenbach
Travis West
Will Hobson
Eric Pinnell
Brad Lee
Taylor Rickey
Erik Bourque
Gunnar Power

Absent

Pablo Serrato

Observers

Matt Rowe

Approval of Agenda

Board voted to approve the Agenda. Motion to approve by Nick Kaltenbach, second by Taylor R.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of minutes from the June 14th 2023 meeting of the board. Eric made motion brad seconded. Approved unanimously.

Consent Agenda

There were no votes on any items in between meetings.

Open Forum (public comment on agenda items)

Eric Pinnell made a comment asking about the organizational structure in regards to an email sent out by Pablo.

Reports of Officers

Chair (Will Hobson)

Will Spoke with Matt Rowe about reinvigorating the campaign committee. Had a meeting with Libertarian national party chairwoman Angela McArdle about fundraising and funding more permanent workers in the libertarian party of Oregon. Will also was working to assemble and touch base with the new directors. He also had to update a tremendous amount of contact info and set up the directors emails. A future item to work on is a meeting between Will, Travis, and Kenneth (former treasurer).

Vice Chair (Pablo Serrato)

Have 2 PO box keys for the PO Box in Beaverton. Retrieved Mail, including a 1000 dollar check for the deposit for the Shawn Gardner Dancing and a small check reimbursement from the state of Oregon. Will get an additional copy of the key to Director Brad Lee, who is the other most local board member to the PO Box.

Planning on joining the Affiliate Committee once my membership can be approved to drive forward Affiliate Formation Strategy

Engaging the LPO Facebook and Discord Groups with notice of the LPO Board Meetings

Drafted two policies for board review on email usage and LPO committee chairs as non-voting directors. Looking for feedback before we introduce.

Gathering estimates for the costs of mailing the LPO memberships with an election notice so we can pass the bylaw amendments we confirmed at the LPO Convention. We should do this by the end of this year because the costs will increase dramatically if we must conduct the 2024 primary election with the bylaw amendments plus we won't be enabled to support Libertarians in non-partisan races without passage of these bylaws.

Created a volunteer directory for the LPO.

Treasurer (Travis West)

Travis did not have a microphone but provided a written report. I have registered with ORESTAR (SoS) already, just waiting to take over, which we can now do with the approved June minutes. Also with the June minutes, we (Will and I) will be taking over the LPO bank account. So, starting the next regular meeting, I will be able to provide detailed financial reports to the Board. Transitioning control of accounts is what I will be focused on now that our minutes are approved. ORESTAR has been updated with the current list of Directors. Some of the Directors have missing information though. I will work on updating this by reaching out to those individuals offline. I created a crypto wallet for the LPO to receive an expected donation from LP Washington in bitcoin. After we receive this, I will work on moving it to a new wallet that will be more secure (multisig-type). Any questions?

Secretary (Nick Kaltenbach)

The status of the previous boards minutes are sitting at completed by not checked for accuracy. Previous chair recommended we have two people each review the meeting minutes so that we can move to approval of the minutes. The minutes from our last meeting were approved so that we can move on officially as the new board.

Reports of Directors and Standing Committees

A. Fundraising (Taylor Rickey)

Taylor Rickey was present at the beginning of the meeting but disconnected before a report could be given.

B. Campaigns (Matt Rowe)

Item #1: With the Legislature in adjournment, the 2024 Campaign Season is officially underway. In recent weeks we have already seen candidates from the “Major Parties” begin to make their moves in preparation for the upcoming election cycle.

Thus far, it looks like Oregon's top-tier (big money/high media coverage) contest will be the race for Oregon's 5th Congressional District where freshman Republican (and proud Neo-Con) Lori Chavez-Deremer will seek re-election against a growing list of Progressive Democratic contenders. Having won election by such a narrow margin in

2022 (combined with analysis of her district's voting trends), experts rank Deremer one of the most vulnerable members for re-election in 2024. With the poor record she has developed in Congress, combined with the over-sized media attention that the contest will receive, I believe it would be a HUGE lost opportunity for the LPO to sit this race out.

For anyone interested, a candidate for Congress does not need to reside in the district to run for (or hold) the office. They simply have to be a resident of the State of Oregon.

Item #2: Where will the other key political battles in Oregon be fought in 2024? While Oregon will have an open contest for State Treasurer (due to term limits) and a potentially open contest for Secretary of State (if the appointee doesn't seek a full term of her own), most political odds-makers believe the real battlefield for Oregon politics will be the fight for the State House and Senate.

We saw just how hot tensions got between the different branches of the Uni-Party this legislative session, culminating in a completely ineffectual GOP Senate walkout which resulted in little to no substantive policy changes. In the wake of the walkout debacle, legislative Republicans have left large segments of their base alienated and potentially ready to listen to alternative voices on the right.

I cannot convey enough the potential opportunity the LPO has to build its electoral, candidate, donor, and activist bases through the 2024 Legislative Elections.

While most legislative districts are non-competitive due to Uni-Party gerrymandering, there is great value to the party in having as many enthusiastic and motivated nominees on the ballot (and represented well to the electorate with a quality VP Statement) as possible. While taking that into account, I will also say that running a respectable candidate in every legislative contest should be a goal, not an obsessive distraction from more pressing matters.

For those who are curious, the districts in 2024 that are considered to be most competitive by “experts” are the following:

State Senate:

District 5 (Central and South Coast) – Currently held by Dick Anderson (R)

District 12 (Rural Polk and Yamhill Counties) – Currently held by Brian Boquist (I)

District 27 (Bend) – Currently held by Senate Republican Leader Tim Knopp (R)

State House:

District 7 (Springfield) – Currently held by John Lively (D)

District 22 (Keizer and North Salem) – Currently held by Kevin Mannix (R)

District 31 (Columbia and Rural Washington Counties – Currently held by Brian Stout (R)

District 32 (North Coast) – Currently Held by Cyrus Javadi (R)

District 50 (Gresham) – Currently held by Ricki Ruiz (D)

HD 52 (Hood River and The Dalles) – Currently held by Jeff Helfrich (R)

HD 53 (Northern Bend, Redmond, Tomalo) – Currently Held by Emerson Levy (D)

This list by no means is static and could expand or contract significantly between now and ballot finalization in August 2024.

Item #3: We need to be recruiting (with an eye toward quality) candidates for these (and other races) now. I strongly encourage LPO Board Members and my fellow Policy Board comrades to be candidates (whether for partisan or nonpartisan office) in 2024. For those of us who cannot or will not run, I ask that you keep an eye open for potential (quality) candidates. Recruiting just one top-shelf candidate can make a lasting impact on the LPO for years. Please keep this in mind when recruiting. We aren't just looking for "one and done" candidates to fill spots on a ballot. Ideally, we're recruiting the future spokespeople, leadership, and activist base for our party.

Anyone interested in running for office themselves or in helping with recruitment efforts, please feel free to contact me anytime on Facebook, Discord, or via phone/text at 541-260-3673.

Item #4: While the Campaigns Committee has been moribund the past several months due to a myriad list of reasons, we are now throttling back up for the 2024 cycle and plan to have a meeting later in the month to start in that effort. I'll report to the Board next month the results of that meeting.

C. Public Relations (Will Hobson)

Added public relations committee members to the various socials to approve and post content. Sonja is doing a great job getting lots of media coverage through radio and podcast.

D. IT (Pablo Serrato)

- Completed the migration of the LPOregon.org domain, emails and wordpress to a new host
- Updated Board of Directors (<https://lporegon.org/board/>) and Public Policy Board (<https://lporegon.org/lpo-public-policy-board/>) membership to reflect recent elections.
- Connecting with the PPB leadership to get a better cadence for uploading their minutes and resolutions to our website; every resolution they pass is a newsmaking, outreach, and fundraising opportunity for LPO; we also should hit our email list with monthly updates on policy.
- Request all committee chairs an assessment of what they need with regard to IT support.
- Looking to move fundraising platform from Click & Pledge to Anedot which is used by Sherman and Multnomah affiliates
- Working with directors Kaltenbach and Pinnell to find an ecommerce/drop shipper for merch
- Created a private channel for Multnomah Libertarian active members and residents. Discord is noisy and unappealing for new members.
- Evaluating new wordpress templates to upgrade our current website. Expect to have a new template by the August report.

E. Bylaws (Timothy Perkins)

Before the bylaws initiative is ratified by the voters there is no further business at the moment.

F. Affiliate (Katy Brumbelow)

Katy B. was absent. No report given.

G. Member Development (Brad Lee)

Brad had an emergency and had to leave the meeting.

Special Orders

There were no Special Orders. (This is a vestigial Roberts Rules thing)

Unfinished & New Business, Special Committees

Special Committee 1

None

Unfinished Business item 1

None

New Business item 1

None

Open Forum (any pertinent topic)

Will made a public call to encourage anyone who wanted to join any committees

Next Meeting

The board will meet again on August 9th. 8pm

Adjourned at 8:49 pm motion made by Nick seconded by Will. approved unanimously

Meeting agenda and appendices follow



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Absent

Observers

Approval of Agenda

Board will vote to approve Agenda

Approval of Minutes

Approval of minutes from the June 14th 2023 meeting of the board.

Consent Agenda

Items of business passed or failed between meetings. Incomplete votes belong in Unfinished Business.

Open Forum (public comment on agenda items)

Brief description of the content of public comment, noting who said what.

Reports of Officers

Chair (Will Hobson)

What the chair reports, and any resulting discussion or business.

Vice Chair (Pablo Serrato)

What the vice chair reports, and any resulting discussion or business.

Treasurer (Travis West)

What the treasurer reports, and any resulting discussion or business.

Secretary (Nick Kaltenbach)

What the secretary reports, and any resulting discussion or business.

Reports of Directors and Standing Committees

A. Fundraising (Taylor Rickey)

What the director reports, and any resulting discussion or business.

B. Campaigns (Matt Rowe)

What the director reports, and any resulting discussion or business.

C. Public Relations (Will Hobson)

What the director reports, and any resulting discussion or business.

D. IT (Pablo Serrato)

- Website, hosting transferred to Hostinger for 4 years in an inkind donation by IT Chair to LPO

E. Bylaws (Timothy Perkins)

What the director reports, and any resulting discussion or business.

F. Affiliate (Katy Brumbelow)

What the director reports, and any resulting discussion or business.

G. Member Development (Brad Lee)

What the director reports, and any resulting discussion or business.

Special Orders

There were no Special Orders. *(This is a vestigial Roberts Rules thing)*

Unfinished & New Business, Special Committees

Special Committee 1

What the Committee reports, and any resulting discussion or business.

Unfinished Business item 1

What the business item is, and any resulting discussion or business.

New Business item 1

What the business item is, and any resulting discussion or business.

Open Forum (any pertinent topic)

Brief description of the content of public comment, noting who said what.

Next Meeting

The board will meet again on *{DATE & TIME}*

Adjourned at *{TIME}*

Meeting agenda and appendices follow