

9/26/2022

Dear 4th District Republican Central Committees,

This is the quarterly update from your State Central Committee (SCC) Members for the 4th Congressional District. The Republican Party of Iowa SCC met on Saturday, September 17, 2022, at the Republican Party of Iowa HQ in Des Moines.

Important dates:

11/8/22 – Election Day – Ballots MUST be received by the County Auditor by 8:00 PM CT to be valid. N Absentee Ballot Request form can be found here:

<https://sos.iowa.gov/elections/pdf/absenteeballotapp.pdf>

“A registered voter may make written application to their County Auditor for an absentee ballot starting 70 days before the election. A written application for a mailed absentee ballot must be received by the voter's County Auditor no later than 5:00 p.m. 15 days before the election.”

Meeting notes:

Chairman Kaufmann shared that all of the events he has been participating in have been packed full of people wanting to support and get involved. A very small, unincorporated town turned out over 150 guests. We appear to be ahead of things in the contested congressional seats – obviously none of these races are a sure thing, so we need to continue working our tails off up to election day. There are still a few smaller events and 1 large event in the 4th District on October 8th in Sioux Center.

Iowa Federation of College Republicans - There are 5 new chapters! Dordt, Drake, Iowa, Loras, Morningside, UNI, ISU and Wartburg all have functioning chapters. Encourage your college students to participate. The group is glad to have support from our SCC Treasurer (David Barker) who also serves on the Iowa Board of Regents. He is a solid conservative voice amongst the liberal influence. Kollin from our staff recently created a logo for the IFCR and George from our staff was able to get them their own NationBuilder site.

RNC Committeeman Steve Scheffler highlighted the 3 main things that the RNC does for our party as a whole:

- Legal work for the Party
- Planning RNC Convention
- Hiring and operations

The next national convention will be in Milwaukee in 2024. The Convention brings in millions of dollars and the “tolerant left” in Nashville city leadership went out of their way to not welcome the RNC. The Tennessee state legislature took action to address the hit their state will take by losing the convention. The RNC is focused on making the convention great in Milwaukee for 2024.

Iowa Victory: Steven from Iowa Victory said that they have 20 total staff around the state, 15 of which are on the ground. This team is focused on voter contact in the more liberal parts of the state (which is clearly not in the 4th District). In the 1st District, Ashley Hinson is up against the former news anchor, and

very liberal, State Senator Liz Mathis. Marianne Miller Meeks won her previous race by only 6 votes. In the 3rd, Polling shows Zach Nunn tied with ultra-liberal, Cindy Axne. Here in the 4th, can anyone name the Democrat running against Randy Feenstra?

The decision was made at the top-level of the RNC to focus funding in areas that need the most help. This doesn't mean that their advice and technology won't be available to this district, so if there are things needed for campaigns we're working here in the 4th – please get in contact with Victory Team leadership or RPI.

RPI is actively working on another field staff person for the 4th.

Sign hubs: Some campaigns have struggled to get signage out to counties due to funding and resource issues. RPI is working to set up sign hubs where campaigns can gather materials for dissemination to surrounding counties.

Election Integrity: Johnathan gave an update on what we're doing with Election Integrity. The RNC has focused on several counties where election integrity has been an issue in the past and where there are Democrat officials. There are official poll watchers in nearly every county at this point and the team is growing every week. These folks are working hand-in-hand with the Victory staff to ensure absentees are being chased and their data is being tracked and acted upon. If you see something out of line leading up to election day – these are the people you should be reaching out to for investigations.

Organization Committee: met on Thursday in addition to Saturday to set goals. Discussed Saturday were: Caucus to Convention, State, District, County, National Delegates, Code of Conduct, Bylaws Update, County Org Checklists, DEC's, Auxiliary Status, Communication to Counties and Same-Day Caucus Registration.

These topics will be discussed throughout this term and if there are any other issues they need to be thinking about, contact the Chair Gary Nystrom. Policy and bylaws changes require that a vote by the full SCC. Top priority aside from this list right now is legislative agenda and then focus will turn to various convention discussions followed by how we work with auxiliary groups. There will also be a lot of work between the organization and communications committees going forward to ensure that all of the grassroots know what is going on and is able to voice opinions on these matters.

The COMMUNICATION committee met to discuss the current state of RPI comms and set priorities for the current term. Kollin is in constant communication with each campaign around the state – primarily the statewide. We are especially active and useful in our ability to say the things that campaigns don't necessarily get to say. Internally we get to provide oversight and support for NationBuilder office hours, the bi-weekly calls with county chairs, weekly newsletters that provide great info and helpful graphics along with consistent messaging. The statewide Google calendar in our website I plus another thing that we need to be addressing going forward to keep things organized in here instead of the Events page. There is frustration in some areas stemming from the newsletter filled with events, so perhaps we could see something like a district Facebook page or somewhere centralized to post/share these events – per district where all chairs/cochairs will be admins that adhere to a policy for approving or posting, along with a coordinator for each district's page. Could be a volunteer or a paid position to manage this page.

The 3rd district could pilot this plan to see how it goes there and then in the future we could spread this out to the other districts.

The CAMPAIGN committee met to talk about RPI Day on the Hill and how we can help recruit/train conservative leaning candidates in the “non-partisan” local races. Once elected, we should also be encouraging these candidates to get active in ISAC and ILOC to start hiring conservative staff to better align with the people of Iowa. They also presented a great chart breaking down some data on previous campaigns over the past few cycles as well as data on legislators that are no longer in office.

NationBuilder: 56 counties on board plus 4 organizations. Over \$100k has been raised via NationBuilder donations. Many of the best new volunteers in each county have been coming in via NB. The secret sauce appears to be in having a dedicated county person for NationBuilder and then a communications committee to surround them. NationBuilder Zoom Office hours are every Tuesday, and Thursday from 3 p.m. till 5 p.m. Everyone is welcome to join. The Zoom Link for office hours is included in the Weekly Rundown sent out by iagop every Monday. If your county is interested in participating, contact George Anderson at george@iowagop.org to get started. There is no cost to the county.

Next SCC meeting: The next SCC meeting has been set for Saturday, December 10, 2022. SCC meetings are open to the public and we welcome you to attend. RPI HQ is only a few blocks from the Capitol at 621 E 9th St, Des Moines, IA

Contacts:

Kevin Brown – Clay County

Gary Nystrom – Boone County

Starlyn Perdue – Pottawattamie County

Senator Craig Williams – Carroll County

George Anderson – RPI Regional Political Director