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<p>Call to Order</p>	<p>Establish Quorum To vote at meetings, register as a Michigan Democratic Party Member here: https://act.michigandems.com/a/member-free</p> <p>Pledge of Allegiance</p>	<p>Chair established that a quorum was present, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and led the party in the Pledge of Allegiance.</p>																																																																												
<p>Introductions</p>																																																																														
<p>Review and Approval of November Minutes</p>	<p>March meeting minutes reviewed.</p>	<p>Upon motion duly made and seconded, the party unanimously accepted the March minutes as presented.</p>																																																																												
<p>Reports from Officers</p>	<p><u>Chair, Bill Allen:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get ready to rumble! Make a plan to take action between meetings. <p><u>Vice Chair, Paula Meyers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encouraged being active in whatever way you can. <p><u>Treasurer Amanda Moore:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administrative Fund (organizational costs): \$7,581.21 State Fund (candidate support): \$662.59 <p><u>Secretary, Erin Barbus:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No report this meeting 	<p>Information sharing.</p>																																																																												
<p>Sonny Cripps, Wonderland Humane Society of Wexford County</p>	<p>Sunny shared the mission of the Wonderland Humane Society of Wexford County, started in in 1972. The focus, then and now, is to promote animal health through spaying and neutering.</p> <p>Wonderland Humane Society is fully funded through private donor fundraising. Over the past five years, the group has redeveloped their identity, investing funds for long term sustainability and growth. Values collaborative process development, operating within seven programming committees.</p>	<p>Information sharing.</p>																																																																												

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	<p>Additional programs include fostering and rehoming cats, dog vouchers, microchips, and a group that focuses on building outdoor shelters for cats.</p> <p>Upcoming events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership/volunteer drive at Horizon Books April 10th 7pm. • Pet food drive at Family Fare on Saturday, April 12th that benefits Wexford Animeals Programs. <p>More information can be found at https://www.wonderlandhumanesociety.org</p>																																																																													
<p>Committee Reports</p>	<p><u>County Committee</u> (Chair Mark Yonkman):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Washington D.C with the Michigan Farm Bureau last week; met with Moolenaar and Slotkin. • Discussed issues related to migrant farming work force and H2A rates. • Discussed farm bill, specifically opportunities for reducing budget through eligible SNAP purchases versus cutting eligibility. • Shared updates from Slotkin presentation to Farm Bureau on ideas to support US farmers. • Importance of inclusion of rural communities and priorities. • Shared updates from search committee for a 2nd Congressional District candidate. • Stressed importance of focusing on issues important to the rural voter using language that avoids politicized triggers. <p><u>Candidate Recruitment Committee</u> (Chair Chris Crain)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No updates this meeting. 	<p>Party Chair recommended establishing some topical round table discussions as a follow up to the County Committee update and promote these issues with our state party leaders.</p>																																																																												

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	<p><u>Communications</u> (Chair Janet Neyer)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facebook Page (public): Wexford Dems Facebook Group (private): Wexford Dems Website: https://www.wexforddems.org Shared that we have increased visibility through our website, up from 314 hits in January to 566 in March. Social media growth accounts for 40 new people in our email group, 40 new followers in our Facebook page following the Hands-Off event last weekend. Private Facebook group has also seen an increase in membership. Have a passion for/skills around social media and graphic design? Contact Janet! <p><u>Social and Community Development</u> (Chair Meg Santangelo)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> April 27th: Earth Day Event <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnering with the Cadillac Earth Day Event Group Set up at 12, event 1-3pm, tear down 3-3:30 Cross promoting Movies for the Mind event at First Congregational Church Fellowship Hall following the park event at 3:45p.m. May 10th: Cadillac City Parks Clean Up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnering with the City Park assignment pending May 10th: Mesick Mushroom Festival Grand Parade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12pm Looking for folks looking to march to represent the WCDP. Clean the park then head to Mesick! June 22nd: Make your own pizza night at the Hunt's Every Friday: Coffee Hour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> After 26 Depot 10am All are welcome for fellowship and discussion 	<p>Contact Janet Neyer: j.neyer19@gmail.com</p> <p>Contact Meg Santangelo: Megsantangelo5@gmail.com</p> <p>Party Secretary will register the WCDP for parade.</p>																																																																												

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Starting in May, WCDP will collect donations for Foster Closet of Michigan at meetings. More information of what they are looking for: https://fosterclosetofmichigan.org/wexford-missaukee-county/ WCDP T-Shirts will be available April 16th and will be available for purchase. Make sure to get your shirt to wear to community events! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussed use of Red Bubble for single item, varied logo item purchases. Interested in being a part of planning social and community development events? Contact Meg. <p><u>Ad Hoc – Fundraiser Dinner (Bill Allen)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Save the Date! The Ephraim Shay Gala Fundraiser will be Friday, May 9th 5:30-9:00pm at Evergreen Resort. Live auction will focus on items that are service and experience oriented. If you have something you would like to donate for auction, contact Erin. 	<p>Party Chair will coordinate with Treasurer about setting up option for cash T-shirt purchases. Janet will look into setting up a merch table on Act Blue for credit card shirt purchases.</p> <p>Contact Erin Barbus: ebarbus@hotmail.com</p>																																																																												
Old Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rural Summit and Registration discussed. 	Information sharing																																																																												
Discussion and New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussion around establishing separate social, outreach and political action committees. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Motion made to keep social and community outreach together; separate political action an advocacy and form a committee. * Discussion. Change business meeting format 	<p>Upon motion duly made and seconded, the party unanimously approved the formation of a political action and advocacy committee presented.</p> <p>Party Chair will follow up with interested parties to form and identify a chair for political action and advocacy committee.</p> <p>Upon motion duly made and seconded, the party unanimously approved the agenda change to speaker schedule.</p>																																																																												

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<p>Present (please check) x – in person z - zoom</p> <table border="1"> <tr><td>x</td><td>Bill A.</td><td>x</td><td>Paula M.</td></tr> <tr><td>x</td><td>Erin B.</td><td>x</td><td>Meg S.</td></tr> <tr><td>x</td><td>Ruth Ann F.</td><td>x</td><td>Jim P.</td></tr> <tr><td>x</td><td>Janet N.</td><td>x</td><td>Sue P.</td></tr> <tr><td>z</td><td>Linda D.</td><td>x</td><td>Mary Beth C.</td></tr> <tr><td>x</td><td>Doreen L.</td><td>x</td><td>Jim H.</td></tr> <tr><td>x</td><td>Anita H.</td><td>x</td><td>Sue A.</td></tr> <tr><td>x</td><td>Pat P.</td><td>x</td><td>Leann B.</td></tr> <tr><td>x</td><td>Carla K.</td><td>x</td><td>Linda B.</td></tr> <tr><td>x</td><td>Julie K.</td><td>x</td><td>Vern K.</td></tr> <tr><td>z</td><td>Rick H.</td><td>z</td><td>Courtney G.</td></tr> <tr><td>z</td><td>Mindy L.</td><td>z</td><td>Sherry W.</td></tr> <tr><td>x</td><td>Sherry P.</td><td>x</td><td>Mark Y.</td></tr> <tr><td>x</td><td>Vickie T.</td><td>x</td><td>Katie C.</td></tr> <tr><td>x</td><td>Jill H.</td><td>x</td><td>Camille B.</td></tr> <tr><td>z</td><td>Dave G.</td><td>z</td><td>Sandy G.</td></tr> <tr><td>x</td><td>Sherry P.</td><td>x</td><td>Karen F.</td></tr> <tr><td>x</td><td>Tony F.</td><td>z</td><td>Susan B.</td></tr> <tr><td>x</td><td>Mary Lou S.</td><td>x</td><td>Mary R.</td></tr> </table> <p>Guests: Sonny Cripps, Wonderland Humane Society</p>	x	Bill A.	x	Paula M.	x	Erin B.	x	Meg S.	x	Ruth Ann F.	x	Jim P.	x	Janet N.	x	Sue P.	z	Linda D.	x	Mary Beth C.	x	Doreen L.	x	Jim H.	x	Anita H.	x	Sue A.	x	Pat P.	x	Leann B.	x	Carla K.	x	Linda B.	x	Julie K.	x	Vern K.	z	Rick H.	z	Courtney G.	z	Mindy L.	z	Sherry W.	x	Sherry P.	x	Mark Y.	x	Vickie T.	x	Katie C.	x	Jill H.	x	Camille B.	z	Dave G.	z	Sandy G.	x	Sherry P.	x	Karen F.	x	Tony F.	z	Susan B.	x	Mary Lou S.	x	Mary R.	<p><u>Wexford County Democratic Party Meeting</u></p> <p>Wednesday, April 9th, 2025 5:30pm</p> <p>Forward Together</p>	<p>Page # 5 of 6</p>
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Agenda Item	Discussion/Decisions	Action/Responsible Party																																																																												
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Discussed options for reorganizing structure of monthly meetings as well as importance of shortening the duration of the meetings. ○ Motion made to move to a quarterly presentation from a community group at the top of the agenda. This group would be the focus of our charitable collections for the following quarter. ● Reinvigorate county wide pop ups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Focusing on out county areas ○ WCDP Chair suggested Mesick as a starting point on Tuesday, April 22nd. Look for more information on the website. 																																																																													
Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 5th political action recap discussion. ● Cadillac Cares, part of the 50501 movement, is organizing another event on Saturday, April 19th. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ WCDP meeting attendee offered to sponsor the pavilion rental fee for this event. ● Postcard campaign ● Phone call campaign ● 2nd Congressional District committee monthly business meeting ● 2nd Congressional District appeal for Texas Hold ‘Em volunteer workers twice a year. 	Party Chair will put meeting attendee in touch with the Cadillac Cares organizers.																																																																												
For the Good of the Cause	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Naval Academy has banned “woke teachings,” focusing instead on right wing agenda. ● A week from today, 4/16 at 5:30p.m., the city is having an open house at the new well head site (E. 44 Road) discussing city municipal water and sewer rate increases. ● Ruth Ann is the newest Cadillac city council member, finishing out a vacated seat/term – way to go! 	Information sharing.																																																																												
Adjourn	7:49 p.m.																																																																													
Next Meeting	Wednesday, May 14th, 2025 @ 5:30 pm MEA Office	Notes Provided by: Erin Barbus																																																																												

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Agenda Item				Discussion/Decisions	Action/Responsible Party

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