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Call to Order	<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 5:33 p.m. and led the party in the Pledge of Allegiance.</p>																																																
Introductions																																																		
Review and Approval of Minutes*	<p>August meeting minutes reviewed.</p> <p>Correction noted; motion to approve the August minutes with removal of the word “November” from Approval of Minutes agenda item.</p>	<p>Upon motion duly made and seconded, the party unanimously accepted the August minutes as amended.</p>																																																
Reports from Officers	<p><u>Chair, Bill Allen:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacant Treasurer position; critical to party. • If interested, there are trainings by the Michigan Board of Elections (BOE) online • Reminder about the Michigan Democratic Party Convention in April 2026. Registered, in person MDP members will be able to cast votes for Secretary of State and Attorney General candidates <p><u>Vice Chair, Paula Meyers:</u> No report this meeting.</p> <p><u>Treasurer, Vacant (provided by Chair):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeking volunteer for the Treasurer position. • Administrative Fund (organizational costs): \$6,908.41 • State Fund (candidate support): \$2,547.59 • August Expenses Summary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ T-shirt order ○ Mail Chimp Subscription ○ Flags for Manton Harvest Festival Parade <p><u>Secretary, Erin Barbus:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeking coverage for minutes October 8th meeting 	<p>Information sharing.</p> <p>Janet Neyer volunteered to cover; Erin will prep minutes and send them ahead of meeting.</p>																																																
Standing Committee Reports	<p><u>County Committee</u> (Chair Mark Yonkman): No report this meeting.</p> <p><u>Candidate Recruitment Committee</u> (Chair Chris Crain chrisformi101@gmail.com)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staying alert to down ballot positions that are coming open. • Prioritizing creation of a more organized response/support network for the 2nd Congressional District. 	<p>Information sharing.</p>																																																

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making connections between professional organizations and candidates at every opportunity. <p><u>Communications</u> (Chair Janet Neyer j.neyer19@gmail.com)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facebook Page (public): Wexford Dems • Facebook Group (private): Wexford Dems • Instagram (public): Wexford Dems • Website: https://www.wexforddems.org • Shared WCDP increased visibility/page views through our website • Growth in new followers in our public Facebook and Instagram pages; increase in email subscribers. • Have a passion for/skills around social media and graphic design? Contact Janet! <p><u>Social and Community Development</u> (Chair Meg Santangelo megansantangelo5@gmail.com)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September Event (Wednesday, September 17th): WINE Down Wednesday <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cadillac Winery (17480 18 Mile Road Leroy) www.cadillacwinery.com ○ 6:00-8:00 p.m. ○ Purchase your own drinks, light snacks provided ○ Please RSVP (for appetizer order, provided by WCDP). ○ Rachel Howard, Senate Candidate, will be in attendance. • October Event (Thursday, October 23rd): Cider, Centerpieces and Conversation! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Santangelo Home (207 Petrie Rd Cadillac) ○ In conjunction with More Joy Farm and Flowers ○ \$35 fee to participate ○ 6:00-8:00 p.m. • November Event (November 3rd): Pub and Politics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Pines (5992 East M-55 Cadillac, MI) ○ 5:00-7:00 p.m. ○ Purchase your own drinks and food • December Event (Friday, December 12th): • Holiday Party <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cadillac Grill (7839 46 1/2 Rd, Cadillac, MI) ○ Plated dinner ○ \$35.00 per person (includes food and gratuity) 																																																	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every Friday: Coffee Hour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ After 26 Depot ○ 10am ○ All are welcome for fellowship and discussion ○ Stay after for a pop up at the Farm Market • The Wexford Dems will support a new community organization for September, October and November. Please join us in supporting Love Locker in Manton. Love Locker is a “free community resource providing clothing and hygiene products to our neighbors in need.” • The WCDP will return to Oasis for December, collecting to sponsor a family’s holiday wish list. • WCDP T-Shirts (\$15) and stainless-steel tumblers (\$20) are available for purchase. New XL shirts have been ordered and are available! Make sure to get your shirt to wear to upcoming community events. • Ideas for events or community outreach? Interested in being a part of planning social and community development events? Contact Meg! <p><u>Political Action and Advocacy Committee:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd Congressional District Kitchen Table Conversation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tuesday, October 28th ○ 5:30-7:30 p.m. ○ Cadillac Wexford Public Library • Contact Bill (1955wjallen@gmail.com) if you are interested in participating with this committee. 																																																	
<p>Old Business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manton Harvest Festival Parade (update) • Benzie and Manistee Democrats (update) • Blue Wave Gala Luncheon* October 11, 2025 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group discussion • Motion for WCDP to purchase a table at the event for \$360 from the administrative fund. • Don Jennings Manistee Gala <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • September 13th, 2025 • \$75 per person • Bill driving if interested • Michigan Democratic Party BBQ Fundraiser • Democratic Socialists of America* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$75 grant request to create a banner; tabled last month. • Group discussion on information gathered between meetings. Not a political party; an action group. 	<p>Upon motion duly made and seconded, the party unanimously approved the purchase at the Blue Wave Gala Luncheon.</p>																																																

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to approve the grant request. • Post Card Party (update) 	<p>Upon motion duly made and seconded, the party passed the motion to approve the grant request. Two members dissented.</p>																																																
<p>New Business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd Congressional District (In Person) Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 9/13/25 in Mecosta County • MDP Best in the West Fundraiser <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 10/4/2025 in Grand Rapids ○ Pete Buttigieg, keynote speaker • Wexford County Board of Canvass Nominations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Must submit three names ○ Group discussion ○ Three names identified • Homelessness Coalition Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ First Presbyterian Church (221 E Harris St Cadillac, MI) ○ 9/11/2025 @ 5:30 • We the People Protest in Lansing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 9/9/2025-9/11/2025 ○ Encouraging common sense budget approval • No Kings Demonstration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Saturday October 18th, 2025 ○ 10am at the Shay Locomotive • Future Candidate Visits 	<p>Information sharing.</p>																																																
<p>For the Good of the Cause</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Susan Betts-Barbus presented on two ballot initiative petitions. Seeking others to get petition signatures. Contact Susan if you are interested! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Constitutional Amendment "Invest in MIKids" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Taxes couples earning more than \$1M; singles earning more than \$500K ▪ Taxes go directly to the school fund to be exclusively used on local school district classrooms, career and technical education, reducing class sizes and recruiting and retaining teachers. ▪ Funds would be subject to an annual audit. ○ Ballot Initiative "MMOP Up Michigan" <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>From their website:</i> "MMOP is a grassroots campaign working to get big money out of our elections. Led by the Taking Back Our Power coalition, we're building toward a statewide ballot initiative to ban political 	<p>Information sharing.</p>																																																

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				contributions from regulated monopoly corporations and major state contractors. Because our democracy should never be for sale. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meg is working with Mallory McMorrow's Campaign and has petitions for her to be on the primary ballot. Contact Meg if you are interested in signing! • Ruth Ann is working to get registered in the Van System for her City Council run. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Seeking volunteers for her street team, to hang door knockers, toward the end of September and early October. ○ Training in Van System September 20th at 10:30 at the MEA Office if you are interested in attending. ○ Call or email Ruth Ann if you would like to be a part of her street team! • Bill is going to invite someone to come talk to the group about the rank choice voting ballot initiative. 	
Adjourn				7:01 p.m.	
Next Meeting				Wednesday, October 8th, 2025 @ 5:30 pm MEA Office	Notes Provided by: Erin Barbus

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