

## 7/1/19 General Meeting

- Christi started the meeting
  - Guests introduced themselves
- Christi introduced David Hogue, Faulkner County Civil Attorney
  - Always think outside the norm
  - Flooding: 2019 Water
    - Came in 3 stages
      - Everything around the levee
      - Treasure Hills
      - Lake Conway
    - The county hasn't done anything to prevent future flooding after each flood
    - County may have to buy properties that have flooded over and over
    - How is the county gov dealing with flooding?
      - Once waters were at crest, county let everybody know what to do with sandbags
      - Wrote a letter to reps & sens at state & fed level about situation at Jones Lane
        - When building houses, people moving on Jones Lane were told flooding wasn't an issue
        - When water came up, people on Jones Lane got flooding in their houses
        - Corps of Engineers built a ramp and fortified riverbank so Harrell Farm wouldn't wash out and block barge traffic in the channel
        - Ramp for fortifications has been eating all the dirt from a yard, this last flood has taken out enough of the land that the house is hanging over the river
        - Letter is seeking help on solving this issue caused by the Corps of Engineers
    - Once the same house has flooded 3 times in a row, they may qualify for a government buy out
      - Government will pay 75%, sponsor will pay 25%, it becomes sponsor's home
      - Faulkner Co can apply for grants
        - Faulkner co can't find money to build animal shelter or increase county employee pay
    - How do levees work with county government
      - Special Improvement District- several inhabitants petition to become a special improvement district, and get their own taxes and improve their district
        - Levee district is similar
    - 3rd hundred year flood- does it have anything to do with climate change?
      - Unsure. Some experts say yes.
      - The term "hundred year flood" is no longer accurate
    - Faulkner Co. put out news on social media & news for where to go for weather related emergency assistance. This isn't reaching everybody.
      - In order to help these people, you have to go visit, and David Hogue started going door to door to make sure people know where to go for assistance.
      - Government offers limited resources
        - Some citizens don't seek assistance from FEMA because they barely cover the basics
        - Small business association offers low interest loans to rebuild, but this doesn't help citizens who don't have means to repay the loan

- Many conversations about reactivity, but what about actions are being taken to be proactive about the flooding?
        - Not enough
    - Flood of bad reasoning
      - “More guns and less immigrants solves our crime problem” is not good logic
      - “Ignore people in need in the name of Christ” is not good logic
      - “Bad reasoning in our government says to enact law of Christianity because the inventor of free will said so” is bad reasoning
    - Flood of Republican control
      - We need a balance in government, and we don’t have that right now
    - Flood of hate and anger
      - Biggest flood we’ve got
      - There is so much hostility, it is sad when people fear Christians will act with hostility toward another group of people
      - Republicans aren’t getting rid of the hate, and that falls to the Democrats
  - Tyler Pearson moved to approve [last month’s minutes](#)
    - Maureen seconded motion, motion passed unanimously
  - We raised money for the Brookside community until July 1
    - These people are very low income, many have been paying thousands into a mobile home that can’t be moved
    - these people are being forced to move out
    - All the money donated for this cause will be donated to CoHO’s Brookside Family Fund at First Security on July 2
    - We donated just over \$1,200 to the Brookside Family Fund
  - Treasurer’s Report
    - Itemized reports are available in emails
  - Community updates- volunteer opportunities
    - Flood relief
      - 328-4442 is the number to call to say you want to help or if you need help
      - Check out the Faulkner Co OEM Facebook Page
      - Check out the Facebook Group: Faulkner Co AR River Flood Relief group
    - Adopt a Street
      - We are looking for someone to step up and head up adopting a street
      - Then we can start organizing community clean up
    - Kid’s Meal at the Library (Conway branch)
      - Hope Cares is sponsoring these meals
      - Every Monday through Friday, from noon to 1, the library will be feeding patrons ages 18 and under
      - Volunteers can see the library for information on how to volunteer
  - Selection of new state committee member
    - Nancy Graddy is asking to be replaced
    - One meeting per quarter
      - Next Meeting: August, Forrest City
    - Delegate selection process is going to be important soon
    - Taking nominations- Must be a woman
    - Current members:
      - Christi Berry, Tina Haggard, Bob Reynolds, LeRoy Hendricks
    - Nominations:

- Tyler Pearson nominated Jackie Wright
    - Jackie Wright is willing to think about it if nobody else steps up in the next couple weeks
  - We need somebody by the August Meeting
- Candidate Filing Fees
  - 9 people commented on [forms](#), the majority of people said decrease the fees
  - Filing fees show a serious interest in candidacy
  - Exec committee has recognized the need for a fee
    - JP fee is not so extreme
  - After the primaries, the candidate is going to get the filing fee back
  - These county positions are now 4 years, not 2 years, so we don't need to worry about them in 2020 (except JP, those are 2 year)
  - We are slightly lower than Republican
  - Executive committee has not yet proposed any changes
  - A suggested solution: collect filing fees or collect signatures to run for office
  - Is this an executive level decision or does it require a vote from the body?
    - We had planned to bring this proposal for a vote, though we are not sure if we are required to.
- Candidate training- if somebody wants to run, and the fee is a concern, they need to know that there are willing and able Democrats who will support them financially
  - Executive committee is working on creating candidate support
  - Deadline for deciding filing fees: By November meeting
- If you know somebody who would be a good candidate, get them connected. We will help them run.
- Upcoming events
  - DPA Clinton Dinner
    - August 17
    - County Party can get a table of 10 for \$1,000
    - Regular admission is \$125, if you get tickets through the county party, they are \$100
    - 10 seats filled
      - Teresa +1
      - Leslie Parker
      - Andres Arce
      - Maureen +1
      - Meleah
      - Jim
      - David
    - We will buy a second table
    - Maybe: Julie A, Jackie W, Jill A + sister
    - If you'd like to sponsor somebody, get in touch
  - Debate #2 watch party
    - We are looking for hosts
    - July 30 & 31
- Outreach: Wampus Cats Broadcast, talk about this when David comes back
- If you want to help plan the upcoming mailer, talk to Meleah
- Canvassing in August
  - Matthew Law will be leading these efforts
  - Canvass sign up sheet going out
    - [Sign up online here](#)
- Jill's birthday is tomorrow, Birthday Party is tomorrow at noon at Tom Cotton's Office in Springdale

- Part of Move On's close the concentration camps for kids
- Quorum Court committee on jail expansion
  - Looking for ways to reduce the need for incarceration
    - Seems to be warping into ways to open another jail
    - There are plans for a new \$22mil jail
      - Possibly take money from roads fund
    - Next Quorum Court meeting is July 16
      - Issue will probably not be discussed at this meeting, will probably get a separate special meeting
    - Washington Co is proposing a bail reform program
      - Find ways to reduce the number of people who are in jail that cannot afford bail less than \$1,000
  - The committee is asking for a special meeting of the quorum court

Members present:

Jill Acree

Julie Adkisson

Austin Angel

Jessica Angel

Christi Berry

Meleah Bowles

Teresa Gallegos

Nancy Graddy

Judy McKnight

Steve Magie

Jim Mosley

Leslie Parker

Hayden Pearce

Tyler Pearson

Maureen Skinner

Jackie Wright

6 guest present