

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW MEXICO

Board of Directors Meeting

September 17, 2011, 10:35 a.m.-3:01 p.m.

Oliver La Farge Branch Library

1730 Llano Street, Santa Fe, NM 87505

Members Present: Linda Moscarella, Mona Blaber, Bonnie Burn, Barbara Calef, Joe Keefe, Meredith Machen, Lora Lucero, Cheryl Haaker, Richard Mason, Chris Burroughs, Lynn Jones

Absent: Judy Williams, Sandra Browne

Guests: Carol Tucker Trelease, Dan Rudolph

Approval of Agenda: Added to agenda was the location of the next meeting. The meeting was originally to be in Socorro, but it was moved to Santa Fe because Burn will be unable to attend. Mason moved for approval of the agenda, Burn seconded. Board approved.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the July 2, 2011 meeting were accepted and will be filed. Mason moved they be accepted; Burn seconded. Board approved.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Haaker addressed the issue of bulk mail, indicating that the LWVNM bulk mail account was closed. LWVNM will use the LWVCNM bulk mail account for any future bulk mailing needs. Haaker said she would fill out a form to get back the \$469.71 remaining in the LWVNM bulk mailing account.

Haaker presented the treasurer's report. She reported the spreadsheet shows 4 ½ months of activity. Not shown is a \$50 contribution which was deposited on Sept. 15, the day she compiled her report. She reported that LWVNM has a "ways to go in fund raising this year." Nothing has been spent in D4 Newsletter Postage. She will reimburse LWVCNM the \$55.70 which was charged to the LWVCNM postal account, because the LWVNM had expired (by choice). Haaker noted that LWVNM has paid the MAL PMP to national. She sent PMP reminder letters to the presidents and treasurers of local leagues. She said a check for \$500 for United by Friendship was sent to Kathy Campbell in honor of her husband Larry Campbell who recently passed away. Calef said she received a letter from Kathy Campbell thanking the Board for the donation.

The treasurer's report indicated that the LWVNM General Fund has \$1,449.49 in the checking account and \$5,020.30 in savings.

Discussion centered around changing debit cards (and checking account) from Wells Fargo to another banking institution. The reason is that Wells Fargo assesses a \$3.00 monthly fee for debit card use. She canceled all LWVNM outstanding debit cards. There were two, belonging to Haaker and Kathy Campbell. Haaker suggested moving the accounts to the New Mexico Educators Federal Credit Union. The Board requested that she find out if the credit union has a

place to deposit funds in Los Alamos. The Board postponed the decision on moving the accounts to the credit union until the requested information was obtained.

In regards to the Education Fund treasurer's report, Haaker noted that there have been no changes since April.

LWVNM Website Report: Haaker provided a website report. She noted that the website has had a severe problem with "404 Page Not Found" errors in the past. She had hoped by redesigning the site and working through to verify all links, the problem would be eliminated. "We're not there yet," she noted. 404 errors comprised 20-23 percent of all requests from December, 2010 to August, 2011, dropping to 13 percent in September. April was the highest in 2011, with nearly 28 percent requests failing. Aside from "404," which got 1,706 requests, the requested pages in August were Fair Representation, 145; Action, 154; Positions, 159; Information, 148; Programs, 136; Summer 2011 La Palabra, 135; Member Documents, 130; and Newsletters, 128.

Membership Report: Jones reported there are nine members-at-large. Five did not renew. She will send membership renewal letters to members-at-large in December. Keefe said that he discovered while attending redistricting meetings around the state that there was interest in the League in Las Vegas. Burn suggested that Keefe send out write-ups (news releases) about the League to small papers around the state. Mason suggested that the LWVNNM have speaker meetings in different areas of the state and invite attendees to establish new leagues in those communities.

Old Business:

* ***Constant Contact – Use for local Leagues:*** Blaber gave a demonstration of how to use Constant Contact, focusing on how to send out emails and how local Leagues can use it.

* ***Leadership Team Structure:*** Keefe moved and Moscarella seconded to implement the Leadership Team model. The Board voted unanimously to accept. Burn moved and Calef seconded to have Mason and Moscarella serve in lieu of co-presidents. The Board voted unanimously to accept. Burn moved and Calef seconded to have Keefe and Machen serve in lieu of co-vice presidents. Board voted unanimously to accept.

* ***Job descriptions:*** It was noted that all the job descriptions are on the website.

New Business

* ***Review Board Policies:*** Mason is bringing Board policies to the Board for review – at least two a Board meeting. The policies are to be reviewed every couple of years. At the Sept. 17 meeting Mason proposed that the Nonpartisan and Conflict of Interest Policy and the Policy on Advocacy be reviewed by the Board. The Policy on Advocacy was adopted on Jan. 12, 2008 and the Nonpartisan Policy and Conflict of Interest policy was adopted on May 17, 2009. Burn moved to readopt the Policy on Advocacy without change. Calef seconded. Burn moved to adopt the Nonpartisan and Conflict of Interest Policy without change. Mason seconded. Both

motions were approved by the Board. In discussions that followed Moscarella questioned how the Nonpartisan Policy and Conflict of Interest would affect family members and spouses of individuals on the Board of Directors. Does this mean they can't run for office or put up political signs in their yards? Moscarella moved that the Nonpartisan Policy and Conflict of Interest should be amended to include vice president. Lucero seconded. It was brought up that due to the new Leadership Team structure, the Nonpartisan Policy and Conflict of Interest should say "president or Leadership team in lieu of the president." The Board unanimously voted no on the motion to include vice president to the Nonpartisan and Conflict of Interest Policy. Moscarella moved to adopt the Nonpartisan and Conflict of Interest Policy as amended to read president or Leadership Team in lieu of president. Keefe seconded. The Board voted unanimously for the motion.

* ***Process for Assuring Final Versions Posted on Website:*** Once the Board agrees on the final versions of the revised policies, a statement needs to be placed under the policy title, providing the date of the re-adoption. The secretary will make the changes and send them to the web master to be placed on the web site.

* ***Process for creating new agenda:*** The secretary will begin compiling an agenda for the next meeting soon after the recently held Board meeting. From the previous Board meeting, any carry over or identified new agenda items will be listed on the new agenda. Three weeks before the meeting, the co-presidents will give a heads-up to the secretary about the date for the transmission of the draft agenda. At that time the co-presidents will add items they wish to have considered on the agenda and request additions from all Board members. Two weeks before the meeting the secretary should receive all of the agenda items and handouts from the Board members. One week before the meeting, the secretary will send out the meeting packet that shall consist of the agenda, the meeting minutes of the previous meeting, and meeting handouts that are available. After the meeting packet is transmitted by the secretary, Board members assume the responsibility of sending out copies of handouts to all Board members or of bringing extra copies to the Board meeting.

* ***Archives:*** Through a written report LWVNM archivist Barbara Goedecke submitted a written report on archive activities. The archives are maintained in the Center for Southwest Research, part of the Zimmerman Library at the University of New Mexico. The link to the online inventory is <http://rmoa.unm.edu/docviewer.php?docId=nmulmss47Ibe.xml>. Materials included in the archives are newsletters, League positions, Board minutes and year-end treasurer's reports, studies, lobbying efforts, *Voters' Guide* materials, other material. It was agreed that a Board member would write a procedure for submitting materials for the archives.

* ***Salute to New Mexico :*** Carol Tucker Trelease and Dan Rudolph of LWVCNM reported on activities of the CNM League to plan a fund raising dinner in honor of New Mexico's 100th birthday next year. A tentative date of April 21, 2012, has been set. Plans are for the gala event to include special historical speakers and/or displays, a notable speaker and master of ceremonies, gourmet dinner at a local establishment, as well as other activities to be determined by the planning committee. It will be an evening banquet. The LWVNM, as well as other Leagues around the state, are invited to attend. Rudolph is in touch with a futurist Lowell Catlett,

a professor at New Mexico State, who was recommended to be the main speaker. Mason moved and Haaker seconded that LWVNM endorse event. The motion passed unanimously.

* **Report on Redistricting Issues:** Keefe and Haaker reported on redistricting. The Board offered many kudos to them for their efforts on behalf of redistricting. Haaker has not been able to write or meet with legislators since the public hearings have ended. Not one bit of testimony/redrawn maps have been considered in the legislative hearings during the session. Keefe said he anticipates that the redistricting will go the courts for resolution. Keefe said he would try to get articles on redistricting in smaller papers in the state, and Haaker said she would draft an op-ed piece.

* **Report Advocacy for Voter Protection PAVP:** Machen reported that there have been several activities taking place with the grant, but no money has been spent thus far. Burn arranged for Steve Allen of Common Cause to be interviewed about allegations of voter fraud initiated by the New Mexico Secretary of State. He was interviewed by local newspapers, appeared on the KRWG-TV show, Newsmakers hosted by Fred Martino, and discussed the issue with Keith Whelpley, host of the radio program, Southwest Senior. Mason suggested that the LWVNM use some of the money on an educational program – possibly on voter fraud – for legislators when the Legislature goes into session next year. The Board discussed possibly holding a panel discussion/reception on Monday, Jan. 23, the evening before League Day. Suggested panelists were Daniel Ivey-Soto, Maggie Toulouse Oliver, Jo Porter and Steve Allen.

* **Action Committee:** Mason provided an update on activities in the special session of the Legislature. This included efforts to limit social promotion after the third grade (support), Medicaid & Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (support), Foreign Nationals' Driver's license requirements (support), and limitation of driver's licenses (oppose). League Day at the Legislature is planned for Jan. 24. Mason said a decision needs to be made on the program for League Day.

* **Natural Resources:** Lora Lucero reminded Board members about a flash mob dance, titled “Sol not Coal,” was scheduled for Sept. 20 at a location where “tons of people will be.” Rehearsals were set for Sept. 20 in Santa Fe and Albuquerque. She also reported on the Keystone Pipeline System, which is a system to transport synthetic crude oil from the Athabasca Oil Sands in northeastern Alberta, Canada refineries in Illinois and Oklahoma and further to the U.S. Gulf Coast.

Communications: *La Palabra* editor Blaber announced that the deadline for the next issue is Sept. 30. Articles will include Action Committee report, healthcare report, redistricting, League Day at the Legislature, PAVP update (including Ivey-Soto's explanation that there are very few cases of voter fraud in New Mexico than previously though, photo ID op-ed piece and land use. Blaber said the next issue of *La Palabra* will be her last one as editor. A new editor needs to be sought.

Daniel Ivey-Soto presentation: Daniel Ivey Soto, executive director of New Mexico Clerks Affiliate, gave a report on the organizations' Voter Verification Proposal. He provided their recommendations on requirements for in person and mail voting.

Local League Presidents

* ***Santa Fe*** – The Board was reminded of the 60th anniversary party of the Santa Fe League scheduled for Sept. 24. The event is a garden party, which will be held from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the National Park Service Building at 1100 Old Santa Fe Trail. Special guests are Senator Jeff Bingaman and Anne Bingaman.

****Los Alamos*** – Los Alamos reported they have a new state legislator.

* ***Las Cruces*** – Las Cruces reported their League is doing an education study, taking a look at many of the good things the schools are doing that go unpublicized.

Next Meeting: Nov. 19, 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m. at 2011 Oliver La Farge Branch Library, 1730 Llano Street, Santa Fe, NM 87505

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

Submitted by:

Christine Burroughs, Secretary