

24 January 2011  
RCRP monthly meeting

Marv Keener called the meeting to Order at 7pm., welcoming everyone (23) present.

TN Senator, KenYager led us with Invocation.

Donna Taylor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary, Phyllis Gatto, read the minutes of the previous meeting and they were approved as read. (Motion by Elmer Hinds and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Larry Bond) Motion carried.

Tom Taylor read our Financial Report for last year 2010 with an Ending Balance of \$2970.57

The Financial Repost for the month of January ending 24 January is \$2308.57. TN Rep. Jim Cobb moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted as read and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Linda Hinds. The motion carried.

Chairman, Marv Keener asked for a volunteer to handle the RCRP website, updating info, etc. No one responded to this request.

We need to increase our operating funds. Since this was an Election year – our treasury is depleted. Our main source if income is from the Lincoln Day Dinner. We need ideas to build a cushion for the Treasury, our monthly expenses (rent, and utilities is approximately \$665.00). We need ideas to build a buffer. Discussion followed.

Regarding elections: We need to emphasize that this is not the time to quit or let up! We need to support our Republican Party candidates, and build the party to come out and vote! We can always add email addresses contact party members and increase our attendance at meeting. Bring a friend! They do not have to be only a Republican. There are many people who are not satisfied, let's get them to our meetings. Maybe they want to become Republicans.

TN Senator Ken Yager, announced they will be back in session, February 7<sup>th</sup>. He also thanked everyone for their attendance at the Fund Raiser "Chili Supper" and he donated \$500 back to our Rhea County Republican Party. His generous gift was greatly appreciated!

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Following a lengthy discussion and the fact that we are all ready well into January, a motion was made to approve a committee, consisting of Tommy Snyder, Marvin Keener and TN Rep. Jim Cobb, to select a date convenient to a Guest Speaker and plan the Lincoln Day dinner. The dates proposed would be March 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> or April 2<sup>nd</sup>. We are hoping that either Corker or TN Governor Haslam will be the Guest Speaker. Both are interested if our function if this to accept this date fits into either of their schedules. Linda Hinds made a motion for a committee consisting of Tommy Snyder, Marvin Keener and TN Rep. Jim Cobb to meet, determine the date and place for the Lincoln Day Dinner. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> and carried.

The committee will make the final decision and let the members know what need to be done. There is not enough time to bring this back to a Business meeting, we agreed to support the plans that the Committee makes regarding the Lincoln Day Dinner. They will tell us what needs to be done! Time is short!

Marv Keener presented an idea, similar to a program that he has experienced with the Lions Club Professional Training. His thinking is that we might benefit from a program like: "What, Who, Why – Republicans are all About". "We the People", Similar to David Fowler's "How to go into Politics and Not Lose your Faith."

Larry Bond asked to address the meeting with a question that concerns him and us as citizens of in Rhea County. His concern is: How can we as citizens of Rhea county, consider spending money that we obviously don't have on such things as a new High School and / or a New Jail? The County is basically broke. Why don't they find a way to raise the money before committing to spend it? Several members

spoke up, (Some, who are also members of the County Commission, committees.) Mr Bond's point was well taken. Everyone was in agreement of the same concern and also feels that the need is definitely there, it is just how to accomplish these goals without 'bankrupting' the County. Make a plan (ahead) and stick to it, not diverting designated funds to something other than what it was meant for. Most agreed, there is not much of a choice about these projected expenses. There were comments that the school is not an expense, rather an investment. The Jail situation is simply controlled by State regulations. We are over populated for these facilities, and must expand them. If the school is addressed – then optimistically, the need will be less for the jail. Education should help reduce crime. Following comments by many present, the suggestion was to attend the County meetings, which are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 5:30 pm in the Phil Swafford Building. The meetings begin at 5:30pm; Budget committee 6:00 pm and the County Commission Meeting at 7:00 pm. Get involved and attend your County meetings.

June Griffin, was recognized, and spoke about becoming a "Doer". We need to be able to demand opportunities to be heard in Washington. We need "Congressional Hearings" to allow the "people" to speak and express their opinions on decisions regarding the Health Care Bill, and such things that affect each of us. We need to be heard as "individuals" our right at a Citizen. June passed out petitions for this cause.

According to our By-laws Election of Officers is to be held ever 2 years on the "Odd" Year in January. The Executive Committee presented the slate of Officers for the RCRP 2011 and 2012.

CHAIRMAN: Ken Coppinger [PH: 775-1182 email:KCBC432@charter.net]  
VICE CHAIR: Donna Taylor  
TREASURER: Tom Taylor  
VICE TREAS: Larry Bond  
SECRETARY: Phyllis Gatto  
PARLIMENTARIAN: Bill Hillary

The floor was open for any other nominations. Jim Cobb moved to close the nominations and accept the Officers as presented. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Elmer Hinds. The Motion Carried

Marv Keener passed the Gavel to Ken Coppinger and welcomed our new Chairman who continued the meeting. Ken expressed his thoughts and looks forward to Healthy discussion, getting people interested "to get on the court". "Ask someone to come with you to these meetings. It does not make a difference whether Republican or Democrat. We need to put our meeting notice in the newspaper, (date & time). Announcements were made relating to upcoming events and News occurring in the TN State Legislature. Republicans hold 64 seats; lacking only 2 members to be able to "call for the question". All TN State Committee Chairmen are Republicans.

Ken thanked everyone for attending the meeting, and specifically, Bill Holland, Larry Bond and June Griffin for their participation in discussions. All visitors were welcomed!  
At 8:10 pm a motion to adjourn was entertained, 2<sup>nd</sup> and carried.

**The next meeting will be 28 FEBRUARY 2011 - 7:00pm BRING A FRIEND! (or 2)**

Respectfully submitted,

Secretary  
Phyllis Gatto January 24m 2011