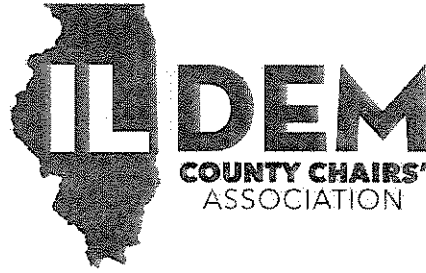


**ILLINOIS DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CHAIRS' ASSOCIATION  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
SATURDAY MAY 18, 2019  
Crowne Plaza Springfield, 3000 S Dirksen Pkwy, Springfield**

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Brief Recess for Lunch
4. Guest Speakers
  - a. Dick Durbin, *US Senator*
  - b. Mike Frerichs, *State Treasurer*
  - c. Mark Russell, *Act Blue*
  - d. RJ Jacobs, *Liberty Bell Communications*
  - e. Collyn Warner, *NDTC*
5. Fair Tax Presentation from Think Big Illinois
6. Brief Recess
7. Guest Speakers
  - a. Mary Morrissey, *Democratic Party of Illinois*
8. President's Report
9. Secretary's Report
  - a. Approval of Minutes from November 10, 2018 Meeting
  - b. Approval of Minutes from February 16, 2019 Meeting
10. Treasurer's Report
  - a. Approval of Treasurer's Report
11. Executive Director's Report
12. Resolutions for consideration
13. Open Discussion
14. Announcements
15. Adjourn



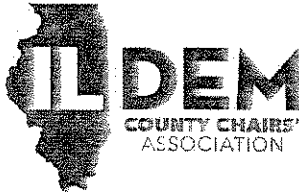
## **Code of Conduct**

The Illinois Democratic County Chairs' Association is committed to providing an environment free from discrimination and harassment. We ask all meeting participants to embrace our values of equity and equality and conduct themselves in this meeting consistent with those values. President House has assigned two designees as the first point of contact for anyone who thinks they have experienced discriminatory, harassing or otherwise unacceptable behavior. We urge you to contact a designee if you have any concerns.

## **Designees**

Dan Kovats, [dan@ildcca.org](mailto:dan@ildcca.org), 217-753-3380 or 773-351-7818

Jillian Hawkins, [jillian@ildcca.org](mailto:jillian@ildcca.org), 217-753-3380



**ILLINOIS DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CHAIRS' ASSOCIATION**  
**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**SATURDAY NOVEMBER 10, 2018**  
**ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS, 525 S. 5<sup>TH</sup> ST., SPRINGFIELD**

**MINUTES**

**Attendance – Executive Board**

Doug House, Rock Island, President	Billy Halstead via proxy, Peoria, 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Terry Link via proxy, Lake, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President
Jack Mazzotti, Christian, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President	Mark Guethle via proxy, Kane, 4 <sup>th</sup> Vice President	Terry Redman, DeWitt, 5 <sup>th</sup> Vice President
Bob Peickert via proxy, DuPage, 6 <sup>th</sup> Vice President	Jay Briney, Mason, 7 <sup>th</sup> Vice President	Charlie Laskonis, Winnebago, 8 <sup>th</sup> Vice President
John Willard, Kankakee, 9 <sup>th</sup> Vice President	Doris Turner via proxy, Sangamon 10 <sup>th</sup> Vice President	Dennis Fisher via proxy, Shelby, Treasurer
Jim Underwood via proxy, Macon, Assistant Treasurer	Mark Von Nida, Madison, Secretary	Pam Davidson, Knox, At Large Member
Cody Moake via proxy, Williamson, At Large Member	Paul (Snow) Herkert, Calhoun, At Large Member	Toni Preckwinkle via proxy, Cook, At Large Member
Teresa Vincent, Union, At Large Member	Kristina Zahorik, McHenry, At Large Member	Jeff Mears, Johnson, Sgt. At Arms
Mike Barone via proxy, Jackson, Special Assistant		

**Attendance – General Membership**

Keith Niewhower via proxy, Adams	Phillip Matthews via proxy, Alexander	Dan Sidwell via proxy, Bond
Joyce Brannan, Cass	Maryam Ar-Raheem, Champaign	Craig McNary, Clark
Paul Wieck via proxy, Coles	Jim Luebke, DeKalb	Jackie Knackmus, Edwards
Dan Niebrugge, Effingham	Al McDowell, Fayette	Jim Eaton, via proxy, Franklin
Hugh Scates, Gallatin	Jimmy Naville, Greene	Richard Joyce via proxy, Grundy
Flint Taylor, Hamilton	Kim Weaver, Hancock	Dennis Austin, Hardin
Richard Bigger, Henderson	Robert Alexander, Jasper	Mark Pohlman via proxy, Jersey
Julie Gondar via proxy, Kendall	Dani Brzozowski, LaSalle	Joe Weger, Lawrence
Kasey Considine, Lee	John Reis, Livingston	Jane Ryan via proxy, Logan
Mike Mathis, Macoupin	Danny Stover, Marion	Jeff Stafford via proxy, Massac
Jarad Huffman via proxy, McDonough	Erik Rankin, McLean	Brian Short, Menard
Scot Luchtefeld, Monroe	Tim Singer via proxy, Moultrie	Christine Ballard, Ogle
Calen Campanella via proxy, Perry	Shelia Maloney, Piatt	Kevin Duesterhaus via proxy, Pike
Leslie Hardin via proxy, Pope	Roger Kerley, Pulaski	Kerry Johnson, Randolph
Brenda Britton, Richland	Charles Clayton via proxy, Schuyler	Ed Hoover, Scott
Louise Cook, Stephenson	Germaine Light, Vermillion	Rena Bever, Wabash

Steve Buban via proxy, Warren	Tonya Loker via proxy, Wayne	Nancy Mitchell via proxy, White
Fidencio Hooper-Campos via proxy, Whiteside	Bill Thoman, Will	

**Attendance – Staff**

Dan Kovats, Executive Director	Jillian Hawkins, Assistant Executive Director	Toby Trimmer, Communications Director
Aliymon Allen, Field Director	Declan Binninger, Counsel	Les Nunes, Deputy Political Director, Rock Island County Democratic Party

**Attendance – Guests / Alternate**

Robert Baren, Schuyler	Rebecca Drake, Logan	Susan Hepp, Perry
Ilaine Jessup, Kendall	Allen Mayer, Peoria	James Riley, Grundy
Carrie Schnicker, Marion	Rob Schnicker, Marion	Gary Smith, Moultrie
Lee Trotter, McDonough	Glenn Truesdale, Whiteside	Wayne Williams, Champaign

1. Meeting was called to order at 12:08pm.
  - a. 75 County Chairs present either in person or via proxy. Quorum has been met to conduct business.
  - b. The following proxies were submitted prior to the start of the meeting:
    - i. Dennis Austin – proxy for Leslie Hardin
    - ii. Robert Baren – proxy for Charles Clayton
    - iii. Rebecca Drake – proxy for Jane Ryan
    - iv. Susan Hepp – proxy for Calen Campanella
    - v. Doug House – proxy for Mike Barone, Steve Buban, Kevin Duesterhaus, Dennis Fisher, Billy Halstead, Tonya Loker, Phillip Matthews, Cody Moake, Keith Niewohner, Mark Pohlman, Dan Sidwell, Doris Turner, Jim Underwood, Paul Wieck
    - vi. Ilaine Jessup – proxy for Julie Gondar
    - vii. Jeff Mears – proxy for Jim Eaton, Jeff Stafford

- viii. James Riley – proxy for Richard Joyce
  - ix. Gary Smith – proxy for Tim Singer
  - x. Lee Trotter – proxy for Jarad Huffman
  - xi. Glenn Truesdale – proxy for Fidencio Hooper-Campos
  - xii. Kristina Zahorik – proxy for Mark Guethle, Terry Link, Nancy Mitchell, Robert Peickert, Toni Preckwinkle
2. President Doug House asked all County Chairs and guests to introduce themselves.
  3. President House led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance
  4. President House asked for a moment of silence in honor of Menard County Chair & 18<sup>th</sup> District State Central Committeewoman Shirley McCombs who passed away in October.
  5. President House introduced State Treasurer Mike Frerichs.
    - a. Treasurer Frerichs addressed the County Chairs and spoke about the recent election results. He thanked the County Chairs for the role that they played in helping him win reelection.
  6. President's Report
    - a. President House reported that we are at half time right now. That our first goal was to unseat Bruce Rauner and now our next goal is to unseat Donald Trump.
    - b. President House reported on the overall effort of the Blue Wave and the significant wins. He also recognized the difficulties that several counties had.
    - c. President House recognized the candidates that ran and won who were a part of the Candidate Boot Camp.
    - d. President House reported that he was proud that the organization has grown and has stood up over the last three years.
    - e. President House stated that it was a huge honor to serve as the President of the organization. He was proud to visit the counties and work with their candidates.
    - f. President House reported that he was proud that the IDCCA was at the forefront to advance the causes of women within the organization. As a result, the organization changed its name, created a Sexual Harassment Task Force, and developed a sexual harassment policy and procedure.
    - g. President House announced that he would be stepping down and the organization would be moving on to a new chapter. He is hoping for a swift confirmation of At Large Member Kristina Zahorik (McHenry) to succeed him.
  7. Executive Session
    - a. President House asked that all non-County Chairs or Alternates to leave the room so the meeting could move to Executive Session.
    - b. President House asked the IDCCA staff to join him and he thanked them for their hard work during his tenure in office. Specifically, President House recognized Executive Director Dan Kovats for his dedication and his ability to lead the organization.

- c. President House recognized that IDCCA Counsel Declan Binninger will serve as the Parliamentarian for the election of President of the IDCCA.
  - d. President House opened nominations for President of the IDCCA.
    - i. Vice President Terry Redman made the motion to nominated At Large Member Kristina Zahorik for President of the IDCCA. Vice President John Willard seconded the nomination.
    - ii. At Large Member Pam Davidson made a motion to elect At Large Member Kristina Zahorik to President of the IDCCA by acclamation. Hancock County Chair Kim Weaver seconded the motion.
    - iii. Kristina Zahorik was elected by acclamation to President of the IDCCA.
    - iv. Vice President Redman made a motion to add President Kristina Zahorik to the IDCCA State PAC bank account ending in #1891. Vice President Willard seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
    - v. Vice President Redman made a motion to add President Kristina Zahorik to the IDCCA Federal PAC bank account ending in #1891. Vice President Willard seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
    - vi. Vice President Redman made a motion to remove former President Doug House from both the IDCCA State PAC bank account ending in #1891 and the IDCCA Federal PAC bank account ending in #1891. Vice President Willard seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
  - e. Former President House recognized the current and former members of the Executive Board. He thanked them for their hard work and support.
  - f. Vice President Charlie Laskonis made a motion to move out of Executive Session and return to regular meeting business. Motion was seconded by Henderson County Chair Richard Bigger. Motion passed unanimously.
8. President Zahorik gave brief remarks and thanked all the County Chairs for their support. President Zahorik committed to continuing visiting and connecting with every County Chair. President Zahorik committed to continuing the vision that former President House has laid out. President Zahorik also expanded upon her vision to ensuring that County Parties are fulfilling their role instead of going campaign to campaign.
9. President Zahorik asked Executive Director Kovats to come forward to present a plaque to former President House for his service and dedication to the IDCCA.
10. Secretary's Report
- a. Secretary Mark Von Nida presented the minutes from the August 4, 2018 General Membership Meeting.
  - b. Ogle County Chair Christine Ballard made a motion to approve the minutes. At Large Member Davidson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
11. Treasurer's Report
- a. Executive Director Kovats presented the Treasurer's Report.
    - i. State PAC - \$195,847.83

ii. Federal PAC - \$66,319.70

iii. Total - \$262,167.53

- b. Will County Chair Bill Thoman made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. DeKalb County Chair Jim Luebke seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

#### 12. Executive Director's Report

- a. Executive Director Kovats thanked everyone for their support and stated he would be with the organization as long as you'll have him.
- b. Executive Director Kovats thanked the IDCCA staff of Jillian Hawkins, Toby Trimmer, Aliymon Allen, & Les Nunes. He also thanked the IDCCA Counsel of Patrick Croke & Declan Binninger.
- c. Executive Director Kovats announced that immediately following the meeting that the IDCCA office will be closed for a week.
- d. Executive Director Kovats provided an update on funds raised from the 2019 County Chairs' Brunch.
- e. Executive Director Kovats announced that an audit will be taking place from all of the Project Blue Wave funds that were distributed from the Rock Island County Democratic Party. This audit will include a full breakdown of how funds were spent, what is the digital presence within your county, how many Precinct Committeepersons have been recruited, how many Precinct Committeepersons went through the online training from the National Democratic Training Committee, and the total vote increase of Democratic votes. This will be shared to each of the County Chairs the first week of December.
- f. Executive Director Kovats pointed out the statewide Anti-Harassment, Equality and Access Panel's report. He also reported that the IDCCA has responded to this and the response is provided in the packet.

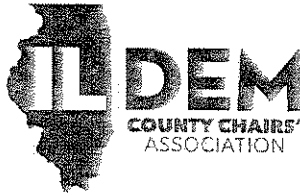
#### 13. Announcements

- a. President Zahorik asked all the County Chairs who are veterans to stand and be recognized. She thanked each of them for their service.

#### 14. Adjournment

- a. Meeting was adjourned at 1:08pm





**ILLINOIS DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CHAIRS' ASSOCIATION**  
**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**SATURDAY FEBRUARY 16, 2019**  
**ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS, 525 S. 5<sup>TH</sup> ST., SPRINGFIELD**

**MINUTES**

**Attendance – Executive Board**

President Kristina Zahorik, McHenry	Vice President Billy Halstead, Peoria	Vice President Jack Mazzotti, Christian
Vice President Terry Redman, DeWitt	Vice President Jay Briney, Mason	Vice President John Willard, Kankakee
Vice President Pam Davidson, Knox	Treasurer Dennis Fisher, Shelby	At Large Member Paul (Snow) Herkert, Calhoun
At Large Member Cody Moake, Williamson	At Large Member Erik Rankin, McLean	

**Attendance – General Membership**

Dan Sidwell, Bond	Joyce Brannan, Cass	Jackie Knackmus, Edwards
Dan Niebrugge, Effingham	Al McDowell, Fayette	Daryle Coleman, Fulton
Kim Weaver, Hancock	Dennis Austin, Hardin	Julie Gondar, Kendall
John Reis, Livingston	Jane Ryan, Logan	Danny Stover, Marion
Polly Radosh, McDonough	Brian Short, Menard	Scot Luchtefeld, Monroe
Dana Ryan, Morgan	Shelia Maloney, Piatt	Roger Kerley, Pulaski
Derek Jones, Rock Island	Ed Hoover, Scott	Steve Buban, Warren

Fidencio Hooper-Campos, Whiteside	Bill Thoman, Will	
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**Attendance – Staff**

Dan Kovats, Executive Director	Jillian Hawkins, Assistant Executive Director	Toby Trimmer, Communications Director
Declan Binninger, Legal Counsel		

1. Meeting was called to order at 12:17pm.
2. President Kristina Zahorik asked for a moment of silence to honor the victims of the tragic shooting in Aurora, IL.
3. President Zahorik congratulated Secretary Mark Von Nida on getting married and excused him from the meeting.
4. President Zahorik recognized Vice President Jay Briney to speak about Henderson County Chair Dick Bigger.
5. Vice President Briney announced that County Chair Bigger’s granddaughter had recently passed away and he asked if everyone would sign a card for his family.
6. Guest Speaker – Scott Kennedy
  - a. President Zahorik recognized guest speaker Scott Kennedy to discuss the data and analysis of the 2018 Election. Scott Kennedy is a former campaign staffer who has compiled election data from 2002 – 2018.
  - b. Mr. Kennedy gave a breakdown by region (Chicago, Collars, Northern / Central / Southern Illinois) and by media market. Mr. Kennedy also gave a district breakdown for several congressional districts, State Senate districts, and State House districts. All the information that was covered during the meeting is available through Executive Director Dan Kovats
  - c. Mr. Kennedy took questions from the audience.
7. President’s Report
  - a. President Zahorik reported that the IDCCA will continue with our regularly scheduled events like the Chicago Reception, Springfield Reception, Candidate Boot Camp, & the County Chairs’ Brunch.
  - b. President Zahorik reported that the IDCCA will be expanding our role with training, outreach, & best practices.
  - c. President Zahorik reported that she will be traveling throughout the state to meet with County Chairs. Anyone who is interested in setting up meetings are asked to contact her.

- d. President Zahorik reported that the Democratic Party of Illinois has started sharing messaging guidelines from the DNC. The messaging guidelines, while helpful, do not fully address issues that impact our counties. President Zahorik plans to meet with the Democratic Party of Illinois to discuss messaging, especially for central & southern Illinois.
- e. President Zahorik reported that she has started planning videos called “Tailgate Talk” to talk about issues impacting our counties. She will be recording the first video and focusing on the impact of tariffs.
- f. President Zahorik reported that the 2018 Annual Report has been published. The 2018 Annual Report highlights all our activity from the previous year.
- g. President Zahorik asked for the County Chairs to submit their Blue Wave audits to Executive Director Kovats as soon as possible.
- h. President Zahorik thanked DuPage County Chair Bob Peickert for his service and congratulated him on his recent retirement as County Chair. She reported the following changes on the Executive Board.
  - i. 7<sup>th</sup> Vice President Jay Briney moves to 6<sup>th</sup> Vice President
  - ii. 8<sup>th</sup> Vice President Charlie Laskonis moves to 7<sup>th</sup> Vice President
  - iii. 9<sup>th</sup> Vice President John Willard moves to 8<sup>th</sup> Vice President
  - iv. 10<sup>th</sup> Vice President Doris Turner moves to 9<sup>th</sup> Vice President
  - v. At Large Member Pam Davidson moves to 10<sup>th</sup> Vice President
  - vi. Special Assistant Mike Barone moves to At Large Member
- i. President Zahorik requested that all County Parties submit their bylaws to the IDCCA so the IDCCA can serve as resource for other counties looking for information. President Zahorik also announced that she is considering reviewing the IDCCA bylaws to make sure that they are current and useful for the organization. She asked if anyone who is interested in serving on a committee to review the bylaws to contact her.
- j. President Zahorik announced that March 4, 2019 will be our Chicago Reception and Party Builder Awards. She announced this year’s award recipients as Ron Powell (UFCW Local 881), Desiree Tate (honored in memorium), & Lucy Moog (43<sup>rd</sup> Ward Committeeperson).
- k. President Zahorik asked all County Parties and Chairs to hold off doing an endorsement for President. If the IDCCA were to make an endorsement, having all the County Chairs speak as one voice will be a stronger endorsement for the candidate.
- l. President Zahorik reported that all our current contracts are being reviewed including staff contracts.
- m. President Zahorik reported that discussions are already taking place about collaboration and coordination between the IDCCA, the Democratic Party of Illinois, and Think Big Illinois.

- n. President Zahorik reported that the IDCCA partnered with US Senator Dick Durbin and the Illinois Women's Institute for Leadership Training Academy to host a discussion "Women in Politics: 2018 – 2020". The event was well attended with over 300 people. The IDCCA used this partnership to encourage individuals to sign up for our Candidate Boot Camp.
  - o. President Zahorik reported that she will be passing along the concerns of the County Chairs to the administration regarding various issues.
8. Treasurer's Report
- a. Treasurer Dennis Fisher submitted the report for consideration.
    - i. State PAC - \$71,227.60
    - ii. Federal PAC - \$39,758.94
9. Executive Director's Report
- a. Executive Director Kovats recognized the IDCCA staff attending the meeting including Assistant Executive Director Jillian Hawkins, Communications Director Toby Trimmer, Legal Counsel Declan Binninger, and Legal Counsel Patrick Croke. Executive Director Kovats also recognized James Wheeler, who is interning with the IDCCA this semester.
  - b. Executive Director Kovats reported that the 2018 Annual Report has been mailed out. He highlighted several sections of the report.
    - i. Over 1,000 new Precinct Committeepersons were recruited last year by the County Chairs.
    - ii. 125 candidates & County Chairs attended the 2018 Candidate Boot Camp.
    - iii. First statewide organization to put out a sexual harassment policy & pledge.
    - iv. 79 "Blue Wave" candidates were recruited by County Chairs. 75% made the ballot and ran in the November election.
    - v. The IDCCA held 28 trainings covering 21 counties in 2018. Trainings included Precinct Committeeperson, Votebuilder, Volunteer, and Candidate trainings.
    - vi. Largest County Chairs' Brunch in IDCCA history with over 3,200 individuals attending. Announced that August 14, 2019 will be the date of the 2019 County Chairs' Brunch.
    - vii. Hosted two Attorney General Candidate Forums with over 600 people registered to attend.
    - viii. Awarded four Democratic Party Builder Awards to Toni Preckwinkle, Debra Shore, William McNary, & Barbara Flynn Currie.
    - ix. Hosted a "Sunday Soapbox" Facebook Live events.
    - x. Fundraising for 2018 broke our single year record and the organization raised just under \$700,000.

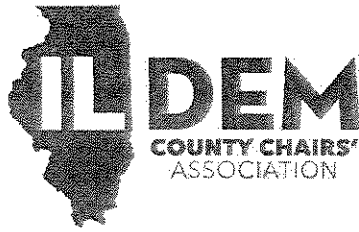
- c. Executive Director Kovats announced that the Candidate Boot Camp will be on May 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield. Executive Director Kovats announced an advisory committee for the Candidate Boot Camp that will be co-chaired by State Senator Rachelle Crowe & State Representative Joyce Mason. Vice President Briney, Nikita Richards (McLean), and Cynthia Given (Richland) will also serve on the committee.
- d. Executive Director Kovats asked for assistance in soliciting sponsors for this year's Candidate Boot Camp. Sponsor packets were provided to the County Chairs.
- e. Executive Director Kovats reminded the County Chairs that if they have events coming up and would like Governor Pritzker to attend, they need to inform Political Director Quentin Fulks at last 2-3 months ahead of the event.
- f. Executive Director Kovats reported that the Blue Wave audit is not complete. Several counties have not submitted their reports and it is delaying the report being sent to our donors for review.
- g. Executive Director Kovats took questions from the audience.

#### 10. Announcements

- a. President Zahorik thanked everyone who attended the Pre-Inaugural Reception the night before the Inauguration.
- b. President Zahorik announced that we are expanding our Leadership Circle and asked for recommendations.

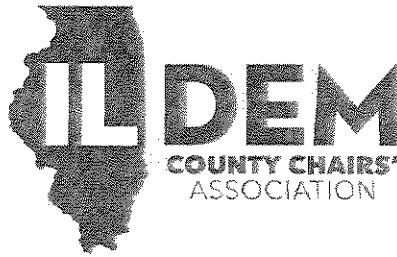
#### 11. Adjournment

- a. Meeting was adjourned at 1:37pm



## TREASURER'S REPORT

<b>Account Balance (as of 5/16/19)</b>	
<i>State PAC</i>	\$70,016.54
<i>Federal PAC</i>	\$10,804.08
<i>Total Cash on Hand</i>	80,820.62



**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP RESOLUTION 2019 – 001**

WHEREAS, the members of the Illinois Democratic County Chairs' Association (IDCCA) are proud to stand with American workers and fight for working people throughout Illinois; and

WHEREAS, American-made, union products are made with pride, integrity, and quality materials; and

WHEREAS, Union-made products are sold on a competitive market; and

WHEREAS, American workers are under attack by a global system that devalues labor and undermines the ability of workers to earn a fair wage; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ILLINOIS DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CHAIRS' ASSOCIATION, that the IDCCA will adopt policies to buy union-made in the United States products whenever such products are available; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the IDCCA will promote buy American-made union products to all County Democratic Parties and Democratic candidates for office; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the IDCCA strongly encourages County Democratic Parties and Democratic candidates for office to publicly state their support for such policies.

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Kristina Zahorik  
President

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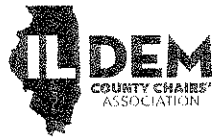
Mark Von Nida  
Secretary

May 18, 2019

Office	Campaign	Contact Person	Phone	Email
Governor	JB Pritzker	Quentin Fuiks	478-550-7134	quentin@jbpritzkercampaign.com
Attorney General	Kwame Raoul	Hannah Jubeh	312-854-8018	hanah@kwameraoul.com
Secretary of State	Jesse White	Rocco Claps	312-898-5272	rocco@jessewhite2018.com
Comptroller	Susana Mendoza	David Szostak		david.szostak@susanamendoza.com
Treasurer	Mike Frerichs	Samantha Szpunar		sam@friendsoffrerichs.com
US Senator	Dick Durbin	Bill Houlihan	217-871-4062	billhou54@aol.com
US Senator	Tammy Duckworth	Cameron Joost	217-220-2889	cameron@tammyduckworth.com
Congress - 1st	Bobby Rush			
Congress - 2nd	Robin Kelly	Tony Presta		tonyniu@yahoo.com
Congress - 2nd	Robin Kelly	John Moore		johnvmoore@gmail.com
Congress - 3rd	Dan Lipinski			
Congress - 4th	Chuy Garcia			
Congress - 5th	Mike Quigley	Tom Bowen		tom@newchicagoil.com
Congress - 6th	Sean Casten			
Congress - 7th	Danny Davis			
Congress - 8th	Raja Krishnamoorthi	Hannah Amundsen		hannah@rajaforcongress.com
Congress - 9th	Ian Schakowsky	Ben Head		benhead@janschakowsky.org
Congress - 10th	Brad Schneider	Greg Claus		gregoryclaus@gmail.com
Congress - 11th	Bill Foster	Robert Bourret		Robert@billfoster.com
Congress - 14th	Lauren Underwood			
Congress - 17th	Cheri Bustos	Haleigh Hoff		haleigh@cheribustos.com
Democratic Party of Illinois		Craig Willert		Cwillert@ildems.com
Democratic Party of Illinois		Mary Morrissey		Mary@ildems.com
Senate Democrats		Steve Campbell		steve@ilsenatedems.org
Illinois Democratic Women		Jennifer Lee		jennifercamillee@gmail.com



— 2019 CANDIDATE BOOT CAMP —



NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC

LIBERTY BELL  
CONSTITUTION  
ActBlue

## Fundraising Quick Start Checklist

- Establish your campaign Political Action Committee (PAC). This includes naming someone as the PAC Chairperson & the PAC Treasurer. These can be the same individual but it should be someone that you trust to help with your fundraising and bookkeeping. Your campaign PAC name should be “Friends of [insert candidate name]” or “Citizens for [insert candidate name]”. For instance, Friends of Carol Danvers or Citizens for Steve Rogers.
- Apply for a Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).
- Open a business bank account for the campaign at a local bank.
- **IMPORTANT INFO** - If your PAC raises \$5,000 or more, you **MUST** file with the Illinois State Board of Elections. To do this you will need to file:
  1. D1 Statement of Organization
  2. D2 Quarterly reports of campaign donations and expenditures. To avoid penalties from the Board of Elections, you **MUST** file quarterly for as long as your campaign PAC remains open and active. All paperwork can be found online at [elections.il.gov](http://elections.il.gov)

## Petition Quick Start Checklist

- To appear on the ballot, every candidate (even incumbents) must secure a certain number of valid signatures from registered voters in the district they seek to represent on a nominating petition.
- Contact your County Clerk or local Election Authority to see how many valid signatures on your petitions you will need to qualify for the ballot. A signature is valid if the person signing your petition lives within the district for the office you are running office, and is registered to vote at the address they provide. It is good practice to collect three times the number of signatures needed to qualify for the ballot.
- Petitions **MUST** be signed by the individual who circulated the petition. Petitions **MUST** be notarized by a registered notary and the petition should **ONLY** be signed in front of the notary.
- Petitions must be bound and correctly numbered at the time of filing. A good run of thumb is to number the petitions right before you are ready to file your petitions. This will ensure that your petitions are properly numbered.
- It is a good practice to have a lawyer or an individual familiar with the petition process look over your petitions prior to filing. A small mistake on petitions can cause a candidate to be kicked off the ballot.

— 2019 CANDIDATE BOOT CAMP —



NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC

LIBERTY BELL  
COMMUNICATIONS

ActBlue

## Identifying Local Leaders & Support Networks

- Reach out to your County Chair to meet with them. You should plan to introduce yourself, articulate why you are running and what you are going to do different from the Republican, and ask them for their support. You should also ask your County Chair to identify other active Democrats in the county who you should meet with to discuss your campaign.
- Reach out to Democratic Elected Officials within your county to introduce yourself and ask for their support.
- Request from your County Chair a list of union contacts within your county or district.
- Contact your Central Labor Council & your Building Trades Council to introduce yourself.
- Contact **ALL** your local unions to introduce yourself and discuss your campaign.
- Identify and contact all local grassroots organizations (i.e. Indivisible, Women's March, Action Illinois). Ask to meet with their leadership to talk about your campaign and ask to meet with their organization.

## Organizational Quick Start - What You'll Need

- Design a campaign logo to be used online and on all campaign materials.
- Establish a social media & web presence.
- Get basic campaign supplies printed. This may include business cards (including your name, candidate for [insert office], social media and/or website, & contact information including a phone number), letterhead with your logo, #10 envelopes with your logo and return address, & a nametag to wear to events.
- All campaign materials **MUST** be printed by a union print shop. Your County Party can provide you a list of union vendors for your campaign.
- All campaign materials **MUST** have the tag "Paid for by [insert PAC name] on it. If your campaign materials are used to raise fund (i.e. a fundraising flyer) then you must also include "A copy of our report filed with the State Board of Elections is (or will be) available on the board's official website, [www.elections.il.gov](http://www.elections.il.gov), or for purchase from the Illinois State Board of Elections, Springfield, IL. "
- It is a good practice to have an individual familiar with campaigns review any campaign or fundraising materials to make sure that it complies with election law.

— 2019 CANDIDATE BOOT CAMP —



NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC

LIBERTY BELL

ActBlue

## Helpful Hints

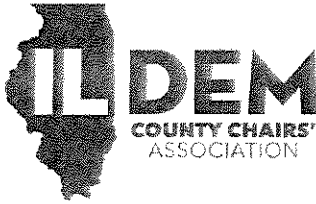
- Make a plan, but be flexible.
- Talk with your family and make sure they are supportive. Explain to them that the campaign will require a lot of time and effort. Campaigns get derailed when the candidate's family isn't 100% supportive.
- Find a Campaign Manager (that is not your spouse or close family member). This person should be able to keep you on track and help implement your campaign plan. Don't ask a "Yes" person to fill this role. You'll need someone who can be honest with you.
- Don't spend your money early & don't spend it on frivolous things. Ask yourself every time you spend money, does this help earn votes?
- Prioritize talking to new voters. Don't get stuck attending the same events with the same people.
- Yard signs don't vote.
- Campaign logos should be a simple design, easy to read, and should be one color.
- Be able to answer two questions. Why are you running? What are you going to do differently?
- Do your homework. Be well verse on the issues impacting your community and the office you are running for.
- Don't be afraid to ask for help. Never turn down advice. Never turn away a volunteer.
- Do not be outworked. Candidates are more successful if they commit themselves to the campaign.

— 2019 CANDIDATE BOOT CAMP —



## 2020 Election Cycle - Important Dates

- Early September 2019 - First day to pass petitions for the 2020 Election (has not been determined by the Illinois Board of Elections).
- October 15, 2019 - Quarterly D2 Report due to the State Board of Elections
- Late November 2019 - First day to file petitions to qualify for the ballot (has not been determined by the Illinois Board of Elections). Petitions must be filed at your local Election authority or the State Board of Elections.
- Early December 2019 - Last day to file petitions to qualify for the ballot (has not been determined by the Illinois Board of Elections). Petitions must be filed at your local Election authority or the State Board of Elections.
- January 15, 2020 - Quarterly D2 Report due to the State Board of Elections
- March 17, 2020 - Illinois Primary Election Day
- April 15, 2020 - Quarterly D2 Report due to the State Board of Elections
- July 15, 2020 - Quarterly D2 Report due to the State Board of Elections
- October 15, 2020 - Quarterly D2 Report due to the State Board of Elections
- November 3, 2020 - Illinois General Election Day
- January 15, 2021 - Quarterly D2 Report due to the State Board of Elections



# NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release:**  
Wednesday, February 20, 2018

**For More Information:**  
Toby Trimmer (217) 622-7547  
Toby@ILDCCA.org

## **IDCCA: PRITZKER'S BUDGET PLAN PUTS ILLINOIS ON TRACK FOR FISCAL STABILITY & A FUNCTIONING GOVERNMENT**

*President of grassroots Democratic group ready to help promote Governor's bold blueprint*

**SPRINGFIELD, Illinois** – IDCCA President Kristina Zahorik was in the audience to observe newly-inaugurated Democrat J.B. Pritzker deliver his first budget presentation to a joint meeting of the General Assembly. A leader among grassroots Illinois Democrats, Zahorik says Pritzker didn't glaze over the challenges facing the state as he laid out a responsible path to fiscal stability and long-term prosperity.

"Governor Pritzker is refreshingly up front, honest and transparent with Illinoisans," Zahorik said. "There's a recognition that the path forward is tough, but the approach to restore fiscal stability and government functionality isn't paved on the backs of the middle-class as we've seen in the past. He's signaling a clear change in priorities, calling on all Illinoisans to come together as partners, not as adversaries."

Pritzker's budget approach avoids the gimmicks of the past. Although Democrats are inheriting a structural deficit, growing costs to the pension systems that provide benefits to hundreds of thousands workers and retirees, and an unpaid bill backlog that exceeds \$8 billion, Pritzker seeks to address these challenges and make strong investment in schools through a direct call for revenue that won't increase the income tax.

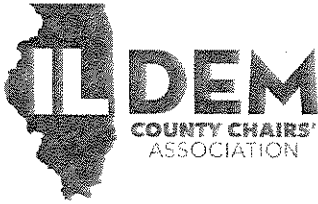
"Part of long-term path to a vibrant Illinois includes continued investment in education at every level – early childhood, elementary and secondary schools and higher education," Zahorik said. "After years of chaos and uncertainty, middle-class families can applaud the priority JB Pritzker has placed on education without raising the income tax."

Pritzker, however, did say that Illinois must move toward stability through a graduated income tax that calls on higher income earners to pay a higher amount and lower earners to pay a lower rate. That proposal will require a constitutional change that voters can consider in 2020.

"Illinoisans know our income tax system is outdated and unfair," Zahorik said. "Most states have a modernized graduated income tax system and it's time to make the change. Our grassroots association is at the ready to help support and pass a fair tax."

Zahorik says as she travels throughout Illinois meeting with rank-and-file Democrats, she will share the Governor's plans to return stability and functionality to government.

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# NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release:**

March 7, 2019

**For More Information:**

Toby Trimmer (217) 622-7547  
Toby@ILDCCA.org

## **IDCCA RESPONSE TO GOVERNOR PRITZKER'S FAIR TAX PLAN**

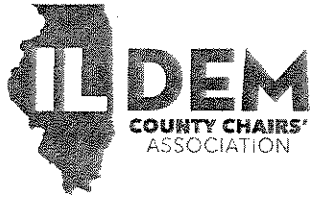
**SPRINGFIELD, Illinois** – The following statement should be attributed to Kristina Zahorik, President of the Illinois Democratic County Chairs' Association...

"Illinois has been desperately awaiting two critical changes from an Illinois governor. First, we needed bold leadership. Second, we needed a legitimate path toward stability for the state. JB Pritzker delivered on both of these needs today.

The IDCCA stands with the Governor and applauds his refreshing, straightforward honesty about our fiscal challenges. He's shown true leadership by proposing a way to cut or stabilize taxes for 97 percent of our residents while adjusting taxes on millionaires who've financially fared quite well throughout the years.

We understand that passing a Constitutional Amendment for a fair tax won't be easy. So we're ready to offer more than simple lip service. We're already working with our network of volunteers, activists and partners to support the plan as it becomes an election issue. Rank and file Democrats will work exceptionally hard to build support for a fair tax amendment in 2020."

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# NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release:**  
Monday, May 6, 2019

**Contact:** Toby Trimmer, Communications Director  
(217) 622-7547 | [toby@ildcca.org](mailto:toby@ildcca.org)

## **STATEMENT: IDCCA PRESIDENT KRISTINA ZAHORIK ON THE DEATH OF DEMOCRATIC PARTY TRAILBLAZER TOM HYNES**

On Saturday, May 4, 2019, Illinois Democratic Party statesman Tom Hynes passed away at the age of 80. Hynes began his public service career in 1970, winning a seat to the Illinois state senate. He went on to become the youngest President of the Illinois Senate, served as Cook County Assessor, was the Committeeman for Chicago's 19<sup>th</sup> Ward until 2005, and was a national leader with the Democratic National Committee.

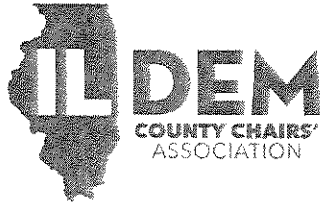
The following statement on the passing of the Hon. Tom Hynes is attributed to Kristina Zahorik, President of the Illinois Democratic County Chairs' Association:

*"On behalf of Illinois Democratic County Chairs, past and present, I am saddened to learn of the passing of Tom Hynes, who was a true statesman in the art of politics. As President of the Illinois Senate, Cook County Assessor, 19<sup>th</sup> Ward Committeeman and as a member of the Democratic National Committee, Tom Hynes should be remembered as an important political architect who helped to transform old party politics into the modern, big tent Democratic party we are today. The impact of his four decades of leadership will live on in many ways and we are grateful for his lifetime of service."*

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### **ABOUT THE ILLINOIS DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CHAIRS' ASSOCIATION:**

The Illinois Democratic County Chairs' Association is a statewide, grassroots Democratic political organization. It is comprised of the elected Democratic County Chairs in all 102 counties in Illinois. The mission of the IDCCA is to help elect Democrats in every county while continuing to grow the Democratic Party in the State of Illinois. McHenry County Democratic Party Chair Kristina Zahorik serves as the association's President. Learn more at [www.ildcca.org](http://www.ildcca.org), [www.facebook.com/ILDCCA](https://www.facebook.com/ILDCCA) and [www.twitter.com/ILDCCA](https://www.twitter.com/ILDCCA)



# NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release:**  
Monday, May 13, 2019

**Contact:** Toby Trimmer, Communications Director  
(217) 622-7547 | [toby@ildcca.org](mailto:toby@ildcca.org)

## **BERNIE SANDERS WINS IDCCA'S ONLINE POLL** *Vermont Senator captures over 27% of 7,100 respondents*

**SPRINGFIELD, Illinois** – In mid-April, the Illinois Democratic County Chairs' Association released an online poll asking Democrats who they prefer as the Party's 2020 nominee. And, with more than 1,700 votes (27 percent), Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders showed the strongest popularity among 7,100 respondents.

"This survey has been a fun, albeit unscientific, exercise," said IDCCA President Kristina Zahorik. "It gives us a sense of who has some momentum in these early stages of the 2020 race for the nomination. Senator Sanders built a passionate support network in 2016 and, since then, many of those advocates have engaged with their county party organizations, helping to elect a wave of Illinois Democrats in 2018. The IDCCA continues to welcome the partnership of enthusiastic supporters whether be from the Sanders camp or any other movement of change-makers."

The online poll included a listing of 27 announced Democrats or candidates who were considering a run for the 2020 presidential nomination. Participants were also offered the opportunity to add their own preferred write-in candidate, though few legitimate submissions were received. Instead, 50 percent of poll respondents supported either Sanders or South Bend, Indiana mayor Pete Buttegieg. Buttegieg received 1,479 votes, earning him over 23 percent of the total poll.

Buttegieg was a last minute keynote speaker to the IDCCA's 2018 Chairs' Brunch after former Vice President Joe Biden was unable to attend due to illness. To a packed house of more than 3,000 Illinois democrats, Buttegieg successfully beta tested his presidential stump speech; a speech that has connected with scores of American democrats who seem to be willing to consider a relative newcomer on the national scene.

But, Zahorik says the roller coaster of contender ups and downs hasn't really started just yet.

"The results we're looking at must be taken with a grain of salt," said Zahorik. "There are strong women who are building remarkable momentum and well-known names who have proven their abilities at the ballot box. Without question, this is an open field for any candidate who can bring Democrats together to take back the White House and our country in 2020."

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**ATTACHED:** IDCCA Poll Report, *Preferences for the 2020 Democratic Nominee for President*

### **ABOUT THE ILLINOIS DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CHAIRS' ASSOCIATION:**

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