



**ILLINOIS DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CHAIRS' ASSOCIATION
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING / REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
SATURDAY MAY 16, 2020**

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Guest Speakers
 - a. *State Treasurer Mike Frerichs*
 - b. *Vote Yes for Fairness Executive Director Quentin Fulks*
 - c. *Biden for President State Director Claudia Chavez*
4. President's Report
5. Secretary's Report
 - a. *Approval of minutes from February 15, 2020 General Membership Meeting*
6. Treasurer's Report
 - a. *Approval of Treasurer's Report from February 2020 – April 2020*
7. Executive Director's Report
8. REV Project Update
9. Executive Session
 - a. *Election of Officers for 2020 – 2022 term*
10. 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 Zahorik 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, 217-753-3380 or 773-351-7818

Jillian Hawkins, jillian@ildcca.org, 217-753-3380



**ILLINOIS DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CHAIRS' ASSOCIATION
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2020
IUOE LOCAL 965, 3520 E COOK 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 Doris Turner (Sangamon) via proxy	Treasurer Brittany Miller (Tazewell)	Secretary Mark Von Nida (Madison)
At Large Member Snow Herkert (Calhoun)		

Attendance – General Membership

Joyce Brannan (Cass)	John Spencer (Clay)	Paul Wieck (Coles)
Jim Luebke (DeKalb)	Jackie Knackmus (Edwards)	Dan Niebrugge (Effingham) via proxy
Daryle Coleman (Fulton)	Kory Chapman (Greene)	Dennis Austin (Hardin) via proxy
Henry Murphy (Henry)	Robert Alexander (Jasper)	Mark Pohlman (Jersey)
Julie Gondar (Kendall)	Dani Brzozowski (LaSalle)	John Reis Jr (Livingston)
Jane Ryan (Logan)	Laura Zimmerman (Macon)	Danny Stover (Marion)
Lee Trotter (McDonough)	Jan Occhi (Mercer)	Scot Luchtefeld (Monroe)

Dana Ryan (Morgan)	Christine Ballard (Ogle)	Calen Campanella (Perry)
Roger Kerley (Pulaski)	Kerry Johnson (Randolph) via proxy	Greg Mullinax (Richland)
Ed Hoover (Scott)	Steven Buban (Warren)	Fidencio Hooper-Campos (Whiteside)
Bill Thoman (Will)		

Attendance – General Membership – Alternate

David Seiler (Effingham)	Nate Brown (Randolph)	
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- 1) Meeting was called to order at 12:05pm by President Kristina Zahorik.
 - a. Recognized the campaign staff from the Bloomberg 2020 Presidential campaign.
- 2) President Zahorik lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3) Guest Speakers
 - a. Betsy Dirksen Londrigan, IDCCA endorsed candidate for IL 13th
 - i. Gave brief remarks and thanked the IDCCA for their endorsement at our November 2019 General Membership Meeting.
 - ii. Recognized all the County Chairs’ in the IL 13th.
 - iii. Spoke about the need for affordable healthcare and the impact of having healthcare has had on her family.
 - b. Caroline Jane Pokrywinski, State Outreach Associate, ActBlue
 - i. Provided training on online fundraising
 - c. Paul Kendrick, Executive Director, Rust Belt Rising
 - i. Provided training on messaging
- 4) President’s Report
 - a. Reported that we continue to provide training, resources, and best practices so we can continue to advocate for our County Party organizations.
 - b. Reported that our two main initiatives in 2020 will be our REV Project & the Election Integrity Program.
 - i. REV Project – Recruit Engage Vote – this initiative is to identify voters who do not identify as Democrats but who likely share our values. This effort is to help grow our Get Out The Vote efforts to help get Democrats elected.
 - ii. Recruiting & training 102 Election Advocates (one for every county) to help protect the right to vote and provide support to the County Chairs’ on Election Day.

- c. Reported that our advisory Leadership Circle is expanding to help provide resources to the organization.
 - d. Spoke about the importance that we continue to focus on important races within Illinois and not sending volunteers to Iowa or Wisconsin.
 - e. Spoke about Paul Kendrick from Rust Belt Rising is willing to travel throughout the state to provide training.
 - f. Spoke about ActBlue willing to provide free training and resources to all County Chairs.
 - g. Reported that the 2019 Annual Report will be released shortly. It will be posted online instead of printing a larger number of reports.
- 5) Secretary's Report
- a. Secretary Mark Von Nida submitted the minutes from the November 9, 2019 General Membership Meeting for consideration.
 - b. Secretary Von Nida made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 9, 2019 General Membership Meeting. Vice President Billy Halstead seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- 6) Treasurer's Report
- a. Treasurer Brittany Miller submitted the Treasurer's Report for December 2019 & January 2020 for consideration.
 - b. Treasurer Miller made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Vice President Jack Mazzotti seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- 7) Executive Director's Report
- a. Executive Director Dan Kovats reported that we are restarting our training schedule for 2020 and will start after the County Convention in April. Training sessions will include Precinct Committeeperson, Fair Tax, and Get Out The Vote.
 - b. Reported that we are partnering with the National Democratic Training Committee for the 4th Annual Candidate Boot Camp. The Boot Camp will be May 16th at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield. Training will cover fundraising, field operations, digital outreach, and communications. There will be three tracks for the training for candidates, campaign staff, and local leaders. One major change to this year's training will be condensed to a one-day training. Reminded the Chairs of the vetting process including that all applications should have some kind interaction / approval with the County Chair.
 - c. Reported that the General Membership Meeting / Reorganizational Meeting will also take place on Saturday May 16th at the Crowne Plaza.
 - d. Reported that the design of the Treasurer's Report has been changed to reflect best practices from other non-profits. Every month staff will compile the report and submit it to Treasurer Miller for approval. This effort is to be more transparent on the money we raise and where we are spending it.

- e. Reported that the IDCCA will be relaunching the Candidate Search Engine, like what the IDCCA launched in 2018, to assist with recruiting candidates to be slated in May. Asked for Chairs help to push this effort out to their local social media network.
- f. Announced that the IDCCA has partnered with Run For Something to help identify local candidate who are interested in running for office. Run For Something has sent the IDCCA over 3,000 potential candidates statewide. Staff will do an initial vet on these candidates and send to the Chair for approval.
- g. Reported that the IDCCA has now established a secured “login” for County Chairs on the website. This will allow access to resources including training, speakers, all General Membership Meeting info, and other resources. Another project with the website will be a step by step process to complete several the forms required by the Board of Elections.
- h. Reported that candidate slating will be May 1st through June 1st. Candidates will need to complete petition requirements once the candidate has been slated.
- i. Reported that Wednesday, April 15th will be the day of the County Convention. County Parties will be required to call this convention to elect leadership for the next two years. Staff will provide a memo outline the recommended procedures on conducting your County Convention.
- j. Reported that the County Chairs should have received their contracts from the Democratic Party of Illinois for Votebuilder access. Even if the IDCCA is in-kind contributing the cost of Votebuilder access, the Democratic Party of Illinois still requires a signed contract to gain access. The IDCCA will be in-kind contributing the cost of Votebuilder access for all counties except Champaign, Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, Madison, McHenry, Peoria, Sangamon, St. Clair, Will, and Winnebago. Reminded the Chairs that DPI runs weekly training for Votebuilder.
- k. Reported that the IDCCA will now serve as tech support for the County Parties for Votebuilder. This will only apply to counties where the IDCCA has in-kind contributed to them for access. All other counties should still contact the Democratic Party of Illinois.
- l. Reminded that we are still looking for photos from County Chairs’ to be added to our website. Asked the Chairs who have not provided a photo to do so immediately.
- m. Reminded the Chairs that IDCCA Counsel is available to assist with putting together objections to Republican slated candidates. Reminded that Counsel is available to assist but recommends that County Parties find local counsel to file any objections.

8) Consideration of Endorsements

- a. Livingston County Chair John Reis Jr made a motion to endorse Dani Brzozowski for Congress. Motion was seconded by Ogle County Chair Christine Ballard. Motion was approved by acclamation.
- b. Dani Brzozowski spoke briefly and thanked the IDCCA for their support.

9) Chicago Reception & Party Builder Award

- a. President Zahorik reported that the annual Chicago Reception & Party Builder Awards will be held on Monday, March 2nd at the Hubbard Inn from 5:30pm – 7:30pm.
- b. Reported that this year's Party Builder Award honorees are Secretary of State Jesse White, Cook County Board of Review Commissioner Mike Cabonargi, and Invest to Elect Illinois.

10) Open Discussion

- a. President Zahorik opened the floor for discussion.
- b. Edwards County Chair Jackie Knackmus spoke about issues getting in contact with Governor Pritzker's office about a local business in his county. President Zahorik said we would pass along the message. Chair Knackmus also addressed his frustration on the current hiring process. President Zahorik pointed out that Governor Pritzker has taken a firm stance against the old ways of patronage hiring.
- c. McDonough County Chair Lee Trotter had a question and staff would follow up.
- d. Vice President Halstead spoke about the Fair Maps groups and messaging around this issue in each of our counties.
- e. President Zahorik reminded everyone to submit County Party events to staff to be posted to the IDCCA website.

11) Adjournment

- a. Meeting was adjourned at 2:31pm.



February 2020 Treasurer's Report – State PAC

1. State the beginning balance:

Date: February 1, 2020

Balance: \$208,344.08

2. Indicate money received (amounts over \$1,000):

Amount: \$5,000 from Local 881 UFCW PAC
Amount: \$5,000 from Illinois Trial Lawyers Association PAC
Amount: \$1,000 from Robin for Leadership (Congresswoman Robin Kelly)
Amount: \$1,000 from Friends of Don Harmon
Amount: \$1,000 from Cook County Democratic Party

Total Contributions: \$18,338.09

3. State the main expenses (line items with expenses over \$1,000):

Amount: \$10,883.43 to Payroll
Amount: \$1,599.53 to Travel Expenses
Amount: \$5,000 to Democratic Party of Illinois (Votebuilder)
Amount: \$7,403.48 to Crowne Plaza Springfield (Brunch Deposit)
Amount: \$5,400 to Crowne Plaza Springfield (Boot Camp Deposit)

Total Disbursements: \$40,016.68

4. Indicate closing balance:

Date: February 29, 2020

Balance: \$193,096.13

Prepared by: [Signature]

Reviewed by: [Signature]

Date: 3/4/2020

Date: 3-4-2020

Accepted by: [Signature]

Date: 03/05/20



February 2020 Treasurer's Report – Federal PAC

1. State the beginning balance:

Date: February 1, 2020

Balance: \$12,408.33

2. Indicate money received (amounts over \$100):

Amount: \$1,000 from Illinois Tenth Congressional District Democrats
Amount: \$200 from Dania Leemputte
Amount: \$150 from Thomas Carey
Amount: \$100 from Fritz Kaegi
Amount: \$100 from Vicki Woodward

Total Contributions: \$1,755

3. State the main expenses (line items with expenses over \$100):

Amount: \$1,000.00 to Nancy Kohn Consulting (fundraising consulting)
Amount: \$500.00 to Nelson Wurth Consulting (Compliance)

Total Disbursements: \$1,591.09

4. Indicate closing balance:

Date: February 29, 2020

Balance: \$14,117.44

Prepared by: [Signature]

Reviewed by: [Signature]

Date: 2/29/2020

Date: 3-4-2020

Accepted by: [Signature]

Date: 03/05/20



March 2020 Treasurer's Report – State PAC

1. State the beginning balance:

Date: March 1, 2020

Balance: \$193,096.13

2. Indicate money received (amounts over \$2,500):

Amount: \$10,000 from IBEW Local 134

Amount: \$5,000 from State Senator Heather Steans

Amount: \$2,500 from Chicago Land Operators Joint Labor-Management PAC

Amount: \$2,500 from Illinois AFL – CIO

Total Contributions: \$29,029.75

3. State the main expenses (line items with expenses over \$1,000):

Amount: \$7,556.50 to Payroll

Amount: \$5,407.07 to Chicago Reception

Amount: \$4,000 to Fundraising Consulting

Amount: \$3,399.51 to Printing

Amount: \$3,064.23 to Payroll Taxes

Total Disbursements: \$28,871.16

4. Indicate closing balance:

Date: March 31, 2020

Balance: \$187,176.15

Prepared by: [Signature]

Reviewed by: [Signature]

Date: 4/10/2020

Date: 4/10/2020

Accepted by: [Signature]

Date: 04/11/20



March 2020 Treasurer's Report – Federal PAC

1. State the beginning balance:

Date: March 1, 2020

Balance: \$14,117.44

2. Indicate money received (amounts over \$1,000):

Amount: \$2,500 from Mike Bloomberg 2020
Amount: \$2,500 from Perimeter PAC (Senator Tammy Duckworth)
Amount: \$1,000 from Congresswoman Cheri Bustos
Amount: \$1,000 from Kevin Conlon

Total Contributions: \$8,626.50

3. State the main expenses (line items with expenses over \$300):

Amount: \$1,000.00 to Nancy Kohn Consulting (Fundraising Consulting)
Amount: \$500.00 to Nelson Wurth Consulting (Compliance)
Amount: \$324.26 to The Union Shop (Printing)

Total Disbursements: \$1,913.89

4. Indicate closing balance:

Date: March 31, 2020

Balance: \$20,975.35

Prepared by: [Signature]

Reviewed by: [Signature]

Date: 4/10/2020

Date: 4/10/2020

Accepted by: [Signature]

Date: 04/11/20



April 2020 Treasurer's Report – State PAC

1. State the beginning balance:

Date: April 1, 2020

Balance: \$187,176.15

2. Indicate money received (amounts over \$2,500):

Amount: \$2,500 from ActBlue (Boot Camp Sponsor)
Amount: \$750 from Peoria County Democratic Party (Yard Signs)
Amount: \$375 from Sangamon County Democratic Party (Yard Signs)
Amount: \$375 from Friends of Stephanie Kifowit
Amount: \$375 from Friends of Monica Bristow

Total Contributions: \$5,566.90

3. State the main expenses (line items with expenses over \$1,000):

Amount: \$10,749.98 to Payroll (payroll, taxes, & processing)
Amount: \$5,708.76 to Printing (Yard Signs, Bumper Stickers, Awards)
Amount: \$4,000 to Fundraising Consulting
Amount: \$1,200 to Fundraising Software (NGP Van)
Amount: \$530.62 to Online Donation Fees (Stripe & Paya)

Total Disbursements: \$24,255.62

4. Indicate closing balance:

Date: April 30, 2020

Balance: \$158,693.50

Prepared by: _____

Reviewed by: _____

Date: 5/1/2020

Date: 5/4/2020

Accepted by: _____

Date: 05/08/2020



April 2020 Treasurer's Report – Federal PAC

1. State the beginning balance:

Date: April 1, 2020

Balance: \$20,975.35

2. Indicate money received (amounts over \$50):

Amount: \$500 from Mae Whiteside

Amount: \$100 from Fritz Kaegi

Amount: \$50 from Calvin Snyder

Amount: \$50 from John Powers

Total Contributions: \$809.00

3. State the main expenses (line items with expenses over \$300):

Amount: \$1,000.00 to Nancy Kohn Consulting (Fundraising Consulting)

Amount: \$500.00 to Nelson Wurth Consulting (Compliance)

Amount: \$300.00 to NGP Van (Fundraising Software)

Amount: \$30.65 to ActBlue (Online Donation Fees)

Total Disbursements: \$1,830.65

4. Indicate closing balance:

Date: April 30, 2020

Balance: \$20,419.70

Prepared by: [Signature]

Reviewed by: [Signature]

Date: 5/1/2020

Date: 5/14/2020

Accepted by: [Signature]

Date: 05/08/2020



Illinois Democratic Leadership Key Staff Contacts

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Congressman Bill Foster	Robert Bourret	Robert@billfoster.com
Congresswoman Lauren Underwood	Ronnie Cho	ronnie@underwoodforcongress.com
Congresswoman Cheri Bustos	Tom Bryant	tom@cheribustos.com



For Immediate Release:
Tuesday February 18, 2020

Contact: Dan Kovats, Executive Director
(773) 351-7818 / dan@ildcca.org

**STATEMENT REGARDING THE PASSING OF FORMER
TAZEWELL COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CHAIR SHIRLEY HOUGHTON**

SPRINGFIELD, IL – Long time Illinois Democratic Party activist and former Tazewell County Democratic Party Chair Shirley Houghton has passed away. News of Houghton’s passing reached IDCCA leadership yesterday.

Illinois Democratic County Chairs’ Association President Kristina Zahorik issues the following statement on behalf of the IDCCA:

“Illinois Democrats lost an amazing woman yesterday. We mourn the death of Shirley Houghton and extend our deepest sympathies. Shirley recently stepped down as Chair of the Democratic Party of Tazewell County. She was one of the first women to step up and be elected into a leadership role within the Democratic Party. I stand on her shoulders and benefit from the groundwork she laid. I will be forever grateful to her legacy. Shirley was a friend to everyone and a dedicated Party Builder, often traveling well outside Tazewell County to support Democrats. On behalf of every Democratic County Chair, Democratic Precinct Committeeperson, and Democrat in Illinois, we send our condolences and grateful thanks to her family and friends.”

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About the IDCCA... The Illinois Democratic County Chairs’ Association (IDCCA) is a statewide, grassroots Democratic Party organization 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 and region of Illinois while continuing to grow the Democratic Party throughout the state. McHenry County Democratic Chair Kristina Zahorik is the President of the IDCCA.

The IDCCA Leadership Circle is an advisory board made up of elected officials, members of Organized Labor, political activists, and supporters who are not County Chairs. The role of the IDCCA Leadership Circle is to act as Ambassadors for the IDCCA and help expand the resources that we provide to our County Chairs. Kevin Conlon of Conlon & Dunn Public Strategies serves as the Chair of the IDCCA Leadership Circle.

Paid for by the Illinois Democratic County Chairs’ Association / Labor Donated / Printed in House



For Immediate Release:
Wednesday February 19, 2020

Contact: Dan Kovats, Executive Director
(773) 351-7818 / dan@ildcca.org

DEM COUNTY CHAIRS ANNOUNCE 2020 PARTY BUILDER AWARD HONOREES

SPRINGFIELD, IL – The Illinois Democratic County Chairs' Association (IDCCA) today announced their selection of two individuals and an organization to receive the 2020 IDCCA Party Builder Award. These outstanding individuals will be presented the award on March 2nd at The Hubbard Inn as part of the IDCCA Chicago Reception.

The IDCCA is proud to honor Cook County Board of Review Commissioner & State Central Committeeman Michael Cabonargi, Invest to Elect Illinois, and Secretary of State Jesse White. Each of these individuals and organizations have helped build the grassroots political efforts in Illinois, which are the core of the IDCCA's mission.

IDCCA President Kristina Zahorik issued the following statement.

" The IDCCA Party Builder Award honors outstanding Illinois Democrats for their contributions to building the Democratic Party. Those being honored at the IDCCA Chicago Reception reflect what is good in our Party. A commitment to good government, service, and empowerment. Secretary of State Jesse White is a household name who garners praise from both sides of the aisle for transforming the Secretary of State's Office for the better, while reaching back and helping at risk youth. Michael Cabonargi has dedicated his entire career to good government practices, to helping Democrats, and to supporting progressive policies throughout Illinois. His work on the minimum wage and sick leave ordinances highlights some of this work. Invest to Elect Illinois used the devastating 2016 Election as a catalyst to empower women's economic political power. They created an organization to support federal candidates as part of the 2018 Blue Wave and beyond. It is a true honor to recognize these individuals and this organization for their contributions to the Democratic Party."

The IDCCA Party Builder Award was created in 2017 to highlight and honor the achievements of Democrats who have strengthened the grassroots efforts of the Democratic Party. Previous Party Builder Award Honorees have included political strategist Kevin Conlon, former Majority Leader Barbara Flynn Currie, Deputy Majority Leader Jehan Gordon-Booth, Co-Director of Citizen Action Illinois William McNary, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, Cook County Board President & Cook County Democratic Party Chair Toni Preckwinkle, and MWRD Commissioner Debra Shore.

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ABOUT THE 2020 PARTY BUILDER AWARD HONOREES

Secretary of State Jesse White

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White has spent his life serving Illinois and his country. White was first elected to the office in 1998 and won landslide victories in 2002, in which he carried all 102 counties, and again in 2006, 2010 and 2014. Under White's leadership, the use of new technology along with modernizing and streamlining operations has significantly improved customer service. Illinois has become a national leader in road safety as White strengthened DUI laws, reformed the truck driver licensing program and overhauled teen driving guidelines. As a result, traffic fatalities have decreased, with drunk driving deaths down nearly 50 percent and teen driving deaths reduced by 51 percent. In addition, White also created the world-renowned Jesse White Tumbling Team as a positive option for at-risk youth. Since its creation, over 18,000 Chicago youth have participated in the program. As a Party leader, White continues to be a tireless advocate for the people of Illinois and for countless Democratic candidates who seek his guidance and advice. Because of his dedication to service and to helping others, Jesse White is truly one of the most beloved figures in Illinois politics.

Cook County Board of Review Commissioner & State Central Committeeman Michael Cabonargi

Cook County Board of Review Commissioner & State Central Committeeman Michael Cabonargi is a first-generation American who began his political career working for Senator Paul Simon and then Senator Dick Durbin. Inspired by the power of people to make positive change through the law, Cabonargi gained a degree and fought corruption and fraud, returning to public service as an award-winning senior attorney for the Securities and Exchange Commission. He then brought good government practices to the Cook County Board of Review in 2011. All the while, Cabonargi continued to be a Party Builder by advising, encouraging, and supporting Democratic candidates while volunteering within the ranks of the Democratic Party. He has served as a Delegate to the Democratic National Convention twice and was elected to the State Central Committee in 2018.

Invest to Elect Illinois

Invest to Elect Illinois is a grassroots organization formed in the wake of Trump, whose members recognize and harness the political economic power of women. They donate directly to Democratic candidates at the national level. Based in Chicago and the surrounding suburbs, Invest To Elect Illinois has directly invested in 33 candidates: 16 Senate and 17 House, donating over \$1,400,000 since their founding in June 2017.

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