

Bobbie,

② This is not a matter that I should be the final say. Yes I agree with what you have stated but I also look at the recent decisions made by the Supreme Court. McConnell was responsible for several of the judges that took a stand for the rights of the unborn and religious freedom. If it were not for him what would have happened?

We will not be able to discuss this during July. If you remember our July meeting is the same night as the opening of the county fair so that is where we will be meeting that night ... at the county fair. August will be our next meeting where this will be discussed. I will put this matter on the agenda for that second Monday of August. I believe this is a discussion that should be voted on by our voting members. I hope you understand too. Your opinion and input is important to me. I appreciate you.

Cheryl.

* On Fri, Jul 1, 2022 at 9:25 AM bobbie.coleman71 <bobbie.coleman71@gmail.com> wrote:
Cheryl,

① I am emailing you to see if you have seen the petition to censure Senator Mitch McConnell for voting on the unconstitutional gun bill?

Is this something we can do in the GOP for Hardin County? This is NOT the first time Senator Mitch McConnell has shown he isn't for his constituents. He is a rino and he does not represent the people of Hardin County Republican Party.

Other Senators who voted with Mitch McConnell has also been censured.

Please let me know your thoughts?

Bobbie Coleman

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

*I emailed Cheryl about censuring McConnell

**HARDIN COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY
AGENDA – August 8, 2022**

Invocation

Anthem

Pledge of Allegiance

Review and Acceptance of Junes Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Budget Report – Discussion and Candidate contributions

Precinct Officers - Nominations and approval ✓

Voter Registration information

Hardin County Events/Calendar

Hardin County GOP Headquarters
790 North Dixie Hwy (31W) Suite 700
Setting up starting Aug 24th
Grand opening Wednesday – Sep 7th
Sign up Sheet to Volunteer

2:00 – 7:00

Thank Dr. L. H

Recognition of Candidates in attendance *ALCOTT -*
Progress on campaign-time permitting *Reynolds #9*

Close

Hardin County

Republican Party of Ky

met last night and a motion was brought to the floor for a vote to censure Senator Mitch McConnell.

A heated discussion ended in a vote 20-6 to censure Senator Mitch McConnell!

**The People spoke last night! It is time for a change in Kentucky!
Thank you Hardin County!**

8-9-2008
Did not my
Personal Page



Bobbie Coleman

Aug 9 at 9:29 AM · 👤

Time Stamp

Hardin County
Republican Party of Ky
met last night and a
motion was brought to
the floor for a vote to
censure Senator Mitch
McC... — with Kim D.
Coleman and 6 others.

See more ▼



Jennifer Ayotte and 3 others

4 comments



Like



Comment



Share

4

8:58 AM

Good morning Bobbie. Rob Reynolds sent me this to me this morning. Can u please take this down. The democrats are having a field day with this and this is hurting our candidates. Thank you.

Thursday, August 11, 2022

Cheryl texting me to remove post about Hardin County censuring McConnell.

<Subject: Fwd:>

Hardin County Republican Party of Ky. met last night and a motion was brought to the floor for a vote to censure Senator Mitch McConnell.

A heated discussion ended in a vote 20-6 to censure Senator Mitch McConnell!

The People spoke last night! It is time for a change in Kentucky! Thank you Hardin County!

CG

3

4 comments 1 share

Cheryl this is part of my Constitutional right. We all have posted and shared.

1

5



CG

Cheryl (GOP)

(270) 300-3232



you Hardin County!

CG

3

4 comments 1 share

Cheryl this is part of my Constitutional right. We all have posted and shared.



Yes it is. I dont disagree. But it isn't hurting McConnell the person its directed at. U r hurting our candidates. Why couldn't u wait till after Nov 8th? Please think about this.

CG

How is this hurting the candidates???? We have a strong team who will be out Boots on the Ground for them. Censuring McConnell does not hurt good conservative candidates. This was voted in 20-6 Cheryl. It can't wait until after the election. The majority voted for this. Mitch McConnell is not for the people. I am sorry but too many feel this way. And we have a huge amount that love the new candidates. We will fight for them to get elected



SMS





Front Door

14



3



Cheryl (GOP)

(270) 300-3232



Mitch McConnell is not for the people. I am sorry but too many feel this way. And we have a huge amount that love the new candidates. We will fight for them to get elected



I know you are fighting for our candidates and it is greatly appreciated.



I understand totally that it is hard for the older establishment who stands with McConnell but he has been in too long and has forgot about his constituents. He knew this unconstitutional gun bill was wrong and he chose to do it anyways. As he did other things as well...like the backdoor deal with Joe Biden, January 6th and other issues. He just opened the door for them to come after our guns. That is not a conservative and that is not what the people voted him in for. I have wrote him many many times and called. He doesn't care about Kentuckians nor our Constitution.

③



SMS



⑦



CG

Cheryl (GOP)

(270) 300-3232



CG

I know you are fighting for our candidates and it is greatly appreciated.

I understand totally that it is hard for the older establishment who stands with McConnell but he has been in too long and has forgot about his constituents. He knew this unconstitutional gun bill was wrong and he chose to do it anyways. As he did other things as well...like the backdoor deal with Joe Biden, January 6th and other issues. He just opened the door for them to come after our guns. That is not a conservative and that is not what the people voted him in for. I have wrote him many many times and called. He doesn't care about Kentuckians nor our Constitution.

Cheryl,

If Rob has an issue please have him reach out to me and I will gladly speak to him. He should not have went to you on this matter. That is wrong and doesn't look good on him.

(4)



SMS



8




CG Cheryl (GOP)
(270) 300-3232

and other issues. He just opened the door for them to come after our guns. That is not a conservative and that is not what the people voted him in for. I have wrote him many many times and called. He doesn't care about Kentuckians nor our Constitution.

Cheryl,

If Rob has an issue please have him reach out to me and I will gladly speak to him. He should not have went to you on this matter. That is wrong and doesn't look good on him.

 Rob was not there for the discussion or vote and saw your post and why he contacted me, I'm the party chair. I'm sure he will be reaching out to u personally.

CG

I remember he left early but was there when I brought it to the floor.
Sounds good...I will be looking for his call.



SMS



5

9

Bobbie Coleman, 12/06/2022

On Friday evening of August 19th 2022 my wife and I attended the White Mills festival at White Mills Kentucky. We worked the HCGOP booth with HCGOP Chairperson Cheryl Benitez. At some point, not sure what time it was, Cheryl Benitez started a conversation asking if we was at the last GOP meeting when the "extremists" there to have a vote to censor Mitch McConnell. I said no we didn't make that meeting. Ms. Benitez then went on to tell the meeting got extremely heated. I don't remember the exact reason she gave for why the meeting got heated. Ms. Benitez then went on to state that she was apposed to the censor and that she was going to cancel future meetings until after the November election. We didn't say anything in response, other than something like "oh my that's crazy" and that was it. My response was made not to indicate what position I took for the censor or not. I believe that the subject matter of discussion ended because we neither agreed or disagreed with the censor of McConnell.

6th Precinct Captain,

Gregory A. Shipley

Sent Yahoo Mail on Android

* A written statement from another PC -

In this statement Cheryl (Chair) classifies the Committee who voted for the censure as "extremist" - very uncalled for - very unprofessional and very manipulative to cause division within the committee.

* This PC wasn't there in Aug when we voted by majority to censure McConnell but was there in November, and voted with majority, to accept language / newspaper ad.
24-14 24-12

Here it is

From: Donnie Thomas [mailto:healer627@windstream.net]

Sent: Thursday, September 01, 2022 7:17 PM

To: cherylbenitezhardingop@gmail.com

Subject: Censure Senator Mitch McConnell

Cheryl,

Based on the majority vote to censure Mitch McConnell, at the August 8, 2022 Hardin County GOP meeting, the committee to write the Censure has met and it has been finalized. We are prepared to present the Censure at the September 12 Hardin County GOP meeting. We ask that it be placed on the agenda after the reading of the minutes and before unfinished business and new business, in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order.

Respectfully,

Donnie Thomas
Committee Chair

- * Cheryl never replied to Donnie
- * Cheryl then sent email out canceling September GOP meeting

From: Hardin County GOP mikephillip@hardincountygop.com
Subject: September Business Meeting and Support of our Candidates
Date: Sep 5, 2022 at 5:46:59 PM
To: Kim Coleman Kim.coleman@hotmail.com

Monthly GOP Business Meeting

[View this email in your browser](#)



Hardin County GOP Monthly Business Meeting for September is canceled.

PLEASE TAKE TIME TO READ – VALUABLE INFORMATION.

“Republicans in Kentucky are committed to putting Kentucky back on the right track by advocating common sense, conservative principles and working to elect Republicans at every level of government.” This a direct quote from the Republican Party of Kentucky (RPK) website and what we as Republicans should be focused on today. The following information is what you need to know and how you can actively get involved:

First: There will be no business meeting for the month of

September. We are almost 60 days from election day, November 8th, and our candidates are busy walking, door knocking and reaching out to voters for their support and they need your help. To accomplish this and to focus on supporting our candidates, precinct officers and volunteers are asked to be available for our candidates and to assist them with their campaigns next Monday evening, September 12th along with every day and evening possible between now and election day. We have all heard from our candidates at our past meetings, now is the time to put your support to action to get them elected.

Second: The grand opening for the Republican Party of Hardin County headquarters is this Wednesday, September 7th at 4:00 p.m. You should have received an email with the flyer on August 31st with this announcement. Our headquarters is located at 790 North Dixie Avenue, Suite 700, Elizabethtown. At this time the hours for the headquarters are Monday through Friday, 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This is the location where voters will be able to learn about our candidates and pick up campaign materials, i.e., yard signs, bumper stickers, etc. **VOLUNTEERS** are needed for the headquarters. Come to the grand opening and sign up for a dates/time to support our headquarters.

Trevor Reynolds, our district representative from RPK, will also be at the grand opening and available to help set up the Advantage App on your phone. Precinct officers and volunteers should plan to stay after the grand opening and learn how to use this valuable asset for walking and door knocking.

There are several parades and festivals coming up that need your participation. Here are the four main events taking place during the month of September:

1. Saturday, September 10th, Radcliff Cultural Festival and parade. The parade is at 10:00 a.m. and the festival is 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at 2000 Boundary Oak Dr, Radcliff. Show up for the parade at 9:30 a.m. and support the Hardin County GOP and afterward head over to where our booth will be located to help set up and hang out meeting voters and the community.
2. Saturday, September 17th, Upton Days parade, 10:00 a.m. Line up is at 9:30 a.m. Vehicles with campaign signs are needed for this parade. Our GOP float will not be in this parade but will be in Vine Grove for parade before the Brushy Fork debate.
3. Saturday, September 17th, Vine Grove Autumn Days parade at 10:00 a.m. and Brushy Fork Debate that will follow after the

parade. Line up for parade is 9:30 a.m.

4. Saturday, September 17th, West Point River Days. This is a three day event (15th – 17th). Our booth will be set up those three days and there is a parade at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday. Float will travel to West Point immediately after Vine Grove parade. Parade line up is 12:30 p.m.

As you see the Hardin County GOP will be busy from the north end of the county to the south on September 17th. We need committed volunteers to show up in force to support all locations.

Again, besides the above events – our candidates need you! They need committed walkers, doorknockers and volunteers to make phone calls. You don't have to be a precinct officer to get involved. So please be willing and show up ready to support our candidates and the GOP.

POC: Cheryl Benitez 270-234-1233.

**Cheryl Benitez
Chair**

It's not just about politics. It's about our future.



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Attended GOP Business Meeting

Our mailing address is:

Hardin County Republican Party of Kentucky
4611 N Dixie Hwy Suite 101
Elizabethtown, KY 42701

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)



mailchimp

From: Donnie Thomas [mailto:healer627@windstream.net]

Sent: Tuesday, September 06, 2022 6:48 PM

To:

Cc: Subject: Special Meeting

Cheryl,

Please find attached the Petition for calling a Special meeting to finalize the censorship of Senator Mitch McConnell.

Because of the overwhelming majority vote to censure Senator Mitch McConnell at the August 8 2022 meeting, I feel that this warrants the Special meeting.

Thank you

Donnie Thomas

Chair of the Committee to censure Senator Mitch McConnell

PETITION

September 5, 2022

RE: SPECIAL MEETING

An e-mail from Mike Phillips, Hardin County GOP, the Monthly Business Meeting for September, dated September 5, 2022, cancelled the September 12 regularly scheduled meeting.

In accordance with "OFFICIAL RULES OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF KENTUCKY Paragraph 4.03. Meetings: this petition is calling for a Special meeting to finalize the censorship of Mitch McConnell. Based on this paragraph, this petition is presented in writing and signed by five (5) members of the County Committee.

Based on the overwhelming majority vote (20-6) to censure Senator Mitch McConnell, at the August 8, 2022 Hardin County GOP meeting, the committee to write the Censure has met and has been finalized to present at the September 12 Hardin County GOP meeting. The Precinct Committee Officers voted to censure Senator Mitch McConnell and should not be delayed.

SIGNED

Dorrie S. Coleman 9-6-2022

Carlynn Ayotte 9-6-2022

Barb Davis 9-6-2022

Debbie Acker 9-6-2022

Nanna L. Thomas

9-6-2022

Donnie Thomas

From: Donnie Thomas <healer627@windstream.net>
Sent: Tuesday, September 06, 2022 6:48 PM
To: 'Cheryl Benitez'
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED]
Attachments: scan0005.pdf

Cheryl,

②

*A After she canceled
we decided to call
a special meeting*

Please find attached the Petition for calling a Special meeting to finalize the censorship of Senator Mitch McConnell.

Because of the overwhelming majority vote to censure Senator Mitch McConnell at the August 8 2022 meeting, I feel that this warrants the Special meeting.

Thank you


Donnie Thomas
Chair of the Committee to censure Senator Mitch McConnell

From: Cheryl Benitez [<mailto:cherylbenitezhardingop@gmail.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, September 06, 2022 7:31 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Grand Opening of Hardin County GOP Headquarters

 You all should have received the notice for the grand opening last week and the email yesterday regarding September's meeting cancelation and supporting our candidates.

① Tomorrow evening, immediately following the festivities for the grand opening, Trevor Reynolds, the district rep from RPK, will be providing training on how to use the Advantage app that most of you have been hearing about. This app will help reach the voters and provides a way to walk and door knock for our candidates. If you are not linked into the app on your cell phone Trevor will also be getting you plugged in tomorrow evening.

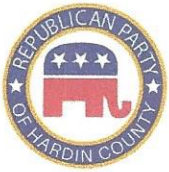
There will also be a sign up sheet for volunteering at the headquarters too.

So come and see our headquarters, have a piece of cake, get smart on the app, sign up to volunteer at the headquarters and let's support our candidates these last two months before the general election. This is what precinct officers are called on to do so please come serve.

Cheryl Benitez, Chair
Hardin County GOP (KY)
270-300-3232

It's not just about politics. It's about our future.

①9



Hardin County Republican Party Business Meeting

Business Meeting Minutes: Monday August 8, 2022

Officers present: Chair Cheryl Benitez, Vice Chair Jim Weise, Treasurer Julia DuPlessis, and Secretary Rebecca Owens.

Meeting called to order by Chair Cheryl Benitez at 6:01 p.m. Charles White gave the invocation. Charles was appointed official Chaplain of the Hardin County GOP. Members and guests sang the National Anthem followed by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Bobbie Coleman made a motion to amend the agenda to add and talk about censuring Senator Mitch McConnell. Motion seconded and passed. This item was added.

After review of the June Business Meeting Minutes, motion made and seconded to accept minutes. (No business meeting held in July due to staffing Hardin County GOP Booth at the Hardin County Fair).

Julia DuPlessis gave Treasurer's Report. **Beginning balance as of July 1, 2022: \$25,709.38.** Deposits included only one deposit (donation from Scott Kennedy) \$100.00. **Total Deposits: \$100.00.** Disbursements included: Red Dot Storage for July 2022 (1 year plus a free month) \$3,024.00, Radcliff Cultural Festival \$50.00, West Point River Festival \$40.00, and Glendale Crossing Festival \$100.00. **Total Disbursements: \$3,214.00. Balance as of July 31, 2022: \$22,595.38.**

The Budget Committee was created after the discussion of need in the June meeting. Budget Committee members include the following: Jim Weise, Marsha Jewell, Bobbie Coleman, Donna (Donnie) Thomas, and Julia DuPlessis. They met to discuss and plan the budget for timeframe of July 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022. See Budget Committee Report handout. The Float Storage amount of \$233.00 increased to \$252.00 per month due to price change in July by Red Dot Storage. Other budget items included: Meeting Room (600.00), Liability Insurance (1,000.00), and Donations to Candidates (\$5,000.00).

New Business: Donation to Candidates. A very lengthy discussion ensued concerning the monetary donation amounts to award. Initially the Budget Committee proposed donations to the candidates be approximately 20% (\$5000.00). Recommendations were made by Cheryl for the experienced and inexperienced candidates that voiced great need and for those facing strong opposition in the total amount of \$7000.00. Some candidates did not request financial contribution when asked. Discussion continued and motions were frequently amended to increase varied individuals' amounts. The maximum amount that the Hardin County Republican Party can donate to candidates is \$2,000.00 each. The Budget Committee initially planned to donate \$500.00 to each candidate. Amended motions to increase the amounts for two of the three county positions passed. So, to increase the amount for the third county position, Lance Turlington pledged to donate \$21.00 monthly for the next 48 months to the Hardin County GOP. After asking for two more volunteers to pledge to do the same (Charles White and Jim Weise agreed to pledge), all three county candidates will receive \$2000.00, and it does not cost the Budget Committee any additional amount above the currently proposed \$1000.00 for each. The final amended motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed that each of the following candidates receive a maximum amount of \$2000.00: Steve Bratcher, Brian D. Smith, Willie Oden, Rob Reynolds, and each of the following magistrate candidates receive \$500.00: T.W. Shortt, Patsy Whitehead, E.G. Thompson, and Kenny Muse. The total amount donated to our candidates will be \$10,000.00.

New Business: Precinct Officers. The following people were nominated and accepted with unanimous vote:

Bobbie Alexander	Co-Captain, Precinct C003- Colesburg	491 Boulder Drive Elizabethtown, KY 42701	23 votes
Toni White	Captain, Precinct E005 - Memorial	109 Holman Avenue Elizabethtown, KY 42701	23 votes
Jeanie Reynolds	Captain, Precinct E006 - Vanmeter City	109 Ivy Pointe Drive Elizabethtown, KY 42701	25 votes
Kim Coleman	Co-Captain, Precinct H006 - Vine Grove West	327 Riesling Ct Vine Grove, KY 42712	26 votes
Ray Embry	Co-Captain, Precinct F002 - Chelf	2025 Lafollette Road, New Haven, KY 40051	27 votes

Cheryl addressed the “**Hardin County Event/Parade handout.**” Our first community event “Cecilia Days” will be on Saturday August 13th. She encouraged candidates and everyone to come out and participate in the parade and volunteer to work in the booth. See handout and Facebook for other Event/Parade locations/times.

Cheryl announced the location of our **Hardin County GOP Headquarters.** The address is 790 North Dixie Hwy (31W) Suite 700. Grand Opening is Wednesday September 7th at 2:00pm Everyone please thank Dr Larry Hall and his wife for making this possible for us free of charge. Thank you, Dr. Larry Hall! We will start setting up on August 24th. Volunteers will be needed to work at headquarters--please sign up

Recognition of Candidates: **Shawn Marie Alcott** (candidate for Kentucky Supreme Court) was present and spoke to the group. She is a lawyer and has an office in Elizabethtown and Bowling Green. Her brother-in-law is mayor of Bowling Green. **Rob Reynolds** for Hardin County Jailer spoke to the group and encouraged volunteers to get out there and pound the pavement. He wanted everyone to be aware of Planned Parenthood and their campaign, and the abortion issue will be on the ballot in November. He also shared information about current jail problems regarding escapes and injuries. **Matt Deneen** for State Senator 10th District was present. Raymond **Eric Carr** for Circuit Court Judge (Nonpartisan) was present (Jim Weise spoke on behalf of Eric earlier. “Eric has worked hard and has common sense. He will be an honest judge and will do the right thing. Open your wallets and support Eric, write him a check”). Other candidates in attendance were **Steve Bratcher** for State Representative 25th District, **Patsy Whitehead** for Magistrate District 3, **Larry Hicks** for Magistrate District 7, **Brian D. Smith** for Hardin County Clerk, **Bonnie Wheeler** for Elizabethtown City Council, and **Willie Oden** for Hardin County Sheriff. Willie introduced his future Chief Deputy John Mills again and talked about needed changes.

Handouts available and placed on chairs: June Business Meeting Minutes, Hardin County Events/Parades 2022, Contact Information—Your Legislature, November 8th General Election (Republican and Democrat Candidates), July 2022 Statewide Voter Registration (from Republican Party of Kentucky), and Budget Committee Report July 1, 2022 - Dec. 31, 2022. Cheryl told the group about the “Advantage Mobile” App from RPK. See Cheryl if you are interested in access.

Added Agenda Item: Bobbie Coleman stated that she would like the GOP to censure Mitch McConnell due to Mitch McConnell had led 15 Republicans to join the democrats to pass a dangerous and unconstitutional Bipartisan Safer Communities Act gun legislation. She talked about the Second Amendment and the Red Flag Law. She read a statement pertaining to Jessamine County censure document from July 20, 2022. Many people spoke in favor of the censure while some people spoke against the censure. Lengthy and passionate discussion ensued. There was a call for the question and Marsha Jewell made the following motion “That the Hardin County Republican Party censure Mitch McConnell, that we have a committee assigned to write the censureship up and have it done by the next meeting.” The motion was seconded, and the vote passed. The precinct officers who voted to censure Mitch McConnell were as follows: Bobbie Coleman, Kim Coleman, Donna (Donnie) Thomas, Marsha Jewell, Ray Embry, Deania Embry, Wanda Orr, Shari Morris, Jennifer Ayotte, Patricia Hester, Bobby Alexander, Mary Johnson, Tracy Fluhr, Dolly Guenther, Daniel Guenther, Debbie Webb, Paul Bunting, and William (Brent) Huber. The people who voted against the motion were as follows: Cheryl Benitez-Chair, Jim Weiss-Vice Chair, Julia DuPlessis-Treasurer, Rebecca Owens-Secretary, and precinct officers Ken Randall and Marcia Barnes.

The meeting adjourned approx. 8:00 p.m.

Well guys,

Apparently we had a different interpretation of 4.03. It seems that Cheryl can hold the special meeting anytime she wants and gives us 5 days notice. I am sure she will not do it until after the election.

Take a day and think about what our next move is

Donnie

From: Cheryl Benitez [mailto:cherylbenitezhardingop@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, September 13, 2022 10:49 PM

To: Donnie Thomas

Subject: Re: Grand Opening of Hardin County GOP Headquarters

Donnie,

You need to reread the rule. It states "Any such meeting shall require at least five (5) business days written notice to all members of the County Committee." It doesn't say the meeting must be held within five days of the petition. I haven't forgotten or ignored your petition. You will get your special meeting.

Cheryl

On Tue, Sep 13, 2022 at 9:58 PM Donnie Thomas
<healer627@windstream.net> wrote:

Cheryl

COB today (13 September 2022) was the deadline to respond to the special meeting to censure senator Mitch McConnell IAW Official Rules of the Republican Party of Kentucky, 4.03.

All requirements of 4.03 have been complied with and a written response is required.

Thank you in advance for your response


Donnie Thomas

Chair of the Committee to censure Senator Mitch McConnell

SPECIAL MEETING

In accordance with Rule 4.03. Meetings, Official Rules of the Republican Party of Kentucky, a special meeting is scheduled for September 26, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Hardin County Republican Headquarters, located at 790 North Dixie Avenue, Suite 700, Elizabethtown. The purpose of this meeting is called to determine if a financial contribution and amount, will be awarded to Keith Taul, Republican nominee for County Judge Executive.

At the August 8, 2022 business meeting several candidates received monetary contributions for their campaigns. Keith Taul was unopposed and did not receive any contribution from the Hardin County GOP on that date. On September 2, 2022 a write in candidate filed to run for County Judge Executive. Keith Taul is now in a contested race and raising funds for his campaign to win the November 8, 2022 general election. This special meeting will determine if the Hardin County GOP will make a monetary donation to Keith Taul's campaign.

 9-15-22
Cheryl L. Benitez
Chair
Republican Party of Hardin County



→ Special Meeting Called for
September 26, 2022



September 16, 2022 6:24 AM

Cheryl Benitez to 19 recipients

Details



Special Meeting - 9-26-22.pdf
369 KB

Save

All,

Attached is special meeting called for September 26th.
Please put on your schedule. Attendance will be taken.

Request confirmation of receipt of this email.

Cheryl Benitez, Chair
Hardin County GOP (KY)
270-300-3232

It's not just about politics. It's about our future.

* This is not to honor our Special meeting -
* Cheryl still avoids ours and calls on to
give Taul funds



Reply



Reply all



Forward



Delete



More

(24)

**Elizabeth "Hunter"
Whitaker**



Director of Local Development

Republican Party of Kentucky

105 W. Third St.

Frankfort, KY 40601

office: 502-875-5130 ext. 309

www.rpk.org  



On Thu, Sep 22, 2022 at 11:31 AM bobbie.coleman71
<bobbie.coleman71@gmail.com> wrote:

Ms Whitaker,

Can I get clarification on a Special Meeting by Petition under ^(4.03)4.05? Is the 5 business days to call and meet within those 5 days? That is how I read it but would like clarification.

Thank you

Mrs Coleman

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

- * Emailed RPK (Hunter) to get clarification if we can bring our Special meeting concerns up @ Cheryl's Special meeting
- * Was told no - had to be only the subject of Special meeting.
- * Also Hunter stated the Chair can go as long as she pleases to not call the Special meeting as long as she gives 5 day notice.

Director of Local Development

Republican Party of Kentucky

105 W. Third St.

Frankfort, KY 40601

office: 502-875-5130 ext. 309

www.rpk.org F T



On Thu, Sep 22, 2022 at 2:15 PM bobbie.coleman71

<bobbie.coleman71@gmail.com> wrote:

My apologies, your correct...it's the Special Meeting not Committee's.

So how long can the Chair go without calling the Special meeting that is petitioned to have? Is there some type of limit or to where we may have to do another petition if one isn't called? Usually Special Meetings are called for something that can't wait.

Thanks

Bobbie

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Hunter Whitaker <hwhitaker.rpk@gmail.com>

Date: 9/22/22 2:17 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "bobbie.coleman71" <bobbie.coleman71@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Special Meeting 4.05

Mrs. Coleman,

That is incorrect. Rule 4.05 is in regards to Special Committees.

I believe you are intending to reference RPK Rule 4.03 (a) which states that special meetings may be called by the chair or upon petition of five members of the committee.

In this case, the Chair has the authority to set the time, date, and location of their choosing to call said meeting--however, they are directed to attempt to give at least five (5) days notice to the rest of the committee, once that date has been determined by the Chair.

There is also a directive under that same subsection allowing the County Chair to give less than five (5) days notice in the case of an emergency.

Best,

He

2

3

Unfortunately not. When a special meeting is called to address a specific purpose/topic/issue, that is the only topic of business that can be addressed.

Best,

E. Hunter Whitaker
Director of Local Development
Republican Party of Kentucky
hwhitaker.rpk@gmail.com

On Sep 22, 2022, at 2:42 PM, bobbie.coleman71 <bobbie.coleman71@gmail.com> wrote:

2

Thanks for the clarification.

One more question...when another Special meeting is called can a motion be made to address another topic?

Thanks

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Hunter Whitaker <hwhitaker.rpk@gmail.com>

Date: 9/22/22 4:20 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "bobbie.coleman71" <bobbie.coleman71@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Special Meeting 4.03

Hi there, Mrs. Coleman,

1

The Chair is the only member with the authority to call and set meetings, so that will be at his or her discretion.

There is no express limit or a minimum or maximum so long as the Chair gives 5 days notice (outside of emergencies).

A petition is that: a group of members petitioning or asking the Chair to call a meeting regarding a certain topic. However, the authority to call the meeting still rests with the Chair.

Best,

Elizabeth "Hunter"
Whitaker

27

3

Special Meeting September 26, 2022

To provide funds for Judge Executive Candidate after write in Candidate entered the race

During the Special Meeting that Cheryl called for, Laura Larue, our Parliamentarian, approached Marsha Jewell, who I was standing next to. She proceeded to tell Marsha that since Mitch McConnell's censure had already been voted on and approved, that we didn't need to call for a Special Meeting to read it. Committees are to be addressed during the meetings. She then proceeded to state that we all need to sign it. I spoke up and stated no, because it was not from us personally, it is from the County Committee of the Hardin County GOP. Our reasoning for the Special Meeting was only because Cheryl was avoiding the censure by cancelling monthly meeting and stated that she only has to have them quarterly.

Bobbie S. Coleman
Precinct Captain, H006 Vine Grove

28

Here is my recollection of what was said with Laura Larue at the Special Meeting called on September 26th, 2022.

While at a Special Meeting of the Hardin County GOP held at the Campaign Headquarters September 26th

Laura LaRue, our Parliamentarian, approached me in regards to the Mitch

McConnell censure. I do not recall if there was anyone in earshot of our conversation.

Her statement was as follows; "because the censure had already been voted and approved, we really didn't need to do anything else but present the committee report."

The motion was to censure Mitch McConnell, form a committee to write the censure and have it presented at the next meeting. Since it was voted to present the censure at the next meeting

I mistakenly didn't realize it needed to be officially on the agenda at the next meeting therefore it couldn't

be discussed because it was, I believe, purposely left off. We had to continue to wait until our Committee Chair called

the special meeting on November 29th. which we had requested on September 6th.

Sincerely,

Marsha Jewell

Precinct Captain F001 VanMeter

Out the Vote" the next 30 days before the election on November 8th. We are looking for a RED WAVE this election for the city, county, state and national levels. Your help is needed!

The rally is two days before what would be our monthly meeting date so we will not have a meeting on Monday, October 10th. We hope there will be a high attendance by members on Saturday evening and you will not have to worry about coming out again on Monday evening. Again the focus is on the election.

We are also looking for volunteers to help set up and serve in whatever capacity there is needed.

Please contact me to me know you can help. You do not need to be a precinct officer to volunteer; however precinct officers – this is part of what you signed up to do –help get our candidates elected. This rally is for them and this is your opportunity to be part of their support.

There will also be chili, cookies and hot apple cider served at the rally. Anything you would like to donate or do to help will be welcomed.

Thank you for time and hope to see you Saturday.

* October Cof meeting Canceled!

Attached is notice of a Special Meeting called for Tuesday, November 29th at 6:00 p.m.

Please acknowledge receipt of this email.

Cheryl Benitez, Chair
Hardin County GOP (KY)
270-300-3232

It's not just about politics. It's about our future.



CAMPAIGN RALLY!



With Special Guest

Kentucky's Commissioner of Agriculture
Dr. Ryan Quarles

Saturday, October 8th

6-8 pm at the Republican Party Campaign HQ
790 N. Dixie Avenue, Elizabethtown

FEATURING

KY Legislative Candidates

Matt Deneen (Senate District 10)
Steve Bratcher (House District 25)
Nancy Tate (House District 27)
Samara Heavrin (House District 18)
Josh Calloway (House District 10)
Russell Webber (House District 26)

County-wide Candidates

Keith Taul, Judge-Executive
Brian D. Smith, County Clerk
Jenny Oldham, County Attorney
Willie Oden, Sheriff
Rob Reynolds, Jailer

Magisterial Candidates

T.W. Shortt, District 2
Patsy Whitehead, District 3
Fred Clem, District 4
Aaron Pennington, District 5
E.G. Thompson, District 6
Larry Hicks, District 7
Kenny Muse, District 8



COME MEET & SUPPORT OUR CANDIDATES!

YOUR VOTE COUNTS – RIDE THE RED WAVE!

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED!

PAID FOR BY THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF HARDIN COUNTY

Cheryl Benitez
Chair
Hardin County GOP
270-234-1233

[View this email in your
browser](#)

2 As for another meeting canceled - I know your issue with that is mitch's censureship and not anything else. We will all meet Saturday night and candidates who wish to speak will... just like at a meeting. And hopefully bigger crowd will be addressed, not just the faithful at regular business meetings.

You and your group are so sweet to my face but I know have your knives out for my back. Just like you calling Hunter Whitaker and questioning whether I was right or not.

I wish you all put as much effort into supporting the party as you do trying to push through your agenda. You need to read the precinct document again.

Cheryl

On Wed, Oct 5, 2022, 8:24 AM bobbie.coleman71 <bobbie.coleman71@gmail.com> wrote:
Cheryl,

1 As a Precinct Captain many of us do volunteer and go door to door to give the voters knowledge of our candidates or volunteer in the parades. One may not be able to go to all events but I would like to give a huge thank you to ALL our volunteers whether they are a Precinct Captain or not. Job well done!

Again, another meeting was canceled and this doesn't make sense. Your missing days where the candidates could speak during the GOP meetings as we did in the Primaries.

Thanks

Bobbie

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Hardin County GOP <mikephillip@hardincountygop.com>

Date: 10/5/22 7:39 AM (GMT-05:00)

To: Bobbie Coleman <bobbie.coleman71@gmail.com>

Subject: Campaign Rally - Oct 8th - Almost here!

Campaign Rally - October Business Meeting

On Saturday evening, October 8th at 6 p.m. we will be hosting a Campaign Rally with guest speaker Dr. Ryan Quarles, Kentucky's Commissioner of Agriculture. You have probably seen emails with this announcement and flyer a couple of times by now. This rally will be an

Cheryl,

3
Senator Mitch McConnell has been censured from the Hardin County GOP. Am I happy on how the leadership handled it...no. It is ready to be read whenever we do meet again for a meeting. Does it make a difference for the candidates...not at all. Actually might have helped them a little. It is what it is. It is out there that the Hardin County GOP censured McConnell....what's another month for it to be read. Not having meetings is not stopping the info from getting to the people. It is common knowledge his rating is 7% and gets worse with everything he does. McConnell hurts the Republican party.

Yes, it seems we have the norm who participates and is usually the same ppl. We have been busy as you have with the campaigning. We have to give kudos to the ones who do. Thank you for doing all your doing 🇺🇸

Last night's Forum was awesome! Sadly the videos sound was cut after the first candidate. Ugh!

Let me make sure you get the story straight. I emailed her to see if we could bring up another issue during your Special Meeting since you avoided ours. I was reaching out for general knowledge before doing it. There is no knives in the back. It is you that has censored the ppl in the GOP not me. A vote was done and you are the one who has avoided meetings so you don't have to turn it in until after the election. It was you who locked us out of the building when all we wanted to do is give you the Special Meeting Petition. I don't hate you nor do I throw knives Cheryl....I am bothered on how you did the ppl in the GOP. I can't change it as you are the Chair but I don't have to agree with your actions. I personally feel the knives were in our backs not yours. We did everything by the book and the ppl want change with our politicians. Our country is in danger and some of these politicians are not there for the ppl. They forget they work for us.

I have tried to be pleasant even with everything that has went down. I like you but I don't like the actions your did. It is what it is and McConnell's censure will get read whenever you decide to have a meeting. I still push our candidates and speak highly of them. We don't need another vote to read his Censure so not sure why you keep avoiding.

Thanks

Bobbie

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Cheryl Benitez <cherylbenitezhardingop@gmail.com>

Date: 10/5/22 8:32 AM (GMT-05:00)

To: "bobbie.coleman71" <bobbie.coleman71@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Campaign Rally - Oct 8th - Almost here!

Bobby,

Yes I know some of you are going door to door not everyone.

2
34

10 One last thing...I have read the Precinct document and I am campaigning for our Republican candidates. I do parades. We do forums to get their voice out there. I am a poll worker. But I also have medical issues, new Granddaughter. I am spread out thin as you may be. I fell door knocking and got a huge hematoma on my knee which isn't getting better. I lost a wonderful friend who we found dead. I am doing all I can....there is no more for me to give. Sorry if it isn't enough. We have 51 Precinct Captain's or close to it....

Thanks for all you do...it is greatly appreciated

Bobbie

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Cheryl Benitez <cherylbenitezhardingop@gmail.com>

Date: 10/5/22 8:32 AM (GMT-05:00)

To: "bobbie.coleman71" <bobbie.coleman71@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Campaign Rally - Oct 8th - Almost here!

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Bobbie

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On Saturday evening, October 8th at 6 p.m. we will be hosting a Campaign Rally with guest speaker Dr. Ryan Quarles, Kentucky's Commissioner of Agriculture. You have probably seen emails with this announcement and flyer a couple of times by now. This rally will be an outdoor event located in the shopping center where our Hardin County GOP headquarters is located, 790 North Dixie Blvd – where all the road construction seems to be located. To enter the location, recommend coming through the Wendy's and past the veterinarian office.

Dr. Quarles approached the party and asked to do a rally in July while he was attending an event at the Hardin County Fair. The purpose of the rally is for voters to come and meet their candidates, pick up campaign materials and support them by possibly providing a donation or signing up to walk for them and help them "Get Out the Vote" the next 30 days before the election on November 8th. We are looking for a RED WAVE this election for the city, county, state and national levels. Your help is needed!

The rally is two days before what would be our monthly meeting date so we will not have a meeting on Monday, October 10th. We hope

36

Timeline of the Censure

November 2, 2022

Cheryl informed us at Rand Paul's event at Addington Field that she will be having a November meeting and we could finish up the Censure of Mitch McConnell. She mentioned doing a special meeting after our monthly meeting. I sent her a message that she could just put it on the agenda to read at the monthly meeting.

November 14, 2022

GOP meeting

During the November meeting – the reading of the censure of Mitch McConnell was not on the agenda – Cheryl then stated that she decided to do a Special Meeting the end of November. Cheryl stated that she didn't want non-voting members there for the vote. Cheryl also sent a text to a non-voting member that wanted to go, and she stated that he was unable to attend. The member may not have been able to vote but he could have been there to listen and speak if he wished to make a statement during the discussion. I was under the impression that any GOP member could attend the meeting.

Bobbie S. Coleman
Precinct Captain, H006 Vine Grove

HARDIN COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY
AGENDA – NOVEMBER 14, 2022

Invocation

Anthem

Pledge of Allegiance

Reading and Approval of Meeting Agenda

Reading and Approval of Minutes

- August 8, 2022 Business Meeting
- September 26, 2022 Special Meeting

Treasurer's Report

Reading of Mission Statement and Strategic Plan 2023

Recognition of Newly Elected Officials and Candidates

Upcoming Events –

- Indoor Yard Sale – Friday, November 18
- Christmas Party – December 12 – BPH
- Lincoln Day Dinner – February 11, 2023

Adjournment

*No reading of censure on agenda. Cheryl stated she will call a special meeting the end of Nov. to where only voting members can be present –

SPECIAL MEETING NOTIFICATION

In response to the Petition submitted by Bobbie Coleman, Jennifer Ayotte, Shari Jones, Debbie Webb and Donna Thomas (deceased), dated September 5, 2022 and signed on September 6, 2022 and received by email the evening of September 6, 2022 with original being additionally served the morning of September 7, 2022, a special meeting is hereby called in accordance with Rule 4.03 of the Official Rules of the Republican Party of Kentucky. The special meeting will be conducted at 6:00 p.m., November 29th, 2022, location, Republican Party of Hardin County temporary headquarters, 790 North Dixie Avenue, Suite 700, Elizabethtown, Kentucky 42701.

This special meeting is called to address the petition by members who voted to censure Leader Mitch McConnell on August 8, 2022 and its finalization. This special meeting is for voting members only of the Republican Party of Hardin County.

This notification meets the requirements in Rule 4.03 that states "Any such special meeting shall require at least five (5) business days written notice to all members of the County Committee."

* Why couldn't reg GOP members attend for the reading of the censure? They do have a voice even if they can't vote!!

Cheryl L. Benitez
Cheryl L. Benitez

Chair

Republican Party of Hardin County
270-300-3232

11-18-22

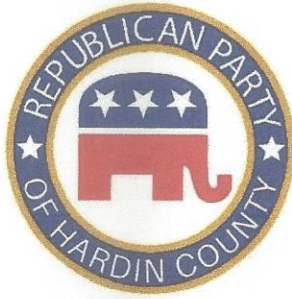
Special Meeting

November 29, 2022

To sum it up, the Leadership, the Candidates that ran for office in the last election, and a few County Committee members tried everything possible to stop the Censure that was approved during a meeting back on August 8, 2022. Cheryl cancelled Monthly meetings and avoided a Special Meeting on purpose to avoid this Censure. With a lot of tension on both sides – we read the censure that was written back in August and a motion was made to except the Censure as read. A vote was conducted and passed with the result of 24-14. A motion was then made for the Censure to go in the News Enterprise at GOP expense, as well as getting posted on the GOP County Facebook page. During the discussion, the Chair, Cheryl Benitez, resigned and walked out stating that we could have it and said that she did not want it anymore. Jim Wiess, the Vice Chair, stepped up as Chair and stated that she had been under a lot of stress at home, and that it would be temporary until a new Chair could be elected. We continued to have discussion, and a motion was made to amend the original motion, and to add that if the funds could not be provided by the GOP, that we pass the hat to collect the funds. A vote was called and passed 12-24. The meeting was recorded Audio only and captures all the tension from the start of the meeting.

Bobbie S. Coleman
Precinct Captain, H006 Vine Grove

40



**RESOLUTION OF HARDIN COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY OF KENTUCKY TO
FORMALLY CENSURE SENATOR MITCH MCCONNELL**

WHEREAS, Senator Mitch McConnell voted for the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act of 2022, S. 2938 (Senate Bill) that contained unconstitutional gun control, including support for red flag laws that violate the Second Amendment, the Fifth Amendment and Fourteenth Amendment's right to due process, violating his oath of office to uphold the Constitution from all enemies foreign and domestic; AND

WHEREAS, the Second Amendment under the Bill of Rights, protects the peoples' rights from tyranny by the government and the majority and protects a non-negotiable inalienable God given right to keep and bear arms and shall not be infringed; AND

WHEREAS, Senator Mitch McConnell led a group of 15 Republican senators to join with the Democrats and the only Republican member of Kentucky's congressional delegation to vote for and pass this dangerous and unconstitutional gun control legislation; AND

WHEREAS, under Marbury vs Madison, 5 USC (2 Cranch) 137, 174, 76 (1802) all laws which are repugnant to the constitution are null and void. Senator Mitch McConnell violated the Supreme Court Decision and the U.S. Constitution.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hardin County Republican Party of Kentucky, asserts that Senator Mitch McConnell has failed in his duty to uphold the Republican platform and to represent his Kentucky constituents as well as all Republicans. **He is hereby reprimanded, censured, calls for his resignation, and shall cease all support of him.**

**SO SAY, THE HARDIN COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY OF KENTUCKY ADOPTED THE 8TH DAY OF
AUGUST 2022**

30 Nov 2022

Jim,

I looked through the Budget Guide, page 8, and found the paragraph on it.

By this it looks as if we CAN pay for the Ad with the GOP funds. It has to be stated specifically what the "Purpose" is.

Thank you,

Bobbie Coleman
bobbie.coleman71@gmail.com
217-240-4572

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

* Communication with Jim Weiss about funds from
GOP for Newspaper add —

* After this and a phone call with Jim — the Committee
decided to pass the hat, which was approved
Nov 29, 2022 24-12, if GOP funds didn't cover
Newspaper add.

(42)

Bobbie:

Here is the response from RPK as promised. Thanks.

Jim Weise

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Hunter Whitaker** <hwhitaker.rpk@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Nov 30, 2022 at 4:37 PM

Subject: KREF Language

To: Cheryl Benitez <cherylbenitezhardingop@gmail.com>, James Weise
<jimdebweise@gmail.com>

Hi Jim and Cheryl,

I know you are awaiting a response from KREF legal counsel, but I also wanted to provide this to you:

A

Allowable Expenditures KRS 121.175; KRS 121.180(10); 32 KAR 2:200

Allowable campaign expenditures are defined by law as "expenditures including reimbursement for actual expenses, **made directly and primarily in support of or opposition to a candidate.**" No campaign shall permit funds in a campaign account to be expended for any purpose other than allowable campaign expenditures.

Best,

**Elizabeth "Hunter"
Whitaker**

Director of Local Development

Republican Party of Kentucky

105 W. Third St.

Frankfort, KY 40601

office: 502-875-5130 ext. 309

www.rpk.org  



43

Bobbie: I just got home and will call in just a few minutes. Jim

On Thu, Dec 1, 2022 at 3:12 PM bobbie.coleman71 <bobbie.coleman71@gmail.com> wrote:
Jim,

Did you get a response from KREF yet? We checked out those KRS and that seems to be talking about donating to a candidate.

I have also sent the Censure to the admin for it to be added to the GOP Facebook page. Can we make sure that gets on there?

Also, the GOP Christmas party was canceled without talking to the GOP. Christmas is about giving....I truly think it still should be done for the GOP members and family. What do we need to do to get this event back on?

Thanks

Bobbie Coleman

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: James Weise <jimdebweise@gmail.com>

Date: 11/30/22 6:49 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: Bobbie Coleman <bobbie.coleman71@gmail.com>

Subject: Fwd: KREF Language

Bobbie:

Here is the response from RPK as promised. Thanks.

Jim Weise

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Hunter Whitaker** <hwhitaker.rpk@gmail.com>

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Best,

Elizabeth "Hunter"

Whitaker



Director of Local Development

Republican Party of Kentucky

105 W. Third St.

Frankfort, KY 40601

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45

Dear Precinct Officer,

After careful consideration of what my abrupt departure would cause, I have withdrawn my resignation and hence I remain your Chair.

To ensure we do not violate any RPK rules, the officers will appeal the censure in accordance with paragraph 12.04 Appeals and Contest and subparagraph (a) of the Official Rules of the Republican Party of Kentucky. The purpose of the county committee is to uphold and support our candidates and nothing more. It is our opinion that the censure will encourage democrats and discourage republicans. Including those who have financed our party in many ways such as Dr. Larry Hall who provided our headquarters venue at no cost to the GOP. For your information, the headquarters will no longer be open after December 5th. Thank you to those who came and worked at the headquarters.

Our party funds cannot pay for any censure ad in the newspaper. Funds are used only to support GOP candidates or for opposition of their opponents.

There will be no December business meeting. Everything that needed to be discussed took place at our November 14th business meeting and at the special meeting on November 29th. The rules state that we must meet once a quarter and I shall let you know the date of our next meeting.

The GOP 12 December Christmas party is off. However, if you wish to donate a toy for a needy child, please bring toy donations to the front of our present headquarters on December 12th between the hours of 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. and I will be there to accept them.

The February 11, 2023 Lincoln Day Dinner is postponed until after the May primary. You will be notified of the new date and time once it is rescheduled.

Thank you for your time. Merry Christmas and may God bless your family and your holiday season.

Cheryl Benitez
Chair
Hardin County GOP
270-300-3232

email -
2 December 2022

46

Dear Precinct Officer,



Attached is a copy of the appeal and documents submitted by email on December 5th to the 2nd District Chair in response to the approval of the motion to censure Senator Mitch McConnell.

Thank you for your patience in regard to this matter.

Cheryl Benitez, Chair
Hardin County GOP (KY)
270-300-3232

It's not just about politics. It's about our future.

47



December 5, 2022

Mr. Timothy Gilliam
2d District Chairman
Republican Party of Kentucky
timo.gilliam@gmail.com

Dear Sir:

We the undersigned officers of the Hardin County Republican Party, in accordance with Rule 12.04. Appeals and Contests, subparagraph (a) of the Official Rules of the Republican Party of Kentucky, appeal an action to censure Senator Mitch McConnell voted on and approved by the majority of the precinct officers (24-14) of the Hardin County Republican Party.

The initial idea of censuring Senator McConnell came as a surprise to the leadership and passed with a majority (18-6) vote on August 8, 2022, but there was no specific verbiage of the censure until a special meeting to consider the censure was held on Tuesday, November 29, 2022. Attached you will find a copy of the censure which passed with a majority vote on that date. It should be noted that no Hardin County Republican Party officer, elected official, or former candidate voted for the censure.

The undersigned officers question the propriety of the censure action in toto. While we do not question anyone's First Amendment rights to say what they want, we do question the authority of any county party to act outside the scope of Rule 4. County Committees of the Official Rules of the Republican Party of Kentucky. The mandate of RPK and all local parties is clear--to recruit Republican candidates and to work for the election of Republican candidates. We do not believe it is within the purview of any local party to censure any elected Republican official. While an individual Republican or a group of Republicans or other citizens may complain publicly or privately about any candidate or elected official, it is our firm belief that a censure issued by a county party is null and void because issuing a censure is ultra vires or outside the authority of any county party.

Under the rules we are appealing the decision of the Hardin County Republican Party to censure Senator Mitch McConnell based on it is outside the scope of Rule 4.0 County Committees and the duties of the county and precinct officers. In addition, we request that the 2nd District Committee issue a cease-and-desist order on any and all actions including but not limited to print, social media or telecommunication pending the outcome of the appeal process.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl Benitez, Chair
James Weise, Vice Chair
Rebecca Owens, Secretary
Julia DuPlessis, Treasurer

Attachments:
Censure document
Rule 4.0 County Committees
Rule 12.04. Appeals and Contest

Copy of Appeal provided to Precinct Officers

48

quorum for the conduct of business.

3.04 Meetings: Notice of each meeting will be given in writing by regular or electronic means by the District Secretary at least five (5) business days before the meeting. The District Committee may be called into a special meeting with twenty-four (24) hours electronic notice by the District Chairman, 25% of the District Committee, or by the State Chairman. Meetings may be conducted telephonically, by video conferencing or by other mechanisms as authorized by the RSCC Executive Committee. Electronic voting and balloting are permitted.

3.05 Appeals: The process for appeals related to matters arising from the District Committee or any decision that is ruled upon by the District Committee shall be governed according to the provisions of Rule 12.04.

4. COUNTY COMMITTEES: The County Committee's authority shall include the managing and directing of Party affairs in their respective county including the collection and disbursement of Party funds; the promotion of campaigns of Republican candidates who represent their county at the national, state and local levels and the recruitment of poll workers that will represent the Republican Party on Election Day and ensure the fairness of elections. Each County Party will submit an annual statement of their Party goals for the coming year and a summary of their revenue and expenses for the current year just ended and for the projected year by July 31st to the District Committee and the RSCC budget committee.

4.01. Membership: The membership of each County Committee shall consist of the Precinct Officers and the County Officers. Each County Committee or Executive Committee (pursuant to Rule 4.08) may, by a two-thirds vote in the affirmative, include as members any or all elected Republican officials who reside in the county, provided that quorum for such meetings shall be two-fifths.

In addition to Precinct Committees, County Committees may, by a majority vote, establish Ward, District or Area Captains over groups of Precincts in that County. Such Captains will be full-voting members of the County Committee.

4.02. Officers: The County Officers shall be:

- (a) **County Chairman:** The County Chairman, or their designee, serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the County Party with all necessary and implied powers to carry out his/her duties. He/she is charged with overseeing an annual plan that is reflective of the County goals, priorities and financial resources; Oversees the overall structure of the County party and coordination of County Party activities. As the primary officer, the County Chairman is responsible to ensure the scope of the County Committee tasks is accomplished. The County Chairman shall preside at all County meetings, shall create and appoint any special committees as necessary, and shall serve as an ex-officio member of all special and standing County committees. The County Chairman is responsible for carrying out the mandate of the Rules.
- (b) **County Vice-Chairman:** The County Vice Chairman shall have all the duties and authorities of the County Chairman during the absence or disability of the County Chairman, and who shall also serve during a vacancy in the office of County Chairman until such vacancy is filled. Further, the Vice Chairman, or their designee, is to assist and support the Chairman in carrying out important tasks and act as a go-between for the Chairman and other key stakeholders as needed. While this is one of the most undefined roles, it plays a critical role in maintaining the relationship between the State, and District.

composition of the RSCC. Further, any change of rules made by the Executive Committee must be submitted for ratification by the RSCC at the next meeting thereof; provided, however, that any changes made by the Executive Committee shall have the full force and effect as the Rules of the RSCC until such time as they fail to receive said ratification.

12.04. Appeals and Contest: Any dispute over the identity of an officer, outcome or validity of any election, or matter pertaining to the Rules and procedure of any Precinct Committee, County Committee, or District Committee shall be resolved in accordance with the following dispute resolution procedure:

- (a) **Notification of Appeal:** Any party to such a dispute may initiate proceedings under this Section by filing a written complaint with the Chairman of the committee for which the appeal shall arise — that is, (i) if the appeal arises from City, Precinct, Magisterial District and County matters shall be ruled upon by the County Committee; provided, however, the losing party may appeal for a hearing to a special Republican Congressional District committee (ii) if the appeal arises from the Precinct Committee, County Committee, or the County Chair, the appeal is first made to the District Chair and District Committee, however, the losing party may appeal for a hearing, due to questions of interpretation of the rules or procedure, by notifying the State Chair for review by the Membership Committee. Any such complaint must be delivered to the appropriate Chairman by electronic mail and time stamped no later than seven (7) business days following the incident, election, or other event from which the dispute arises.
- (b) **Committee Composition:** Both the County Special Committee and District Special Committee will be made up of the respective body's officers, namely the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Youth Chairman and Treasurer shall comprise the said special County/District committee. In the event that any officer cannot or will not serve, the District Chairman shall appoint a replacement member for the hearing.
- (c) **Appeal at the County and/or District level:** Not later than three (3) business days following the receipt of any complaint filed in accordance with Rule 7.02, the Chairman of the Committee in which the dispute arises shall notify the committee of jurisdiction; that is, if the dispute arises from the Precinct or County Committee, the County Chair shall notify the County committee, and if such dispute arises between counties within the same Congressional District or regarding the identity of an officer or procedure at the Congressional District level, then the District Chairman shall notify the District Officers. The County Committee shall hear all appeals that originate at the precinct or county level and shall, within thirty (30) business days of the receipt of such appeal, hear the matter and vote on a resolution.
- (d) **Hearings by the Special Appeal Committee:** At any hearing held all parties to the dispute may be permitted to appear before the Committee and present evidence, including oral and written testimony, in accordance with procedures approved by a majority of the members of the Committee. The entire hearing record shall be made available to any member of the Committee no later than thirty (30) business days following a request in writing thereof to the Chair of the Committee. The Secretary shall record the minutes of any such meeting and make them available to the members of the committee and the State Secretary within thirty (30) business days of such proceedings.
- (e) **Further Appeal:** Any Party may appeal a decision of the County or District Committee, in whole or in part, by filing a written appeal with the State Chairman, who shall refer the matter to the District Chair of the District the County in a part.

Bobbie S Coleman
327 Riesling Court
Vine Grove KY 40175

December 3, 2022

Mr. Mac Brown
Republican Party of Kentucky Chairman
P.O. Box 1068
Frankfort, KY 40601

Mr. Mac Brown,

The Chair of Hardin County Republican Party of KY, Cheryl Benitez, has advised us that she has made an appeal of the decision of the County Committee to censure Senator McConnell. We would like to have a copy of that appeal and a chance to respond to it, both in writing and in person.

Thank You,

Hardin County Committee

Bobbie S Coleman
Gregory A Shirley
Kip [unclear]
Sari [unclear]
Jennifer Ayotte
[unclear]
Kenneth P. Burdette
Tracy Fluke
Hoke Fluke
Bobby W. Alexander
Jackie Walden
Wanda [unclear]
Dolly Guenther
Paul [unclear]

[unclear]
WBH [unclear]
Mary L. Johnson
Patti Haster
Marsha Jewell
Debbie Wade
Buddy [unclear]

Mr. Mac Brown / Mr. Timothy Gilliam,

Please see the attached request for a chance to respond both in writing and in person. I was able to get 19 signatures out of the 24 County Committee members that voted Tuesday November 29, 2022 with this short notice.

Can I get a reply to acknowledge that this email was received?

Thank You,

Bobbie S Coleman
Hardin County Committee
327 Riesling Ct
Vine Grove KY 40175
217-240-4572
bobbie.coleman71@gmail.com

Thank you,

Bobbie Coleman

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Jeffery Proffitt <Jeffery@rpk.org>

Date: 12/6/22 2:28 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: bobbie.coleman71@gmail.com, hwhitaker.rpk@gmail.com

Subject: Fw: Concerning Hardin County Chairman's Appeal

Hi, Ms. Coleman!

I've copied our Local Outreach Coordinator on this email.

Thanks!

From: Bobbie Coleman <bobbie.coleman71@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 2:13 PM

To: Jeffery Proffitt <Jeffery@rpk.org>

Subject: Fwd: Concerning Hardin County Chairman's Appeal

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Bobbie Coleman** <bobbie.coleman71@gmail.com>

Date: Tue, Dec 6, 2022 at 1:51 PM

Subject: Concerning Hardin County Chairman's Appeal

To: <gop.kentucky@gmail.com>, timo.gilliam@gmail.com <timo.gilliam@gmail.com>

Mr. Mac Brown / Mr. Timothy Gilliam,

Please see the attached request for a chance to respond both in writing and in person. I was able to get 19 signatures out of the 24 County Committee members that voted Tuesday November 29, 2022 with this short notice.

Can I get a reply to acknowledge that this email was received?

Thank You,

Bobbie S Coleman
Hardin County Committee
327 Riesling Ct

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Vine Grove KY 40175
217-240-4572
bobbie.coleman71@gmail.com

Ms Whitaker,

Thank you for letting me know you received it. I know District has 30 days but we just wanted to make sure we had an opportunity to rebuttal. We will be responding to Mr. Gilliam once we receive it.

Thanks Again,

Bobbie Coleman

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Hunter Whitaker <hwhitaker.rpk@gmail.com>

Date: 12/6/22 3:57 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: "bobbie.coleman71" <bobbie.coleman71@gmail.com>, Timothy Gilliam <timo.gilliam@gmail.com>

Subject: Reply: Concerning Hardin County Chairman's Appeal

Ms. Coleman,

The state Republican Party and state chairman are not involved in an appeal from the Hardin County Republican Party. This is directed to, and heard by the 2nd District Special Committee. I have included 2nd District Chairman, Timothy Gilliam, on this email.

Chairman Gilliam has informed me that he intends to proceed by following the letter of the RPK Rules, which includes giving each side the opportunity to respond.

To my knowledge, Chairman Gilliam only received the complaint yesterday and is following the timeline in the RPK Rules to gather the committee and issue meeting notices, etc.

Please let me know if you have any other questions or concerns.

Best,

Elizabeth "Hunter"

Whitaker

Director of Local Development

Republican Party of Kentucky

105 W. Third St.

Frankfort, KY 40601

office: 502-875-5130 ext. 309

www.rpk.org  



SS

You can select two individuals to represent your group.

On Fri, Dec 16, 2022 at 5:16 PM bobbie.coleman71 <bobbie.coleman71@gmail.com> wrote:
Timothy Gilliam,

Is this offer for all the Committee Members that voted for the censure back in August of 2022? Can you please clarify?

V/R

Bobbie Coleman

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Timothy Gilliam <timo.gilliam@gmail.com>

Date: 12/16/22 5:57 PM (GMT-05:00)

To: bobbie.coleman71@gmail.com

Subject: Hardin GOP Appeal

Ms. Coleman -

As you know, the Hardin County Republican Party recently passed a resolution that censured Senator Mitch McConnell.

On December 5, 2022, the 2nd District Republican Committee received a formal appeal from members of the Hardin County Republican Party that challenged that resolution and questioned whether it was outside the purview of the county party.

You requested an opportunity to reply to the appeal with both written and oral testimony. The 2nd District Committee would like to extend an opportunity for you to present oral testimony at a virtual meeting on **December 22nd at 2:55 PM CT**. If you accept this invitation you will be provided **10 minutes** to present.

You also have the opportunity to submit written testimony. If you would like written testimony to be considered you must submit that to me via email (timo.gilliam@gmail.com) not later than **December 21st at 2:30 PM CT**.

Both sides will be afforded the same opportunity to present written and oral testimony. If both sides elect to present oral testimony it will be conducted at separate times. Each party will only be allowed on the virtual meeting during their 10 minute timeslot.

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The 2nd District Committee may ask questions at the conclusion of your testimony. The Committee may ask follow up questions in the days following the meeting. Per RPK rules, a written decision will be issued no later than 10 days following the meeting which would be **January 1, 2023**.

If you choose to present oral testimony, please let me know by **Tuesday, December 20th**, and I will provide you the necessary login information.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,
Timothy Gilliam
Chairman, 2nd District GOP

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