

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEW MEXICO**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**September 12, 2009, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**  
Manzano Multigenerational Center, Albuquerque

**Members Present:** Olin Bray, Barbara Calef, Kathy Campbell, Jennice Fishburn, Cheryl Haaker, Caroline Jackson, Lora Lucero, Meredith Machen, Dick Mason, Linda Moscarella

**Call to Order:** President Campbell called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

**Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved as presented. It was noted that the focus of this meeting is to be on strategic planning for the next two years.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the July 10-19, 2009 electronic board meeting were accepted as amended.

**Treasurer's Report:** Cheryl Haaker reviewed the treasurer's report and stated the LWV Education Fund grant for the PAVP program has not been received; Campbell will contact Tim O'Brien to inquire about the status of the payment. Haaker also asked for direction on options for renewing the CD currently with Wells Fargo, which will mature on October 2nd. She will seek further information from State Farm and the Los Alamos National Bank regarding their rates and requirements. Action: Meredith Machen moved that the CD be renewed at the highest one-year rate at a convenient location; seconded by Caroline Jackson and passed unanimously. It was agreed that the exact location will be determined by the treasurer. Haaker will attempt to secure electronic access to the USPS bulk mailing account. Line items related to board travel expenses were clarified: the meeting travel expenses for the LWVNM convention currently listed under Board Administration (A2.) will be moved to the delegate expenses line item for the LWVNM Convention (B1.)

**Membership Report:** Jackson has sent four emails to LWVUS requesting past information on New Mexico membership to determine trends and comparisons, but no information has been received. Since June, welcoming letters and copies of the Voters Key have been sent to 14 new national members. According to the July 10, 2009, membership summary provided by the LWVUS, there are 676 total members in New Mexico, including 15 members-at-large. However, Machen pointed out that SFC now has 177 members, rather than the 161 given in the July report. She also shared a copy of the new LWVUS recruitment brochure. Jackson will ask LWVUS when they are going to send the latest membership numbers that are to be used for per member payment (PMP) calculations. When she receives that information, it will be forwarded to Haaker, who will provide local League presidents with that information and the PMP invoices. It was suggested that the next printing of the Voters Key should include a two-year time span in its title, i.e., 2009-2010.

**President's Report:** Campbell summarized action taken since the previous board meeting that included submitting an op-ed article to newspapers about the importance of the public option in health care reform; writing letters to the editor about climate change and meeting with a member of Senator Udall's staff regarding climate change; signing a Sierra Club letter to Senators Bingaman and Udall urging them to defend and strengthen key aspects of ACES (American Clean Energy and Security) Act, HB 2454,, and also sending them an email about CEDAW (Convention to Eliminate Discrimination Against Women) an international treaty which the U.S., alone among the world's democracies, has not signed, putting us in company with Iran, Sudan, Somalia, etc. Campbell is in contact with LWVUS and two local Leagues in southwestern Colorado regarding air quality liaison issues. There is a possibility of having new MAL units formed in Truth or Consequences and Las Vegas. Bonnie Burn and Marjorie Burr of LWVGLC

agreed to guide the TRC process, and materials were provided to them. In the future, LWVNM might want to outline its own procedure for formation of MAL units in New Mexico. A LWVNM finance committee has been formed with the following members: Eileen Longsworth, Adair Waldenburg, Terry Quinn, Cheryl Haaker, and Kathy Campbell. An initial outline of topics for consideration was provided to the committee.

**Other Reports:**

Action Committee: Dick Mason reported a major focus is health care reform through support of HR 3200 and a public option. Following the work on health care reform, the other major effort will be climate change. There is concern that the NM legislature's special session will be a battle over cuts in funding over programs such as SCI and Medicaid. He described the statewide Better Choices Campaign that looks at revenues rather than cuts, and suggested that LWVNM sign on to the BCC campaign since our state finance position says that LWVNM believes that a fair tax must be "adequate to finance the essentials of government, among which the League counts both education and health. While BCC asks member organizations for contributions, it is not a requirement. Action: Machen moved that LWVNM join the Better Choices Campaign in New Mexico. The motion was seconded by Barbara Calef and passed. Mason will represent LWVNM at meetings and inform members when action is needed. The understanding is that the LWVNM has the right to disagree on individual issues and to withdraw should it become necessary. Mason and Campbell shared a letter to members of the state legislature from Robin Hunn of Health Care for All Campaign that LWVNM has signed on to. The Action Committee will continue working on LWV's 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration activities.

Health care committee: A written report was submitted by Vicki Simons prior to the meeting that primarily reflected activities in the Las Cruces area regarding health care reform. Mason will further discuss LWVUS support of HR 3200 with her.

Local League reports: Bonnie Burn emailed a LWVGLC report, and Machen distributed LWVSF's preliminary report at the meeting. Reports from local League presidents for the *La Palabra* are needed by September 30, 2009.

**Strategic Planning:** Linda Moscarella led the session on drafting a strategic plan for 2009-10, starting with an overview of the 2007-09 strategic plan. The following 2009-10 goals were identified: (1) to empower the public to participate in government, with the objectives of being a key leader in the election process, protecting voters' rights, and reducing the influence of private money in New Mexico elections and government; (2) to assist local Leagues and members at large in education, advocacy, action, and studies, with the objectives of providing support and consultation to local Leagues as needed/requested; and (3) to increase League visibility in New Mexico, with the objectives of increasing membership and increasing outreach and communication with legislators, government officials, media, general public, national allies, and potential members. Specific strategies were also outlined in relation to each objective. Fishburn will provide notes from the planning process to Moscarella, who will further develop the plan.

**Adjournment:** The board meeting was adjourned at 3 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** The board will meet on Saturday, November 14, from 12:30 to 5:30 p.m., in the Skeen Library at New Mexico Tech, Socorro.

Submitted by:

Jennice Fishburn  
Secretary