



## **MI3CD Democrats Caucus Meeting Minutes**

**February 22, 2025**

- I. Call to Order - 1pm
  - A. Temporary Chair Gary Stark, as the designee of Congresswoman Hillary Scholten, called the meeting to order.
  - B. Gary Stark appointed Chris Herweyer to serve as temporary Secretary for the caucus meeting.
- II. Credentials Report
  - A. Gary Stark closed credentialing at 1:05pm
  - B. Chris Herweyer reported that 57 delegates were credentialed for this caucus meeting with 40 coming from Kent County, 14 from Muskegon County, and 3 from Ottawa County.
- III. Rules Report
  - A. Gary Stark gave the rules report as described on the [MI3CD website](#).
- IV. Election of Officers
  - A. Chair - As the only candidate to file, Donna Secor Pennington was elected Chair of the MI3CD Democrats by acclamation and assumed the gavel for the remainder of the caucus meeting.
  - B. Vice Chair - As the only candidate to file, Gary Stark was elected Vice Chair by acclamation.
  - C. Secretary - Nominations opened. Chris Herweyer was nominated for Secretary. Nominations closed. Chris Herweyer was elected Secretary by acclamation.
  - D. Treasurer - Nominations opened. Richard Williamson was nominated for Treasurer. Nominations closed. Richard Williamson was elected Treasurer by acclamation.
  - E. At this point in the meeting, Mark Totten, former US Attorney for the Western District of Michigan and 2014 Democratic nominee for Michigan Attorney General, was given the opportunity to address the caucus meeting.
- V. Election of District Committee (15 members)
  - A. Nominations opened and one slate was entered, referred to as Slate 1. Slate 1 was elected by acclamation.
  - B. Slate 1: Pam Redd, Linda Riepma, Sherlynn James, Bob Smith, John Arendshorst, Ellen Beal, Aaron Eling, Frank Lynn, Sarah Woolsey, Tim Russ, Willie German, Tai Verbrugge, Susan Fabrick, Bryan Fettig, Jason Colella.
- VI. Election of Delegates to the MDSCC (8 male, 8 female)
  - A. Nominations opened. One slate, designated as the Unity Slate, was nominated by Bob Smith. Another slate, designated as the Solidarity Slate, was nominated by Dan Hesse. Nominations closed.
  - B. List of candidates and gender by slate as submitted:
    - 1. Unity Slate: Aaron Eling (M), Wendy Winston (F), Blake Mazurek (M), Bridget Fox (F), Joseph "Jeff" Pietrowski (M), Pam Redd (F), Jesse DuVerneay (M), Christine Baker (F), Fred Overeem (M), Mary Bouwense (F), Christopher Pelton (M), Kathi Harris (F), Micah Perkins (M), Sandra Smith (F), Willie German (M), Sherlynn James (F).

2. Solidarity Slate: Lupe Ramos-Montigny (F), Dan Hesse (M), Wesley Watson (M), Ivan Diaz (M), Christian Casler (M).
  - C. Gary Stark moved that the MI3CD officers institute procedures to establish more frequent and systematic communication between the MI3CD members and our newly-elected representatives to the MDSCC. The motion was seconded and passed by unanimous consent.
  - D. While the results of the vote were being tabulated, the following guests were allowed to address the caucus meeting:
    1. State Representatives John Fitzgerald, Stephen Wooden, & Phil Skaggs
    2. Secretary of State and 2026 candidate for MI Gov Jocelyn Benson
    3. Candidate for MDP 1st Vice Chair Portia Roberson
    4. Genesee County Sheriff and 2026 candidate for MI Gov Chris Swanson
  - E. Results were announced and the following candidates were elected:
    1. Male delegates: Aaron Eling, Blake Mazurek, Joseph "Jeff" Pietrowski, Jesse DuVerneay, Fred Overeem, Dan Hesse, Wesley Watson, Ivan Diaz
    2. Female delegates: Wendy Winston, Bridget Fox, Pam Redd, Christine Baker, Mary Bouwense, Kathi Harris, Sandra Smith, Lupe Ramos-Montigny
- VII. Election of Alternates to the MDSCC (8 male, 8 female)
- A. Nominations opened. One slate, designated as the Unity Slate, was nominated by Bob Smith. Another slate, designated as the Solidarity Slate, was nominated by Dan Hesse. Nominations closed.
  - B. List of candidates and gender by slate as submitted:
    1. Unity Slate: Jeremy Roomsburg (M), Kiley Jackson (F), Matthew Abel (M), Sandra Boone-Thomas (F), Kevin Prince (M), Ismalis Nunez (F), Mike Cook (M), Poppy Hernandez (F), Jason Colella (M), Susan Federico (F), Robert "Bob" Smith (M), Kathleen Underwood (F), Chris Herweyer (M), Rachel Westerhof (F), Garry Post (M), Jenni Jones (F).
    2. Solidarity Slate: Robert S. Womack (M), Brigitte Pfeiffelmann (F), Christian Casler (M), Herb Seamons (M), Stanley Gronek (M), Susan Fabrick (F), Sonny Franks Miller (F).
  - C. While the results of the vote were being tabulated, the floor was open for comments through Good & Welfare.
  - D. Results were announced and the following candidates were elected:
    1. Male alternates: Jeremy Roomsburg, Matthew Abel, Kevin Prince, Mike Cook, Robert S. Womack, Christian Casler, Herb Seamons, Stanley Gronek
    2. Female alternates: Kiley Jackson, Sandra Boone-Thomas, Ismalis Nunez, Poppy Hernandez, Susan Federico, Kathleen Underwood, Brigitte Pfeiffelmann, Susan Fabrick
  - E. After the announcement of the vote and prior to adjournment, Abdul El-Sayed, Director of Wayne County's Department of Health and potential US Senate candidate, addressed the caucus meeting.
- VIII. Adjournment - MI3CD Caucus meeting adjourned by unanimous consent.