



PORTAGE COUNTY DEMOCRAT

Standing up for Democracy

February, 2022

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Vote February 15th!

Yes, it's a primary, but we all need to get out the vote to help advance our progressive candidates to the April 5th election. The lowest vote-getter will be eliminated from each race. Your Executive Board encourages you to support and vote for your fellow **Democrats** as listed. At the Jan 11th General Meeting the membership voted unanimously to support Democrat Eric Olson in his bid to become County Executive. More information on Eric is included in this newsletter.

ELECTED POSITION

Portage County Executive

CANDIDATES

Chis Holman (incumbent)

Eric Olson (**Democrat**)

John Pavelski

Stevens Point Area School Board

(the most progressive candidates are the first 3 and Dennis Raabe; the other 5 are running as single-issue candidates)

Jeff Ebel (incumbent)

Barb Portzen (incumbent)

Bob Manzke (appointed)

Jennifer Bushman

Miguel Campos

Kari Prokop

Dennis Raabe (**Democrat**)

Lisa Rychter

Alex Sommers

Portage County Board **District 14** supervisor
(Ed Morganroth, Jr is progressive
and has served on the schoolboard)

Charles Grugel

Pat Keller

Edward Morganroth, Jr

City Council **District 1**

(Marc Christianson is progressive)

Marc Christianson(incumbent)

Gracia Day

Stephen Klein

If you have questions about **ELECTION SECURITY, visit your local League of Women Voters website: lvvspa.club.express.com, scroll down and look for "Do you have Questions about Election Security?" in **RED** on the right side and follow the links.**

Eric Olson announces candidacy for County Executive

Eric is a long time Stevens Point resident, community organizer, and educator. He announced his candidacy for Portage County Executive on December 14th, 2021, and has received widespread support.

Olson's campaign centers on the need for an independent County Executive who can provide a more holistic view on county issues. "Portage County deserves a leader who shows up and engages with communities throughout the entire county." Olson offers. "As Executive, I will hold listening sessions in every town, village, and the City of Stevens Point because your voice matters no matter where you live."

There are a wide range of pressing issues that motivated Olson to take this step. "I believe the county can and should be doing more to address the ongoing pandemic, tackle public safety space needs, head off threats to our county's water resources, and rise to the challenge of



sustainably growing our local and regional economy." Olson will draw on lessons he learned working with communities across Wisconsin to tackle water and land use issues "A tried and true approach begins with learning where people are coming from and understanding their perspective. Regardless of a person's party, ideology, or viewpoint, everyone deserves the respect of being heard and valued and the dignity of being a part of something greater than themselves."

Olson has worked in the College of Natural Resources (CNR) at UW Stevens Point since moving to the county for a teaching and extension position at the Center for Land Use Education. He is now the director and lakes outreach specialist with Extension Lakes, a statewide program working with local governments and nonprofits to care for lakes, rivers, and streams. If elected, Olson would resign his post and take an indefinite leave from UWSP.



Register to vote

at your municipal clerk's office, at your polling place on election day, or online at myvote.wi.gov. You will need proof of residency (not a PO box). Your valid Wisconsin driver license, a tax bill, utility bill, or bank statement are all acceptable. To vote, you must present a picture ID.

We really need a Recording Secretary!

Duties: To record the minutes of the Executive Board and General Membership Meeting

Note: The responsibility does not require any writing of letters or filling out forms. The task is solely to record the minutes.

Time Commitment: Two meetings a month on the first and second Tuesdays. Both meetings begin at 6:30 pm. The Executive Board meeting usually lasts 2 ½ hours and the General Membership Meeting lasts about 2 hours. Writing the minutes takes about 2 hours for the Exec Board and about ½ hour for the General Meeting. Training and support are provided.

Skills needed: Knowledge of a word processing program, grammar and writing skills, access to internet

Pay: None, but you will know what's going on in the Democratic Party at the local, county, and state levels and you'll make new friends

If this interests you: please contact one of our co-chairs: Jan Way (janmway@gmail.com cell: 715-572-5802)

Gary Hawley (garybh2008@yahoo.com cell 715-321-0111)

2020 Financial Books Audited

On Sunday, May 2nd, 2021, the Audit Committee convened to review the financial books for the Portage County Democratic Party. (Note: the audit was delayed due to COVID 19 concerns and was conducted safely) The committee included Pam Przybelski and Corey Ladick. The review was completed with the 2020 Treasurer, Richard Wyman in attendance. After review of the documentation, the committee finds the financial books to be in good condition. The committee noted that the balance recorded at the end of 2020 matched the bank balance at the end of 2020. The committee commends Richard Wyman for his diligence in keeping clear and neat documentation.

3rd Congressional District Convention

Watch for more information and consider being a delegate. The meeting will most likely be on ZOOM and the date is still to be determined. Begin thinking about resolutions and platform amendments.

Fair Maps Rally

The Portage County Democratic Party was well represented at the Fair Maps Rally on January 21st, in spite of the COLD weather. Thirty plus people from around Central Wisconsin walked together from ShopKo parking lot to the Court House where speakers Jan Way, Dan Dieterich, and Cecile Stelzer-Johnson addressed the crowd.





Portage County Democratic Party
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Stevens Point, WI 54481

www.portagecountydems.org

Facebook: PortageCountyWIDems

Twitter: PortageCoWIDems@portagecountywidems



PCDP February 8, 2022 General Meeting
6:30pm Call to Order
Program: Dr. Ed Miller
Topic: Democracy and Elections in Wisconsin
Elected Officials & Candidates remarks
Short Business Meeting

[Watch your email for a ZOOM link](#)

VOTE! FEBRUARY 15th Primary Election

Authorized and paid for by Portage County Democratic Party