

# Benton County Dems' World



David Bernstein, Editor

## Upcoming Events

In light of the current COVID-19 situation, we recommend you contact each organization prior to the meeting date to confirm it will take place as scheduled.

Mon., June 22 12:00 – 1:00 Meeting	<b>Will Be Held Online</b> Details in this newsletter. BC Dems Luncheon – (4th Monday)
Mon., July 13 6:00 PM <a href="#">Mimi's Cafe</a>	<b>Democratic Party of Benton County</b> Members - watch for an email with the Zoom link. Guests - please email <a href="mailto:benton@arkdems.org">benton@arkdems.org</a> for the link.
Mon., July 20 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM <a href="#">Mount Sequoyah Center</a>	Check the website for details. <a href="https://www.washcodemocrats.com/">https://www.washcodemocrats.com/</a> Washington County Democrats - (3rd Monday)
Mon., July 27 12:00 – 1:00 Meeting	<b>Will Be Held Online</b> BC Dems' Luncheon

## Virtual General Meetings Hosted on Zoom Until Further Notice.

Although it's clear our county and region are experiencing a worrying upward trajectory of hospitalizations and deaths due to COVID-19, Governor Hutchinson continues to re-open the state. What we've learned about this virus to date is that if everyone wears a mask, practices physical distancing, and regularly washes their hands, there's minimal risk of contagion among large and public gatherings that adhere to these practices.

Sadly, mask-wearing and physical distancing have been made into a partisan issue with science and facts being ignored or misinterpreted.

Until our region can get a better handle on flattening the curve, **the BC Dems Executive Committee will be holding our monthly meetings virtually for the time being.** Please join us this Monday, June 22nd at 12 PM to meet JP candidates Lupe Martinez and Julia K Bailey.

If you are are a BC Dems member or on the BC Dems emailing list, the version of the June newsletter you received includes the actual Zoom URL and Meeting ID and Password information needed to join the June 22 meeting. Guests may RSVP to request the information needed to join the Zoom meeting by emailing [bentoncountyardems@gmail.com](mailto:bentoncountyardems@gmail.com) with a Subject of "RSVP for Monday's meeting"

# This Month's Speakers

Candidate for  
Justice of the Peace  
Benton County, District 15  
Julia K Bailey



Candidate for  
Justice of the Peace  
Benton County, District 3  
Lupe Martinez



Both candidates will share their vision and campaign activities. They will also be answering your questions. You can [download a copy of Julia K Bailey's candidate statement](#) here,

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## The President's Memo Hold Steady, Have Hope



We are living through a historical reckoning on a national and more local scale. As Americans, we have an opportunity to become a more perfect union if we can face ourselves and our history. With 20 weeks to go to the general election, we need to carry on with hope and energy. So let's hold steady during this tumult and vote in Democrats up and down the ballot this November!

Reasons to be hopeful:

Poll after poll continues to track Joe Biden's lead both nationally and within battleground states. Moreover, a recent Arkansas poll shows many independents dissatisfied with Trump's presidency and Senator Tom Cotton.

<https://talkbusiness.net/2020/06/poll-independents-dissatisfied-with-trump-cotton-biden-competitive-in-arkansas/>

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# DPBC Chair Resigns

The following letter was sent out to many on Monday morning June 13.

Good Morning All You Wonderful People!

Just wanted to give all an update. Since the start of this Pandemic I have taken on raising two 11yr old boys, one my grandson and the other my grandson in law. We have had them 3 months now and will continue to have them for the foreseeable future. The time it takes to raise two boys has taken what little time I have and leaves nothing for my retirement time. Being Chair of the DPBC is a 24/7 job and I cannot commit that kind of time anymore. So I have decided to step down from the chair position immediately.

I have met hundreds of wonderful people and had hundreds of wonderful times but all eventually comes to an end.

Thank You all for the memories.

Larry Concannon

According to the website of the Democratic Party of Benton County (<https://www.democraticpartybentoncounty.org/>), Kelley Boyd will become the Acting Chair and Ed Stacey will serve as the Acting Vice-Chair.

Please join us in thanking Larry for his dedication and commitment to the Democratic Party and to Benton County.

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## Sign the Official Petition End gerrymandering in Arkansas

**ARKANSAS**  
**VOTERS FIRST**



Receive by mail or print petition here <http://sign.arvotersfirst.org/>

# Get the latest information on COVID in Arkansas



[Arkansascovid.com](https://www.arkansascovid.com)

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## Do you know...

...of a member who is sick or in need of our assistance, please forward requests or information to our corresponding secretary at [dao.bcdems@gmail.com](mailto:dao.bcdems@gmail.com).

## Will Hutchinson Make Voting Safe?

In a May 7 post in the Arkansas Times, an article titled "Another question for the governor: Will he move to make voting safer in November? UPDATE" author Max Brantley gives us an update on this important question. [You can read it here.](#)

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## Remember These? They Are Important.



Surely everybody remembers our blue bowls at our meetings. They are there for a reason.

First, to remind you that our group's function is as a Political Action Committee (PAC). This means we raise money for local democratic candidates to provide financial support to their campaigns. And, of course, we give the exposure and a platform to share their message at our monthly meetings.

Just because we are not having regular meetings in person does not mean we can stop putting money in the Blue

Bowls. Consider how much money you have saved by not eating out these past two months and then contribute that amount to our [Virtual Blue Bowl](#).

And did I mention [RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY?!](#)

Your annual membership dues are what actually keep our organization running so that we can fundraise and bring you wonderful speakers. **Believe it or not, only 1 out of 3 members have renewed for 2020.** A quick click is all it takes to get both of us back on track. Here's a way to determine your renewal date.

If you do not remember the last time you paid your dues... your membership is up for renewal. You can do that right here. [Renew Now!](#)

Thank you for all you do for our group, those running for local office, state-level offices, and at the national level.

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# General Meeting Minutes

## Benton County Dems, ZOOM Virtual Meeting

### Monday, May 25, 2020

- I. Call to order by President Julia Bailey 12:02
- II. ZOOM Matters and Etiquette
  - A. Members, except for David Bernstein and Walter Hinojosa, will be muted (to avoid dogs' barking, side conversations, and other home noises interrupting the speaker)
  - B. Send questions via the chat icon
- III. Membership and reminders
  - A. Please pay dues via BC Dems webpage
  - B. Continue supporting candidates with Blue Bowls—members can contribute to Blue Bowls via webpage
- IV. Walter Hinojosa introduced Dan Whitfield, Independent candidate running against Tom Cotton--
  - A. Whitfield is running as an independent because he does not want his “hands tied to a party” and he wants to be one who can work with both sides and “bridge the gap” between the Democrats and Republicans in Arkansas
  - B. He is hoping to win the swing Republican votes
  - C. He is a progressive in favor of common-sense gun laws like background checks for police record and mental health; He is also for medical coverage for all
  - D. His campaign plans to remind voters of Cotton's voting record—check <http://www.opensecrets.org> to see PAC ranges
  - E. Holds a Live Update Saturday evenings at 4:00 –access through his webpage – [replacetomcotton.com](http://replacetomcotton.com)
  - F. Welcomes text messages and Twitter posts #danforcongress

V. Voter Update from Connie Hoffman

- A. Please be sure you are registered to vote
- B. Now is the time to request no-excuse absentee balloting to give time for administration to educate and print ballots for November
- C. Download the application at <https://vote.bentoncountyar.gov/> -- Check Unavoidable absent from voting and check the November election—Mail the application to the address at the top of the application
- D. Check voterview.org to check four you own information and to check later that the application was recorded
- E. Ballots should be mailed by mid-September

VI. Minutes from February meeting – Tabled for next meeting

VII. Treasurer’s Report—Tabled until next meeting

VIII. Other

- A. Ideas for increasing ZOOM envolvment
  1. Find hook to increase interest – possible short video from guest speaker with link to candidate’s webpage
  2. Link ZOOM interest to Mailchimp for RSVP info to exclude potential hackers
  3. Call and talk to friends who would be interested
- B. Larry Concannon expressed concern that Republicans are aware of deadline for redistricting and absentee voting decisions. Please contact the Governor to express your concern
- C. Eunice VanTuyl asked how poll worker numbers might be affected by the COVID 19 pandemic. She suggested early or absentee voting might be dramatically affected by the lack of workers.

IX. Adjourned 12:53

Respectfully submitted,  
Deborah Ostas

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# Treasurer's Summary May 2020

by Timothy Boyer, Treasurer



**Beginning Balance:**      \$4,518.56

**INCOME:**

Dues                              \$99.12  
Blue Bowls                      \$38.24  
RSD Refund                      \$540.00

**EXPENSES:**

Campaign Contributions  
Postage  
Printing

**Total Income:**              \$677.36

**Total Expenses:**              \$0

**Ending Balance:**            \$5,195.92

# 2020 Benton County Dems

## Officers & Committee Chairs

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>
President	Julia K. Bailey
Vice-President	Walter Hinojosa
Treasurer	Tim Boyer
Recording Secretary	Deb Ostas
Past President	Eunice Van Tuyl
Membership Chair	David Bernstein
Social Media Chair	Joel Ewing
Newsletter / Publicity Chair	David Bernstein
Corresponding Secretary	Deb Ostas
Reservations Chair	Betty Cauldwell
Publicity Chair	Catherine Deeley