Santa Rosa County Republican Club

1 May 2025

Call to Order: 6:03pm, **Stan Jandura**, President

Invocation: **Jean Kimball**

Pledge of Allegiance: **George Oedsma**

Reports: (approved & accepted)

Treasurer Report for April: **Astrid Levins** , submitted Report for Audit. (NA)

Approval of Minutes: **Christa Waite** Secretary (Please Sign In) NA

Student Essay Contest **Jean Kimball:** …

Summary:

The minutes of the previous meetings were approved as written posted on our website https://conservativesrc.com/

✨ Summary

The meeting focused on financial updates, the upcoming Essay Awards assembly, and a presentation by Jeff Ates, a candidate for County Commissioner District 2, discussing his qualifications and vision for the county. Key decisions included approving the treasurer's report and minutes from the previous meeting. Additionally, the meeting addressed flooding issues, the need for effective leadership, and enforcement of local development codes to ensure community safety and sustainable growth. Key discussions included the importance of collaboration among commissioners, the challenges of low-income housing, and the need for improved infrastructure planning.

📋 Outline

1. Financial Update • 00:02:00

- The club experienced a slow year in 2024 but saw an increase in deposits in March and April.
- The account balance increased from $468.17 to $1,108.17 due to member dues and donations

- After writing checks totaling $1,025, the remaining balance is $83.17 in checking and $313.06 in savings, totaling $396.23.

2. Essay Awards Assembly • 00:04:04

- The awards assembly is scheduled for May 22nd at 8:30 AM in the commissioners' room.
- Awards will be given to one high school student and three middle school students, marking the last contest for at least a year.
- The essays submitted were well-written, with only one high school entry and a total of seven submissions.

3. Introduction of Guest Speaker • 00:09:39

- Jeff Ates introduced himself as a pre-qualified candidate for County Commissioner District 2 for the 2026 election.
- He emphasized the importance of evaluating candidates based on their resumes and experience in managing county affairs.
- Ates highlighted his background in environmental mitigation, accounting, and his commitment to addressing county issues.

4. Discussion on County Issues • 00:25:11

- Concerns were raised about the lack of knowledge among current board members regarding infrastructure and water issues.
- Ates promised to keep his communication concise and focused on actions rather than rhetoric if elected.
- The need for effective communication and problem-solving within the county's governance was emphasized, particularly regarding zoning and development issues.

5. Addressing Flooding and Community Safety • 00:31:15

- There is a pressing need to find solutions to the flooding issues affecting the county and its residents.
- The Local Development Code (LDC) outlines a comprehensive growth plan aimed at mitigating risks such as flooding and congestion.
- Enforcement of the LDC is crucial; deviations from the plan should lead to project shutdowns and remediation.
- The commissioners must work together to adhere to the established plans to ensure community safety.

6. Infrastructure and Development Challenges • 00:34:04

- Past delays in infrastructure projects, such as the Highway 90 expansion, highlight the need for better planning and execution.
- The importance of timely soil studies and rights-of-way acquisition was emphasized to avoid prolonged project timelines.

- Collaboration with state officials is necessary to advocate for local needs and expedite development processes.

7. Relationship Building Among Commissioners • 00:38:17

- Building strong relationships among county commissioners is essential for effective governance and decision-making.
- Each commissioner brings unique strengths, and collective efforts can address key issues like flooding and housing.
- The importance of communication and collaboration with state representatives was highlighted to influence local policies.

8. Affordable Housing and Community Development • 00:50:13

- There is a need for affordable housing options, such as townhomes and condominiums, to support local families.
- The discussion included the importance of ownership in housing to foster community pride and stability.
- The potential for East Milton to become a hub for young families was identified, emphasizing the need for strategic planning.

9. Environmental Concerns and Forest Protection • 00:52:11

- The impact of deforestation on the environment and community health was raised as a significant concern.
- Support for initiatives aimed at protecting local forests and promoting sustainable development was expressed.
- The economic implications of preserving trees versus clearing land for development were discussed, highlighting the need for balanced approaches.

10. Evacuation Planning and Infrastructure Readiness • 00:56:01

- The need for a comprehensive evacuation plan in light of ongoing residential development was emphasized.
- Concerns were raised about the adequacy of current infrastructure to support evacuation during emergencies.
- Past appropriations for infrastructure improvements, such as the 87 corridor, were mentioned as critical for future planning.

Public Link1

https://webapp.sembly.ai/minutes-public/6uv-f58eedd2e3db9a7ada677ce7f11748bcc2b60501

Motion Minutes Approved: Donna Long, Jean Kimball

Motion Adjourn: Jean Kimball, Sherry Chapman

Stan Jandura keep up-to-date with events for this and other groups at the **ConservativeSRC.com** portal.

Next Meeting
Thursday, 5 June, 2025 at **6:00pm at The Hangar American Grill.**

Stan Jandura,
Santa Rosa County Republican Club President

CEW/sj