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From: **Janet Beihoffer - Former MN Committeewoman**

[REDACTED]

Date: Fri, Apr 2, 2021 at 9:50 AM

Subject: Chair Election-For your consideration

To: [REDACTED]

Dear Delegates and Alternates:

Many of you know me, my work, my political history, and what makes me who I am as a person. For those of you who do not, my name is Janet Beihoffer. I was the National Committeewoman from Minnesota between the years of 2012-2020. Before that, I was the CD 2 Chair (2008-09), and MNGOP Ballot Protection Director (2006-2012).

You may be asking yourself, why I am writing this email to you today. It is remarkably simple really. **I want to strongly encourage you to vote for Mark Koran for MNGOP Chair.**

For two cycles many of you elected me to represent you on the RNC. I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity and support. During my time on the RNC, I met with RNC members who came from mostly blue states, but they stayed focused on a defined plan of attack to go from blue to red. How did they do it?

**These states had chairs who understood that everyone has a valuable role to play. Here is what I believe about their winning game plans:**

1 – These real leaders emphasized real **teamwork** – not saying “we have a team” when in reality decisions were being made by a “teacher’s pet” mini group. State Executive Committee or it is equivalent, had input **PRIOR** to announcing a decision. In my experience at the MNGOP, Jennifer Carnahan made most decisions without consulting with State Executive Committee members.

2 - A Chair’s responsibility is to **raise money** – without huge percentages going to fundraisers. Did she? Expenses, human resources issues, staffing, and campaign engagement **MUST BE TRANSPARENT** and not in closed session meetings. Were they? Many of you asked me who was paying for her out of state trips. I asked repeatedly and could not get an answer.

3 – A wise and successful chair knows the need to **delegate**. Being a chair is not a one-person show where only the chair can: Run conventions; conduct media interviews; post on social media or dictate who is elected delegate/alternate. Successful chairs delegate to those who have the knowledge and talent to execute what needs to be done. Jennifer Carnahan has done almost everything herself. Of course, when one objectively analyzes these so-called “achievements” we see major gaps, short-comings, and consistent failure across the board – repeatedly.

When she did not get her way or felt threatened, she labeled people “racists.” She literally utilized the Democrat technique of “identity politics” with wild abandon. I have worked in multiple industries, with 1000s of people from over 56 nations – I have never heard or witnessed successful, positive people use the term “racist” like I have seen Jennifer Carnahan use it to describe so many of her fellow Republicans.

Our party has the RIGHT approach to human dignity. We have strong, talented people who must be included and respected for what and who they are. Any MNGOP affiliate group that comes to us in earnest, determination and creativity should be welcomed with open arms, encouraged, mentored, and supported. I worked with affiliates for 3-4 years, to 2015/16. During that time, we established cross-affiliate meetings, shared ideas that worked and coordinated their elections with the MNGOP cycle. They were integrated in the MNGOP, not ostracized, marginalized, or worse...discriminated against. We have multiple affiliates who have been dismissed and cast aside like bad campaign literature – especially our College Republicans. IT MUST STOP NOW or we will have no future candidates or leadership.

The time has come to elect a Chair who can DO THE JOB. Mark Koran has been a party leader, a successful candidate, organized volunteers and fund raised. We would be foolish to not want his successful experience to move us forward. President Ronald Reagan once said, “Surround yourself with the best people you can find, delegate authority, and don’t interfere as long as the policy you’ve decided upon is being carried out”. **Mark Koran understands this, he believes it, and most importantly, he practices it.**

**Thank you for your time and consideration today.**

**Patriotically yours, Janet Beihoffer**

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Janet Beihoffer - Former MN Committeewoman

<http://jbeihoffer.com>

To the State Central Delegates and Alternates,

I've served on the State Executive Committee as both your Secretary for four years, and now as one of your Representatives to the RNC. For six years before that I was also actively involved in Minnesota politics as a volunteer, a BPOU Chair, a candidate, and as a member of my CD 3 Board. I have attended your meetings and Conventions, and I know you as fellow activists. You, as I do, care about our Party and its future.

It is for that reason that I reach out to you today. Too much is at stake as we approach this upcoming State Central Committee meeting and election for me to remain silent, difficult as I find writing this.

You have been hearing that there is a failure of oversight of party funds. The full State Executive Committee has seldom seen more detail about the state party finances than has been shown at State Central Committee meetings. The most detailed accounting I personally have ever witnessed, was the Sunday in January when our past Treasurer Bron Scherer announced his departure. He presented a very thorough overview, which was greatly appreciated.

Rarely has the Board been asked by our Chair, Jennifer Carnahan, for its approval of significant financial commitments *prior* to them being spent. And although contracts of \$5,000 or more require a vote as per the Constitution, these too, have been entered into *without* that being taken into account. Yet you elected us to serve in an oversight role, and *that* is what we should be doing.

In a letter sent out by Chair Carnahan on 20 March, some of us heard that, "contracts are signed" for the upcoming State Central Committee meeting, with at least four of us having **no knowledge of these contracts, nor of any of the arrangements that have been made.** National Committeeman Max Rymer, Secretary Dave Pascoe, CD3 Chair Patti Meier, and I were all purposely excluded from the discussions that were held — the **second** such meeting we were excluded from. Decisions shouldn't be made in a vacuum with a select group of "favored" members. **Were Patti, Dave, Max and I not duly elected by you to be a part of this Executive Team?**

You've perhaps heard of this situation, but it bears repeating. Since October 2019, over 50% of online donations to the MN GOP have gone to "credit card processing fees." In some cases, some large dollar online donations were allocated 100% to those "fees." The state party has used fundraising vendors who get a percentage of the donations. However, over the period from October 2019 to February 2020, the oversight of those allocations was virtually nonexistent. **MN GOP got to keep only 48% of the money that came in online, whether the vendor was responsible or not for the donations. Our vendors took large fees on nearly all donations throughout the life of our relationship.**

For these reasons and more, I have written to our Executive Committee asking for a vote at our next meeting for an 'Audit Reconciliation of the FEC Report to the Budget.' This should be a normal request made by this Board, and I know it's been pursued by at least two other individuals recently. We await a response...

What's been perhaps most distressing to me, however, are the fabrications and the attempts to ruin peoples' reputation when they don't do what Chair Carnahan asks, or when she feels her personal actions are being questioned. Many are people that I care about and have reached out to me with disturbing encounters. I cite just three recent examples:

- When a BPOU chair did not immediately agree to endorse her for re-election, she labeled him a racist behind his back. This referring to people as "racists" is, sadly, common behavior.
- Jennifer threatened to sever ties with a conservative organization if they allowed a college Republican leader to speak at an event. She attacked her character, and tarnished her reputation calling her a racist.
- When the National Committeeman raised concerns privately about state party finances, she told the National Party that he was conspiring against them. To quote Max Rymer, "She has impugned my character, tarnished my reputation at the highest levels of the Republican National Committee, has told explicit falsehoods, and involved more people than just our Executive Committee — all the way up to the COO of the RNC and beyond."

**Rather than nurturing a vibrant environment that fosters teamwork and creativity, Jennifer uses fear to intimidate and silence her opponents. This is a drain on our party's energy and resources, and it's inconsistent with the values our donors expect, and that our Constitution stands for. We deserve better, and the conservatives in this state deserve better.**

As your Republican National Committeewoman, I've always believed that it's not appropriate for me to endorse candidates running for State Executive office. And trust me, writing this letter is not something I thought I would ever do. I remain firmly committed to working as a team at the MN GOP. However, it truly pains me to see how Jennifer Carnahan has actively divided this team, and is causing great harm to the Party that we all love and work hard for.

Fellow Delegates and Alternates, **this is a time for a change of leadership.**

Barb

Barb Sutter

RNC Committeewoman for Minnesota

Delegates and Alternates,

Up to this point I haven't gotten involved in the Chair's race. My focus is on back-office party management and I will have to work with whoever wins. Last week Senator Mark Koran alleged that there was a secret meeting of most of the state executive committee that I and several other members of the board were excluded from. From the information I gathered this does appear to be true.

I have heard it called a "campaign meeting." Some people I have worked with for years and respect may characterize it the same way. I cannot agree. A select group of state executive committee members, more than enough to constitute a quorum, were called together to discuss and form a consensus on party business two days before the regularly scheduled executive committee meeting. The fact that other people were present and no "official" votes/minutes were taken does not make it ok.

After rejoining the board in December I, along with others, have been asking questions about party management and finances. These questions have not been well received. Since I had spent over a year away from party business because of a Navy deployment I thought it was my job to get acquainted with everything that happened in the 2020 cycle. It is also my job as an executive board member to audit the party's spending. Unfortunately it appears that me looking into these matters has been taken as a combative personal attack. That was never my intention. I was not digging for a "gotcha" and I was in the process of getting the information.

I understand that airing this in public may be regarded as unwise. Donors and supporters desire stability. However, if nothing was said about an end-run around basic party governance structures, we would only have an illusion of stability. Party business must be conducted at properly scheduled executive committee meetings with the required notice periods.

If I am reelected to my position as Secretary I will continue to ask difficult questions \*regardless of who wins the Chair's race.\* If you believe that the Secretary should be an affable rubber-stamping doormat then please, someone run against me who wants to go along to get along. That is not who I am.

At the very least this email should spare you from another trip to the rumor mill. You know where I stand and my perspective on the issue. Whatever happens on April 10<sup>th</sup>, I thank you all for the work you have done for our country. Having difficult conversations is not always fun but it's the only way to truly improve our efforts.

Kind Regards,  
Dave Pascoe



----- Forwarded message -----

From: Gary Steuart - State Executive Committee Member [REDACTED]  
Date: Thu, Apr 1, 2021 at 2:32 PM  
Subject: Time to elect a different MN GOP Chair  
To: [REDACTED]

Hello Republicans:

This is a report to you on events at our most recent MNGOP State Executive meeting.

I must point out first that there had been very little discussion of the April 10 State Central Committee (SCC) meeting at prior State Executive meetings, and this would be the last meeting before the SCC meeting.

State Senator Mark Koran who is challenging our current party chair Jennifer Carnahan was present. In a March 12 email to the State Executive Committee, Mark had formally proposed that we have a hybrid state central convention. Even though he was not on the agenda, it was assumed by myself and I believe by all other people at the meeting, that he wanted to present his plan.

There was no mention of the SCC meeting on the agenda, but I assumed that Chair Carnahan would bring it up as part of her remarks or in recognizing Mark Koran at some point. However, when we reached the end of the agenda, Chair Carnahan looked to Deputy Chair Crawford, who motioned to adjourn. It was immediately seconded and passed by a majority. Five members voted against the motion.

Senator Koran had no opportunity to present his plan. His concerns about our upcoming Zoom SCC should have been heard. He was shunted aside in a very disrespectful manner. Apparently Chair Carnahan was not open to any proposals that would challenge her control of the upcoming State Central Committee meeting.

Chair Carnahan's handling of this matter was clever, but also petty and unwise.

In my judgement it is time to elect a different party chair. I am going to vote for Senator Koran.

Respectfully,  
Gary Steuart  
CD1 Executive Rep

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Gary Steuart - State Executive Committee Member  
<http://gsteuer.com>

**Tiffani Skroch**6h · 

As Chairwoman of the University of Minnesota Duluth Bulldog Republicans, I cannot stay silent as the race for Minnesota GOP State Chair is so imminent. Generally, in my position I would not publicly weigh-in on this race as a healthy relationship with the Chair is imperative to our success. However, in light of recent events I join the group of many members of the party in sounding the alarm.

I cannot support the incumbent, Jennifer Carnahan, for reelection as MN GOP Chairwoman.

Throughout my 3 years of involvement with Minnesota politics and the MN College Republicans, I have never once felt that Jennifer Carnahan cared for the young generation of Republicans in this state. Only when she needs OUR help does she show us respect.

Over the years, I have heard of others' experiences with her that have made them feel attacked, outcasted, and downright disrespected. However, I wanted to give her the benefit of the doubt as I cannot base my opinions off of another's experience. On Thursday, the Bulldog Republicans had our biweekly meeting with our members and Jennifer was our scheduled guest speaker. With a room full of people waiting to hear her speak, she did not show up. She did not call, text, or e-mail anyone in our organization that she would not be able to attend. After waiting for a long period of time, we ended our meeting upset that our guest speaker in which we advertised for did not show enough respect to show up.

After contacting her and her team about the absence, we have yet to receive a response.

That is what this post is all about: Respect. Never once have I felt respected or heard by Jennifer Carnahan. I know this is not an isolated incident as she has done this to numerous people. After all that the Bulldog Republicans as an organization has done for the MN GOP, we were not shown the respect to even virtually attend one of our meetings with our members and discuss Republican politics. All we asked was for 30 minutes of her time (which she had agreed to) and she could not even give us that. We are the future of the Republican Party in this country.

As the Chair of Bulldog Republicans, as a student, and as a Republican in the state of Minnesota, I am incredibly disappointed in you. This no-call, no-show was unprofessional and downright disrespectful.

As a person who values respect, I cannot and will not support Jennifer Carnahan for reelection.

Good morning MN SCC Delegates and Alternates,

Your vote, representing your local area, for MN State Party leadership has a tremendous oversight and responsibility to all Republicans in Minnesota and Nationally. You no doubt take this very seriously, as you should.

While I would not dream of telling any Minnesota SCC Delegate how to vote, I can, however, share with you a few thoughts on leadership from a few decades on this planet.

Leadership should not:

- Put self before party
- Bully, or utilize revenge harassment
- Impugn reputations or lie, especially for personal gain or self defense
- Create or tolerate a toxic environment
- Embarrass the party
- Brag on self
- Have high employee turnover, especially in key positions at a critical stage of election cycle
- Play people against each other
- Alienate other members of the State Executive Committee
- Manipulate
- Misuse charm or seek sympathy
- Buffalo delegates
- Seek revenge / be vengeful
- Air our dirty laundry unnecessarily
- Be overly personal or intoxicated in public
- Need to take credit for everything
- Work to impede fundraisers for a young military pregnant mother & widow
- Employ fear motivation

Leadership should:

- Put party before self
- Accept truth to power
- Be Gracious
- Be Grateful
- Praise others as often as possible
- Encourage initiative & give all credit to others
- Be humble
- Be mature
- Have strong social skills
- Have strong articulation abilities of MNGOP platform & current events
- Be precise and concise in communications
- Be a good steward of donor's money
- Own mistakes or problems
- Foster fundraising relationships
- Employ desire motivation

There is no doubt that there are many other characteristics I have missed that you know.

I trust your ability to read between the lines.

I encourage you to discuss the matter extensively with each other. One candidate has an extensive history of volunteer organizational fundraising, community involvement and commitment. A truly stand-up person. But you would never know that because they rarely talk about it.

It is not about them, it is about doing the right thing.

If you are not sure who I am talking about, it's because humble does not brag.

If you are not sure who I am talking about, then you do not know the candidates well enough. Understandable and that's okay, just ask around and you will fill in the missing links.

Dig deeper than the website to get to what they have done and whom they have helped. Not just events that happened to them over which they had no control or say in the matter. Let us not confuse a sad story with accomplishment.

Thank you for serving our Party and therefore our Country, good luck with your responsibility this Saturday.

MAGA,

Rick

Rick Rice

RPM National Committeeman, Retired