

Resolution on Voting Site Selection

WHEREAS, ensuring equal access to polling locations for all eligible voters in Watauga County must be a fundamental goal of democratic politics; and

WHEREAS, in the most recent (2010) census, there were 51,079 persons in Watauga County, and 17,122 persons in the Town of Boone, showing that the majority of Watauga County residents (~66%) live outside the Town of Boone; and

WHEREAS, population dispersal and mountainous geography can cause a trip to Boone to be more than half an hour each way for many county residents, and many do not travel to Boone regularly; and

WHEREAS, from 2004-2012 the Democrat Party-controlled Boards of Elections consistently placed early voting sites in areas that tend to vote Democrat and denied sites to areas that tend to vote Republican; and

WHEREAS, previous Boards of Elections marginalized the voting opportunities of other Watauga County municipalities and the rural majority by locating multiple early voting sites and one-stop voting locations within walking distance of each other in downtown Boone for urban residents, while rural residents and those in other county municipalities had to drive to Boone and find parking to vote; and

WHEREAS, the right of Appalachian State University students to vote should not be unfairly limited; neither should they have special privileges denied to other residents; and

WHEREAS, the early voting turnout in Foscoe for the three days it was allowed in 2012 demonstrated the value of early voting sites in rural areas; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Watauga County Republican Party supports the rights of all county residents to convenient polling locations and applauds the recent decisions of the county Board of Elections to bring fairness to the voting site selection; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Elections should protect the rights of all Watauga County voters by expanding the share of early voting hours offered for other municipalities and rural areas in the county, providing for geographic balance and early voting opportunities equivalent to those on or near King Street.

Resolution Supporting the Fair Tax and Calling for an End to IRS Discriminatory Actions

WHEREAS, proposed bills in the US House and Senate call for implementation of the Fair Tax, which taxes consumption rather than income or production, is transparent, and would repeal the 16th Amendment and eliminate the IRS; and

WHEREAS, under the Fair Tax all taxes would be collected at the point of purchase, recognizing that businesses do not pay taxes; they only collect the taxes from customers and consumers, add them to the cost of goods and services, and pass them on to the government; and

WHEREAS, Lois Lerner, director of the IRS division responsible for approving the tax-exempt status of 501C organizations, publically admitted that her division had illegally targeted conservative and religious organizations; testifying under oath before Congress she pled the 5th Amendment rather than tell the truth about her involvement, and after several months of paid leave she was allowed to retire with full benefits; and

WHEREAS, the only person who has been held accountable for these unethical and illegal activities, Acting IRS Director Doug Shulman, was relieved of duty even though he had already announced his plans to retire in a few weeks; and

WHEREAS, Sarah Hall Ingram, commissioner of the division that processes 501C applications, was not disciplined, rather was promoted to oversee the IRS enforcement of the Affordable Care Act, and

WHEREAS, Carter Hull, an IRS attorney appointed by President Obama, has also been implicated in the targeting of conservative groups by working closely with Lois Lerner in a plan to punish Americans for their political beliefs and suppress conservative or religious groups; and

WHEREAS, US Attorney General and head of the Department of Justice, Eric Holder, appointed Barbara Bosserman, a longtime supporter and financial contributor to President Obama's election campaigns, to head the investigation into the IRS scandal; and

WHEREAS, prominent Democrats, including NY Senator Chuck Schumer, are still using their influence and power to pressure the IRS to target the "TEA Party" and other conservative groups; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Watauga County Republican Party encourages our State and Federal representatives to promote passage of the Fair Tax in Congress; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call for a thorough and impartial investigation by a Special Prosecutor of illegal activity by the IRS, and we call for accountability and appropriate punishment for those found guilty of violating the law.

**Resolution Exposing the Tenets and Tactics
Of the 'Moral Monday' Coalition**

WHEREAS, under Democrat administrations in North Carolina, special interest groups have received generous public funding from bloated state bureaucracies and the Democrat Party has long used this patronage system to curry favor and votes; and

WHEREAS, since 2008 the liberal groups that comprise Rev. Wm. Barber's 'Moral' coalition have received over \$100 million in public tax dollars while the Democrat Party held the NC Governor's Office and the NC General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, some leaders of the 'social justice' organizations supporting the Moral Monday protests have paid themselves generous benefits and 6-figure salaries with taxpayer dollars; and

WHEREAS, the leaked memo from Blueprint NC (a nonprofit advocacy group) reported in the *Charlotte Observer* exposed the progressives' strategy to harass Republican officials everywhere, with recommendations to "Eviscerate the leadership and weaken their ability to govern" and to "Pressure McCrory at every public event"; and

WHEREAS, the GOP-led General Assembly moved to reduce rampant waste and debt in the North Carolina state government, and taxpayer funding was reduced for many of these organizations; and

WHEREAS, these groups, under the aegis of Rev. Barber's 'Moral' coalition, are vehemently protesting the reforms enacted by the Republican-led General Assembly including photo ID requirements for voting; and

WHEREAS, polling shows that 72% of North Carolinians support photo ID requirements for voting, while 37 states require voter ID, including 19 states that require a photo ID;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Watauga County Republican Party supports the fiscal, educational and electoral reforms passed by the Republican-led NC General Assembly in 2013 and opposes the partisan and self-serving mission of the organizations that comprise and support Rev. Wm. Barber's so-called 'Moral' coalition.

Resolution Supporting Healthcare Reform

WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act (ACA, a.k.a. Obamacare) was barely passed, in a highly partisan manner, using parliamentary gimmicks and unprecedented bribes, over the strong, vocal objection of a large percentage of the population, with misrepresentation of the intent of the legislation, having not been read or understood by the Democrats voting for it, and having not received a single Republican vote; and

WHEREAS, the President, his administration, and Democrat legislators promised we could keep our insurance under the ACA, even though government assessments published in the Federal Register as early as March, 2010, noted that a large number of Americans would lose their insurance coverage due to the ACA, and we are now learning that millions have lost their coverage because of ACA mandates, while millions have lost their choice in doctors and hospitals due to narrow provider panels in the insurance exchanges; and

WHEREAS, it was frequently and widely proclaimed that the ACA would 'bend down the medical cost curve' and provide insurance for 30 million uninsured Americans, while reducing the average family's cost by \$2500 per year, yet numerous recent studies and reports show dramatic premium increases due to Obamacare, and a report by the Congressional Budget Office states that even after a complete and successful implementation the ACA will leave 30 million Americans uninsured; and

WHEREAS, we believe the ACA is fiscally unsustainable, despite \$1 trillion in new taxes, and it has caused massive disruption and confusion throughout the healthcare system for patients and providers, while adding more than 20,000 pages of costly and burdensome regulations and dozens of new Federal regulatory agencies, boards and commissions; and

WHEREAS, we believe the ACA is fundamentally flawed in concept and design, aside from its inept implementation, and will be detrimental to many more citizens than it benefits, while costing taxpayers far more than projected for insurance premium subsidies, Medicaid costs and risk corridor payments (a.k.a. insurance company bailouts); therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, the Watauga County Republican Party calls for the repeal of the Affordable Care Act in its entirety, to be replaced with specific, focused measures that address needed insurance reforms, such as coverage for those with pre-existing conditions and financial assistance for those who want health insurance and cannot afford it.

Resolution Supporting the Actions of the Watauga County Commissioners

WHEREAS, the Watauga County Commissioners have re-financed the loan for the new county high school and reduced the mortgage payment by approximately \$300,000 per year, saving money for the county taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, every year since 2010 the County Commissioners have saved more than one million dollars per year on the county budget, saving money for the county taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners, through attrition and without firing any employees, have reduced the number of county employees, and have done so without jeopardizing services to the citizens of Watauga County; and

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners have provided a total of 7% in pay increases since 2010 for the employees of the county; and

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners have plans in the current budget to add \$300,000 to the Capital Improvements Program for the school system and to add \$850,000 to the Capital Improvements Program for the County; and

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners have accomplished these actions without any increase in the tax rates, and in spite of a sluggish and struggling economy; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Watauga County Republican Party recognizes and applauds the fiscal responsibility shown by County Commissioners Nathan Miller, David Blust, Perry Yates and former County Commissioner Vince Gable and encourages them to continue with their conservative stewardship of taxpayer funds.

Resolution of Appreciation for the United States Armed Forces

WHEREAS, the members of the United States Military have served our country bravely and effectively since our country's founding, and the freedoms we enjoy could not be preserved without the sacrifices of our marines, soldiers, sailors, and airmen stationed worldwide; and

WHEREAS, the brave men and women who serve in our armed forces deserve our praise, our gratitude and our prayers; and

WHEREAS, criticism of the men and women serving in our armed forces hurts morale and gives aid to the enemy; and

WHEREAS, many of our Veterans wait years for claims processing from the Veterans' Administration, even while welfare recipients' benefits are processed expeditiously; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Watauga County Republican Party supports our Armed Forces worldwide and expresses to them our heartfelt thanks and prayers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we also recognize and appreciate the contributions and sacrifices of the families and loved ones of our military personnel; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all steps should be taken to guarantee prompt and efficient processing of Veterans' benefit claims.