**Chair’s Report – August 26, 2021**

It continues to be a very busy time since the July E-Board meeting. There was the sheriff candidate forum and the meeting to vote on the preferred order of candidates for the commissioners’ decision. The top choice by the majority of the PCOs was Brandon Myers followed by John Gese then Kathy Collins.

Now that has finished the same process repeats for the county clerk’s office. There are three candidates: Joanne Dantonio, Lynn Fleishbein and David Lewis. Sunday, August 22 is when the PCOs convene for a discussion on the County Clerk candidate. The vote on PCO preference will be Monday, August 23.

The state has asked all LPOs to step up their work on voter turnout which has a four-prong approach to getting more people to the polls. While we have a blue district, we know we cannot rest on our laurels. We need to keep it blue and help our fellow LPOs become blue.

Vice-Chair Alex McCracken has agreed to be the point person for the state to contact us with updates on the work being done to increase voter turnout. He will also take point on getting voters purged back on the rolls. Our PCO Committee will work on the two pieces that involve getting more information on those voters who didn’t vote in 2020 and gathering more data on voters for whom we have little information. Our Communications chair, Doug MacKenzie will focus on voter registration.

We started our work on revamping our endorsement process. Our E-Board identified what worked, what didn’t and what can be done differently. We now need to get feedback from our LD on these same topics. When all the information is gathered, we’ll put together a small working group to come up with proposed guidelines and/or bylaws changes for the LD to consider.

Last, but not least, we are losing one of our leadership team to the desire to reclaim her life in terms of time and family. This is a sentiment we all can appreciate. When you get a chance, please thank Debbie Hollyer for all her hard work on behalf of the 23rd for the last 4½ years. All of us who have had the privilege and good fortune to work with Debbie know what a huge contribution she has made to developing the 23rd into a functional, caring and informed legislative district. Please join me in thanking Debbie and wishing her all the best – Debbie, you will be missed!