

McKinley County Republicans elect new board

Written by By Bernie Dotson Sun Correspondent
Friday, 27 January 2017 09:39



The McKinley County Republican Party recently elected new officers, officials confirmed. The new officers were chosen at the group's Biannual County Convention. Delegates for the State Central Committee were chosen, too.

Martin Link, a retired instructor from the University of New Mexico-Gallup, and a long-time area Republican, said Edwin Begay is the new chairman. Begay, who has filed for a school board seat with Gallup-McKinley County Board of Education, replaces Rodney Tahe who served out his two-year term.

Tahe received an invitation to the presidential inauguration last week and the Arizona State Society Ball on Jan. 19. He will now serve as the McKinley County GOP treasurer.

Lester Slade is second chairman and Judy Slade is secretary. Link was voted as the groups first vice-chairman.

"We have a good group of people that have taken on the new roles," Link said. "We're excited about the new officers and the new take on politics around the country."

WHO IS MCKINLEY COUNTY GOP?

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Link, a University of Arizona graduate who is originally from Wisconsin, said there are about 5,000 registered Republicans in McKinley County. He said all of them are firmly behind Donald Trump.

Asked about Trump's new cabinet picks, which are mostly millionaire white men, Link said, "So what that they are mostly white men. He has chosen very successful people. There's nothing wrong with picking successful people for jobs."

Trump was inaugurated on Jan. 20 and at the same time in which women from around the world held a protest against some of the alleged disparaging things Trump has said about women, gays, minorities, and handicapped people while campaigning for the presidency.

In response to the legions of people, both Republican and Democratic, who continue to protest and speak out and refuse to accept the fact that Trump is president, Link said, "They need to grow up. They need to recognize the new president and give him a chance."

On Trump's past reported bankruptcies, Link said, "Everybody fails here and there. That's normal and there's nothing wrong with that. Sometimes you just have to keep at what you're doing until you become successful."

By Bernie Dotson

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