



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Washtenaw Dems Executive Board Passes Resolution Condemning the Actions of Ypsilanti Township Clerk Karen Lovejoy Roe and Trustee Heather Jarrell Roe

Washtenaw County, Michigan – On Tuesday, May 19, 2020, the Washtenaw County Democratic Party (WCDP) passed a Resolution condemning the actions of Ypsilanti Township Clerk Karen Lovejoy Roe and Trustee Heather Jarrell Roe. Both officials filed paperwork to run for re-election in the Democratic Primary. However, shortly before the filing deadline, when access to the Clerk’s Office was limited due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the two officials filed new paperwork to run for County Commission (Karen Lovejoy Roe) and Township Clerk (Heather Jarrell Roe) instead. Although these acts were legal, they are antithetical to the values of the Democratic Party.

“The Democratic Party, including the WCDP, is a party that represents equal access to the ballot and fair and free elections,” said WCDP Chair Chris Savage. “The actions of Karen Lovejoy Roe and her daughter-in-law Heather Jarrell Roe go against all of that. They essentially tricked other people who may have run for Township Clerk and Township Trustee if the seats had been open. Instead, they worked to ensure that Heather Jarrell Roe would be the sole candidate for Clerk and that her mother-in-law would be the most well-known candidate running for County Commission. I and the other leaders of the County Party will not stand by and allow them to tarnish the reputation of the Democratic Party to maintain their political power.”

In addition to condemning the behavior of the two elected officials, the Resolution declares that the WCDP Executive Board supports the recent “no confidence” vote of Karen Lovejoy Roe by the Ypsilanti Township Board and that they will urge WCDP members not to endorse either of them should they win their primary race.

The text of the Resolution is attached.

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