



WINONA COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY OF MINNESOTA CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I NAME AND JURISDICTION

- Section 1. **NAME** - The name of this organization shall be the Winona County Republican Party of Minnesota, hereinafter called the Party. This Party shall be the Basic Political Organizational Unit of Winona County (the BPOU).
- Section 2. **PURPOSE** - The purpose of the Party shall be to elect Republican endorsed candidates to public office and to manage the affairs of the Republicans of Minnesota within the County's boundaries, subject to the Constitution of the State authority, as to matters within the scope of their functions.
- Section 3. **DUTIES** - It shall be the duty of the Party:
- a. To organize or cause to be organized and execute all party activities in each precinct or other voting unit within the County.
 - b. To administer the affairs of the Party within the County and to execute its programs.
 - c. To support the campaigns of and to elect Republican Endorsed Candidates and Candidates for such other public office as are elected exclusively by residents of the County.
 - d. To promote the principles and objectives of the Republican Party of Minnesota as determined by the National Republican Convention, the Minnesota Republican Convention, the 1st Congressional District Republican Convention, and the Winona County Republican Convention, under the applicable statutes of the State of Minnesota.

ARTICLE II OFFICERS

- Section 1. **OFFICERS** - The Officers of the Party shall be Winona County residents, which consists of a Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Deputy Treasurer and at least two Vice Chairpersons. The Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson shall also be the Party's delegates to the 1st District Central Committee.
- Section 2. **ELECTION** - The County Officers shall be elected at a County Convention held in odd numbered years. The Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson shall serve no more than two full consecutive terms in their respective office.

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ARTICLE III
COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Section 1. MEMBERSHIP - Membership of the Executive Committee shall be the County elected officers, the State Central Delegates, and up to five persons appointed by and who shall serve at the pleasure of the County Officers.
- Section 2. Powers and Duties -The Executive Committee shall have charge of the administration of the Party affairs, subject to the direction and control of the County Convention and the County Committee. It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee:
- a. To fill vacancies in the following manner: the remaining officers shall at the next regular meeting select a replacement, subject to the ratification of the full Executive Committee.
 - b. To consult and advise the precinct officers, and to appoint officers to fill precinct vacancies if the vacancies exist more than thirty days.
 - c. To participate in legislative candidate search committees. Coordinate and assist in the campaigns for the election of endorsed candidates. Similar assistance may be given following a Primary Election to a non-endorsed candidate.
- Section 3. MEETINGS - The Executive Committee shall meet monthly, at least eight times a year.
- Section 4. REMOVALS - The Executive Committee may remove any member who fails to cooperate with the Executive Committee. Such recommendation may be made only after the affected member has first been furnished with a written statement of the cause at least 10 days prior to the meeting, and an opportunity to answer the charges at the meeting. Simple inactivity may constitute a FAILURE TO COOPERATE, but no member shall be removed for any cause except by two thirds vote of the Committee members present at the meeting of the Executive Committee at which such action shall be taken. Notice of every proposal for removal shall be included in the notice of the meeting. The person will be notified prior to the notice of the meeting of such action in an effort to rectify the problem. Any member may be removed by vote if they fail to attend three consecutive monthly meetings, without excuse of the Executive Committee, or miss more than five monthly meetings in a calendar year.
- Section 5. QUORUM - A quorum shall consist of 50 percent of the members. If a quorum is present and ceases to exist once a meeting has started, business still may be transacted as if a quorum still exists until the meeting is adjourned by the Chair.

ARTICLE IV
PRECINCT ORGANIZATION

- Section 1. ELECTIONS OF PRECINCT OFFICERS - There shall be a minimum of two officers and such other officers as the precinct may prescribe, who shall be elected at a Precinct Caucus.
- Section 2. DUTIES OF PRECINCT OFFICER - It shall be the responsibility of the Precinct Officers to accomplish such tasks as may be assigned to them by the County Executive Committee.
- Section 3. VACANCIES - Vacancies among Precinct Officers shall be filled by the Executive Committee.

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ARTICLE V
CONVENTIONS

- Section 1. DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES - The Winona County Republican convention shall be composed of Delegates and Alternates elected at the last Precinct Caucus.
- Section 2. SEATING OF ALTERNATES The County Chairperson shall fill the vacancy with any unseated Alternates from the Precinct, or if none available from the Precinct, then with Alternates At-Large.
- Section 3. PRE-CONVENTION COMMITTEES - Prior to each Convention, the County Chairperson shall appoint Rules, Resolutions, Credentials, Nominations and such other Committees as may be deemed necessary for the conduct of the Convention.
- Section 4. QUORUM - A Quorum shall consist of 20 percent of Delegates elected at the Precinct Caucus.
- Section 5. The WINONA COUNTY REPUBLICAN CONVENTION shall be held annually preceding the First Congressional District and State Republican Conventions at the Call of the State Executive Committee, the State Central Committee, the First Congressional District Committee, or the Winona County Executive Committee, in accordance with the provisions of the First District and State Party constitutions. County Conventions shall be held at a place determined by the Executive Committee.
- Section 6. SPECIAL DISTRICT CONVENTIONS may be held at the Call of the State Executive Committee, the State Central Committee, the First Congressional District Committee, or the Winona County Executive Committee at such time and place for such purposes as the Committee calling the same may determine.
- Section 7. LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT, CITY, TOWNSHIP, JUDICIAL DISTRICT, or SCHOOL BOARD ENDORSEMENT CONVENTIONS: Candidates for Legislative and any other Public Office may be endorsed at conventions called for that purpose.
- a. Dates of Conventions. When Endorsing conventions are Called, they shall be held upon two weeks written notice to the Delegates in the year in which the election for such office takes place.
 - b. Delegates to Endorsing Conventions shall be the Delegates elected at the caucuses of the Precincts located within the district of which the convention is called.
 - c. Convention Call. The County Chairperson issues the Call for an Endorsing Convention for any public office whose district is entirely within the County. For districts not wholly within the county, the call shall be issued by the State Executive Committee, the State Central Committee, the First Congressional District Committee, or jointly by the Winona County Executive Committee and the County leadership of the portions of the district outside of Winona County, in accordance with the provisions of the First District and State Party constitutions.
 - d. Convention conveners. The County Executive Committee, or jointly with the committees of other involved districts, shall select the Convener for each Convention who shall be responsible for all preliminary arrangements necessary for the conduct of said Conventions including the appointment of temporary Committees and temporary Convention Officers.
 - e. Rules and Agenda. The Executive Committee, or jointly with the committees of other involved districts, shall establish the uniform Agenda and proposed Permanent Rules by which such Conventions shall be conducted.

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- f. Any endorsement of Candidates for public office must receive at least 60 percent of the voting strength of the Convention as established by the last report of the credentials committee preceding the vote. Vote shall be by secret ballot.
- g. Written notice shall be mailed to all delegates and alternates of the district at least five days before any meeting at which refusal or withdrawal of support for an endorsed candidate is considered. The Committee may refuse to support or withdraw support for any candidate endorsed in accordance with these laws by a vote of 75 percent of the delegates and seated alternates of the district.
- h. Endorsed Candidates - Party officers shall not encourage or participate in any action opposing the Party's endorsed candidates. Any violations shall be cause for removal from their party office and/or from the Committee, and in the case of candidates, grounds to rescind their endorsement.

ARTICLE VI
ELECTIONS

- Section 1. ELECTIONS OF OFFICERS and TERMS. Party officers shall be elected for two year terms by majority vote of the County Convention in odd numbered years, said terms to begin immediately following the County Convention at which they were elected.
- Section 2. PRECINCT NOMINATIONS: Prior to date of Precinct Caucus, the Executive Committee shall notify the Convener of the number of Delegates that may be nominated from the convener's location.
- Section 3. DELEGATES TO CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT AND STATE CONVENTIONS -
 - a. At the Precinct Caucus, the Convener shall call for recommendations of persons for Delegates and Alternates to be presented to the Party Nominating Committee. The election of Delegates and Alternates shall take place at the County Convention in even numbered years.
 - b. Three delegates from each Winona County Commissioner District will be elected for Congressional District and State Conventions. All remaining Delegates and Alternates will be elected At-Large. Alternates for Congressional District and State Conventions shall be ranked with the person having the highest vote count ranked as the first alternate, second highest vote count the second alternate, etc, and in case of a tie or ties, they shall be ranked by lot.
- Section 4. STATE CENTRAL DELEGATES: State Central Delegates and Alternates shall be elected by the County Convention in odd numbered years for a two year term.

ARTICLE VII
CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE AND AMENDMENTS

- Section 1. Following their election in odd numbered years, the County Chairperson, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, shall appoint members to a Standing Constitution Committee. Its function shall be to maintain a continual review of these provisions and to recommend to the County Convention such changes herein as may be considered advisable. It shall meet at least annually and its members shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing officers.

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- Section 2. This constitution may be amended by majority vote of the Delegates and Seated Alternates present at any County Convention provided:
- a. Any proposal for amendment shall be referred to the Constitution Committee for its recommendation before it shall be acted and voted upon by the convention, where any proposed amendment is open to debate and discussion.
 - b. Adequate notice of proposed amendments shall be given to the Delegates at least ten days prior to the Convention.
 - c. All provisions of this Constitution as amended shall become effective immediately upon adoption by the County Convention.

ARTICLE VIII
GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Section 1. Roberts Rules of Order, Revised, shall govern the proceedings of all meetings and conventions of the above-mentioned groups, except as otherwise provided herein.
- Section 2. Policy: Delegates shall be expected to attend each Convention or shall voluntarily remove themselves from the Delegate list by notifying Chairpersons at the earliest possible date. Penalty for noncompliance shall be at the discretion of the County Committee.

This Constitution was adopted at the Winona County I-R Convention held March 29, 1992
Amended at the Winona County Republican Convention held March 30, 1996
Amended at the Winona County Republican Convention held March 20, 1999
Amended at the Winona County Republican Convention held March 03, 2001
Amended at the Winona County Republican Convention held March 22, 2003
Amended at the Winona County Republican Convention held March 17, 2007
Amended at the Winona County Republican Convention held March 21, 2009
Amended at the Winona County Republican Convention held February 21, 2015
Amended at the Winona County Republican Convention held February 15, 2025