

RULES OF THE MONTANA REPUBLICAN PARTY

Section A – General Provisions

I. Authority. These rules are created for the government of the Montana Republican Party. They shall govern when not in conflict with state law and the rules of the Republican National Committee, the latter governing in case of conflict. These rules shall govern the organization, the conduct of meetings and the business of the Montana Republican State Central Committee, its officers and committees, all Republican State Conventions, and all Republican County Central Committees, to the extent applicable thereto.

II. Effective Date. These rules, and any amendments thereto, shall be effective when adopted by the State Central Committee.

III. Amendments.

A. These rules may be amended or repealed or additional rules may be adopted at any regular or special meeting of the State Central Committee by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present.

B. No rule can be amended or repealed nor any additional rules be adopted unless:

1) The amendment, repeal, or additional rule is presented by the permanent Rules Committee; or

2) When not presented by the permanent Rules Committee, a copy of the amendment, repeal, or additional rule must be delivered to each member of the State Central Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting at which it shall be voted upon.

Section B – Conventions

I. General.

A. **Convention Call – Fees.** All such meetings shall be called and notice of the call given and all such meetings shall be held as provided by these rules. Each delegate, proxy, or guest at such meetings shall pay a registration fee that shall be set by the Executive Committee of the State Central Committee.

B. **Quorum.** A quorum for the transaction of any business at any Convention shall be a majority of the delegates entitled to vote thereat, present in person or by proxy. Weighted votes shall not be considered in determining whether a quorum is present.

C. Proxies.

1) Except as provided by subsection (2), at all conventions, delegates shall be entitled to vote either in person or by written proxy. A person holding a proxy must be a resident of the same county as the delegate being represented by said proxy holder, or if the proxy is given by a Legislator or Public Service Commissioner, the proxy holder must be a resident elector of the District the Legislator or Public Service Commissioner represents. A person holding a proxy for a Statewide Elected Official may be any registered elector. Delegates who vote in their own right may not hold and vote the proxies of an absent delegate. A proxy need not be held by a person of the same sex as the delegate represented by said proxy holder.

2) There shall be no proxies at any district or state convention held for the purpose of selecting delegates to the national convention. If alternate delegates to such convention are elected, the alternate delegate and no other shall vote in the absence of the delegate. An absent delegate may name in writing an alternate to serve and vote in his or her absence. However, if an absent delegate fails to name an alternate, the County Chairman may name the alternate to serve and vote in such absence.

1 D. Voting. In balloting on any motion or election, the voting shall be on an individual basis. Each person
2 entitled to vote shall have the right to cast his or her individual ballot. In the event that any election has
3 more than one person nominated as a candidate, voting must be by secret ballot. Unless a weighted vote
4 is expressly provided for by these rules, each person entitled to vote at any meeting or convention shall
5 be entitled to only one vote. When the chairman of the meeting or convention has determined that
6 everyone is balloted, in his judgment, he shall declare the balloting closed and the election judges shall
7 retire and count the votes. They shall then announce the results of the vote in open meeting.

8 E. Parliamentary Practice. Roberts' Rules of Order, as currently revised, shall govern all meetings and
9 conventions, insofar as they are not inconsistent with these rules. The State Chairman shall appoint a
10 parliamentarian for any State Central Committee meeting or convention.

11 F. Order of Business. The following order of business is adopted for all meetings and conventions, as
12 applicable, of the Montana Republican Party:

13 1) Meeting called to order by chairman.

14 2) Invocation.

15 3) Pledge of Allegiance of the Flag of the United States of America.

16 4) Call of the roll.

17 5) Announcement of appointment of credentials committee.

18 6) Announcement of appointment of rules committee.

19 7) Report of the credentials committee.

20 8) Acceptance of report of credentials committee and declaration by chairman as to whether a quorum is
21 present.

22 9) Report of rules committee.

23 10) Report of other committees.

24 11) Elections.

25 12) Other business of the meeting.

26 13) Adjournment.

27 G. Election Policy. In the choice of officers or delegates, there shall be no discrimination because of sex,
28 race, creed, color, or national origin. Those elected to represent the Montana Republican Party as officers
29 or delegates should be only those persons who will actively support and campaign for the platform and
30 nominees of the Republican Party, and who will work in harmony and cooperation with all Republican
31 organizations.

32 II. State Platform Convention

33 A. Time. The Republican State Platform Convention shall meet at the call of the State Chairman once
34 every even-numbered year between the primary election day and the general election day.

35 Time. The Republican State Platform Convention shall meet once every even numbered year between
36 the primary election day and the general election day.

37 B. Purpose. The State Platform Conventions shall adopt a state platform and conduct such other
38 business as may be properly brought before the Convention.

39 C. Convention Call – Notice. Notice of the convention shall be sent to all persons eligible to be delegates
40 thereto at least forty-five (45) days prior to such convention.

1 D. Convention Delegates. The Republican State Platform Convention shall consist of the following:
2 1) Republican incumbents of national and statewide offices and state Senators, and Public Service
3 Commissioners whose terms of office extend beyond the first Monday in January of the next year.
4 2) Republican candidates nominated at the most recent primary election for the national and statewide
5 offices, including candidates for election to the Legislative Assembly.
6 3) The members of the State Central Committee.
7 E. Platform Committees. The State Chairman shall appoint Platform Committees, consisting of persons
8 eligible to be delegates to the Platform convention, to draft proposed planks of the State Platform. A copy
9 of the most recent platform shall be mailed to the committee members and the County Chairmen not less
10 than forty-five (45) days prior to the date set for the State Platform Convention requesting any proposed
11 changes to the platform. Proposed amendments should be submitted to the State Chairman prior to the
12 Convention so that they may be placed in the appropriate committee. Any proposed changes shall be
13 presented to the committees at the convention committee meeting for discussion.
14 III. State Delegate Convention
15 A. Time. The State Delegate Convention shall meet at the call of the State Chairman every presidential
16 election year prior to the Republican National Convention at a time which complies with the requirements
17 of the rules of the Republican National Committee.
18 B. Purpose. Such convention shall elect the delegates and alternate delegates from this state to the
19 Republican National Convention, and shall nominate Presidential Electors.
20 C. Convention Call – Notice. Notice of the call of the Convention shall be mailed by the State Chairman to
21 each County Chairman at least forty-five (45) days prior to such convention. Notice of the convention
22 shall also be published in the major daily newspapers throughout the state no less than fifteen (15) days
23 prior to the convention.
24 D. Convention Delegates. Delegates to the State Delegate Convention shall be elected from each county
25 by the County Central Committee. Each county may elect no fewer than four (4) and no more than
26 twenty-five (25) delegates. The County Chairman must notify the State Chairman of the names of the
27 county delegates at least ten (10) days prior to the convention. All delegates must be registered for the
28 convention. Those persons receiving the most number of votes so cast shall be elected as delegates to
29 the State Delegate Convention.
30 E. Weighted Voting. Each county shall be entitled to a number of votes at the State Delegate Convention
31 or district meeting equal to the total number of votes cast in the county for the Republican candidate for
32 Governor at the most recent primary election. The delegates from each county shall divide equally the
33 number of votes to which their county is entitled on a decimal basis, and each delegate shall cast his or
34 her vote individually.
35 F. Election of National Delegates/Alternates.
36 1) The convention shall elect the delegates and alternates to the Republican National Convention, as
37 prescribed by these rules and the rules of the Republican National Convention.
38 2) Nominations for delegates and alternates shall be made by the Nominating Committee, and may also
39 be made from the floor of the convention or, at the sole discretion of the State Chairman, may also be
40 made by nominating caucuses held for that purpose. The Nominating Committee may establish its own
41 procedures for determining nominations to be presented by it in its report.
42 3) National Delegate/Alternate nomination forms shall be mailed to each County Chairman with the
43 convention call. County Chairmen shall be responsible for distributing forms to those interested in their
44 county. Nomination forms shall also be available from the State Party Headquarters. People interested in
45 attending the National Conventions whom wish to be considered by the Nominating Committee must fill

1 out the form and return it to Headquarters no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the State Delegate
2 Convention. County Chairmen will receive a list of all those turning in a nomination form.

3 4) The Nominating Committee shall present their slate of Delegates followed by any nominations from the
4 floor. There shall be a sufficient amount of time between nominations and balloting to allow for complete
5 ballots to be printed and each delegate to address the convention for no more than ninety (90) seconds.
6 The same order shall be followed for Alternates.

7 i. If the state has two Congressional Districts, the order of election for delegates and alternates shall be
8 as follows:

9 a. The State Delegate Convention shall first elect a number of delegates equal to the number of
10 delegates at large that the state is allowed under the rules of the Republican National Convention. Such
11 delegates shall be equally divided between the Congressional Districts of the state. If there is an odd
12 number of delegates, the odd delegate shall be elected at large.

13 b. The convention delegates from each Congressional District shall then meet separately to elect a
14 number of delegates and alternates equal to the number of Congressional District delegates allowed to
15 the state by the rules of the Republican National Convention. The State Chairman and State Vice
16 Chairman shall preside over these district meetings.

17 c. The State Delegate Convention shall then elect a number of alternates equal to the number of
18 delegates previously elected by the State Delegate Convention. Such alternates shall be equally divided
19 between Congressional Districts of the state. If there is an odd number of alternates, the odd alternate
20 shall be elected at large.

21 ii. If the state is a single Congressional District, the order of election of delegates and alternates shall be
22 as follows:

23 a. The State Delegate Convention shall first elect a number of delegates equal to the number of
24 delegates at large that the state is allowed under the rules of the Republican National Convention.

25 b. The convention shall then elect a number of delegates equal to the number of Congressional District
26 delegates allowed to the state by the rules of the Republican National Convention. The State Chairman
27 shall preside over this session.

28 c. The State Delegate Convention shall then elect a number of alternates equal to the number of
29 delegates previously elected by the State Delegate Convention.

30 5) Each convention delegate may vote, in either the State Delegate Convention or the district meetings,
31 for up to the total number of delegates or alternates to be elected. No cumulative voting shall be allowed.

32 6) There shall be no proxies at any district or state convention held for the purpose of selecting delegates
33 to the national convention. If alternate delegates to such convention are elected, the alternate delegate
34 and no other shall vote in the absence of the delegate. An absent delegate may name in writing an
35 alternate to serve and vote in his or her absence. However, if an absent delegate fails to name an
36 alternate, the County Chairman may name the alternate to serve and vote in such absence.

37 7) Those delegates and alternates receiving the highest number of votes at any election shall be declared
38 elected.

39 G. Nomination of Presidential Electors. At the conclusions of balloting for delegates and alternates, the
40 State Delegate Convention shall then proceed to nominate the Presidential Electors.

41 H. Organization and Certification.

42 1) Immediately following their election, the delegates and alternates to the National Convention shall
43 meet. At such meeting they shall elect a chairman and vice chairman of the delegation and such
44 committee members as might be required by the rules of the Republican National Convention or the
45 Republican National Committee.

1 2) The State Chairman shall sign certificates of election, as credentials of the persons elected as
2 delegates and alternates, and shall file them in a timely manner with the Republican National Committee.
3 The State Chairman shall also sign certificates of nomination of the Presidential Electors and file them in
4 a timely manner with the Montana Secretary of State.

5 3) The delegates will be bound to vote on the first ballot at the Republican National Convention for the
6 winner of the Montana Presidential Caucus, unless the winning candidate withdraws, dies, or issues a
7 formal written release of the delegates. In such a case of the candidate's withdrawal, death, or formal
8 written release the delegates shall be open to vote for the candidate of their choice.

9 IV. State Officers' Convention

10 A. Time. The Republican State Officers' Convention shall be held during the month of June in each odd-
11 numbered year.

12 Time. The Republican State Officers' Convention shall be held during the month of June in each odd-
13 numbered year.

14 B. Purpose. The State Officers' Convention shall elect a state chairman and a state vice chairman, one of
15 whom must be a woman, one of whom must be a man, a secretary, a treasurer, and an assistant
16 treasurer of the State Central Committee.

17 C. Convention Call – Notice. Notice of the convention shall be sent to all persons eligible to be delegates
18 thereto at least forty-five (45) days prior to such convention.

19 Convention Call – Notice. The Republican State Officers' Convention shall meet at the call of the State
20 Chairman during the month of June in each odd numbered year.

21 D. Convention Delegates. Those entitled to vote at the State Officers' Convention shall be the members
22 of the State Central Committee, the Republican incumbents in national and statewide office, Republican
23 incumbents on the Public Service Commission, and Republican members of the Legislative Assembly, or
24 their duly appointed proxies. Each delegate shall have one vote.

25 E. Nominations and Elections. Nominations and elections for the various offices shall be held in the order
26 set forth above, with each office to be elected before balloting is conducted on the next office.
27 Nominations shall be made from the floor, with such time allowed for nominating and seconding speeches
28 as may be determined by the State Chairman. The nominee for each office who shall receive the most
29 number of votes for that office shall be declared elected to that office.

30 V. Presidential Candidate Preference Caucus

31 A. Time. In Presidential election years, the State Chairman, in accordance with Party Rules, shall
32 schedule the date of the Presidential Candidate Preference Caucus to be held no later than the 28th day
33 of February.

34 B. Purpose. Each County Central Committee shall meet on the date designated by the State Chairman
35 for the purpose of conducting the Presidential Candidate Preference Caucus.

36 1. The State Chairman shall make available to each County Central Committee such funds necessary to
37 hold the Caucus, up to a maximum of \$500 per County.

38 C. Caucus Call - Notice. Notice of the call of the Presidential Candidate Preference Caucus shall be
39 mailed by the State Chairman to each County Chairman at least fort-five (45) days prior to such caucus.
40 Each County Chairman shall submit a list of eligible voters to the State Chairman at least ten (10) days
41 prior to the caucus.

42 D. Caucus Voting. Those eligible to vote in the Presidential Candidate Preference Caucus shall consist of
43 all voting members of the State Executive Committee, elected officers of each County Central Committee,
44 each elected or appointed Precinct Man, each elected or appointed Precinct Woman, incumbent
45 Republican members of the Montana House of Representatives, incumbent Republican members of the
46 Montana State Senate, incumbent Republican members of the PSC, incumbent Republican officeholders
47 in county, state, and federal offices. No proxy votes shall be allowed.

1 1. Incumbent officeholders that are eligible to vote shall be required to vote in the county where they are
2 registered to vote.

3 2. Voting shall be conducted by secret paper ballot. The State Chairman shall provide each County
4 Chairman with a sufficient number of official Caucus Ballots.

5 3. Each eligible voter shall be allowed one vote, for one candidate. The candidate receiving the highest
6 number of votes shall be declared the winner of the Montana Presidential Preference Caucus.

7 4. Each County Chairman shall submit the results from that County to the State Chairman no later than
8 10:00 PM on the day of the Caucus. Each County Chairman will then send their county's ballots via
9 certified mail to State Headquarters.

10 A. The State Chairman shall appoint a five (5) member committee to review the ballots from each County
11 and ensure the vote totals submitted are accurate. The State Chairman will then certify the results.

12 E. Candidate Eligibility. Eligible names for the Presidential Preference Caucus ballot shall consist of
13 officially declared Republican candidates at the time of the caucus. Candidates who have not formally
14 declared an intention to seek the Republican nomination, and candidates who have formally withdrawn
15 from seeking the Republican Presidential nomination shall not be eligible to receive votes for this
16 purpose. No third-party or independent party candidates shall be included on the ballot.

17 F. Delegates. One hundred percent (100%) of the Montana Delegates/Alternates to the Republican
18 National Convention shall be assigned to the winner of the Presidential Preference Caucus as outlined in
19 this document under Section B, Article III – State Delegate Convention.

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Section C – Committees

23 I. State Central Committee

24 A. Membership. The State Central Committee shall be composed of the County Chairman, State
25 Committeeman, State Committeewoman, and Finance Chairman for each county, who have been elected
26 or appointed in the manner provided by these rules.

27 **B.** The State Central Committee is the governing body of the Montana Republican Party, responsible for
28 establishing all rules, policies and programs.

29 **C.** Quorum. A quorum for the transaction of any business at any meeting of the State Central Committee
30 shall be a majority of the members entitled to vote thereat, present in person or by proxy.

31 **D.** ~~G.~~ Proxies. At all meetings of the State Central Committee, members shall be entitled to vote either in
32 person or by written proxy. A person holding a proxy must be a resident elector of the same county as the
33 member being represented by said proxy holder. Members who vote in their own right may not hold and
34 vote the proxies of an absent member. A proxy need not be held by a person of the same sex as the
35 member being represented by said proxy.

36 **E.** ~~D.~~ Election of National Committeeman and National Committeewoman. The State Central Committee
37 shall meet each presidential election year at a meeting called by the State Chairman at a time which shall
38 comply with the Rules of the Republican National Committee. At such meeting, there shall be nominated
39 on National Committeeman and one National Committeewoman. The State Chairman shall, in a timely
40 manner, file the names of the National Committeeman and National Committeewoman, who have been
41 nominated, with the Republican National Committee. Such National Committeeman and National
42 Committeewoman shall represent the State Central Committee as members of the Republican National
43 Committee for a term of four years immediately following their election.

1 **F.** ~~E.~~ Other Meetings. Other meetings of the State Central Committee may be called by (1) the State
2 Chairman, (2) a petition of the majority of the members of the State Executive Committee, or (3) a petition
3 of a majority of the members of the State Central Committee.

4 **G.** ~~F.~~ Notice. Notice of all meetings of the State Central Committee shall be mailed by the Chairman to all
5 members at least ten (10) days prior to any such meeting.

6 II. State Executive Committee

7 A. Membership. The Executive Committee of the State Central Committee shall consist of the following:

8 1) The State Chairman

9 2) The State Vice Chairman

10 3) The National Committeeman and National Committeewoman

11 4) Statewide elected federal officeholders

12 5) Statewide elected state officeholders

13 6) Elected Republican Public Service Commissioners

14 7) Chairman of the Montana Republican Young Professionals

15 8) President of the Montana Federation of Republican Women

16 9) The Treasurer

17 10) The Assistant Treasurer

18 11) The Secretary

19 12) Chairman of the Montana College Republicans

20 13) The Finance Chairman

21 14) Chairman of the Montana Teenage Republicans

22 15) A Representative from the Montana Pachyderm Clubs

23 16) The highest ranking Republican leader of the Montana State Senate and Montana House of
24 Representatives

25 **17) Five County Chairmen**, appointed by the State Chairman, two of whom shall be appointed from each
26 Congressional District as they existed on January 1, 1991, elected by the incumbent County Chairmen at
27 the Officers' Convention, four of whom shall be elected by regions designated by the Chairman, and one
28 of whom shall be appointed elected at large.

29 **18)** ~~Two representatives from each of ten political regions, which regions shall be designated by the~~
30 ~~Chairman, which representatives shall be appointed by the Chairman.~~ **Five Regional Vice-Chairs**, four of
31 whom shall be appointed by the Chairman by regions designated by the Chairman, and one of whom
32 shall be appointed by the Chairman to represent the American Indian Tribes in Montana, and shall be an
33 enrolled or recognized member in an American Indian Tribe in Montana. These Vice-Chairs shall perform
34 duties as designated by the Chairman.

35 B. Term of Office. The terms of those members of the Executive Committee who are appointed by the
36 State Chairman shall expire at the conclusion of the term of office of the State Chairman or upon the
37 resignation or removal of the State Chairman from office.

1 C. Resignations. The resignation of any office of the State Executive Committee or County Central
2 Committee is effective immediately upon receipt by any officer of the State Executive Committee or
3 County Central Committee, or upon announcement through the media.

4 D. Function. The Executive Committee shall execute the policies and programs of the Montana
5 Republican Party between meetings of the State Central Committee, and shall exercise those powers
6 conferred upon the Executive Committee by these rules.

7 E. Meetings-Notice. Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the Chairman or by petition of
8 a majority of the members of the Executive Committee. Committee meetings shall be mailed by the
9 Chairman to all members at least ten (10) days prior to any such meeting. Notice may be waived by
10 attendance of members at such meeting or waiver in writing of notice of all members not attending the
11 meeting. The presence of ten (10) members of the Executive Committee at any meeting shall constitute a
12 quorum.

13 III. State Operating Board

14 A. Membership. There shall be a permanent standing State Operating Board which shall consist of the
15 following members: 1) State Republican Party Chairman; 2) the Republican leader of the Montana House
16 of Representatives or his or her designee, who shall be an incumbent Representative; 3) the Republican
17 leader of the Montana State Senate or his or her designee, who shall be an incumbent Senator; 4) all
18 incumbent Republican members of the State Land Board or their designees; 5) all incumbent Republican
19 members of the Congressional delegation or their designees; 6) the Montana Republican Party
20 Treasurer; 7) Montana's Republican National Committee Man and Woman; and 8) an additional member
21 who shall be appointed by the Chairman if the total membership of this Board is fewer than seven (7)
22 persons, provided that such appointee shall be a former Chairman or Executive Director of the Montana
23 Republican Party.

24
25 B. Function. The State Operating Board shall oversee the management, budget and operations of the
26 Montana Republican Party. It shall carry on all the functions of the Executive Committee in between its
27 meetings. It shall have and exercise the fiduciary duties of loyalty, care, candor, business judgment and
28 independence toward the well-being of the Montana Republican Party in all its functions.

29
30 C. Meetings. The State Operating Committee shall meet at a minimum of once per calendar month, either
31 in person or by teleconference or other similar means. At least three of its meetings per calendar year
32 shall be in person. The Committee may meet more frequently, upon the call of the Chairman or three-
33 fifths of its members and reasonable notice.

34 IV. County Central Committee

35 A. Membership. In each county of the state there shall be a Republican Central Committee which shall
36 consist of the duly elected or appointed precinct committeemen and committeewomen of each precinct
37 within the county. The precinct committeemen and committeewomen shall hold office for a period of two
38 years from the date of their election. If the county has three or fewer precincts, the county chairman shall
39 appoint four (4) additional "adjunct precinct representatives" who shall be entitled to vote at the county
40 convention; two (2) of the adjunct precinct representative shall be men and two (2) shall be women, and
41 shall be approved by the county executive board prior to service.

42 B. Election of County Officers. Each County Central Committee must hold a convention for the purpose of
43 organizing the Central Committee between February 1 and May 15 in each odd-numbered year. The
44 State Chairman shall mail notice of this requirement at least ten (10) days prior to the period that
45 elections may commence. Such conventions shall be called and notice of the call must be given as
46 provided by state law. The County Chairman shall preside at the county convention and no person other
47 than a duly elected or appointed committeeman, committeewoman or officer of the committee is entitled

1 to participate in the convention. Only duly elected precinct committeemen and committeewomen will be
2 allowed to vote.

3 C. If a committeeman or committeewoman is absent, by not appearing either in person or by proxy, the
4 convention may fill the vacancy by appointing some qualified elector of the party, resident in the precinct,
5 to represent the precinct in the convention. A committeeman or committeewoman may appoint a proxy to
6 represent him or her at the convention, but no proxy may be recognized unless held by an elector of the
7 precinct of the committeeman or committeewoman executing it.

8 D. At such convention, the Central Committee shall elect the following officers, who need not be precinct
9 committeemen or committeewomen, but who must be registered electors of the county:

10 1) County Chairman and Vice Chairman, one of whom shall be a man and one of whom shall be a
11 woman.

12 2) Secretary and Treasurer.

13 3) State Committeeman and State Committeewoman.

14 4) Congressional Committeeman and Congressional Committeewoman if the state has more than one (1)
15 Congressional District.

16 5) Finance Chairman.

17 6) Such other officers as may be deemed appropriate.

18 E. Within five (5) days of the County Convention, each County Central Committee will submit a report of
19 the results of the convention to the State Central Committee. Failure to file the report within the allotted
20 time period may result in the county delegation not being seated at the next State Convention.

21 F. County Executive Committee. Each County Central Committee may adopt its own rules of the
22 determination of membership on its Executive Committee and the function of such committee. In the
23 absence of such rules, the duly elected officers, plus the President of the Republican Women's Club and
24 the Chairman of the Republican Young Professionals in the county, shall constitute the Executive
25 Committee. The Executive Committee is charged with the execution of the county party's policies and
26 programs between meetings of the Central Committee, and the members thereof shall hold office until the
27 next organizational convention. The members of the Executive Committee shall be entitled to participate
28 in the proceedings of the County Central Committee, but such right to participate shall not include the
29 right to vote unless such member is a precinct committeeman or committeewoman. In the event of
30 vacancy in any office which entitles the holder thereof to membership on Executive Committee, except for
31 that of precinct committeeman or committeewoman, due to death, resignation, failure to maintain status
32 as an elector of the county, or removal from the county, the vacancy shall be filled by majority vote of the
33 members of the County Central Committee present at a meeting called for that purpose.

34 G. Vacancy in Precinct Office. Vacancies in the office of precinct committeeman or precinct
35 committeewoman, due to death, resignation, or failure to maintain status as an elector of the county, must
36 be filled not less than sixty (60) days prior to a county officers' convention or county delegate convention,
37 in order for the person appointed to fill such vacancy to be eligible to vote at either of such conventions,
38 either in person or by proxy. Such vacancies shall be filled by majority vote of the members of the County
39 Central Committee present at a meeting called for that purpose. Immediately after an appointment is
40 made to fill a vacancy, notice of such appointment must be filed by the secretary of the meeting with the
41 County Clerk and Recorder and State Republican Headquarters.

42 H. Meetings. Meetings of the County Central Committee may be called (1) by the County Chairman, (2)
43 by a majority of members of the County Executive Committee, or (3) by a majority of the members of the
44 County Central Committee.

1 I. Rules. The County Central Committee may adopt rules for the government of the Party in its county,
2 including rules governing the approval of campaign literature to be used for public distribution, which rules
3 may not be inconsistent with any of the provision of the election laws of this state or with these rules.

4 **IV. Other Committees, Term, Reports**

5 A. Rules Committee. The Chairman shall appoint a standing Rules Committee, consisting of ten (10)
6 members, to report at each meeting of the State Central Committee and to consider and/or recommend
7 all proposed rule changes.

8 B. Other Committees. The Chairman shall have the power to appoint such special or standing committees
9 as may be deemed necessary or desirable from time to time.

10 C. Term of Office. The term of the members of all committees appointed by the Chairman shall
11 automatically expire at the conclusion of each term of office of the Chairman, or upon the resignation or
12 removal of the Chairman from office.

13 D. Committee Minutes, Reports. The chairman of a committee shall report to the next State Central
14 Committee or Convention as to the business conducted at each committee meeting. The chairman of a
15 committee shall also have committee minutes prepared for distribution to each committee member and
16 the State Chairman prior to presentation of the committee report.

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19 **Section D – Officers**

20 I. Elected Officers

21 A. Chairman. The Chairman shall be the recognized leader of the Republican Party organization in
22 Montana and shall have the sole responsibility for the hiring and termination of employment of all paid
23 employees of the State Central Committee, except as provided in Article II. He or she shall preside at all
24 meetings of the State Central Committee, the Executive Committee, **the State Operating Board** and all
25 Republican Conventions, except that he or she may appoint a convention chairman to preside over the
26 business of a convention. He or she shall appoint all committees, except the Executive Committee, **and**
27 **the State Operating Board**, and shall be an ex-officio member of all committees. He or she shall represent
28 the State Central Committee in an official capacity and shall have the usual powers of supervision and
29 management as pertaining to the office of a chairman. **The Chairman shall coordinate with the Treasurer**
30 **to ensure all necessary resources are provided, and all necessary compliance is conducted, to meet the**
31 **reporting and recording obligations required by Montana and federal law.**

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33 B. Vice Chairman. The Vice Chairman shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the Chairman. In
34 the absence of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman shall perform the duties of Chairman. **The Vice**
35 **Chairman shall attend all meetings of the State Central Committee, the State Executive Committee, and**
36 **the State Operating Board.** ~~If the Vice Chairman is a woman, she shall be the liaison officer between the~~
37 ~~State Central Committee and the Montana Federation of Republican Women. If the Vice Chairman is a~~
38 ~~man, then the Chairman may appoint, with approval of the Executive Committee, a woman who may~~
39 ~~serve as the liaison officer between the State Central Committee and the Montana Federation of~~
40 ~~Republican Women.~~

41 C. Secretary. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the State Central Committee and all
42 Republican conventions, keep the roll of membership and perform such other functions as may be
43 incidental to the office or assigned by the Chairman.

44 D. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall **serve as the controller for financial record keeping and practices, and**
45 **shall** require an accounting, at least monthly, for all receipts and disbursements of the State Central
46 Committee and insure the timely filing of all reports require to be made to any governmental body or
47 agency by the State Central Committee. All disbursements shall be made only upon check countersigned

1 by the two persons who have been authorized to do so by the State Executive Committee. The Treasurer
2 shall present a report to the State Central Committee of the financial affairs of the State Central
3 Committee upon request, and at least annually. The books of the Treasurer shall be audited by a Certified
4 Public Accountant in May of every odd-numbered year. The Treasurer shall ensure the Party fully
5 complies with all Montana and federal statutes and regulations regarding political party finances.

6 E. Assistant Treasurer. The Assistant Treasurer shall become familiar with the responsibilities of the office
7 of the Treasurer, and perform such duties as may be assigned by the Chairman or Treasurer.

8 F. Vacancies. In the event of vacancy in the office of State Vice Chairman, the Chairman may appoint a
9 person to fill such vacancy, with the approval of the Executive Committee. In the event of vacancy in the
10 office of State Chairman, the Vice Chairman shall automatically succeed to the office of Chairman. In the
11 event of a vacancy in the office of Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer will automatically succeed to that
12 office. In all other cases, in the event that a vacancy shall occur in any elected office, the vacancy shall be
13 filled by appointment by the State Executive Committee.

14 G. Compensation. No elected official of the Montana Republican Party shall be a paid employee of the
15 Party, nor shall they be entitled to financial compensation other than reimbursement for expenses directly
16 related to business on behalf of the Montana Republican Party.

17 II. Appointed Officers

18 A. Executive Director. The Executive Director shall be appointed by the Chairman, subject to the prior
19 approval of the Executive Committee. The Executive Director shall be a paid employee who shall serve at
20 the pleasure of the Chairman. All terms of employment of the Executive Director must be set out in detail
21 in the minutes of the Executive Committee. The Executive Director shall preserve all permanent records
22 of the State Central Committee and upon termination of employment shall relinquish them to the
23 successor Executive Director. The Executive Director shall also perform such duties as may be assigned
24 from time to time by the Chairman.

25 B. Finance Chairman. The Chairman, subject to the prior approval of the Executive Committee, shall
26 appoint a Finance Chairman. The Finance Chairman shall raise funds for the use of the Republican Party.

27 C. General Counsel. The Chairman, subject to the prior approval of the Executive Committee, shall
28 appoint a General Counsel, who shall be licensed to practice law in this state. The General Counsel shall
29 advise the Chairman, the State Central Committee, and all officers and committees on all legal matters
30 relative to their duties and shall serve pro bono.

31 D. Other Officers. The Chairman may appoint such other and further officers as may be authorized by the
32 Executive Committee.

33 E. Term of Office. All officers appointed by the Chairman shall serve at the pleasure of the Chairman and
34 their appointment may be terminated by the Chairman at any time. The appointment of all officers
35 appointed by the Chairman shall terminate automatically at the expiration of the Chairman's term of office,
36 or upon the resignation or removal of the Chairman from office.

37 38 39 **Section E – Candidate Nominations.**

40 I. Nominations

41 A. In the event that a party candidate for a state office to be filled by the state at large dies or withdraws
42 after the primary and before the general election, the State Central Committee shall appoint a nominee to
43 fill such vacancy at a meeting of such Committee called for this purpose, within the time provided by State
44 law. The person receiving the majority of the votes at such meeting shall be the nominee.

45 B. If the state has two Congressional Districts, in the event that a vacancy occurs in the office of United
46 States Representative, requiring an election to fill the vacancy, or in the event that the party nominee

1 shall die or withdraw after the primary and before the general election, the nominee of the party shall be
2 chosen by those members of the State Central Committee who have been elected from the counties
3 which are located in the Congressional District in which are located in the Congressional District in which
4 the vacancy occurs, at a meeting called by the Chairman of the party for that purpose, within the time
5 provided by law. The person receiving the most votes at such meeting shall be the nominee.

6 1) If a candidate for the United States Representative withdraws or dies forty (40) days or more before the
7 primary election, the members of the State Central Committee who have been elected from the counties
8 which are located in the Congressional District in which the vacancy occurs may appoint someone to
9 replace the candidate at a meeting called by the State Chairman for that purpose. If a candidate for
10 United States Representative withdraws or dies less than forty (40) days before the primary election, the
11 members of the State Central Committee who have been elected from the counties which are located in
12 the Congressional District in which the vacancy occurs shall appoint someone to replace that candidate, if
13 no other candidate was nominated at such election, at a meeting called for that purpose by the State
14 Chairman after the primary election. In either of the latter events, the person receiving the majority of the
15 votes at such meeting shall be the nominee.

16 C. If the state has one Congressional District, in the event that a vacancy occurs in the office of United
17 States Representative, requiring an election to fill the vacancy, or in the event that the party nominee
18 shall die or withdraw after the primary and before the general election, the nominee of the party shall be
19 chosen by the State Central Committee, at a meeting called by the Chairman of the party for that
20 purpose, within the time provided by law. The person receiving the most votes at such meeting shall be
21 the nominee.

22 1) If a candidate for United States Representative withdraws or dies forty (40) days or more before the
23 primary election, the State Central Committee may appoint someone to replace that candidate at a
24 meeting called by the State Chairman for that purpose.

25 D. If a candidate for nomination for office to be filled by the state at large, either state or federal,
26 withdraws or dies forty (40) days or more before the primary election, the State Central Committee may
27 appoint someone to replace the candidate at a meeting called by the State Chairman for that purpose. If
28 such candidate withdraws or dies less than forty (40) days before the primary election, the State Central
29 Committee shall appoint someone to replace the candidate, if no other candidate was nominated at such
30 election, at a meeting called for that purpose by the State Chairman after the primary election.

31 E. In all other cases where the Party may or is required to nominate a candidate, such nomination shall
32 be made as follows:

33 1) For offices to be filled by the state at large, the State Central Committee shall make the appointment at
34 a meeting called for that purpose. The person receiving the majority of the votes at that meeting shall be
35 the nominee.

36 2) If the state has two Congressional Districts, for offices to be filled in districts, other than the office of
37 United States Representative, including more than one county (e.g., Public Service Commission, multi-
38 county legislative districts), a committee appointed by the county central committee of all counties in the
39 district shall make the appointment at a meeting called by the State chairman for that purpose. Such
40 committee shall consist of three persons from each county, who shall be selected by the central
41 committee of such county. If there is no central committee in any such county, then the State Chairman
42 shall select that county's members of the committee. The person receiving the majority of the votes at the
43 meeting of the committee shall be the nominee.

44 3) If the state contains one Congressional District, for offices to be filled in districts including more than
45 one county (e.g., Public Service Commission, multi-county legislative districts), a committee appointed by
46 the county central committee of all counties in the district shall make the appointment at a meeting called
47 by the State Chairman for that purpose. Such committee shall consist of three persons from each county,
48 who shall be selected by the central committee in such county, then the State chairman shall select that
49 county's members of the committee. The person receiving the majority of votes at the meeting of the
50 committee shall be the nominee.

1 F. In all cases provided above, the votes of the person entitled to vote at such meeting shall be weighted
2 according to the following formula: Votes shall be determined by comparing the Republican primary vote
3 in each county in the most recent primary election for the office involved to the total Republican primary
4 vote for that office. For each two percent (2%) or less of the total Republican vote, four (4) votes will be
5 awarded to the county. For each additional full percentage point over two percent (2%) of the total
6 Republican vote, an additional vote will be awarded to that county. The delegate to the meeting from each
7 county shall equally divide the number of votes to which their county is entitled, under the foregoing
8 formula, on a decimal basis, and each delegate shall cast his or her vote individually.

9 (Adopted by the Montana Republican State Central Committee August 25th, 2007, in Helena, Montana.)

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