

BPOU CONSTITUTION

KANABEC COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY

Preamble

The Kanabec CoUnty Republican Party of Minnesota welcomes the participation of all citizens of Kanabec County of Minnesota who are concerned with the implementation of honest, efficient, and responsible government. The party believes in the equality of all, as stated in the Declaration of Independence. Therefore, it is the party committed to equal representation and opportunity for all and preservation of the rights of each individual. It is the purpose of this constitution to ensure that the party provides for full participation with equal opportunity for all citizens of Kanabec County of Minnesota regardless of age, race, sex, religion, social or economic status.

Article I – Name

The name of this organization shall be the Kanabec County Republican Party of the State of Minnesota, the basic political organization unit, hereinafter referred to as “the BPOU”.

Article II – Purpose

Section 1: The purpose and objectives of the BPOU shall be the maintenance and advancement of good government according to the Constitution and laws of the United States (of America) and the State of Minnesota through the promotion within Kanabec County of the purposes and objectives of the National Republican Party and the Republican Party of Minnesota.

Section 2: The purpose and duties of the BPOU shall include those imposed by law and custom upon official party committees. In addition, the BPOU shall:

- A) Organize or cause to be organized each precinct in Kanabec County;
- B) Encourage the formation of auxiliary Republican groups, and cooperate with and coordinate their activities;
- C) Assist in conducting campaigns for the adoption of laws, and for the election of qualified Republican candidates for public office; and
- D) Administer the affairs of the Party within the BPOU.

Article III – Membership

The membership of this BPOU shall be composed of all citizens eligible to vote in Kanabec County who wish to be affiliated with the Republican Party and who support the purposes and objectives of the Republican Party.

Article IV – Management and Structure

Section 1: The management of the BPOU shall rest with the Kanabec County Leadership Committee, subject to the direction of the State Central Committee, the State Executive Committee, the Congressional District Committees in District eight (8), the BPOU Convention, the State Party Constitution, Kanabec County Constitution and applicable state statutes of law.

Section 2: The Kanabec County Leadership Committee shall be composed of the BPOU Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Media Coordinator, the State Central Committee Delegates, and any other positions as may be elected by the Convention.

Section 3: Duties: The duties of the Leadership Committee shall be as follows:

- A) The BPOU Chair shall conduct BPOU Leadership Committee meetings. The BPOU Deputy Chair shall conduct meetings in the Chair's absence. Together they shall appoint committees and coordinate the activities of the BPOU. They are also ex-Aficio members of all BPOU committees.
- B) Elected Republican legislators shall be encouraged to attend Leadership Committee Meetings, but will be non-voting members.
- C) The secretary shall keep minutes of meetings, be responsible for written correspondence with the members of the Leadership Committee, and delegates and alternates to BPOU convention and other correspondence that may be necessary.
- D) The Treasurer shall be responsible for all Party monies, keep financial records, disperse monies as authorized by the Leadership Committee, prepare and submit all reports to the State (of Minnesota) as required by law and help submit annual budget.
- E) The Media Coordinator shall be responsible for public notices, advertising, and any other media responsibilities as requested and approved by the Leadership Committee or the BPOU convention. They shall also encourage and assist individuals with submitting Letters to the Editors.

Section 4: Finances: The BPOU financial records shall be maintained in an orderly fashion by the BPOU Treasurer.

- A) All records shall be reviewed quarterly by the Leadership Committee.
- B) At least every odd year the Leadership Committee may designate the financial institution to be used as depository for Party funds after the Convention.
- C) All financial institution signature cards shall be signed by the BPOU Chair, Deputy Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary.
- D) All disbursements shall be by check and shall only require two (2) signatures if the check amount exceeds \$100.
- E) All funds coming to the BPOU from any source shall be deposited in the account.

Article V – BPOU Elections

Section 1: The BPOU Leadership Committee shall be elected to a two-year term by the delegates to the off-year BPOU convention.

- A) The Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Media Coordinator, and State Central Committee Delegates and ranked alternates shall be elected at large.

Section 2: Officers of each precinct may consist of a Chair and a Secretary, elected to a two-year term at the even numbered year General Caucus, in compliance with State Statute. In the event a precinct fails to elect any officer at this caucus, the BPOU Leadership Committee may appoint individuals to fill the vacancy in that precinct.

Section 3: A nominating committee may be appointed by the BPOU Leadership Committee in advance of the odd-year BPOU Convention, for the purpose of nominating candidates for various Committee positions. [This does not prohibit nominations from the floor.] (Interviewing of candidates shall take place prior to the beginning of the BPOU Convention. Nominations and interviewing will cease once the meeting begins.)

Article VI – Meetings

Section 1: Requirements

- A) Regular Committee Meetings: The Leadership Committee may establish a calendar of regular meetings provided that a three (3) day notice be given to the members of the Committee.
- B) Special Committee Meetings: The Leadership Committee shall meet at the call of the Chairs, at the request of any three (3) members of the Committee, or at the request of 25% of the delegates. Three (3) days' notice shall be provided to members of the Committee.
- C) Quorums: A quorum shall be (seven) (7) of seated members of this Committee for the purpose of transacting BPOU business.
- D) Meetings may be held in person at a predetermined location or by electronic means such as, but not limited to: Zoom, FaceTime, etc.

Section 2: "Roberts Rules of Order, Revised" shall govern the proceedings of all meetings of the Leadership Committee.

Article VII – BPOU Conventions

Section 1: BPOU conventions shall be held each year during the period and for the purpose designated by the Official Call issued by the State Executive Committee, the State Central Committee, or the Eighth (8th) District Committee. The time and place of these conventions is to be determined by the BPOU Leadership Committee. Special BPOU conventions shall be held at the call of the aforementioned groups, or at the discretion of the majority of the BPOU Leadership Committee, provided that a minimum of two (2) weeks' notice, in writing, (be sent to) (be delivered by mail (USPS) or electronically by email provided we have the email address on file for) each delegate and alternate.

- A) If events warrant a Special Election to public office, an emergency Endorsing Convention may be held at the call of the BPOU Chair and Deputy Chair, or at the direction of the majority of the BPOU Leadership Committee. A notice of not less than five (5) days shall be given to delegates and alternates. They shall be held for the sole purpose of endorsing a candidate for office.

Section 2: At all BPOU Conventions, the first (1st) order of business shall be the temporary credentials report. The convention shall then proceed to the seating of the delegates, as outlined in article VII, Section three (3). A precinct shall be entitled to one (1) vote of each delegate/alternate present and seated.

Section 3: The BPOU Convention shall be composed of delegates and alternates selected at Republican Party Precinct Caucus within Kanabec County. The ratio to alternate delegates shall be uniform throughout the BPOU. The credentials committee shall seat all duly elected and accredited delegates of each precinct who are present. In the event no delegates are present from a precinct, the credentials committee shall seat all accredited alternates from that precinct. Vacancies shall be filled according to the following procedures:

- A) Vacancies shall be filled by the alternates in the order in which they were ranked by the Precinct Caucus.
- B) If a delegate should arrive late, the delegate shall assume the seat of the delegates alternate. A delegate may be seated at any time.
- C) If a precinct has any vacancies which can't be filled by an alternate from the same precinct, the vacancy will remain.

Section 4: Delegates and alternates to the State and Eighth (8th) Congressional republican District Conventions shall be elected in accordance with the laws of the State of Minnesota, as well as the State Republican Constitution, and shall continue as such as such until their successors are elected. Delegates and alternates shall be elected at large at the even-year BPOU Convention. Alternates shall be ranked for seating purposes at these conventions according to votes received.

Section 5: Elected BPOU delegates and alternates shall join other delegates and alternates in the house or senate districts for an endorsing convention.

- A) A BPOU Convention may provide for a non-binding advisory endorsement to candidates for District, State, or Federal office. Endorsement shall be by sixty (60) percent of the voting strength of the convention. The last credentials report prior to each ballot shall govern the voting strength.

Article VIII – Vacancies and Removals

Section 1: Vacancies in precinct offices may be filled by appointment of the Leadership Committee, or if so directed, by a caucus of Republicans in the affected precinct. Should vacancies occur in the Leadership Committee, replacements may be appointed by the Leadership Committee.

Section 2: An officer of the Leadership Committee may be removed from office by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at any meeting of the seated committee members provided that the officer in question be furnished with a fourteen (14) day notice, in writing, of the charges that may warrant removal. Further, the officer in question shall be entitled to respond to these charges in person or in writing prior to the vote to remove.

Section 3: If a member of the Leadership Committee is absent without cause from more that four (4) consecutive meetings, this person may be subject to the removal provisions outlined in Section two (2) of this Article.

Section 4: It is the duty of all Leadership Committee members to support Republican endorsed candidates. Should any member of this body actively and publicly campaign against a Republican endorsed candidate, that member may be removed from the leadership Committee in accordance with the provisions of Article VIII, section 2.

Section 5: Any elected member of the Leadership Committee except State Central Delegates who announces their candidacy for Federal or State elected public office shall be placed on immediate leave of absence and if he/she receives endorsement or runs in the Primary election he/she shall resign their position on the Leadership Committee.

Article IX – Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates at any BPOU Convention, provided that the proposed amendments be first referred to a duly appointed Constitution Committee, and that the Official Convention Call will indicate that constitutional amendments will be considered.

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