

RULES

5th Congressional District Republican Party of Minnesota Convention

Via: Zoom Webinar and Teleconference on March 24, 2021, starting at 7:00 p.m. Delegates and Alternates need to join the convention no later than 30 minutes prior to 7:00 p.m.

Preface to Rules

- i. Several Convention rules are mandated by the Constitution of the Republican Party of Minnesota. The rules appearing **bold face** can neither be amended nor deleted.
- ii. The Constitution provides in *Article V, Section 4*, **“Once the temporary organization has been established, the first order of business of a state or Congressional District convention shall be the seating of alternates. The permanent voting roll of the convention shall be composed of the delegates of each BPOU who actually are present, and in the absence of any delegate to the convention, an alternate shall be seated in his/her stead during his/her absence according to the procedure established by the constitution or bylaws of the BPOU. When a delegate returns to the floor of the convention, he or she will be seated immediately.”**

Rules

I. General

1. The business of this Convention shall be as outlined on the Official Agenda for the Convention and as adopted by the Convention, subject to change at the discretion of the chair.
2. Any person seeking an elected office at this convention must contact the Nominations Committee five (5) days prior to the opening of the 5th Congressional District Republican convention on March 24, 2021.
3. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall be the parliamentary authority on all points not covered by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Republican Party of Minnesota and the Fifth Congressional District Republican Committee, the statutes of the State of Minnesota, any special rules of order the party may adopt, the official call of this convention and the rules adopted by this convention.
4. Once adopted, these Rules shall neither be amended nor suspended except by two-thirds of the voting strength of the Convention as reported by the last Credentials Committee Report.
5. The quorum is 30% of the credentialed delegates according to the most recent credentials report. Once a quorum is established, a call for quorum is out of order.
6. Individuals who participate in any activity to disrupt the business of the convention may be permanently removed from the convention at the sole discretion of the Convention Chair.
7. Only delegates and alternates who registered at least 72 hours prior to the start of the convention and are present before the credential committee reports are eligible to be seated. Being present is demonstrated by logging and participating in a credentialing roll call vote via the electronic voting technology being utilized for the convention.

II. Seating

1. The CD Chair shall provide the MNGOP a full list of Delegates and Ranked Alternates for each BPOU and Affiliates based on the requirements of any relevant party documents or standard operating procedures. Any delegation disputes or alternate rankings must be addressed with each BPOU prior to the close of registration. Due to the unusual circumstances of this remote convention, any errors or omissions in ranking shall be solved by coin toss or drawing names by MNGOP.

2. The voting strength of each BPOU or Affiliate Organization shall be the number of seated delegates and alternates present and voting as reported in the second credentials report. If a delegate or seated alternate leaves the convention or stops submitting votes after the second credentials report, that delegation seat shall remain vacant and not be filled by an Alternate.
3. The Credentials Committee Chair shall certify to the Convention Chair those Affiliate delegates and alternates specified in *Article VII, Section 1B* of the State Party Constitution and listed in the addendum to the State Party Bylaws. On any roll call or written vote, those Official Affiliate delegates shall vote as a separate group and only the vote of those present and voting shall be counted.
4. The Credentials Committee Chair shall report any changes in the delegations if requested by the Convention Chair or a majority of seated delegates and alternates.

III. Speaking

1. A delegate or seated alternate wishing to: introduce, make, or second a motion; participate in discussion; or speak to the convention for any other reason shall use the “raise hand” feature in Zoom and wait for recognition from the Presiding Officer or MNGOP Staff. Once acknowledged, the Delegate or seated Alternate will address the Chair, state his/her name, BPOU, and the purpose for which he/she is speaking. Unless otherwise allowed in these rules only delegates and seated alternates may seek to be recognized to speak. The Convention Chair can instruct MNGOP Staff to “lower hands” at any time once a motion has been voted upon or the next order of business begins. Delegates and seated Alternates shall be given the opportunity to seek recognition again unless a motion is non-debatable or out of order.
2. Debate on any motion or subject shall be limited to one (1) minute by each speaker. No person shall be allowed to speak more than once upon the same subject. Total time for debate of each motion shall not exceed four (4) minutes with equal opportunity afforded to affirmative and negative speakers. Each speaker must identify whether they speak in the affirmative or the negative before being allowed to speak on a motion or subject. After there has been one (1) speaker on one side and the chair has asked for a speaker on the opposing side, if there is no speaker on the opposing side, the debate will be ended.
3. The Chair shall appoint a timekeeper for the purpose of timing debate and speeches during the Convention.
4. The Chair at any time may invite any distinguished guests to address the Convention for a period not to exceed three (3) minutes.

IV. Voting

1. There shall be no voting by proxy or under unit rule in this Convention.
2. Items without objection may be passed by unanimous consent
3. The convention Chairperson shall appoint a Chief Teller to assist in counting votes and adjudicating disputes.
4. The Convention Chairperson and the Chief Teller will decide any voting dispute and they may request a new vote.
5. Voting will proceed until the Chairperson rules balloting closed.
6. The votes on all questions shall be by internet based voting technology provided by C Voter. The identities or any identifying information of voting members shall be concealed from MNGOP, the CD, candidates, campaigns, and any participating member or group of this convention. Candidates for

endorsement shall be provided with an opportunity to verify the method by which C Voter certifies the voting one full business day prior the convention being called to order since there will be no teller room for which to observe ballot counting. An audit trail shall be provided after the convention adjourns at the request of the Congressional District Chair.

V. Election Procedure

1. The Nominating Committee shall present its nominations for each office for which there is an election.
2. The election of 5th District Congressional officers will be on a separate ballot for each office.
3. For the office of Delegate and Alternate at-large to the State Central Committee there shall be one ballot with all candidates names on the ballot and for the office of three members at-large to the 5th District Executive Committee there shall be one ballot with all candidate names on the ballot.
4. In case of a tie for any elected position, the Chair of the convention has write down a number from 1 to 10. The candidates that tied will then chose a number from 1 to 10 and provide that number to the Chair of the convention. The candidate whose number is closest to the number chosen by the Chair shall be the winner of that election.
5. If there is only one candidate for any position, there shall be no candidate speeches for that specific position and the nominee shall be voted on by acclamation.
6. Upon the close of nominations for each position, if there is more than one candidate for that position, candidate speeches for each position shall be in the order as determine by lot and shall not exceed two minutes for each candidate.
7. At the end of candidate speeches, voting shall proceed. The nominee(s) receiving the largest number of valid ballots cast shall be declared elected.

VI. Election of Delegate and Alternate At-Large, State Central Committee

1. Elections for State Central Committee Delegate and Alternate At-Large shall be conducted in accordance to Rule V.
2. Delegates and seated Alternates shall cast one vote for the candidates seeking the office of Delegate or Alternate at-large to the State Central Committee. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be the Delegate and the candidate receiving the next highest number of votes will be the Alternate.

VII. Election of 5th Congressional District Officers

1. Election of the District Chair will be the first election followed by the election of the District Deputy Chair, then the Secretary, and finally the Treasurer.
2. Elections for District Officers will be conducted in accordance to Rule V.

VIII. Election of the Three At-Large Members to the 5th Congressional District Executive Committee

1. Election of three at-large members to the Congressional District Executive Committee shall be conducted in the same manner as specified in Rule V.

2. Delegates and seated Alternates must vote for three (3) different nominated candidates seeking the office of At-Large member to the Executive Committee, Any ballot that does not have three different nominated candidates seeking the office will be a spoiled ballot and will not be counted.

IX. Adjournment

1. A motion to adjourn the convention shall be debatable until all items on the agenda have been considered on the convention floor.