

**CONSTITUTION  
REPUBLICAN PARTY OF WASHINGTON COUNTY**

(Proposed 9-2023) (**Other proposed 2-2024**)

(Approved by Exec. Bd. 12-17-2024)

**ARTICLE I - NAME**

The name of this organization shall be "The Republican Party of Washington County."

**ARTICLE II - PURPOSE**

The purpose of this organization shall be to correlate and unify under one central organization the activities of the Republican Party of Washington County, and to advance in every honorable way fundamental Republican principles and policies and as a voluntary organization cooperate and assist in all county, state and national elections, to the end that our republican form of government as created under the Constitution of the United States and the State of Wisconsin be preserved for all **of the people U.S. citizens.**

As a constituent part of the Republican State Voluntary Organization this organization shall direct, manage, supervise and control the business, property and funds of the Republican Party of Washington County.

**ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

**Section One: Eligibility.** Membership in this organization shall be open to all **U.S. Washington County** citizens of voting age who believe in the **above** objectives, purposes and principles of the Republican Party, **who are not a member of another political party or any political organization** whose views and practices are contrary to the platform of the Republican Party of Wisconsin, and do not otherwise engage in actions contrary to same.

Individuals requesting membership must submit a complete, current membership application and applicable dues. The application will be reviewed by **the Membership Committee and/or** the Executive Committee and, if membership is declined, will inform the applicant of the reason for ineligibility, in writing, **within 30 days at the earliest possible date.**

**Section Two: Good Standing.** "In good standing" **shall mean** those members who are recorded with the **Treasurer of the organization** **county party** and who are current on **any** dues set by the county party, **if any.**

Qualified and voting members of this organization shall be:

- 1) Those Republicans in good standing who are U.S. citizens and Washington County residents, and;
- 2) For new/lapsed memberships: those who have had dues been recorded by the Treasurer of this organization for at least sixty (60) days prior to any meeting or caucus;
- 3) For renewing/continuing members: those who have had dues recorded by the Treasurer of this organization prior to start of any meeting or caucus, and;
- 4) Those whose membership has not been suspended by the Executive Committee.

Section Three: Suspension, Expulsion, and Readmittance. Any member in good standing may petition the Executive Committee for suspension of another member. The Executive Committee shall consider petition and may, by a two-thirds vote, suspend said member for cause, as listed in Section One of this Article.

- 1) Any suspension must be addressed at the next regularly-scheduled general membership meeting, or caucus, for consideration of expulsion or readmission.
- 2) Any member may be expelled from, or readmitted to, this organization by a two-thirds vote of the membership present at a general membership meeting, or caucus.

## **ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Section One: Officers. The officers of this organization shall be a chairperson, vice-chairperson, secretary, and treasurer, all of whom shall be elected in a duly constituted county caucus prior to April 1, in the odd numbered years. Individuals seeking an officer position must be a current member in good standing with at least two (2) ~~three (3)~~ years' prior/continuous membership in the county party. Other officers shall be appointed as may be provided for in the By-Laws.

Section Two: Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers, one representative selected by the Chairperson from the Courthouse Republican elected officials, one representative elected by and from among the Republicans representing any portion of Washington County in the Wisconsin Legislature, and the Chairperson of the standing committees provided for in the By-Laws. All other elected Washington County Republican elected officials shall be ex-officio non-voting members of the Executive Committee.

Section Three: Duties of Officers. The officers shall file all reports required of them by law and shall have such duties and responsibilities as set forth in the By-Laws.

Section Four: Powers of the Executive Committee. The voting members of the Executive Committee shall have authority to transact any necessary business between

meetings or caucuses: to make recommendations as to the policies and program of the Party; to advise the Chairperson of all vacancies that occur between elections and to complete slates of delegates and alternates to the State Convention or District Caucuses and such other duties as may be prescribed under the By-Laws.

Section Five: Term. The term of office for the officers and Executive Committee shall be two (2) years, or until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

Section Six: Compensation. All officers shall serve without compensation except that the Executive Committee may, pursuant to a standard policy, provide for the reimbursement of the actual expenses of the officers. The County Chairperson may, with the approval of the Executive Committee, appoint such full or part-time officers-employees who may be paid such compensation as the Chairperson and Executive Committee may determine.

## **ARTICLE V - MEETINGS AND CAUCUSES**

Section One - Call. Meetings or caucuses shall be held upon proper notice, at the call of the Chairperson or at the direction of the Executive Committee or upon petition of twenty-five (25) members in good standing, such petition to state the exact purpose of the meeting or caucus.

Section Two: Annual Caucus. All annual caucus shall be held prior to April 1 of each year (and at least 30 days before the District caucus). Each year delegates and alternates shall be elected from the list approved by the Executive Committee to attend the district caucus and the state convention. Delegates and alternates are nominated by the Delegate Committee and approved by the Executive Committee. Election of officers shall occur every other year in odd-numbered years. Guidelines for selection of up to three potential national convention delegates/alternates are set forth in the By-Laws.

Section Three: Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall hold meetings at the call of the Chairperson and at such other times as determined by the Executive Committee. Special meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the Chairperson or by written request /electronic request of five (5) members of the Executive Committee and upon notice to all members.

Section Four: Notice. Notice of a county meeting or caucus shall be given by written/electronic notice to each member at least ten (10) days prior to such a meeting or caucus. A county meeting or caucus must also be called upon petition of ten (10%) percent of the members in good standing, such petition to state the purpose of the meeting. Copies of the petition, including the meeting date, time and location shall be mailed to all members of record at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting.

Section Five: Quorum. A quorum for a meeting or caucus of this organization shall be a number equal to twenty-five (25%) percent of the number of authorized delegates of Washington County to the last preceding state convention, and in no instance, less than ten (10) members. A quorum for a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be twenty-five (25%) percent of the Executive Committee.

Section Six: Voting Regulated. Voting by proxy shall be prohibited at any meeting or caucus of this organization. The unit rule of voting shall not be used.

## **ARTICLE VI - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

Section One: Nomination of Officers. A nominating committee of not less than three (3) members shall be appointed by the Chairperson and approved by the Executive Committee prior to each election. This committee shall report one (1) nominee for each office at the caucus called for such election after which nomination from the floor shall be allowed.

Section Two: Voting Procedure. Where there is only one candidate for an office, election may be by voice. Where more than one candidate is nominated for an office, election will be held by written ballot. A majority of the votes cast shall elect.

## **ARTICLE VII - BY-LAWS**

The Executive Committee is in power to adopt By-Laws not inconsistent with this Constitution for the purpose of implementing this constitution and conducting the affairs of the Party in an orderly manner.

## **ARTICLE VIII - CONFLICTS RESOLVED**

In the event of any conflict or ambiguity of this Constitution or By-Laws adopted hereunder, the Constitution of the Republican Party of Wisconsin shall prevail.

## **ARTICLE IX - AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution may be amended at any annual caucus, provided that the proposed amendment has been submitted to the Executive Committee of the Republican Party of Wisconsin for its review and approval, and provided further, that the call and notice of such annual caucus shall clearly state the exact manner in which it is proposed that the Constitution shall be amended. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of members entitled to vote at such a caucus shall be required to adopt an amendment.