

CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY
OF MEEKER COUNTY OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA

ARTICLE I : NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Republican Party of Meeker County of the State of Minnesota, herein referred to as Meeker County GOP.

ARTICLE II : MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Meeker County GOP Party shall be composed of all voters of Meeker County who desire to support the Party.

ARTICLE III : PURPOSE

Section 1: The purpose and objectives of the Basic Political Organizational Unit (BPOU) shall be the maintenance and advancement of good government according to the Constitution and laws of the United States and the State of Minnesota.

Section 2: The purposes and duties of the BPOU shall include the following:

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

ARTICLE IV : STRUCTURE

Section 1: The management of the BPOU shall rest with the Meeker County GOP Leadership.

Section 2: The Meeker County Leadership Committee shall be composed of the BPOU Chair and Deputy Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and (6) At Large Committee Members.

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 Meeker County GOP Regional Leaders. They are also ex-officio members of all BPOU committees.

B) Elected Republican Legislators shall be encouraged to attend Leadership Committee meetings. Since their attendance at these meetings is not required, their position shall not be included in the quorum count unless they are present.

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 shall designate the financial institution to be used as a 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 funds coming to the BPOU from any source shall be deposited in the account(s).

ARTICLE V : PARTY ELECTIONS

Section 1. Officers of each precinct shall consist of a Chair, Deputy Chair, and such other officers as may be prescribed by the County Committee, elected during the even-numbered year for a two-year term by a caucus of Republicans within said precinct, in accordance with the applicable statute of the State of Minnesota. However in the event that a precinct shall fail to elect officers at a regular precinct caucus, officers for such a precinct may be selected by the County Committee.

Section 2. The officers of the County Committee shall consist of a Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and (6) At Large Committee Members, elected for a two year term by the delegates to the County Convention held during each odd-numbered year. A majority of the votes cast shall be required for election to any office.

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 the various Committee positions. This does not prohibit nominations from the floor.

ARTICLE VI : MEETINGS

Section 1. The County Committee shall meet at the Call of the Chair and/or Deputy Chair, or at the request of any three (3) members thereof, for the purpose of conducting Party business in the interim between meetings of the County Committee. A majority of the members, thereof, shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of the transaction of business by the County Committee.

Section 2. The County Committee shall meet monthly, unless determined by the County Committee, at the Call of the Chair and/or Deputy Chair or any five (5) members thereof. All members shall be notified at least five (5) working days in advance of each meeting. A majority of the members shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of the transaction of business by the County Committee.

Section 3. Robert's Rules of Order, revised, shall govern the proceedings of all meetings of the above-mentioned groups, except as otherwise provided herein.

ARTICLE VII : BPOU CONVENTIONS

Section 1: BPOU Meeker County GOP Conventions shall be held each year during the period and guided by the Official Call issued by the State Executive Committee, the State Central Committee, or the Seventh District Committees.

The time and place of these conventions 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 and/or by email, be sent to 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 discretion 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 may 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 for each delegate/alternate present and seated.

Section 3: The BPOU Convention shall be composed of delegates and alternates elected at Republican Party Precinct Caucus within Meeker County. The ratio to allocate 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, indicating which delegates they replace. Vacancies shall be filled according to the following procedures: A) The precincts shall caucus after acceptance of the temporary credentials committee report. If the precinct chair is not present, the seated delegates shall elect a chair, and then proceed to fill the vacancies.

B) Vacancies shall be filled by the alternates in the order in which they were ranked by the Precinct Caucus. If not ranked, then by vote of the seated delegates. If a tie vote arises, the chair shall appoint, by coin toss, one of the alternates who participated in the tie. Alternates shall be elected to fill vacancies individually to replace specific delegates. The alternate so elected may subsequently vote in the election to fill the next vacancy.

C) If a delegate should arrive late, the delegate shall assume the seat of the delegates alternate. A delegate may be seated at any time.

D) 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 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 until their successors are elected. Each Congressional District's BPOU convention delegates shall vote for their respective congressional district convention and alternates. State Delegates and Alternates shall be elected at large at the BPOU Convention. Alternates shall be ranked for seating purposes at these conventions.

Section 5: A motion to endorse will be in order at any BPOU Convention in the years when these elections occur. This motion must carry by a majority vote.

A) The BPOU Meeker County GOP Convention may endorse a candidate for office of State Senator. 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.

B) 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 delegates.

ARTICLE VIII : VACANCIES AND REMOVALS

Section 1. Vacancies in precinct offices may be filled by appointment of the County Committee, or if so directed by said body, by a meeting of Republicans residing within the precinct in which the vacancy occurs.

Section 2. Should a vacancy occur in one or more offices of the County Committee, the County Committee may appoint a replacement to fill each such vacancy.

Section 3. A member of the County Committee may be removed from office by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at any meeting of the County Committee, provided that the officer whose removal is under consideration shall have been furnished with a detailed written statement of the charges against him that officer at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting, and provided further that said officer shall be entitled to answer the charges against him before the entire committee, if he so desires, before the question is voted upon.

ARTICLE IX : GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 1. No member of the County organization shall be authorized to express the views or otherwise speak on behalf of any group within the Party on any matters of policy unless the group has first considered and taken action on such matter. This shall not be construed to prevent any official of the county organization from freely expressing his/her own opinions, provided it is clear that official's statements are solely his/her personal views.

Section 2. The provisions of the Constitution shall be incorporated as part of the rules of each County Convention.

Section 3. Nothing in this Constitution shall be construed to deny or abridge the rights of any voter to participate in any Party caucus, primary or convention in which he is entitled by law to participate.

ARTICLE X

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present at any Meeker County GOBPPOU 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.