

**CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF ITASCA COUNTY OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA**

As amended March 21, 1970, April 1, 1978, March 7, 1981, March 27, 1982, March 19, 1988, March 1994, March 18, 2000, March 25, 2006, January 30, 2021, February 7, 2023, February 18, 2025, February 21, 2026

**ARTICLE I**

**NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the Republican Party of Itasca County of the State of Minnesota.

**ARTICLE II**

**MEMBERSHIP**

The membership of this organization shall be composed of all voters of Itasca County who desire to support the objectives of the Republican Party and who wish to be affiliated with the Republican Party.

**ARTICLE III**

**PURPOSE**

Section 1. The purpose and objectives of the Party shall be the maintenance and advancement of good government through the promotion within Itasca County of the principles and objectives of the Republican Party as determined by the National Republican Convention, the Minnesota Republican Convention, the Eighth Congressional District Republican Convention and the Itasca Republican County Convention. The purpose of this Constitution and Bylaws is to establish the authority of this body to conduct and transact business for the Republican Party of Itasca County.

Section 2. The purposes and duties shall include to organize or cause to be organized each precinct within Itasca County; to assist in conducting campaigns; to elect endorsed Republican Candidates; and to cooperate with, coordinate and support the activities of the Republican Party organization within Minnesota

Section 3. The management of the affairs of the Party within the county shall be vested in the Itasca County Committee subject to the direction of the State Central Committee, the State Executive Committee, the Eighth District Full Committee, the Itasca Republican County Convention, the Constitution of the Republican Party of Minnesota, the Constitution of the Eighth Congressional District and the statutes of the State of Minnesota.

Section 4. The duties of the Itasca County Committee shall include, but are not limited to, establishment of effective financial campaigns, organization of each precinct within the county, assistance to the candidates of the Republican Party and coordination of all Republican activities in Itasca County.

Section 5. The use of the terms Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and all other offices refer to Itasca County officials unless specifically stated differently.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **STRUCTURE**

Section 1. The County Committee shall be composed of the County Executive Committee, all delegates and alternates elected at their precinct caucus, any District or State Party officer residing in the County and by the majority vote of the County Committee, any additional individuals whom the Chair may nominate. All of the above have voting rights.

Section 2. The County Executive Committee shall be composed of the County Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and State Central Committee delegates allotted to this county by the Constitution of the Republican Party of Minnesota. In the event members of the Executive Committee are also State Central Committee Delegates, State Central Alternates will be advanced to the County Executive Committee. Alternates will be seated by ranking until an odd number of members is obtained. The County Executive Committee shall be composed of a minimum of 7 members and a maximum of 9 members.-The Executive Committee shall administer and manage the party affairs within the County between meetings of the County Committee members.

Section 3. The County Full Committee will consist of the County Executive Committee, and the Chair of any established Subcommittee. All County Full Committee members have voting rights within the Committee.

Section 4. Subcommittees may be determined to be necessary for the operation of the County Committee. Subcommittees are established, structured, combined or eliminated by the Executive Committee. Appointments to these committees will be the responsibility of the County Chair. The County Chair shall name a Chairman of each Subcommittee established in this manner. These Subcommittees will not be a part of the Executive Committee. They will receive their authorization from the Executive Committee and report to the Executive Committee. Members of the Executive Committee may be members of any established Subcommittee. The County Chair and Deputy Chair are members of all appointed and standing committees and subcommittees.

Section 5. Each elected Republican Minnesota House District and Senate District member representing Itasca County may designate a liaison to the Executive Committee.

## **ARTICLE V**

## **PARTY ELECTIONS**

Section 1. Officers of each precinct shall consist of a Chairman, 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 precinct may be selected by the Chair and ratified by the County Committee.

Section 2. The Officers of the County Committee shall consist of a Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer, elected for two-year terms by the delegates to the County Convention held during odd-numbered years. A majority of the votes shall be required for election to any office. Qualifications for officers consist of residing in the electing unit and legally able to vote in the next general election. If no one runs to fill one of the Officers positions, the Chair may appoint a qualified person. The appointment shall be ratified at the next County Committee meeting.

Section 3. The Delegates and Alternates to the State Central Committee shall be elected for two-year terms by the Delegates to the County Convention held during odd-numbered years. Qualifications for Delegate and Alternate consist of residing in the electing unit and legally able to vote in the next general election. A majority of the votes cast shall be required for election. If there are not enough candidates for delegate or alternate, the Chair may appoint and rank delegates or alternates as appropriate subject to ratification by the County Committee.

The delegates and alternate positions shall be allocated by the Eighth Congressional District Executive Committee in conformity with the State Republican Constitution. The delegate election will be held first followed by the election of alternates. ~~Three~~Two times as many alternates as delegates may be elected. Each alternate elected must be ranked in the order of the votes cast for them. If a tie should occur, the County Chair shall determine the order.

Section 4. The Delegates and Alternates to the Congressional District Convention and State Convention shall be elected for two-year terms by the Delegates to the County Convention held during even-numbered years. Qualifications for Delegate and Alternate consist of residing in the electing unit and legally able to vote in the next general election. A majority of the votes cast shall be required for election. If there are not enough candidates for delegate or alternate, the Chair may appoint and rank delegates or alternates as appropriate subject to ratification by the County Committee.

The delegates and alternate positions shall be allocated by the Eighth Congressional District Executive Committee in conformity with the State Republican Constitution. The ratio of alternates to delegates will be decided by the Congressional District and State Party. The delegate election will be held first followed by the election of alternates. Each alternate elected must be ranked in the order of the votes cast for them. If a tie should occur, the County Chair shall determine the order.

Section 5. A Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the County Executive Committee in advance of the County Convention held in odd-numbered years for the purpose of nominating candidates for

officers of the County Committee to be submitted for consideration at the County Convention, provided however, that nominations shall be made in accordance to the call letter. Candidates considered for the office by the Nominating Committee shall be those who would be most ably qualified for the performance of their respective duties in the event of their election to office. Candidates will be interviewed by the Nominating Committee before the Convention.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **OFFICERS**

**Section 1.** The Chair shall preside over all BPOU meetings, County Conventions and County Committee meetings unless the Chair has designated otherwise. The Chair shall have general supervision and management over the affairs of the Party and over other officers. The Chair or the Chair's designee shall provide for the items as outlined in Item 3 of the Policies and Procedures. In addition, the Chair retains control of the data, financial reports, minutes of meetings, lists, assets and records of the Republican Party of Itasca County until a new chair is elected. These items remain the property of the County Committee.

**Section 2.** The Deputy Chair primarily serves to assist the Chair. The Chair will assign duties as needed to the Deputy Chair. The Deputy Chair will chair meetings in the absence of the Chair and assists the Executive Committee.

**Section 3.** The Secretary shall be responsible for preparing and publishing the minutes of the County Conventions, the County Committee and the Executive Committee. All approved minutes, delegate and alternate lists and other data will be retained as part of the books and records of the County Committee.

**Section 4.** The Treasurer shall be responsible for establishing and maintaining an adequate system of internal accounting and financial controls, filing County Committee financial statements, supplemental schedules and financial reports to applicable regulatory agencies and timely presenting such financial information in detail to the Executive Committee for their examination and approval.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **MEETINGS**

**Section 1.** The County Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the Chair and/or Deputy Chair 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 Executive Committee. A summary report of meetings of the Executive Committee shall be given at the next monthly meeting of the County Committee.

**Section 2.** The County Committee shall meet a minimum of four times per year, unless otherwise determined by the County Committee at the Call of the Chair and/or Deputy Chair in the absence of the

Chair. Notice shall be e-mailed and/or mailed by the Secretary or designee to all members at least five (5) days in advance of each meeting. Six of the members shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of the transaction of business by the County Committee. However, nothing in this article shall be construed as to restrict any member of the Republican Party in good standing from actively participating in the business of the County Committee, with the exception of voting rights. Voting members are all officers, elected delegates and alternates.

Section 3. Executive and Full Committee meetings may be conducted by Zoom or another recognized meeting forum at the discretion of the Chair.

Section 4. Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, for orderly conduct of meetings where all have a right to be heard, and no one can dominate, shall govern the proceedings of all meetings and Conventions, except as otherwise provided herein.

## ARTICLE VIII

### CONVENTIONS

Section 1. County Conventions of the Party 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, the Eighth Congressional District Committee or the County Committee. The time and place, therefore, shall be determined by the County Executive Committee.

Section 2. Special County Conventions shall be held at the Call of the State Executive Committee, the State Central Committee, the Eighth Congressional District committee, or at any time deemed necessary by a majority of the members of the County Executive Committee, provided that at least two (2) week's written notice be sent to each delegate and alternate.

Section 3. Prior to the County Convention, the County Chair shall appoint the following pre-convention committees. The Chair for each committee shall be selected from the delegates and alternates to the Convention:

- a. Credentials
- b. Rules
- c. Resolutions (when necessary)
- d. Endorsement (when necessary)
- e. Nominations except for those outlined in Article V, Section 5

Additional appointments may be made by the County Chair for the positions of Parliamentarian, Sergeant at Arms, and Tellers.

Section 4. County Conventions shall be held at such time and place as the County Executive Committee shall determine. First order of business received shall be the temporary credentials report. The

convention shall then proceed to the seating of the delegates as outlined in Section 5. A Precinct shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each delegate present and seated, as herein provided.

Section 5. The Officers of the County Committee shall consist of a Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer, elected for two-year terms by the delegates to the County Convention held during odd-numbered years. A majority of the votes shall be required for election to any office. In the event an office remains without a candidate at the time of the County Convention, the vacancy may be filled through appointment by the County Chair until ratification at a regular meeting of the County Committee.

- A. County Convention shall be composed of delegates elected by members of the Party in the respective election precincts of the county and shall also include the County Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, any officer of the District GOP Organization and any delegate to the State Central Committee. The number of delegates and the basis of their apportionment shall be uniform through the county. The Credentials Committee shall seat all duly-accredited delegates of each precinct who are in attendance and present their credentials prior to the time stated in the Call for convening of the Convention. 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. In the event there are both delegates and alternates present, the Credentials Committee shall seat only the delegates and the vacancies shall be filled as provided below.
- B. The County Chair shall seat an alternate from the precinct list to fill a vacancy in the delegation. Alternates are designated to replace a specific delegate. By the Constitution of CD8 and MN GOP, cross seating is not allowed.
- C. If the specific delegate arrives later, the delegate shall assume his seat and replace the alternate who was seated in his/her place. If an alternate arrives later, they may be eligible to fill vacancies from the precinct.
- D. When a new County Chair or Deputy Chair is elected at a County Convention held during the two-year period for which delegates and alternates have been elected to State and District Conventions, the outgoing County Chair and/or Deputy Chair may be elected to any existing vacancies in the delegate or alternate lists.

Section 6. A County Convention may endorse candidates for public office, if such candidate received sixty percent (60%) of the voting strength of the Convention as established by the last report of the Credentials Committee, preceding such vote, and provided that such Convention, by a simple majority vote, has determined to endorse or consider endorsement at the Convention for that office. When more than one candidate is nominated for endorsement of an office, none of them shall be voted upon separately and the candidacy of all shall be submitted on one ballot. If no candidate receives the required 60 percent vote, then subsequent balloting may eliminate all but the two candidates. The

determination of endorsement for an office in which the constituency is not coterminous with the territory of the Convention shall be made only by those delegates residing within such a constituency. Actions to endorse or not endorse must pertain to the District and other specific wording to clearly identify the constituency concerned. Persons making motions, seconds and/or voting on endorsement actions at County Conventions must be constituents of the office concerned. Where the constituency of an office comprises an area where more than one county is involved, then endorsement can be given only by a joint convention that includes all areas of such constituency. The rules of a County Convention provide that where only one candidate is nominated for endorsement for a particular office endorsement may be granted if such candidate received 60% of the votes cast on the proposal.

Section 7. A County Convention may provide an advisory endorsement to candidates for District, State or National office, provided that such advisory endorsement is not binding upon delegates to District or State Conventions. The procedure for advisory endorsement shall be limited to one ballot with all nominated candidates for the same office to be submitted on the same ballot. A sixty percent (60%) vote as outlined in Section 5 shall be necessary to be considered an advisory endorsement as provided for in this section.

Section 8. Delegates and alternates to the Republican County, District and State Convention shall be elected in accordance with the laws to the State of Minnesota, and with the Constitution of the Republican Party of Minnesota, and shall continue as such until their successors are elected, provided that they continue to be entitled to vote in the area which they are chosen to represent. The County Convention shall elect as many alternates as the number of delegates allotted.

Section 9. If an elected delegate is not present at the District or State Convention to which he was elected, the vacancy shall be filled by an alternate as determined by a caucus of the delegates present, however, priority shall be given to any alternate who resided in the same Precinct District of the delegate he is to replace. If it is determined in advance of such a convention that one or more delegates will not be in attendance, then the County Chairman may call for a pre-convention caucus of the delegates provided that adequate advance notice is to be given all delegates. Such caucus shall determine the method or order of seating alternate delegates as vacancies occur. Certification of such action taken shall be made to the Convention Credentials Committee in advance of the Convention.

Section 10. The general principles of Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, for orderly conduct of meetings where all have a right to be heard, and no one can dominate, shall govern the proceedings of all meetings and Conventions, except as otherwise provided herein.

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **VACANCIES AND REMOVALS**

Section 1. A vacancy occurs upon the death, removal or resignation of an officer or committee member. All vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term of the vacated office.

Section 2. Vacancies in precinct offices may be filled by the 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 3. Should a vacancy occur in one or more offices of the County Committee or a State Central Delegate or Alternate-the Chair shall appoint a replacement to fill each such vacancy and ratification of the replacement shall be required at the next meeting of the County Committee.

Section 4. Should a vacancy occur in one or more of the Executive Committee seats, the Chair shall appoint a replacement and ratification of the replacement shall be required at the next meeting of the county committee.

Section 5. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Chair, the Deputy Chair shall carry out the duties of the Chair until a new Chair is elected. The County Committee shall meet within 45 days thereafter to elect a new Chair. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Deputy Chair, Secretary or Treasurer, the Chair may appoint an acting Deputy Chair, Secretary or Treasurer subject to the ratification of the County Committee.

Section 6. An officer 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 at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting, and provided an opportunity to answer the charges before the entire Committee prior to the vote on the question.

Section 7. The following is a list of causes for removal from the Executive Committee and County Offices. This list is not all inclusive.

- A. Failure to support Republican endorsed candidates.
- B. Failure to carry out the duties of the office or acting in a manner exceeding their authority.
- C. More than three unexcused absences from meetings or events in a six month period.
- D. Failure to communicate with members of the Executive Committee and or Chair.
- E. Failure to fulfill or exceed their responsibilities.

Section 8. An appointed member of the County Committee or the County Executive Committee may be removed by the appointing authority.

Section 9. A delegate or alternate member of the County Committee may be removed from that position by a two-thirds ( $2/3$ ) vote at any meeting of the Country Committee, provided that delegate or alternate whose removal is under consideration shall have been furnished with a detailed written statement of the charges at least (10) days prior to the meeting, and provided an opportunity to answer the charges before the entire Committee prior to the vote on the question.

Section 10. The following is a list of causes for removal from the delegate or alternate list. This list is not all inclusive.

- A. Failure to support Republican endorsed candidates.
- B. Failure to advance the principles and objectives of the Republican Party as determined by the National Republican Conventions, the Minnesota Republican Convention, the Eighth Congressional District Republican Convention and the Itasca County Republican Convention.
- C. Failure to cooperate with, coordinate with and support the activities of the Republican Party organization within Minnesota.

## **ARTICLE X**

### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Section 1. The County Party Organization is affiliated with the Republican Party of Minnesota, and its activities shall be consistent with the objectives, platforms and principles of the official state organization. The Provisions of the Constitution of the Republican Party of Minnesota shall govern if any part of this Constitution is not consistent herein.

Section 2. No member of the County organization shall be authorized to express the views or otherwise speak of 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 opinions provided it is clear that the statements are solely personal views.

Section 3. The provisions of this Constitution shall be presumed to be incorporated as part of the rules of each County Convention.

Section 4. 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 participation is entitled by law.

## **ARTICLE XI**

### **AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the delegates present at any County Convention, provide that the proposed amendments shall have been first referred to a duly appointed Constitution Committee.

**Amended and Adopted at the February 21, 2026 County Convention**

**Signatures**

2025- 2027 Chair Addie Best  
2025- 2027 Deputy Chair Paul Durocher  
2025- 2027 Treasurer Catherine McLynn  
2026-2027 Secretary Dan Marshall