

Proposed Rules for the 2017 Chisago County Republican Party Convention

1. Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition, shall be the parliamentary authority on all points not covered by the Constitution of the Republican Party of Minnesota, the Constitution of the Republican Party of Chisago County, the statutes of the State of Minnesota, the official call of this Convention or the rules adopted by this Convention.
2. The permanent roll of the Convention shall be constituted as follows:
 - a. The delegates of each precinct duly elected at the March 1, 2016, precinct caucus.
 - b. If any duly elected delegate to this Convention is absent, then a duly elected alternate from THAT PRECINCT shall be seated in the order specified in the Constitution.
 - c. If a precinct does not have any duly elected delegates or alternates present at Convention, there shall not be representation from that precinct.
3. The printed convention agenda constitutes the items of business this Convention shall consider.
4. A quorum shall be declared after the preliminary report of the Credentials Committee and shall not be questioned again during the course of the Convention.
5. Only persons whose names are entitled to be entered upon the permanent roll of this Convention shall be permitted to vote.
6. Registration shall remain open throughout the convention.
7. Candidate or issue signs shall not be affixed to a stationary object behind, above or immediately in front of the podium in the convention hall.
8. Literature distributed at conventions.
 - a. All pieces of literature must include the phrase "Prepared and Paid for by" and the name of the person(s) or organization presenting the literature.
 - b. All literature must be presented to the Credentials Committee for approval of the disclaimer prior to distribution on the Convention floor.
 - c. Literature that is distributed without the disclaimer will be collected from convention attendees and discarded.
9. All persons asking a question, speaking to an issue, submitting a motion or seconding a motion must stand and identify themselves by name and precinct (at a

microphone if provided). Debate upon any motion or subject shall be limited to one minute by each speaker. A person shall not be allowed to speak more than twice upon the same motion or issue. Up to three (3) speakers for and three (3) against may speak on each motion or issue.

10. The vote on all questions shall be by voice, subject to the following contingencies:
 - a. A standing vote may be requested by any delegate or the Chair.
 - b. A roll-call vote by precinct shall be taken if requested by ten (10) or more precincts.
 - c. A secret ballot may be moved by any delegate, seconded and voted up or down.
11. If there is a dispute about the vote of any precinct, the Chair shall appoint a Judge and two Tellers to canvass the vote of that precinct and the Judge shall report the same to the Chair.
12. No one shall be compelled to vote on any question under unit rule.
13. All motions, except such as relate directly to the order of business, shall be in writing for the convenience of all and referred to the proper committee, without debate, and reported on by it before the same shall be considered on the floor.
14. Debate and Adoption of Proposed Changes to the Party's Constitution.
 - a. After the Constitution Committee has presented its report, motions to amend the Constitution may be offered from the floor of the Convention subject to Rule 13. The Chair may grant the consideration of a proposed amendment without using Rule 13.
 - b. Minority report(s) of the Constitution Committee may be presented if agreed to by at least two members of the Constitution Committee.
 - c. Debate shall be governed by rule 9. However, the Chair shall have the discretion to extend debate on any proposed constitutional change.
15. Methods of voting.
 - a. Voting for a candidate in an uncontested race shall be by voice vote.
 - b. In contested cases, voting for candidates shall proceed by secret ballot.
 - i. The secret ballot shall be cast electronically.
 - ii. If a voter inadvertently hits the "Cast Ballot" button, a request can be made to the Head Teller to recast the electronic vote.

- c. If electronic voting is not available, paper ballots shall be prepared.
 - i. When there are two candidates in a race, a voter shall write one candidate's name legibly on a supplied blank ballot.
 - ii. When there are three or more candidates in a race, the names of the candidates shall be arranged in alphabetical order and the ballot then printed.
 - d. Each candidate's campaign is encouraged to appoint one (1) designee to observe the counting of ballots.
16. The filing deadline for candidacy for any office or position to be elected at this Convention is 8 p.m. on Wednesday, February 8, 2017, except in specified cases.
17. Election of Executive Committee Officers and Liaisons.
- a. Each office or position shall be considered and voted on separately.
 - b. The Applicant Filing Committee shall present to the convention the candidates for an office or position who have met the filing deadline. (Each candidate was interviewed by the Applicant Filing Committee.)
 - c. Nominations will not be accepted from the floor except in two cases:
 - i. If there is not a candidate for an office or position, nominations for that position may be taken from the floor. Nominees shall then meet with the Applicant Filing Committee to fulfill Section 17b.
 - ii. If a candidate loses an election, he or she may be nominated from the floor to be a candidate in any subsequent election.
 - d. After the presentation of candidates for each individual office or liaison position, the candidates will be given up to three minutes to address the Convention. The alphabetical order of the candidates' last names shall determine the speaking order.
 - e. Voting shall have priority over all other speakers or business.
 - f. Blank ballots shall not be counted as having been cast. Each ballot may contain only one vote cast for the office or position considered in that election.
 - g. Candidates receiving fifty percent (50%) plus one (1) of the total number of valid ballots cast shall be declared elected to the respective office or liaison position.

- h. If a candidate does not receive the required votes to be elected, new ballots will be prepared and subsequent elections will take place until a winner is declared.
 - i. Candidates receiving less than ten percent (10%) of the vote will be dropped from subsequent elections for that office or position.
 - j. Following each election, the remaining candidates will be given two minutes to address the Convention.
 - k. Upon completion of the election for an office or position, repeat the process in the above manner until all Executive Committee offices and positions are filled.
18. Election of Delegates to the State Central Committee.
- a. The Applicant Filing Committee shall present to the Convention the candidates for delegates to the State Central Committee who have met the filing deadline.
 - b. Nominations will not be accepted from the floor unless there are not enough candidates to fill the available positions. Those who have been nominated from the floor shall meet with the Applicant Filing Committee to fulfill Section 17b.
 - c. Each candidate will be given up to two minutes to address the Convention. The alphabetical order of the candidates' last names shall determine the speaking order.
 - d. Voting shall have priority over all other speakers or business.
 - e. Blank ballots shall not be counted as having been cast. Each ballot may contain up to four (4) votes for delegates to the State Central Committee.
 - f. The four (4) candidates receiving the most votes will be declared delegates to the State Central Committee except candidates receiving votes from less than fifteen percent (15%) of the ballots cast will not qualify to be an elected representative to the State Central Committee.
 - g. An election of the remaining candidates shall be held to fill any unfilled positions. If the only candidate available for the position has received an insufficient percentage of ballots cast, nominations may be taken from the floor to add candidates to the ballot. If there are no nominations, the position shall remain unfilled.

- h. In the case of a tie for the last delegate position, the Chair shall flip a coin to determine the winner.
19. Election of Alternates to the State Central Committee.
- a. The Applicant Filing Committee shall present to the Convention the candidates who filed for the alternate positions on the State Central Committee who have met the filing deadline.
 - b. The names of candidates who were not elected as delegates will be added to the list of those who filed as State Central Committee alternate candidates.
 - c. Nominations will not be accepted from the floor unless there are not enough candidates to fill the available positions. Nominees shall then meet with the Applicant Filing Committee to fulfill Section 17b.
 - d. Each person who filed as an alternate candidate will be given up to two minutes to address the Convention. The alphabetical order of the candidates' last names shall determine the speaking order. Those who were candidates in the election for State Central delegate will not speak again.
 - e. Voting shall have priority over all other speakers or business.
 - f. Blank ballots shall not be counted as having been cast. If there are more than four (4) candidates, each ballot may contain up to four (4) votes for alternates to the State Central Committee. If there are only four (4) candidates, each ballot may contain up to three (3) votes for alternates to the State Central Committee in order to create a ranking of the alternates.
 - g. The four (4) candidates receiving the most votes will be declared the ranked alternates to the State Central Committee except candidates receiving votes from less than fifteen percent (15%) of the ballots cast will not qualify to be an elected representative to the State Central Committee.
 - h. An election of the remaining candidates shall be held to fill any unfilled positions. If the only candidate available for the position has received an insufficient percentage of ballots cast, nominations may be taken from the floor to add candidates to the ballot. If there are no nominations, the position shall remain unfilled.
 - i. In the case of a tie for any of the alternate positions, the Chair shall flip a coin to determine the ranking.

20. The Chair of the Convention may recognize visitors and give them the privilege of speaking for up to three minutes. A State Senator, State House Representative and other elected officials may each speak for up to five minutes. The Chair may allow such visitors or elected officials to speak at any time during the Convention so that gaps in the program timing can be filled or to accommodate the schedule of such visitors or elected officials.

21. These rules shall not be amended nor suspended except by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Convention.

Note: The Rules Committee encourages delegates and seated alternates not to make a motion to “call the question,” which would stop debate if approved, but often only results in delaying the business of the Convention.