

**House District 32B Special Endorsing Convention Proposed Rules
October 13, 2016**

1. Robert's Rules of Order, latest edition, shall be the parliamentary authority on all points not covered by the statutes of the State of Minnesota, the Constitution of the Republican Party of Minnesota, the Constitution of the Republican Party of Chisago County, the Bylaws of the Republican Party of Chisago County, 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 in House District 32B who were 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 by the Chisago County GOP 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. This Convention shall be held for the sole purpose of endorsing a candidate for office.
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. Delegate and alternate 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 shall 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 called at the discretion of the Chair.
 - b. A roll-call vote by precinct shall be taken if requested by eight (8) 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 (2) 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 or motion under unit rule.
13. All motions, except such as relate directly to the order of business, shall be in writing and referred to the proper committee, without debate, and reported on by it before the same shall be considered on the floor.
14. Methods of voting for endorsement.
 - a. A candidate may be endorsed by a two-thirds (2/3) voice vote in an uncontested race.
 - b. In contested cases, voting for candidates shall proceed by secret ballot.
 - i. As the first choice, the secret ballot shall be cast electronically. If electronic voting is not available, paper ballots shall be prepared.
 - (1) When voting by paper ballot and there are two candidates, a voter shall write one candidate's name legibly on a supplied blank ballot.
 - (2) When there are three or more candidates and voting is by paper ballot,

the names of the candidates shall be arranged and printed in alphabetical order. Following the names, the ballot shall include the options of “no preference,” “undecided,” and “no endorsement.”

- (3) When there are two or more candidates and voting is by electronic ballot, the names of the candidates shall be arranged in alphabetical order and the electronic ballot created. Following the names, the electronic ballot shall include the options of “no preference,” “undecided,” and “no endorsement.”
- (4) Blank ballots, abstentions, unreadable ballots, ballots cast for an ineligible person or fictional person and ballots with too many votes shall be regarded as spoiled and not counted in the total needed for endorsement.
- (5) If a voter inadvertently hits the “Cast Ballot” button, a request can be made to the Head Teller to recast the electronic vote.

- ii. Each candidate’s campaign is encouraged to appoint one (1) designee to observe the counting of ballots.

15. Endorsement of a State Representative Candidate.

- a. The delegates and seated alternates shall determine by majority vote if the convention chooses to endorse a candidate for State Representative.
- b. Each candidate for endorsement for the office of State Representative must declare to the Candidate Interview Committee his or her candidacy no later than one hour prior to the commencement of the convention.
- c. Each candidate must meet with the Candidate Interview Committee (CIC) to ascertain the candidate's qualifications for office prior to such candidate's name being placed in nomination for endorsement for such office. Such candidate interviews shall be conducted as follows:
 - i. A candidate may meet with the CIC prior to or on the day of the Convention.
 - ii. The CIC will be available to meet with candidates up to the time the Convention begins and the CIC will then recess just prior to the start of convention. During the Convention, the CIC will reconvene from time to time for the purpose of receiving questions given to it in writing by delegates and seated alternates pursuant to rule 15(f). Thereafter, the CIC shall adjourn.
 - iii. The CIC issues its report whether the candidate may or may not be considered for nomination at the Convention. A minority report of the CIC may be presented if one-third of the members concur. By accepting the

report, the convention places into nomination for endorsement the names of the candidates who are set forth in the report as qualified. The nomination of each of the candidates is then seconded by delegates or seated alternates of each candidate's choosing.

- d. Each candidate shall then be allowed to address the Convention. Seconding and candidate speeches shall take no more than ten (10) minutes total for each candidate. In an uncontested race, the candidate shall be allowed to address the convention for up to five (5) minutes.
- e. Any candidate seeking endorsement for the office of State Representative who receives less than fifteen percent (15%) of the vote shall not be listed on any ballots which may take place thereafter.
- f. After the first ballot, each candidate who has not been eliminated shall be given an additional two (2) minutes to speak to the Convention. After subsequent ballots, the Chair of the Convention shall pose two (2) to three (3) questions to remaining candidates who will be allowed up to two (2) minutes to respond to each question. The CIC shall prepare these questions. Delegates and alternates may also submit questions in writing to the CIC prior to or during the Convention. The CIC may clarify these questions and shall submit these to the Chair of the Convention. The Chair may choose which questions to use or modify a question before posing it to the candidates. After each round of speeches or questions, balloting for endorsement shall continue.
- g. If a delegate or seated alternate leaves the convention, that person shall notify the precinct Chair and credentials committee to be removed from the permanent roll of this Convention.
- h. The credentials report shall be updated as needed prior to the next vote for endorsement.
- i. Through the first three (3) ballots, a candidate shall be endorsed by receiving the vote of sixty percent (60%) or more of the delegates and seated alternates as established by the last credentials report prior to voting.
- j. For the fourth and fifth ballots, a candidate shall be endorsed by receiving the vote of fifty-eight percent (58%) (rounded to the nearest whole number) or more of the delegates and seated alternates as established by the last credentials report prior to voting.

- k. For the sixth and subsequent ballots, a candidate shall be endorsed by receiving the vote of fifty-six percent (56%) (rounded to the nearest whole number) or more of the delegates and seated alternates as established by the last credentials report prior to voting.
 - l. Following recognition by the Chair of the Convention, a candidate may at anytime during the convention rise to address the Convention for the purpose of withdrawing his or her name from consideration for endorsement. Such speech shall not exceed two (2) minutes.
 - m. A motion for no endorsement shall not be in order until after six (6) ballots have been cast.
 - n. A motion to adjourn shall not be in order until after six (6) ballots have been cast.
 - o. If a candidate is not endorsed during this endorsing convention, then another endorsing convention will be held on October 20, 2016.
16. The Chair of the Convention may recognize unseated alternates and visitors and give them the privilege of speaking for up to three (3) minutes during times that ballots are being counted. An elected U.S. Representative and officers of the Republican Party of Minnesota may speak for up to ten (10) minutes. Candidates for U.S. Senate and U.S. Representative and Minnesota Constitutional offices may speak for up to five (5) minutes.
17. These rules shall not be amended nor suspended except by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Endorsing 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.