

Proposed Rules for Senate District 32 Endorsing Convention
March 28, 2020

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 Constitution of the Republican Party of Isanti 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 Senate District 32 who were duly elected at the February 25, 2020, 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 applicable County Party 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. 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 Committees 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. After the permanent organization has adopted rules, the delegates and seated alternates shall consider the agenda for adoption or amendment.
8. Candidate or issue signs shall not be affixed to a stationary object behind, above, or immediately in front of the podium.
9. 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 as well as the mailing address.
 - 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.
10. All persons asking a question, speaking to an issue, submitting a motion or seconding a motion must rise 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.
 11. 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 fifty percent (50%) of the number of precincts present.
 - c. A secret ballot may be moved by any delegate, seconded, and voted up or down.
 12. 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.
 13. No one shall be compelled to vote on any question or motion under unit rule.
 14. 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.
 15. Methods of voting for endorsement.
 - a. A candidate may be endorsed by a voice vote in an uncontested race.
 - b. In contested cases, voting for candidates shall proceed by secret ballot.
 - i. Ballots shall be prepared.
 - (1) When there are two or more candidates, the names of the candidates shall be in alphabetical order. Following the names, the ballot shall include the options of “no preference,” “undecided,” and “no endorsement.”
 - (2) 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.

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

16. Endorsement of a Candidate for State Senate.

- a. Pursuant to the State Party Constitution, it shall be determined by majority vote if the Convention chooses to endorse a candidate for State Senate.
- b. Pursuant to its Constitution, a Chisago County resident seeking endorsement for the office of State Senate must file to request it at least 15 days before the convention and meet with the Candidate Interview Committee (CIC).
- c. An Isanti County resident seeking endorsement for the office of State Senate must file with the Chairman to request it before these rules are adopted and meet with the Candidate Interview Committee (CIC).
- d. 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 CIC 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 persons of each candidate's choosing.
- e. Each candidate shall then be allowed to address the Convention. Seconding and candidate speeches combined may be up to ten (10) minutes total for each candidate. When uncontested, the candidate's nomination is seconded by the acceptance of the CIC report. The uncontested candidate may then address the Convention for up to five (5) minutes.
- f. Any candidate seeking endorsement for the office of State Senate who receives less than fifteen percent (15%) of the vote shall not be listed on any subsequent ballot.
- g. During the Convention, the CIC will convene from time to time for the purpose of receiving written questions from delegates and seated alternates. Thereafter, the CIC shall adjourn.
- h. After the first ballot, each candidate who has not been eliminated shall be given an additional two (2) minutes to speak to the Convention.
- i. 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 seated 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 responses to questions, balloting for endorsement shall continue.

- j. 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.
- k. Following recognition by the Chair of the Convention, a candidate may at anytime address the Convention for the purpose of withdrawing his or her name from consideration for endorsement. Such speech shall not exceed two (2) minutes.
- l. Once balloting starts in a contested case, a motion for no endorsement or adjournment shall not be in order until after six (6) ballots have been cast without an endorsement.

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.