



**Rules and By-Laws  
of the  
Columbia County Republican Party**

**Adopted November 19, 2022**

**PO Box 1482, Evans, Georgia 30809  
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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	SECTION I: PURPOSE .....	1
2.	SECTION II: QUALIFICATION FOR PARTICIPATION.....	1
3.	SECTION III: COUNTY PARTY MEMBERSHIP .....	1
3.1	General Membership .....	1
3.2	Supporting Membership.....	1
4.	SECTION IV: COUNTY COMMITTEE .....	2
4.1	Elected Officers .....	2
4.2	Appointed Officers .....	3
4.3	Other Members of the County Committee.....	3
4.4	General Powers of the County Committee .....	4
4.5	Power to Organize Other Republican Clubs.....	4
4.6	County Committee Meetings.....	4
5.	SECTION V: EXECUTIVE BOARD .....	5
5.1	Power and Duties .....	5
5.2	Specific Responsibilities.....	6
6.	SECTION VI: COMMITTEES .....	8
6.1	Standing Committees.....	8
6.2	Temporary Committees .....	10
7.	SECTION VII: ELECTION AND TERM OF OFFICE.....	10
8.	SECTION VIII: PRECINCT COMMITTEES .....	11
9.	SECTION IX: COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICT CHAIRS .....	11
10.	SECTION X: REMOVAL OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS .....	12
11.	SECTION XI: VACANCIES.....	12
12.	SECTION XII: PROXIES AND VOTING .....	13
13.	SECTION XIII: ALLOCATION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES.....	14
13.1	County Delegate Default.....	14
13.2	County Delegate Allocation.....	14
13.3	Delegate Order of Precedence .....	14
13.4	Alternate Delegate Selection.....	14

13.5	Maximum Delegate Allocation.....	14
13.6	Default Allocation Rule.....	14
14.	SECTION XIV: EXECUTION OF INSTRUMENTS .....	14
15.	SECTION XV: POWER TO ALTER MEMBERSHIP .....	15
16.	SECTION XVI: FISCAL YEAR AND AUDIT .....	15
17.	SECTION XVII: AMENDMENTS TO RULES.....	15
18.	SECTION XVIII: NOMINATION OF ELECTIVE OFFICIALS.....	16
19.	SECTION XIX: QUALIFICATION OF CANDIDATES.....	16
20.	SECTION XX: MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE .....	16
21.	SECTION XXI: ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER .....	17
22.	SECTION XXII: FILING OF THE COUNTY PARTY RULES.....	17

# **RULES AND BY-LAWS OF COLUMBIA COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY**

## **1. SECTION I: PURPOSE**

The purpose of The Columbia County Republican Party (hereinafter referred to as the "County Party"), shall be exclusively non-profit, for the furtherance of the principles of the National and State Republican Party and the aims and goals of the County Party. The Rules of the County Party are designed to outline the responsibilities, policies, and procedures for the proper operation of the County Party; to designate County Party offices; to outline the duties of County Committee officials; to provide management guidelines for conducting County

Party business; to provide for the formation and structure of various committees; and for other functions and policies of the County Party.

## **2. SECTION II: QUALIFICATION FOR PARTICIPATION**

All qualified voters under the laws of the State of Georgia, who in accord with the principles of the Republican Party, believe in the declaration of policy, and are sympathetic with the aim and purpose, may participate as Members of the County Party in conventions or mass meetings, in their respective jurisdictions.

## **3. SECTION III: COUNTY PARTY MEMBERSHIP**

Membership is open to all individuals regardless of sex, race, or national origin.

### **3.1 General Membership**

General membership in the County Party is open to any registered voter in the County. There are no dues for General Membership. General members may participate in Precinct and County Conventions.

### **3.2 Supporting Membership**

Supporting Membership in the County Party is open to any registered voter in the County.

These Members will pay an amount of money to be determined not more than annually at a called County Committee meeting. Said amount shall be determined by a vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of those present and eligible to vote.

A membership card will be issued once (1) a year by the membership committee.

Executive Board Members and Elected Public Officials shall be at least a Supporting Member of County Party.

Annual Membership Levels are as follows:

- Student Membership
- Supporting Membership
- Supporting Household (2 person per household)
- Courthouse Membership
- Chairman's Circle

#### **4. SECTION IV: COUNTY COMMITTEE**

The County Committee of the County Party hereinafter is referred to as the County Committee.

Each Member of the County Committee shall be a qualified voter under the laws of the State of Georgia and shall support the Republican Party. Members shall reside in their Precinct in the County.

The Parliamentarian, as well as Members listed in 4.3.2., 4.3.5., 4.3.8., and 4.3.10., and 4.3.12 are Non-voting Members. All others listed under Officers, Appointed Officers, and Other Members of the Committee are Voting Members.

The County Committee is responsible for recruiting new members and possible political candidates. The County Committee's primary objective is to enhance the prestige and reputation of the County Party. The County Committee shall decide all controversies and questions arising within its jurisdiction.

No person shall be eligible to hold two (2) offices.

The duties and authority of the respective officers shall be such as is usual and by custom inherent in offices of the same name and such duties, and authority may be enlarged or limited from time to time by the County Committee. The County Committee shall consist of the following Officers and Members.

##### **4.1 Elected Officers**

- Chair
- First Vice Chair
- Second Vice Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- First Commission District Chair
- Second Commission District Chair
- Third Commission District Chair
- Fourth Commission District Chair
- At Large Commission District Chair

- 4.2 Appointed Officers
  - General Counsel
  - Parliamentarian
- 4.3 Other Members of the County Committee
  - 4.3.1 Immediate Past Chair of the County Committee
  - 4.3.2 President or representative from each State-Chartered Republican Women's Club in Columbia County
  - 4.3.3 Republican State Committee Members from Columbia County
  - 4.3.4 Republican Tenth and 12th District Committee Members from Columbia County
  - 4.3.5 Public officials elected on the Republican Party ticket including members of the U.S. Congress and Senate if residents of Columbia County
  - 4.3.6 Chairs of all Standing Committees
  - 4.3.7 The Republican Committee Chair of all Precincts or a designated representative of the Precinct
  - 4.3.8 One (1) Member to be selected by each College Republican Club or Young Republican Club with members that reside in Columbia County
  - 4.3.9 Five (5) District Chairs (one elected to represent each of the four County Commission Districts, and an At-large)
  - 4.3.10 Any School Board Member, Judge, Mayor, or City Council Member that resides in Columbia County and is a Supporting Member of the County Republican Committee
  - 4.3.11 One (1) additional representative from each Precinct for each five hundred (500) votes cast in the last general election for the Republican candidate for President or Governor
  - 4.3.12 Republican representatives to the Board of Elections
  - 4.3.13 Persons appointed by the County Chair as Chairs of Special Committees. Membership shall cease on termination of service, removal, or replacement because such appointments shall be for stated lengths of time or upon completion of work. Such appointments are to be presented by the Chair and approved by the Executive Board.

#### 4.4 General Powers of the County Committee

The County Committee shall represent the County Party between mass meetings or conventions.

The County Committee shall have the duty to enhance the prestige, reputation, and strength of the County Party by actively promoting voter registration and voter participation drive.

The County Committee shall call the County Conventions and Mass Meetings or Primaries.

The County Committee shall also make arrangements, identify the basis of representation by delegates to local conventions based on the official call by Georgia Republican Party, as well as the time and place for holding the meetings.

The County Committee shall oversee all County campaigns. The County Committee shall cooperate with the State and District Committees in conducting elections within the boundaries of Columbia County.

The County Committee shall otherwise aid the State and District Committee in other efforts where practical.

The County Committee shall decide all jurisdictional controversies and questions, with the right to appeal to the District Committee. The appeal, by petition, must be signed by at least twenty-five (25) qualified Republican voters of Columbia County.

#### 4.5 Power to Organize Other Republican Clubs

The County Committee shall have the power to organize and recognize Republican Clubs in the voting Precincts of the County under such rules and qualifications as they may deem appropriate.

#### 4.6 County Committee Meetings

The County Committee shall meet no less than twice per year.

The County Committee may meet upon the call of the Chair; a majority of the Executive Board, or one third (1/3) of the Members of the County Committee provided a five (5) day written notice has been given all Members of the County Committee setting forth the time, place, and purpose of such meeting.

Emergency meetings may be held upon call of any Officer or eight (8) Members of the Committee upon twenty-four (24) hours actual notice to all Members of the Committee

of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting.

The membership of the County Committee, present in person or by proxy, after proper notice shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, provided at least fifteen (15) Members are present.

## **5. SECTION V: EXECUTIVE BOARD**

There shall be an Executive Board of the County Party which will consist of the following officers:

- Chair
- Two Vice Chairs
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Five District Chairs
- Chairs of Standing Committees
- Legal Counsel (Voting member)
- Immediate Past Chair, (Voting member)
- Parliamentarian (Non-Voting member)

Officials elected on the Republican ticket shall be Ex-Officio Non-voting Members.

All Executive Board Members must be at least a Supporting Member of the County Party.

### 5.1 Power and Duties

#### 5.1.1 The Executive Board shall meet monthly.

- a. The preliminary agenda and previous meeting's minutes shall be issued to all executive board members 72 hours prior to the scheduled meeting. Any changes or additions to the agenda shall be provided to the chair 36 hours prior to the meeting.
- b. The Executive Board may also meet on 24 hours notice upon the call of the Chair, or one-third of the voting members of the Executive Board. The members requesting the called meeting shall be included in the call for the meeting. The meeting agenda shall also be provided as part of the call for the meeting.
- c. Notification of meetings by electronic mail is authorized.

5.1.2 Quorum-Nine (9) members of the Executive Board membership present shall constitute a quorum for the transacting of business. Members of the Executive Board may be represented at any meeting of the Executive Board by proxy, provided that the proxies are in writing and in favor of another member of the Executive Board excluding chairman.

5.1.3 Attendance-Executive Board Members may not miss more than three (3)



consecutive regularly scheduled Executive Board Meetings and no more than five (5) regularly scheduled Executive Board Meeting in a fiscal year. Attendance shall be recorded in the monthly attendance log and maintained by the Secretary.

5.1.4 All Members of the County Committee shall have the right to attend any meetings of the Executive Board and address the board on any issue, with notification to the Chair prior to the agenda being developed but shall not have the right to vote.

5.1.5 The Executive Board shall act for the County Party between meetings of the County Committee, subject to such rules and regulations as the County Committee shall adopt.

5.1.6 Executive Board members are to diligently attend and support activities of the County Committee. If an Executive Board Member finds these activities a hardship to attend the Member shall submit a resignation to the Chair.

5.1.7 Executive Board members shall deliver all records, files, and properties of the County Committee to the successors within one (1) month after retiring or vacating their office.

## 5.2 Specific Responsibilities

### 5.2.1 CHAIR

- a. The Chair shall be the Chief Executive Officer and the only spokesperson of the County Party.
- b. The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the County Committee, Executive Board, County Conventions, and other County Party functions.
- c. The Chair with the Secretary shall sign all contracts and obligations authorized by the Executive Board and the County Committee.
- d. The Chair shall appoint all committee chairs. Appointees shall be voted on at the next Executive Board meeting following appointments.
- e. The Chair shall be responsible for the general direction of the business of the County Party and will ensure all meetings are conducted in a professional manner in accordance with these rules and Roberts Rules of Order.
- f. The Chair shall qualify the filing of Republican candidates.
- g. The Chair shall not endorse any candidates running for elected public offices until after the Primary or Primary Runoff.
- h. The Chair, at the completion of his/her term, shall serve as Immediate Past Chair to the Executive Board as a Voting Member.

### 5.2.2 FIRST VICE CHAIR

- a. The First Vice Chair shall perform all duties of the Chair in the event of the absence or inability of the Chair to act, or in the event of a vacancy in that office.

- b. The First Vice Chair shall perform all duties as assigned by the County Chair, the County Executive Board, or the County Committee.
- c. The First Vice Chair shall oversee some Standing Committees that are designated by the Chair. The First Vice Chair shall only vote on a Standing Committees to break a tie.

### 5.2.3 SECOND VICE CHAIR

- a. The Second Vice Chair shall perform all duties as may be assigned by the County Chair, the County Executive Board, the County Committee, or the County Party.
- b. The Second Vice Chair shall oversee some Standing Committees that are designated by the Chair. The Second Vice Chair shall only vote on a Standing Committees to break a tie.

### 5.2.4 SECRETARY

- a. The Secretary shall handle the general correspondence of the County Party
- b. The Secretary shall maintain a roll of all members, and their latest addresses.
- c. The Secretary shall ensure that all members of the Executive Board and County Committee are geographically qualified for the position they hold. The Secretary will periodically validate this information.
- d. The Secretary shall issue adequate advance written notice of all meetings of the membership, the Executive Board, the County Committee, and the County Party in accordance with CCRP Rules, par 5.1.1.
- e. The Secretary shall keep the minutes and shall perform all such duties incident to the office.
- f. The Secretary shall serve as Temporary Secretary to all County Conventions until the Permanent Convention Secretary is elected.
- g. The Secretary shall assist the Chair in qualifying the filing of Republican candidates.
- h. Maintain monthly attendance roster to support the Chair.

### 5.2.5 TREASURER

- a. The Treasurer shall be the financial Officer of the County Party and have custody and control of funds.
- b. The Treasurer shall have the authority to open such bank accounts in the name of the County Party, sign checks, drafts, and other papers requiring the payment of money.
- c. The Treasurer shall perform such other duties as may be authorized and directed by the Executive Board, the County Committee and the County Party from time to time.
- d. The Treasurer shall cause all debts and obligations of the County Party to be paid, upon verification by the person or persons authorizing the

disbursements, which shall be open for inspection by the County Party and auditors at all times.

- e. The Treasurer shall give a report of financial accounts at each meeting of the Executive Board, the County Committee, and the County Party.
- f. The Treasurer shall furnish a statement of all receipts and disbursements of the County Party and all assets and liabilities of each meeting of the membership.

#### 5.2.6 PARLIAMENTARIAN

- a. A Parliamentarian shall be appointed by the Chair.
- b. The Parliamentarian shall perform such duties incident to the office.
- c. The Parliamentarian shall see that Robert's Rules of Order, as amended, governs the conduct of all meetings of the Executive Board, the County Committee, and the County Party.
- d. The Parliamentarian is a Non-voting Member of the County Committee and Executive Board.

#### 5.2.7 LEGAL COUNSEL

- a. A Legal Counsel may be appointed by the Chair.
- b. The Legal Counsel shall perform all such duties incident to the office.
- c. The Legal Counsel shall see that the Executive Board, the County Committee and the County Party comply with all Federal, State, and Local Laws.
- d. The Legal Counsel may represent the County Party in legal matters and disputes.
- e. The Legal Counsel shall serve as liaison between the Executive Board and any other legal counsel that may be retained by the County Party as needed.
- f. The Legal Counsel is a Voting Member of the County Committee and Executive Board.

### **6. SECTION VI: COMMITTEES**

All Chairs of Standing and Temporary Committees shall be appointed by the Chair with approval of the majority of the Elected Members of the Executive Board.

#### 6.1 Standing Committees

The expenditure of funds by any of these committees shall require the approval of the Executive Board prior to such expenditures.

##### 6.1.1 FINANCE COMMITTEE

There shall be a Finance Committee consisting of an appointed Chair, a Vice Chair, Treasurer, and such additional members as needed for the Committee. The Treasurer is charged with the safekeeping and proper accounting of all monies collected for use by the

County Party. All disbursements shall be approved by the Executive Board. The Committee will appropriately manage County Party funds.

#### 6.1.2 FUND RAISING COMMITTEE

There shall be a Fund Raising Committee consisting of an appointed Chair, a Vice Chair, Treasurer, and such additional members as are needed for the Committee. The Fund Raising Committee shall actively seek and solicit funds from County Party members, private contributors, businesses, and through fund raising events.

#### 6.1.3 MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

There shall be a Membership Committee consisting of the appointed Chair, a Vice Chair, Secretary and such additional members as needed for the Committee. The Membership Committee shall organize and conduct membership drives and develop a list of potential Members.

#### 6.1.4 SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE

There shall be a Special Events Committee consisting of the appointed Chair, a Vice Chair, Secretary and such additional Members as are needed for the Committee. The Special Events Committee shall plan, organize, and direct all special events of the County Party as designated by the County Chair. They shall work with other committees as appropriate to accomplish these efforts.

#### 6.1.5 POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

There shall be a Policy and Planning Committee consisting of the appointed Chair, a Vice Chair, Secretary, and such additional members as needed for the Committee. The Policy and Planning Committee shall identify and study issues, as well as develop policy and positions that will best serve the County and County Party.

#### 6.1.6 PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

There shall be a Public Relations Committee consisting of the appointed Chair, a Vice Chair, Secretary, and such additional members as needed for the Committee. The Public Relations Committee shall develop programs to effectively represent the County Party to the public that will ensure a positive image is maintained. The Public Relations Committee Chair shall prepare with the County Chair any press statements or releases as needed. The County Chair has final approval of statements and releases.

#### 6.1.7 COLUMBIA COUNTY YOUNG REPUBLICANS COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Columbia County Young Republicans (YR) shall serve in a non-voting position on the County Executive Board.

## 6.2 Temporary Committees

The Chair shall, from time to time, form any other committees, appoint chairs, and additional Members. These Committee chairs and members shall be approved by the Executive Board. They shall cease on termination of service, removal, or replacement because such appointments shall be for stated lengths of time or upon completion of work.

Examples of temporary committees include:

### 6.2.1 CAMPAIGN SUPPORT COMMITTEE

There shall be a Campaign Support Committee consisting of the appointed Chair, a Vice Chair, Secretary, and such additional members as needed for the Committee. The Campaign Support Committee shall provide support to candidates running on the Republican platform. This support may include assistance in organizing a campaign, as well as training / tactics for the candidates, information about the County Party Platform, and determination of the financial needs of the candidates, with recommendations to the County Party for any financial assistance the County Party may offer.

### 6.2.2 ETHICS COMMITTEE

There shall be an Ethics Committee consisting of the appointed Chair, a Vice Chair, Secretary, and such additional members as needed for the Committee. The Ethics Committee shall hear petitions / complaints concerning violations of the laws of the State of Georgia regarding matters of conduct, ethics, and any other activity which may bring discredit to the County Party. This committee is not an investigatory body. The Committee shall give confidential recommendations to the Executive Board about the disposition of these petitions/ complaints. The Ethics Committee adopts by reference the GOP Ethics Code, previously adopted by the Georgia Republican Party (pages 1 and 2, Incl. 1), and further endorses the Code of Ethics for Governmental Service, set forth in Section 45-10-1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated (page 3, Included 1).

## 7. SECTION VII: ELECTION AND TERM OF OFFICE

The Officers of the County Party shall be elected at the odd year County Convention and shall serve until the time of the next odd year convention.

In the event of death, resignation, or removal from office of any of the Officers elected by the County Convention or the County Committee, the County Committee shall elect a successor by a majority vote of a quorum present.

In the event of a vacancy in the position of the Chair, the First Vice Chair shall automatically serve as acting Chair until such time as the County Committee shall elect a successor.

If an Officer or Member moves out of the County/ District/ Precinct, that Officer or Member shall be considered to have resigned effective the date of the move.

The office of the Chair shall be limited to two elected consecutive terms.

## **8. SECTION VIII: PRECINCT COMMITTEES**

A Precinct Committee shall be created in each voting Precinct of the County.

The Precinct Committee shall consist of all interested, qualified voters that reside in the Precinct and who support the Platform and Principles of the County Party.

The Precinct Committee shall be responsible for recruiting new Members in the Precinct and conducting periodic meetings.

The Precinct Committee shall elect a Permanent Precinct Chair, Vice Chair, or Secretary at each odd year County Convention.

In the event the Permanent Precinct Chair, Vice Chair, or Secretary resigns between conventions, the District Chair may call a Precinct meeting to elect a successor or, if not feasible to call a meeting, appoint a successor and notify the Executive Board so that County Party records are up to date.

The Precinct Committee may also elect a Vice Chair at any subsequent meeting of the Precinct. Elected Public Officials are deemed to have resigned their office on election and cannot serve as Officers. The Officers of each Precinct shall follow the duties of the County Party Officers where applicable.

## **9. SECTION IX: COUNTY COMMISSION DISTRICT CHAIRS**

There shall be five County Commission District Chairs (one chair for each of the four County Commission Districts and one At-large.)

The District Chairs shall be elected during the odd year County Convention by a caucus of the precincts within each respective district. The At-Large District Chair shall be elected by the convention body as whole.

In the event the District Chair resigns between conventions the Executive Board may appoint a replacement for the resignation.

These District Chairs shall be the liaison between the Precinct Chairs in their respective District and the Chair/ Executive Board.

They shall reside in their respective Districts. These District Chairs shall assist the Precinct Chairs in organizing and developing a Grass Roots Network at the Precinct level.

## **10. SECTION X: REMOVAL OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS**

Any Officer or Member of the County Committee may be removed from office for "Cause" by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of a quorum present at any duly called meeting of the County Committee. Due to the severity and extreme nature of a meeting to remove a member for cause, proxy voting rules are vacated in this case and two-thirds (2/3) quorum will consist of County Committee members present to vote.

Such individuals shall be given at least thirty (30) days written notice, with the charges spelled out, prior to this meeting.

The individual shall appear before the Ethics Committee during this thirty (30) day period.

The individual shall be allowed to come before the County Committee to be heard. The Ethics Committee will then give a recommendation to the County Committee on the petition.

The County Committee will then vote on the petition for removal.

Failure to appear at this meeting shall be "Cause" for immediate removal.

"Cause" as used herein shall include continued failure to perform duties and / or participate in the affairs of the Republican Party, as well as conduct detrimental to the best interest of the Republican Party, i.e., supporting candidates of a competing political party.

As soon as an officer qualifies to run for an elected public office for which at least one other Republican has also qualified, he shall be deemed to have resigned. An officer who qualifies as a candidate for an elected public office for which no other Republican has also qualified shall be deemed to have resigned immediately upon being elected to that office. As soon as an officer qualifies as a candidate for elected office as a candidate of any political party other than the Republican, he shall be deemed to have resigned all positions in the CCRP.

## **11. SECTION XI: VACANCIES**

In the event of death, resignation, or removal from office of any of the Officers of the County Committee elected by the County Convention or the County Committee, the County Committee shall elect a successor by a majority vote of a quorum present of a meeting called for this purpose or at a regular County Committee meeting. Written notice of this vacancy shall be given to Members of the County Committee five (5) days in advance.

The County Committee shall then proceed to elect a person to fill the unexpired term of office declared vacant. In the event such vacancy occurs from a specified Precinct/ District, such person selected to fill the vacancy must meet the qualifications to hold that office. An interim Precinct/ District Chair may be appointed by the Chair until the Precinct/ District organizations are able to meet. The District Chair shall make recommendations to the Chair for the Precincts in their Districts.

The Chair shall make the recommendations for the District Chair. The County Committee shall then vote on this recommendation. Where required by these rules, "Notice" to a Member of the County Committee or the Executive Board shall be satisfied by the mailing of such notice to the address maintained by the Secretary to the Members entitled to such notice.

## **12. SECTION XII: PROXIES AND VOTING**

Members of the County Committee and the Executive Board may be represented at any meeting of the respective committees by proxy.

The proxy must be in writing and shall be signed by the maker, and shall be done using the proxy form attached as attachment "A" to the By-Laws. A signature may be an e-file signature.

The proxy must specify the date of the meeting and Committee to which it applies. Perpetual proxies shall not be permitted. No person shall hold more than two proxies. No proxy may be directed to or voted by the Chair or a non-voting member.

Official meetings of the County Committee and the Executive Board may be attended in person by physical attendance or by proxy at a place designated in the meeting notice, or by audio, video, or electronic conference call.

During Executive Board meetings, the Executive Board has the privilege to enter into executive session upon an adoption of a motion to do so. Violation of the secrecy of the executive session is subject to disciplinary action and possible ethics charges.

Votes are normally taken by a show of hands or standing.

A Member may call (in the form of a motion) for a "division of the house" and request that a secret ballot be taken.

Except as votes requiring a secret ballot, the vote may be cast and taken by email or other electronic means.

All votes cast by electronic means will be cast within twenty-four (24) hours if possible, and not more than forty-eight (48) hours. A vote cast by electronic means shall have the same force and effect as a vote cast by a Member casting a vote in person.

Votes cast and taken by audio or video conference call shall be taken pursuant to roll call vote.



### **13. SECTION XIII: ALLOCATION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES**

#### 13.1 County Delegate Default

The County is entitled to one Delegate and one Alternate to the State Convention.

#### 13.2 County Delegate Allocation

In addition, the County is entitled to one Delegate and one Alternate for each one thousand (1000) votes or major fraction thereof (501 or more), cast for the Republican candidate for President in the last general election.

#### 13.3 Delegate Order of Precedence

In the event there are not enough prospective Delegates and Alternates, the Nominating Committee will fill Delegate positions first. Any remaining vacancies may be filled from the prospective Delegate list.

#### 13.4 Alternate Delegate Selection

In the event there are not enough Alternates present, the remaining seats may be filled by any Alternate present.

#### 13.5 Maximum Delegate Allocation

All Delegate seats to the State Convention floor will be filled if Alternates are present to fill the vacancy.

#### 13.6 Default Allocation Rule

The county shall default to the higher number of vote cast for a Republican President or Republican Governor (whichever occurred last) when allocating delegates from precincts to the County Convention.

### **14. SECTION XIV: EXECUTION OF INSTRUMENTS**

All instruments which may be executed by or on behalf of the County Party, including deeds, contracts, leases, and promissory notes, but excluding checks, shall be executed by the Chair with the attestation of the Secretary.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, in such instances where the Executive Board has adopted a resolution specifically authorizing the execution of certain deeds, contracts, leases, and promissory notes; the Executive Board may provide that such documents may be executed by such Officer as may be authorized in said resolution.

Checks shall be signed by two of the following: Chair; Treasurer; and First Vice Chair. All CCRP officers that have access to CCRP funds must undergo a criminal and financial background check before having access to such funds.

The purpose of the County Party is to further the principles of the Republican Party. The County Party shall not use county party funds to support charities. All members are encouraged to support charities, but the funds of county party were received to support the above principles.

A charity is defined as an organization set up to provide help and raise money for those in need.

With regard the county party expressing sympathy, congratulations, or other recognition on behalf of the county party, when it is appropriate, the Chairman at his or her discretion may send a card only. There shall not be any additional action by the Board.

#### **15. SECTION XV: POWER TO ALTER MEMBERSHIP**

The County Committee shall have the power between conventions to alter membership of the County Committee and Executive Board to whatever extent deemed appropriate by a majority vote of the County Committee present; provided written notice designating the time, place, and purpose of such meeting is mailed to all Members of the County Committee at least five (5) days prior to such meeting.

#### **16. SECTION XVI: FISCAL YEAR AND AUDIT**

The fiscal year of the County Party shall commence with the County Convention and extend for one (1) year.

The books of the County Party may be audited annually by an audit committee appointed by the chairman. The appointed committee may recommend an additional audit approved by the Executive Board.

The auditor's report shall be filed with the records of the County Party. A summary of this report shall be presented for action at the annual meeting of the membership.

There shall be an audit of the books whenever the County Party's annual income exceeds \$50,000 or directed by the Executive board.

#### **17. SECTION XVII: AMENDMENTS TO RULES**

These rules may be amended at a County Committee meeting by a majority of the quorum present provided that at least ten (10) days written notice of such a meeting has been mailed to all Members.

In the call of such meeting, the necessary intention shall be stated to amend these rules and to set

forth in detail the proposed amendments.

Use of electronic mail (e-mail) is authorized for this notification.

The County Party will mail hard copy of changes to the County Committee members who do not have access to email.

The amended rules shall become effective when adopted, unless otherwise provided. All rules must be consistent with the State Party rules. State Party Rules shall supersede District and County Committee Rules. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern conduct.

### **18. SECTION XVIII: NOMINATION OF ELECTIVE OFFICIALS**

The County Committee shall have the power to nominate candidates for County and City elective offices in a County Committee meeting or primary.

County Committee meetings for the purpose of nominating candidates for elective public offices may be held upon written notice of not less than five (5) days on the call of the Chair or on the call of majority of the County Committee Members.

Whenever the County Committee shall by a majority vote declare primary elections for purpose of nominating County or City candidates for public elective offices, such primary elections may be held for the purpose or purposes declared in accordance with the rules and regulations established by the Georgia State Committee and consistent with any Federal or State Laws for the conduct of such primary nominations, and the certification of the results.

### **19. SECTION XIX: QUALIFICATION OF CANDIDATES**

The County Committee shall follow requirements of Platform and Policy Paper, Policy Number II, par 2.4, for candidate's qualification consistent with current Federal and State laws, as well as with the rules of the State Republican Party.

Any candidate for elective office running as a Republican Party candidate shall submit to the appropriate level of the Party the following oath affirming his or her allegiance to the Party by signing the following oath:

I DO SWEAR OR AFFIRM MY ALLEGIANCE TO THE GEORGIA REPUBLICAN PARTY  
AND THE COLUMBIA COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY.

Signature of Candidate:

Date:

### **20. SECTION XX: MUNICIPAL COMMITTEE**

The County Committee is authorized to make such rules and to adopt such regulations as may be necessary or desirable for the structuring, organizing, and establishing of a Municipal Republican

Committee for municipalities located within the County.

Said rules and regulations must not be in conflict with the rules of the Republican Election Code and the General Election Code.

No candidate in a partisan municipal election shall be authorized to run as a Republican, unless selected either by Primary or Petition under the auspices of a duly filled Municipal Republican Committee in conformity with Chapter 34A-9 of the Georgia Municipal Code.

**21. SECTION XXI: ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER**

Except to the extent modified by the County Committee, and/or Executive Board, or a majority of the Committee and/or Board in session, *Robert's Rules of Order* shall govern.

The Parliamentarian shall be charged with interpreting *Robert's Rules of Order*.

**22. SECTION XXII: FILING OF THE COUNTY PARTY RULES**

Within thirty (30) calendar days following adoption of these rules, a copy shall be filed with the following Officers:

- Superintendent of Board of Elections of Columbia County
- Probate Judge
- City Clerk of each incorporated area of the County
- Chair of the Congressional District Republican Party
- The Georgia State Republican Party

ADOPTED AND APPROVED

<i>//Original signed and dated.//</i>	
Deborah McCord, CCRP Chairman	Date

<i>//Original signed and dated.//</i>	
Michael V. Wiltse, CCRP Secretary	Date