

## The TRUTH about Otter Tail County & the BPOU Convention

*When it becomes obvious that the State Party is interfering in the rights of a BPOU or Congressional District to function as allowed under the MNGOP Constitution, all Republicans must engage in a process to assist the Republican Party to restore the balance of power between the state and the PEOPLE through the local party units.*

1. On Caucus night (2/27/24), the CD 7 Otter Tail County Caucuses were held as required under MN Stat. §202A.18. **These caucuses were attended by more than 450 people. There were approximately 238 delegates and 227 alternates elected at the 2024 caucuses in Otter Tail County.** There is a tragic history of State Party interference in the administration of the Otter Tail County Precinct Caucuses. The following correctly describes the events in Otter Tail County:
  - In 2022, these “leaders” of the Otter Tail County Executive Committee, illegally added delegates and alternates to precinct caucus lists. Later in 2022 and 2023 these “leaders” illegally suspended duly elected delegates and alternates in violation of the MNGOP Constitution and MN Statutes.
  - After the assault on delegates / alternates in 2022-2023, the grassroots took the advice of Chair Hann and worked tirelessly to build a stronger network of Republicans across the BPOU. These Republicans came to caucus, ready to engage in the process as was their legal right and were met with a relentless attack by the State Party and their surrogates.
  - On February 27, 2024, these “leaders” engaged in actions that interfered with the caucus attendees’ rights to conduct their respective precinct caucus. Despite this interference, the caucus attendees completed all business as required and completed all forms per the directions of the MNGOP administration.
  - The BPOU “leaders” manipulated Caucus registration forms to include a requirement that Delegates/Alternates must support the endorsed candidate or risk losing their position. While this violates the MNGOP Constitution and is, in fact, a nullity, the “leaders” asserted the caucus attendees who refused to sign the form would be disallowed as delegates and alternates.
  - In Perham, caucus attendees voted 183-39 to remove the party-selected caucus location convenor and replaced him with the BPOU-trained convenor who has worked for years with the party grassroots, is a former county BPOU chair, former CD7 vice-chair and former state central delegate. In Fergus Falls, caucus attendees attempted to remove the caucus location convenor, but the party-selected convenor ignored the will of the body and refused to give up the gavel.
  - In both locations, the election process began as required and the caucus attendees remained at their caucuses until the work was completed. There is no requirement for the caucus to be completed at 8pm, as was suggested by the Party Chair. The election process begins when the caucus attendees initiate nominations and includes the discussions related to those nominations and elections. Just like on election night, as long as a person is present and ready to vote by 8pm, the person is allowed to vote. The caucus attendees were present and the caucus ready to vote by 8pm. All voting at the caucuses was legal.

- Like in Perham, the Fergus Falls precincts followed the law, turned in their forms as instructed and trusted that party-selected convenor to fulfill his duties. That party-selected convenor dropped off a tote of documents with his father, who was the temporary Perham caucus location convenor who was replaced by the attendees 183-39.
  - The BPOU secretary remained at the Perham location and assisted the Perham caucus location convenor in completing the forms as was directed by the party, after the caucuses were individually adjourned as required.
  - The MNGOP created precinct caucus forms that were not in compliance with MN law. Despite these misleading forms, OTC precinct chairs/conveners complied with the state law.
2. On March 5, 2024, State Party Chair Hann refused to acknowledge the failure of the Party to create precinct caucus forms that were in compliance MN state law and instead put forward a false narrative that blamed Otter Tail County Republicans for paperwork issues created by Party forms.
  3. On 3/12/24, the State Executive Committee **voted** to establish a special committee to evaluate the Otter Tail County (OTC) situation and decide how to handle said situation.
  4. The State Party Chair refused to provide the names of the members of the committee to the State Exec Board or the public and refused to disclose the process and timeline for this committee's recommendations, knowing the deadlines for scheduling a BPOU convention were unchangeable.
  5. This committee ran out the clock to prevent the call for a BPOU Convention.
  6. On 4/2/24, the "special committee" released a recommendation that ignored the rights of the 2024 duly elected delegates and alternates of Otter Tail County.
    - This non-binding recommendation to violate the rights of the 2024 Otter tail Delegates and Alternates was agreed upon by all "leaders" who had been chosen by Chair Hann to participate in the sham committee. This group agreed to recommendations that excluded the interests of the grassroots of the Otter Tail County.
  7. **In order to protect the MNGOP from the loss of major party status because the State Executive Board's and Congressional District 7's failed/refused to call a BPOU Convention in OTC, more than 40 members of the Otter Tail County BPOU Committee joined together to issue the call for the constitutionally required BPOU convention.**
  8. On 4/3/24, the Otter Tail County BPOU Committee issued the call for the BPOU Convention, as required by Article VIII Section 2 of the Party Constitution and Article IX Section 1 of the Otter Tail County Constitution. See this link for the call:  
[https://mcusercontent.com/98298f7215d7074ebd88b8b6d/files/986eef28-a265-936c-6681-4076013bfbee/24\\_04\\_02\\_OTC\\_Conv\\_Call\\_with\\_delegates\\_and\\_chairs.02.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/98298f7215d7074ebd88b8b6d/files/986eef28-a265-936c-6681-4076013bfbee/24_04_02_OTC_Conv_Call_with_delegates_and_chairs.02.pdf)
  9. On 4/13/24, the Otter Tail County BPOU Convention was held per the properly issued call.
  10. ***There were 128 delegates and seated alternates credentialed at the BPOU Convention.***