

# Constitution

## Republican Party of Winnebago County

### ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this organization shall be "The Republican Party of Winnebago County."

### ARTICLE II - PURPOSE

The purpose of this organization shall be to unify, under one central organization, the activities of the Republican Party of Winnebago County, and to advance in every honorable way fundamental Republican principles and policies, and as a voluntary organization, cooperate and assist in all county, state, and national elections, to the end that our republican form of government, as created under the Constitution of the United States and the State of Wisconsin, be preserved for all of the people. As a constituent, self-governing part of the Republican Party of Wisconsin, this organization shall direct, manage, supervise and control the business, property and funds of the Republican Party of Winnebago County.

### ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

#### Section 1. Membership.

Membership in this organization shall be open to all Winnebago County citizens of voting age who believe in the objectives, purposes and principles of the Republican Party. Qualified and voting members of this organization shall be those Republicans who have paid their current dues to the Republican Party of Winnebago County and who have been recorded by the Secretary or Treasurer at least 30 days prior to any general meeting or caucus.

#### Section 2. Exceptions.

Membership exceptions can be made in the bylaws.

#### Section 3. Membership Period.

The membership year shall be from January 1 through December 31.

## ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS

### Section 1: Officers

The officers of this organization shall consist of a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

### Section 2: Terms of office

The officers named in Section 1 shall be elected in a duly constituted County Caucus held prior to April 1 in the odd numbered years.

### Section 3: Duties of Officers

The Chairman shall preside at all meetings or caucuses of the Party and of the Executive Committee, and shall have general supervision of the work of the organization. The Vice-Chairman, in the absence of the Chairman, shall perform the duties of the Chairman. The Secretary shall keep and read minutes of all meetings or caucuses and shall be the custodian of all records of the Party. The Treasurer shall keep an account of all monies received and disbursed and shall report in full as required by the Chairman. The Chairman and the Treasurer shall file all proper reports as required by law.

### Section 4: Compensation

All officers shall serve without compensation except that they may be reimbursed for budgeted expenses upon approval of the Executive Committee. (The Chairman, with the approval of the Executive Committee, may appoint full or part time employees who may be paid such compensation as determined by the Executive Committee).

### Section 5: Filling Vacancies between Caucuses

Officers. Any vacancy occurring in the Officers may be filled by the Executive Committee by a majority vote of the voting members at a meeting of the Executive Committee. These new Officers shall hold the office until the next voting caucus.

## ARTICLE V - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### Section 1: Composition

- A. The officers named in Article IV, Section 1.
- B. Ten members at large elected in a duly constituted meeting or caucus.
- C. The immediate Past County Chairman.
- D. The Chairmen of the structural and supporting standing committees, as established in the By-laws.

### Section 2: Terms of Office

- A. Officers, Members at Large, and the Chairmen of the structural and supporting standing committees shall serve until the next odd-year caucus (generally two years).
- B. Immediate past Chairman shall serve until present Chairman becomes immediate past Chairman.

### Section 3: Duties of the Executive Committee

- A. Transact any necessary business between meetings or caucuses.
- B. Make recommendations as to the policies of the Party.
- C. Fill vacancies in the Executive Committee that occur between elections.
- D. Oversee the delegate selection process to assure that a full slate of delegates and alternates may attend District Caucuses and State Conventions.
- E. Advise the Chairman and to perform any other duties prescribed.

### Section 4: Filling Vacancies between Caucuses

Executive Committee. Any vacancy occurring in the Executive Committee may be filled by the Executive Committee by a majority vote of the voting members at a meeting of the Executive Committee. These new chairmen and members shall hold the position until the next voting caucus.

## ARTICLE VI - COMMITTEES

### Section 1: Caucus Committees

A. Officer Nominating Committee. A nominating committee of not less than three members shall be elected by the Executive Committee at least sixty days prior to each election. This Committee shall report at least one nominee for each office to be published with the notice of the meeting at which the election is to be held. After such report, nominations from the floor shall be allowed. Nominees for Members-at-Large and nominees for any officer position shall be current members at the time of nomination. (The Nominating Committee should try to nominate candidates for Members-at-Large who represent all geographic areas of the county.)

B. Delegate Nominating Committee. A nominating committee of not less than three members shall be appointed by the Chairman and approved by the Executive Committee for the purpose of nominating delegates and alternates to attend each District Caucus and State Convention. The list of nominee delegates and alternates shall be published and distributed prior to the call to order of the County Caucus. Nominations may also be made from the floor of the County Caucus.

### Section 2: Structural Standing Committees

A. Finance Committee. The duties of the Finance Committee shall be to raise necessary funds for carrying out Party activities of the Republican Party of Winnebago County and to perform such other duties as the Chairman and the Executive Committee may direct.

B. Campaign Committee. The duties of the Campaign Committee shall be to develop and execute programs, which will promote the election of Republican candidates, and to perform such other duties as the Chairman and the Executive committee may direct.

### Section 3: Other Committees

In addition to the foregoing committees, the Chairman, with the consent of the Executive Committee, may establish such other special, temporary, or supporting standing committees as may be deemed necessary or desirable.

### Section 4: Affiliate groups

Affiliate groups such as but not limited to College Republicans, Young Republicans, and Teenage Republicans may have one representative on the board as a member at large.

## ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS AND CAUCUSES

### Section 1: Process for calling a meeting or caucus

County Meetings and/or Caucuses shall be held at the call of the Chairman or Executive Committee upon at least eight days notice by mail to all members of record or advertised at least twice in a local newspaper. County meetings and/or Caucuses may also be called upon petition of 1) fifteen members in good standing; or 2) ten percent of the members in good standing, whichever is greater. Such petition shall state the exact purpose of the meeting, and copies of such petition, along with notification of meeting date, shall be communicated to all members by email or preferred form of contact on file with the secretary at least eight days prior to the meeting.

### Section 2: Annual Caucus

A Caucus shall be held prior to April 1 and not earlier than January 15 of each year, at which time delegates and alternates shall be elected to attend the District Caucus and the State Convention. In the odd numbered years, officers, structural and supporting standing committee chairmen, and members-at-Large will be elected to the Executive Committee. Where there is only one candidate for an office, election may be by voice vote. Where more than one candidate is nominated for an office, election will be held by written ballot. A majority of the votes cast shall elect.

### Section 3: Executive Committee

Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held upon at least ten days notice, at the call of the Chairman, or upon petition of the Executive Committee.

### Section 4: Voting by Proxy

Voting by proxy shall be prohibited at any regular or special county meeting or caucus.

### Section 5: Electronic voting

Voting via electronic formats may be authorized by the Chair or Vice Chair.

### Section 6: Dues Assessed for District Caucus

When Congressional District fees are assessed to the County to cover the cost of District Caucuses, the Treasurer shall be empowered, with the approval of the Executive Committee, to pay such fees prior to the District Caucus.

## ARTICLE VIII - QUORUM

### Section 1: Quorum for a meeting or caucus

A quorum for a meeting or caucus of this organization shall be a number equal to ten percent of the number of authorized delegates of Winnebago County to the last preceding state convention, and in no instance less than fifteen members.

### Section 2: Quorum for a meeting of the Executive Committee

A quorum for a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be a majority of the Executive Committee.

## ARTICLE IX - PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

"Robert's Rule of Order, Newly Revised." shall govern all proceedings except where inconsistent with the Constitution and By-Laws of this organization.

## ARTICLE X - AMBIGUITY

In the event of any conflict or ambiguity of this Constitution or By-Laws adopted hereunder, the Constitution of the Republican Party of Wisconsin shall prevail.

## ARTICLE XI - BY-LAWS

By-Laws may be adopted in compliance with this Constitution by a majority vote at a duly called county meeting or caucus.

## ARTICLE XII - AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution may be made after approval by the State Executive Committee and also by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at any regular or special meeting or caucus of this organization where the call and notice states such purpose.