

**Constitution
Republican Party of Vernon County**

Article I – Name

The name of this organization shall be the “Republican Party of Vernon County”.
(here-in-after referred to as RPVC)

Article II Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be:

- A. To preserve, support, and advance fundamental Republican principles and policies as promoted from time to time in either the National or Wisconsin Platforms of the party.
- B. To promote the election to public office of qualified and capable citizens who subscribe to those principles.
- C. To Preserve the Republic form of government as created under the Constitution of the United States of America.
- D. To direct, manage, supervise and control the business, property, and funds of the RPVC and to serve as a unit of the Republican Party of Wisconsin.

Article III Membership

Section 1. Membership in this organization shall be open to all Vernon County residents who believe in the above objectives, purposes and principles of the Republican Party. Members in good standing of this organization shall be those who have paid their annual dues. The membership year shall be January 1 through December 31.

Section 2. Wisconsin residents outside of Vernon County who believe in the above objectives, purposes and principals of the Republican Party, may join as members of the RPVC, but may not vote or hold a position as an officer, delegate, alternate, or serve on the Executive Committee.

Section 3. Nondiscrimination, there shall be no discrimination as to race, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, or national origin in the membership of this organization.

Article IV Officers

Section 1. The elective officers shall consist of a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.

Section 2. The elective officers and five (5) members of the Executive Committee shall be elected at a County caucus called for that purpose prior to April 1, in the odd numbered years, and shall serve for a term of two (2) years, or their successors are elected.

Section 3. Duties – The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings and caucuses of the Party and of the Executive Committee, and shall have general supervision of the work of the organization. The Vice-Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson shall perform the duties of the Chairperson. The Secretary shall keep and read minutes of the meetings and caucuses and shall promptly issue membership cards to all qualified members. The Treasurer shall receive and be Custodian of all funds of the party, pay all bills, keep an account, of all monies received and disburse and report in full as required by the Chairperson. The Treasurer may issue membership cards to all qualified members. The Chairperson and the Treasurer shall file all proper reports as required by law.

Section 4. Vacancies - Any vacancies in office during the term thereof due to resignation, disqualification, death or otherwise shall be filled by the Executive Committee. The persons so appointed shall act until the next regularly called caucus.

Article V Executive Committee

Section 1. The Executive Committee of this organization shall consist of the following members:

- A. The four (4) elected officers of the organization set forth in Article IV.
- B. The five (5) at large members elected by the County caucuses as per Article IV.
- C. The Committee Chairpersons appointed by the County Chairperson, with the approval of the elected members of the Executive Committee.
- D. The Chairperson of any active Young Republican Clubs in Vernon County.
- E. The Chairperson of any active Republican Women's Clubs in Vernon County.
- F. Any RPVC member who holds an elected County, State, or Federal office.
- G. Any RPVC member who holds an elected position in the District, State or National Republican Party or the District, State, or National Republican Women's organization.

Section 2. Duty and Authority – The Executive Committee shall be the policy making body of the organization subject to the general authority of the membership in a regularly called caucus. It shall have authority to transact necessary business between caucuses; to advise the County Chairman and other officers; to complete slates of delegates and alternates to District Caucuses and State Conventions or to delegate such authority to the County Chairperson; and shall also have control and management of the property and funds of the organization.

Section 3. Meetings

- A. The Executive Committee shall meet at least once every three (3) months, and as called by the County Chairperson or by written request of five (5) members of the Executive Committee, and upon notice to all the members of the Executive Committee.
- B. Regular and Special Meetings of the Executive Committee may be held by electronic means (such as telephone conference, video conference, or internet communication system) subject to the following requirements:
 - 1. A majority of the members shall have access to the specified electronic media;
 - 2. A quorum for the meeting shall be established by roll call vote and, once established, shall be assumed present until the meeting is adjourned;
 - 3. The technology used for the electronic meetings shall allow the members full access to and full participation in all meeting transactions either continuously or intermittently throughout the specified time of the meeting; and,
 - 4. The affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum shall be the minimum vote requirement for the adoption of any motion, with a roll call being required upon request of any member participating in the meeting.

Article VI Caucuses

Section 1. An annual caucus of the membership shall be held prior to April 1 of each year for the purpose of:

- A. Electing delegates and alternates to the District Committee and the State Convention.
- B. Electing officers and five (5) members of the Executive Committee of this organization, as provided in Article IV, in the odd numbered years, and,
- C. Transacting any other business, which may properly come before said caucus

Section 2. Special Caucuses may be called at any time by the County Chairperson, by the Executive Committee, or upon petition of 25 members of the organization in good standing, which petition shall state the purpose of the call.

Section 3. Notice of all Caucuses, annual or special, shall be given by one (1) advertisement in one or more weekly or daily paper in Vernon County, or upon at least seven (7) calendar days notification by written notice to each member in good standing, at his or her last known address, or last known email address, or by text or phone call to the last known phone number, of the time and place of the holding of such caucus, as provided in the State Party Constitution.

Article VII Nominations and Elections

Section 1. At a reasonable time prior to each election caucus, the County Chairperson, with advice and approval of the Executive Committee, shall appoint a nomination committee consisting of not less than three (3) members.

Section 2. This Committee shall nominate one (1) member in good standing for each office to be filled by election, including the at-large members of the Executive Committee, and the nomination of candidates by this Committee shall automatically place those persons named in nomination for the offices to be filled. Other nominations may be made from the floor at the Caucus. Nominations for any position shall be members in good standing at the time of the nomination and shall consent to such nomination. This committee shall also be charged with the responsibility of nominating members in good standing for delegates and alternates to attend each State Convention and District Caucus, after which nominations may be made from the floor.

Section 3. 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, or for delegate or alternate, election shall be held by written ballot. Majority of votes cast shall elect.

Article VIII Appointments

All recommendations for appointments shall be made by the Chairperson with the approval of the majority of the Executive Committee.

Article IX Quorum

Section 1. A quorum for a meeting or caucus of this organization shall be no less than ten (10) members.

Section 2. A quorum for a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be no less than five (5) members of the Executive Committee

Section 3. Voting by proxy shall be prohibited at all County caucuses and Executive Committee meetings.

Article X By-Laws

Suitable By-Laws consistent with the principles of this constitution may be adopted at any duly called County caucus in which the proposed amendment is stated, by a majority vote. Amendments to the By-Laws may also be adopted by a majority of the Executive Committee, but such By-Laws so adopted shall be subject to repeal or amendment at the annual caucus. Notice of any changes in the By-Laws shall be given in the call of each annual caucus.

Article XI Amendments

Amendments to this Constitution may be made by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of any caucus, regular or special, where the call and notice of such caucus shall have stated such amendment as a purpose of such caucus.

Article XII Parliamentary Authority

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

Article XIII Ambiguity

In the event an ambiguity or question of interpretation arises under this Constitution, the Constitution of the Republican Party of Wisconsin shall prevail.

Article XIV Typographical or Notational Error

Any typographical or notational error found in the text of this Constitution and/or any approved constitutional revision may be corrected by RPVC officers provided that such correction does not alter the intent or purpose. The RPVC Executive Committee will be notified of the corrections.

Article XV Superseding Governance

Upon adoption and approval of this Constitution, any and all previous Constitutions and by-laws of this organization are null and void.

By-Laws
Republican Party of Vernon County
(here-in-after referred to as RPVC)

Article I Duty of Officers

Section 1. Chairperson

- A. It shall be the duty of the Chairperson to officiate at all meetings of the County caucus and the Executive Committee. It shall be the responsibility of the Chairman to coordinate the efforts of the individuals and groups to further the objectives of the Republican Party. The Chairperson is the Administrative Executive of the organization and, as such, is charged with the supervision and direction of the overall activities. The Chairperson shall sit on all Committees ex-officio. The Chairperson shall have such other duties as provided in the Constitution and By-Laws of the RPVC.
- B. The Chairperson may authorize annual event expenses up to two hundred dollars (\$200) on behalf of the RPVC.
- C. chair@vernoncountygop.com is the email address assigned to the Chairperson, and this email address will be used for all RPVC business contacts.

Section 2. Vice Chairperson

- A. The Vice Chairperson shall act in the capacity of Chairperson in his or her absence and shall act as the Temporary Chairperson in the event the Chairperson vacates the office for any reason, and shall continue as temporary Chairperson until an election is held provided by the Constitution. The Vice Chairman shall assist the Chairperson in such manner as shall be prescribed by the Chairperson.
- B. vicechair@vernoncountygop.com is the email address assigned to the Vice Chairperson, and this email address will be used for all RPVC business contacts.

Section 3. Secretary

- A. The Secretary shall record and maintain a record of all of the minutes of all meetings of the Executive Committee and of all regular and special caucuses, and shall be the corresponding Secretary with regard to such meetings; shall keep a record of all correspondence and maintain the file of minutes; and shall perform such other related duties as may arise.
- B. secretary@vernoncountygop.com is the email address assigned to the Secretary, and this email address will be used for all RPVC business contacts.

Section 4. Treasurer

- A. The Treasurer shall receive and deposit all funds of the County organization; disburse all funds necessary for the operation of the organization in its campaigns upon receipt of authorization by the Chairperson or Vice Chairperson; maintain proper records of receipts and disbursements; and file such payroll, election, and other reports as required by law. The RPVC fiscal year shall be January 1 through December 31.

- B. treasurer@vernoncountygop.com is the email address assigned to the Treasurer, and this email address will be used for all RPVC business contacts.

Section 5. Election of Officers

- A. No candidate shall preside during an election process. If an incumbent Chairperson is a candidate, a temporary Chairperson shall be appointed for the purpose of an election.
- B. Nomination and Election of Officers shall be in accordance with Article VII of the RPVC Constitution.

Article II Membership Dues and Voting

Section 1. Current members and prior calendar year members may renew at any time by payment of the annual dues and shall thereby be immediately qualified to vote at any meeting or caucus.

- A. Membership in the RPVC shall terminate where:
 - 1. No one may become or remain a member in good standing if they hold a membership in or support another political party committee registered with the Federal Elections Commission.
 - 2. Members should adhere to the policies and principles of the Republican Party of Wisconsin, if members are not willing to adhere, membership could be dissolved as determined by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.
 - 3. Membership dues and / or donations are not refunded or returned as a result of a membership termination or resignation.
 - 4. These decisions are final and there is no process to appeal to the RPVC Executive Committee. The VCRP Executive Committee retains the right to reinstate a terminated member.

Section 2. Voting

- 1. New members or past members who have not paid dues for 12 or more months shall be eligible to vote at any meeting or caucus after ten (10) calendar days from the date the RPVC received payment of the annual dues;
- 2. A RPVC member in good standing who is eligible to vote in any national or state election is entitled to one (1) vote.
- 3. Voting by email, proxy, or absentee ballot is not allowed.

Article III Standing Committees

- A. Media Committee
 - 1. The Media Committee will maintain and / or create the RPVC Social Media accounts, web page(s), and electronic document accounts.

2. Name Branding, social media domain names and user names following the RPVC format are usually not available on electronic media accounts. The RPVC will typically use either the Vernon County GOP, or the Vernon County Republican Party name format for advertising and electronic media accounts.
3. Donations from any electronic media shall be deposited in RPVC accounts accessible by the RPVC Officers.

B. Ad Hoc Committees

1. Ad Hoc Committees may be created by the Chairperson. Additionally, the formation of such committees may be directed by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.
2. Any monies collected by Ad Hoc Committees will be turned over to the treasurer.

Article IV Treasury

1. Treasury Management

- A. Each year the Executive Committee shall designate a RPVC member, preferably with a financial background, to do a full review of the finances, books and accounts of RPVC. The review shall encompass the preceding calendar year's records, including the State Financial Report(s). A review letter, stating that the finances are in order, or if not, stating any deficiencies or missing information, shall be prepared and given to the Executive Committee, who shall use this information to prepare a report to the membership at the Lincoln Day Caucus. The Executive Committee shall be charged with proposing corrective actions or changes in procedure, if needed.

2. Reimbursement

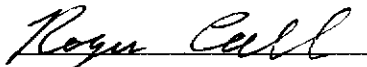
- A. Officers or members of the RPVC may be reimbursed for authorized expenditures. Said expenditure reimbursements must be approved by the Executive Committee and be made for instances of direct support of RPVC purposes.
- B. Delegates and Alternates may request reimbursement up for attending conferences, conventions, and caucuses. Receipts and mileage, (standard IRS rate), for up to \$50 for District, and for up to \$150 for Republican Party of Wisconsin travel and expenses.

Article V Membership List Policy

1. The RPVC Membership information will not be provided for use except by the express consent of the Executive Committee. This restriction is based on our commitment to maintain strict control of the list to ensure the privacy of our member's personal data.
2. The RPVC Membership email addresses will not be provided. Requests to forward an email may be made to chair@vernoncountygop.com. If in the Chairman's opinion, the email should be shared with the membership list, a bcc: address format will be used, and noted in the body of the email.

Certification

The above Constitution and By-Laws of the Republican Party of Vernon County were approved by the Membership at Caucus held March 6, 2022.



Roger Call
Chairman



Sheila Olson
Secretary

Original February 2, 2002, Revised February 15, 2020, Revised March 6, 2022

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