

Resolution on Standardized Handling Precinct Candidates Elections and Write-Ins

WHEREAS Wyoming State Statute § 22-4-101 establishes that precinct committeemen and committeewomen are elected during the primary election, and § 22-16-106(b) requires that write-in candidates be notified within 48 hours after the canvassing board meets; and

WHEREAS failure to notify write-in candidates in a timely and consistent manner has resulted in confusion, miscommunication, and unfilled seats within county central committees, as evidenced by incidents documented in Sweetwater County during the 2024–2025 election cycle; and

WHEREAS discrepancies between county bylaws, state party bylaws (Article III, Section 5.2), and the execution of those procedures have led to contested appointments and concerns over transparency, fairness, and good faith; and

WHEREAS, the Wyoming Supreme Court has affirmed that party bylaws cannot supersede state statute and that political parties, while private associations, remain subject to state election law in matters such as precinct appointments; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Lincoln County Republican Central Committee calls on the Wyoming Republican Party to:

1. **Develop and adopt a uniform, transparent, and mandatory procedure** to be codified in State Party Bylaws for notifying, qualifying, and appointing write-in candidates to vacant precinct positions.
2. **Require that all write-in candidates who receive votes in a primary election** for precinct positions be contacted in order of vote count (or at minimum, all tied write-ins contacted equally), before an executive committee appointment is considered.
3. **Clarify the interpretation of “vacancy”** in alignment with state statute and require that precincts with eligible write-in candidates not be treated as vacant unless all write-ins decline the position.
4. **Ensure that all county party bylaws align with state bylaws** and Wyoming election law on the matter of precinct appointments and vacancies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be submitted to the Wyoming Republican Party State Central Committee for review and action, and that the Bylaws Committee consider integrating these provisions into the bylaw amendment process.

ADOPTED by the Lincoln County Republican Central Committee, October 11, 2025