

1 **CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**
2 **REPUBLICAN PARTY OF BARRON COUNTY**

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4 **ARTICLE I – NAME**

5 The name of this organization shall be **"THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF BARRON COUNTY"**
6 **and** may be referred to in this document as **"BCRP."**
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9 **ARTICLE II - PURPOSE**

10 The purpose of this organization shall be to correlate and unify under one central organization,
11 the activities of the Republican Party of Barron County, and to aid in every honorable way
12 fundamental Republican principles and policies, and as a voluntary organization to cooperate
13 and assist in all county, state, and national elections, to the end that our Republican 'form of
14 government as created under the Constitution of the United States and the State of Wisconsin
15 be preserved for all of the people. As a constituent, self-governing part of the Republican Party
16 of Wisconsin, this organization shall direct, manage, supervise, and control the business,
17 property, and funds of The Republican Party of Barron County.
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20 **ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP**

21 **Section One:** Membership in this organization shall be open to Barron County residents of
22 voting age who believe in the above objectives, purposes, and principles of the Republican
23 Party of Barron County, and are not holding membership with any other political party or
24 organization. New members must have paid current dues to The Republican Party of Barron
25 County and have been recorded by the Secretary or Treasurer for a period of 60 (sixty) days
26 prior to voting in any capacity during Executive Committee meetings, Annual Caucus, Monthly
27 Membership meetings, or any Special meeting. Renewing members can rejoin anytime prior to
28 the convening of the Annual Caucus.
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30 **Section Two:** The membership year shall be defined as January 1st through December 31st.
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33 **ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

34 **Section One:** The elected officers of this organization shall consist of Chairman, a First Vice
35 Chairman, a Second Vice Chairman; a Secretary; and a Treasurer. Officer positions are open to
36 all Barron County residents of legal voting age, with memberships in good standing, regardless
37 of gender.
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39 **Section Two:** The nine (9) voting members of the Executive Committee shall consist of the
40 elected Officers; the Chairman of the Finance Committee, and three (3) members from the

membership at large to represent all sections of Barron County. Any Barron County Republican Party member in good standing is eligible to be elected to the Executive Committee as an at-large member or Finance Chair, or, in the case of a vacancy after the election process, be appointed by a simple majority vote approving the appointment by the general membership upon recommendation of the Executive Committee. Only members holding legal residence within Barron County borders are eligible to be elected Officers or function as delegates or alternates at the State Convention or District Caucuses for the purpose of representing Barron County. All elected Executive Committee Members shall serve until the adjournment of the Caucus or Meeting at which his/her successor is elected.

Section Three: All Officers shall serve without compensation and the county Chairman may with the approval of the Executive Committee appoint such full or part-time employees who may be paid compensation as the Chairman and Executive Committee may determine.

Section Four: Duties of Officers

- (1) The Chairman 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.
- (2) The First Vice Chairman in the absence of the Chairman shall perform the duties of the Chairman.
- (3) The Second Vice Chairman shall assist the Chairman and First Vice Chairman in the performance of their duties.
- (4) The Secretary shall keep and read the Minutes of all meetings and caucuses and shall be the custodian of all records of the Party and shall promptly issue membership cards to all qualifying members.
- (5) The Treasurer shall receive and be custodian of all funds of the Party and shall pay all bills. The Treasurer shall keep an account of all monies received and disbursed and shall report in full as required by the Chairman. All disbursement checks must be consigned by the Treasurer and Finance Chairman.
- (6) The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer shall file all proper reports as required by law applicable to their several offices.

Section Five: Duties of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall have authority to transact any necessary business between meetings or caucuses; to make recommendations as to the policies of the Party; to advise the Chairman; to make recommendations to the membership to fill vacancies that occur between elections; to complete slates of delegates and alternates to the State Convention or District Caucuses; and reserves the right to recommend to the general membership, at a Caucus or

Special Membership Meeting, to endorse or withhold endorsement of candidates; recommend for cause the removal of Members, and Officers, to the general Membership, upon a majority vote of the Executive Committee; and such other duties as may be prescribed under the By-Laws.

Section Six: The term of office for the Officers and Executive Committee members shall be two (2) years, or until their successors are elected and qualified.

Section Seven: All Officers and elected members of the Executive Committee shall be elected in a duly constituted county caucus prior to April 1st in the odd-numbered years.

Section Eight: The Executive Committee shall promulgate such policies, procedures, and rules of conduct as it deems fit, in order to further the goals of the BCRP, but at all times the policies, procedures and rules of conduct shall be in conformance with the Republican Party of Wisconsin Constitution and directives.

Section Nine: Candidate Support - The Executive Committee Members are allowed to participate in the Republican Party of Wisconsin's endorsement process in accordance with the Constitution of the Republican Party of Wisconsin. Executive Committee Members who use their position to advance non-endorsed candidates in partisan elections shall resign their position or be subject to removal from the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS AND CAUCUSES

Section One: General membership meetings or caucuses shall be held upon proper notice, at the call of the Chairman or at the direction of the Executive Committee, or upon petition of twenty-five (25) members in good standing. Such petition is to state the exact purpose of the meeting or caucus. The discussion at that time will be limited to the exact purpose listed on the petition. For meetings other than the Annual Caucus, proper notice shall consist of a written or electronic communication delivered to all members at their last known address and/or email address of record eight (8) days prior to the meeting.

Section Two: The Annual Caucus shall be held prior to April 1 of each year at which time delegates and alternates shall be elected to attend the District Caucus and the State Convention; and for election of Officers and Executive Board in the odd-numbered years.

Section Three: The Executive Committee shall hold regular meetings at such times as are determined by the Executive Committee. All members of the Executive Committee shall be notified when meetings are held.

Section Four: Special meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the Chairman or by written request of five (5) members of the Executive Committee upon notice to all members. Proper notice for regular and special meetings of the Executive Committee shall consist of a

1 written or electronic communication delivered to all members at their last known address and/or
2 email address of record and least seven (7) days prior to the meeting. All members of the
3 Executive Committee and the general membership shall be notified when meetings are held.

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5 **Section Five:** A county caucus shall be one called and advertised at least twice, but not more
6 than 30 (thirty) days prior to the meeting, with the second notice being sent with a minimum of
7 (8) days prior to said meeting. The Chairman may mail or e-mail these notices to all members
8 and shall do so upon request of a majority of members of the Executive Committee or upon
9 written petition of any twenty-five (25) members of the Barron County organization. The
10 Chairman shall give similar notice to delegates and alternates of State Conventions and District
11 Caucuses.

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13 **Section Six:** Regular and Special meetings of the Executive Committee, any subcommittee or
14 special committee, may be held by electronic means (such as telephone conference, video
15 conference, or internet communication system) subject to the following requirements:

- 16
17 (1) a majority of the members shall have access to the specified electronic media;
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19 (2) a quorum for the meeting shall be established by roll call vote and, once established, shall
20 be assumed present until the meeting is adjourned;
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22 (3) the technology used for the electronic meetings shall allow the members full access to and
23 full participation in all meeting transactions either continuously or intermittently throughout
24 the specified time of the meeting; and,
25
26 (4) the affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum shall be the minimum vote requirement for
27 the adoption of any motion, with a roll call being required upon request of any member
28 participating in the meeting.

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30 **Section Seven:** Members in good standing can attend all caucuses, general membership
31 meetings, and meetings of the Executive Committee, unless Executive Committee meetings are
32 noticed as being in closed session for rare circumstances such as the consideration of
33 disciplinary issues, the expulsion of members, and the removal of officers.

34 35 36 **ARTICLE VI - NOMINATIONS ELECTIONS AND COMMITTEES**

37 **Section One:** A nominating committee of not less than three (3) members shall be appointed by
38 the Chairman prior to each election. This committee shall nominate one nominee for each office
39 at the caucus called for such election and the full slate of nominees shall be presented, after
40 which nominees from the floor shall be allowed as the election for each position is up for
41 consideration. The nomination of Executive Committee Members should attempt to reflect all
42 geographic areas of Barron County.
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Section Two: The nominating committee shall nominate three (3) members to serve on the Executive Committee from the membership at-large to represent all sections of the County, after which nominees from the floor shall be allowed. All at-large positions will be elected on a single ballot, with the three highest vote getters winning the election. In the case of a tie, there shall be an additional run off ballot.

Section Three: The Chairman may nominate a slate of delegates and alternates to attend each State Convention and District Caucus, after which nominations from the floor shall be allowed.

Section Four: Where more than one candidate is nominated for an office, election will be held by secret written ballot. A majority of the votes cast shall elect.

Section Five: Where there is only one candidate for an office, election may be by acclamation.

Section Six: The Executive Committee may recommend forming separate Standing Committees that shall have and may exercise such powers as may be provided in the resolution of the Executive Committee that designates such committee. These resolutions may be created, amended, and supplemented from time to time. The BCRP Chairman shall appoint a Member to serve as Chairperson of these committees. The Committee Chairperson can ask other members to assist with the needs of the committee. The Executive Committee may appoint one or more of its members to any committee who may take the place of any absent member or members at any meetings of such committee, upon request of the Committee Chairperson. Any committee does not need to contain Executive Committee Members; however, they may volunteer to function as a committee member or committee Chairman while being on the Executive Committee.

Section Seven: In the event Standing Committees are created, it shall be recorded in the minutes of the Secretary, resolutions shall be created and will be a simple document which will clearly define the role and power of the committee. This process and amendments will be attached to this BCRP Constitution and By-Laws as a separate document titled Standing Committees of the BCRP. The Executive Committee is the only authority allowed to create, amend, or dissolve Standing Committees. These changes will be added as a continuing addendum that should be reviewed and updated as needed.

Section Eight: A Finance Committee shall be created, the Chairman of which, elected by the general membership at the Annual Caucus, shall serve as a member of the Executive Committee once appointed. The purpose of the Finance Committee shall be to develop and implement a fundraising plan for the county party with the approval of the Executive Committee. The Finance Committee Chairman shall also advise the County Party Chairman and Treasurer on matters related to the budget.

ARTICLE VII - QUORUM

Section One: A quorum for a general membership meeting or caucus of this organization shall be at least twenty-five (25) percent of the total number of members.

Section Two: A quorum for a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be a majority of the Executive Committee. In the event the majority of the Executive Committee is not present, the meeting shall be canceled, and the business of the BCRP will not be officially conducted.

ARTICLE VIII - 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 and shall be resolved in favor of this Constitution. In the event of a conflict between the two, the Chairman's decision shall be final, unless such opinion is overridden by a simple majority vote of the Executive Committee or the general membership, depending on the type of meeting.

ARTICLE IX - QUITTING RESIGNATION AND DEATH

Section One: Any member accepted for membership may withdraw or resign from BCRP.

Section Two: In the case of Officers quitting, resignation, or death, concerning the;

(1) Chairman - The First Vice Chairman will fill the roles and function as Chairman until a new Chairman can be elected in accordance with Article Five, Section One and will occur no later than at the next scheduled general membership meeting. A notice sent by E-mail to the Executive Committee and to the BCRP general Membership by the Acting Chairman shall occur immediately within receiving knowledge and confirmation of quitting, resignation, or death of the Chairman. The transfer of any money other than paying prior existing bills will not be allowed until a new Chairman has been elected by a simple majority of the BCRP General Membership.

(2) Nominations for Chairman will be taken from the floor by the Executive Committee and an election will take place in accordance with Article VI Section Four and Section Five and elected by a simple majority of votes cast at the BCRP general membership meeting.

(3) First Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer - The acting Chairman can appoint a temporary person to fill in until an election process can be conducted within a reasonable amount of time, not to exceed sixty (60) days, determined by the Executive Committee and shall be elected in accordance with Article VI Section Four and Section Five, and elected by a simple majority of votes cast at the BCRP general membership meeting.

- (4) In the event all elected Officers simultaneously vacate their positions by quitting, resignation, or death, the senior Executive Committee member will fill the role of Acting Chairman adhering to the rules stated in ARTICLE X, Sections One, Two and Three. The Acting Chairman shall reach out for assistance and to inform the 7th District Chairman and WISGOP leadership of the current county Party situation and status.

ARTICLE X - EXPULSION

Any member may be expelled from the BCRP for good cause upon recommendation by (2/3) two thirds vote of the Executive Committee and a simple majority vote of the Membership during an Annual Caucus, Monthly Membership meeting, or a Special meeting, and in accordance with the process and procedures outlined in Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised. Good cause is defined as any determination by the Executive Committee that the actions of any Officer, Executive Committee Member, or BCRP Member, have been deemed detrimental to the purposes of the Barron County Republican Party.

ARTICLE XI - LIABILITY OF MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

No person shall be liable to the BCRP for any loss or damage suffered by it on account of any action taken or omitted to be taken by him/her in good faith as a Committee Member of Officer at the request of the BCRP if such person;

- (1) Exercised and used the same degree of care and skill as a prudent man or woman would have exercised or used under the circumstances in the conduct of his/her own affairs, or;

- (2) Took or omitted to take such action in reliance upon advice of counsel for the BCRP or upon statements made or information furnished by Officers or Committee Members of the BCRP on which he/she had reasonable grounds to believe to be true.

- (3) The foregoing shall not be exclusive of other rights and defenses to which he/she may be entitled as a matter of law.

ARTICLE XII - AMENDMENTS

Section One: Amendments to this constitution may be made and passed by a 2/3 (two-thirds) majority vote of those members present at any regular or special meeting or caucus of this organization where the call and notice states such purpose. Such amendments must not be in conflict with the State Constitution and are subject to modification.

Section Two: The Executive Committee of the Republican Party of Wisconsin shall review this Constitution for compliance, and to ensure there are no conflicts with the Constitution.

Section Three: In the event the State Executive Committee determines there is a conflict between this Constitution and the State Constitution, the BCRP Executive Committee shall work with the State Executive Committee to resolve such conflicts. Once resolved, such changes must still be approved by the BCRP Members pursuant to this Constitution

Approved this _____ day of March 2024

Chairman

Secretary