

WCRP Bylaws ARTICLE IX

COUNTY CONVENTIONS

A. Organizing Convention. On or before August 15 in each odd-numbered year, a County Organizing Convention shall be held to elect County Party officers and representatives to the State Central Committee. Notice of the Convention shall be sent either by mail or by email to every properly qualified County Delegate at least two (2) weeks prior to the Convention.

1. General. Delegates shall elect a County Party Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Legislative District Chairs and Representatives to the State Central Committee.

a. The Convention shall begin promptly at the designated time, date and place.

b. The most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall be used to facilitate orderly procedures and communications during such meetings.

c. The Convention shall follow the prepared agenda provided in the mailing notice to the delegates. Any deviation from the agenda must be put in the form of a motion and requires a second and approval by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present.

d. A motion to amend the Convention rules and procedures or a motion for a resolution containing more than ten words must be made in writing and submitted to the Party Secretary by 12:00 noon ten days prior the Convention (Washington County Republican Party, Attn: Secretary, P.O. Box 1508, St. George, UT 84771).

e. Motions to amend the Convention rules and procedures containing ten words or less may be made verbally from the floor immediately following the second to the motion to adopt the rules and procedures.

2. Delegates. Delegates to this Convention shall be the same persons who were elected and certified as County Delegates at the Caucus Meetings of the Washington County Republican Party held in the previous year (except where delegates have been duly replaced), together with those persons designated as Officiary Delegates.

a. Delegates are required to display a delegate name tag issued for the Convention and may be required to show picture I.D. during the balloting process.

b. Delegates to the Convention who are neither present nor certified ten minutes past the scheduled time of the convening of the Convention shall be disqualified as delegates. Only certified delegates may vote at the Convention.

3. Nominating. At the time and place set for the County Convention, the name of each person who is qualified and has filed a letter of intent may be placed in nomination for the office for which the declaration was filed.

a. Each candidate for a contested office shall be allowed a combined time as specified in the Convention rules for nomination, second (optional) and acceptance speech. Uncontested candidates may be elected by acclamation by a motion from the Convention floor.

****Proposed Rules****

b. Prior to nominations for a specific position, the County Executive Committee Chair shall make a report of any candidate who failed to submit a platform disclosure statement as prescribed by these Bylaws.

c. In the event no candidate files for an office or position to be filled by an election, nominations may be made from the floor.

4. Balloting. The Convention shall furnish prepared ballots for the voting process. Provisions shall be made to accommodate voting for candidates nominated from the convention floor.

a. Ballots shall be issued to delegates at the time of certification. At the conclusion of the nominations and speeches for all contested offices and positions, the polls shall be declared open by the Chair and closed five minutes after the Chair's final call.

b. Candidates for contested offices receiving the most votes in any particular contest shall be declared the winner by the Convention.

****Proposed Rules****

****Proposed Rules****

Convention Rules

The applicable Convention Rules defined in the bylaws shall not be altered or suspended, save by properly noticed Bylaw Amendment, except the rules may be modified solely for the purpose of accommodating venue rules.

A. Purpose

This Organizing Convention shall nominate Republican Party candidates for County Party Chair, County Party Vice Chair, County Party Secretary, County Party Treasurer and Representatives for the State Central Committee.

In addition, the Organizing Convention shall conduct party business including amendments to the County Party Bylaws and shall consider the adoption of proposed Resolutions.

B. Call

The Washington County Republican Organizing Convention shall convene at 9 a.m. (credentialing begins at 8:00) on Saturday, April 27, 2019, at the DXATC, at 610 S Airport Rd, St. George, UT.

C. Rules of Order

The County Party Bylaws, these Rules and the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern this Convention. These rules shall govern any conflict with Robert's Rules.

D. Order of Business

The order of business of this convention shall follow the agenda adopted by the delegates.

All challenges to the qualifications of an individual delegate to serve must be received in writing by the County Secretary by 5:00 p.m. three days prior to the day of the Convention.

The Credentials Committee shall attempt to contact challenged delegates to resolve any disputes and make a report for Convention adoption.

Debate time for the adoption of the agenda shall be limited to 15 minutes.

E. Admission

Members of the public and media will be admitted to the convention hall to view the proceedings, as long as they follow proper conduct and the directions of the Chair.

Only delegates may participate in the business of the Convention; however, the Convention Chair may invite any individual to address the Convention.

Each delegate to this convention will be issued a credential card that is non-transferable and must be displayed at the time of balloting and any voting.

F. Recognition to Speak

A delegate must state his or her name and precinct and be recognized by the chair before speaking on convention business.

No delegate may speak more than once or longer than two minutes upon the same question, unless allowed by a majority of the convention.

G. Resolutions

Only resolutions that have been submitted in writing with seconding endorsements from at least five county delegates other than the sponsor and received by the County Secretary no later than 5:00 p.m. 10 days prior the County Convention, shall be presented to the County Executive Committee for review. There shall be a limit of no more than two amendments or resolutions sponsored by any one delegate.

The County Executive Committee will meet with resolution proponents to discuss the resolutions preceding the Convention.

The County Executive Committee shall forward non-redundant, significant resolutions to the Convention for consideration.

Resolutions may only be made during the time specified in the agenda approved by the Convention. The Convention may determine, by a majority vote, the order in which resolutions shall be considered. The debate and summation time for each resolution shall be ten (10) minutes, unless an extension by a 2/3rd vote. Equal debate time shall be allowed for proponents and opponents of the motion.

****Proposed Rules****

****Proposed Rules****

Resolutions may not be amended nor divided by the convention.

H. Bylaws and Rules Amendments

In order to be considered at the convention, proposed changes to the Bylaws and Convention Rules must be received in writing by 5:00 p.m. 10 days prior to the County Convention, by the County Party Secretary.

The County Executive Committee shall forward those duly submitted Bylaw amendments either to the Convention or to the County Central Committee for consideration, and shall forward those duly submitted other Rules amendments to the Convention.

The debate and summation time for each resolution shall be ten (10) minutes, unless an extension has a 2/3rd vote. Equal debate time shall be allowed for proponents and opponents of the motion.

Bylaw proposals may not be amended nor divided by the convention.

I. Candidate Rules and Requirements

Only Republican candidates who have properly filed for party office who meet the requirements of the Washington County Republican Party Bylaws shall be considered by the Convention. In accordance with Party Bylaws, all candidates shall have filed a letter of intent and disclosure statement by the County Party Secretary no later than 5:00 p.m. on the Friday which occurs 15 days prior to the County Convention.

Signage and distribution of literature rules shall be established by the rules committee, convention officers and the host facility.

J. Nominations

Opposed candidates shall be allowed 3 minutes for presentation.

Candidate speeches may not be used to personally disparage any campaign or candidate.

Candidates are not required to have a nomination or second but may if they so desire. The total time limit remains the same regardless.

The order of presentation shall be determined by random drawing.

The intent and goal of the convention is to have a fair process through which all candidates are treated equally.

In Multiple Round Balloting, prior to a second or subsequent round of balloting, remaining candidates shall be allowed one (1) minute each for additional presentation if they desire.

K. Physical Arrangements

Each candidate or organization is responsible for the clean-up of anything produced by, distributed by, or bearing the name of that candidate or organization.

Candidates and organizations will have access to the convention hall on the morning of the convention as scheduled by the host facility and the Washington County Republican Party.

Sign arrangement must remain in designated areas only and must comply with facility rules as well as instructions from the Washington County Republican Party. Outdoor signs must comply with host facility rules and guidelines. The Washington County Republican Party officers, the Rules Committee members, and the host facility staff may move any signs that do not comply with the rules or that are not in designated areas.

Signs and campaign materials may not block any exit, service outlets, or fire extinguishers.

Booth location will be chosen by first come first served.

The Rules Committee may make alterations or amendments to this section of the rules as needed to meet demands of the host facility and the Washington County Republican Party.

There shall be no restrictions on the distribution of printed material, except that materials may not be pre-distributed on the chairs in the convention hall. All printed material shall have a disclaimer identifying the responsible person or organization and a valid phone number that must be clearly printed on the material.

L. Quorum

Any number of credentialed county delegates shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of transacting business except that a majority of those credentialed shall be required to consider Resolutions and changes to the Party Constitution or Bylaws.

****Proposed Rules****

M. Voting

Unopposed candidates shall be declared the winner by the Chair.

In contested Party Officer races, candidate names shall appear on the ballot in alphabetical order by last name. Speaking order will be determined by random drawing.

After Candidate Speeches, voting will be conducted when the Chair calls for the vote.

It is the prerogative of the Chair to open and close balloting at appropriate times.

Party Officers shall be elected by majority vote using a single or multiple round election method. If more than three candidates run for any party officer, the first round of voting will be used to reduce the number of candidates to three. Voting will be finished when any candidate receives a majority of the votes.

In the case of a tie between the top two candidates, the winner will be determined by a coin toss.

Voting for members of the State Central Committee will be completed in one round, with the six candidates with the most votes being determined to have won their respective seats.

N. Counting Room & Results

The Elections Committee Chairperson is responsible for the ballot counting room, poll watchers and ballot boxes.

The Elections Committee Chair shall be responsible for the security of the ballots, ballot boxes, the accuracy of the count, and directing the access and conduct of all persons within the ballot counting room.

The Elections Chairperson is responsible for any complaints and has the authority to take any concerns to the Convention Chair.

Cameras, cell phones and other recording and communication devices are not allowed in the ballot counting room.

Each opposed candidate for County Party Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and representatives for State Central Committee shall be permitted to have one poll watcher. This observer may not leave the ballot counting room before the vote tally for that office has been announced to the Convention.

Ballot counting shall not commence until after polls have been closed for at least three (3) minutes.

Challenges to balloting must be made to the Convention Chair or Designee before that time expires.

Official tally sheets shall be used to record each counted vote, and will be kept with the supporting ballots. These materials shall be preserved by the Party Officers in a secure location for at least five (5) business days following the Convention.

In the event that three or more candidates are nominated for the same Party Office, the first ballot shall be used to reduce the number of candidates to three if more than three candidates participate or by one if three participate. Each round shall drop one candidate until one receives a majority vote. In the event the final two candidates tie at 50% a coin toss shall be used to determine the winner.

Any challenges to the counting process must be made to the Elections Committee Chair before the election results of that race are announced.

Any candidate requesting a recount of an election must file a request in writing to the Elections Committee Chair by 5:00 pm no later than two (2) business days following the Convention.

Recounts may only be brought if they might legitimately affect the outcome of the election.

If a coin toss was used to determine the winner, no challenge or recount will be accepted.