

BYLAWS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE
REPUBLICAN PARTY OF ST. JOSEPH COUNTY

ARTICLE I
NAME

Name Section 1. This committee shall be known as the Executive Committee of the Republican Party of St. Joseph County and for the purposes of these bylaws shall be referred to as the Committee.

ARTICLE II
PURPOSES

The purposes of the Committee shall be:

Legal Duties Section 1. To perform all duties delegated to the Committee by law and by the rules and bylaws of the Republican National Committee and the Republican State Committee as have been adopted and amended or may hereafter be adopted and amended.

Business Section 2. To direct, manage and supervise the affairs and business of the St. Joseph County Republican Party for the purpose of increasing participation in the Party and aiding the election of qualified Republican candidates.

Bylaws Section 3. To adopt a set of bylaws by which the Committee shall be governed.

ARTICLE III
MEMBERSHIP

Selection Section 1. The membership of the Committee shall be determined in accordance with law and in particular MCLA 168.599 as amended or may hereafter be amended. For the purpose of these bylaws, those members elected at the fall county convention shall be known as elected members, and those persons who are members due to their nomination as Republican candidates for county or state office shall be known as statutory members.

Qualifications Section 2. Members of the Committee shall be qualified voters residing in St. Joseph County, except as provided by law.

Vacancies Section 3. If a vacancy occurs among the elected members of the Committee, the remaining elected members shall elect a qualified person to fill that vacancy. Such election shall take place at the first meeting of the Committee for which prior notice, as provided for in these bylaws, is given. If a vacancy occurs among the statutory members, that vacancy shall be filled by the appointed successor.

ARTICLE IV
VOTING OFFICERS

- Selection Section 1. In accordance with MCLA 168.599, as amended or may hereafter be amended, the Committee shall elect a Chairperson, a Vice Chairperson, a Secretary and a Treasurer. For the purposes of these bylaws, these officers may be referred to as the voting officers.
- Qualifications Section 2. The voting officers of the Committee shall be qualified voters and, unless they are statutory members of the Committee, they shall also be residents of St. Joseph County. The voting officers need not be members of the Committee prior to their election as officers.
- Voting Section 3. The voting officers shall be voting members of the Committee with the Chairperson voting only to break ties.
- Vacancies Section 4. If a member of the Committee is elected a voting officer, a vacancy will have been created on the Committee which shall be filled. A vacancy occurring among the voting officers shall be filled by the Committee at the next meeting of the Committee for which prior notice, as provided for in these bylaws, can be given.

ARTICLE V
REMOVAL

- Removal by
Committee Vote Section 1. Voting officers and members of the Committee are subject to removal from Committee by a two-thirds majority vote of the Committee, provided that prior notice of the vote, as provided for in these bylaws, has been given and the officers or members in question have been given prior notice by certified mail.
- Reasons for
Removal by
Committee Vote Section 2. Reasons for removal include, but are not limited to: failure to observe these bylaws or the other bylaws, rules and statutes to which the Committee is subject; failure to fulfill the duties and responsibilities delegated by these bylaws or by the other rules, bylaws and statutes to which the Committee is subject; conviction of a felony; or change of residence, in the case of elected members, to another county, and in the case of statutory members, to another area whose state representative districts do not include any part of St. Joseph County.
- Vacancies Section 3. The removal of a members or officer from the Committee shall create a vacancy, which vacancy shall be filled in accordance with these bylaws.

ARTICLE VI
POWERS, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
OF OFFICERS, MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES

- General Duties Section 1. The officers of the Committee shall have such powers, duties and responsibilities as usually pertain to their offices except as modified by these bylaws and by such other rules, bylaws and statutes to which the Committee is subject, or as may be modified by the Chairperson or by action of the Committee.

Chairperson

Section 2.

- a. The Chairperson shall be responsible for the hiring and firing of all employees of the Committee and for the direction and management of all offices of the Committee and shall determine all priorities in connection therewith.
- b. The Chairperson of the Committee may also be Chairperson of the Convention Committee.
- c. The Chairperson shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees, but shall not have the right to vote unless named a member thereto.

Vice Chairperson

Section 3. The Vice Chairperson shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees, but shall not have the right to vote unless named a member thereto.

Secretary

Section 4.

- a. The Secretary of the Committee shall take accurate minutes of the meetings of the Committee and shall also preserve minutes of past meetings and shall supply a copy thereof to officers and members on request.
- b. The Secretary shall at all times maintain a current roster of the Committee's officers and membership, and the officers and membership of the standing committees, including their residence and business addresses and telephone numbers and shall supply a copy thereof to any member or officer on request.
- c. The Secretary shall be a member of the Publicity Committee.
- d. The Committee shall reimburse the Secretary for copying and mailing costs incurred in fulfilling the duties of the office.

Treasurer

Section 5.

- a. The Treasurer shall have custody of all funds of the Committee which funds shall not be drawn upon without the approval of the Chairperson who shall act in the interest or under the direction of the Committee.
- b. The Treasurer shall be responsible for preparing and filing all legally required state and federal campaign finance reports.
- c. No later than the first day in November of each calendar year, the Treasurer shall prepare and present to the Committee for approval and possible amendment, a budget for the Committee which shall cover the upcoming calendar year running from January 1 through December 31. If the Committee does not approve a budget by January 1, the Chairperson may adopt the budget of his or her choice.
- d. The Treasurer shall keep the Chairperson and the Committee informed of all payments due.

- e. The Treasurer shall keep a record of all receipts and disbursements of funds in his or her charge and said records, upon reasonable request, shall be open to inspection by any officer or member of the Committee.
- f. The Treasurer shall be a member of the St. Joseph County Republican Finance Committee.
- g. Should a vacancy develop in the Office of Secretary, the Treasurer shall assume the responsibilities of that office until such time that the vacancy is filled.

Finance
Chairperson

Section 5. The Finance Chairperson shall be responsible for raising all funds needed to meet the budget of the St. Joseph County Republican Party and shall at all times keep the Chairperson advised of the financial resources and prospects of the St. Joseph County Republican Party and shall make a report of such resources and prospects at each regular meeting of the Committee.

Others

Section 6. All other officers, members and employees of the Committee, as well as standing committee members, shall be subject to these bylaws and to the other rules, bylaws and statutes to which the Committee is subject.

ARTICLE VII STANDING COMMITTEES

Purpose

Section 1. The Committee shall have standing committees which shall study and advise the Chairperson and the Committee with respect to all matters within their jurisdiction and shall perform such other duties as the Chairperson or the Committee may direct.

Membership

Section 2. At the first meeting of the Committee in each calendar year, the Chairperson shall appoint, subject to the approval of the Committee, a chairperson for each of the standing committees of the Committee. The Chairperson shall appoint the membership of each standing committee at the first meeting of the Committee in each calendar year.

First Meeting

Section 3. Each standing committee shall meet at the call of the Chairperson within thirty days after the first meeting of the Committee in each calendar year.

Standing
Committees

Section 4. There shall be the following standing committees with the following responsibilities.

- a. The St. Joseph County Republican Finance Committee shall be responsible for developing and implementing fundraising programs and events for the Party.
- b. The Organizational Committee shall develop and implement programs for securing reliable Party workers in every precinct in the county.

- c. The Issues Committee shall consider and recommend to the Committee appropriate stands on relevant matters of the day. All such recommendations shall be in the form of written resolutions which shall be voted on by the Committee.
- d. The Publicity Committee shall be responsible for preparing and disseminating all mass communications by the Committee. This shall include, but is not limited to, newsletters, print advertising and broadcast advertising. This committee shall also provide for maintenance of a St. Joseph County GOP website and Facebook page in order to provide information relevant to Party activities.
- e. The Membership Committee shall develop and implement programs for maintaining and increasing the number of dues-paying members of the St. Joseph County Republican Party.
- f. The Youth Involvement Committee shall develop and implement programs for securing greater participation in Party activities by young people.
- g. The Minorities Involvement Committee shall develop and implement programs for securing greater participation in Party activities by ethnic and racial groups within the county.
- h. The Senior Citizens Involvement Committee shall develop and implement programs for securing greater participation in Party activities by county residents over 60 years of age.
- i. The Labor Involvement Committee shall develop and implement programs for securing greater participation in Party activities by members of worker unions within the county.

Other Committees Section 5. The Chairperson may create other standing committees with powers and duties not inconsistent with these bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII
MEETINGS

Regular Section 1. The Committee shall hold meetings at least 10 times each year or Meetings more frequently as required to carry out the duties and responsibilities of the Committee. The time and place of all meetings shall be determined by the Chairperson and a tentative schedule of the year's meetings shall be announced by the Chairperson at the first meeting of the Committee in each calendar year. All meetings shall be held in person when possible, but may be held by electronic means when necessary.

- Special Section 2. The Chairperson may call special meetings of the Committee and must Meetings call special meetings when requested by the two of the voting officers or when requested in writing by one-third of the members of the Committee. All special meetings shall be held in person when possible, but may be held by electronic means when necessary.
- Prior Notice Section 3. In a reasonable time frame prior to each regular meeting of the Committee and, when possible, prior to each special meeting, the Secretary shall forward to each member of the Committee, notice via mail or email or another means appropriate of the time and place of the meeting.
- Quorum Section 4. Those members and officers of the Committee present and voting shall constitute a quorum at the meetings of the Committee, except as otherwise stated in Article V, section 2 and Article XI, Section 1.
- Voting Section 5. Members and voting officers shall each have one vote and must be present in order to exercise that vote, except as otherwise provided by law.
- Rules Section 6. Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, shall govern the conduct of the Committee its meetings and the meetings of its standing committees except as otherwise provided for in these bylaws and the other rules, bylaws and statutes to which the Committee is subject.

ARTICLE IX
STATE CONVENTIONS

- Delegation Section 1. Unless otherwise directed by the county convention, the Committee Chairperson shall serve as the Chairperson of the St. Joseph County Delegation to Republican State Conventions.
- Alternates Section 2. Unless otherwise directed by the county convention, the Chairperson of the St. Joseph County Delegation to state conventions shall be responsible for choosing which alternates shall fill vacancies in the St. Joseph County delegation.

ARTICLE X
MISCELLANEOUS

- Records Section 1. Records and materials received or prepared by the officers or employees of the Committee in the discharge of their duties shall be the property of the Committee and each such officer or employee at the conclusion of their term of service shall deliver all such records and materials to his successor, to the Chairperson of the Committee or to the Chairperson of the Republican State Committee, except as the Committee may otherwise direct.

Primaries Section 2 The committee shall not provide aid or support of any kind to one person who is seeking a Republican nomination, unless the Committee provides the same aid or support available to all other candidates seeking that nomination, unless (1) a candidate is seeking the Republican nomination for the U.S. House of Representatives from a congressional district in which that candidate does not reside or (2) a candidate, as determined by majority vote of the Committee, is more closely associated with another political party or ideology and seeks the Republican nomination primarily to lend legitimacy to his or her campaign or to deceive the voter.

Indemnification Section 3. The Committee shall indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, by reason of the fact that he or she is or was an officer, by reason of the fact that he or she is or was an officer, member or employee of the Committee, against expenses (including attorney's fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by his or her in connection with such action, suit, or proceeding if he or she acted in good faith, with the approval of the Committee or Chairperson and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in the best interests of the Committee, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, has no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful.

ARTICLE XI
BYLAWS

Amendments Section 1. These bylaws may only be amended by two-thirds majority vote of the whole Committee following appropriate notice to all committee members.

Section 2. Any amendment which shall affect the voting rights or membership of committee members or officers shall not take effect until the next election of elected committee members at the fall county convention as provided for by MCLA 168.599.

Distribution Section 3. The Secretary shall provide a current copy of these bylaws to all new members of the Committee following the selection of such members and to all members of the Committee and to the Chairperson of the Republican State Committee following adoption or amendment of these bylaws.

Amended: January 21, 2021