

CONSTITUTION
Of
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF DOOR COUNTY

Article I ~ Name

The name of this organization shall be “The Republican Party of Door County” herein after referred to as the “Party”.

Article II ~ Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be to unify the Republicans of Door County, in a lawful manner, in activities to aid in every honorable way fundamental Republican principles and policies. The Republican Party of Door County shall direct, manage, supervise and control the business, property and funds of this organization under the guidelines as prescribed by the Republican Party of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Statutes. As a voluntary organization, it shall assist in and may contribute to any or all county, state, and/or national general elections.

Article III ~ Membership

Membership in the Republican Party of Door County shall be open to all eligible voters who believe in the principles of Republicanism, and pay such annual dues as may be set by the Executive Committee. Voting members shall be those who have been in good standing for ten (10) days prior to any caucus or meeting calling for a vote of the membership. The membership year shall be from July 1 to June 30.

Article IV ~ Officers & Executive Committee

Section 1. Officers

- A. The officers of the Party shall be a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.
- B. Officers shall be elected by the voting members at the spring county caucus in the odd numbered years.
- C. The officers shall be members of the Executive Committee and the delegate list

by virtue of their office.

- D. All officers shall serve without compensation, but may be reimbursed for such expenses as may be authorized by the Executive Committee.
- E. Duties
 1. The Chair shall preside at all caucuses, general meetings and Executive Committee meetings. The Chair shall make such appointments as deemed necessary under the rules prescribed herein.
 2. The Vice Chair shall perform the duties of the Chair in the absence or incapacity of the Chair.
 3. The Secretary shall record and keep the minutes of all meetings of the Party. The Secretary shall act as the repository of all records of the Party, and shall draw up all necessary reports, except those dealing with financial matters.
 4. The Treasurer shall receive and be the custodian of all funds of the Party, and shall pay all of the bills authorized by the Executive Committee or the Chair, in cases of emergency. The Treasurer shall draw up all financial reports necessary and assure that the reports are delivered on time.
- F. Any officer who fails or is unable to perform his or her duties or fails to remain in good standing during his or her term of office shall be removed from office at the earliest meeting of the Executive Committee.

Section 2. Executive Committee

- A. The Executive Committee shall have general charge of all activities of the Party between general membership meetings or caucuses. These activities shall include, but are not limited to, making recommendations and enacting party policy, advise the Chair, fill vacancies which may occur, annually nominate delegates and alternates to the district caucuses and state convention, appoint delegates to serve on district committees, authorize permanent and ad hoc committees for the various activities of the Party, including membership, and shall consent to or reject appointments of the Chair. Executive Committee

members are members of the delegate list by virtue of their office.

- B. The Executive Committee will consist of 16 members, including the four officers and 12 additional members elected at the Spring Caucus in the odd-numbered years.
- C. The term of office of the Executive Committee members will be two (2) years.
- D. The Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the Chair, or by petition of 25% of its members.
- E. Any member of the Executive Committee who fails to perform his or her duties or misses more than 33% of the properly called and noticed meetings during a one year period may be removed from office at the recommendation of the Chair and the approval of the Executive Committee. Any member of the Executive Committee who fails to stay in good standing with the Party shall be removed from the Committee at the first meeting after September 1 of the year in which said good standing was lost.
- F. Committee members shall serve without compensation except that they may be reimbursed for budgeted expenses upon approval of the Executive Committee.

Section 3. Party Loyalty

All officers and members of the Executive Committee shall support all Republican Party nominees in a general election. This support shall only be construed to mean that they will not offer financial support to an opposition candidate, nor make any public statements in support of an opposition candidate. Officers or Executive Committee members in violation of this section may be removed by action of the Chair, with the approval of a majority of the remaining members of the Executive Committee present at any meeting held for this purpose.

Article V ~ Caucus

Section 1. Definition & Call

Caucuses are general meetings of the members in good standing for the conduct of general business, election of officers, the Executive Committee and delegates and alternates. There should be two (2) caucuses held annually, and will normally be in conjunction with Lincoln Day dinners and Fall Fund Raisers. An annual caucus is mandatory under the Republican Party of Wisconsin guidelines. A caucus may be called by the Chair, Executive Committee, or by petition of ten percent (10%) of the membership. Said petition shall state the reason for the call to caucus.

Section 2. Timing and Notice

The spring caucus must be held prior to April 1 of each year for the approval of resolutions, election of delegates and alternates, and such other business as deemed appropriate. Additionally, the officers and Executive Committee members will be elected in the odd numbered years. Notice for a caucus must be given in one or more of the following methods: the regular bi-annual caucus may be noticed in conjunction with the publicity for the Lincoln Day dinner and Fall Fund raiser or the Chair or Executive Committee may mail a notice to each member or household having multiple members. Notices must be mailed or published in sufficient time to give eight (8) days of notice prior to the caucus. If the caucus is to be called by petition, the petitioners must give notice to the Executive Committee by first class mail so as to provide eight (8) days notice with notice to the other Party members as above, or by two (2) insertions in a weekly or bi-weekly newspaper, the latest insertion falling at least eight (8) days prior to the caucus.

Section 3. The Order of Business

At the spring caucus in the odd numbered years, the election of officers shall occur prior to the election of the members of the Executive Committee.

Section 4. Voting

Only members in good standing at least ten (10) days prior to any caucus or meeting calling for a vote may vote at such meeting. This shall be determined from the roll of members as held by the Chair, Secretary or membership chair. Voting by proxy shall be prohibited at all meetings or caucuses.

Article VI ~ Nominations & Elections

Section 1. Nominating Committee

In January of the odd numbered years, the Chair, with the approval of the Executive Committee, shall name a nominating committee of not less than three (3) members in good standing whose job it is to come up with a slate of officers and members of the Executive Committee, naming one (1) person for each position.

Section 2. Nominations From the Floor

Nominations may be taken from the floor and the nominator must state the office of the nominee or the name of the nominee to the Executive Committee or delegate or alternate who is to be challenged.

Section 3. Elections

When only one (1) person has been nominated to a position, a voice vote may be held. If two(2) or more have been nominated for a position, a paper ballot shall be used. In the event no one has a majority of the votes cast, the candidate with the least number of votes will be dropped, and another vote taken. This procedure will be repeated until one candidate has a majority of the votes cast. In the event of a tie between two candidates, the winner will be determined by a flip of a coin.

Article VII ~ Appointments

Section 1. Vacancies

In the event of an officer or Executive Committee vacancy, the Chair shall appoint, with the approval of the Executive Committee, a member in good standing to fill the vacancy. If the Executive Committee fails to approve said appointment, then the Executive Committee shall nominate and elect a member to fill the vacancy. In the event of there being more than one person nominated to fill the vacancy, the vacancy will not be filled until only one nominee has a majority of the votes of those present. The Chair may exercise a vote in such proceedings.

Section 2. Standing or Ad Hoc Committees

The Chair, with the consent of the Executive Committee, shall make all committee appointments.

Article VIII ~ Quorums

Section 1. Caucus or General Meeting

A quorum for a caucus or a general meeting of the Party shall be twenty-five percent (25%) of the number of authorized delegates of the Party for the last preceding state convention. The number of authorized delegates is equal to one (1) plus one (1) for each 250 votes or part thereof cast for the Republican candidate for governor or President of the United States in the last preceding election.

Section 2. Executive Committee

A quorum for the Executive Committee is twenty-five percent (25%) of the number of members authorized.

Article IX ~ Parliamentary Procedures

The most recent version of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern except where inconsistent with this Constitution, or any By-laws which may be enacted by the Party or the Executive Committee.

Article X ~ By-Laws

By-laws consistent with this Constitution may be adopted by a majority vote of the members at a duly called caucus of general membership meeting where the notice of the meeting states such purpose.

Article XI ~ Conflicts

In the event of any conflict or ambiguity in this Constitution with the Constitution of the Republican Party of Wisconsin, or the Republican Party of the United States, the state or national constitutions shall prevail, and this Constitution shall be amended

to remedy such conflicts or ambiguity.

Article XII ~ Amendments & Changes

This Constitution may be amended or changed by any one of the following methods:

1. Any voting member may attempt to amend or change this Constitution in the following manner: he or she must have the proposal co-sponsored by any three (3) members in good standing from different households.

The amendment or change must be in writing, with the sponsor and the co-sponsors' names, and shall be presented to the Chair for inclusion in the agenda of the next meeting of the Executive Committee. If one third (1/3) of the Executive Committee members present approve of the amendment or the change, it must be placed on the agenda of the next spring caucus. If the Executive Committee does not approve the amendment or change, it may be brought to the caucus floor, and a vote to consider taken, prior to the vote on the amendment or change.

2. The Executive Committee may propose an amendment or change to the Constitution with a majority vote of the members of the Committee present. It will then be placed on the next spring caucus agenda.
3. A proposed amendment or change is not amendable, and must be presented to the caucus as written.
4. A Constitutional amendment or change must be approved by a two thirds (2/3) majority of the caucus present.

Article XIII ~ Enactment

The enactment of this Constitution supersedes all previous Constitutions and/or By-laws of the Republican Party of Door County, and all previous Constitutions and/or By-laws are null and void.

Article XIV ~ Severability

If any articles, sections or parts thereof are in conflict with the laws of the State of Wisconsin, the Constitution of the Republican Party of Wisconsin or the Republican Party of the United States, only those articles, sections or parts thereof in conflict are to be held null and void, and all remaining articles, sections or parts shall remain in force.

This Constitution of the Republican Party of Door County was duly enacted at the Republican Party of Door County Caucus held on the 12th day of March 1995 and duly amended at the Republican Party of Door County caucuses held on the 15th day of February 2004 and the 28th day of January 2007.

Marc Savard, Chairman, Republican Party of Door County

Nancy A. Bemann, Secretary, Republican Party of Door County