Person County Republican Party

Plan of Organization 2022

(Continued for 2023.)

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Person County Republican Party (hereafter, the Party), conscious of our civic responsibilities and rights, firm in our determination to preserve the integrity of the American Republic and the sovereignty of the State of North Carolina, and to protect the rights of the free citizens as they were constructed and defined in the Declaration of Independence, the constitutions of the United States of America and of the State of North Carolina, and in the Bill of Rights, do herewith establish this instrument, the Plan of Organization of the Person County Republican Party.

A. MEMBERSHIP OF PERSON COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY

1. All citizens of Person County who are registered Republicans are members of the Party and shall have the right to participate in the official affairs in accordance with this Plan of Organization. All references to officers, Delegates, Alternates, and members shall, in all cases, mean persons identified with the Republican Party in the precinct of their residence in Person County.
2. The members of the Party shall meet on the third (3rd) Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM for fellowship and informational updates.

B. PARTY CONVENTION

1. There shall be a Party Convention held each year, called by the County Chairman of the Person County Republican Party (hereafter, the Chairman) at a suitable location within Person County, in the month of March. It must be held at least ten (10) days prior to the scheduled District Convention. A notice of this event shall be published in a media outlet of general accessibility in the County, as approved by the State GOP in the form of either a paid advertisement or a news item and posted to the official Party website. This notice must include the time, date, location, and purpose of the meeting. If the Chairman fails, refuses, or neglects to call a Convention, it shall become the duty of the Vice-Chairman to give a five (5) day notice of the Convention. If the Vice-Chairman fails, refuses, or neglects to call a meeting, then any member of the County Executive Committee (hereafter, the CEC) shall give a five (5) day notice of the Convention.

2. The Chairman will appoint a Credentials Committee of no less than two (2) people to confirm that all attendees to the Convention are currently listed by the Person County Board of Elections as Person County residents who are registered Republicans.

3. The Convention shall elect one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate to the Congressional District and State Conventions for every 250 Republicans, or major fraction thereof, registered in Person County as of January 31st of that year. Person County shall further elect one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate for each Republican elected to the state legislature, or to public office on the state or national level from Person County in the last election held for that office. Currently, all attendees of the Convention who so desire shall be deemed to be Delegates (Alternates) to the District Convention (up to, and including the maximum number allowed). Those desiring to be a Delegate (Alternate) to the State Convention must pay a nominal fee to defray the cost of mailing Convention materials to these Delegates (Alternates). It is permissible to charge this fee to all delegates, if so desired, for the sake of ease and consistency.

4. Notwithstanding any other provisioning of this Plan of Organization, challenges to Delegates and Alternates must be made solely regarding their capacity as individual Delegates (Alternates). The successful challenges of individuals in their capacity as Delegates (Alternates) shall not affect the seating of other Delegates (Alternates) at the Convention. No one shall be eligible for, or elected as, a Delegate (Alternate) who is not present at the Convention where such choices are made, to the exclusion of a duly qualified Republican registered to vote who is present at the Convention, and desires to be a Delegate (Alternate).

5. The Chairman (or the appointed Temporary Chairman, or the Vice-Chairman) shall call the Convention to order.

6. The County Plan of Organization shall be amended or re-affirmed each year. It must not be inconsistent with the State Plan of Organization, a copy of which shall be on file with the Party secretary and at State Headquarters. If the Convention fails to re-affirm a written County Plan of Organization, the previously adopted Plan shall remain in effect, so long as it is not inconsistent with the State Plan.

7. In every odd numbered year, the Convention shall elect officers for two (2) year terms. These officer candidates must be currently listed by the Person County Board of Elections as being a registered Republican for at least one (1) year, residing in Person County, and furthermore must notify the County Executive Committee of their intention to be a candidate for their desired position. This notice must be given between January 1 and February 14 for that year's Convention. There will be no motions accepted from the floor. No candidate's name shall be voted on who fails to meet this requirement. If there are no candidates for an office by February 15, the CEC will solicit at least one candidate to run for the office. If there is only one qualified candidate running, there is no need for a counting of votes for that position.

8. Minimum Qualifications for Leadership Positions -- to serve in the capacity of any elected or appointed officer at any precinct or Party level, the candidate shall:

1. Possess at least a high school diploma (or High-School-Equivalency diploma).
2. Not be qualified to serve if he has any past convictions of any felony, unless and until all rights have been completely restored, or his record has been completely expunged. The only allowance is if he was convicted of a (questionable) felony for purely political reasons. Then, he must be vetted by the CEC before being allowed to run.
3. Not be qualified to serve in any capacity ever, if he has been convicted of any felony or misdemeanor crime of moral turpitude, or against a minor person.

9. The officers to be elected (with their responsibilities):
    1. Chairman of the County Executive Committee, who is responsible for the general supervision of the affairs of the Party, with the advice and consent of the CEC shall:
        1. Schedule and prepare the agenda and preside (or appoint a Temporary Chairman) over the Convention and CEC meetings.
        2. Call special meetings, as needed, of the CEC.
        3. Appoint any temporary committees he deems necessary to conduct the business of the CEC, with the advice and consent of the CEC.
        4. Make periodic reports on the status of the Party to the District Chairman.
        5. Perform other such duties as may be prescribed by the County, District, or State Committees.
        6. Be an ex-officio member of all Committees, unless otherwise designated in this Plan of Organization.
    2. Vice-Chairman, who is responsible for functioning as the Chairman in the absence of the Chairman and shall have other duties as may be prescribed by the CEC. He shall be the ex-officio member of all committees, unless otherwise designated in this Plan of Organization.
    3. Secretary, unless elected in Convention, may be appointed by the County Chairman with the advice and consent of the CEC. He shall keep all minutes and records, and shall maintain a roster of the names and addresses of all Precinct Officials and CEC members. He shall also keep an inventory of all assets owned by the Party, along with where they are being stored (including names and addresses of who has custody of them). These records, and all credentials lists, shall be available upon request to any registered Republican within Person County. The Secretary shall furnish to the Congressional District Chairman, and to State Headquarters up-to-date lists of all Precinct Chairmen.
    4. (Optional) Assistant Secretary, unless elected in Convention, may be appointed by the Chairman with the advice and consent of the CEC. He shall assist the Secretary in all

duties, shall function as Secretary in the absence of the Secretary, and may have other duties as assigned by the Chairman or the Secretary.

5. Treasurer, unless elected in Convention, may be appointed by the Chairman with the advice and consent of the CEC. He shall receive and disburse all funds for Party expenditures by the authority duly given by the CEC. He shall present a financial report at all CEC and member meetings and shall fulfill all financial reports and obligations required under state and federal election laws. The treasurer must successfully complete the Mandatory Compliance Training provided by the North Carolina State Board of Elections as soon as possible, but not later than sixty (60) days after his election.
6. (Optional) Assistant Treasurer, unless elected in Convention, may be appointed by the Chairman with the advice and consent of the CEC. He shall assist the Treasurer in all duties, shall function as Treasurer in the absence of the Treasurer, and may have other duties as assigned by the Chairman or the Treasurer.
7. Precinct Chairmen, unless elected in Convention, may be appointed by the Chairman with the advice and consent of the CEC. He shall work to develop an enthusiastic Republican base, keep records of active Republicans, encourage and mentor qualified candidates for office in his precinct, and may have other duties as assigned by the Chairman.
8. Other positions, as may be determined by the Chairman, with the advice and consent of the CEC. Their duties and responsibilities will be assigned by the Chairman with the advice and consent of the CEC.

10. Voting Procedures

    1. Convention -- all registered Republicans residing in Person County who are present at the Convention have the right to vote. There will be no absentee voting, nor any proxy voting allowed. A simple majority of votes determines the winner. The minimum number of voters for a binding election (quorum) is three (3) people. All votes will be taken by a counting of the hands raised, unless:

        1. The vote is too close to call, or
        2. There is a reasonable need for privacy for the voters.

        In either of these cases, a paper ‘ballot’ (blank or otherwise) will be issued to all voters. Each ballot will be collected individually, then counted by the Chairman and the Secretary.

    2. All Special Conventions must comply with the same rules and guidelines as the annual Convention.

C. COMMITTEES

1. County Executive Committee (CEC) -- consists of the Chairman, the Vice-Chair, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Precinct Chairs, the immediate past Chairman, and former elected officials who have served within the past ten (10) years. An assistant (if there is one) may take the place of the Chair for a particular vote. The CEC must meet at least two (2) times each year.

2. Other committees (Communications, for example) that are needed to handle the business for the Party may be established by the CEC. The Chairs of these committees will be added to the CEC. These committees must meet at least two (2) times each year.

3. Meetings -- unless otherwise specified, a meeting can be in any manner as determined by the Chairman that facilitates the two-way conversation abilities of all members present and allows the Chairman or Secretary to identify each of the meeting participants. This may include (but is not limited to) in person, tele-conferencing, and video-conferencing.

4. Upon the call of the Chairman, one third (1/3) of the Committee, or by one third (1/3) of the CEC, an emergency meeting may be called after giving a minimum of two (2)-days-notice by phone or in person to all members of the committee. This meeting must be due to a bonafide emergency, as described in the announcement.

5. Voting and Quorum members -- for any votes taken by the Party leadership, the following rules shall be followed:

    1. Each member of the CEC shall be considered a Voting and Quorum member. This indicates that their presence at the vote will count toward the quorum requirement, and they are permitted to vote.

    2. The Voting, but Non-Quorum members include each of the Vice-Chairs (if they have not voted in the place of the Chair) and current elected Republican County or City officials. This indicates that their presence at the vote will not count toward the quorum requirement, but they are permitted to vote.

6. The Non-voting and Non-quorum members include any CEC Parliamentarian and Temporary Committee Chairs appointed by the Chair. This means that their presence at the vote will not count toward the quorum requirement, and they are not permitted to vote.

7. Quorum requirements for a CEC vote -- calculate the number of all of the applicable positions for the meeting that are currently filled (if an individual holds more than one position, only count him once). One fourth (1/4) of that number shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. All fractional amounts generated by that calculation shall be rounded up to the next whole number. For instance, if the total of the positions is 14, but one individual hold two (2) positions, the number of positions will be 13. One fourth of 13 is 3.25, which is rounded up to 4. That means that if there are less than four (4) people voting in this example, the vote cannot be counted. However, if the total number of voters is four (4) or more, the vote is legally binding. The quorum requirement of one fourth (1/4) of currently held positions will stand

regarding other committee meetings. These meetings have no non-quorum or non-voting members.

8. A simple majority of the voting is required to win the vote.

D. VACANCIES AND REMOVALS -- CEC

1. If a vacancy occurs (due to death, resignation, moving out of Person County, removal of any officer of the Party, or for any other reason), the CEC shall select a replacement to complete the unexpired term of the person who is being replaced.
2. Any officer or member of the CEC may be removed by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the CEC, after being furnished with notice of the charges against him. These charges must be signed by at least one third (1/3) of the CEC. The accused shall be allowed twenty (20) days to appear, and defend himself, if the cause for removal is confined to gross inefficiency, Party disloyalty, or failure to comply with the Person County or North Carolina State Plans of Organization. Such removal may then be appealed within twenty (20) days to the CEC, and their decision shall be final.
3. Any Official who is absent from three consecutive CEC meetings shall be considered as having automatically resigned from the CEC, unless the individual requests an extension, and the reason for the extension is acceptable to the CEC. The resulting vacancy shall be filled in accordance with D.1. (above).
4. Any official who has been removed from office but is still in possession of Party assets and/or records, must turn them over to their replacement within thirty (30) days. These may be given to the Chairman if no replacement has yet been named. However, for certain positions (especially the Secretary or Treasurer), it is required of both the outgoing and incoming officials to meet to ensure a seamless transition. Failure to assist with the transition of assets, records, or proprietary information shall result in the Chairman filing complaints with the Congressional District and State Party. If the situation requires it, local law enforcement shall also be contacted.

E. CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE

1. The Chairman, with the advice and consent of the CEC, shall appoint a Review and Vetting Committee to seek and encourage good Republicans to file for, and run for office in Municipal and County elections. This committee shall meet with potential candidates to determine their position on issues, and their ability to be elected.
2. As Republicans, we cherish all of our freedoms. As Conservatives, we recognize that not all Americans look at “life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness” in the same way. We want all Americans to prosper (emotionally, financially, etc.), while many others look only for their own

best interests. As Conservative Republicans, we understand that even the best of people can disagree with some of the Party policies, so it becomes difficult to ascertain where lines ought to be drawn to keep bad policies from infiltrating the good work we are striving to do. Furthermore, we understand that in many areas of our country, it has become increasingly difficult to distinguish between a "so-called conservative Republican" candidate and a "so-called liberal Democrat" candidate. The Party believes that we need to take a stand locally against this infiltration of bad ideas into our solid, time-tested convictions. Therefore, if the Review and Vetting Committee determines that the candidate:

1. Has stated positions that are not consistent with the Party,
2. Has legal or moral standings in the community that brings into question the candidate's ability to represent the Party's standards,
3. Has expressed no desire to associate with the Party, or
4. Has shown a continued practice of dereliction of duty, defined as the willful and repetitive failure to perform one's duties well in office, the Party will consider them to be a candidate not in good standing.

We will ensure that the community is aware of their duplicity. This action must not be entered into lightly, but rather, must be done to preserve the good name of the local, state, and national Party.

3. Furthermore, Party Disloyalty will not be taken lightly. Party Disloyalty is defined as: the act of any registered Republican attempting to influence, or determined to have influenced, the outcome of any election against a Republican candidate for public office, or a Republican endorsed by the appropriate Republican Executive Committee (this does not include supporting an opposing Republican candidate in a Republican primary). This definition includes the action of any Republican inappropriately influencing the internal election, or rejection, of officials on public councils, boards, and commissions, especially when favoring a non-Republican candidate running against a qualified Republican candidate in good standing.
4. Upon receiving a report of Party Disloyalty, the Chairman or Vice-Chairman will gather evidence, and bring the charges before the CEC for review and consideration. If found to have merit, the charges will be referred to the CEC for disposition. The accused candidate will be given at least fourteen (14) days' notice of a hearing before the CEC and afforded the opportunity to provide a defense. The accused may be disassociated from the Party upon a two thirds (2/3) vote of the CEC. The Party may also impose the penalties of censure, cessation of support, or barring from Party premises for a period of up to five (5) years. The CEC may also pass a resolution requesting district or state level action for Party Disloyalty under the provisions of the applicable District or State Plans of Organization.
5. The Party will promote all candidates in good standing with the party. This includes, but is not limited to, promoting such candidates via sample ballots passed out at the polls. Candidates that

fail to meet the minimum standards described herein will be considered candidates not in good standing, and will not be afforded these same privileges, or will be publicly denounced by the Party.

F. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION PROCEDURES

1. Rules:
    1. Non-partisan (“Unaffiliated”) candidates and office holders may be offered opportunities to address a Party meeting or other function sponsored by the Party, when not in conflict with our obligation to Republican candidates and current office holders who are deemed to be in good standing, for the purposes of information or recruiting.
    2. The CEC and County Conventions are authorized to name additional Party Officers, Committees, or to make rules they deem necessary, as long as they are not inconsistent with this Plan of Organization.
2. Minutes shall be kept of all meetings (Convention, CEC, or committee) accurately reporting on the official actions that were taken. The Secretary shall keep copies of these minutes, and forward appropriate ones to the Republican State Headquarters.
3. No County officer or member of the Party shall exceed any budgeted expense limits without the expressed approval of the CEC. If there is no specified budget for a particular purchase more than fifty (50) dollars, the purchaser shall inform the CEC of the proposed costs prior to finalizing the order.
4. No County officer or member of the Party shall cause the Party to undertake a loan or a lease without the prior approval of the CEC.
5. No Party funds shall be disbursed to the election committee, or political action committee, of any candidate without the expressed approval of the CEC.
6. Party funds shall primarily be used for Party operations, expenses, and ‘get out the vote’ efforts. Any other expenditures must gain the prior approval of the CEC.
7. It is recommended that all Party documents and correspondence (excluding letterheads) be written in an easily read font, size 10, or larger.

G. AMENDING THE PLAN OF ORGANIZATION

1. When a registered Republican deems it is necessary to amend this Plan of Organization (hereafter, the Plan) at a time other than at the Convention, they must begin by sending an email (or letter through the USPS) to the Party. The Secretary will electronically forward the email (letter) to the Chairman and the CEC. The Chairman will determine the best time and venue to

address this request. The Secretary will then email all of the members of the CEC, and the petitioner, with the meeting information (giving at least five (5) days notice). No other changes will be discussed at the meeting, except what is in the meeting notice. If the petitioner fails to attend the meeting, the request will not be considered. Voting on the amendment will follow steps C.5-7 (above).

2. If the amendment request coincides with the Convention, the petitioner must still send an email (or letter) to the Party at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the Convention to get the amendment voted upon. Again, if the petitioner is not present at the Convention, no vote will be taken. If the petitioner is present, he will be allowed five (5) minutes to explain why the amendment is necessary. A simple majority of qualified delegates at the Convention wins the vote.
3. Any member of the CEC shall have the authority to correct any spelling, formatting, grammatical, or typographical errors in this Plan of Organization that do not change the substance of the Plan. This action may be done at any time during the year, but must be voted on at the Convention to be made permanent.
4. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Plan, if there is a change in the state or federal election law that renders any portion of this Plan ineffective, obsolete, or inoperative, the CEC may upon a two thirds (2/3) majority vote, temporarily amend this Plan to the extent necessary to conform to the new law. Any such change shall be effective only until the next Convention is concluded.

H. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern all proceedings, except when inconsistent this Plan, or Convention rules (properly adopted).
2. The masculine pronoun or title herein includes the feminine, and the singular herein includes the plural, wherever appropriate.
3. This Plan shall become effective, and shall repeal and supersede all other rules (except where specifically noted) immediately following.

[The End]