

# CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF MCLEOD COUNTY

## ARTICLE I NAME, PURPOSES AND MEMBERSHIP

1. **NAME:** The name of this organization shall be the McLeod County Republican Party of Minnesota (or McLeod RPM, for short name).
2. **PURPOSES:** The purpose of the party shall be the maintenance and advancement of good government through the promotion within McLeod County of the principles, objectives and the Platform of the Republican Party, as determined by the National Republican Convention, the Minnesota Republican Convention, the Seventh Congressional District Republican Convention and the McLeod County Convention; and the endorsed candidates will also promote the principles, objectives and the Platform of the Republican Party to the best of their ability.
3. **MEMBERSHIP:** The membership of the party shall be composed of all voters of McLeod County, Minnesota who desire to support the objectives and principles of the party.

## ARTICLE II – ADMINISTRATION SECTION 1

1. **COUNTY FULL COMMITTEE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**
  - a. The management of the affairs of the party within the county shall be vested in the County Full Committee, subject to the provisions of the statutes of Minnesota, the Constitution of the Republican Party of Minnesota, and the directions pursuant thereto of the State Central committee, the State Executive Committee, the Seventh District Republican Committee, and the McLeod County Convention.
  - b. The duties of the County Full Committee shall include, but are not limited to, establishment of effective financial campaigns, organization of each precinct within the county, assistance to the candidates of the Republican Party, and coordination of all Republican activities in McLeod County.
2. **COMPOSITION:** The County Full Committee shall consist of the following voting members (limited to one vote per person for those fulfilling multiple roles):
  - a. The chair of each precinct or ward of each city and township of McLeod County, Minnesota.
  - b. The County Executive Committee.
  - c. State Central Committee delegates and alternates.
3. **LEADERSHIP:** The Chair of the Full Committee shall be the elected Chair of the Executive Committee.

## SECTION 2

1. **COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**
  - a. The County Executive Committee shall have charge of the administration and management of the party affairs within this county between meetings of the County Full Committee, subject to the direction and control of the county convention and the County Full Committee.
  - b. The County Executive Committee shall make recommendations to the County Full Committee relating to policies and general activities of the party.
  - c. All proposals for the expenditure of \$50.00 and over shall be approved by the County Executive Committee.

2. **COMPOSITION:** The County Executive Committee shall consist of the following:
- a. County Chair
  - b. County Deputy Chair
  - c. Five Vice-Chairs
  - d. Secretary
  - e. Treasurer
    - i. State Central Committee Delegate(s) In addition to the above, the following shall be ex officio members of the Committee, but shall have no vote.
      1. Chairs of McLeod County Republican Party affiliate organizations;
      2. State Central Alternates

### SECTION 3

1. **MEETINGS:**
- a. **The County Full Committee** shall meet at least three times annually in a general election year and twice annually in a non-general election year at the call of the chair, and/or deputy chair, the executive committee or any ten members thereof. Written notice shall be emailed, or if email addresses are not available, mailed to all members at least ten days in advance of each Eight (8) members of the County Full Committee shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of the transaction of business by that body.
  - b. **The County Executive Committee** shall meet at the call of the chair or at the request of any three members thereof. Five members thereof shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of transacting the business of the County Executive Committee. At least five (5) days notice, will be emailed, not including the date of notice, shall be given of a County Executive Committee meeting. The notice requirement may be waived by unanimous consent of the Executive Committee.
2. **PARLIAMENTARY RULES:** Robert's Rules of order, Latest Edition, shall govern the proceedings of all meetings of the above mentioned groups, except as otherwise provided herein.

### SECTION 4

1. **PRECINCT OFFICERS:** Officers of each precinct shall consist of a chair and vice chair and such other officers as may be prescribed by the County Executive Committee, elected during the election year for a two-year term by a caucus of Republicans within said precinct, in accordance with the applicable statutes of the State of Minnesota.

### SECTION 5

1. **DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO THE STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE:** The number of delegates and alternates to the State Central Committee shall be controlled by the Constitution of the Seventh Congressional District.
- a. Election, Terms, Removal
    - i. Election: Unless prohibited by the state or district constitutions, the County Executive Committee Chair will assume the first delegate position. If the County is eligible for a second delegate, the Deputy Chair will assume the second delegate position. In the event only one delegate position is available, the deputy chair will assume the first alternate position.
    - ii. Remaining delegates or alternates: Remaining delegates or alternates shall be elected at large by the delegates voting at each County Convention held in odd number years. In the event automatic election is not permitted, then all delegates or alternates shall be elected consistent with this constitution.
    - iii. Term: Term of office shall be two years.
    - iv. Removal: Delegates and alternates may be removed in the manner, provided in Article IV, Section 3, and paragraph 1 of this constitution.

## SECTION 6

1. **ELECTION OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:** The officers of the County Executive Committee shall be elected for a two-year term by the delegates to the county convention held during each non-election year. A majority of the votes cast shall be required for election to any office.

## SECTION 7

1. **NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** A Nominating Committee may be appointed by the County Executive Committee in advance of the county convention held in the non-election year for the consideration of the county convention, provided, however, nominations may also be made from the floor.

## ARTICLE III - COUNTY CONVENTIONS

### SECTION 1

1. **TIME AND PLACE OF CONVENTION:** County conventions shall be held each year during the period, and for purposes, designated by the Official Call issued by the State Executive Committee, the State Central Committee, or the Seventh Congressional District Committee. The time and place shall be determined by the County Executive Committee.

### SECTION 2

1. **SPECIAL COUNTY CONVENTIONS:** Special county conventions shall be held at the call of the State Executive Committee, the State Central Committee, the Seventh Congressional District Committee, or at any time deemed necessary by a majority of the members of the County Full Committee or the majority of the members of the Executive Committee.

### SECTION 3

1. **COMPOSITION:** County conventions shall be composed of the following residents of the County: Delegates elected at the precinct caucuses which are held in each precinct every general election year as required by Minnesota Statutes. Delegates and alternates to the County Convention shall be selected in a manner prescribed by the Constitution of the Minnesota Republican Party and by Statute and as set forth in the Official Call of such conventions.
2. **DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES:** The number of delegates and alternates at each county convention and the basis of their apportionment shall be determined by the County Executive Committee, provided that such basis shall be uniform throughout the county and shall be based on the vote cast for the Republican candidate for governor in the last preceding state-wide general election; or if such election were a presidential election, the vote cast for the Republican candidate for president.
3. **PRECINCT CAUCUSES:** At precinct caucuses where only one delegate is to be elected, the persons elected as chair and vice chair shall automatically become elected either the delegate or the alternate as determined by vote thereat. Whether or not a chair or vice chair is elected at precinct caucuses, delegates and alternates shall nevertheless be elected thereat.
4. **TERM:** Delegates and alternates shall be elected for a two-year term and shall serve until their successors are duly elected and certified. In the event that there is a vacancy in the office of precinct chair or vice chair the County Executive Committee may fill the office by appointment, but such officer shall not thereby become a delegate unless previously elected as a delegate or alternate at the last precinct caucus.

**SECTION 4**

1. **ENDORSEMENTS:** A county convention, by a vote of 60% of the delegates seated at the Convention, may endorse candidates for public office, that are wholly within McLeod County and do not extend into another county BPOU.
2. Candidates seeking endorsement for public office that require delegate votes from outside of McLeod County are strongly encouraged to notify the McLeod RPM Chair as soon as possible to sign an application to for endorsement for office. This notification is needed to schedule a special SD-18 endorsing convention to include the delegates from outside of McLeod County.
3. Candidates wishing to make their announcement to run for office, who did not notify the McLeod Chair or submit an application to run (before the county convention), will be required to prove a minimum level of delegate support before speaking at McLeod's convention.
  - a. The list of supporting delegates will be verified by the credentialing chairperson.
  - b. The listed delegates must be present during the credentialing verification to be accepted in the total.
  - c. The minimum level of delegate support required before speaking at McLeod's convention shall be at least 5% of the total assigned delegate strength for the applicable McLeod County convention.

**SECTION 5**

1. **ELECTION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO STATE AND DISTRICT CONVENTIONS:** Delegates and alternates to district and state conventions shall be elected at the county convention in even numbered years. Delegates and alternates to the state convention shall be first followed by an election of delegates and alternates to the district convention. A delegate or alternate elected to the state convention may also be elected to the district convention. The delegates and alternates elected shall be apportioned as determined by the County Executive Committee provided that such basis shall be uniform throughout the county and shall be based on the vote cast for the Republican candidate for governor in the last preceding state-wide general election, or if such election was a presidential election, then the vote cast for the Republican candidate for president. Unless otherwise specified in the convention call issued by the County Executive Committee, delegates and alternates shall be elected from separate geographic areas, by vote of all McLeod County delegates and seated alternates as set forth in the rules of the convention.

**ARTICLE IV - VACANCIES AND REMOVALS**  
**SECTION 1**

1. **PRECINCT OFFICES:** Vacancies in precinct offices may be filled by appointment of the County Executive Committee.

**SECTION 2**

1. **COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:** Vacancies in the offices of the County Executive Committee may be filled by appointment of the County Full Committee or the remaining Executive Committee members; whichever committee meets first and by a majority vote.

**SECTION 3**

1. **REMOVAL:** Any person serving as an officer of the County Full Committee, or as a State Central Committee delegate or alternate, may be removed from office by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at any meeting of the County Full Committee, provided that the person whose removal is under consideration shall have been furnished with a detailed written statement of the charges against him/her at least ten days prior to the meeting, and provided further that said person shall be entitled to answer the charges against him/her before the entire committee, if he/she so desires, before the question is voted upon.
2. The Full County Committee, by majority vote, may require the resignation of any member of the County Executive Committee who is elevated to an office in the district, state, or national official party organization.

**ARTICLE V - GENERAL PROVISIONS**  
**SECTION 1**

1. The county party organization is affiliated with the Republican Party of Minnesota, and its activities shall be consistent with the objectives, principles and the Platform of the Republican Party; and the endorsed candidates will also promote the principles, objectives and the Platform of the Republican Party to the best of their ability. The provisions of the Constitution of the Republican Party of Minnesota shall govern if any part of this Constitution is not consistent therewith.

**SECTION 2**

1. No member of the county organization shall be authorized to express the views or otherwise speak on behalf of any group within the Party on any matters of policy unless the group has first considered and taken action on such matters. This shall not be construed to prevent any official of the county organization from freely expressing his/her opinions provided he/she makes clear that his/her statements are solely his/her own personal views.

**ARTICLE VI - CONSTITUTION AND BY LAWS, COMMITTEE AND AMENDMENTS**  
**SECTION 1**

1. This constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the delegates present at any county convention, provided that the proposed amendments shall have been referred to a duly appointed constitution committee, and reported out of said committee by a least a minority report signed by three (3) such committee members before it shall be submitted to the convention.

**SECTION 2**

1. The County Full Committee and County Executive Committee shall operate under such by laws as are deemed necessary for the transaction of the business of the party. By laws, if adopted, may be amended by a two thirds vote at any full committee meeting after written notice of any proposal for amendment has been submitted with the notice of the meeting.

**Revision History of Constitution Committee Change Approvals**

<b>Changes approved at Convention</b>	<b>Convention Date</b>
<b>No changes proposed for 2017, except formatting and grammatical changes. Committee elected to address any questions from convention.</b>	<b>2/25/2017</b>
<b>ARTICLE II - ADMINISTRATION</b> <b>Section 1 Full Committee: Clarified one vote per person</b> <b>Section 2 Full Committee: Clarified one vote per person</b> <b>Section 3 Emailing acceptable for Full &amp; Exec Committee notices</b>  <b>ARTICLE III – COUNTY CONVENTIONS</b> <b>Section 2: Endorsement: clarified if wholly within McLeod County</b>	<b>2/14/2015</b>

<p><b>ARTICLE II - ADMINISTRATION</b> <b>Section 1 Leadership: Changed Chairman/Chairwoman to Chair/Deputy Chair</b> <b>Section 2 Board Composition: Changed vicechairman/woman to vice chair</b> <b>Section 3 &amp; 4: removed gender specific language</b> <b>Section 5: Updated references to Chair/Deputy Chair and clarified state central delegate and alternate selections</b></p> <p><b>ARTICLE III – COUNTY CONVENTIONS</b> <b>Section 2: clarified majority requirement for Executive Committee authorization</b> <b>Section 3: Composition: removed gender specific language</b></p>	<p><b>2/26/2011</b></p>
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**2017 CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMITTEE:**

- \* Jim Bobier, Chair
- \* Mitzi Shimanski
- \* Kevin Masrud

**2015 CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMITTEE:**

- \* Jim Bobier, Chair
- \* Jim Nielsen
- \* Carmen Patino
- \* Jennifer Moore

**2011 CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMITTEE:**

- \*Jim Bobier, Chair
- \*Craig Hoel
- \*Marie Thurn

**2009 CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMITTEE:**

- \*Julie Schaffer
- \*Craig Bishop
- \*Russ Goldstein
- \*Scott Newman
- \*Jeanine Messner

**2008 CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMITTEE:**

- \* Julie Schaffer
- \* Craig Bishop
- \* Doug Krueger
- \* Russ Goldstein
- \* Jeanine Messner

**2007 CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMITTEE:**

- \* Julie Schaffer
- \* Scott Newman
- \* Craig Bishop

**2003 CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMITTEE:**

- \* Scott Newman
- \* Jeanine Messner
- \* Julie Schaffer
- \* Doug Flaa
- \* Reba Radtke
- \* Sandy Juffer

**1997-1998 CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMITTEE:**

- \* Phil Schweizer
- \* G. Barry Anderson, Chair
- \* Reba Radtke

**1981 CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMITTEE:**

- \* Arnold Beneke
- \* Donn Popp
- \* Dorothy Herrmann
- \* Bill McGowan

**1972 CONSTITUTION REVISION COMMITTEE:**

- \* Arnold W. Beneke, Chair
- \* Dorothy Herrmann
- \* Beverly Martens
- \* Dwayne Bengtson
- \* Richard Genty
- \* Kenny Jensen