

# CONVENTION RULES 2021

## 1. RULES OF ORDER

Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall be the parliamentary authority on all points not covered by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Houston County Republican BPOU, the statues of the State of Minnesota, any special rules of order the party may adopt, as well as the official call of this convention and the rules adopted by this convention.

## 2. ORDER OF BUSINESS

The order of business for this convention shall be as specified in the Convention Agenda or by the discretion of the Convention Chairperson. The Convention Chairperson, at his or her discretion, can change the order to the Convention Agenda in order to meet time constraints. A motion to adjourn the convention shall be debatable until all items on the agenda have been addressed on the convention floor excluding agenda item titled other business.

## 3. SEATING OF DELEGATES/ALTERNATES

- a. The permanent voting roll of this convention shall be composed of the delegates elected February 25, 2020, at the precinct caucuses to this BPOU Convention. Only those delegates and properly seated alternates are eligible to be seated which allows them the privilege to vote on business before the convention. If a duly elected delegate or alternate is not properly registered then they shall not be allowed to be seated at the convention. To be properly registered the registration must have been received 24 hours in advance of the convention by the Republican Party of Minnesota whether sent online or via the USPS mail.
- b. Following the preliminary Credential Report and in the absence of any duly elected delegate, a duly elected alternate shall be seated according to rank in the precinct or by vote of the precinct's delegation if no rank is known.
- c. Cross seating of alternates will not be allowed.
- d. No unregistered delegate or alternate may be seated at any time during the convention.
- e. Once a delegate or a seated alternate has registered for the convention, they remain part of the voting strength of the convention even if they leave the convention prior to the convention's official adjournment.
- f. Seating of alternates after the preliminary Credential Report shall be the duty of the chairperson or their designee.

## 4. QUORUM

- a. A quorum shall consist of ten percent (10%) of the total number of delegates elected at the February 25<sup>th</sup> 2020 precinct caucuses.
- b. Once a quorum has been established, the call for a quorum thereafter shall be out order.

## 5. VOTING

- a. The vote on all questions shall be considered a rising vote by voting yea or nay.
- b. Items without objection can be passed by unanimous consent.
- c. There shall be no voting by proxy or unit rule.
- d. The Convention Chairperson and the Chief Teller will decide any voting dispute and they may request a new vote.
- e. Only persons who are delegates or seated alternates to this convention shall be permitted vote.
- f. The Convention Chairperson shall appoint a Chief Teller to assist in counting votes and adjudicating disputes.
- g. Voting will proceed until the Chairperson rules balloting closed.
- h. Valid ballots shall be those cast for any names put forth by the Search/Nominations committee.

**6. DEBATE**

- a. Debate on any general issue or motion shall be limited to one (1) minute by each speaker. No person shall be allowed to speak more than once on the same question and the total debate is limited to a maximum of six (6) minutes. The chairperson will call on Pro and Con speakers alternately. If no opposing speaker rises the debate will end.

**7. ADDRESSES TO THE CONVENTION**

- a. The convention Chairperson at any time may invite any office holder or distinguished guest to address the convention for a period not to exceed three (3) minutes, with the exception of state and federal office holders representing all or part of this BPOU, which shall be limited to seven (7) minutes.
- b. The Chair shall appoint a Timekeeper for the purpose of timing discussions, debates, and speeches during the meeting. Time limits shall be strictly observed.

**8. AMENDMENT OR SUSPENSION**

- a. After adoption of these rules, they may be suspended or amended only by a 2/3 affirmation vote of the convention.

**9. ELECTION OF COUNTY BPOU OFFICERS AND DELEGATE TO STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE**

- a. Nominations shall be those reported out by the Search/Nominations committee, having met the requirements of the convention call. Elections will be conducted for Chair, Deputy Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer to the County BPOU and one delegate and up to three alternates to the State Central Committee.
- b. If a passed Search/Nominations committee report contains equal or less than the allotment for delegates and alternates, then no further balloting is required.
- c. The top vote getter for each County BPOU office will be elected. The top vote getter for delegate to the State Central Committee will be elected with the next three vote getters as alternates and ranked in order according to their number of votes.
- d. A tie may be broken by drawing of lots or other random methods.

**10. DECORUM**

- a. The Chairperson may use a mute function to avoid background noises and disruptions so long as a method for individuals to be recognized is provided.
- b. A participant to the convention must not disrupt order and decorum, and may be removed or muted for repeated interruptions that are out of order nor germane to the agenda.