

Senate District 47 Republican Party Constitution Basic Political Organization Unit

Preamble

- The Republican Party of Minnesota Senate District 47 welcomes the participation of all citizens of Minnesota Senate District 47 who are concerned with the implementation of honest, limited, and smaller government.
- The Party believes in the equality of all, as stated in the Declaration of Independence. Therefore, the Party is committed to equal representation and opportunity for all and the preservation of the rights of each individual.

Article I - Name

The name of this organization shall be the **Republican Party of Senate District 47** of the State of Minnesota, the **basic political organization unit**, hereafter referred to as the "**BPOU**".

Article II - Purposes of the BPOU

Section 1: The BPOU shall support the platform of the **National Republican Party and the Republican Party of Minnesota**.

Section 2: The responsibility of the BPOU is **the election of endorsed Republican candidates for public office**.

- If an endorsed candidate should lose in a primary election, then the only candidate for post primary endorsement shall be the winner of the primary election, per **MN State Law 204D.10** Primary results; nominees.
- "Subdivision 1 **Partisan offices; nominees**. The candidate for nomination of a major political party for a partisan office on the state partisan primary ballot who receives the highest number of votes shall be the nominee of the political party for that office".

Section 3: The BPOU shall **follow all rules imposed by law and custom upon official party committees**. In addition, the BPOU shall:

1. **Organize individual precincts** in Senate District 47
2. **Assist in conducting campaigns for the adoption of laws** that are in accord with the Republican platform
3. Administer the affairs of the Party within the BPOU

Article III - Management and Structure

Section 1: Executive Board - The management of the BPOU shall rest with the Senate District Executive Board, the BPOU Convention, the State Party Constitution, Senate District 47 Constitution and applicable state statutes of law.

Section 2: Officers of the BPOU Executive Board

- The Senate District 47 Executive Board shall be composed of the BPOU Chair, Deputy Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, and A-side chair and vice chair and B-side chair and vice chair.
- The A-side and B-side chair and vice chair will be assigned to oversee precincts.
- Other positions as deemed necessary by the Executive Board or the BPOU as a whole may be added. These may include but are not limited to: a Corresponding Secretary, Finance Chair, Volunteer Coordinator, Communications Coordinator and a Webmaster.

Section 3: Duties of the Executive Board shall be as follows:

1. The **BPOU Chair** shall conduct BPOU Executive Board meetings, BPOU meetings, appoint committees and coordinate the activities of the Vice Chairs. The Chair is also a member of all committees.
2. The **Deputy Chair** shall conduct meetings and represent the Chair in the Chair's absence as directed by the Chair.
3. **Elected Republican Legislators** shall be invited to all Executive Board meetings. Since their attendance is not required, their position shall not be included in the quorum count unless they are present.
4. The **Secretary** shall keep minutes of the meetings. Video minutes may be used.
5. The **Treasurer** shall be responsible for all Party monies, keep financial records, disburse monies as authorized by the Executive Board, and prepare and submit all reports to the state as required by law.
6. **Vice Chairs** shall manage the affairs of precincts assigned to them as well as assisting the BPOU at large.

Article IV - Election of BPOU Officers

Section 1: The BPOU **Executive Board** shall be elected to a two-year term by the delegates to **the odd-year BPOU Convention**.

1. Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and any other district wide officer shall be elected at large.
2. A and B side Deputy Chairs and Vice Chairs shall be elected by their respective House district delegates. If the number needed for Vice chair is not met, they may be appointed by the Executive Committee.
3. **State Central Committee** Delegates and ranked alternates shall be elected at the BPOU Convention.

Section 2: Precinct Officers

- **Officers of each precinct** may consist of two Chairs and a secretary elected to a **two-year term** at the even-numbered year Precinct Caucus, in compliance with State Statute.
- In the event a precinct fails to elect any officer at this caucus, the BPOU Executive Board may appoint individuals to fill the vacancy in that precinct.

Section 3: Delegates to Congressional or State Conventions shall be elected by the Senate District and Alternates shall be ranked for seating purposes.

Article V - Meetings of the Executive Board

Section 1: Requirements

1. The Executive Board **shall meet at least once every 3 months.**
2. The Executive Board shall meet at the call of the Chair, at the request of any three (3) members of the Board, or at the request of 25% of the BPOU Convention Delegates. Three (3) days' notice shall be provided to members of the Board.
3. **Quorums:** a quorum shall be 40% of seated members of this Board for the purpose of transacting BPOU business.
4. Unless otherwise noted in this Constitution, "notices" may be sent by email to addresses given by the respective recipient.

Section 2: "Robert's Rules of Order, Revised" shall govern the proceedings of all meetings of the Executive Board.

Article VI - BPOU Conventions

Section 1:

- BPOU District Conventions **shall be held each year** during the period and for the purpose designated by the Official Call issued by the State Executive Committee, the State Central Committee, or the Congressional District Committee.
- **Special BPOU conventions** shall be held at the call of the afore mentioned groups, or at the discretion of the majority of the BPOU Executive Board, provided that a minimum of ten (10) days' notice, in writing, be sent to each delegate and alternate.
 - If events warrant a **Special Election to public office**, an emergency Endorsing Convention may be held at the call of the BPOU Chair and Deputy Chair, or at the discretion of the majority of the BPOU Executive Board. A written notice of not less than five (5) days shall be given to delegates and alternates. They shall be held for the sole purpose of endorsing a candidate for office.

Section 2: Order of Business at all BPOU Conventions:

1. First (1st) order of business shall be the **temporary election of convention officers.**
2. The second (2nd) order of business shall be the **first (1st) credentials report.** The convention shall then proceed to the **seating of the delegates**, as outlined in Article VI, Section three (3).
4. A precinct shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each delegate present or alternate properly seated.

Section 3: Seating of Delegates and Alternates -The BPOU Convention shall be composed of the delegates and alternates selected at the Republican Party Precinct Caucus within Senate District 47. The credentials committee shall seat all duly elected and accredited delegates of each precinct. **Vacancies shall be filled according to the following procedures:**

1. **After the first credentials report**, if not all Delegates are present, the Credentials Committee shall seat accredited Alternates in rank order to fill the allotted Delegate seats.
2. The **precincts shall caucus after acceptance of the first credentials committee report**. If the precinct chair is not present, the seated delegates shall elect a chair, and then proceed to fill the vacancies.
3. Vacancies shall be filled by the alternates in the order in which they were ranked by the Precinct Caucus. If not ranked, then by vote of the seated delegates. If a tie vote arises, the chair shall appoint, by coin toss, one of the alternates who participated in the tie to be seated.
4. **If a delegate should arrive late**, that delegate may be seated at any time, assuming the seat of the lowest ranked alternate.
5. If a precinct has **any vacancies which can't be filled** by an alternate for the same precinct, the vacancy will remain. No cross seating is allowed at a BPOU convention.
6. **No Alternates may be seated prior to the first credentials report.**

Section 4: Delegates and alternates to the State and Congressional Republican District Conventions shall be elected in accordance with the laws of the State of Minnesota, as well as the State Republican Constitution, and shall continue as such until their successors are elected.

Section 5: Endorsements - A motion to endorse will be in order at any BPOU Convention in the years when these elections occur. This motion must carry by a majority vote.

1. **The BPOU Convention may endorse a candidate for office of State Senator.** Endorsement shall be by **sixty (60) percent of the voting strength** of the convention. The last credentials report prior to each ballot shall govern the voting strength.
2. A Sub-Caucus of a BPOU Convention or a separate convention of the delegates from **State House Districts 47A and 47B may each endorse a candidate for State Representative**, however, if endorsement is by a separate convention, agenda of said convention shall be limited to the endorsement of these candidates only. Endorsement shall be by **sixty (60) percent of the voting strength** of the sub- caucus or convention. The last credentials report prior to each ballot shall govern the voting strength.

Article VII • Vacancies and Removal of Officers

Section 1: Vacancies in precinct offices may be filled by appointment of the Executive Board, or, if so directed, by a caucus of the Republicans in the affected precinct. **Should vacancies occur In the Executive Board**, replacements may be appointed by the Executive Board or at the next BPOU Convention.

Section 2: **An officer of the Executive Board may be removed from office** by a two thirds (2/3) vote at any meeting of the seated Executive Board members provided that the officer in question be furnished with a ten (10) day notice, in writing, of the charges that may warrant removal. Further, the officer in question shall be entitled to respond to these charges in person or in writing prior to the vote to remove.

Section 3: If a member of the Executive Board is **absent without cause from more than four (4) consecutive meetings**, this person shall be subject to the removal provisions outlined in Section two (2) of the Article.

Section 4: It is the duty of all officers, be they Precinct officers or Executive Board members, to support the nominated Republican candidates. **Should any member of this body actively and publicly campaign against any Republican nominated to run for office** either through the endorsing process or through the primary election that member may be removed from office in accordance with the provisions of Article VII.

Section 5: Any elected member of the Executive Board who announces their candidacy for Federal or State elected public office shall be placed on immediate leave of absence and if he/she receives endorsement or runs in the Primary Election he/she shall resign their position on the Executive Board.

Article VIII - Dissolution of BPOU

In the event the State Legislative lines are redrawn, the Executive Board shall have the power to dissolve this Senate District 47 BPOU by two--thirds (2/3) majority.

Article IX - Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present at any BPOU Convention, provided that the proposed amendments be first referred to a **duly appointed Constitution Committee, and that the Official Convention Call will indicate that constitutional amendments will be considered.**