

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE WOOD COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Wood County Democratic Party is to recruit, nominate, support and elect Democratic candidates to public office.

To that end, the WCDP is committed to public and government policies that encourage promote and advance the shared values, principles and traditions of our Party which include:

- A. Individual, political, economic and religious freedom;
- B. Fairness, equal opportunity and equal protection under law for all citizens;
- C. Mutual respect, tolerance and respect for the diversity for all citizens, families and communities;
- D. Openness, competence, fiscal responsibility, integrity and ethical conduct in government;
- E. Protection of and the responsible use of our environment and community resources; and
- F. A decent quality of life for all citizens and families.

ARTICLE I. ORGANIZATION AND OFFICERS

SECTION 1. REORGANIZATION MEETING: As provided by statute, the members-elect of the Central Committee shall meet not earlier than six (6) nor later than fifteen (15) days following the date of certification of the results of the quadrennial gubernatorial Primary Election by the Wood County Board of Elections, at a suitable time and place to be designated by the retiring Chair of the Central Committee.

Notice of such meeting, giving the time and place, shall be sent to each member-elect by the retiring Secretary of the Central Committee, by mail at least five (5) days prior to any such meeting. A copy of the notice shall be posted in the office of the Wood County Board of Elections for the same period of time.

SECTION 2. ORDER OF BUSINESS/OFFICERS: Pursuant to statute, the meeting shall be called to order by the retiring Chair of the Central Committee. If there is no such officer, or if such officer is absent, and if there are other officers of the Central Committee, or if they are not present, then the meeting shall be called to order by the Central Committee Member designated by the Democratic Members of the Board of Elections.

The first order of business shall be the election of a Temporary Chair and a Temporary Secretary. The Central Committee shall than proceed to organize by the election of a permanent Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and such other officers, as may be deemed necessary.

ARTICLE II. DUTIES OF THE OFFICES OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

SECTION 1. CHAIR: Shall call and preside over all meetings of the Central Committee, as provided for by state law and these by-laws; shall perform all the other duties prescribed by statutes, or duties usually exercised by the Chair, not conflicting with these by-laws.

SECTION 2. VICE-CHAIR: Shall perform all the duties of the Chair in his/her absence. In the case of the death, resignation, or any other reason creating a vacancy in the Chair's position, the Vice-Chair of the Central Committee shall serve out the balance of the Chair's term.

SECTION 3. SECRETARY: Shall keep the official minutes of all meetings of the Central Committee; shall send notices of any special and all regular meetings to all members as provided by law.

SECTION 4. TREASURER: Shall receive and deposit all funds; pay all bills authorized by the Central Committee; shall perform all other duties accorded a Treasurer that are not inconsistent with these by-laws.

ARTICLE III. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SECTION 1. CENTRAL TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DELEGATION: As provided by statute, the Central Committee shall resolve itself into an Executive Committee whose duty it shall be to manage the affairs of the Wood County Democratic Party; to direct and conduct campaign activities; to promulgate and carry out the general policies of the party organization; to promote the best interest and ideals of the Democratic Party; and, perform all duties required by statute,

SECTION 2. ADDITIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Having resolved itself into the Executive Committee, the body may from time to time appoint such additional persons as it deems fit to membership on the Executive Committee.

These additional appointed members need not be Central Committee Members, but shall be appointed because they have a demonstrated interest in and commitment to the ideals and principles of the Democratic Party.

SECTION 3. OFFICE HOLDER MEMBERS: Democratic elected office-holders who are residents of Wood County at a county-level or higher shall automatically be members of the Executive Committee.

SECTION 4. CLUBS: The Executive Committee may officially recognize any Democratic Club in the County. Any Club so recognized, may elect one of its members to the Executive Committee.

SECTION 5. ABSENCES: Except for Central Committee Members, the Executive Committee is empowered to declare vacant the seat of any Executive Committee Member who absences himself/herself from three (3) consecutive meetings.

SECTION 6. CENTRAL COMMITTEE VACANCIES : The Executive Committee is empowered to appoint a replacement whenever any vacancy occurs in the membership of the Central Committee for any reason.

SECTION 7. LOCAL COMMITTEES: The Executive Committee is empowered to recognize organizations of Executive Committee Members from local political subdivisions within the county which may, if they so desire, organize, elect officers, conduct local campaigns in each local area. Such local city, township or village organizations shall not, however, have any authority to obligate financially the Wood County Democratic Central or Executive Committee, without the express authority of those bodies.

ARTICLE IV. ORGANIZATION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

At the reorganization of the Executive Committee, to be held no later than the first Thursday in June after the QUADRENNIAL GUBERNATORIAL Primary Election at which Central Committee members were elected, the Chair of the Central Committee shall preside over the election of a Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and such other officers as deemed necessary by the Committee. The election of officers shall be the first order of business.

ARTICLE V. DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SECTION 1. CHAIR: Shall call and preside over all meetings of the Executive Committee; shall direct the operations of the Wood County Democratic Party and Executive Committee law; shall report to the Committee on party activities at each regular meeting; shall perform all the other duties prescribed by statutes, or duties usually exercised by the Chair, not conflicting with these by-laws, including but not limited to appointment of Area Chairs and the appointment of such committees as he/she deems necessary and proper to carry on the work of the Party.

SECTION 2. VICE-CHAIR: Shall perform all the duties of the Chair in his/her absence. In the case of the death, resignation, or any other reason creating a vacancy in the Chair's position, the Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee shall serve out the balance of the Chair's term.

SECTION 3. SECRETARY: Shall keep the official minutes of all meetings of the Central Committee; shall keep and be the custodian of the permanent, books, records and correspondence; shall send notices of any special and all regular meetings to all members; shall keep a roster of all members; and, shall handle all correspondence of the Executive Committee, as required by law.

SECTION 4. TREASURER: Shall receive, deposit and invest all funds; pay out all monies owed by the Committee; shall submit for approval a written report of the financial condition of the Committee at each regular meeting of the Committee; file all financial reports required by law; shall perform all other duties accorded a Treasurer that are not inconsistent with these by-laws.

SECTION 5. OFFICERS' VACANCIES: Except as otherwise provided herein, any vacancy which occurs in an officer's position of either the Central or Executive Committee for any reason, shall be filled by a majority vote of the members present of the respective body at any duly called and convened meeting.

ARTICLE VI. MEETINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SECTION 1. REGULAR MEETINGS: The Executive Committee shall meet at least four times yearly at a time and place approved by the Committee.

SECTION 2. QUORUM: Ten (10) members of the Executive Committee present at any regularly called or special meeting of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

SECTION 3. MEETING NOTICES: All meeting, except adjourned meetings shall require at least three (3) days written notice to all members.

SECTION 4. SPECIAL MEETINGS: Special meetings may be called by the Chair or any member with a petition signed by eleven (11) members. If the Chair refuses to attend, a temporary Chair, chosen by the group may act in that post, providing that all members are notified by Certified Mail.

SECTION 5. EXECUTIVE-CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS: Any duly called meeting of the Executive Committee at which at least ten (10) members of the Central Committee are present, shall constitute a valid meeting of the Central Committee provided notice requirements provided herein are met.

ARTICLE VII. LIMITATIONS ON OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

No officer or member may obligate the Central and Executive Committee in any agreement, political, financial, or any other form, except expenditures for campaign purposes, without being officially granted the authority by a majority vote of the proper committee, properly recorded.

ARTICLE VIII. NO PROXY VOTING/OPEN VOTES/RULES OF ORDER

SECTION 1. NO PROXY VOTING: All votes on all matters shall be in person. No proxy voting shall be allowed on any issue.

SECTION 2. OPEN VOTING: Pursuant to the Rules of the Democratic National Party, all votes of the Central or Executive Committees shall be open, or upon request of any member, recorded voting.

SECTION 3. RULES OF ORDER: Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all proceeding not specifically otherwise provided herein.

ARTICLE IX. Endorsement Policy

The Executive Committee may endorse candidates or issues upon the affirmative vote of sixty (60%) percent of the members of the committee present and voting on such question. WCDP shall endorse no more than one candidate for each available ballot spot in any given race. In the case of multiple candidates seeking our endorsement, the endorsed candidate will be the one who receives the most votes of all seeking the endorsement AND exceeds the 60% threshold. The WCDP shall then support such endorsed candidate/issue to the best of its ability. An endorsement may be withdrawn at any properly organized meeting of the Executive Committee at any time for good cause by a vote of sixty (60%) percent of the members present and voting on the withdrawal of the endorsement.

ARTICLE X. EFFECTIVE DATE OF BY-LAWS AND CONSTITUTION

SECTION 1. ADOPTION OF BY-LAWS: Upon adoption, this Constitution and these by-laws shall remain in effect until amended or revised, by a majority vote of those present at any duly convened meeting of the Central or Executive Committee.

As amended, 3/3/2016