

Report of the Rules Committee
April 12th, 2024

- I. **Parliamentary Rules.**
 - a. The most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order, newly revised, shall govern the conduct of the business of the Convention. All other issues shall be settled by the Redistricting Manual provided by the RPM, the RPM Constitution and By-Laws, and state and federal law.

- II. **Order of Business.**
 - a. The order of business for the convention shall be outlined in the Official Agenda of the Convention.

- III. **Resolutions.**
 - a. All resolutions which passed through the recent precinct caucus process shall be submitted in writing to the Resolutions Committee.
 - b. To expedite the business of the Convention, the Chairperson may call for consideration of the report of the Resolutions Committee at any point during Convention slack time. After initial report of the Resolutions Committee the Convention Chair may recognize delegates who wish to speak for or against platform resolutions, one speaker in favor, then one speaker against, etc., with a two-minute time limit on each speaker's time.
 - c. Resolutions Ballots, by paper, if used, will be collected during the Convention at a designated collection spot, up until a cutoff time to be designated by the Chair approximately two hours before the estimated adjournment of the Convention. Or, if electronic voting is used then follow instructions of the Chair.
 - d. Ballots will be counted, and results communicated to the Convention.
 - e. Resolutions may be offered from the floor of the Convention only by the suspension of these rules.
 - f. Additional written resolutions, if any, which are accepted during the Convention by suspension of the rules, will be proposed, discussed, and voted on by voice or standing vote, separate from the process of considering the Resolution Committee ballots.

- IV. **Amendments of Suspension.**
 - a. After adoption of these rules, they may be suspended or amended only by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the seated delegates and seated alternates as determined by the report of the Credentials Committee.

- V. **Addressing the Convention.**
 - a. A Delegate or seated Alternate wishing to speak shall rise, address the Chair, and when recognized by the Chair, state his/her name, precinct, and the purpose for which he rises.
 - b. The Chair may, at their discretion, recognize party officers, invited guests, or any attendee of the convention, to address the assembly for no more

than two minutes. Incumbent elected officials may speak for five (5) minutes.

- c. No person may be allowed to speak more than twice on the same subject.
- d. Convention Chair may recognize delegates who wish to speak for or against a motion, one speaker in favor, then one speaker against, etc., with a two-minute time limit on each speaker's time.

VI. Convention Roll and Quorum.

- a. Persons entitled to vote at the Convention are the delegates or alternates who were elected as precinct delegates at the 2024 caucuses of precincts with the Senate District and who presently reside within the precincts that elected them.
- b. The filling of delegate vacancies may be done after the adoptions of the preliminary report of the Credentials Committee. The precinct chairs shall fill vacancies in their precinct delegations from the precinct as follows:
 1. From the duly elected alternates of the precinct in the order, if any, designated at the precinct caucuses.
 2. Where no priority of alternates has been established, the precinct chairs shall designate the alternate to be seated from the list of alternates elected at the precinct caucus.
 3. If the precinct chairs are not present, or cannot agree, a majority of the registered delegates from that precinct shall choose the alternate.
 4. If there is no majority of opinion of the registered delegates, or if no delegates are present, then the Senate District chairs shall choose the alternate.
- c. Seating of registered alternates shall be permissible at any time a seated delegate or seated alternate is absent, provided however, that upon the return of the previously seated delegate the delegate may return to the seat. Priority is given to alternates based upon their ranking from caucus.

VII. Voting.

- a. All voting for contested positions shall be by written, secret ballots.
- b. The vote on all other questions shall be by voice vote. If the Convention Chair is in doubt about a voice vote, the Convention Chair may order a standing vote.
- c. A standing vote shall be taken if requested by one or more delegate or seated alternate from three or more different precincts
- d. If the Convention Chair is in doubt about the result of a standing vote, the chair may order a polling of the precincts. Their respective precinct chairs shall report the votes.
- e. Unit rule voting (in which a delegation's entire vote is cast on behalf of its majority) may be forbidden.

VIII. Written Balloting.

- a. The written balloting for election of delegates and alternates shall be in secret. In the case of a tie, a second ballot among those who tied will be held.
- b. Separate ballots shall be provided for Senate District delegates who reside in the Third Congressional District and for delegates who reside in the Fifth Congressional District in voting for Congressional District delegates and State Convention delegates.
- c. A ballot, in order to be valid, must indicate votes equal to the number of positions to be filled. The following ballots will be invalid: a blank ballot, a ballot with votes fewer than the number of positions to be filled, a ballot in which one nominee receives more than one vote, and a ballot containing a voted for a person not duly nominated.
- d. The ballots cast by each precinct shall be collected by its chair and given to the tellers. The tellers must verify the number of ballots cast by each precinct and any discrepancies announced by the Convention Chair before the ballots are commingled for tabulation.
- e. If there is a dispute about the number of ballots cast by any precinct, a challenge must be made before the ballots from that precinct are commingled for tabulation. Upon such a challenge, the Convention Chair shall appoint a special judge and a special teller to count the ballots cast by the precinct. The precinct will be required to vote again only if the resulting count shows more or fewer ballots cast than votes allotted to that precinct.
- f. The tellers shall report to the Convention Chair the total number of votes cast for each candidate for each position. The Convention Chair shall announce the results of the voting for the delegates and alternates.
- g. In the event that any delegate or alternate elected at the Convention chooses not to serve, he or she shall be allowed to withdraw and the next highest vote-getter shall be elected.

IX. Election of Delegates and Alternates to the State and to the Third and Fifth District Conventions.

- a. Applications for nominations as Delegate or Alternate must be submitted in writing or by email, including a 25-word (or less) statement, to the senate district via email by the date stated in “the call”
 1. The names of such applicants for positions **as State, Third, and Fifth District Convention delegates and alternates** shall appear on printed ballots for voting purposes.
 2. The names of those nominated from the floor, may be written on the ballot on blank lines during the report of the Nominating Committee at the Convention. In order for a vote for such an applicant to be counted, an affirmative indication on the ballot must be made next to the candidate’s name—simply writing the candidate’s name on the ballot will not count as an affirmative vote.

- b. Upon the close of nominations for delegates, voting shall proceed for the delegates to the State Convention by Congressional District.
- c. A delegate or seated alternate shall vote only for a designated number of nominees, depending on the number of delegates to be elected. A ballot with fewer or more than the designated number of nominees or containing the name(s) of a person(s) not duly nominated shall be invalid. A ballot on which the name of any nominee appears more than once shall be invalid. Blank ballots shall not be counted. If the number of nominees is the same as the number of positions to be filled, the Convention may choose to vote by voice vote.
- d. The nominees receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected. In the event of a tie for the last position, a subsequent ballot shall be cast which shall contain only those names of nominees who tied for the last position, and a voting seated delegate or alternate must vote only for the remaining positions to be filled.
- g. The alternates elected shall, by decision of the Convention, be ranked either:
 - based on the number of votes received, or,
 - by drawing names out of a hat.
- h. Nomination and election of delegates and alternates to the Third and Fifth Congressional District Conventions shall be conducted in the same manner as outlined above.

X. Miscellaneous.

- a. Registration shall close at the time stated in the call, provided that registration has been open for at least one (1) hour. No Senate District delegates or alternates may register thereafter.