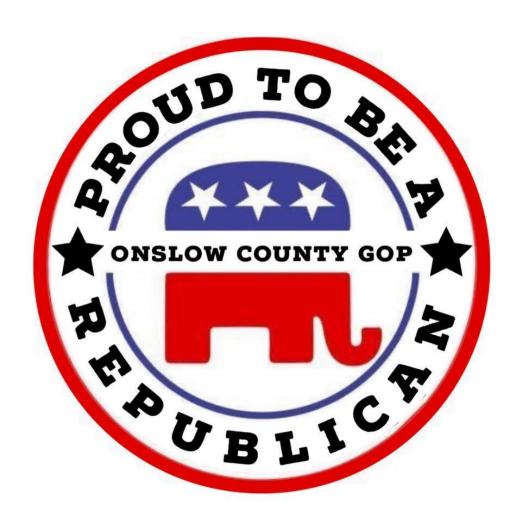
# ONSLOW COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY PLAN OF ORGANIZATION



Adopted at the Onslow County Republican Convention on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023

#### ONSLOW COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY PLAN OF ORGANIZATION

# **PREAMBLE**

We, the Members of the Republican Party of Onslow County, are dedicated to the sound principles fostered by our party; are conscious of our civic responsibilities and rights and are firm in our determination to give our strength to preserving the American principle that government ought and must be of all the people, by all of the people, and for all of the people. Therefore, for the purpose of uniting and coordinating our efforts for maximum power and efficiency, and providing focus to win elections, we hereby establish this instrument, The Plan of Organization (POO) of the Onslow County Republican Party of North Carolina.

# **ARTICLE I - MEMBERSHIP**

# A. MEMBERS

- a. All citizens of Onslow County who are registered Republicans are Members of the Onslow County Republican Party and shall have the right to participate in the official affairs of the Republican Party in accordance with these rules. All reference herein to Delegates, Alternates, Officers, and Members shall, in all cases, mean persons identified and registered with the Republican Party in the Precinct of their residence. Any person running for party office within the North Carolina Republican Party, at any level, shall be a resident of the jurisdiction in which he seeks office. A candidate running for any level of Republican Party office shall be a registered Republican resident of the jurisdiction in which he seeks office.
- **b.** In the event a candidate for public office was not a registered Republican as of January 31 of the year prior to the election in which that candidate seeks election, the Executive Committee of the jurisdiction may disqualify such candidate from recognition, endorsement and the utilization of party resources.

# **ARTICLE II - PRECINCT ORGANIZATION**

#### A. OFFICERS

The Precinct Committee shall consist of a Chairman, Vice-Chair, Secretary and as many Members-at Large deemed necessary to conduct the business of the Precinct.

# **B. DUTIES OF COMMITTEE**

The Precinct Committee shall cooperate with the County Executive Committee in all elections and party activities, provide the County Chairman with a list of Party Members within the Precinct suitable for appointment as Election Officials, and promote the objectives of the Party within the Precinct.

# C. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

The Chairman of the Precinct Committee, with the advice and consent of the Precinct Committee, shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Party within the Precinct, shall preside at all meetings of the Precinct, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Precinct Committee or the County Executive Committee. The Vice-Chairman shall function as Chairman in the absence of the Chairman. The Secretary shall keep all minutes and records. The Chairman and Secretary of each Precinct shall certify the election of Officers, Committee Members, Delegates, and Alternates to the County convention to the County Chairman. Complete credentials shall be in the hands of the County Secretary at the time set by the County Chairman on the day of the Convention. No delegate or alternate shall be added to the credentials list following the adjournment of the Precinct meeting. This delegate list shall be made immediately available to any Republican candidate, at that candidate's reasonable expense, after the County Chairman receives a confidentiality and use agreement, signed by the candidate stating the list will be used only for Republican activities related to the candidate's run for office.

# D. PRECINCT MEETINGS

# 1. Regular Precinct Meetings

Meetings of the Precinct general Membership may be held at such time as shall be designated by the Chairman of the Precinct Committee after giving five (5) days' Public Notice of such Meeting or upon similar call of one-third (1/3) of the Members of the Precinct Committee, or ten (10) Members of the general Precinct Membership.

# 2. Unorganized Precinct(s)

In the event a Precinct fails to properly organize, or the Precinct Chairman fails to act, the County Chairman shall appoint a Temporary Precinct Chairman who shall serve for a period not to exceed one term of sixty (60) days, during which time a County Executive Committee meeting shall be called and a new Precinct Chairman shall be elected by the County Executive Committee. All County Executive Committee Members present at a County Executive Committee meeting called for the purpose of electing a new Precinct Chairman may vote in the election; there is no requirement for a voting County Executive Committee member to be registered in the Precinct for which a new Precinct Chairman is being elected.

# 3. Vacancies and Removals in a Precinct Committee

Vacancy due to death, resignation, discontinuance of residency within the Precinct, removal of any officer, or member of the Precinct Committee, or for any other reason, shall be filled by the remaining Members of the Precinct Committee. The procedure for removal of any member or officer is defined in Article V.5.a. Such removal may be appealed to the County Executive Committee within twenty (20) days and their decision shall be final.

## ARTICLE III - COUNTY ORGANIZATION

#### A. COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

# 1. Membership

The County Executive Committee shall consist of the County Officers and other persons elected at the odd year County Convention in accordance with Article IV.B.2.b, and the County Finance Chairman. Other persons included as ex-officio shall consist of: President of the OC Republican Women's Club, President of the OC Republican Men's Club, President of the OC Young Republicans, Advisor to the OC Teenage Republicans, the immediate past party Chairman, and partisan elected officials, listed as follows: four (4) State Legislators which represent our county, one (1) Representative from OC Board of Commissioners, the OC Sheriff, one (1) Representative from OC Board of Education, the OC Clerk of Court, OC District and Superior Court Judges, the District Attorney, and the OC Register of Deeds.

# 2. Powers and Duties

- a. The County Executive Committee shall cooperate with the District and State Committees in all elections and Party activities; shall encourage qualified candidates for office within the County; shall adopt a budget; shall recommend nominees to the State Chairman for appointments for the County Board of Elections in accordance with Article V.D.2.c. and shall have active management of Party affairs within the County. It shall approve a Finance Committee and an Auditing Committee of not less than three (3) Members each and may approve such other Committees as may be deemed necessary. The County Chairman and 1st Vice-Chair shall be Ex-officio Members of all Committees indicated in this paragraph.
- b. In the event that it is determined that the County POO is not consistent with the State Party POO, the County Executive Committee must, at the next called meeting, bring the County POO into compliance with the State Party POO. Under any circumstances, the County POO must be brought into compliance within ninety (90) days. The County Executive Committee may amend the County POO upon a two-thirds (2/3's) vote after providing written notice of the meeting advising Members regarding the substance of the proposed amendment and provided a quorum or acceptable means of the State POO is present. The Chairman shall submit, by certified United States mail, return receipt requested, the County POO and amendments thereto, to the NCGOP State Headquarters Executive Director, Political Director, and District Chairman within thirty (30) days after their adoption in order for the Plan and/or amendment to be considered valid.
- c. The County Executive Committee shall establish an Executive Board to conduct the business of the Party between Executive Committee meetings. This Executive Board shall consist of the elected Officers of the County Party and three (3) additional active Members of the Executive Committee serving on a rotating basis for a period not to exceed three (3) consecutive Board meetings.

# 3. Meetings

The County Executive Committee shall meet monthly or on the call of one-third (1/3) of the Members of the County Executive Committee, after giving ten (10) days' notice, as that term is defined in Article V.I.2 herein, to all Members. Ex-officio Members have the same voting rights as the other Committee Members and are not counted while determining if a quorum is present.

When an Ex-officio member of a committee ceases to hold the office that entitles them to such Membership, their Membership terminates automatically.

# 4. Duties of Officers

- a. The Chairman of the County Executive Committee, with the advice and consent of the County Executive Committee, shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Party within the County. The Chairman shall issue the call for Precinct Meetings, the County Convention, and Executive Committee Meetings, and the Chairman shall preside at all the Meetings of the County Executive Committee. The Chairman shall appoint a Finance Chairman, Auditing Committee, and any other Committees the Chairman deems necessary to conduct the business of the County Executive Committee. The Chairman shall further appoint a Temporary Chairman of the County Convention, who may be himself. The Chairman shall make periodic reports on the status of the Party within his County to the District Chairman. The Chairman shall be responsible for the creation and maintenance of a Republican organization in every Precinct within the County. The Chairman shall obtain and preserve a list of all registered Republicans within the County and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the County, District, or State Committees.
- b. The 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair shall function as Chairman in the absence of the Chairman and shall have such other duties as may be prescribed by the County Executive Committee. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair shall function as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair in the absence of the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair.
- c. The Secretary shall keep all minutes, copies of correspondence, reports, and records of the Executive Committee. The Secretary shall maintain a roster of all Precinct Officers and Executive Committee Members. At a minimum, these records shall contain the name and address for each Precinct Officer and Executive Committee Member. The Secretary will maintain an attendance roster for all meetings. Such records shall be available, including all Credentials Lists, upon request, to any registered Republican within the County. The Secretary shall furnish to the Congressional District Chairman and to State Headquarters up-to date lists of all Precinct Chairmen.
- d. The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all funds for the County Party expenditures pursuant to authority duly given by the County Executive Committee. The Chairman, or in his absence, the 1st Vice-Chair, and the Treasurer, or in his absence, the Assistant Treasurer, shall be authorized to sign all checks of the County Executive Committee. Two signatures are required on all County Party checks. The Treasurer shall make a financial report at all County Executive Committee Meetings and shall fulfill all financial reports and obligations required under State election laws. The Treasurer shall notify the Executive Committee when reports are required and filed. He shall provide copies of all correspondence and reports generated by his office to the Secretary for retention. The Treasurer shall ensure that the Assistant Treasurer is provided with up-to-date, accurate, timely financial information so that he can maintain the back-up financial records for the Party. The Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer must

enroll in and successfully complete the Mandatory Compliance Training provided by the North Carolina Board of Elections as soon as possible, but not later than sixty (60) days after their election.

e. The Assistant Treasurer is responsible for maintaining the Onslow County Republican Party's back-up financial records. He shall coordinate with the Treasurer to ensure that the financial records he is required to keep are current and up to date. In the absence of the Treasurer, he will perform any and all duties required of the Treasurer.

# 5. Vacancies and Removals

- a. Vacancy due to death, resignation, discontinuance of residency within the County, removal of any Officer or Member of the County Executive Committee, or for any other reason, shall be filled by the remaining Members of the County Executive Committee.
- d. The procedure for removal of any Member or Officer is defined in Article V.A.5. Such removal may be appealed to the State Central Committee within twenty (20) days and their decision shall be final.

#### B. COUNTY FINANCE AND AUDITING COMMITTEES

# 1. Finance Committee

The County Finance Committee shall be composed of the County Finance Chairman, the County Chairman, County 1st Vice-Chair, the County Treasurer, and not less than three (3) persons approved by the County Executive Committee. They shall cooperate with the Congressional District and State Finance Committees and shall have active management of fund-raising efforts within the County.

# 2. Auditing Committee

The Members of the Auditing Committee shall be nominated by the County Chairman and the names shall be presented for the advice and consent of the County Executive Committee. The Auditing Committee, once approved, shall conduct a yearly review of the financial records of the County and report such review to the County Executive Committee for approval. The review to be conducted shall be of the type and nature which the Auditing Committee, in its discretion, deems appropriate.

# **ARTICLE IV - CONVENTIONS**

# A. ANNUAL PRECINCT MEETINGS

# 1. Call for Meeting.

In every year, the County Chairman shall call Precinct Meetings during the month of March, held concurrently with the County Convention, after giving no less than ten (10) days written notice to each Precinct Chairman and by Public Notice as provided for in Article V.I.3. Precinct Chairs shall be informed as to the number of registered Republicans entitled to cast votes at the County convention, in accordance with Article IV.A.3. Failure of the County Chairman to act in compliance with the provision above shall be cause for any Member of the County Executive Committee to call said Precinct Meetings by Public Notice as provided for in Article V.I.3. Every Republican registered as of January 31 preceding the Meetings shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote, except that the January 31 requirement shall not apply to residents who have moved into the Precinct or turned eighteen (18) years of age within thirty (30) days of the Precinct Meeting.

# 2. Election of Precinct Officers

At odd-year Precinct Meetings, at which a quorum is one person, attendees shall elect a Precinct Committee consisting of a Chairman, Vice-Chair, Secretary and as many "Precinct" Members-at-Large deemed necessary to conduct the business of the Precinct. Members of the Precinct Committee shall hold their offices for two (2) years or until their successors are chosen.

# 3. Election of Delegates and Alternate Delegates

The annual Precinct Meetings shall elect one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate to the County Convention. They shall also elect one (1) additional Delegate and Alternate for each one hundred (100) registered Republican voters, or major fraction thereof, in the Precinct as of January 31 of that year.

# 4. Meeting Cancellation Due to Circumstances out of Party's Control

When circumstances beyond the control of the County Party prevent access to or use of the annual Precinct facilities (including but not limited to inclement weather conditions), it shall be the responsibility of the County Chairman to consult with the County 1st Vice-Chair, County Secretary and County Treasurer and make a decision on the cancellation and rescheduling of said Annual Precinct Meetings in the timeliest manner possible. All efforts should be made by the County Chairman to notify local news outlets of said cancellation and rescheduling information. Notice of cancellation and rescheduling shall be given to Republican State Headquarters within twenty-four (24) hours or on the next business day.

# **B. COUNTY CONVENTIONS**

# 1. Call of Convention

a. A County Convention shall be called every year by the Chairman of the County Executive Committee, at a suitable location within the County, within the month of March, at least ten (10) days prior to the scheduled District Convention, and following procedures given in Article V.A.1. At or about the time of the call of the Convention, the County Chairman, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, shall appoint a Credentials Committee consisting of no less than three (3) people, which will meet and

issue its report on Delegates and Alternate Delegates certified to that Convention. The Credentials Committee shall issue its report on Delegates and Alternates certified to the County Convention prior to the transaction of any business at the County Convention. If Precinct Delegates and

Alternates are challenged in the report of the Credentials Committee, they shall be notified on that day and allowed to present their case to the Credentials Committee. The Delegates and alternates elected at the Precinct Meetings, unless successfully challenged, shall sit as Delegates and Alternates to the County Convention.

b. If the County Chairman fails, refuses or neglects to call a County Convention as required by this Article, it shall become the duty of the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chairman to act in this capacity. The 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chairman shall follow procedures given in Article IV. B. If the County Chairman or 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chairman does not call such a Meeting, it shall be cause for any Member of the County Executive Committee, with the approval of the Congressional District Chairmen, to call the County Convention.

# 2. Convention Action

a. Each year, the County Convention shall adopt or amend a written County POO not inconsistent with the District and State POO, a current copy of which shall be on file at County Headquarters and at the District and State Headquarters. If the County Convention fails to adopt a written County POO, the previously adopted County POO shall remain in effect, to the extent not inconsistent with the District and State POO. Failure to comply may result in the County Delegation not being seated at the District or State Convention by the respective Credentials Committee. Failure of the County Party to submit the County Plan to the NCGOP State Headquarters, within thirty (30) days of its adoption, shall constitute agreement by the County Party to adopt the State POO for that County.

# b. Elections

- i. In every odd-numbered year, the County Convention shall elect a Chairman, a 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chairman, 2nd Vice-Chairman, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer and other such Officers as are otherwise provided for in the County POO, who are registered Republicans as of January 31 of that year and who shall serve for a term of two (2) years or until their successors are elected.
- ii. In every odd-numbered year the County Convention shall elect a County Executive Committee of five voters otherwise known as Members-at-Large, in addition to the County Officers, who shall hold their places for a term of two (2) years or until their successors are elected. Nominations may be made from the Precinct meetings for Membership on the Executive Committee.
- iii. The County Convention shall elect one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate to the District and State Conventions, plus one (1) additional Delegate and Alternate for every two hundred fifty (250) Republicans, or major fraction thereof, registered in that County, as of January 31 of that year. The County shall further elect one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate for each Republican elected to the State

Legislature and to Public Office on the State or National level from the County in the last election held for that office.

iv. Elected Members considered for election in the previous subsections do not need to attend the County Convention to be elected as Delegates or Alternates.

# 3. Credentials

The Chairman and Secretary of the County Executive Committee shall certify the election of Officers, Committee Members, Delegates, Alternates and Precinct Chairs to the District and State Conventions, on forms created by the State Credentials Committee and approved by the State Central Committee and in conformance with Article VII of the State POO. Completed Credentials shall be in the hands of, or in the email box, of the Congressional District Secretary and the State Headquarter no later than ten (10) days following the date of the County Convention. The postmark date will be used to determine compliance for mailed credentials. No Delegates or Alternates shall be added to the Credentials list following the adjournment of the County Convention. Copies of all Notices in addition to a list of County and Precinct Officers, shall be submitted to the District and State Republican Party along with the County Credentials.

# 4. Convention Fee

For each person who is elected at a County Convention to be either a Delegate or an Alternate to the District and State Conventions, the County shall forward to the District and State Party a fee set by the State Central Committee to defray the costs of mailing Convention materials to such elected Delegates and Alternates.

# 5. Meeting Cancellation Due to Circumstances out of Party's Control

When circumstances beyond the control of the County Party prevent access to or use of the County Convention facility (including but not limited to inclement weather conditions), it shall be the responsibility of the County Chairman to consult with the County 1st Vice-Chairman, County Secretary and County Treasurer and make a decision on the cancellation and rescheduling of said County Convention in the timeliest manner possible. All efforts should be made by the County Chairman to notify local news outlets of said cancellation and rescheduling information. Notice of cancellation and rescheduling shall be given to Republican State Headquarters within twentyfour (24) hours or on the next business day.

# ARTICLE V - GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

# A. MEETING PROCEDURES

# 1. Annual Conventions and Presidential Election Year Conventions

- a. The County Convention shall be called to order by the Chairmen, or in the absence of the Chairman, by the 1st Vice-Chairman, or Secretary, in the order slated, who shall have the power to appoint the necessary Convention Committees and Temporary Officers at or before the convening of the Convention.
- b. No member of a credentials Committee created by this Plan shall be eligible to be elected to an office or Executive Committee position at the convention for which the credentials Committee serves, nor shall a Committee member publicly support anyone for an office to be elected by said convention. Except when voting in convention, Members of the Credentials Committees shall strive to maintain the integrity of the convention and the Committee by conducting the business of the Committee with impartiality and strict neutrality on the business and elections of said convention.

# 2. Voting Procedure

- a. No Precinct shall cast more votes than it has duly elected Delegates on the floor at the County Convention.
- b. No person shall be seated as a Delegate at the County Convention unless such person shall have been duly elected a Delegate or Alternate by the appropriate Precinct Meeting except, the registered Republican or Republicans, present at a County Convention from an unorganized Precinct, which has not had its credentials accepted, shall have the right to vote one (1) vote per Precinct, prorated among those present from that Precinct.
- c. No Delegate, Alternate or any other Member of a Committee shall cast any vote by proxy.
- d. Elections shall be recorded by secret ballot, certified and controlled by the credentials Committee, with the observation of one selected verifier, chosen by each candidate listed on the ballot.

# 6. Challenges

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this POO, challenges to Delegates and Alternates must be made in their capacity as individual Delegates and Alternates. The successful challenges of individuals in their capacity as Delegates and Alternates shall not affect the seating of other Delegates and Alternates unless it can be demonstrated by a preponderance of the evidence that the previous election of such successfully challenged Delegates and Alternates resulted in the election of other Delegates and Alternates within such Delegation who would not otherwise have been elected, but for the votes of the unqualified Delegates or Alternates.

# 4. General Election Procedure

Notwithstanding any other article in this POO, the allocated Delegate slots and then the allocated Alternate slots allotted under this POO shall be filled first by the election of those duly qualified

registered Republicans, eligible to vote, present at such meeting or convention and desiring to be elected to fill such slots. All duly qualified Republicans registered to vote may be elected by qualified Republicans attending the meeting to fill slots that have not been filled by Republicans attending the meeting or convention.

#### 5. Vacancies and Removals

- a. Any Member of a Committee organized under this Plan may be removed either:
  - i. By a two-thirds (2/3's) vote of the respective Committee after being furnished with notice of the charges against him, signed by one-third (1/3) of the Members of the respective Committee. Any Republican against whom charges are brought shall be furnished within fifteen (15) days' notice of said charges and be given an opportunity to present a defense. Removal by a vote of the respective Committee shall be confined to gross inefficiency, Party disloyalty (as defined herein) or failure to comply with the County, District, or State Party Plans of Organization.
  - ii. Automatically upon such Member's conviction (as defined below) of a felony after election to such Committee organized under this Plan without the need for any further action immediately effective upon such conviction, and the seat declared vacant. Each Member shall have the affirmative duty to inform the Chairman of such Committee in writing immediately upon his conviction of a felony; provided that the failure of a Member to so notify the Chairman in writing shall not delay, prevent, or restrict the expulsion of such Member from such Committee in accordance with this Section.
- b. For the purposes hereof, a "conviction" shall be defined as the conviction of or the entering of a guilty plea, an Alford plea, or a plea of no contest to a felony.
- c. For the purposes of this POO, "Party Disloyalty" shall be defined as actively supporting a candidate of another Party or independent candidate running in opposition to a candidate of the Republican Party or a Republican endorsed by the appropriate Executive Committee in a non-partisan election.
- d. Any Executive Committee Member that has three **consecutive** absences (except in the case of State representatives serving in Raleigh) or two **unexcused** absences in a twelvemonth period shall be deemed as resigning his position. The twelve-month period shall be counted from the month the member joins the Executive Committee. The vacancy shall be filled as provided for by the POO. It shall be the Secretary's responsibility to notify the Chairman when a member has three consecutive or two unexcused absences except in the case of State Legislatures because of having to serve in Raleigh.

#### 6. Non-Partisan Candidates and Office Holders

The Onslow County Republican Party shall not offer an opportunity for a candidate for, or current office holder of, a "nonpartisan office" who is not a registered Republican to address a Republican Convention or other function sponsored by the Onslow County Republican Party or any of its subdivisions.

# B. OFFICIAL RECORDS

Minutes shall be kept by all Committees and Conventions of official actions taken, and a copy shall be filed with the Chairman of the appropriate Committee or Convention and with the County Secretary. These records shall be made available to any registered Republican upon request.

# C. FINANCIAL RECORDS

# 1. Records

The Chairman, Treasurer, and Finance Chairman of the County Party shall keep faithful and accurate records of any and all monies received by them for the use of the Party and shall make faithful and accurate reports thereof when so requested.

#### 2. Loans

No County Officer of the Party shall cause the Party to undertake a loan without the prior approval of the Executive Committee.

# 3. Budgeted Expenses

No County officer or County staff member of the County Party shall exceed approved total budgeted expenditures without approval from the County Executive Committee. However, the Executive Committee shall, on an annual basis, establish a dollar amount that the Executive Board can expend in emergencies without approval of the Executive Committee. These funds are not recurring and if expensed must be reauthorized by the Executive Committee by a simple majority.

# 4. Leases

No County Officer or County Staff Member of the Party shall commit the Party to a lease without prior approval of the County Executive Committee.

# D. APPOINTMENTS AND NOMINATIONS

# 1. Notification

It shall be the duty of the State Chairman to transmit notice of known vacancies on a County, District or State level to those persons having jurisdiction over such appointments.

# 2. Filling Vacancies

- **a.** When a vacancy occurs in a governmental office for which a Party recommendation is called for, the vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina and the terms of this Plan. The above-mentioned recommendation shall be provided by the Committee having jurisdiction over the district, which is subject of the vacancy.
- **b.** In multi-County offices or state legislative offices, the responsibility for calling the meeting rests with the State Chairman. The State Chairman may delegate this authority to the appropriate district or County Chairman or the Congressional District Chairman if the County of congressional district, as the case may be, encompasses all of the district or County in which the vacancy occurs.
- c. Unless otherwise provided by law, notice to Committee Members of the time, date, location, and purpose of the meeting at which a recommendation for filling the vacancy will be considered, must be made by United States Mail First Class Postage prepaid to the last known address of the Committee member. Notice must be mailed at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting, unless good cause exists for shortening the time period. In no case may the meeting be scheduled for a date and time less than five (5) days after notice to Committee Members. The County Chairman or the individual appointed by the Chairman of the North Carolina Republican Party shall provide the State Executive Director an affidavit or other suitable verification that notice was properly mailed, via United States Mail First Class postage prepaid to the last known address of the Committee Members requiring notice of the meeting.

# d. Nominations to the County Boards of Election

- i. At least ninety (90) days prior to the date the State Chairman must submit nominees to the North Carolina State Board of Elections, the State Chairman must give notice by electronic and/or written means to the County Chairman informing the County Chairmen of the deadline by which such nominations from the County Executive Committee must be submitted to the State Chairman. The deadline for nominations to be submitted to the State Chairman shall be at least thirty (30) days prior to the date the State Chairman must submit the nominees to the North Carolina State Board of Elections.
- ii. The County Executive Committee, through the County Chairman, shall submit to the State Chairman by electronic and/or written means the names and the order of the names for the nominations approved by a majority of the County Executive Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the date the State Chairman must submit the nominees to the North Carolina State Board of Elections.
- **iii.** If the State Chairman fails to accept the nominations from the County Executive Committee (including the order of the names submitted), the State Chairman shall provide the County Chairman in writing a list of his final nominations to the North Carolina State Board of Elections and the reasons for rejecting the County's nominees.

- iv. The State Chairman shall give written notice to the County Chairman of the nominations submitted to the North Carolina State Board of Elections within fifteen (15) days of the submission of the nominations.
- **e.** Should any cause or provision found in this section be deemed inconsistent with the laws of the State of North Carolina, those laws shall govern as to the particular clause or provision and the remainder of this section shall apply.

# E. FORFEITURE OF OFFICIAL PRIVILEGES

# 1. Removal or Resignation from Committees

Any current or former Officer or Member of a Precinct Committee or County Executive Committee who, for any reason, is removed or resigned from said position shall forfeit all rights and privileges in any way connected with that position.

# 2. Party Disloyalty

Any registered Republican attempting to influence or influencing the outcome of any election against a Republican candidate or Republican endorsed by the appropriate Republican Executive Committee or Legislative Caucus, other than by supporting an opposing Republican Candidate in a Republican primary, shall be declared ineligible to hold office for Party disloyalty by a two-thirds (2/3's) vote of the County Executive Committee. Charges of Party disloyalty may be brought by petition of twenty (20) Members of the County Executive Committee, or by resolution of the County Executive Committee. The County Executive Committee may declare a Republican found to engaged in Party disloyalty as ineligible to serve in any office under the POO for a period of time between six (6) months and five (5) years.

# 3. Automatic Resignation

Any Committee Member or Officer of a County Executive Committee campaigning in person, on social media, or in any other manner for a Candidate, in any race, who is not a member of the Republican Party and is running in opposition to a member of the Republican Party, shall have been deemed to have automatically resigned from the committee and any position. In addition, no Committee Member or Officer shall serve as a treasurer or member of a campaign committee for any Candidate, in any race, if that Candidate is not a member of the Republican Party and is running opposition to a member of the Republican Party.

# F. REFRAIN FROM UTILIZING POWERS OF OFFICE IN REPUBLICAN PRIMARY

Each Officer and each Member of any Committee created pursuant to this POO shall refrain from utilizing the powers and dignity of his or her office or position in any Republican Primary for public office at any level. Nor shall any Committee created pursuant to this POO make or issue, in any way, manner or form, any endorsement in any Republican Primary for public office. Nor shall any Committee

issue any contrary endorsement or withhold support from any non-partisan judicial candidates properly endorsed pursuant to this POO.

# G. PARTY OFFICERS AS CANDIDATES

In the event that the Chairman or 1st Vice-Chair of the County Party shall announce his intentions to run for public office or shall file a notice of candidacy with the Board of Elections, or manage a campaign for a candidate, that person shall be deemed to have resigned his office within the Party, effective seven (7) days after the close of filing, and the then existing vacancy shall be filled as provided for herein. The Party official may petition the County Executive Committee for exemption from this provision and the County Executive Committee may, for good cause shown, grant such an exemption with a two-thirds (2/3's) affirmative vote. This exemption shall be deemed void if any other Republican files with the Board of Elections for the same public office within that election cycle.

#### H. ENDORSEMENTS IN ELECTIONS

# 1. County Elections

In non-partisan elections or in elections where there is no primary election, the County Executive Committee shall have exclusive authority to endorse registered Republicans running in the County. The County Executive Committee shall not issue endorsements in races unless the District resides entirely within the County. All Members of the County Executive Committee may vote on the endorsements for Districts wholly encompassed within that County, regardless of whether Committee Members live within the District in question.

# 2. Statewide Judicial Elections

In statewide judicial elections where there is no primary election, the Onslow County Executive Committee may issue endorsements consistent with the NCGOP State Executive Committee's endorsements. The Committee shall not issue any endorsements prior to action by the State Executive Committee.

# 3. Notice of Endorsement Meetings

With respect to any endorsement provided for in this section (Article V.H), and unless otherwise provided by law, notice to Committee Members of the time, date, location, and purpose of the meeting at which any such endorsement will be considered must sent at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting, unless good cause exists for shortening the time period. In no case may the meeting be scheduled for a time and date less than five (5) days after the notice to Committee Members. Such notice shall also be provided to all registered Republican candidates seeking the office for which the endorsement is made.

# I. NOTICE

#### 1. Written Notice

"Written Notice" as used in this plan shall mean notice sent through the United States Postal Service (USPS) first class mail.

- a. The date post marked by the USPS shall be conclusive as to the date notice was given.
- b. Individuals entitled to receive written notice under this plan may elect to receive notification by other means in lieu of written notice. This may be requested via written notice to the Secretary of the entity required to give written notice. This waiver is revocable at any time by sending written notice of the revocation to the Secretary.

# 2. Notice

"Notice" as used in this plan shall be defined as the actual providing of the required information to the intended recipient by direct means which are substantially likely to inform the recipient. "Notice" can include, but is not limited to, US Mail First Class postage prepaid, telephonic communications, facsimile transmissions, and email. Any individual providing notice pursuant to the plan shall document the time and manner of providing notice in the event a challenge to providing proper notice arises.

# 3. Public Notice

"Public Notice" as used in this plan shall be defined as the procedure for informing interested persons by means that ensure full and timely notice to the public of the event requiring notice. The primary means for Public Notice should be the County Party's website. Other media such as radio, television, email, or United States mail may be used with approval of the County Executive Committee. All Public Notices must appear or be broadcast at least 10 days prior to a meeting.

# J. ELECTRONIC MEETINGS

Except as herein provided, meetings of the following bodies are to be held in person:

- 1. the County Convention.
- 2. the County Executive Committee Meeting.

These in person meetings may be broadcast, as provided below:

Notwithstanding for following, the County may petition, in writing or via email, the State Party Chairman for relief from the in-person meeting requirement. Grounds for relief consist of a need for a meeting which cannot be postponed; an event consisting of an adverse weather event; or a public health crisis; or an unforeseeable occurrence which counsels prudence against an in-person meeting.

In addition, any County Executive Committee meeting beyond the required quarterly meetings may be held person or electronically at the direction of the County Chairman

The County Executive Committee may authorize any standing or special committee formed under its jurisdiction to be conducted as an electronic meeting.

When the State Party Chair grants relief from any in-person meeting requirement for a County Convention or County Executive Meeting, the County Chairman shall provide an alternate broadcast by electronic means of a meeting. In any such case, the County Chairman may provide a place for inperson participation.

Any meeting held electronically must allow each member to fully participate in its proceedings, including the right to attend meetings, to make motions, to speak in debate and to vote. No member can be individually deprived of these basic rights of membership or of any basic rights concomitant to them, such as the right to make nominations or to give up previous notice of a motion.

# K. ACTION WITHOUT MEETING

Action required or permitted to be taken at a meeting of any Committee organized under this Plan may be taken without a meeting by unanimous written consent of all Members of such Committee. The action must be evidenced by one or more written consents signed by each Member of such Committee before or after such action, describing the action taken, and included in the minutes or filed with the Committee's records. Action so taken is effective when the last member of such Committee signs such consent unless the consent specifies a different effective date. Such consent has the effect of a meeting vote and may be described as such in any document.

# ARTICLE VI - AMENDMENTS, APPLICABILITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS PLAN

# A. AMENDMENTS TO POO

# 1. Timing of Amendment

The POO may be amended, not inconsistent with the Rules of the North Carolina Republican Party, by majority vote of the Delegates present and voting at the County Convention provided, however, that the proposed amendment was noticed to the Membership of the County Executive Committee, elected at the preceding County Convention, at least thirty (30) days prior to the convening of the County Convention. This notice requirement shall not apply to the Report of the duly appointed POO Committee.

# 2. Proposed Amendments from the Floor of the County Convention

Amendments from the Convention floor to the proposed Amendments to the Plan (an amendment to the amendment) which would materially alter the intent of the original proposed amendment shall not be considered in order unless the propounded of the proposed amendment shall have first furnished a minimum of two hundred (200) copies and numbers of copies required for the proposed amendment, and must receive a two-thirds (2/3's) vote of the Delegates present and voting at the County Convention to be approved. This paragraph applies only to amendments to amendments to the Plan that were mailed out to the Executive Committee as described above.

# 3. Untimely Proposed Amendments

Proposed amendments to the Plan not mailed to the County Executive Committee thirty days prior to the convening of the County Convention shall not be considered in order unless the propounded of the proposed amendment shall have first furnished a minimum of two hundred (200) copies and numbers of copies required for the proposed amendment, and it must receive a two-thirds (2/3's) vote of the Delegates present and voting at the County Convention.

# 4. Administrative Amendments

POO Committees shall have the authority to correct any spelling or typographical errors in the POO, as a housekeeping matter, that do not change the substance of the plan. Notwithstanding any other provision of the County POO, in the event there is a change in State or Federal election law that renders a portion of this Plan ineffective, obsolete or inoperative, the Executive Committee may, upon a two-thirds (2/3's) majority vote, temporarily amend this Plan to the extent necessary to alter procedures or schedules affected by such change in State or federal election law. Any change made pursuant to this paragraph shall be effective only until the date of adjournment of the next annual County Convention.

# **B. APPLICABILITY**

# 1. Rules as to Towns and Cities

This POO is not intended to extend to or establish organizations for the Republican Party of various towns and cities in the County as separate units from the Precinct and County Organization. Qualified and registered Republican voters of the towns and cities of the County may organize and promulgate their own rule not inconsistent with these rules and the organizations herein established.

# **2.** Rules as to the County

The Precinct and County Executive Committee and County Convention are authorized to promulgate such additional rules and establish such additional Party Officers or Committees for their respective organizations, not inconsistent with these rules, as shall be deemed necessary.

#### C. AUTHORITY

#### 1. Controversies

Controversies in the County with respect to the organizations set up therein under this Plan shall be referred to the State Chairman, State 1st Vice-Chair, National Committeeman, National Committeewoman and General Counsel for arbitration. Ruling shall be made within sixty (60) days, and their decision shall be final.

# 2. Parliamentary Authority

The current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern all proceedings, except when inconsistent with this POO or Convention Rules properly adopted.

#### 3. Gender and Number

The masculine pronoun or title herein includes the feminine, and the singular herein includes the plural, wherever appropriate.

# 4. No Proxy Voting

No proxy voting shall be allowed at any meeting or convention held pursuant to this Plan.

# Days

All references to "days" shall mean calendar days unless otherwise stated.

# D. EFFECTIVE DATE

# 1. Effective Date of this Plan

This POO shall become effective and repeal and supersede all other rules, except as specifically noted, when adopted by the Onslow County Republican Party. This, however, shall not invalidate any action taken under the previous rules prior to adoption. The adoption of this Plan shall not affect the term of those office holders at the time of the adoption of this Plan.

Adopted Date: March 4, 2023

Chairman Signature: Christine G. Carl

Secretary Signature: August Sugar