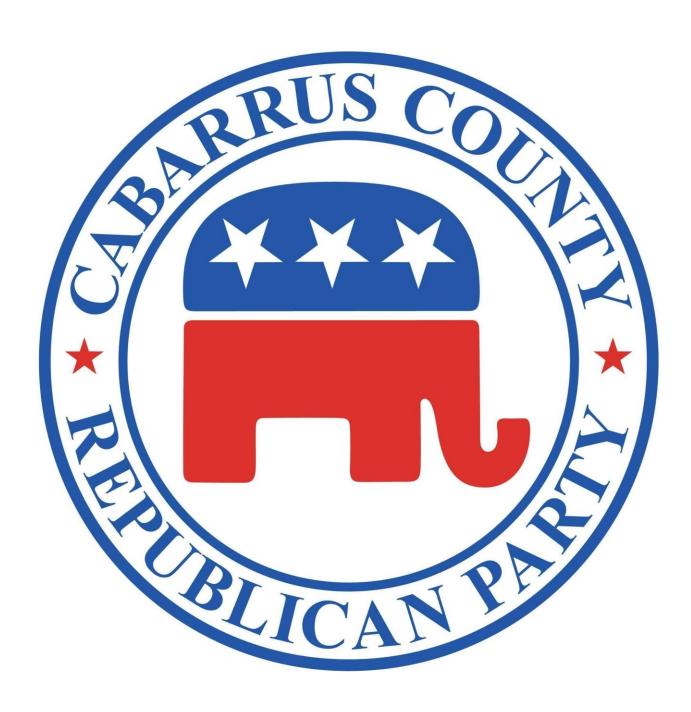
# REPUBLICAN PARTY COUNTY PLAN OF ORGANIZATION CABARRUS COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA



March 31<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## **PREAMBLE**

We, the Members of the Republican Party of Cabarrus County, North Carolina are dedicated to the sound principles fostered by our party, are conscious of our civic responsibilities and rights, 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 the people. Therefore, for the purpose of uniting and coordinating our efforts for maximum power and efficiency, and providing focus to win elections, we herewith establish this instrument, The Plan of Organization of the Republican Party of Cabarrus County, North Carolina.

# **ARTICLE I - MEMBERSHIP**

## A. <u>MEMBERS</u>

All citizens of Cabarrus County, North Carolina who are registered Republicans are Members of the Republican Party of Cabarrus County and shall have the right to participate in the official affairs of the Republican Party in accordance with these rules. All references 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 and in accordance with the adopted North Carolina Republican Party Plan of Organization (referred to herein as the "State Plan"). Any person running for Party Office within the Cabarrus County Republican Party shall be a resident of Cabarrus County, North Carolina.

## **ARTICLE II - PRECINCT ORGANIZATION**

#### A. ANNUAL PRECINCT MEETINGS

## 1. Call for Meeting

In every year, the County Chairman shall call Precinct Meetings during the months of February or March, after giving no less than 10 days written notice to each Precinct Chairman and by notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the county as provided for in Article VII.A.4. Precinct Chairs shall be informed as to the number of registered Republicans entitled to cast votes at the county convention. 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 notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the County as provided for in Article VII.A.4. Every Republican registered as of January 31 preceding the Meetings shall be entitled to cast 1 vote, except that the January 31 requirement shall not apply to residents who have moved into the Precinct or have turned eighteen (18) years of age between January 31<sup>st</sup> and the day 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-Chairman, Secretary, and as many Members-at-Large as deemed necessary to conduct the business of the Precinct. Members of the Precinct Committee shall hold their offices for 2 years or until their successors are chosen.

### 3. Election of Delegates

The annual Precinct Meetings shall elect 1 Delegate and 1 Alternate to the County Convention. They shall also elect 1 additional Delegate and Alternate for each 100 registered Republican voters, or major fraction thereof, in the precinct as of January 31 of that year in accordance with the State Plan. No person shall be seated as a Delegate to the County Convention unless such person shall have personally attended the Annual Precinct Meeting; provided, however, the Executive Committee may approve a procedure for absentee requests for the Annual Precinct Meeting that is not in conflict with the State Plan of Organization. The Annual Precinct Meeting absentee request form and instructions for submittal shall be published on the Party's webpage for at least 30 days preceding the due date for absentee requests. The credentials committee shall reject, prior to the completion of the Precinct Meetings any absentee request that does not comply with the absentee instructions and deadlines as may be established by the Executive Committee.

#### 4. 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 and shall maintain a list of registered Republican votes and workers within the Precinct, unless otherwise provided by the Precinct Committee or the County Executive Committee.

The Chairman and Secretary of each Precinct shall certify the election of Officers, Committee Members, and Delegates and Alternates to the County Convention. Complete credentials shall be in the hands of the County Secretary by the deadline set by the County Chairman, which shall be at least 2 days prior to the Credentials Committee Meeting; provided, however, that when the Precinct Meetings and the County Convention are held on the same day, the complete credentials shall be in the hands of the County Secretary at the time set by the County Chairman on that day. 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.

## 5. Other Precinct Meetings.

- a. Other 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 5 days' notice of such Meeting in a newspaper of general circulation within the County; or upon similar call of 1/3 of the Members of the Precinct Committee, or Members of the general Precinct Membership. There shall be no proxy voting.
- b. 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 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.

- c. 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 VII.A.7.
- d. In the event of a newly created or consolidated precinct by the Cabarrus County Board of Elections, the Cabarrus County Republican Executive Committee shall treat the new precinct as "unorganized" and follow the procedure as detailed in Article A Section 5.b.

## 6. PRECINCT COMMITTEE

#### a. Duties of Committee

The Precinct Committee shall cooperate with the County Chairman and 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.

#### ARTICLE III - COUNTY ORGANIZATION

## A. <u>ANNUAL CONVENTION</u>

#### 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 10 days prior to the scheduled District Convention, and in accordance with Article VII.B.1 of the State Plan. Notice of the County Convention shall be given in accordance with Article VII.A.4. 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 3 people, which will meet and issue its report on Delegates and Alternates certified to that Convention. If Precinct Meetings are held prior to the County Convention, the Credentials Committee shall issue its report on Delegates and Alternates certified to the County Convention at least 3 days in advance of the convening of the County Convention. When Precinct Meetings are held prior to the date of the County Convention, all Delegates and Alternates challenged in the report of the Credentials Committee shall be notified prior to the day of the Convention and

allowed to present their case to the Credentials Committee prior to the convening of the Convention. If Precinct Meetings and the County Convention are held concurrently on the same day, 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. When Precinct Meetings are held concurrently on the same day with the County Convention, all Delegates and Alternates challenged in the report of the Credentials Committee 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 Vice-Chairman to act in this capacity. The Vice-Chairman shall follow procedures provided in Article VII.A.4. If the County Chairman or 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 such County Convention.

#### 2. Convention Action

# a. Plan of Organization

Each year, the County Convention shall adopt or amend a written County Plan of Organization not inconsistent with the State Plan of Organization, a current copy of which shall be on file at County Headquarters and at State Headquarters. If the County Convention fails to adopt a written County Plan of Organization, the previously adopted County Plan of Organization shall remain in effect, to the extent not inconsistent with this State Plan of Organization. If a County has never adopted a County Plan of Organization and fails to adopt a written County Plan of Organization at a County Convention, the State Plan of Organization shall control.

#### b. Elections

- a) In every odd-numbered year, the County Convention shall elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman, a Secretary, a Treasurer and such other Officers as may be deemed necessary, who are registered Republican as of January 31 of that year and who shall serve for a term of 2 years or until their successors are elected.
- b) In every odd-numbered year, the County Convention shall elect a County Executive Committee of 14 members, in addition to the County Officers, who shall hold their places for a term of 2 years or until their successors are elected.
- c) The County Convention shall elect 1 Delegate and 1 Alternate to Congressional District and State Conventions, plus 1 additional Delegate and Alternate for every 250 Republicans, or major fraction thereof, registered in the County, as of January 31 of that year. The County shall further elect 1 Delegate and 1 Alternate for each Republican elected to the state legislature and to public office on the state or national level from said County in the last election held for that office.

#### 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 Plan. Completed Credentials shall be in the hands of or in the email box of the Congressional District Secretary and the State Headquarters no later than 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 newspaper notices in addition to a list of county and precinct officers, shall be submitted to the NC Republican Party and all applicable Congressional District Committees along with 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 State Convention, the County Party shall forward to the State Party a fee set by the State Central Committee to defray the costs of mailing Convention materials to such elected Delegates and Alternates. Each elected Delegate and Alternate will be responsible for reimbursing the County Party such fee paid on the Delegate or Alternate's behalf.

# 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 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 twenty-four (24) hours or on the next business day.

#### B. COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

## 1. Membership

- a. Elected Members The County Executive Committee shall consist of the County Officers and other persons elected by the County Convention in accordance with Article III.A.2.b, the County Finance Chairman, and immediate past chairman.
- b. Auxiliary Voting Members. In addition to the members of the County Executive Committee identified in paragraph a above, the President or Chairman of a Federated Cabarrus County Chapter of the following organizations, upon the consent of the Executive Committee may serve as a member of the County Executive Committee upon meeting the following eligibility criteria.
  - 1. Recognized Federated Clubs are Young Republicans, Republican Women's, Republican Men's, College Republicans, and Teenage

- Republicans. The Teenage Republicans Advisor shall be appointed by the County Chairman with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee.
- 2. When an Auxiliary Club's (Except for the Teenage Republicans) annual membership consists of ten (10) or more dues-paying, county Republican members and the Auxiliary Club has maintained its federated continuous active status and is holding club meetings in Cabarrus County at least once each calendar quarter, the County Executive Committee shall seat the President or Chairman of the Federated club as a voting, member of the Executive Committee.
- 3. When the Teenage Republicans annual membership consists of one (1) or more dues-paying, county Republican member(s) and is holding club meetings in Cabarrus County at least once each calendar quarter, the County Executive Committee shall seat the Advisor as a voting, member of the Executive Committee.
- 4. The Auxiliary Members must be members in good standing with their respective federated organizations and the North Carolina Board of Elections with regards to Campaign Finance reports
- 5. Auxiliary Executive Committee members possess the same rights, privileges, and responsibilities as other duly elected members of the Cabarrus County Executive Committee. They are subject to the same eligibility, removal, and petition requirements as all other members of the County Executive Committee.
- 6. Only one (1) Auxiliary Voting Member representative per chapter of each federated organization may serve on the Executive Committee. Should more than one auxiliary of the same group be federated, the Executive Committee shall have the final vote to select the auxiliary to hold the Executive Committee seat.
- c. Should any elected member of the Executive Committee not be found in attendance for any three (3) consecutive Executive Committee meetings, unless the absence is approved by the Executive Committee, the member shall be considered to have resigned effective the termination of the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

#### 2. Powers and Duties

The County Executive Committee shall cooperate with the District and State Committees in all elections and Party activities; shall encourage qualified candidates for offices within the County; shall adopt a budget; and shall recommend nominees to the State Chairman for appointments for County Board of Election; 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 3 Members each and may approve such other Committees as may be deemed necessary. The County Chairman and Vice-Chairman shall be Ex-officio Members of all Committees indicated in this paragraph. The

county executive committee shall elect the General Counsel at its first meeting after the biennial county convention.

a. In the event that it is determined that the County Plan of Organization is not consistent with the State Party Plan of Organization, the County Executive Committee must at the next called meeting bring the County Plan of Organization into compliance with the State Party Plan of Organization. Under any circumstances, the County Plan of Organization must be brought into compliance within 90 days. The County Executive Committee may amend the County Plan of Organization upon a 2/3 vote after providing written notice via first class United States Mail of the meeting advising members regarding the substance of the proposed amendment and provided a quorum is present. The County Party shall submit, by certified United States Mail, return receipt requested, the County Plan of Organization, and amendments thereto, to the NCGOP State Headquarters Executive Director, Political Director, and District Chairman within 30 days after their adoption, in order for the Plan and/or amendment to be considered valid.

# 3. Meetings

- a. The County Executive Committee shall meet at least twice a year upon call of the County Chairman, or the call of 1/3 of the Members of the County Executive Committee, after giving 10 days' notice to all Members. Ten (10) Members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. There shall be no proxy voting.
- b. Pursuant to Robert's Rules of Order, if a situation arises that requires immediate attention, the County Executive Committee may convene an impromptu meeting in which the Members of the County Executive Committee are allowed to participate and vote through electronic means (phone, e-mail, fax, etc.). At the next regularly scheduled meeting of the County Executive Committee pursuant to paragraph a above, or other properly called meeting, a vote taken in compliance with this paragraph shall be ratified and entered into the minutes. There shall be no proxy voting.

#### 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 Meetings of the County Executive Committee. The Chairman shall appoint a Finance Chairman, Auditing Committee (subject to the advice and consent of the County Executive 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 or herself. The Chairman shall make periodic reports on the status of the Party within the 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. The County Chairman shall be an "Ex-officio" Member of all Committees unless otherwise designated in this County Plan of Organization.

- b. The Vice-Chairman 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 County Vice-Chairman shall be an "Ex-officio" Member of all Committees unless otherwise designated in this County Plan of Organization.
- c. The Secretary shall keep all minutes and records and shall maintain a roster of all Precinct Officers and the Executive Committee Members. 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 the State Headquarters up to date lists of all Precinct Chairmen.
- d. The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all funds for Party expenditures pursuant to authority duly given by the County Executive Committee, shall make a financial report at all County Executive Committee Meetings, and shall fulfill all financial reports and obligations required under State and Federal election laws.
- e. The General Counsel shall be an attorney licensed in North Carolina who shall provide general legal and parliamentary advice to the county party and be the chief election integrity officer of the county party working to identify and eliminate election fraud and to maintain trained and qualified election observers in every precinct. In the event that no qualified Republican in a county is willing to serve as General Counsel, the county executive committee may select a person familiar with election procedures to chair an Election Integrity Committee to carry out the election integrity functions of the General Counsel. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in all questions regarding the State Plan of Organization, the interpretation thereof, or any issues that impact the State Party, the county general counsel shall have no authority to contradict the State General Counsel or Arbitration Committee.

#### 1. 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.
- b. The procedure for removal of any Member of the County Executive Committee or any Officer is defined in Article IX.A.6 of the State Plan of Organization. Such removal may be appealed to the State Central Committee within 20 days and their decision shall be final.

## 2. Resolutions and Special Rules of Order

a. Pursuant to Robert's Rules of Order, resolutions and special rules of order will remain in effect until amended or rescinded by the Executive Committee. A newly elected Executive Committee does not nullify a resolution or special rule of order passed by a previous Executive Committee.

b. Copies of resolutions and special rules of order shall be kept with the County Plan of Organization. They will be added as addenda, and will not be considered as part of the County Plan. Resolutions and special rules of order will be identified as such, and kept as separate addenda to the Plan.

## B. <u>COUNTY FINANCE AND AUDITING COMMITTEES</u>

#### 1. Finance Committee

The County Finance Committee shall be composed of the County Finance Chairman, the County Chairman, County Vice-Chairman, the County Treasurer, and not less than 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. Audit 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 shall be in accordance with Article III.C.2 of the State Plan.

# ARTICLE IV - JUDICIAL, SENATORIAL, & LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

The County provisions shall be consistent with those in Article IV of the State Plan.

# <u>ARTICLE V – CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT ORGANIZATIONS</u> <u>CONVENTIONS</u>

The County provisions shall be consistent with those in Article V of the State Plan.

## <u>ARTICLE VI – STATE ORGANIZATION</u>

The County provisions shall be consistent with those in Article VI of the State Plan.

#### ARTICLE VII – GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

## A. CONVENTION PROCEDURES

#### 1. Annual Conventions

- a. The County Convention shall be called to order by the Chairman, or in the absence of the Chairman, by the Vice-Chairman or Secretary, in order stated, 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 officer 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 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 or County Convention; 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 1 vote per Precinct, prorated among those present from that Precinct.
- c. No Delegate, Alternate or any other member of the Convention shall cast any vote by proxy.

## 3. Special Meeting and Conventions

The State Central Committee, at any time, in the interests of the Republican Party, may direct the State Chairman or the Congressional District Chairmen to issue a call for Special Senatorial, Judicial or Legislative Organization Meetings, and Special County and Congressional District Conventions, in any or all of the Counties and Districts of the State. The procedure for calling Regular Meetings and Conventions shall apply to the calling of Special Meetings and Conventions so far as applicable and not inconsistent with this Plan of Organization or the State Plan of Organization.

## 4. Newspaper of General Circulation

Notice published in a newspaper of general circulation in the County for the purpose of this Plan of Organization, shall include either a paid advertisement, or a news item, provided it includes the time, date, location and purpose of the Meeting. Such notices shall appear in the newspaper at least 10 days prior to the Meeting or Convention.

## 5. Challenges

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Plan of Organization or the State Plan, 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 in the same Precinct or County Delegates 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.

#### 6. General Election Procedure

Notwithstanding any other Article in this Plan of Organization, the allocated Delegate slots and then the allocated Alternate slots allotted under this Plan of Organization to a Precinct or a County 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 conventions. No one shall be eligible for or elected as a Delegate or Alternate who is not present at the Convention to the exclusion of a duly qualified Republican present at the Convention.

#### 7. Vacancies and Removals

a. Any Member of a Committee organized under this Plan may be removed

(a) as defined in Article IX.A.6 of the State Plan or Organization.

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

No County Committee of the North Carolina Republican Party shall offer an opportunity for a candidate for, or current office holder of, a "non-partisan office" who is not a Registered Republican to address a Republican Convention or other function sponsored by the North Carolina 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 Republican State Headquarters.

## C. FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

#### 1. Records

The Chairman, Treasurer, and Finance Chairman of the County Committees shall keep

faithful and accurate records of any and all monies received by them for the use of the said Committees and shall make faithful and accurate reports thereof when so requested.

### 2. Loans

No officer, staff or member of the Party shall cause the Party to undertake a loan without the prior approval of the Central Committee.

## 3. Budgeted Expenses

No County or officer, or Executive Committee member of the County Party shall exceed approved total budgeted expenditures without approval from the County Executive Committee.

## 4. Leases

No County officer, or Executive Committee member of the County Party shall commit the Party to a lease in excess of \$1,000 or 90 days without the approval of the County Executive Committee.

## D. APPOINTMENTS

Appointments to State, District, County, or Jurisdictional positions shall be governed by the State Plan of Organization as described in Section IX. D.

## E. FORFEITURE OF OFFICIAL PRIVILEGES

## 1. Removal or Resignation from Committees

Any current or former Officer or Member of a Precinct Committee, County Executive Committee, District Committee, State Executive Committee or State Central 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, may be declared ineligible to hold office under the State Plan of Organization at the State, District, and Precinct level for Party disloyalty by 2/3 vote of the State Executive Committee. Charges of Party disloyalty may be brought by petition of 50 members of the State Executive Committee, or by resolution of a County or District Republican Executive Committee. The State Executive Committee may declare a Republican found to have engaged in Party disloyalty as ineligible to serve in any office under the Plan of Organization for a period of time between 6 months and 5 years.

## 3. Automatic Resignation

Any Committee Member or Officer of a County, District or State Republican Executive Committee campaigning in person, on social media, or in any other manner for a Candidate, in any race, who is a 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 in opposition to a member of the Republican Party.

## F. ELECTION OF PRESIDENTIAL DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

Election of Presidential Delegates and Alternates shall be as defined in the State Plan of Organization as defined in Section VIII of the State Plan of Organization.

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

Each Officer and each Member of any Committee created pursuant to this Plan of Organization 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 Plan of Organization 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 Plan of Organization.

## H. PARTY OFFICERS AS CANDIDATES

In the event that the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the State Party, or any District, Legislative, Judicial or County Party, shall announce his intention to run for public office or shall file a notice of candidacy with the Board of Elections, that person shall be deemed to have resigned his office within the Party, effective seven days after the close of filing, and the then-existing vacancy shall be filled as provided for in Article III.B.5 of this Plan

#### I. ENDORSEMENTS IN NON-PARTISAN ELECTIONS

- 1. In non-partisan elections, district and county executive committees shall have exclusive authority to endorse registered Republicans running in that district or county. Political subdivision executive committees (i.e., County Executive Committee) shall not issue endorsements in non-partisan races unless the District resides entirely within the County. All members of the County Executive Committee may vote on the non-partisan endorsements for districts wholly encompassed within that county, regardless of whether Committee members live within the District in question.
- 2. In non-partisan, statewide judicial elections, the NCGOP State Executive Committee shall have the exclusive authority to endorse registered Republicans. Political

subdivisions executive committees (i.e., County Executive Committees, etc.) shall not issue endorsements of non-partisan, statewide judicial candidates inconsistent with the State Executive Committee endorsements.

3. With respect to any endorsement provided for in this section, 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 be made by United States Mail 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 time and date less than (5) days after the notice to committee members. Such notice shall also be provided to all registered Republicans who are candidates seeking the office for which the endorsement is made.

## J. NOTICE

- 1. "Written Notice" as used in this plan shall mean notice sent through the United States Postal Service (USPS) first class mail.
- 2. The date post marked by the USPS shall be conclusive as to the date notice was given.
- 3. 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; however, this waiver is revocable at any time by sending written notice of the revocation to the secretary.

# K. PARTICIPATION BY TELEPHONE OR OTHER ELECTRONIC CONFERENCE CALL

The Chairman of any committee organized under this Plan may permit any one (1) or more members of such committee to participate in a meeting of such committee by means of a telephone or other electronic conference call that allows all persons participating in the meeting to simultaneously hear each other during the meeting, and such participation in a meeting shall be deemed present in person at such meeting.

## L. 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 VIII - AMENDMENTS, APPLICABILITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS PLAN

## A. AMENDMENTS TO PLAN OF ORGANIZATION

### 1. Timing of Amendment

The Plan of Organization may be amended, not inconsistent with the Rules of the Republican National Committee or the State Plan of Organization, by majority vote of the delegates present and voting at any County Convention provided, however, that the proposed amendment (s) were mailed to the membership of the Executive Committee, at least thirty days prior to the convening of the County Convention. This mailing requirement shall not apply to the Report of the duly appointed Plan of Organization Committee.

## 2. Proposed Amendments from Floor of 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 proposer of the proposed amendment shall have first furnished a minimum of two hundred (200) copies of the proposed amendment, and must receive a two-thirds 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

above described or provided by the Plan of Organization Committee.

#### 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 proposer of the proposed amendment shall have first furnished a minimum of two hundred (200) copies of the proposed amendment, and it must receive a two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting at the County Convention.

#### 4. Administrative Amendments

The Plan of Organization Committee shall have authority to correct any spelling or typographical errors in the Plan of Organization, as a housekeeping matter, that do not change the substance of the Plan. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Plan, in the event that 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 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 called pursuant to this Plan.

## B. <u>APPLICABILITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS PLAN</u>

#### 1. Rules as to Towns and Cities

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

## 2. Rules as to Cabarrus County

The Precinct and County Committees and County Conventions, and the District Committees and Conventions 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. Counties may establish Executive Boards to transact the business of the Party between County Executive Committee Meetings.

## C. <u>AUTHORITY</u>

#### 1. Controversies

Controversies in the County with respect to the organizations set up therein under this plan shall be handled pursuant to Article X.C.1of the State Plan of Organization.

## 2. Parliamentary Authority

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

#### 3. Gender and Number

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

## 4. No Proxy Voting

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

#### D. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Plan of Organization shall become effective and repeal and supersede all other rules, except as specifically noted, immediately following adjournment of the Cabarrus County Convention, March 31, 2023