

**Constitution of the Republican Party
of
Kandiyohi County**

Article I

The name of this organization shall be the Republican Party of Kandiyohi County of the State of Minnesota.

Article II

Membership

The membership of the party shall be composed of all voters of Kandiyohi County who desire to support the objectives of the party.

Article III

Purpose

Section 1 The purpose of the Party shall be the maintenance and advancement of good government through the promotion within Kandiyohi County of the principles and objectives of the Republican Party as determined by the National Republican Convention, the Minnesota Republican Convention, the 7th Congressional District Republican Convention, and the Kandiyohi County Republican Convention.

Section 2 The management of the affairs of the Party within the county shall be vested in the County Executive Committee, subject to the direction of the State Central Committee, the State Executive Committee, the 7th District Republican Committee, the Kandiyohi County Committee, the Kandiyohi County Convention, the Constitution of the Republican Party of Minnesota, and the statutes of the State of Minnesota.

Section 3 The duties of the County Executive Committee shall include, but are not limited to establishment of effective financial campaigns, organization of each precinct within the county, assistance to the candidates of the Republican Party, and coordination of all Republican activities in Kandiyohi County.

Article IV

Structure

Section 1 The County Committee shall be composed of the County Executive Committee, any District or State Party officer residing in the County, and all delegates elected at the Precinct Caucus.

Section 2 The County Executive committee shall be composed of the County Co-Chairpersons, Secretary, Treasurer and 8 delegates at large (effective 1999) to be elected at the County convention held in each odd-numbered year.

Section 3 A Board member who runs for public office is required to take a temporary leave of absence for the course of the campaign.

Article V
Party Elections

Section 1 Officers of each precinct shall consist of a Chairperson, and such other officers as may be prescribed by the County Executive Committee, elected during the even-numbered year for a two-year term by a caucus of Republicans within said precinct, in accordance with the applicable statutes of the State of Minnesota. However, in the event that a precinct shall fail to elect officers at a regular precinct caucus, officers for such precinct may be selected by the County Executive Committee.

Section 2 The officers of the County Executive Committee shall consist of the Co-Chairpersons, Secretary and Treasurer elected for a two-year term by the delegates to the County Convention held during each odd numbered year. A majority of the votes cast shall be required for election of any office.

Section 3 A nominating Committee shall be appointed by the County Executive Committee in advance of the County Convention held in the odd-numbered year for the purpose of nominating candidates for the County Executive Committee. Such nominations shall be submitted for consideration of the County Convention, provided however, that nomination may also be made from the floor. The candidates considered for office by the Nominating Committee shall be those who would be most ably qualified for the performance of their respective duties in the event of their election to office.

Section 4 All nominees must give verbal or written consent prior to the election.

Article VI
Meetings

Section 1 The officers of the County Executive Committee shall meet at the Call of either Chairperson, or at the request of any two (2) members thereof, for the purpose of conducting Party business in the interim between meetings of the County Executive Committee. A majority of the members thereof shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of the transaction of business by the County Executive Committee.

Section 2 The County Executive committee shall meet at the Call of either Chairperson or any five (5) members thereof. Notice shall be given to all members at least four (4) days in advance of each meeting. Thirty percent of the members shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of the transaction of business by the County Executive Committee.

Section 3 Robert's Rules of Order-revised, shall govern the proceedings of all meetings of the above-mentioned groups, except as otherwise provided herein.

Article VII **Conventions**

Section 1 County Conventions of the Party shall be held each year during the period, and for the purpose, designated by the Official Call issued by the State Executive Committee, the State Central Committee, or the 7th Congressional District Committee. The time and place therefore shall be determined by the County Executive Committee.

Section 2 Special County Conventions shall be held at the Call of the State Executive Committee, the State Central Committee, or the 7th Congressional District Committee or at any time deemed necessary by a majority of the members of the County Executive Committee, provided that at least ten (10) days written notice be sent to each delegate and alternate.

Section 3 County Conventions shall be held at such time and place as the County Executive Committee shall determine. First order of business received shall be the temporary credentials report. The convention shall then proceed to the seating of the delegates as outlined in this section. A precinct shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each delegate present and seated, as herein provided.

- a. A County Convention shall be composed ONLY of delegates elected by members of the Party in the respective election precincts of the County as provided by Minnesota Law. The number of delegates at each County Convention shall be determined by the County Executive Committee and the basis of their appointment shall be uniform throughout the County. Nothing shall prohibit a duly elected and otherwise qualified delegate to serve as such at the County Convention even though not personally present at the time of his election in the precinct caucus. The Credentials Committee shall seat all duly accredited delegates of each precinct who are in attendance and present their credentials prior to the time stated in the call for convening of the Convention. In the event no delegates are present from a precinct, the Credentials Committee shall seat all accredited alternates from the precinct including which delegates they replace. In the event there are both delegates and alternates present, the Credentials Committee shall seat only the delegates and the vacancies shall be filled as below.
- b. The precinct shall caucus after acceptance of the temporary report of the Credentials Committee. If the Chairman of the precinct is not present, the seated delegates shall first elect a Chairman and then shall proceed to fill

vacancies as provided herein. The precincts may also fill the vacancies that occur later by informal caucus on the floor in like manner.

- c. The seated delegates of each precinct shall fill all vacancies by a vote of the seated delegates, and shall fill vacancies only from the accredited alternates present from that precinct. In case of a tie, the Chairman shall appoint one of those who are tied to fill that particular vacancy. Alternates shall be elected to fill vacancies one at a time to replace specific delegates and then the alternate elected to fill the vacancy shall be eligible to vote in the election to fill the next delegate vacancy.
- d. If such specific delegate shall later arrive, the delegate shall assume his/her seat and replace the alternate who was elected for him/her. Alternates who arrive later shall not replace any person seated, except they will be eligible to fill vacancies from the precinct.
- e. If an elected delegate knows that (s)he will not be present at the County convention (s)he shall have the right to fill the vacancy thereby created from the duly elected alternates to the County Convention. Such delegate shall certify his or her expected absence and appointment to the Credentials Committee.

Section 4 A County Convention may endorse candidates for public office, if such candidate receives sixty percent (60%) of the voting strength of the convention as established by the last report of the Credentials Committee, preceding such vote, and provided that such convention, by a simple majority vote, has determined to endorse or consider endorsement at the convention for the office. When more than one candidate is nominated for endorsement for an office, none of them shall be voted upon separately and the candidacy of all shall be submitted on one ballot. If no candidate receives the required 60% vote, then subsequent balloting may eliminate all but the top two candidates. The determination of endorsement for an office in which the constituency is not coterminous with the territory of the convention, shall be made only by those delegates residing within such constituency. Where the constituency of an office comprises an area where more than one county is involved, then endorsement can be given only by a joint convention that includes all areas of such constituency. The rules of the County Convention may provide that where only one candidate is nominated for endorsement for a particular office, endorsement may be granted if such candidate receives 60% of the votes cast on the proposal.

Section 5 A County Convention may provide an endorsement to candidates for District, State or National office, provided that such advisory endorsement is non-binding upon delegates to District and State conventions. A 60% vote as outlined in Section 4 shall be necessary to be considered an advisory endorsement as provided for in this section. The procedure for balloting upon an advisory endorsement shall be the same as provided in Section 4.

Section 6 The County Convention held in even numbered years shall elect a single

slate of delegates who shall serve as both District and State delegates in the same number as may be apportioned to the County in that year by the State Republican Party. Alternate delegates shall also be elected in that year in double the number of original delegates. Any person who would qualify as a member under Article II herein may be eligible to serve as such a delegate or alternate subject only to the term and continuing residency otherwise provided herein. No person, however, shall be considered a qualified delegate or alternate at such District or State Convention unless such person shall have been duly elected as such, in the manner provided in this section: Election of Delegates and Alternates for State and District Conventions.

Subsection 1 Duly seated delegates and alternates at the County Convention shall caucus by County Commissioner District. Each of five Commissioner Districts shall choose three (3) delegates to represent them at both the State and District Conventions.

A. Nomination procedure:

- 1) Nominations shall be accepted from the floor.
 - a. Only one nomination may be allowed at a time for each recognized.
 - b. Seconds to the nomination are not necessary.
 - c. Nominees shall state if they are willing and able to serve as a delegate or alternate. If they are not present, a letter stating willingness and interest to serve as a delegate or alternate to the State and District Republican Conventions must be presented.
- 2) Nominations and acceptance may not exceed 1 minute in length.

B. Procedure for voting and counting ballots.

- 1) Delegates and seated alternates shall indicate on written secret ballot the names of allowable delegates from the Republican Commissioner's District to the State and District Republican Conventions.
- 2) All ballots shall have no more and no less than the number of names allowed for that Commissioner District. Any ballot having voted for any other number shall be declared invalid.
- 3) The allowable number of nominees from a Commissioner District receiving the highest vote totals will be designated the official delegates from the Commissioner District.
- 4) The nominees receiving the next highest vote totals will be designated official alternates.

- 5) If any nominee receives enough votes to be designated a delegate and wishes to serve as an alternate, that person may choose to be listed as an alternate and the alternate with the next highest vote total shall assume the official delegate position.
- 6) All ties will be decided by secret ballot.

Subsection 2 The remaining at-large delegates and all alternates shall be elected by all the duly seated delegates and alternates at the County Convention after the announcement of the delegates and alternates are chosen from each Commissioner District.

- A. Nomination Procedure
 - 1) Nominations submitted by the Nominating Committee shall be placed on the ballot.
 - 2) Nominations shall be accepted from the floor.
 - a. Only one nomination may be allowed at a time for each recognized speaker.
 - b. Seconds to the nomination are not necessary.
 - c. Nominees shall state only if they are willing and able to serve as a delegate or alternate. If they are not present, a letter stating willingness and interest to serve as a delegate or alternate to the State and District Republican Conventions must be presented.
 - 3) Nominations and acceptance may not exceed one minute in length.
- B. Procedure for voting and counting ballots.
 - 1) Delegates and seated alternates shall indicate on written secret ballot the names of allowable remaining at-large delegates to the State and District Republican Conventions.
 - 2) All ballots shall have no more and no less than the number of names allowed for at-large delegates. Any ballot having voted for any other number shall be declared invalid.
 - 3) The allowable number of at-large nominees receiving the highest vote totals will be designated the official at-large delegates.
 - 4) The nominees receiving the next highest vote totals will be designated official alternates.
 - 5) If any nominee receives enough votes to be designated a delegate and wishes to serve as an alternate, that person may choose to be listed as an alternate with the next highest vote total shall assume the official delegate

- position.
- 6) All ties will be decided by secret ballot.

Section 7 Delegates and alternates to the Republican County, District and State Conventions shall be elected in accordance with the laws of the State of Minnesota, and with the Constitution of the Republican Party of Minnesota, and shall continue as such until their successors are elected, provided that they continue to be entitled to vote in the area which they were chosen to represent.

Section 8 If an elected delegate knows that (s)he will not be present at a District or State Convention to which (s)he is elected, (s)he shall have the right to fill the vacancy thereby created from among the duly elected alternates to such District or State Convention. Such delegate shall certify to a County Chairperson the selection of the alternate to fill the vacancy created by the absence. Any vacancies created by the absence of elected delegates from District or State Conventions where such delegates have not selected an alternate or where such selected alternate is not present shall be filled by alternates as determined by caucus of the delegates and previously selected alternates present. Such caucus shall have power to determine the method or order of seating alternate delegates for existing vacancies or as vacancies may occur.

Section 9 A County Convention may, by vote of the majority of the delegates present, as established by the Credentials Committee, adopt as Resolutions of the Convention propositions advocating policies, goals or positions consistent with this Constitution and the Constitution of the United States. The Convention shall consider these resolutions prepared and reported for consideration by the County Convention Resolutions Committee. The County Convention Resolutions Committee shall be charged with the responsibility of editing all Convention Resolutions so that they are in proper form and contain accurate information and the County Convention Resolution Committee, where possible, shall combine resolutions that deal with same issue from a similar point of view. Only Convention resolutions received by the County Convention Resolutions Committee will be considered at the Convention, with the exception of the following:

- a. Resolutions duly adopted at the precinct caucuses and reported through the Resolutions Committee.
- b. Resolutions not reported for consideration of the Convention by the County Convention Resolutions Committee may be considered by the Convention after submission in writing to the Chair of the Convention, if a motion to consider such resolution receives two-thirds of the votes cast upon the motion.