

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS OF THE MORRIS COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I - NAME

This Organization shall be known as the “**MORRIS COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE**”

ARTICLE II - OBJECT

The object of this committee is to direct the affairs and further the interests of the Republican Party in Morris County. Pursuant to this object and in accordance with the Election Laws of the State of New Jersey, the following Constitution and By-laws are adopted.

ARTICLE III – FORMATION AND ORGANIZATION

Section 1 – Formation

This organization shall consist of one male and one female member from each election district in the county for a three-year term to end on the first Saturday after the June 2021 Primary Election. All members elected at the June 2021 Primary Election and thereafter, the term will be for two years in the manner provided by the Elections Laws of the State of New Jersey. (Amendment of March 29, 2020)

Section 2 – Organization

a. The Organization Meeting of the County Committee shall be held as provided by the Election Laws of the State of New Jersey. All duly elected members shall present their credentials to the outgoing County Chairman and these being accepted and filed, the Committee shall proceed to organize and elect its officers.

b. Members who have been appointed to fill existing vacancies in accordance with the Election Laws of the State of new Jersey shall present a certificate signed by the Municipal Chairman setting forth that the member has been appointed by the Municipal Committee at a duly called meeting of the Municipal Committee at which a quorum was present. The said credentials shall be presented to the County Chairman or his duly appointed representative prior to the time that the Organization meeting is called to order.

ARTICLE IV - OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

The Officers shall be: a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer, a Sergeant-at-Arms, a Counsel, and such other officers as the County Committee may desire to create. Their duties shall be those usually performed by the holders of similar offices. All officers shall be elected to a two-year term of office. (Amendment as of April 11, 1990)

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

The Council Committee shall meet on the Tuesday following the Primary Election and at such other times as the Chairman may direct, and two weeks' notice shall be given to the members of the County Committee prior to such meetings, excepting that five days' notice shall be given prior to the regular annual meeting following the Primary Election. All meetings shall be called to order at 8:00 p.m. Special meetings may be called by the Chairman. Special meetings shall be called by the Chairman within two weeks after the receipt of a written request of 50% of the Executive committee or the written request or petition of fifty members of the County Committee. The notices of special meetings shall state the object or objects for which such meetings are called. No proxies shall be permitted.

ARTICLE VI - AMENDMENTS

This Constitution and By-Laws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the County Committee by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present, provided a quorum shall be in attendance at the meeting in accordance with the By-Laws and also provided that the proposed Amendment or Amendments shall have been presented at a regular or special meeting of the County Committee, or Executive Committee, and a written notice of such proposed Amendment or Amendments shall have been sent to each member by the Corresponding Secretary at least two weeks previous to the meeting at which the proposed Amendment or Amendments are to be voted upon. In case the proposed Amendment or Amendments are to be voted upon at the regular Annual Meeting following the Primary Election, the written notice of the proposed Amendment or Amendments shall be incorporated in the notice of the Annual Meeting which is sent to each member, and the requirements that the notice shall be given two weeks previous to the meeting shall be applicable.

BY-LAWS

SECTION I - ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Roll Call
2. Minutes of the previous meeting –regular or special
3. Report of the Treasurer
4. Reports of other officers
5. Reports of Executive and other Committees
6. Communications
7. Unfinished Business

8. New Business
9. Adjournment

SECTION II - QUORUM

Twenty-five percent of the Total Membership of the County Committee shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION III - FINANCES

1. A yearly budget shall be adopted at a Joint Meeting of the Finance Committee, the Executive Committee, and the Campaign Committee on the call of the County Chairman; and the County Chairman, the Campaign Chairman, the Treasurer, and the Finance Chairman shall prepare and represent a tentative budget no later than July 31 of each year.
2. ALL MONIES RECEIVED shall be deposited by the Treasurer in the name of Morris County Republican Committee in a bank or banks in Morris County to be selected by him with the approval of the Executive Committee.
3. ALL MONIES PAID by the Treasurer shall be upon the authorization, direction and written approval of the County Chairman.
4. All checks shall have the signatures of the County Chairman or County Vice-Chairman and the Treasurer.
5. The Chairman shall appoint a certified auditor who shall not be a member of the county Committee and who shall audit and certify the accounts and financial books of the county Committee as of May 31, and report to the next Executive Board meeting subsequent to May 31 of each year.
6. The fiscal year of the County Committee shall be the twelve (12) months ended May 31.
7. The Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, and Executive Assistant shall be bonded at the expense of the County Committee and shall cooperate with the County Committee in obtaining the said bond (Amendment as of June 12, 1979).

SECTION IV - COMMITTEES

A. Executive Committee

1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chairman, Vice chairman, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasure, Sergeant-at-Arms, Counsel, the two members of the New Jersey State Republican Committee from Morris County, members of the National Republican Committee residing in Morris County, the President or in her absence, the Vice President of the Morris County Women's Republican Club, the Chairman, or in his absence, the Vice Chairman of the Morris County Young Republicans, the Chairman, or in his absence, Vice chairman of the

Morris County Teenage Republicans, and all municipal Chairman or his or her absence, Vice Chairman, or in their absence, a member of the municipal Committee who shall be authorized in writing by the Municipal Chairman. Said authorization shall be presented to the county Chairman.

2. The Executive Committee shall meet quarterly on call of the County Chairman at a place to be designated by the County Chairman. The majority of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum

3. The Executive Committee shall direct the work of the County Committee, receive and act upon the reports of Standing Committees. Between meetings of the county Committee, it shall possess and exercise the powers of the county Committee

4. THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN shall be Chairman of the Executive Committee and preside at all meetings and issue all calls for meetings

5. THE RECORDING SECRETARY shall keep a record of the minutes of the County Committee and Executive Committee and report to the County Committee at any regular or special meeting of the County Committee, and shall mail the minutes of the Executive Committee to the members of the Executive Committee with the notice of the meeting of the next Executive Committee meeting.

B. Finance Committee

The Finance Committee shall be composed of ten or more persons. The Chairman of the Finance Committee shall be appointed by the County Chairman with approval of the Executive Committee.

C. Campaign Committee

The Campaign Committee shall be composed of seven or more members at least five of whom shall be members of the County Committee.

D. Headquarters Committee

The Headquarters Committee shall be composed of three members, two of whom shall be members of the County Committee.

E. Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee shall be composed of all past Republican County Chairman and all past and present Republican County, State or National Officeholders residing in Morris County. This committee shall be organized at the call of the Chairman.

F. Committee Chairmen and Members

The Chairman and members of all committees, with the exception of the Executive Committee, shall be appointed by the County Chairman and the County Chairman shall be a member ex-officio of all committees.

SECTION V

CANDIDATE SELECTION & ENDORSEMENT AND PARTY SLOGAN

A. The provisions of this section apply to the selection of candidates for nomination to office in the annual primary election and for the endorsement of candidates for office by the Organization. Candidates seeking the Republican designation and endorsement by the Morris County Republican Committee shall follow the procedure set forth herein.

B. **County Convention** — There shall be a special meeting or Convention called by the Republican County Chairman each year at an appropriate time prior to the last day for filing petitions for nomination in the primary. The purpose of such meeting or Convention shall be to select candidates for office who shall run in the Republican column or row in the ensuing primary election. All members of the MCRC shall receive notice of all Conventions called by the County Chairman. All convention delegates must be registered Republicans and duly elected or appointed voting members of the MCRC. Convention delegates will be certified by their respective Municipal Chairs by 12:00 noon at least seven (7) days prior to the day of the Convention. A quorum will be 25% of certified delegates present.

C. **Letter of Intent** — In the event that there are any positions to be filled for elected office, a candidate for said position shall submit a letter of intent to the County Chairman not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the Convention. Any candidate who wishes to withdraw a candidacy must notify the Chairman in advance of the day of the Convention.

D. **Open Seat** — When running for an open seat (no Republican incumbent), endorsements from ten (10) voting members of the County Committee must be attached to a letter of intent. No more than half of the County Committee endorsements required when running for an open seat can be from one municipality, except where a State or Federal district contains only one Morris County municipality and/or has fewer than fifty (50) Morris County Committee seats.

E. **County Office**

1. When running for a County seat as an incumbent, endorsements from 10 percent (10%) of the voting members of the County Committee must be attached to a letter of intent. No more than half of the County Committee endorsements required when running for a County seat as an incumbent can be from one municipality.

2. When challenging an incumbent who holds a County seat, endorsements from 10 percent (10%) of the voting members of the County Committee must be attached to a letter of intent. No more than one-third of the County Committee endorsements required when challenging an incumbent who holds a County seat can be from one municipality.

3. Votes for County offices will be cast by the delegates from all thirty-nine (39) municipalities. Additionally, at-large votes (one each) may be cast by the County Chair and Vice Chair. In the event an at-large voter also is a voting member of the MCRC, that individual is entitled to only one vote at the Convention.

F. State Legislative Office

1. When running as an incumbent member of the New Jersey Legislature, endorsements from twenty (20%) of the voting members of the County Committee must be attached to a letter of intent. No more than half of the County Committee endorsements required when running as an incumbent member of the New Jersey Legislature can be from one municipality.

2. When challenging an incumbent member of the New Jersey Legislature, endorsements from twenty (20%) of the voting members of the County Committee must be attached to a letter of intent. No more than half of the County Committee endorsements required when challenging an incumbent member of the New Jersey Legislature can be from one municipality.

3. When a State Legislative District includes fewer than fifty (50) Morris County Committee seats, then endorsements of at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the voting members of the district's County Committee must be attached to the letter of intent of an incumbent and of at least twenty-five percent (25%) to the letter of intent of a challenger.

4. Votes for State Legislative candidates will be cast by those delegates from those municipalities comprising the Legislative District. Additionally, at-large votes (one each) may be cast by the County Chair and Vice Chair. In the event an at-large voter also is a voting member of the MCRC, that individual is entitled to only one vote at the Convention.

G. Statewide State & Federal — Candidates for statewide State and Federal offices shall be subject to the same rules as if they were running for County Office.

H. District Federal — Candidates for Federal congressional district office (House of Representatives) shall be subject to the same rules as if they were running for State Legislative Office.

I. A member may only endorse one candidate for each office, except where there is more than one seat available for a specific elected office (e.g., New Jersey General Assembly and County Commissioner), in which case a member may endorse as many candidates as there are seats available.

J. The County Chairman shall be the Convention Chairman and may appoint any teller, sergeant-at-arms, and any other necessary individuals for the proper function of the Convention. Every candidate for office, or his or her duly appointed agent, wishing support of the County Convention should appear and request support at the Convention. No write-in votes will be permitted on the day of the Convention, nor will any nominations be permitted from the floor. The County Chairman will determine a process for the candidates to speak at the Convention.

Individuals wishing to speak must register with the County Chairman prior to the Chairman gaveling the Convention to order. In the event an individual speaking is ruled out of order by the County Chairman, the individual shall cease and desist from any further discussion. Any candidate who withdraws his or her candidacy while speaking at the Convention is hereby deemed out of order and in violation of these By-Laws and rules of the Convention, which constitutes grounds for preclusion of that individual for future endorsement of the Organization for elected office. Selections and endorsements of the Convention may be made by plurality-rule voting. Robert's Rules of Order will be parliamentary authority on rules not governed by law, By-Laws, or rules adopted by the MCRC.

K. The selections and endorsements of the Convention shall be binding. The County Chairman in their official capacity and designated as the *de jure* campaign manager for all candidates using the slogan, shall certify to the County Clerk, in accordance with the provisions of Title 19, those candidates who are selected by the Convention for placement in the Republican column or row on the Primary Ballot and for usage of the official slogan or any other approved slogan of the Organization. (Amendment of February 6, 2021)

SECTION VI - ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER

Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of all meetings.

SECTION VII – EFFECTIVE DATE

All rules or by-laws in force are hereby repealed, and this revision shall go into effect immediately upon the adoption by the County Committee.