

1 Constitution of the Republican Party of Wright County
2 Of the State of Minnesota

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4 **Preamble**
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6 The Republican Party of Wright County welcomes the participation of all citizens of
7 our BPOU who are concerned with the implementation of honest, efficient, and responsive
8 government. The party believes in the equality of all, as stated in the Declaration of
9 Independence. Therefore, it is the party committed to equal representation and opportunity for
10 all and preservation of the rights of each individual. It is the purpose of this constitution to
11 ensure that the party provide for full participation with equal opportunity for all citizens of our
12 BPOU regardless of age, race, sex, religion, social or economic status.
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14 **Article I-Name**
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16 The name of this organization shall be the Republican Party of Wright County of the
17 State of Minnesota, the Basic Political Organization Unit referred to as "the BPOU".
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19 **Article II-Composition**
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21 The BPOU shall consist of the county of Wright and based on action by the State Executive
22 committee, Precinct 1 of the City of Rockford and Precinct 1 of the City of Hanover, County
23 of Hennepin, Except the precincts Dayton, and the portion of Otsego in House District 30B.
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25 **Article III-Purpose**
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27 Section 1: The purpose and objectives of the BPOU shall be the maintenance and
28 advancement of good government according to the Constitution and laws of the United States
29 and the State of Minnesota through the promotion within the BPOU of the purpose and
30 objectives of the National Republican Party and the Republican Party of Minnesota.

31 Section2: The purpose and duties of the BPOU shall include those imposed by law and
32 custom upon official party committees. In addition, the BPOU shall:

- 33 A) Organize or cause to be organized each precinct in the BPOU,
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35 B) Encourage the formation of auxiliary Republican groups, and cooperate with and
36 coordinate their activities:
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38 C) Assist in conducting campaigns for the adoption of laws, and for the election of
39 qualified Republican candidates for public office; and
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41 D) Administer the affairs of the Party within the BPOU.
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Article IV-Membership

Section 1: The membership of this BPOU shall be composed of all citizens eligible to vote in the BPOU who wish to be affiliated with the Republican Party and who support the purpose and objectives of the Republican Party.

Section 2: Any individual or group that involves the BPOU in a legal matter, where the BPOU is not found at fault, must reimburse the BPOU ALL expenses incurred by the BPOU before the individual or group will be allowed to participate in any future BPOU events.

Article V-Management and Structure

Section 1: The management of the BPOU shall rest with the BPOU Executive Committee, subject to the direction of the State Central Committee, the State Executive Committee, the Congressional District Committee(s), the BPOU Convention, the State Party Constitution, the BPOU Constitution and applicable state statutes.

Section 2: The BPOU Executive Committee shall be composed of the BPOU Chair and Deputy Chair, Events Coordinator, Secretary, Treasurer and Media Coordinator. The Full Committee includes one (1) Regional Chair or one (1) Regional Deputy Chair from each of the following regions:

- Region 1.** Otsego P-1, P-2
- Region 2.** Albertville P-1, P-2, Saint Michael P-2
- Region 3.** Saint Michael P-1, P-3, P-4.
- Region 4.** Hanover, Rockford Twp P-1
- Region 5.** Monticello P-1, P-2, P-3, P-4, Monticello Twp.
- Region 6.** Buffalo P-1, P-2, P-3.
- Region 7.** Maple Lake, Maple Lake Twp, Silver Creek Twp. Buffalo Twp, Chatham Twp. P-2
- Region 8.** Clearwater, Clearwater Twp, Corrina Twp, Annandale, South Haven, South Side Twp
- Region 9.** French Lake Twp, Albion Twp, Chatham Twp P-1, Middleville Twp, Howard Lake, Victor Twp
- Region 10.** Montrose, Woodland Twp, Waverly, Marysville Twp

91 **Region 11.** Delano, Franklin Twp, Rockford, Rockford Twp P-2

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93 **Region 12.** Cokato, Cokato Twp, Stockholm Twp

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95 All elected Republican legislators and Republican state constitutional officers living within
96 the boundaries of the BPOU shall also be members. Since their attendance at these meetings
97 is not required, their position shall not be included in the quorum count unless they are
98 present. The Congressional District Representatives and State Central Committee Delegates
99 shall be non-voting members of the Executive Committee, unless they hold office as
100 described in Article V., Section 2.

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103 Section 3: Duties: The duties of the Executive Committee shall be as follows:

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105 It is the role of all Executive Committee members to ensure that the fiduciary
106 responsibilities of the Republican Party of Wright County BPOU are managed. It is
107 the responsibility of each board member to ensure that the integrity of the organization
108 and all assets, including mailing lists, logos, web content, and written material are
109 professional and in accordance with the principles of the BPOU.

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112 A) The BPOU Chair shall conduct BPOU Executive Committee meetings. The Deputy
113 Chair shall conduct meetings in the Chair's absence. Together, they shall appoint
114 committees (except nominating committee, see Art VI, Sec 3) and coordinate the
115 activities of the Regional Chairs. They are also ex-officio members of all committees.

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117 B) The Events Coordinator shall be responsible for coordination of fundraising,
118 organizing BPOU sponsored events, and to ensure that events are communicated to the
119 BPOU Members and the greater community as necessary.

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121 C) The Secretary shall keep minutes of meetings, be responsible for written
122 correspondence with members of the Executive Committee, delegates and alternates to
123 BPOU conventions, and other correspondence that may be necessary. The Secretary
124 is responsible for in maintaining, and controlling the BPOU member lists and other
125 lists used for BPOU correspondence.

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127 D) The Treasurer shall be responsible for all Party moneys, keep financial records,
128 disburse moneys as authorized by the Executive Committee, prepare and submit all
129 reports to the state as required by law, help submit an annual budget and other duties
130 as required by the Republican Party State Constitution. The Treasurer, or chair
131 designate, shall present a monthly Treasurer's Report at each monthly BPOU meeting.
132 The Treasurer and Events Coordinator shall work together in counting and overseeing
133 all receipts and disbursement amounts. See Article V., Section 4.

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135 E) After each precinct caucus, the Executive Committee shall rank alternates that were
136 not ranked by the precinct. This is in accordance with Article VIII Section 3 of this

137 Constitution.

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139 F) Regional Chairs shall manage Republican Party affairs at the precinct level within
140 their region. Duties of the Regional Chair shall include supporting precinct caucuses
141 by helping organize precinct leadership and by working to increase caucus attendance.
142 Regional Chairs will also be the regional contact for elected State Representatives.

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144 G) Regional Deputy Chairs will assist with the duties of their respective Regional Chair.
145 Regional Deputy Chairs are non-voting members of the Executive Committee and do
146 not count towards meeting the quorum unless their respective Regional Chair is
147 absent. If the Regional Chair is absent, then the Regional Deputy Chair will sit in the
148 place of the Regional Chair as a voting member of the Executive Committee.

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150 H) The Media Coordinator shall be responsible for; managing social media accounts to
151 keep the Wright County Republican Party relevant, promoting conversation about
152 current events on those media platforms, updating the website, and having local media
153 outlets publish information the board wants to make know.

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155 Section 4: Finances: The BPOU financial records shall be maintained in an orderly
156 fashion by the BPOU Treasurer.

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158 A) All records shall be reviewed annually by the Executive Committee by the first
159 meeting of January.

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161 B) At least every odd year, the Executive Committee shall designate the financial
162 institution to be used as a depository for the Party funds after the convention.

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164 C) The BPOU Chair and Treasurer shall sign all financial institution's signature cards.

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166 D) All disbursements shall be by check and shall require signatures as directed by the
167 Executive Committee.

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169 E) All funds coming to the BPOU from any source shall be deposited in the account(s).

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171 F) All reports to be presented to the BPOU Executive Board must be complete and made
172 available in a timely manner.

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174 G) All statutory reports SHALL be completed in a timely manner and delivered to
175 the recipient as defined by the statute or rules of the submission.

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Article VI-BPOU Elections

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179 Section 1: The BPOU Executive Committee shall be elected to a two-year term by the
180 delegates to the odd-year Convention.

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- A) The Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary, Events Coordinator, Treasurer, and Media Coordinator shall be elected at large.
- B) A caucus of their respective regions shall elect Regional Chairs and Regional Deputy Chairs.
- C) State Central Committee Delegates and ranked alternates, Congressional District Representative and alternates may be elected at large.

Section 2: Officers of each precinct may consist of (2) Chairs and a Secretary, elected to a two-year term at the even-numbered years General Caucus, in compliance with State Statute.

Section 3: A nominating committee shall be appointed by the BPOU Executive Committee in advance of the odd-year BPOU conventions, for the purpose of nominating candidates for the various Committee positions. This does not prohibit nominations from the floor. The Executive Committee will provide written guidelines to the Nominating Committee.

All candidates for open positions must be interviewed by members, or designates, of the nominating committee. It is the responsibility of the committee to secure candidates for the ballot and present a slate of qualified, acceptable candidates to the membership for a vote.

- A) Screening guidelines need to be prepared for each candidate including, but not limited to, accepting the principles of the Republican Part of Wright County, supporting the principles of the Republican Party, and upholding the fiduciary responsibilities of the Republican Party of Wright County.
- B) The nominating committee must ask and present to the BPOU body the intent of the candidate regarding their intent of abiding by the endorsement of the position.
- C) All candidates, especially those who are entrusted with the financial assets of the BPOU, must be vetted to ensure that the person has the necessary experience, the ability to meet the BPOU organization’s financial responsibilities, and prepare all official documentation as prescribed by regulation.

Article VII-BPOU Committee Meetings

Section 1: Requirements:

- A) Regular Committee Meetings: The Executive Committee shall establish a calendar of regular meetings. A copy of the minutes of the previous meeting containing the time and place of the next meeting shall be given to the members of the Committee at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

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- B) Special Committee Meetings: The Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the Chair or at the request of any three (3) members of the Committee. A minimum of three (3) days notice shall be provided to members of the Committee.
- C) Quorums: a quorum shall be 40% of seated members of this Committee for the purpose of transacting BPOU business.

Section 2: "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised" shall govern the proceedings of all meetings of the Executive Committee.

Article VIII-BPOU Conventions

Section 1: BPOU Conventions shall be held each year during the period and for the purpose designated by the Official Call issued by the BPOU Chair and Vice Chair, State Executive Committee, the State Central Committee, or the Congressional District Committee(s). The BPOU Executive Committee shall determine the time and place of these conventions.

- A) An Endorsing Convention may be held at the call of the BPOU Chair and Vice Chair, or at the discretion of the majority of the BPOU Executive Committee, with the approval of the State Executive Committee. A notice of not less than five (5) days shall be given to delegates and alternates. They shall be held for the purpose of endorsing a candidate for office.
- B) Special BPOU Conventions shall be held at the call of the afore mentioned groups, or at the discretion of the majority of the BPOU Executive Committee, provided that a minimum of five (5) day notice, in writing, be sent to each delegate and alternate.

Section 2: At all BPOU Conventions, the first order of business shall be the temporary credentials report. The convention shall then proceed to the seating of the delegates, as outlined in Article VIII, Section three (3). A precinct shall be entitled to one vote for each delegate or alternate present and seated. Votes shall be weighted if necessary

Section 3: The BPOU Convention shall be composed of delegates and alternates elected at Republican Party Precinct Caucus within the BPOU. The distribution of delegates shall be uniform throughout the BPOU. The credentials committee shall seat all duly elected and accredited delegates of each precinct who are present. In the event no delegates are present from a precinct, the credentials committee shall seat all accredited alternates for that precinct, indicating which delegates they replace unless the alternates have been previously ranked. Vacancies shall be filled according to the following procedures:

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- A) The precincts shall caucus after acceptance of the temporary credentials report. If the precinct chair is not present, the seated delegates shall elect a chair and then proceed to fill the vacancies.
- B) The alternates in the order in which the Precinct Caucus ranked them shall fill vacancies. Unranked alternates shall be ranked, by lottery, by the Executive Committee at the first meeting following the precinct caucus.
- C) The seating of delegates and alternates shall be governed by the adopted rules of the respective convention.
- D) If a precinct has any vacancies that can't be filled by an alternate from the same precinct, the vacancy will remain.

Section 4: Delegates and alternates to the State and Congressional Republican District Conventions shall be elected in accordance with the laws of the State of Minnesota, as well as the State Republican Constitution, and shall continue as such until their successors are elected.

Section 5: A motion to sub-caucus, for the purpose of endorsing, will be in order at any BPOU Convention in the years when these elections occur. This motion must carry by a majority vote.

- A) A Sub-Caucus of a BPOU Convention or a separate convention of the delegates from Senate Districts 29 and 30 (when Senate District 30 is uncontested) may endorse a candidate for State Senator; however, if endorsement is by a separated convention, agenda of said convention shall be limited to the endorsement of these candidates only. Endorsement shall be by sixty percent of the voting strength of the sub-caucus or convention. The most recent credentials report prior to each ballot shall govern the voting strength
- B) A Sub-Caucus of a BPOU Convention or a separate convention of the delegates from State House District 29A ,29B, or 30A may each endorse a candidate for State Representative; however, if endorsement is by a separated convention, agenda of said convention shall be limited to the endorsement of these candidates only. Endorsement shall be by sixty percent of the voting strength of the sub-caucus or convention. The most recent credentials report prior to each ballot shall govern the voting strength.
- C) A BPOU Convention may provide for a non-binding advisory endorsement to candidates for District, State, or Federal office. Endorsement shall be sixty percent of the voting strength of the convention. The most recent credentials report prior to each ballot shall govern the voting strength.

317 **Article IX-Vacancies and Removals**

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319 Section 1: Vacancies in the precinct offices shall be filled by appointment of the
320 Executive Committee or, if so directed, by a caucus of Republicans in the affected precinct. If
321 vacancies occur in the Committee, the Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement.
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323 Section 2: An officer of the Committee may be removed from office by a two-thirds (2/3)
324 vote at any meeting of the seated committee members provided that the officer in question be
325 furnished with a ten (10) day notice, in writing, of the reasons that may warrant removal. The
326 officer in question shall be entitled to respond to these reasons in person or in writing prior to
327 the vote to remove.
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329 Section 3: If a member of the Committee is absent without cause from more than Three
330 (3) consecutive meetings, this person shall be subjected to the removal provisions outlined in
331 Section 2 of this Article.
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333 Section 4: It is the duty of all Committee members to support Republican endorsed
334 candidates. Should any member of this body actively and publicly campaign against a
335 Republican endorsed candidate, that member shall be removed from the Committee
336 immediately. Also, any member of the Executive Committee shall not distribute campaign
337 literature, or actively support a candidate seeking endorsement, during the endorsing
338 convention.
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340 Section 5: Any elected member of the Executive Committee who announces their
341 candidacy for Federal or State elected public office, shall be placed on immediate leave of
342 absence. If any member receives an endorsement or runs in the Primary Election, they shall
343 resign their position on the Executive Committee.
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345 **Article X-Dissolution**

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347 In the event the State Legislature lines are redrawn, the Executive Committee shall
348 have the power to dissolve the BPOU by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.
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350 **Article XI-Amendments**

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352 Section 1: This Constitution may be amended by a two thirds (2/3) of the delegates
353 present at any BPOU Convention, provided that the proposed amendments be first referred to
354 a duly appointed Constitution Committee, and the Official Convention Call will indicate that
355 constitutional amendments will be considered.
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357 Section 2: After Legislative Redistricting is completed, by a two thirds (2/3) vote, may
358 amend Article 8, Section 5, subsections A and B to update them to the new legislative districts
359 that fall within Wright County.
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