

Republican Party of House District 27A

Convention Rules

March 18, 2023, Becker High School

GENERAL

Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (RONR), shall be the parliamentary authority on all points not covered by the statutes of the State of Minnesota, the Constitution and Bylaws of the Republican Party of Minnesota, the Official Call of this convention, or the rules adopted by this convention. A parliamentarian may be appointed by the Convention Chair to assist in the interpretation of the rules. The final authority for all decisions is the responsibility of the Convention Chair (subject to appeal in accordance with RONR).

The order of business of this convention shall be as stated in the 2023 Convention Agenda. A motion to adjourn the convention shall be debatable until all items on the agenda have been addressed on the convention floor.

A quorum shall consist of a majority of the duly elected delegates registered for the convention as given in the preliminary report of the Credentials Committee and shall be superseded by a majority of the duly elected delegates and seated alternates as given in the final report of the Credentials Committee. Once a quorum of 50% plus one of the delegates seated in this Convention has been established, any further question as to the quorum shall be ruled as out of order. These rules shall not be amended nor suspended except by a two-thirds vote of the convention. The permanent roll of today's convention shall be constituted as outlined in the Republican Party of Minnesota Constitution, Article V, Section 4.

Etiquette: Please silence cell phones. There shall be no electronic recording unless approved by the convention Chair.

SEATING OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

The permanent roll of the convention shall be constituted as follows:

- a. The duly elected delegates of each precinct who are actually present.
- b. If any duly elected delegate to this Convention is absent, then a duly elected alternate from that precinct shall be seated in their stead.
- c. If no duly elected delegates or alternates from a precinct are present, that precinct shall have no representation.
- d. When a registered delegate returns to the floor of the convention, he/she shall be immediately seated and any alternate who had been seated in his/her place will be removed.
- e. The order of seating of alternates shall be as follows:
 - (1) If the alternate vote count from the precinct caucus is available, alternates shall be seated in order of the votes received.
 - (2) If the vote count is not available, the vacancy shall be filled by a majority vote of the seated delegates of that precinct.
 - (3) If no delegates are present and seated, the Chair shall fill the vacancy with alternates from that precinct.

The voting strength of each precinct shall be the number of seated delegates.

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SPEAKING

A delegate or seated alternate wishing to speak shall rise, address the Chair, state his/her name and precinct, and the purpose for which he/she rises. Debate upon any motion or subject shall be limited to one minute by each speaker. A timekeeper shall be appointed by the Chair to ensure all time limitations specified within these rules are observed. No person shall be allowed to speak more than once upon the same subject until all others who wish to speak have had the opportunity to do so. At the Chair’s discretion, a speaker may be allowed to speak a second time on an issue. The Chair will seek to alternate opinions on either side of an issue. If no opposing perspective is present, the speaker may close the discussion.

The Chair may recognize visitors and give them the privilege of speaking up to 5 minutes. There shall be no candidate or issue signs allowed on, behind or within 10 feet of the stage/podium except during the candidate floor time. All publications and documents intended for distribution on the convention floor or within the building where the convention is being held must contain a disclosure clearly identifying the person or organization responsible for the contents of the publication, including the author’s name and contact information. Any material not having appropriate disclosure will be confiscated by the sergeant-at-arms and the person or persons distributing the material will be removed for the remainder of the convention.

The permanent roll of today’s convention shall be constituted as outlined in the Republican Party of Minnesota Constitution, Article V, Section 4.

VOTING

Only delegates and seated alternates registered and present at this Convention shall be permitted to vote.

The vote on all questions shall be by voice vote or, at the Chair’s discretion, subject to the following restrictions:

- A. A rising vote shall be taken if division is requested by any three seated delegates or alternates or at the discretion of the Chair.
- B. A roll call vote by precinct shall be taken at the discretion of the Chair or if requested by 33% of the seated delegates and alternates.
- C. There shall be no voting by proxy or unit rule.
- D. A paper ballot shall be used for all contested elections. A ballot with printed names may be used provided all requirements from the Republican Party of Minnesota Constitution are met.
- E. Voting on a contested endorsement of a candidate for office shall be by secret paper ballot. The chair of each precinct shall distribute and collect the ballots from the delegates of their precinct, verify the ballots as to number and deposit them with the tellers. The precinct chair shall not open or count the ballots for their precinct; only official tellers shall open and count the ballots.
- F. No announcement of the total number of ballots cast shall be made for any precinct with fewer than ten votes cast. If there is a dispute as to the number of votes cast, the Head Teller and tellers shall decide the dispute and, if necessary, shall canvass the vote of that precinct by separate written ballots, which ballots shall then be the ballots for that precinct.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Candidates interested in a BPOU officer role must notify the Convention Secretary or the Nominations Chair of their intent to seek an officer role no later than 30 minutes after the start of the Convention. Each person seeking election must appear before the Nominating Committee. Each person seeking an office shall understand the duties

109 of that position and be willing to fulfill them. The nominating Committee shall report the names of all qualified
110 persons who appear before them to the Chair.

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112 Unqualified Nominees shall collect 25 signatures from registered delegates and present them to the Chair before the
113 election of their desired office begins. Nominations need not be seconded. Nominating speeches for candidates
114 shall not exceed (3) minutes for Chair and deputy Chair positions. Seconding speeches shall be included in the time
115 allotted for nominating speeches. If there are more than two candidates running for an office and no
116 candidate receives a majority of the ballots cast, the candidate with the lowest vote total shall be eliminated from
117 the ensuing ballots. The Convention may divide into regions before balloting to elect any candidate for that
118 region. Only those delegates residing in the candidate's region may vote in his/her election. Any candidate who
119 receives a majority vote shall be considered elected.

120 **ELECTION OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT AND STATE CONVENTION DELEGATES**

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123 The Chair shall announce the number of Delegates and Alternates for each convention allotted to this BPOU. The
124 Chair will also describe the duties and responsibilities of the office.

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126 Any delegate or alternate to the BPOU with intent to seek election as a Congressional District or State Convention
127 Delegate or Alternate must indicate their intent to be nominated at the credentials check in or be nominated from
128 the floor of the convention (self-nomination is allowed). No second is required for nomination.

129 Candidates shall be given up to 1 minute to address the Convention. A number shall be randomly assigned to each
130 candidate and this shall be the order in which they speak. Any ballots that have questionable marks shall be set
131 aside and their validity determined by majority vote of the tellers.

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133 There shall be a separate ballot for Congressional District and State convention delegates. All ballots must contain a
134 full slate equal to the number of delegates to be elected (no bullet voting). Ballots without a full slate will be
135 considered spoiled and therefore not count toward election results. Additional votes may be taken to break ties, or,
136 if agreed upon by the candidates involved, a coin toss (for 2) or lots (for more than 2) may be used to break the tie.
137 All vote totals shall be tallied and ranked to determine the outcome. Those persons who receive the highest vote
138 totals shall be elected to the office of delegate until all delegate slots are filled. The next highest vote totals will be
139 elected to the office of alternate delegate until all alternate delegate slots are filled. Alternates must be ranked for
140 seating purposes at respective conventions.

141 **RECESS**

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144 In the event the Convention votes to recess rather than adjourn, the Chair of the Convention, prior to the vote on the
145 question, shall announce that the only delegates and alternates eligible to register for the reconvened Convention
146 are those delegates and alternates registered as of the last Credentials Committee report of the original Convention.
147 However, the number of votes required for endorsement at the reconvened Convention shall remain an affirmative
148 vote of 60% of the convention and if that number is also greater than 50% of delegates and alternates seated as
149 stated in the final report of the Credentials Committee at the original Convention.