

# **CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF OUTAGAMIE COUNTY**

We the Members, having assembled in a formal membership meeting, in order to provide an organizational framework for those in Outagamie County who share our beliefs do ordain and establish this constitution for the Republican Party of Outagamie County.

This constitution nullifies, supersedes, and takes precedence over any previous constitutions that were used prior to its effective date. The effective date shall be on the day of, and immediately prior to, the 2020 RPOC County Caucus.

## **ARTICLE I. NAME**

The name of this organization shall be the Republican Party of Outagamie County, which may be abbreviated as RPOC.

## **ARTICLE II. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this organization shall be to coordinate and unify under one central organization the activities of Republicans in Outagamie County. The RPOC shall advance Republican principles in the county, advance those principles in local, State, and National Republican Parties, and recruit and help elect Republican candidates to public office.

## **ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP**

### **SECTION 1. Members**

Membership in the organization shall only be open to Outagamie County residents of voting age who are eligible to vote in any national, state, or county election and who believe in the following objectives:

- A. To preserve and advance fundamental Republican principles and policies.
- B. To develop an aggressive and serviceable county Republican organization.

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- C. To maintain harmony among all Republican organizations.
- D. To maintain control of the Republican Party of Outagamie County in the hands of grassroots Republicans.
- E. To preserve our republican form of government as created under the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Wisconsin.
- F. To elect Republicans to public office.

A Member shall pay dues and meet the membership requirements of the constitution and bylaws of both the Republican Party of Outagamie County and the Republican Party of Wisconsin. No one who is a member of another political party registered with the Federal Elections Commission or the State of Wisconsin Elections Commission may be accepted as or remain a Member of the Republican Party of Outagamie County.

**SECTION 2. Associate Members**

Individuals who otherwise meet the requirements for RPOC membership but are not residents of Outagamie County or who are not of voting age may become Associate Members. Associate Members have no voting privileges and may not serve as delegates or officers of the RPOC.

**SECTION 3. Dues**

An individual may not be a Member or an Associate Member in the Republican Party of Outagamie County unless he/she has paid dues required by the organization.

Membership dues are charged annually for a period beginning on October 1st and ending on September 30th of the following year.

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A member's dues must be postmarked or received prior to September 30th of that membership year or the member will neither be eligible, in that membership year, to vote in the annual Republican Party of Outagamie County Caucus nor be eligible for election as a delegate from Outagamie County to the District Republican Caucus or the Republican State Convention.

### **SECTION 4. Membership Termination**

A member may resign by submitting written notice to the Chair. The Chair shall inform the Executive Committee of the resignation at the next Executive Committee meeting. The resignation shall become effective at the conclusion of that meeting.

Membership may be involuntarily terminated by a two-thirds majority vote of a quorum of the Executive Committee with appropriate notice. A person whose membership has been terminated by vote of the Executive Committee may appeal that action to a Meeting of the Membership.

## **ARTICLE IV. ORGANIZATION**

### **SECTION 1. Officers**

- A. **Officers** - The RPOC Officers shall be a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. Each Officer must be a member of the Republican Party of Outagamie County.
- B. **Nomination of Candidates for Offices** - The Chair shall appoint a Nominating Committee of no less than five individuals from among the members of the organization and these appointments shall be confirmed by the Executive Committee at least sixty days prior to a scheduled election. The Nominating

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Committee shall receive applications from Members for each Officer position to be elected and, after their consideration, report to the Executive Committee the name(s) of one or more nominees for each office to be filled. This report must be submitted to the Executive Committee at least thirty days prior to the scheduled election. The Executive Committee must accept or modify the list of nominees and distribute the final list to the Members at least fourteen days prior to the scheduled election. At the County Caucus, the Chair of the County Caucus shall invite members to nominate other candidates for election to each Office.

- C. **Election and Term of Office** - Officers shall be elected in each odd numbered year by a majority of voting members assembled at a duly constituted County Caucus of the Republican Party of Outagamie County. Each Officer shall be elected for a term beginning immediately upon adjournment of the Caucus at which he/she is elected. He/she shall hold office for a term of two years and until his/her successor is elected. Officers may be removed from office for cause by disciplinary proceedings as provided in the parliamentary authority.
- D. **Duties of the Chair** - The Chair shall be the principal executive officer of the RPOC subject to the direction of the Executive Committee and Membership. The Chair shall have general supervision and direction of the business and affairs of the organization. The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee, over the County Caucus and over any other Meetings of the Membership. The Chair shall be responsible, in conjunction with the other Officers of the organization, for the development of a biennial budget for the organization to be presented at a meeting of the Executive Committee no later

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than forty-five days after the County Caucus in odd-numbered calendar years.

The Chair shall serve as an ex-officio member of all committees of the organization except the Nominating Committee. The Chair shall appoint the Chairs and members to all Standing Committees of the organization subject to the advice and consent of the Executive Committee. The Chair shall appoint the Chair and all members of each ad hoc committee he/she creates. The ad hoc committee Chairs and the members of ad hoc committees serve at the pleasure of the RPOC Chair.

- E. **Duties of the Vice Chair** - The Vice Chair shall perform the duties of and have the powers of the Chair in the absence or inability of the Chair to perform them. The Vice Chair shall also perform other duties as the Chair may direct.
- F. **Duties of the Secretary** - The Secretary shall keep, and distribute in a timely manner, the minutes of the County Caucus, Meetings of the Membership, and Executive Committee meetings. The Secretary shall be the custodian of the physical and electronic records of the organization. The Secretary shall perform such other duties as the Chair may direct.
- G. **Duties of the Treasurer** - The Treasurer shall have charge and custody of the funds of the organization from all sources and shall deposit such funds in an account or accounts designated by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall disburse funds as authorized by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall be the custodian of the organization's financial books and records and shall be responsible for the security thereof. The Treasurer shall prepare and report

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current financial statements, to be distributed in a timely manner for all applicable meetings. The Treasurer shall perform such other duties as the Chair may direct.

- H. **Vacancies** - The Executive Committee is exclusively empowered to fill any vacancy of an Officer position or of an At-Large member of the Executive Committee as soon as possible after the vacancy occurs.

**SECTION 2. Executive Committee**

A. The Executive Committee shall consist of:

1. The Officers of the organization, who shall serve as voting members of the Executive Committee throughout their terms of office. The presence of each of these individuals shall be counted when determining a quorum for Executive Committee meetings.
2. The Chair of each Standing Committee who shall serve as a voting member of the Executive Committee while chairing the Standing Committee. The presence of each Standing Committee Chair shall be counted when determining a quorum for Executive Committee meetings.
3. At-Large Members. At the annual County Caucus the Members shall elect four At-Large members. The Chair may appoint up to two additional At-Large members, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee. Each At-Large member will serve as a voting member of the Executive Committee for a two-year term. The presence of each At-Large member shall be counted when determining a quorum for Executive Committee meetings.

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4. RPOC Members who are Elected Officials shall serve as voting members of the Executive Committee throughout their terms of office. The presence of each of these individuals shall not be counted when determining a quorum for Executive Committee meetings.
  5. A single representative of any recognized affiliate organization existing within Outagamie County. These members shall be appointed to the Executive Committee by the affiliate organization they represent and shall be non-voting members of the Executive Committee. The presence of each of these individuals shall not be counted when determining a quorum for Executive Committee meetings.
  6. The Immediate Past Chair of the organization shall serve as a non-voting member of the Executive Committee and his/her presence shall not be counted when determining a quorum for Executive Committee meetings.
- B. The Executive Committee cannot meet and conduct business without achieving a quorum. A quorum of the Executive Committee shall be a majority of its voting members, excepting elected officials as provided in Article IV. Section 2. A. 4. Only voting members in attendance at an Executive Committee meeting shall be eligible to vote. Proxy voting is not allowed.
- C. The Executive Committee shall have authority to:
1. Fill vacancies of positions that are elected at the County Caucus
  2. Adopt a biennial budget.
  3. Amend that budget in light of changes in projected revenues and expenditures during the budget cycle.

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4. Approve or deny any non-budgeted expenses presented by the Chair.
  5. Reject any donations, whether monetary or in-kind, of materials or services offered to the organization.
  6. Endorse Republican candidates for State Senate and State Assembly whose districts include parts of Outagamie County, and Republican candidates for Outagamie County offices.
  7. Advise the Chair on the transaction of any other business of the organization between County Caucuses or Meetings of the Membership.
  8. Make recommendations to the Members of the organization concerning any other business pertaining to the RPOC.
- D. The Executive Committee shall meet when called by the Chair or when a written request, signed by a quorum of the Executive Committee is presented to an Officer of the organization.
- E. Regular and special meetings of the Executive Committee may be held by electronic means subject to the following requirements:
1. A majority of the voting members have access to the specified electronic media.
  2. A quorum for the meeting shall be established by roll call and, once established, shall be assumed present until the meeting is adjourned.
  3. The technology used shall allow the members full access to and full participation in all meeting transactions either continuously or intermittently throughout the specified time of the meeting and

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4. The affirmative vote of a majority of a quorum of the Executive Committee shall be the minimum vote requirement for the adoption of any motion and a roll call vote may be requested by any committee member participating in the meeting.
- F. Any member of the Executive Committee who holds or is seeking election to public office may not vote on any motion involving the office he/she holds or for which he/she is a candidate.
- G. Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern the proceedings of the Executive Committee except where inconsistent with the Constitution and By-Laws of this organization.

**SECTION 3. Committees**

- A. Members and Chairs of each Standing Committee are appointed by the Chair with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee for a term beginning on the date of his/her appointment and ending at the next County Caucus held in an odd-numbered year. Members and Chairs of Standing Committees may be removed by the RPOC Chair with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee.
- B. The mandatory Standing Committees of the Republican Party of Outagamie County shall be:
  1. The Finance Committee
  2. The Membership Committee
  3. The Communications Committee
  4. The Campaign Committee

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5. The Events Committee
- C. The Chair may appoint, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, other Standing Committees.
- D. The Chair may appoint ad hoc committees as he/she deems necessary. Ad hoc committee members and chairs serve at the pleasure of the RPOC Chair.
- E. Regular and special meetings of standing or ad hoc committees may be held by electronic means subject to the following requirements:
1. A majority of the voting members have access to the specified electronic media.
  2. A quorum for the meeting shall be established by roll call and, once established, shall be assumed present until the meeting is adjourned.
  3. The technology used shall allow the members full access to and full participation in all meeting transactions either continuously or intermittently throughout the specified time of the meeting and
  4. The affirmative vote of a majority of a quorum of the committee shall be the minimum vote requirement for the adoption of any motion and a roll call vote may be requested by any committee member participating in the meeting.
- F. Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern the proceedings of all standing and ad hoc committees except where inconsistent with the Constitution and By-Laws of this organization.

**ARTICLE V. COUNTY CAUCUS AND MEETINGS OF THE MEMBERSHIP**

**SECTION 1. The County Caucus**

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- A. The County Caucus shall be called by the RPOC Chair.
- B. Only RPOC Members in attendance at the County Caucus shall be eligible to vote. Proxy voting is not allowed.
- C. Fifteen Members shall constitute a quorum at the annual County Caucus.
- D. The Republican Party of Outagamie County shall hold its annual County Caucus at least thirty days prior the District Caucus but no later than February 28th.
- E. If the Chair does not call such County Caucus at least thirty days prior to the District Caucus then the District Chair may call such a caucus for Outagamie County.
- F. In either case at least eight days prior to the proposed caucus the membership shall be notified of the time and place of the holding of such caucus by:
  - 1. Its being advertised at least twice in one daily or weekly newspaper in the county and/or
  - 2. Its being announced to the membership by written, printed, or electronic notice to each member at his/her last known address.
- G. The following business shall be conducted at the County Caucus:
  - 1. Adoption of reports of the Caucus Credentials Committee, Secretary, RPOC Chair, and Treasurer.
  - 2. Review the report of the Nominating Committee and elect delegates, and alternates if necessary, to the Eighth Congressional District Caucus and the Republican Party of Wisconsin State Convention.
  - 3. In odd-numbered years, elect RPOC Officers and four At-Large members of the Executive Committee.

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4. Identify RPOC nominees to serve as members of the Eighth Congressional District Credentials, Rules, Platform and Resolutions Committees.
5. Consider and adopt resolutions.
6. Any other business necessary to obtain the objectives of the RPOC.

**SECTION 2. Election of Delegates**

- A. At least sixty days prior to the County Caucus the Nominating Committee of no less than five Members shall be appointed by the Chair.
- B. The Nominating Committee shall nominate delegates, and alternates if necessary, to represent the Republican Party of Outagamie County at the District Caucus and at the Republican Party of Wisconsin State Convention.
- C. The list of nominated delegates and alternates shall be distributed to Members before the call to order of the annual County Caucus.
- D. The Chair of the County Caucus shall allow further delegate and/or alternate nominations from Members in attendance at the County Caucus.
- E. Delegates shall be elected annually by a majority of the Members in attendance at the County Caucus. No proxy voting is allowed.

**SECTION 3. Meetings of the Membership**

- A. A Meeting of the Membership may be called:
  1. By The RPOC Chair
  2. By petition signed by a majority of a quorum of the Executive Committee which shall state the exact purpose of the Meeting.

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3. Upon petition signed by twenty-five Members which shall state the exact purpose of the Meeting.
  - B. The RPOC Chair must call a Meeting of the Membership if petitioned to do so by a person whose Membership was involuntarily terminated
  - C. Upon a call for a Meeting of the Membership, by the Chair or upon receipt by the Executive Committee of a petition for such Meeting, the Executive Committee shall schedule a Meeting within 30 days and within 10 days send a written or printed notification to each Member at his/her last known address noting the time and place of such Meeting.
  - D. Only RPOC Members in attendance at the Meeting of the Membership shall be eligible to vote. Proxy voting is not allowed.
  - E. Fifteen Members shall constitute a quorum of the Meeting of the Membership.

**SECTION 4. Parliamentary Authority**

*Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised* shall govern the proceedings of County Caucuses and Meetings of the Membership except where inconsistent with the Constitution and By-Laws of this organization.

**ARTICLE VI. AMBIGUITY**

- A. In the event of any conflict or ambiguity of this Constitution or with By-Laws adopted hereunder, the Constitution of the Republican Party of Wisconsin shall prevail.
- B. In the event of any conflict or ambiguity of this Constitution with By-Laws adopted hereunder, this Constitution shall prevail.

**ARTICLE VII. BYLAWS**

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By-laws may be adopted by a majority vote of the Members present at a County Caucus or Meeting of the Membership or by a by a three-fourths vote of the voting members of the Executive Committee.

**ARTICLE VIII. ADOPTION OF THIS CONSTITUTION**

This Constitution may be adopted by a three-fourths majority vote of those Members in attendance at a Meeting of the Membership duly called only for that purpose.

**ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENT OF THIS CONSTITUTION**

- A. This Constitution may be amended at any County Caucus or Meeting of the Membership if notice and a copy of the proposed amendment or amendments is included in the call to Caucus or Meeting of the Membership notification.
- B. An amendment may only be adopted by a three-fourths majority vote of the Members in attendance at the County Caucus or Meeting of the Membership called for the purpose of considering it. Proxy voting is not allowed.
- C. Any amendment adopted by this organization is subject to approval by the Executive Committee of the Republican Party of Wisconsin.