

# CLINTON COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY BY-LAWS

## Article I – General

### Section 1 – Name

This organization shall be known as the Clinton County Republican Party (CCRP) and shall consist of the Executive Committee, County Committee and the General Membership.

### Section 2 – Purpose

The purpose of this organization shall be to perform all duties provided by law and state party rules and such other duties not prohibited by law as will benefit the general welfare of the Republicans of Clinton County and to conduct the political affairs and business of the CCRP through the Executive Committee and County Committee.

## Article II – The Executive Committee

### Section 1 – Establishment

There shall be an Executive Committee of the CCRP, which is established as provided by law and State Party rules.

### Section 2 – Membership

The membership of the Executive Committee shall consist of Republican Delegate-Elected Members, Nominee Members and Ex-Officio Members.

In even numbered years the Fall County Convention shall convene at the call of the County Chairperson within thirty (30) days of the November election. The precinct delegates elected in the most recent election shall select a number of persons equal to the number of county offices and state legislative offices for which candidates were nominated at the last two (2) preceding fall primary elections, who together with the persons most recently nominated by the Party for each of those offices, to constitute the Executive Committee.

- (a) Delegate-Elected members. The precinct delegates to the Fall County Convention shall select the Delegate-Elected members to the Executive Committee. All Delegate-Elected members must be registered voters who reside in Clinton County. If a vacancy occurs in the position of delegate-elected member of the Executive Committee, the remaining members of the Executive Committee shall fill the vacancy.

- (b) Nominee members. The Nominee members shall be those persons nominated by the Republican Party for county offices and state legislative offices in Clinton County at the most recent primary election. When a new nomination is made for such an office, the new member shall replace the former nominee as a member of the Executive Committee. If a vacancy occurs in the position of nominee member of the Executive Committee, the vacancy may only be filled by the person who is the new nominee for the office in question.

### **Section 3 – Duties**

The Executive Committee shall select the members of the County Committee at the Fall county convention. The Executive Committee shall select any and all duly elected precinct delegates from the most recent election to serve on the County Committee.

Any and all duties as prescribed by state law and State Party rules.

### **Section 4 – Selection of Officers, Term and Vacancies**

Within thirty (3) days following the convening of the Fall county convention the Executive Committee shall meet and select a temporary chairperson and temporary secretary. The temporary officers shall serve only during the selection of the officers of the Executive Committee and the County Committee.

The officers of the Executive Committee and the County Committee shall be the same persons whose term in office shall be for two (2) years commencing January 1 of the odd numbered years.

If a vacancy occurs see Article III, section 5.

## **Article III – The County Committee**

### **Section 1 – Establishment**

There shall be a County Committee of the CCRP, the members of which shall be selected by the Executive Committee as provided in Article II, section 3.

### **Section 2 – Membership and Term**

The Executive Committee shall select any and all duly elected precinct delegates from the most recent election to serve on the County Committee. In addition, the following persons shall serve as members of the County Committee by virtue of the office they hold during their tenure of office and as long as they are residents of Clinton County: elected County officials.

The term of service of a County Committee member shall continue for two (2) years and until the selection of its successor.

### **Section 3 – Vacancies**

Vacancies in the membership of the County Committee shall be filled by the Executive Committee. All vacancies must be filled with persons who are members of the CCRP.

### **Section 4 – Duties**

The duties of the County Committee shall be to establish general policy for and conduct the affairs of the CCRP. And to perform such additional duties as may be required by law and State Party rules or by the County Committee.

In addition, the County Committee shall encourage, recognize, and aid in the establishment of those organizations within Clinton County that will enhance the activities of the Republican Party.

### **Section 5 – Selection of Officers, Term and Vacancies**

The officers of the Executive Committee and the County Committee shall be the same persons whose term in office shall be for two (2) years commencing January 1 of the odd numbered years.

The officers of the Executive Committee and the County Committee shall be elected by the County Committee at the Fall Convention. The officers shall be a chairperson, a vice-chairperson who shall be of the opposite sex of the chairperson, a secretary, a deputy secretary, a treasurer, a deputy treasurer, and other such officers as may be established by the County Committee.

If an officer shall resign or become ineligible to hold office, there shall be a vacancy in that office. If a vacancy occurs in the office of chairperson, the powers and duties of the chairperson shall be assumed immediately and automatically by the vice-chairperson until a new chairperson is elected. In the event a vacancy occurs in the office of vice-chairperson, the position shall remain vacant until a new vice-chairperson is elected. In the event a vacancy occurs in the office of secretary, the powers and duties of the secretary shall be assumed immediately and automatically by the deputy secretary until a new secretary is elected. In the event a vacancy occurs in the office of treasurer, the powers and duties of the treasurer shall be assumed immediately and automatically by the deputy treasurer until a new treasurer is elected.

All vacancies in offices shall be filled by election of the County Committee for the remainder of the term. Such elections shall be held not less than fifteen (15) nor more than forty-five (45) days after the vacancy occurs.

## **Article IV – General Membership**

### **Section 1 – Establishment**

The CCRP recognizes its General Membership to be those individuals who reside within Clinton County and support the general welfare of the Party assisting in its political and business affairs. The success of the Party depends upon the generosity of its membership through financial support and in-kind involvement.

### **Section 2 – Dues**

Dues for the General Membership shall be established from time to time as may be determined by the County Committee.

### **Section 3 – Officers**

Officers of the General Membership are one and the same as the Executive and County Committee.

## **Article V – Meetings**

### **Section 1 – Meetings of the County Committee**

- (a) Regular Meetings – The County Committee shall hold regular meetings at least six (6) times per year. The meetings shall take place within Clinton County generally on the third Thursday of the month. The County Chairperson shall determine the time and place for such meetings. Regular meetings shall be noticed so that all members of the County Committee are aware of the scheduled meeting.
- (b) Special Meetings – The County Chairperson may call special meetings of the County Committee. In addition, five (5) members of the County Committee may call a special meeting. Special meetings shall be requested in writing and posted so that all members of the County Committee are aware of the scheduled meeting.
- (c) Quorum – A quorum for all meetings of the County Committee shall be ten (10).
- (d) Proxy votes – Proxy votes are not allowed.

**Section 2 – Meetings of the County Committee**

- (a) Meetings of the Executive Committee may be held from time to time in order to carry out the business of the CCRP. The County Chairperson shall determine the need for the meeting and shall determine the time and place of the meeting.
- (b) Quorum – A quorum for all meetings of the County Committee shall be eight (8).
- (c) Proxy votes – Proxy votes are not allowed.
- (d) The Executive Committee may consider three (3) consecutive absences of a member as a resignation at the Committee’s next scheduled meeting.

**Section 3 – Meetings of the General Membership**

The General Membership shall meet at the call of the Chair. The County Chairperson shall determine the time and place for such meetings. The meetings shall take place within Clinton County.

**Section 4 – Notice of County, Executive, and General Membership Meetings**

Notice of each respective meeting of the County Committee, Executive Committee and General Membership shall be forwarded by the secretary to each member of the Committee with notice of the time and place of the meeting not less than seven (7) calendar days prior to each meeting.

**Article VI – Officers**

**Section 1 – Executive Committee**

See Article II, Section 4.

**Section 2 – County Committee**

See Article III, Section 5.

**Section 3 – General Membership**

See Article IV, Section 3.

## **Article VII – Duties of Officers**

### **Section 1 – Chairperson**

The duties of the Chairperson shall be those provided by law, State Party rules, and also such other duties not prohibited by law as may be required by action of the Executive Committee, County Committee and General Membership, including but not limited to the following:

The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee, County Committee and General Membership, and shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees. The Chairperson shall appoint the chairperson and members of all committees and, with the exception of the Budget Review Committee, may remove them, all subject to the approval of the County Committee.

The Chairperson shall be responsible for directing the administration of the CCRP and shall coordinate the activities of the Republican Party organizations within the county.

The Chairperson serves as spokesperson for the CCRP and shall submit reports to the Executive Committee, County Committee and General Membership as may be required by action of those committees; shall keep the committees informed of Republican Party programs and activities; and may assign to other officers and committees such duties as may be necessary.

### **Section 2 – Vice Chairperson**

The Vice Chairperson shall preside at meetings of the Executive Committee, County Committee and General Membership in the absence of, or at the request of, the Chairperson and shall perform such other duties as directed by the Chairperson, the Executive Committee, County Committee and General Membership. In the event the Chairperson is unable to act, the powers and duties of the Chairperson shall be assumed by the Vice Chairperson until such inability is removed or until the Chairperson shall again take up the duties of the office.

If the Vice Chairperson is unavailable or unable to act then other officers as designated shall perform the duties of the Vice Chairperson.

### **Section 3 – Secretary**

The Secretary shall perform all the duties normally incident to the office of Secretary, and in particular shall keep a permanent record of the minutes and attendance at all meetings of the Executive Committee, County Committee and General Membership. The Secretary shall also notice all meetings of the Executive and County Committees and the General Membership.

If the Vice Chairperson is unable to assume the duties of the Chairperson, then the Secretary shall assume those duties.

**Section 4 – Deputy Secretary**

The Deputy Secretary shall assume the powers and duties of the Secretary as defined in Section 3 of this Article, during the absence or inability of the Secretary.

**Section 5 – Treasurer**

The Treasurer shall have the care and custody of all monies paid to the CCRP and shall deposit the same in the name of the CCRP in a bank designated by the County Committee and shall pay all duly authorized bills. The Treasurer shall serve as Chairperson of the Budget Review Committee and shall be responsible for the proper and timely filing of all financial reports required by law.

The Treasurer shall keep an account, in permanent records, of all financial transactions of the CCRP. A statement of financial conditions (revenues, expenditures, outstanding obligations, and cash balance) will be made at each regular meeting of the County Committee. Upon reasonable request, all records shall be open to verified members of the CCRP.

At the close of each calendar year, the Treasurer, with the assistance of the Budget Review Committee shall prepare an annual, accurate statement as of December 31 of each year setting forth the financial condition of the CCRP. The Treasurer shall forward this report to the officers by the first day of March of the year following and shall present a copy of the report to the county Committee at its next regular meeting.

Upon leaving office, the Treasurer shall furnish to his/her successor all funds, accounts and other property pertaining to the affairs of the Treasurer.

**Section 6 – Deputy Treasurer**

The Deputy Treasurer shall assume the powers and duties of the Treasurer, as defined in Section 5 of this Article, during the absence or inability of the Treasurer.

**Article VIII – Committees**

**Section 1 – General**

There shall be two permanent committees: The Budget Review Committee and the Operations and Appointments Committee. Other committees may be formed as deemed necessary by the county chairperson. Except as otherwise provided for in these bylaws, the county chairperson shall name the members of a committee and shall designate one person as chair of the committee.

## **Section 2 – Budget Review Committee**

The Budget Review Committee shall be responsible for the proper and timely filing of all financial reports required by law. This Committee shall also review the financial transactions of the CCRP on a regular basis and prepare an annual report which shall be forwarded to the County Committee on a timely basis. This Committee may also take on additional responsibility as assigned by the county chairperson or the County Committee.

## **Section 3 – Operations and Appointments Committee**

The Operations and Appointments Committee shall be responsible for developing, reviewing and making recommendations on, all matters pertaining to the operations of the CCRP that are not within the purview of the Budget Review Committee. This Committee shall also be responsible for assisting in the placement of county party members into appointed positions at the local, county, state, and federal levels. This Committee may also take on additional responsibility as assigned by the county chairperson or the County Committee.

# **Article IX – General Operations**

## **Section 1 – Resolutions**

All proposed resolutions, with the exception of resolutions honoring an individual for special service to the CCRP or the community, shall be properly noticed before being acted upon by the County Committee or Executive Committee at a scheduled meeting.

## **Section 2 – Endorsements**

It shall be the policy of the Executive, County and General Membership Committees not to endorse, support, or disavow individual candidates in a contested Republican primary election, except as provided for in Section 3.

## **Section 3 – Endorsement Exceptions**

In exceptional cases, when it is deemed to be in the best interest of the CCRP, the County Committee or the General Membership Committee may endorse, support, or disavow a particular candidate in a contested Republican primary, provided that such action is approved by three-fourths (3/4) of the members present and voting. No vote may take place under this section unless the issue has been properly noticed.

## **Section 4 – Endorsements by Officers**

The officers of any committee, in their official capacity, shall not endorse candidates in a contested Republican primary election. If, however, a candidate is endorsed by the County



Committee or General membership Committee, the officers may endorse in their official capacity. Nothing in these bylaws prohibits an officer in his or her individual capacity as a citizen to endorse a candidate.

### **Section 5 – Published Endorsements**

Endorsements, implied or otherwise, may not be published unless a candidate has received the official endorsement of the County Committee or the General Membership Committee.

### **Section 6 – Rules of Order**

Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern the Executive, County, and General Membership Committees in all cases when said rules are not in conflict with these Bylaws.

## **Article X – Adoption of Bylaws**

These Bylaws shall be adopted by a majority of the Executive Committee members present and voting at the meeting after which they are presented for adoption and shall take immediate effect.

## **Article XI – Amendments to the Bylaws**

These Bylaws may be amended by a majority of the Executive Committee members present and voting at a meeting when the amendment is presented and provided a quorum is established. Amendments may not be considered unless properly noticed and copies of the amendment are provided to the members of the Committee prior to the meeting.

### **Historical Account of Bylaws Development**

The Text of the Bylaws for the CCRP were developed by an appointed Committee. Committee members included:

Chuck Sherman, Chair  
Stephen Gobbo  
Bill Sullivan

After proper notice, review, and discussion the Executive Committee voted to adopt these amended Bylaws on March 22, 2016.