

# Constitution

## of the Republican Committee of Minnesota Senate District 36

### ARTICLE 1

#### NAME AND JURISDICTION

##### Section 1

NAME - The name of this organization shall be the "Republican Committee of Minnesota Senate District 36", hereinafter called the Committee, also known as the Full Committee.

##### Section 2

PURPOSE - The purposes of the Full Committee shall be:

- A. To create and maintain an effective and permanent Senate District organization based on political precincts.
- B. To help elect Republicans to public office.
- C. To further aid the cause of good government in whatever manner shall be deemed advisable and to advance such principles or projects as may from time to time be adopted by Party conventions and caucuses.

##### Section 3

TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION - The jurisdiction of the Committee shall be limited to the geographical area of the State Senate District 36 as determined by Minnesota statute from time to time.

##### Section 4

DUTIES - It shall be the duty of the Committee:

- A. To organize or cause to be organized the Senate District Committee, any House District Committees and each precinct within the District.
- B. To administer the affairs of the Republican Party of Minnesota (RPM) within the District and to execute its programs.
- C. To maintain records of meetings, receipts and expenditures.
- D. To maintain and update information on voters, volunteers, and others within the Senate District.
- E. To support and coordinate the campaigns of all Endorsed or Recommended Republican candidates whose constituency would include residents of the Senate District.

##### Section 5

DISSOLUTION: The Committee shall cease to exist within 120 days of final approval of a redistricting plan in 2021 or 2022, or thirty days prior to the 2022 primary election,

whichever occurs first. Any remaining assets shall revert to the RPM if not already distributed to the new BPOU(s).

**ARTICLE II**

**MEMBERSHIP AND MEETINGS**

**Section 1**

MEMBERSHIP - The Senate District Full Committee membership shall consist of the following District residents:

- A. The Senate District Executive Committee Officers and those appointed to specific positions by the same, but not exceeding the number of elected Officers.
- B. All Precinct Officers within the Senate District recognized as such by the Full Committee.
- C. Any immediate past Executive Committee Officers for a period of one term.
- D. Additional persons appointed by the Committee, to be reaffirmed yearly by the Full Committee as may be necessary.

The Full Committee shall also include the following ex-officio members:

- E. The members of the Republican State and Third Congressional District Executive Committees.
- F. Any State or Congressional District RPM party officer residing within the Senate District.
- G. Any elected official residing within the Senate District who was elected as a Republican. The official may appoint a person to represent him/her on the Committee.
- H. Other elected officials residing within the Senate District holding non-partisan office upon a two thirds vote of the full committee.

Ex-officio members will have all the privileges of Full Committee membership, including the right to make motions and vote, but will not be counted in determining if a quorum is present.

Questions as to membership on the Full Committee shall be resolved by two thirds vote of same.

**Section 2**

QUALIFICATIONS - No person who adheres to a foreign system of civil law, or who self-identifies with any entity whose members or leaders adhere to a foreign system of civil law, shall be eligible to hold any elected, appointed or ex-officio position within the Republican Committee of Minnesota Senate District 36, nor may such a person be eligible for endorsement or recommendation for elective office.

Members of the Full Committee are expected to support Republican Endorsed and Recommended candidates for office and shall not publicly support or work for any candidate opposing an Endorsed or Recommended Republican candidate.

**Section 3**

MEETINGS - The Committee shall hold a minimum of four (4) meetings per year upon at least five (5) days notice. In addition, the Committee may hold special meetings at any time on three days notice to all members, either on the call of the Chair or Deputy Chair, or any four (4) members of the Committee.

**Section 4**

QUORUM - A quorum shall consist of a minimum of eight (8) members of the Committee as described in paragraphs A, B, and D of Article II, Section 1, including at least three (3) members of the Executive Committee as defined below. Once a quorum has been established, it shall be considered to exist until the meeting is adjourned.

**Section 5**

REMOVALS - The Committee, upon recommendation of the Executive Committee, may remove any member who fails to cooperate with the Committee, and/or who misses three (3) consecutive regularly scheduled meetings. Such recommendation may be made only after the affected member has first been furnished with a written statement of the cause, including the proposal for removal, at least ten (10) days before such time as the Committee shall consider the matter. Any conduct, in the opinion of the Committee, including simple inactivity, shall constitute failure to cooperate as used herein, but no member shall be removed for this cause except by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Committee members present at the meeting of the Committee at which such action is taken. Notice of every proposal for removal shall be included in the notice of the meeting.

**ARTICLE III**

**OFFICERS**

**Section 1**

OFFICERS - The officers of the Committee shall be

- A. One Chair
- B. One Deputy Chair
- C. One Secretary
- D. One Treasurer
- E. Up to five (5) Vice Chairs, allocated to either County, House District, City, Ward(s), or quadrant of the Senate District, based on availability and residence of qualified individuals willing to so serve.

**Section 2**

ELECTION – The Senate District officers listed in sections A through D above shall be elected at a Senate District convention held in odd-numbered years, except in the case of redistricting years. The Vice-Chairs may be elected at sub-conventions at the Senate District convention in odd or even years for two year terms, and their terms may be staggered. No officer shall serve more than two (2) consecutive full terms in any particular office, except when the office is not contested.

**Section 3**

DUTIES:

- A. The Chair, (or in absence of the Chair, the Deputy Chair) shall preside over the Senate District Committee meetings and shall perform such duties as are prescribed by, or pursuant to, this Constitution, and such other duties as are usually incident to those offices.
- B. If the Chair is absent from a meeting, then the Deputy Chair shall preside over the meeting. If neither the Chair nor Deputy Chair is present, then the Secretary or Treasurer, in that order, shall preside over the meeting, if either is present.
- C. The Secretary shall keep accurate minutes of the meetings of the Committee and the Executive Committee, the record of attendance of its members, give notice to the members of all regular and special meetings, and perform other duties incident to the office.
- D. The Treasurer shall be the custodian of the funds of the Committee, provide an annual report and such other reports as are required by law, and perform such other duties as are usually incident to that office.
- E. The Vice-Chairs shall assist the Chair or Deputy Chair as requested, particularly with respect to activities within their respective territories. Vice-Chairs may call and conduct meetings of the Committee members within their respective territories upon five (5) days advance notice.
- F. Vice Chairs are expected to support and mentor Precinct Officers as described in Article V below.

**Section 4**

**LIMITATIONS:**

- A. The Senate District Chair and Deputy Chair shall not hold an operational position on any candidate’s committee. Operational Position shall be defined in the Senate District ByLaws or by consensus of the Executive Committee.
- B. No other elected or appointed Senate District Officers may hold an operational position on a candidate’s committee without first obtaining the consent of two-thirds of the Executive Committee.
- C. Senate District Officers shall be deemed to have resigned from party office upon taking any public action to seek elected office. Elected Office shall generally mean those requiring registration with the office of the Minnesota Secretary of State, and may be clarified in the Bylaws.
- D. Senate District Officers shall not publicly support or work for any candidate opposing an Endorsed or Recommended Republican candidate.
- E. The Executive Committee by a two thirds vote may remove from party office any person violating this Section who does not promptly resign. Such action does not immediately affect membership on the Full Committee (see Article II, Section 4 above).
- F. Senate District Bylaws will be used to clarify or resolve controversies arising from this section.

**ARTICLE IV**

**SENATE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**Section 1**

MEMBERSHIP – The Senate District Executive Committee shall consist of the following persons:

- A. The elected (or appointed) Senate District officers as described in Article III, section 1, all of whom shall be voting members.
- B. Additional non-voting members serving in such capacities as Fundraising Chair, Standing Bylaws Committee Chair, Volunteer Coordinator, etc. appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Senate District Chair and Deputy Chair, and subject to ratification by the Executive Committee.

**Section 2**

POWERS AND DUTIES - The Senate District Executive Committee shall

- A. have charge of administration of the Senate District RPM affairs, subject to the direction and control of the Senate District Convention and the Full Committee.
- B. submit periodic financial reports internally and to the Congressional District Treasurer.
- C. appoint, support and mentor a Candidate Search committee.

- D. assist the campaigns of Endorsed and Recommended candidates for public office.
- E. assist the campaigns of winners of primary contests lacking an endorsed Republican candidate, upon approval of the Executive or Full Committee.
- F. help the precinct organization recruit and train volunteers.
- G. initiate the procedures set forth in this Constitution for the removal of any person from party office or committee membership
- H. appoint the allotted representatives from the Senate District to serve as members on Third Congressional District Committees (full and/or convention committees). These allotted representatives shall include the Senate District Chair and Deputy Chair and is subject to ratification by the Senate District Executive Committee.

**Section 3**

MEETINGS - The Executive Committee shall meet at least four (4) times a year in addition to meetings of the Full Committee, at regular intervals. Special meetings may be held at any time, including ongoing or rolling meetings held via electronic means, subject to common sense rules of inclusion, quorum and voting. A summary of decisions made between regular meetings shall be included in the minutes of the subsequent regular meeting.

**Section 4**

A quorum shall consist of fifty percent (50%) of the members. Once a quorum has been established, it shall be considered to exist until the meeting is adjourned.

**Section 5**

VACANCIES - Vacancies in positions on the Executive Committee may be filled by the remaining Executive Committee Officers according to procedures determined by the same from time to time, but generally within 90 days, and only until the next annual convention.

**ARTICLE V**

**PRECINCT ORGANIZATION**

**Section 1**

OFFICIAL PRECINCT CAUCUS - As prescribed by Minnesota state law, precinct caucuses shall be held every general election year. The notice of the caucus shall be delivered to the city clerks and county auditors at least twenty days before the precinct caucus and published by the Senate District Chairs at least six days prior to the caucus date.

**Section 2**

ELECTION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES - Delegates and alternates shall be selected by secret ballot or acclamation within each precinct caucus. The basis of delegate apportionment shall be uniform throughout the Senate District and shall be based on the votes cast in each precinct in the last statewide general election in accordance with guidance provided by the state Republican party. Delegates and alternates are expected to attend Senate District conventions and other activities, and to support the district with time, service, and funding.

**Section 3**

ELECTION OF PRECINCT OFFICERS – Precinct officers shall be elected at the precinct caucus held in every general election year. Each precinct may elect up to three (3) officers, designated in whatever way the caucus shall choose. Precinct officers may be elected, but not removed, at Senate District Conventions by action of delegates and residents of that precinct.

**Section 4**

DUTIES OF PRECINCT OFFICERS - It shall be the responsibility of the precinct officers to organize the precinct, recruit and direct volunteers, conduct voter surveys, conduct voter registration programs, assist in fundraising and other authorized finance drives, get out the Republican vote, and accomplish such tasks as may be assigned or delegated to them by or through the Senate District organization.

**Section 5**

REMOVAL OF PRECINCT OFFICERS - Precinct Officers may be removed according to the procedure described in Article II, Section 4 above.

**Section 6**

VACANCIES - Vacancies in positions in Precinct Leadership may be filled by the Executive Committee according to procedures determined by the same from time to time, but generally within 90 days. Continuation following appointment shall be contingent on confirmation by a majority of precinct delegates at a Senate District Convention and need not be included in the official convention call.

**ARTICLE VI**

**CONVENTIONS**

**Section 1**

SENATE DISTRICT CONVENTIONS -The Senate District Annual Convention shall be held at the call of the Senate District Committee or the Congressional District Committee, preceding Congressional District and State RPM Conventions. Special Senate District Conventions may be held at the call of the Senate District Committee or the Congressional District Committee at such time and for such purpose as the calling Committee may determine. Senate District Conventions may be held at the place determined by the Committee.

**Section 2**

PRE-CONVENTION COMMITTEES - Prior to each Convention, the Senate District Committee or Executive Committee shall appoint such committees as may be deemed necessary, from amongst themselves and the Delegates and Alternates to the Senate District Convention.

**Section 3**

NOTICE OF CONVENTIONS - Notice of conventions (the Convention Call) shall be provided to delegates and alternates at least 10 days in advance. It is the responsibility of delegates and alternates to provide accurate and up to date contact information.

**Section 4**

ATTENDANCE AT SENATE DISTRICT CONVENTIONS - Senate District Conventions and any House District sub-conventions may be attended by any of the delegates and alternates chosen at the last RPM Precinct Caucuses from precincts within the Senate District.

**Section 5**

SEATING OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES - The permanent roll of the convention shall be constituted of the duly elected delegates and alternates of each precinct who are registered and actually present, as follows:

- A. If any eligible delegate to the convention is absent, then an alternate from that precinct shall be seated in his or her stead.
- B. If no delegates or alternates from a precinct are present, that precinct shall have no representation.
- C. When a registered delegate returns to the floor of the convention, he or she shall immediately be seated.
- D. The order of seating of alternates shall be as follows:
  - 1. If the alternate vote count or ranking from the precinct caucuses is available, alternates shall be seated in the order of vote received or order ranked.
  - 2. If this information is not available, alternates shall be seated by a majority vote of seated delegates of that precinct.
  - 3. Rules may be adopted at Conventions to account for special circumstances such as the results of redistricting.

**Section 6**

ELECTION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO THE STATE AND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT CONVENTIONS - Delegates and alternates to the State and Congressional District RPM Conventions shall be elected at Senate District conventions held in even-numbered years and shall serve a two (2) year term. The number of delegates allotted to the Senate District shall be determined by the RPM in accordance with its Constitution. Up to twice as many alternates as delegates may be elected. Elections may occur in whole or in part at sub-conventions which shall be defined in the Rules of the convention and may be by County, House District, City, Senate District quadrant, or other political or geographic division.

Alternates shall be ranked according to the number of votes received and shall be seated in the same order. Delegates and Alternates do not lose their status upon moving within the Senate District territory, but such status shall be relinquished upon permanent relocation out of the Senate District territory. If the number of Delegates plus Alternates drops below twice the number of allotted Delegates, a convention may be called by the Executive Committee to fill the vacancies.

**Section 7**

ELECTION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO THE STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE - Delegates and alternates to the RPM State Central Committee shall be elected at Senate District Conventions held in odd-numbered years and shall serve a two (2) year term. The number of delegates allotted to the Senate District shall be determined by the RPM in accordance with its Constitution. Up to three times as many alternates as the number of delegates may be elected.

Alternates shall be ranked according to the number of votes received and shall be seated in the same order. Delegates and Alternates do not lose their status upon moving into or out of the Senate District, but such status shall be relinquished upon permanent relocation out of state. If the number of Delegates plus Alternates drops below twice the number of allotted Delegates, a convention may be called by the Executive Committee to fill the vacancies.

**Section 8**

SEATING OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES AT HIGHER LEVEL CONVENTIONS - The Senate District Chair shall be responsible for maintaining order in the seating of delegates and alternates, but may assign this task to another delegate in attendance. Delegates shall be seated without delay or question, and shall be immediately re-seated upon returning to the convention floor. Alternates shall be seated in rank order as necessary to fill vacancies in the delegation, in order to achieve allotted voting strength. Alternates may be cross seated in coordination with CD3 leadership and other senate district chairs within CD3.

**Section 9**

ENDORING CONVENTIONS - Candidates for Legislative and other public offices whose constituency is wholly contained within the Senate District shall be endorsed at conventions called for that purpose.

- A. Dates of conventions: When endorsing conventions are called, they shall be held upon ten (10) days minimum notice to delegates and alternates, and not later

- than two (2) weeks before a Primary Election, and not earlier than the Precinct caucuses in the year in which the election for such office takes place.
- B. Delegates: Delegates to Endorsing Conventions shall be the delegates to the Senate District Convention that were elected at the precinct caucuses for the precincts within the area for which the convention was called.
  - C. Call for conventions:
    - a. The Senate District Executive Committee may issue the call for any special convention, including post-primary endorsing conventions for any public office within its boundaries, at such time and for such purposes as the Senate District Executive Committee may determine.
    - b. If the geographical boundaries of an office cross into other Senate Districts or Congressional Districts, the Senate District Executive Committee, in conjunction with the other Senate Districts or Congressional Districts served by that office, may request that a convention call be issued by the Congressional Chair(s) or the State Party Chair as specified in Article V of the RPM State Constitution.
  - D. An endorsement of a candidate for public office is made if that candidate receives no less than sixty percent (60%) of the votes cast by the convention providing the sixty percent (60%) vote is greater than or equal to a majority of the registered delegates and seated alternates as established by the last report of the Credentials Committee preceding such vote. Blank, spoiled or unintelligible ballots, or ballots cast for an ineligible person shall not be included in determining the sixty percent (60%) vote needed for endorsement. Voting shall be by secret ballot.
  - E. Candidates for public office who would also represent residents in adjoining senate districts may be Recommended by procedures to be established by the Full Committee.
  - F. The Full Committee may for just cause withdraw support or refuse to support any candidate Endorsed in accordance with this Constitution by a vote of seventy-five (75%) of the Full Committee. Notice shall be provided to all members of the Full Committee at least five (5) days before any meeting at which withdrawal of support for an endorsed candidate is considered.

**ARTICLE VII**

**CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE AND AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1**

Following the Senate District Convention in odd-numbered years, or following redistricting, the Senate District Chair or Deputy Chair shall appoint, subject to the approval of the Committee, a Constitution Committee to serve through the following odd-year convention.

**Section 2**

All provisions of this Constitution shall become effective immediately upon adoption by the Senate District Convention.

**Section 3**

This Constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the delegates present at any Senate District Convention, provided that any proposal for amendment shall be referred to the Constitution Committee before it shall be voted upon by the Convention.

**Section 4**

The Senate District Committee may adopt by-laws not inconsistent with this Constitution.

(Originally Adopted March 10, 2012 at Senate District 36 Convention, Edinburgh USA, Brooklyn Park MN)

(Amended February 9, 2013 at Senate District 36 Convention, Edinburgh USA, Brooklyn Park MN)

(Amended February 7, 2015 at Senate District 36 Convention, Edinburgh USA, Brooklyn Park MN)

**END**

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