



**BYLAWS AND RULES
of the
BUTLER COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE**

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**ARTICLE I
NAME**

The organization shall be named the Butler County Republican Committee (the “Committee” or “County Committee”).

**ARTICLE II
MISSION STATEMENT**

The Butler County Republican Committee demonstrates its commitment to the Republican Party through its various duties. Those duties, as outlined in the committee's bylaws, shall include:

- a. Registering voters as Republicans and encouraging them to vote.
- b. Assisting Republican voters by providing information, absentee ballot applications, and other services.
- c. Advancing Republican principles in Butler County, including finding, nominating, and electing diverse well qualified Republican candidates for office.
- d. Assisting Republican candidates who affirm the Committee’s traditional Republican values in election campaigns.

**ARTICLE III
STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES**

Section 1. Moral Principles. Our Creator has granted us incontrovertible moral principles which are the foundation of our society. It is incumbent upon us to uphold, strengthen and safeguard religious and other institutions which protect and embody these principles. Government policy which negates these principles or diminishes these institutions is inherently unsound.

Section 2. Non-Discrimination. As the party of Abraham Lincoln, we abhor discrimination based on race, sex, ethnicity, or religion.

Section 3. Immigration. As a nation of immigrants, we support responsible legal immigration of persons of all nationalities. The sovereignty of our nation must be preserved through border security.

Section 4. Freedom. Freedom is based on fundamental rights including those embodied in the Pennsylvania and U.S. Constitutions. Government is a means of securing freedom and maintaining a system of justice.

Section 5. Limitations of Government. Government, to be effective, must operate efficiently and economically, and must be restricted to essential public functions. Therefore, government must be limited, and it must recognize and encourage private individual and collective responsibility. Government must function with integrity, and must be accountable, transparent, and responsive to the people that it represents.

Section 6. Taxation and Regulation. The government power to tax and regulate, if used irresponsibly, imposes unacceptable costs upon society. The levying of taxes must be limited. Excessive taxation inhibits economic growth and prosperity and diminishes personal freedom. Regulation and mandates by government should be restricted to essential public health, welfare and safety issues.

Section 7. Free Market. A private, free market economic system is the basis of prosperity. The power of free enterprise to create jobs is the best means to eliminate poverty. The forced redistribution of wealth and the over regulation of the free enterprise system - even under the guise of law for the purpose of advancing misguided notions of social or economic justice - is destructive of the fabric of society.

Section 8. Right to Keep and Bear Arms. The right to keep and bear arms as guaranteed by our constitutions shall not be infringed. All persons have the right to be safe and secure in their homes and communities.

Section 9. Justice. Justice demands an honest and impartial application of the law. It is a perversion of justice to deny equal opportunity to any individual. A strong system of criminal justice, which metes out sure and swift punishment to those who break the law, while protecting the constitutional rights of the innocent, must not be compromised.

Section 10. Individual Responsibility. Individual rights carry with them individual responsibilities. Included is the obligation to work to provide for oneself and one's family, thereby securing freedom through economic empowerment.

Section 11. Energy Independence. Our nation's independence is to a large extent based on our energy independence. We enthusiastically support the exploration and development of our energy resources.

Section 12. Voting and Electoral System. The integrity of our electoral system is vital to ensuring the continuation of our constitutional republic. We therefore support strong security and safeguards to prevent voter fraud, including verification of citizenship in our census and voter identification at polling places.

Section 13. Social and Educational Policy. The development of social and educational policy should recognize the primacy of the family. Parents should have the freedom and ability to choose strong and appropriate educational opportunities for their children. Educational quality, including school choice, is instrumental in guaranteeing America's future. Quality in education depends on a working partnership between students, parents, educators and communities. The future of our republic is dependent on a well-educated citizenry. We therefore support and endorse the instruction of civics and government in our schools.

Section 14. Human Life. Human life, beginning at conception, has inherent dignity and value. All life must be protected.

Section 15. Conservation. The conservation of our environment and its natural resources must be protected, but not at the expense of constitutional rights of private property owners.

Section 16. Defense. American world leadership has been built upon and will continue to depend upon a willingness to defend and promote freedom. Support and recognition must be afforded to those men and women who are serving and have served in the defense of this country. A strong national defense secures the blessings of liberty to our posterity. We support the nation's war on domestic and international terrorism.

**ARTICLE IV
ELECTION OF COUNTY COMMITTEEPERSONS**

Section 1. Election Date. The Republican voters of the County of Butler shall elect one man and one woman from each precinct at each biennial election, hereinafter named as a "Committeeman" and "Committeewoman", and collectively known as "Committeepersons" or the "County Committee", with said primary election occurring in each even numbered year and at such time or times as may now or hereafter be designated by the legislature of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Section 2. Term. Each elected Committeeman and Committeewoman shall serve a term of two years or until their duly elected successor is elected or appointed.

Section 3. Qualifications. Each elected Committeeman and Committeewoman shall meet the following qualifications:

- a. Must be a registered Republican voter at the time of filing petitions for the office and must remain a registered Republican voter throughout the elected term of office.
- b. Must never use or have used the office of Committeeman and Committeewoman, executive committee office, any Republican elected office or the titles or former titles of said offices to openly campaign or endorse a non-Republican candidate during their term of office.

Section 4. Prohibitions. The provisions of the Pennsylvania Constitution which forbids certain citizens from "holding any office of public trust or profit" in the state shall apply to Committeemen and Committeewomen.

Section 5. Duties. Committeepersons shall have the following responsibilities:

- a. General control and management of their respective duties, under the advice and direction of the Executive Committee.
- b. Make vigorous efforts to have every eligible Republican properly registered and encourage him or her to vote regularly.
- c. Keep the Executive Committee advised of the political conditions and requirements of their respective precincts and to look after the party's interests at all elections.

Section 6. Appointed Committeepersons Voting Prohibition. Appointed Committeepersons will not be eligible to vote at an Executive Committee Reorganizational Meeting until they have been officially elected by the voters of their respective precincts.

**ARTICLE V
DISTRICTS**

Section 1. Establishment of Districts. The Butler County Republican Committee shall establish districts as follows:

- a. **Northwest District.** The Northwest District shall consist of the second class townships of Brady, Cherry, Clay, Muddy Creek, Mercer, Slippery Rock, and Worth; and the boroughs of Harrisville, Portersville, Slippery Rock, West Liberty, and West Sunbury.
- b. **Northeast District.** The Northeast District shall consist of the second class townships of Allegheny, Concord, Donegal, Fairview, Marion, Oakland, Parker, Venango, and Washington; and the boroughs of Bruin, Cherry Valley, Chicora, Eau Claire, Fairview, Karns City, and Petrolia.
- c. **Western District.** The Western District shall consist of the second class townships of Connoquenessing, Franklin, Forward, Jackson, and Lancaster; and the boroughs of Connoquenessing, Evans City, Harmony, Prospect, and Zelienople.
- d. **Southwestern District.** The Southwestern District shall consist of the second class townships of Adams and Cranberry; and the boroughs of Callery, Mars, Seven Fields, and Valencia.
- e. **Southeastern District.** The Southeastern District shall consist of the second class townships of Buffalo, Clinton, Clearfield, Jefferson, Middlesex, Penn, Summit, and Winfield; and the boroughs of East Butler and Saxonburg.
- f. **Central District.** The Central District shall consist of the third class city of Butler, the first class township of Butler, and the second class township of Center.

Section 2. Changes of Districts. In the event a municipality is newly established, dissolved, or merged in the County of Butler pursuant to the laws and acts of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Executive Committee shall, by majority vote, assign the new municipality to a district above; however, a municipality merging with another municipality within the same district shall not be moved from their existing districts. From time to time, in the event of significant population shifts, the Executive Committee, by majority vote, may reassign municipalities to different districts to balance representation.

ARTICLE VI OFFICERS

Section 1. Titles. The Officers of the Butler County Republican Committee shall consist of a Chair, Internal Vice Chair, External Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 2. Duties. Duties of officers shall be as follows:

- a. **Chair.** The Chair shall be the head of the Butler County Republican Committee. He or she shall preside at all meetings of the County Committee and/or Executive Committee. Additionally, the Chair shall appoint ad-hoc committees or non-voting special advisory positions as needed in his or her sole discretion, including but not limited to a County Committee Director of Communications and Website Administrator.
- b. **Internal Vice Chair.** The Internal Vice Chair shall attend Executive Committee meetings as a voting member, assist the Chair with personnel and recruitment, provide liaison and communications with the District Chairpersons, and shall provide oversight of the Communications Officer, Web Site Officer and Committee public relations. The Internal Vice Chair shall preside over Committee meetings in the absence of the Chair.

- c. **External Vice Chair.** The External Vice Chair shall attend Executive Committee meetings as a voting member and assist the Chair with organizing events and rallies in support of Republican candidates for office.
- d. **Secretary.** It shall be the duty of the Secretary elected to keep full minutes of the proceedings of the meetings of the County Committee, the Executive Committee, and other meetings as may be directed. Such minutes shall be in a permanent form and passes on to his or her successor or the County Chair at the expiration of the term of his or her office. The Secretary shall have charge of the books, rolls, and papers of the Committee and shall conduct the correspondence and perform such other duties as the Executive Committee may direct.

The Secretary shall make all records available to the Executive Committee at their request. The Secretary shall furnish a copy of the Committee Bylaws to each member of the County Committee at the member's request.

- e. **Treasurer.** The Treasurer shall be responsible for all funds of the Committee by keeping systematic records of all money received and paid out in books kept for that purpose and make all filings required by law.

At the time of a change of the office holder of Treasurer, the Chair shall appoint an Audit Committee to review financial records and accounts of the Butler County Republican Committee and shall report to the Executive Committee any findings prior to a new Treasurer assuming the office.

The Treasurer shall provide financial reports to the Executive Committee and the standing Finance Committee upon reasonable request, but not less than annually.

Section 3. Vacancies. In the case of vacancy in the office of Chair, the Internal Vice Chair shall immediately assume the position of Chair for the duration of the unexpired term. All other officer vacancies shall be filled by majority vote of the Executive Committee within thirty (30) calendar days, or by the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Executive Committee, whichever is longer.

ARTICLE VII DISTRICT CHAIRPERSONS

Section 1. Election. The Butler County Republican Committee shall elect a District Chairperson for each District identified in Article 6. The election shall take place at the time of the Reorganizational Meeting as identified under Article 8.

Section 2. Qualifications. District Chairpersons shall be a Committeeman or Committeewoman in a municipality of the district he or she is elected and shall meet all other qualifications of a Committeeman or Committeewoman during his or her term of office.

Section 3. Duties. Duties of District Chairpersons shall be as follows:

- a. Attend Executive Committee meetings as a voting member.
- b. Communicate and coordinate activities with the committee persons within his or her district.
- c. Foster interest and offer help at Republican activities within their district.

- d. Recruit qualified candidates for committee persons within their district.
- e. Recruit candidates for local offices inside or outside of their districts.
- f. Recruit and organize Poll Watchers and Poll Workers in their district.
- g. Providing mentoring for committee members.

Section 4. Term. District Chairpersons shall serve for a term of two (2) years or until their successor qualifies. District Chairpersons may succeed themselves.

Section 5. Concurrent Officer Position Prohibited. A District Chairperson shall not concurrently serve as an officer of the Butler County Republican Committee.

Section 6. Attendance. All District Chairpersons shall not be absent for more than three (3) consecutive Executive Committee or County Committee meetings. Any District Chairperson who fails to meet the attendance standard may be subject to removal and replacement by the Chair of the Committee.

Section 7. Vacancies. In the event of a vacant District Chairperson position, the replacement District Chairperson shall be selected by the Chair of the Committee within thirty (30) calendar days and shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term, or until the next reorganizational meeting, whichever is later.

ARTICLE VIII REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING, ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DISTRICT CHAIRPERSONS GENERALLY

Section 1. Convening Reorganizational Meeting. The elected members of the County Committee shall convene in Butler County at such time and place as may be designated by the Chair whose duty it shall be to call such reorganization meeting not less than ten (10) days nor more than thirty-one (31) days after the certification of the Primary Election.

Section 2. Responsibility to Call Meeting in Place of Chair. If the Chair does not seek reelection as Chair for the following term or fails to give notice to the Executive Committee within 24 hours of the certification of the primary election to call such meeting, then the responsibility to call said meeting will reside with the outgoing Executive Committee officers in the following order: Internal Vice Chair, External Vice Chair, and the Secretary.

Section 3. Appointment of Acting Chair. The outgoing Executive Committee by majority vote shall appoint a Committeeman or Committeewoman not seeking the office of Chair and whom has been duly certified as a winner in the Primary Election to serve as Acting Chair at the Reorganization Meeting for the purpose of calling the meeting and electing a new Chair. Following the election of the new Chair, the new Chair shall immediately preside over the remainder of the Reorganization Meeting and otherwise assume his or her duties as defined in these Bylaws.

Section 4. Eligibility and Membership Roster. The Secretary shall determine the eligibility of any elected member under question. The Secretary may have the right to call upon each elected member to present their Certificate of Election before said elected member's name be placed upon the Roll of Membership, providing the Committee Member is so advised when notified of the meeting.

Section 5. Write-In Incoming Committeeperson Acceptance of Position Required. All incoming Committeepersons elected by write-in shall, no less than five (5) days prior to the Reorganization Meeting, confirm acceptance of his or her office in writing to the Secretary in a manner determined by the Executive Committee. Failure of a write-in Committeeperson to confirm his or her acceptance of the position shall constitute its immediate abandonment and vacancy. In the case of abandonment, the incoming Executive Committee shall by majority vote at any regular, special, or re-organizational meeting fill such vacancies.

Section 6. Election of Officers. When the Roll of the Elected Members has been made and confirmed as to eligibility by the Secretary, the Acting Chair shall call upon the Committee for approval of its membership individually and collectively, after which they shall proceed to elect a County Chair, Internal Vice Chair, External Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. The election of these officers shall be by secret ballot. Results of each election shall be announced immediately following tabulation of ballots. Uncontested candidates for officer positions may be appointed to such offices by acclamation.

Section 7. Election of District Chairpersons. Immediately following the election of officers, caucuses shall be formed by each district as identified in Article V. One committeeperson from within each region shall be elected by majority voice vote to serve as District Chairperson for that District. Proxy votes are not permitted. The Chair shall immediately announce the winners.

Section 8. Quorum. The committee members present, either in person or by substitute proxy, and deemed eligible by the Secretary as eligible, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a Reorganizational Meeting, provided that not less than one-half of the eligible members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE IX EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. Establishment and Membership. The five (5) officers, six (6) district chairpersons, and the State Committee members representing the County of Butler shall constitute the Executive Committee.

Section 2. Regular Meetings. The Executive Committee shall meet on a monthly basis and shall be presided by the Chair. The Chair may in his or her sole discretion reschedule or cancel a monthly meeting in the event of a holiday, emergency, or other circumstance. Regular Executive Committee meetings shall be open to attendance by all Committeemen and Committeewomen. Voting shall be limited to Executive Committee members.

Section 3. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Executive Committee shall be called at the sole discretion of the Chair or by written request of any four Executive Committee members. At the sole discretion of the Chair, attendance at special meetings of the Executive Committee may be limited to Executive Committee members.

Section 4. Quorum. A quorum shall consist of six (6) members of the Executive Committee being present in order to conduct business at any meeting of the Executive Committee.

Section 5. Electronic Attendance. Attendance by telephone, which shall be used only in limited extraordinary circumstances, shall be at the sole discretion of the Chair and is acceptable if a Quorum has been reached by those physically present. The electronically connected attendee

must be able to hear and respond to the entire group. All votes shall be taken by voice vote if any one or more attendee(s) is/are participating by telephone conference.

ARTICLE X COUNTY COMMITTEE

Section 1. Special Meetings. The County Committee may be convened at the sole discretion of the Chair, by request of a majority of the Executive Committee, or by written petition of two-thirds of the currently seated County Committee members. Such special meetings shall be presided over by the Chair.

Section 2. Proxies. Any member of the County Committee unable to attend a meeting may by written proxy name a Republican voter of his or her precinct to act for him or her. The instrument or substitution shall be signed and dated by the regular member in a form and manner determined by the Executive Committee.

Section 3. Quorum. Unless otherwise specified in these bylaws, the County Committee members present, either in person or by substitute proxy, and answering roll call at any special meeting duly called, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, provided that not less than one-half of the eligible members of the County Committee shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE XI VACANCIES ON TICKET

Section 1. Vacancies on Ticket for Offices to be Elected by More than One County. In the event of a vacancy on the Republican ticket for an office to be voted by the electors of more than one county, such vacancies shall be filled in accordance with the rules of the Republican State Committee.

Section 2. Vacancies on Ticket for Offices to be Elected by Butler County. Any vacancy on the Republican ticket for an office or offices to be voted for by the electors of the entire County of Butler shall be filled by the County Committee at a special meeting, with the date, time, and location set by the Executive Committee. The County Committee shall make and certify such nominations by majority vote of those in attendance at the special meeting. All other procedures for filling said vacancy or vacancies shall be determined in accordance with the rules of the Republican State Committee, unless otherwise determined by majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Section 3. Vacancies on Ticket for Offices to be Elected by a Precinct or Precincts of Butler County. Any vacancy on the Republican ticket for the office or offices of a federal or state legislative district, municipality, school board, precinct, or other municipal-level political subdivision shall be filled by the County Committee members from said precincts or portions of said precincts or other political subdivision at a special meeting, with the date, time, and location set by the Executive Committee. The County Committee members from said precincts or other political subdivisions shall make and certify such nominations by majority vote. All other procedures for filling said vacancy or vacancies shall be determined in accordance with the rules of the Republican State Committee, unless otherwise determined by majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Section 4. Conferee Process. If the County Committee is called upon to participate in a conferee process, then the Executive Committee shall appoint County Committee members from the affected District to fill the conferee positions.

Section 5. Appointment of Nominee in Absence of Quorum. If the County Committee, or the eligible members thereof, are unable to appoint a nominee through the above established processes, the Executive Committee shall appoint a nominee through majority vote to fill such vacancy.

ARTICLE XII REMOVAL

Section 1. Written Complaint of Allegation Required. When a member of the Committee is charged with neglecting or refusing to attend to the duties of his or her office(s), or otherwise in violation of the bylaws and rules of the Committee, such allegations shall be made in writing to the Executive Committee, citing the rule(s) the Committee member is accused of violating.

Section 2. Appointment of Qualifications Board. Within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of such complaint, at a regular or special meeting, the Executive Committee shall appoint an ad-hoc qualifications board. The board shall consist of five members. Four qualified members of the County Committee who are not members of the Executive Committee shall be appointed to the qualifications board by majority vote of the Executive Committee. Additionally, one member of the qualifications board shall be a member of the Executive Committee, except if the member charged is a member of the Executive Committee, under which circumstances the fifth member shall be a County Committee member who does not serve as a member of the Executive Committee.

Section 3. Investigation by Qualifications Board. The qualifications board shall gather evidence and otherwise investigate such allegations. Investigations by the qualifications board shall last no longer than thirty (30) calendar days from its appointment, except when extended by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Section 4. Determination by Qualifications Board. Should the qualifications board deem such allegations to be substantiated and/or credible, the qualifications board shall issue a report to the Executive Committee attesting to such determination. If the qualifications board determines the allegations to be unsubstantiated and/or uncredible, they shall recommend to the Executive Committee that the matter be dismissed.

Section 5. Hearing. Upon receipt of the qualifications board's report of credible allegations against a member by the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee shall hold a hearing. The hearing shall be held within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the qualifications board's report. Scheduling of the hearing shall be determined by majority vote of the Executive Committee. Within five (5) calendar days of the hearing being scheduled and no less than twenty (20) calendar days prior to such hearing, the Executive Committee shall notify the accused member of its date and time.

Section 6. Rules of Hearing. The hearing shall be conducted by the Executive Committee and presided by the Chair; however, if the Chair is the person accused, the remaining members of the Executive Committee shall appoint a presiding officer by majority vote. The person or persons making the original allegations shall be present. An opportunity to testify and/or present evidence

shall be provided to both the person or persons making such allegations, and the person who is the subject of the allegations. Both parties shall have the right to be represented by counsel.

Section 7. Disposition. Following the hearing, if the Executive Committee finds that grounds for action exist, it may by majority vote declare the office vacant and/or suspend the Committee Member's voting privileges, censure the member, or take any other action deemed appropriate.

ARTICLE XIII CENSURE OF ELECTED OFFICIAL

The Butler County Republican Committee shall have the authority to issue a formal censure of an elected Republican official serving the County of Butler for actions deemed contrary to the values, mission statement, principles, or bylaws of the Committee. Such censure vote shall take place at a regular or special meeting dually convened for such purpose, and upon a two-thirds majority vote of the County Committee members.

ARTICLE XIV FINANCIAL AND BUDGET POLICIES

Section 1. Fiscal Oversight. The Officers shall have the general direction, supervision, and control expenditures of Committee funds.

Section 2. Establishment of Standing Finance Committee. A standing Finance Committee, whose members shall be appointed by the Chairman with advice and consent of the Executive Committee, shall develop a budget for the County Committee. On or before December 1 of each year, the Executive Committee shall approve a budget for the coming election cycle.

Section 3. Expenditures Generally. All expenditures and/or reimbursements must have the specific approval of the majority of the Executive Committee.

Section 4. Disbursement of Funds. When the Executive Committee makes payments for authorized expenditures from party funds, such payments shall be made only by check or debit card and shall have been approved by the Executive Committee as budgeted. All checks for payments greater than \$500 shall be reviewed and signed by two officers of the Committee. All debit card purchases greater than \$500 shall have explicit approval of two officers of the Committee prior to the completion of the transaction.

Section 5. Monthly Bank Statement Review. The monthly bank statement will be reviewed by an officer designated by the Chair before forwarding to the Treasurer for monthly reconciliation.

Section 6. Transfer of Line Items. In conducting the day-to-day affairs of the Butler County Republican Committee, the Executive Committee shall have the power to transfer between line items of the budget with the approval of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE XV PRIMARY ENDORSEMENT PROCEDURES

Section 1. Endorsement Meeting. Prior to the Primary Election each year, the Executive Committee shall call a meeting of the County Committee to consider the endorsement of candidates. The endorsement meeting shall be held no fewer than forty-five (45) days prior to

the primary election. The County Committee shall be notified in writing of the date, time, location, and proposed agenda of the endorsement meeting no fewer than twenty (20) calendar days prior to the meeting.

Section 2. Quorum and Eligibility to Vote. The County Committee members present, either in person or by substitute proxy, and answering roll call shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, provided that not less than one-half of the eligible members of the County Committee shall constitute a quorum. "Eligible members" for the purposes of this section shall be defined as the committeepersons residing in the district or districts a specific candidate seeks to hold office.

Section 3. Motion on Whether to Endorse.

- A. The question of whether the Butler County Republican Committee shall endorse a particular office shall be taken up at the time Chairman announces that the meeting is open to nominations for a particular office. At that time the Chairman will ask if there is a motion as to whether or not the eligible members shall endorse a candidate for each particular office. Motion to Endorse, duly seconded will then be voted upon. In order to pass, a Motion to Endorse must receive a majority (not a plurality) of the votes in person or by proxy. A vote to abstain or vote of "present" or some similar derivative is included in the total number of votes cast for the purposes of determining the majority needed to pass the Motion to Endorse. For the purposes of these rules, a "majority" is defined as fifty percent of the votes cast plus one. For the purposes of the motion on whether to endorse, all votes shall be taken by voice vote. Upon a motion from the floor, a vote may be taken by hand vote or secret ballot.
- B. If the Motion to Endorse does not pass, then there shall be no endorsement of a candidate for that particular office at that meeting.
- C. If a Motion to Endorse has passed, the Chairman will call for the endorsement of candidates in the order to be determined by the Chairman.

Section 4. Motion to Endorse a Candidate.

- A. The Chairman shall preside over the nominations, endorsements and balloting and perform the role of Judge of Elections as well.
- B. Balloting for each office immediately will follow the close of the nominations from the floor for each office. The nominations and balloting for each office will be completed before nominations for the next office begin.
- C. Nominating speeches will be allotted a total of one minute for each candidate. Seconding speeches will be allotted a total of one minute. A candidate may speak in support of his or her own endorsement for three minutes. There must be a nomination and a second for a candidate to be considered for endorsement.
- D. The matter of endorsement of candidates will be called for a vote. The vote shall be taken by secret ballot.

- (1) In the case of offices which represent less than the entire county, only the committee members of the district which said office will represent shall be entitled to vote on such endorsement.
 - (2) In the case of offices which will represent the entire county, all committee members shall be entitled to vote on such endorsement.
 - (3) In the case of offices where more than one seat is vacant or if multiple winners are declared in the primary election, such as County Commissioner, the committee may endorse more than one candidate up to the maximum number of vacant seats and/or winners declared in the primary election.
- E. Any candidate who receives, on the first ballot, sixty percent (60%) of the votes of the eligible members, certified to be present in person or proxy and entitled to vote on such nomination, will be declared to be the endorsed candidate.
- F. In the event that no candidate receives sixty percent (60%) of the certified votes on the first ballot, the following procedure shall be followed:
- (1) Second Ballot – Any candidate receiving at least fifteen percent (15%) of the certified votes in the first ballot, shall be voted upon in the second ballot, and any candidate receiving sixty percent (60%) of the certified votes on the second ballot, shall be declared to be the endorsed candidate.
 - (2) Third Ballot – If no candidate receives sixty percent (60%) of the certified votes in the Second Ballot, the Third Ballot shall be taken. Only the two (2) candidates for each position receiving the highest number of votes on the Second Ballot, shall be considered on the Third Ballot.
 - (3) Any candidate receiving sixty (60%) percent of the certified votes on the Third Ballot, shall be declared to be the endorsed candidate. If neither candidate on the Third Ballot received sixty percent (60%) of the certified votes, no further ballots will be taken for an endorsement. Upon a motion from the floor, the eligible members may consider “recommending” both candidates with a simple majority vote. Such motion to “recommend” shall be taken by voice vote with no reconsideration.

ARTICLE XVI AMENDMENTS

The foregoing rules may be amended by a simple majority vote at any regular or special meeting of the Butler County Republican Committee provided that not less than fifteen (15) days written notice of said meeting shall be given to each member by postal mail. All proposed amendments must be presented to the Executive Committee by an elected Committeeperson of the Butler County Republican Committee.

ARTICLE XVII PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the eleventh (11th) edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern the Butler County Republican Committee in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the bylaws and rules of the Butler County Republican Committee.

**ARTICLE XVIII
TIME TO TAKE EFFECT AND ACTIONS TO BE
IMMEDIATELY TAKEN AS A RESULT OF ADOPTION**

The bylaws and rules of the Butler County Republican Committee as amended shall take effect immediately upon their adoption by the County Committee. Upon the adoption of these bylaws, the individuals serving as the executive committee under the prior bylaws will continue to serve in those same offices until the end of their current term of office.

**ARTICLE XIX
REPEALER**

All bylaws, rules, and resolutions heretofore made regulating or purporting to regulate or govern the Butler County Republican Committee are hereby repealed.