

**PLAN OF ORGANIZATION  
OF THE  
REPUBLICAN PARTY OF ROCKINGHAM COUNTY**

**ARTICLE I  
Participation in Party Actions**

SECTION A. Qualifications

1. All legal and qualified voters, regardless of race, religion, color, national origin, or sex, under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, who are residents of Rockingham County, and are in accord with the principles of the Republican Party and who, if requested, express in open meeting either orally or in writing as may be required, their intent to support all of its nominees for public office in the ensuing election, may participate as members of the Republican Party of Rockingham County in its Mass Meetings, Party Canvasses, Conventions, or Primaries encompassing their respective Election Districts.
2. A person who has made application for registration and who meets all other requirements of Section A, but whose name does not appear on the local registration books solely because the books have been closed in connection with a local election, will nevertheless be deemed a legal and qualified voter.
3. Upon request, either nominees for or sitting members of the County Committee, may be asked to provide proof of residency in Rockingham County.

SECTION B. Participation

All Chairmen and members of Official Committees, delegates to Conventions, and voters in Mass Meetings or Party Canvasses provided for in this Plan of Organization shall be members of the Republican Party of Rockingham County as stated in this Article and must be legally qualified voters of the respective Election Districts which they represent as Chairmen, members, delegates or voters.

**ARTICLE II  
Definitions**

The following definitions apply wherever used:

- A. "State Party" or "Party" means Republican Party of Virginia.
- B. "State Party Plan" means Plan of Organization of the Republican Party of Virginia.
- C. "State Central Committee" means State Central Committee of the Republican Party of Rockingham County.
- D. "County Committee" means County Committee for the Republican Party of Rockingham County.
- E. "Biennial District Convention" means the District Convention held in Congressional election years and is the same as the Quadrennial District Convention in Presidential election years.

- F. "Chairman," "Chairmen," "He," and "his" shall not be construed to denote gender.
- G. "Mass Meeting" is as defined in Robert's Rules of Order newly revised (latest edition) subject to the provisions of the State Party Plan.
- H. "Party Canvass" is a method of election Chairmen and members of the Official Committees, Delegates to Conventions, or Party Nominees which shall include profiling of candidacies, then secret balloting by Party members at convenient polling places and hours after proper notice.
- I. "Convention" is as defined in Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (latest edition) subject to the provisions of the State Party Plan.
- J. "Primary" is as defined in and subject to the State Election Laws.
- K. "Election District" means Magisterial District of the County.
- L. "Good Standing" means requirements have been met regarding payment of dues and good attendance as prescribed by these bylaws.

**ARTICLE III**  
**Powers and Duties**

All the powers and duties of the County Committee are derived from the "Plan of Organization of the Republican Party of Virginia." No action of the County Committee, nor the provisions of the Plan of Organization of Rockingham County, shall conflict with the State Party Plan or any amendments thereto, and in such case the Plan of Organization of the Republican Party of Virginia shall prevail.

**ARTICLE IV**  
**Purpose**

The purpose of the County Committee is to promote and promulgate the principles of the Republican Party, to elect Republican candidates to public office, to generally assist the citizens composing the districts served by the County Committee, and to assist elected Republican officials in the execution of their responsibilities.

**ARTICLE V**  
**Membership**

- A. Membership on the County Committee shall require the payment of annual dues payable on or before the 28<sup>th</sup> day of February each year unless another date is specified in a call to the membership. The amount of such dues will be established by the County Committee at its fourth calendar quarter meeting. Annual dues for those presenting a current student identification shall be \$5.00. Members of the County Committee automatically lose their County Committee positions and membership if they fail to pay their dues by the deadline. Exceptions to the deadline may be allowed by a majority vote of the Executive Committee up to the date of the next regular committee meeting.
- B. The membership of the County Committee shall consist of the following:
  - 1. County Chairman

2. Precinct Membership: The number for each precinct shall be determined quadrennially by the County Committee on the basis of one member for each 100 votes or major portion thereof cast for the Republican candidate for Governor in the most recent election, but not less than one member from each precinct.
3. At-large membership: Additional at-large memberships may be created which shall not exceed in number 30 percent of the authorized number of members of the County Committee.
4. Elected Public Officials: All publicly elected Republican officials representing Rockingham County shall be additional members, ex officio, of the County Committee, but shall have no vote unless they have been elected to the County Committee under precinct or member-at-large.
5. Only elected members of the County Committee in good standing will be allowed to vote at County Committee meetings. No person shall have more than one vote at any County Committee meeting.

### C. Election and Terms

1. The County Chairman shall be elected by the Mass Meeting, Party Canvass, Convention, or Primary called for the purpose of electing delegates to the Biennial District Convention with said election to be held on a date set by the County Committee. The County Chairman's term shall be for two years, unless sooner removed, through resignation or otherwise.
2. All precinct members and members-at-large of the County Committee shall be elected at the Mass Meeting, Party Canvass, Convention, or Primary called for the purpose of electing delegates to the Biennial District Convention with said election to be held on a date set by the County Committee. The term of those members shall be for two year or until their successors are elected, unless sooner removed through resignation or otherwise.
3. Election District Chairmen shall be elected by the precinct members of each respective district. This may be done at the Mass Meeting, Party Canvass, Convention, or Primary called for the purpose of electing delegates to the Biennial District Convention with said election to be held on a date set by the County Committee. Each District may elect to hold a meeting separate from the Mass Meeting, Party Canvass, Convention or Primary for the purpose of electing the Election District Chairman.
4. There shall be First Vice Chairman, Second Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer elected at the regularly called County Committee meeting next following the Mass Meeting, Party Canvass, Convention or Primary at which the County Chairman was elected, to serve at the pleasure of the County Committee. When applicable there shall be a Vice-Chairman elected from each Congressional District.
  - a. The County Chairman shall serve as the Rockingham County representative on the Congressional or Legislative District Committee encompassing his residence. The Vice-Chairman elected from the other Congressional District shall serve as the Rockingham County

representative on that Congressional District Committee with the authority and vote of a County Chairman.

- b. The County Chairman shall designate a person residing in each of the Legislative District Committees of Rockingham County, to serve at the pleasure of the Chairman, as the Rockingham County representative on the respective Legislative District Committee with the authority and vote of the County Chairman.
  - c. The County Chairman may appoint Legal Counsel and/or Parliamentarian who shall serve at the pleasure of the County Chairman.
5. The County Chairman or any other member of the County Committee may be removed from office by the vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the County Committee members, present and voting, after being furnished with notice that such removal will be sought, with the charges, in writing, signed by not less than one-third (1/3) of the members of the County Committee; and allowing him thirty (30) days within which to appear and defend himself.

#### D. Vacancies

1. A vacancy in the office of County Chairman shall be filled by the County Committee for the remaining unexpired portion of the term.
2. Vacancies in the offices of Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer shall be filled by the County Committee.
3. Vacancies in precinct and at-large memberships shall be filled by the County Committee. Nominees to fill vacancies shall present themselves for election at a quarterly meeting of the County Committee and will be voted on at the end of the same meeting. Voting rights for a new member will take effect at the second monthly County Committee meeting following their election as a member of the County Committee. Annual dues are payable by a new member filling a vacancy at the time of their election.
4. Vacancies in Election District Chairmen shall be filled by the precinct members of that district.
5. Vacancies shall be filled after notice of such intent has been included in the call of the meeting.

#### E. Absences

1. No member of the County Committee may vote the proxy of another member.
2. The proxy holder must be a member of the Republican Party of Rockingham County in the case of an absent at-large member, and in the case of an absent precinct member the proxy holder must likewise reside in that precinct.
3. A proxy holder may not cast votes for more than one County Committee member at any meeting.
4. All proxies shall be in writing, shall be signed by the maker of the proxy and shall be substantially in the form as set out in the State Party Plan.

**ARTICLE VI**  
**Responsibilities**

A. County Committee

1. The County Committee shall determine whether candidates for local and constitutional public offices shall be nominated by Mass Meeting, Party Canvass, Convention, or Primary and whether County Chairman and County Committee members shall be elected by Mass Meeting, Party Canvass, Convention or Primary.
2. It shall call all regular Mass Meetings, Party Canvasses, and Conventions and such special Mass Meetings, Party Canvasses, or Conventions as it deems necessary and make arrangements therefore, including the time and place and, if a Convention, the basis of representation.
3. It shall cooperate with the State Central Committee, its District Committee, and the Legislative District Committee within its boundaries in conducting all elections and fund raising activities.

B. County Chairman and Vice Chairman

1. The County Chairman shall be Chairman of the County Committee and an ex officio member of all other committees established under the County Committee.
2. He shall issue calls for County Mass Meetings, Party Canvasses, or Conventions and shall preside until a temporary organization is effected.
3. The regular meetings of the County Committee shall be held monthly and shall be convened by the County Chairman. He shall also call special meetings of the County Committee when the needs of the Party so require and he shall preside at all meetings of the County Committee. The Chairman shall be responsible for seeing that written notices of the call for County Committee meetings are sent to all members of the County Committee, and included in the call shall be the agenda for the meeting. In the absence of the County Chairman the Vice Chairman is authorized to call and convene meetings of the County Committee.

C. Secretary

The Secretary shall keep the minutes and other official records of the County Committee, shall keep attendance records, and shall assist the Chairman with official correspondence and the filing of documents.

D. Treasurer

The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all funds, shall submit a written report of financial transactions and condition at each County Committee, shall file all required financial reports, and shall issue notice of assessments to members.

E. Election District Chairman

Election District Chairman shall provide organizational assistance to the County Committee within their jurisdictions and perform other services as requested by the County Committee or County Chairman. Election District Chairs shall be responsible for appointing Precinct Captains from the elected members for each respective precinct in their districts.

**ARTICLE VII**  
**Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee shall consist of the County Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and Election District Chairmen, and the Chairman of the Finance Committee. Two at-large members may be appointed to the Executive Committee at the discretion of the County Committee.

The Executive Committee shall act for and have the general power to administer the affairs of the County Committee between meetings provided that all of its actions shall be in conformity with the policies, programs and instructions of the County Committee. It shall report its actions at the next County Committee meeting.

**ARTICLE VIII**  
**Other Committees**

The County Committee may establish any such committees within its structure of organization to carry out its responsibilities. Membership on such additionally established committees may include members who are not members of the County Committee. The County Committee may authorize the County Chairman to appoint such other committees, and such additional committees shall be instructed in their responsibilities by the County Chairman. The County Chairman shall be an ex officio member of all other committees established under the County Committee.

**ARTICLE IX**  
**Quorum**

The business of the committee will be carried out by the members of the committee present and in good standing.

**ARTICLE X**  
**Financial**

- A. The County Committee shall operate on a “pay as you go” basis and shall not incur debts which would result in a deficit.
- B. The fiscal year shall be January 1-December 31. The County Committee operating budget shall be presented at the fourth quarter County Committee meeting.

- C. All funds shall be maintained in a checking account with the Treasurer or the Chairman authorized to sign checks.
- D. Funds raised by the County Committee for election campaigns or other non-operating purposes shall also be handled by the Treasurer in accordance with applicable law.
- E. The Treasurer shall be authorized to disburse operating funds as adopted by the budget or in accordance with the following guidelines:
  - 1. At his discretion for sums up to \$100.00 per calendar quarter for postage, stationary and similar items.
  - 2. By County Committee authorization for expenditures not authorized in the County Committee operating budget.
  - 3. By Executive Committee for expenditures required to carry out County Committee responsibilities and policies.
- F. The Treasurer's books and records shall be audited for each fiscal year. The auditor shall be designated by the Chairman subject to confirmation by the County Committee, and such audit is to be certified to the County Committee with a copy to the Treasurer.

**ARTICLE XI**  
**Parliamentary Authority and Procedure**

The State Party Plan, The County Committee's Plan of Organization and Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (latest edition) shall govern all proceedings conducted by the County Committee.

**ARTICLE XII**  
**Amendments**

The Plan of Organization of the Republican Party of Rockingham County may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those members of the County Committee who are present and voting at any duly called meeting provided notice of the character of the amendment has been given in writing to all members at least seven days prior to such meeting.

**ARTICLE XIII**  
**When Effective**

The Plan of Organization of the Republican Party of Rockingham County, to be known as the 2013 Rockingham County Plan, shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED JANUARY 30, 2013  
AMENDED JULY 16, 2014  
AMENDED APRIL 20, 2016