

Proposed Salt Lake County Republican Party 2010 Nominating Convention Rules

Section 1 PURPOSE

- 1.1** To determine Nominees for the General Election, wherever possible.
- 1.2** Delegates may also transact other business properly brought before the body.

Section 2 DELEGATES QUALIFICATIONS & CREDENTIALS

- 2.1** Delegates to the Salt Lake County Nominating Convention may be credentialed upon one of three criteria:
 - a.** Election at the Precinct Caucuses (Tuesday, March 23, 2010).
 - b.** Appointment to fill a vacancy created when an elected delegate has died, resigned, moved primary residence from the precinct, is unable to serve, or has been removed for violation of Party purposes. Vacancies shall be filled by appointment of the Precinct Chair or acting Precinct Chair in writing, and filed with the Party no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the Convention (5:00 pm, Saturday, April 10 2010).
 - c.** County Party Officers, Executive Committee Members, and Republican Elected Government Officials shall have automatic delegate status to the County and State Conventions occurring during their term of office if they so desire, subject to the State Party's governing rules.
- 2.2** Allocated County Delegate positions not filled at the Precinct Caucus remain unfilled.
- 2.3** Challenges to a delegate's status shall be filed in writing with the Credentials Committee no later than 5:00 pm, seven (7) calendar days prior to the Convention (5:00pm Saturday, April 17, 2010). Delegates shall retain the right to challenge a delegate's status from the floor.
- 2.4** Each delegate shall be a registered Republican prior to being credentialed at the Convention.
- 2.5** Delegates with verification or registration issues shall report to the Special Registration Desk.
- 2.6** Official Convention delegate credentials must be visibly worn by all delegates during Convention sessions.
- 2.7** Only credentialed delegates may be seated and vote at the Convention. Non-delegates may be asked to sit in guest areas defined by and provided at the discretion of the Chair. The aisles must remain clear.
- 2.8** Convention Committee members shall have floor access and speaking rights.

Section 3 CONVENTION OFFICERS

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|----------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|------------------|
| 3.1 Chair | Thomas Wright | 3.6 Credentials Chair | Rick Votaw |
| 3.2 Vice-Chair | Rick Votaw | 3.7 Elections Chair | Christy Achziger |
| 3.3 Secretary | Kurtis Constantine | 3.8 Rules Chair | Lyle Decker |
| 3.4 Treasurer | Corie Chan | 3.9 Timekeeper | Julie Holbrook |
| 3.5 Parliamentarian | Carrie Dickson | 3.10 Sergeant-at-Arms | Beau Babka |

Section 4 RULES OF ORDER

- 4.1** These Convention Rules shall govern if any of these rules conflict with Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (RRONR). RRONR shall govern the Convention in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the County Party Bylaws.
- 4.2** All persons attending the Convention shall observe proper conduct and the directions of the Chair and Sergeant-at-Arms.
- 4.3** No campaigning, distributing materials or other interference is allowed within ten (10) feet of the Registration Tables.
- 4.4** All Convention motions of any length shall be in writing and a copy of the motion shall be given to the Convention Chair prior to debate upon the motion.
- 4.5** The Party shall not give any candidate, organization or issue exclusive information, rights or privileges to promote their campaign, organization or issue to the exclusion of any other competing candidate, organization or issue prior to or during the Convention.
- 4.6** No video or other electronic recording shall be made without the consent of Party Leadership or Convention Media Coordinator.
- 4.7** Changing any wording in the rules does not affect the remaining sections or subsections.

Chair

- 4.8** The Chair is responsible to maintain the course and objectives of the Convention and to decide all questions of order or interpretation of Convention rules, subject to appeal by a majority.

Credentialed Delegates

- 4.9** Only Credentialed delegates may speak to the business of the Convention. The Chair has discretion to recognize anyone to address the Convention.
- 4.10** Any delegates wishing to speak upon the Convention floor shall rise and address the Chair, and if recognized, state his name and voting precinct.
- 4.11** No delegate shall speak more than twice upon any motion. The proponent of a motion shall open and close the debate.
- 4.12** No delegate shall speak for more than two (2) minutes at a time, unless given additional time by the body. The maker of the motion shall be allowed one (1) minute to summarize and close the debate before the vote on the motion is taken.
- 4.13** There will be no absentee or proxy voting.

Section 5 ORDER OF BUSINESS

- 5.1** The Convention shall consider as the first order of business the Credentials Committee report, then the Rules Committee report, and then the proposed agenda. The Convention reports may be amended before their adoption by a simple majority of those voting. After debate and amendment, if any, a single vote will be taken on the body of each report.
- 5.2** The order of business shall follow the agenda adopted by the delegates. Following its adoption, a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those delegates voting is required to amend the Convention agenda.

Section 6 QUORUM

- 6.1** The number of delegates in attendance at the scheduled start of the Convention shall constitute a quorum until a credentials report is accepted.
- 6.2** The number of delegates in attendance throughout the Convention shall constitute a quorum provided that number is not less than 50% plus one of the current accepted credentials report.
- 6.3** The final credentials report announced and accepted before elections shall be binding for the remainder of the Convention.
- 6.4** Candidate elections are not subject to quorum requirements.

Section 7 CONVENTION VOTING

- 7.1** Except for elections, all voting shall be conducted by raised credential. There shall be no voice voting.
- 7.2** When it is clear that there has been a full vote and there can be no reasonable doubt as to which side is in the majority, the Chair may choose not to recognize a call for Standing Count or Division.
- 7.3** A standing count of the delegates shall be taken only upon a call for a Standing Count, supported by at least fifty (50) delegates.

Section 8 ELECTIONS & BALLOTING

General

- 8.1** Candidates' Ballot and Speaking Order shall be determined by random drawing of the alphabet.
- a.** The drawing will be conducted at the last Executive Committee meeting before Convention (Thursday, April 15, 2010).
 - b.** Candidates may be nominated or endorsed by individuals other than delegates. Nominating speeches are not required.
 - c.** Any unopposed candidates shall be announced to the Convention.
- 8.2** Candidates may have their campaign literature distributed to their delegates within their respective venues prior and up to the time that the first candidate in their race's venue begins to speak.

Election Committee Chair

- 8.3** The Elections Committee Chair shall be responsible for the security of the ballots, the accuracy of the count, and directing the access and conduct of all persons within the ballot counting area.

Poll Watchers

- 8.4** Each candidate shall be allowed one (1) poll watcher for each counting station plus one (1) additional poll watcher in the ballot counting area.
- 8.5** Candidates shall identify their designated poll watchers to the Elections Committee Chair, who shall in turn issue official credentials allowing them access to observe the proceedings of the ballot counting area.

Balloting

- 8.6** The person manning each ballot box will expose the inside of the ballot box to reveal its contents immediately prior to the casting of the first ballot.
- 8.7** Polls will open and stay open until officially closed by the Convention Chair or respective Caucus Facilitator.
- 8.8** Voting shall be by official ballot only.
- 8.9** Delegates may vote for no more than one candidate in each Nomination Race.
- 8.10** Ballots: (a) containing more than one (1) vote per Nomination Race; (b) that are not clearly marked; (c) with a vote for any person who was not properly nominated; or d) for a candidate who has withdrawn or been eliminated from the race will be considered spoiled and will not be counted for that race, either for a candidate or in the calculation of a majority threshold.
- 8.11** Spoiled ballots may be exchanged prior to deposit in the ballot box upon showing of proper credentials and the surrendering of the spoiled ballot at the "Spoiled Ballot Area" where the spoiled ballot shall be exchanged and immediately destroyed in the presence of the requesting voter.
- 8.12** Only County Delegates, upon presentation of proper credentials, will be allowed to deposit their own ballots in the designated ballot boxes.
- 8.13** Ballot counting shall not commence for Nomination Races until after polls have been closed for at least five (5) minutes for County Wide races; three (3) minutes for Regional Races; one (1) minute for Senate/Legislative Races.
- 8.14** Challenges to balloting must be made to the Convention Chair, Caucus Facilitator or Designee before the time expires.

Counting

- 8.15** Official tally sheets shall be used to record each counted vote, and will be kept with the supporting ballots. These materials shall be maintained by the Party Officers in a secure location for at least five (5) business days following the Convention (until 5:00pm, Friday April 30, 2010).
- 8.16** Any challenges to the counting process must be made to the Elections Committee Chair or Designee before the election results of that race are announced.

Results

- 8.17** Candidates must receive 60% or more of the vote to be the Party's Nominee.
- a.** Otherwise, if more than two (2) candidates are in the race, each round of balloting shall be used to reduce the number of candidates to no less than two (2) from those receiving the highest percentage of the votes that, when combined, represent a majority of votes.
- b.** This process shall continue until a runoff between two (2) candidates.
- c.** If neither candidate reaches the 60% threshold, the two (2) remaining candidates advance to a primary.
- d.** In the event of a tie to determine which candidate advances to a succeeding round of balloting, the candidates shall come before the delegates voting in that race for a coin toss. The candidate lowest on the ballot shall call heads or tails while the coin is in the air. The winner advances to the next round of balloting.
- 8.18** Any candidate requesting a recount or challenging an election must file a request in writing to the Elections Committee Chair by 5:00pm two (2) business days following the Convention. (5:00pm Tuesday April 27, 2010).
- 8.19** Recounts and challenges may only be brought if they might legitimately affect the outcome of the election.
- 8.20** If a coin toss was used to determine the winner, no challenge or recount will be accepted.

Section 9 COUNTY WIDE ELECTIONS

- 9.1** Each candidate for county wide office shall be allowed a total of five (5) minutes in which to address the Convention. The time may include, but is not limited to, nominating, seconding and candidate speeches.

Section 10 CAUCUS ELECTIONS

- 10.1** A list of procedures to be followed in caucus nominations and elections shall be given to each caucus facilitator in advance.

- 10.2** Senate and Legislative District Chairs will conduct their respective Senate and Legislative District caucus meetings. County Council District caucuses will be conducted by a Region Chair appointed by the Party Leadership. If the chair is unable to conduct the caucus, Party Executive Leadership or the Elections Committee shall appoint an alternate to conduct the caucus meeting.
- 10.3** No person shall conduct the caucus in which he or she is a candidate.
- 10.4** The Caucus Facilitator shall provide a timekeeper and one or more ballot persons for their caucus.
- 10.5** Each candidate shall receive three (3) minutes for nominating speeches. A candidate is not required to be nominated by another person. Voting in each respective caucus race shall not occur until all candidates in that caucus have received reasonably equal time to speak and answer questions from their respective delegates.
- 10.6** In Multiple Round Elections, prior to casting the next round of ballots, surviving candidates, or those they designate, shall be allowed one (1) minute for an additional delegate presentation.

State Delegate Elections

- 10.7** If any precinct at the Party's precinct caucuses (Tuesday, March 23, 2010) fails to elect any of its allocated State Convention Delegates, those unfilled delegate positions may only be filled by means of election at the Legislative Caucus of the County Nominating Convention.
- 10.8** Candidates for those unfilled State Delegate positions must reside within the same Congressional District, State Senate District, and State House District as the precinct with the unfilled seats, but not necessarily within the same precinct. Candidate's eligibility shall be verified prior to voting by the Caucus Facilitator.

Section 11 RESOLUTIONS

- 11.1** Only delegates shall sponsor resolutions.
- 11.2** Resolution sponsors wanting to be included on the official Convention Agenda must deliver copies of the resolution for all delegates no later than 5:00pm eight (8) calendar days prior to the Convention (Friday, April 16, 2010). All resolutions meeting the deadline shall be included on the official Convention Agenda, handed out at the registration and posted on the County Party website no later than seven (7) calendar days prior to the Convention (Saturday, April 17, 2010).
- 11.3** Resolutions shall be no more than 100 words, printed on one side of the sheet. The "whereas" argument may occupy the remaining area of the paper, front and/or back side.
- 11.4** Amendments to resolutions shall not be considered.
- 11.5** Consideration of all resolutions shall be limited to a total of one (1) hour. Any resolution not voted up or down at the end of one (1) hour will not be given further considered, unless time is extended by a majority vote.

Section 12 PHYSICAL ARRANGEMENTS

- 12.1** The Convention shall follow the Hosting Facility's Policies and Procedures and Arrangement Committee's requirements.
- 12.2** Candidates, organizations and individuals using the Convention for distribution, campaigning, or any other promotion or reporting use shall be responsible to research and comply with the Hosting Facility's Policies and Procedures and the Arrangement Committee's requirements.
- 12.3** All literature to be distributed shall contain the name(s) and/or contact information of those responsible for the literature.
- 12.4** Candidates and organizations shall be assigned booth space by the Arrangement Committee. The Committee shall give reasonable advance notice to candidates regarding the method, location and time in which booth assignments will take place. Booth spaces for county wide candidates will be given priority.
- 12.5** Those desiring a booth may send a representative in their place with all materials, documents, finances and authorizations required to participate in assignments on their behalf.
- 12.6** A representative from the Salt Lake County Republican Party Convention Staff will be present to assist with questions about adherence to the rules of the Arrangement Committee and facility.
- 12.7** Candidates and organizations will have access to the Convention hall on Friday, April 23, 2010 from 1pm to 6pm. The time may be extended for unforeseen circumstances at the discretion of the ranking Convention Official in the hall at the scheduled time of ending access.
- 12.8** Materials may not be pre-distributed on the chairs.