

Bylaws

Because Johnson County Democrats subscribe to and follow the Wyoming Democratic Party bylaws, we share, here, the portions that directly inform our collective action.

ARTICLE V – THE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Section 1 – Composition, Elections, Residency Requirements, Vacancies.

- A. The County Central Committee of the Democratic Party consists of precinct committeemen and committeewomen elected in the county at the regular biennial primary election or elected or appointed to fill vacancies under Article V, Section 1C. Each precinct shall elect one committeeman and one committeewoman for each 250 votes, or major fraction thereof, cast for the Democratic candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives in the last general election, but provided that no precinct shall be entitled to less than one precinct committeeman and one committeewoman. Precinct committeemen and committeewomen shall be Democrats registered and residing in that precinct. If a precinct boundary line is changed for any reason, the County Commissioners shall determine the number of precinct committeemen and precinct committeewomen to which the affected precinct is entitled.
- B. A tie vote for precinct committeeman or precinct committeewoman shall be broken by lots cast by the County Canvassing Board.
- C. Should a precinct committeeman or committeewoman vacancy in the County Central Committee occur should there be a failure to elect a precinct committeeman or committeewoman in the primary election, the County Central Committee shall elect a Democrat registered and residing in the precinct to fill the vacancy. The County

Chair, with the approval of the County Central Committee, may appoint a Democrat registered and residing in the precinct to fill the vacancy. Notice of appointments shall be reported to the County Clerk within ten days.

- D. For voting purposes, any voting members of the County Central Committee must be appointed or elected at the previous meeting.

Section 2 – Meetings, Notices, Publications.

- A. The County Central Committee shall meet and organize, under the direction of the County Chair, at the time and place determined by the County Chair and shall also publish a notice of all meetings of the County Central Committee in a newspaper of general county circulation not less than two days prior to a meeting. The County Chair shall notify all members not less than five (5) days prior to the meeting. Special meetings may be held on call of the County Chair or by written notice of 25% of the duly elected or appointed County Central Committee members. The County Chair shall make every attempt to notify all members of the County Central Committee of any special meeting.

Section 3 – Organization, Election of Officers.

- A. The County Central Committee shall meet at the county seat during the month of March of each odd-numbered year at a time and place determined by the County Chair. The County Chair shall mail notice of the meeting to the County Clerk not less than ten days before this meeting. At the meeting the County Central Committee shall elect the Chair, the Vice Chair, the Treasurer, the Secretary, the State Committeeman and State Committeewoman of the County Central Committee. The Vice Chair shall be of the

gender opposite of that of the County Chair, unless no one of the opposite gender is willing to serve as Vice Chair, in which case the county may elect a Vice Chair of the same gender as that of the County Chair. These officers need not be a member of the County Central Committee, but each must be a qualified Democratic voter of and reside in the county. They shall serve for a term of two years or until successors are elected and qualified. The county chair and the state committeeman and committeewoman shall not serve as voting members of the county central committee unless they are also precinct committeemen or committeewomen. No voting member of the County Central Committee shall have more than one vote.

Section 4 – Proxies.

- A. Members of the County Central Committee may deputize, by signed proxy, substitutes to act for them at any meeting, but such substitutes must be registered Democrats residing in the precinct which their principals represent. Any member of the County Central Committee may vote his own and one additional proxy from the same precinct. A proxy holder who is not a member shall have only one vote and shall not be entitled to vote other proxies.

Section 5 – Powers and Duties.

- A. The County Central Committee shall perform all duties and functions required by law and these bylaws. It shall have the governing power of the Democratic Party in its county, in accordance with these bylaws.

Section 6 – Officers.

- A. The County Chair shall perform the duties and functions as required by law and these bylaws. The Chair shall:
1. have all the general powers of supervision and management usually vested in the office of Chair, not inconsistent with these bylaws;
 2. be the executive officer of the county party, shall preside at all meetings of the County Central Committee, and shall ensure that all orders of such committee are carried into effect;
 3. conduct all county campaigns, subject to the approval of the County Central Committee;
 4. be the custodian of the funds of the County Central Committee, shall keep a record of all funds received and disbursed, and report the same to the County Central Committee when requested to do so.
 - a. Funds of the County Central Committee shall be spent only on the specific and personal Authorization of the County Chair.
 - b. The Chair may sign checks of the Central Committee. No authorization shall be given for deficiency spending.
- B. The County Vice Chair shall be of a gender opposite the Chair. The Vice Chair shall perform the duties and exercise the powers of the County Chair during any absence or disability. The Vice Chair shall perform such other duties as requested by the County Chair.
- C. The County Treasurer shall perform the duties and functions as required by law and these bylaws. The Treasurer shall:
1. assist the County Chair in duties relative to fundraising and the custody, reporting, record keeping, and expenditure of the money of the committee as requested by the County Chair;
 2. be required to furnish bond, at the discretion of the County Chair;

3. sign checks for the committee.
- D. The County Secretary shall perform the duties and functions as required by law and these bylaws. The Secretary shall:
1. keep the minutes of all meetings of the County Central Committee and of all subcommittees of which the Secretary is a member;
 2. furnish copies of minutes of all such meetings to members of the respective committee and subcommittees upon request within thirty (30) days after each meeting;
 3. perform such other duties as requested by the County Chair.
- E. In the event of a vacancy in the office of County Chair, the County Vice Chair shall become the County Chair for the balance of the term.
- F. Vacancies among other County Party offices shall be filled by election at the meeting of the County Central Committee held after the vacancy.

Section 7 – Subcommittees.

- A. Subcommittees may be appointed by the County Chair to assist in the Chair's duties as necessary. Such subcommittees shall meet at the Chair's call.

Section 8 – Clubs.

- A. The County Central Committee may authorize and establish as many Democratic Clubs as deemed necessary in the respective county. Such clubs may promulgate and operate under their own rules and regulations, but such rules and regulations must be consistent with these bylaws.

ARTICLE VI – THE COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CONVENTIONS

Section 1 – Composition.

- A. The County Convention in each county shall be composed of persons residing in the county and registered as Democrats within the county at least four days prior to the convention and present at the County Convention. Each person shall have one vote on each issue provided that on votes for delegates to the Democratic State Convention in presidential years, the votes shall be determined in accordance with the Delegate Selection Plan approved by the State Central Committee and the Democratic National Committee. On votes for delegates to the State Convention in non-presidential years, each person may vote for as many nominees as there are delegates to be elected.

Section 2 – Meetings.

- A. All regular County Conventions shall be held at the county seat of the county during even numbered years on the date and hour fixed by the County Central Committee in accordance with any directive of the State Central Committee. Special County Conventions may be called by the County Chair when it appears there is a necessity for a special convention. The duties that the convention is to perform shall be designated in the call. The order of business at the County Convention is as follows:
1. Call to order by the County Chair.
 2. Report of the Credentials and Ballots Committee regarding credentials and qualifications of the delegates.
 3. Presidential preference vote during Presidential election years.
 4. Election of delegates to the State Convention.
 5. Report of the Resolutions and Platform Committee and adoption of a County Platform.

6. Other Business.

7. Adjournment. Introductions, addresses, and other activities may be interspersed in the order of business at the discretion of the County Chair and the Convention Chair.

Section 3 – Call.

A. No later than twenty (20) days before the date of the County Convention of each even numbered year, the County Chair shall file with the State Chair a call for the County Convention in the county stating the time and place of such convention. The Chair shall give notice pursuant to Article VIII, Section 2, of these bylaws.

Section 4 – Powers and Duties.

A. Each County Convention may adopt a County Party platform and resolutions, select delegates and alternates to the State Convention, and perform other duties and functions as required by law and these bylaws.

Section 5 – Committees.

A. The following committees shall be appointed to act at each County Convention and shall be appointed at least ten (10) days prior to the Convention by the County Chair, who shall designate the Committee Chairs:

1. The Credentials and Ballots Committee shall consist of three members and have the following duties:

a. It shall check the name of each person present at the convention against an

official registration list and report to the convention the number of persons certified to vote. Any person arriving after said report shall not be entitled to be certified or vote at the convention.

- b. It shall hear all credentials challenges that have been submitted to the County Chair. The hearing procedure shall be the same as provided under Article VIII, Section 3 of these bylaws.
 - c. It shall assist the Convention Chair and Convention Secretary in conducting a poll of the delegates when necessary.
 - d. This Committee may appoint, when necessary, clerks to assist in checking the names of those present against an official registration list and in polling delegates when required.
2. The Resolutions and Platform Committee shall be comprised of members, the number of which has been determined by the County Chair. It shall consider all suggestions for resolutions and for the County Platform, making such recommendations to the Convention. The Convention shall act on said recommendations and receive and act on recommendations made from the floor as well. Said Committee shall meet at the call of its Chair.

Section 6 – Delegates and Alternates to the Democratic State Convention.

- A. Delegate and Alternate Delegates to the State Convention from the several counties shall be elected in numbers as allocated to the respective counties as follows:
 1. Any person registered as a Democrat at least fifteen (15) days prior to said County Convention

may be nominated as a delegate to the State Convention by making written request prior to the convention or by nomination from the floor. The nominee must be present at the convention for a floor nomination. In making the nomination, the candidate's presidential or uncommitted preference shall be given and recorded. Honorary or special positions in themselves do not qualify a person for nomination or election as such delegates or alternate delegates.

2. The County Convention shall determine whether to send delegates to the State Convention with one vote each or one half vote each.
3. In each presidential or uncommitted preference, the number of nominees of each gender equal to the number determined for the respective categories by the Credentials and Ballots Committee under the Delegate Selection Plan, who receive the highest number of votes, shall be elected. Prior to the election, the Chair shall urge that the ballots be cast so as to obtain a delegation which is a fair and representative cross section of the Democratic Party throughout the county with consideration being given to geographical distribution, occupation, age, sex, race, and presidential or uncommitted status.
4. Those nominees in each status who receive the next highest number of votes after the elected delegates shall be alternates. The alternate delegates so elected shall stand in order to replace delegates, the first being the one receiving the most votes, the second, the one receiving the second most votes, etc. A delegate shall be replaced by an alternate from the same category. If none is available, all of the delegates in the same category shall select an alternate from another category in that county's

delegation or from that county's registered Democrats.

5. The method of voting in the election of delegates and alternate delegates by the County Convention shall be as follows:

a. Within each presidential or uncommitted preference caucus the vote shall be by written ballot, each person present and certified by the Credentials and Ballots Committee casting his vote for as many nominees as there are delegates (or alternates) to be elected, or for a lesser number in his discretion. Provided, however, that a method of voting other than by signed, written ballot may be used if there is no objection thereto when the substitute method is proposed. A ballot cast for more nominees than there are delegates (or alternates) to be elected shall be void. An unsigned ballot shall also be void. The delegates (or alternates) elected shall be those of each gender equal to the number to be elected who receive the most votes. If the number of nominees does not exceed the number to be elected, the nominees shall be elected by voice vote.

b. The ballots used shall be distributed to the qualified voters. Irrespective of slated presidential or uncommitted preference, every delegate and alternate to the State Convention chosen by the several County Conventions shall in all respects be a free agent to follow the dictates of his own conscience.

6. A registration fee to cover convention expenses may be imposed or assessed on State Convention delegates, however non-payment of such fee shall

not deny any delegate's voting status. Delegates may be required to advance meal and lodging costs if they wish the same to be reserved for them.

- g. The County Chair shall serve as Chair of the County Delegation, if the County Chair is selected as a member of the Delegation. Otherwise, the Vice Chair shall serve in the Chair's absence if the Vice Chair is selected as a member of the Delegation. If neither the Chair nor Vice Chair are in the County Delegation, the County Chair shall appoint the County Delegation Chair.
8. If the County Central Committee desires to have pre-printed ballots for the election of delegates and alternates, the County Chair shall include in the publication of notice of the County Convention that such ballot is to be used that that Democrats interested in becoming delegates and alternates to the State Convention must advise the members of the Credentials and Ballots Committee at least 24 hours before the County Convention convenes, of their candidacy to ensure the inclusion of their names on the pre-printed ballots. The names of all qualified Democrats submitted to the Credentials and Ballots Committee shall be placed on the ballot. The use of pre-printed ballots shall not be construed to deny the right of any person to be nominated from the floor of the County Convention. In the event pre-printed ballots are used, names will be placed on the ballot by random drawing.
9. In the event that insufficient Delegates are elected at the County Convention, in order to meet the designated number of Delegates, the County Chair may appoint Democratic residents of the County to fill the vacancies. Such appointments shall be certified in writing to the State Chair within 10 days of the County Convention.
10. In the event of a delegate's absence, the County

Chair may reapportion available votes and/or $\frac{1}{2}$ votes to other present delegates, not to exceed 1 full vote to any registered delegate. The county chair must then inform the credentials and ballots committee of the reapportioned votes.

Section 7 – Voting.

- A. Except as provided otherwise in these bylaws, all votes at the County Convention shall be polling the delegates by voice vote. In the event of a call for division, a standing vote shall be taken, and upon request of any delegate, a roll call vote shall be taken. Provided, however, that preceding any vote the Chair may inquire if there is any objection to a voice vote on the issue before the Convention, and, if there be no objection by any delegate, the issue may be resolved by voice vote. A vote on the convention floor or within a presidential or uncommitted preference caucus shall not be made by proxy.

Sections 8 – Report to the Democratic State Chair.

- A. Within ten days after the County Convention, the County Chair shall certify to the State Chair, a notarized list on the state-approved forms of convention attendees, the delegates and alternate delegates from their respective counties to the State Convention, giving the names addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses, and if applicable, presidential preference, and the order of priority for the alternate delegates. At the same time, they shall transmit to the State Chair a copy of the county resolutions and of the County Platform for submission to the Resolutions and Platform Committee of

the State Convention.