

**REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF
BALTIMORE COUNTY “CONSTITUTION and
BYLAWS”**

(as Amended October 10, 2022)

ARTICLE I – BALTIMORE COUNTY REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

Section 1. Organization.

A. Call to Assemble.

No later than the second Monday after a regular gubernatorial general election or regular presidential general election, the elected member of the Committee who received the most votes of all persons elected as members of the Committee in the most recent gubernatorial primary election shall upon at least seven (7) days written notice to the newly elected members of the Committee, issue a call to assemble for the purpose of electing officers and conducting such other business that may properly be brought before the Committee. The newly elected member who issues the call to assemble shall act as the Temporary Chair of the organizational meeting until the Chair is elected.

B. Chairman Unwilling or Unable to Call Assembly.

In the event that such newly elected member fails to call such a meeting within fourteen (14) days after the gubernatorial election, the newly elected member who is first in alphabetical listing of the newly elected members of the Committee, within five (5) days thereafter, shall initiate the call to assemble and act as the temporary Chair of the organizational meeting. The responsibility to issue the call to assemble and to serve as the temporary Chair shall progress down the alphabetical listing of the newly elected Committee members each five (5) days thereafter until call to assemble is issued.

C. Election of Officers.

The first order of business of the newly elected members at the organizational meeting shall be the election of officers. The election of the officers will be of simple majority, by secret ballot, and shall be certified by not less than two members then present.

D. Required Officers.

The Central Committee shall have a Chairman, First Vice-Chair, Second Vice- Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. A simple majority, by secret ballot, of those present and voting shall be sufficient to elect each officer subject to the term of office covered in Sub-section G. There shall be another election to determine the officers to serve the last two years of the four (4) year term. Said election shall be in the same manner as the preceding election and shall occur at the meeting which shall be had within thirty (30) days of the end of the two (2) year period. The same person shall hold no two offices at the same time.

E. Membership Requirement.

Officers must also be members of the Central Committee, except that the Treasurer need not be a member of the Central Committee.

F. Required Notifications.

The Committee shall notify the State Administrative Board of Election Laws and the Republican State Central Committee ("State Committee") of the names and addresses of the persons elected as officers and as members of the governing body of the County party.

G. Officers' Term of Office.

The term of office for all Central Committee officers shall be at the will of the Central Committee, except that terms shall not exceed two (2) years. The first election for officers shall be held at the first meeting of the Central Committee after the Central Committee election. There shall be no limitation on the number of terms in office that a member of the Central Committee can serve as any officer when duly elected.

H. Replacement of Officers.

1. Filling of Vacancies.

In the event that any office is made vacant due to resignation, the Central Committee declaring an office vacant or an officer's inability to serve, the new officer(s) shall be elected at a regular or special meeting of the Central Committee, provided due notice in accordance with Article I, Section 3, B, 1 is given to all members of the Central Committee in the case of a special meeting.

2. Declaring Offices Vacant.

Any office may be declared vacant by two-thirds (2/3) of the Central Committee membership at a regular or special meeting provided due notice in accordance with Article I, Section 3, B, 1 is given to all members of the Central Committee in the case of a special meeting. An election to fill the vacancy (vacancies) shall be held in conformity with paragraph 1 above.

3. Vacancy in the Office of Chairman.

In the event that the office of Chairman becomes vacant, the First Vice Chairman shall serve as temporary Chairman and preside over the election of a new Chairman by the remaining members of the Central Committee. The election shall occur within thirty (30) days of the Chairman's written resignation at a regular or special meeting of the Central Committee, provided due notice in accordance with Article I, Section 3, B, 1 is given to all members of the Central Committee in the case of a special meeting. The new Chairman shall be elected from among the remaining members of the Central Committee by a simple majority of those present and voting.

Section 2. Power and Duties of Central Committee.

The principal power and duties of the Central Committee as a unit shall be defined below:

A. Election and Qualification of Members.

The Central Committee shall be the sole judge of the election and qualification of its members subject to any limitations of the State Constitution and Bylaws and to the filling of vacancies pursuant to Section 5 of this Article. No member of the Central Committee who has been removed from the Central Committee for reason other than absences will be permitted to return to the Central Committee without 2/3 votes in the affirmative by the newly seated Committee. This restriction is for the life of the previous member.

B. Charges of Misfeasance, Malfeasance, Nonfeasance, and Misconduct.

The Central Committee shall have sole jurisdiction to hear and determine charges of misfeasance, malfeasance, nonfeasance, and misconduct as defined by the Constitution & Bylaws of the Maryland Republican Party in office preferred against any of its members. The Central Committee may, by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Central Committee members present at the Regular Meeting, either remove the member from the Central Committee or recommend any necessary disciplinary action to the State Central Committee at the next statewide meeting subject to any limitations so set forth in the State Constitution and Bylaws.

C. Republican Party Activities in Baltimore County.

The Central Committee shall be the party Central Committee of Baltimore County as defined by the Maryland Law and shall be responsible for the conduct of all official Party activities in the name of the Republican Party of Baltimore County.

D. Election of Officers; Rules of Government.

The Central Committee shall have the power to select its own officers and to adopt rules for its government not inconsistent with the provisions of the Central Committee Constitution and Central Committee Bylaws and the State Constitution and Bylaws.

E. Conventions and Primaries.

The Central Committee shall have control of all matters relating to any conventions and primaries for the nomination of state and local Republican candidates and of campaigns for the election of the same to the extent that the same may be regulated by law.

F. Endorsements.

The Central Committee shall not endorse any state or local Republican candidate or ticket, nor shall it support financially, or in any other manner, any candidate or group of candidates over any other candidate or group of candidates at any time, except between the party's primary election and the general election.

G. Providing Candidates.

The Central Committee, in its own good judgment, may provide a Republican candidate for any position not filled within the time limit, as established by law subsequent to the filing deadline. Any candidate provided by the Central Committee shall be approved by a simple majority of those members present at any regular or special meeting of the Central Committee, provided due notice in accordance with Article I, Section 3, B, 1 is given to all members of the Central Committee in the case of a special meeting.

H. Support in General Elections.

The Central Committee shall have as its principal obligation to provide the successful Republican candidates of the primary election with a party organization of such depth and capability to ensure the maximum effort on behalf of the Republican candidates in the general election.

I. Party Headquarters in Baltimore County.

The Central Committee shall be authorized to maintain a permanent party headquarters for service to the registered Republican voters in the County to the extent that funds are available.

J. Filling Vacancies in Public Office.

The Central Committee shall act in filling vacancies in public office as provided by Maryland law.

K. Designation of Person to Serve on Board of Supervisors of Elections of Baltimore County.

The Central Committee shall, every four years, upon the request of the Governor, designate one eligible person, who is a registered member of the Republican Party in Baltimore County, for each position on the Board of Supervisors of Elections of Baltimore County which the Election Code requires to be filled by a Republican. The designation shall be by a simple majority of those members present and voting. The person so designated shall report to the Committee on Board information and activities at least semi-annually. The Central Committee shall also designate an alternate person to the Board of Supervisors of Elections of Baltimore County.

Section 3. Meetings.

A. Regular Meetings.

Regular meetings of the Central Committee shall be on the second Monday of each month, with a minimum of nine (9) per year, and any additional meetings beyond the required nine (9) at the discretion of the Chairman.

B. Special Meetings.

Special meetings may be called by the Chairman or by eight (8) members of the Central Committee upon due notice to the full Central Committee.

1. Due notice shall consist of:
 - a. A letter, postmarked no less than five (5) days before the day scheduled for the special meeting, or an email (with electronic or other confirmation of receipt) sent no less than five (5) days before the day scheduled for the special meeting, containing the date, time and location of such proposed special meeting; and
 - b. The agenda of such meeting.
2. Waiver of Due Notice.

Upon consent of no less than two-thirds (2/3) of the total number of those members still serving on the Central Committee, notice may be waived. No less than two-thirds (2/3) of the members of the Central Committee shall be present and there must be a simple majority of the total number of the then serving members of the Central Committee for motions to carry, except as provided in Article I, Section 1, Paragraphs H, 1 and H, 2.

3. Special Meeting Agenda.

Unless the provisions of Article I, Section 3, B, 2 above are satisfied, no matter may be voted upon at a special meeting unless it was on the agenda in the notice required for such special meeting.

Section 4. Quorum.

Representation of a simple majority of those members then serving on the Central Committee shall constitute a quorum except as provided in Article I, Section 3, Paragraph B, 2.

Section 5. Vacancies.

A. Unexcused Absences.

A member of the Central Committee who sustains either:

1. three (3) consecutive unexcused absences from regularly scheduled meetings occurring over a period in excess of sixty (60) days or;
2. six (6) excused and/or unexcused absences from regularly scheduled meetings occurring over a rolling twelve (12) month period

shall be subject to a vote of the Central Committee and may be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting at the next regularly scheduled meeting. Prior notice

shall be given by the chairperson within (3) days to the member of such action after the threshold regular number of absences is breached, and a notification of removal shall be given to the member within three (3) days after a vote to remove has taken place. It shall be within the reasonable discretion of the Chairman to distinguish excused and unexcused absences. The absent member may within thirty (30) days appeal the Chairman's findings to the Central Committee as a whole. A two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Central Committee is required at the next regularly scheduled meeting to reverse the Chairman's finding of an unexcused absence; however the cumulative number of (6) absences within a 12 month period would remain unaffected by any reversal in definition.

B. Failure to Appear at State Conventions.

A member who fails to appear in person or by proxy at three (3) consecutive State Conventions may be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting of the State Executive Committee at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

C. Filling of Vacancy Procedures.

Upon the occurrence of the removal, death, resignation, change of party affiliation, change of residency from the councilmanic district in Baltimore County from which such member was elected or ineligibility to serve as determined by Maryland law, the following procedures will govern the filling of such vacancy:

1. Notification Regarding Vacancies.

Immediately upon the occurrence of a vacancy as described above the Chairman shall give written notice of the intent to remove any member, to all members of the Central Committee within three (3) days of any regular meeting where such removal is to be voted upon or if such action is to be taken at a special meeting of the Central Committee, the notice provided in accordance with Article I, Section 3, B, 1 must also contain notice of the intended removal. In the case of death or voluntary resignation no such notification is necessary and removal will occur automatically. A member who has been removed in accordance with this section shall be notified in writing by the Chairman within three (3) days of the vote to remove, but failure to so notify such removed member shall not invalidate the vote to remove.

2. Filling of Vacancies.

Any vacancy in the Central Committee shall be filled a unanimous vote of the remaining members of the Central Committee representing the councilmanic district in which the vacancy occurs by the date of the next regularly scheduled Central Committee meeting following the date the vacancy took effect. If at such regularly scheduled meeting, the remaining members of the councilmanic district are unable to

reach a unanimous decision, the Central Committee as a whole shall fill the vacancy at that meeting or within the next sixty (60) days. In the case of there being no remaining members of the councilmanic district currently serving, then the Central Committee as a whole shall fill the vacancy(ies) within the initial sixty (60) days following the date the vacancy took effect. If filled by the Central Committee as a whole, nominations can be entered by any member and election shall be by a simple majority of the entire Central Committee present at any meeting or special meeting of the Central Committee, provided due notice in accordance with Article I, Section 3, B, 1 is given to all members of the Central Committee in the case of a special meeting. If after ninety (90) days from the date the vacancy took effect the Central Committee as a whole is unable to fill the vacancy, the State Chairman shall fill the vacancy in accordance with the State Constitution and Bylaws.

3. Residency Requirement.

Any person selected to fill a vacancy on the Central Committee shall be a resident of the councilmanic district in Baltimore County in which such vacancy exists.

Section 6. Regulations and Responsibilities.

- A. Coordination of and Participation in Activities. Central Committee members shall coordinate and participate in the organization of their respective districts pertaining to voter registration drives, campaign/election day activities, voter outreach, communication with Republican elected officials, Republican club formation and activities, media communications, and local candidate recruitment.
- B. Communications on Behalf of the Committee.

Individual members of the Central Committee may not speak for the Central Committee. All Central Committee press releases must be approved by the Chairman or his/her designate.

- C. Appointment of Alternate.

Each Central Committee Member is responsible for appointing an Alternate to the Central Committee who shall serve in the absence of *any* member of their District. The number of appointed Alternates shall not exceed the number of members of that District but may be fewer. An appointed Alternate shall not automatically serve as the replacement of the member upon such member's removal, resignation or death.

Section 7. Appointment of Subcommittees.

- A. Establishment of Subcommittees.

The Central Committee shall have the power to approve or disapprove all subcommittees

except the Executive Committee as provided in Article I, Section 10, or special committees appointed by the Chairman. All subcommittees and special subcommittees are directly responsible to the Chairman of the Central Committee and shall serve a term of two (2) years.

B. Limitation on Number of Members on Subcommittee.

Each subcommittee shall have at least four (4) members in addition to the Chairman, however no subcommittee shall have enough members to constitute a quorum of the entire Central Committee. Whenever possible, each subcommittee shall have members that reside in separate councilmanic districts.

C. Appointment of Standing Committees.

Standing subcommittees shall be appointed by the Chairman, with the approval of the Committee, at the first regular meeting of the Central Committee but no later than the third regular meeting immediately following the organizational meeting and vacancies shall be filled as they occur. Additional working members may be nominated to serve on a standing subcommittee but must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present and voting. The standing subcommittees and their functions are as follows:

1. Finance Subcommittee

- a. The subcommittee shall be responsible for all special events and general fundraising for the operation of the Central Committee.
- b. The subcommittee shall develop long-term and short-term strategic planning, including the development of budgets.
- c. The subcommittee shall consist of a chairman, the Treasurer of the Central Committee, and any number of additional members of the Central Committee as determined by the Executive Committee of the Central Committee.

2. Precincts and Elections Subcommittee

- a. The subcommittee shall maintain voter and precinct records.
- b. The subcommittee shall engage in candidate recruitment and support.
- c. The subcommittee is responsible for the recruitment, organization, and staffing of polling locations.
- d. The subcommittee is responsible for the coordination of candidate and campaign materials.
- e. The subcommittee shall organize voter registration drives.
- f. The subcommittee shall provide assistance in the recruiting of election

judges.

- g. The subcommittee shall consist of a chairman and a number of additional members of the Central Committee as determined by the Executive Committee of the Central Committee.

3. Communications and Outreach Subcommittee

- a. The subcommittee shall be responsible for coordinating communication with community and political organizations.
- b. The subcommittee shall be responsible for the publication of the Central Committee newsletter.
- c. The subcommittee shall be responsible for the maintenance of the Central Committee website, e-mail, and other such electronic media.
- d. The subcommittee shall be responsible for the publication of press releases regarding the Committee's activities and announcements.
- e. The subcommittee shall consist of a chairman and an additional number of Central Committee members as determined by the Executive Committee of the Central Committee.

4. Organization and Rules Subcommittee.

- a. The subcommittee shall be responsible for reviewing the Republican Central Committee of Baltimore County Constitution and Bylaws in relation to regulations imposed by the State of Maryland Election Laws and by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Republican State Central Committee of Maryland. Amendment provisions are covered in Article IV.
- b. The subcommittee shall be responsible for establishing *operating* rules governing the conduct and order of the Central Committee and its meetings.
- c. The subcommittee shall consist of a chairman and a number of additional members of the Central Committee as determined by the Executive Committee of the Central Committee.

5. State Party Affairs Subcommittee

- a. The subcommittee shall be responsible for informing the Central Committee about conventions and related activities.
- b. The subcommittee shall be responsible for State convention floor

management, including proxies and vote tallying.

- c. The subcommittee shall be responsible for communications with the state party officers and headquarters.
 - d. The subcommittee shall consist of a chairman and a number of additional Central Committee members as determined by the Executive Committee of the Central Committee.
6. Administration and Ethics Subcommittee.
- a. The subcommittee shall be responsible for the maintenance of any county headquarters, including staffing and use scheduling.
 - b. The subcommittee shall be responsible for the review of complaints regarding the conduct of members' conduct and recommendations for appropriate action to be taken.
 - c. The subcommittee shall consist of a chairman and a number of additional members of the Central Committee as determined by the Executive Committee of the Central Committee.

Section 8. Parliamentary Provisions

All meetings and proceedings of the Central Committee shall be governed by rules of order established by the Central Committee at the beginning of the Central Committee term. These rules shall be written by the Organization and Rules subcommittee and approved by a favorable vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at a regular or special meeting of the Central Committee. The rules shall be submitted for approval to the Central Committee by the Organization and Rules subcommittee no later than the third regular meeting of the Central Committee term. Robert's Rules of Order, most recent edition, shall govern all proceedings not otherwise covered by said rules of order, the Constitution and By-laws of the Republican Party of Maryland, the Election Code of Maryland, or by the Constitution and Bylaws.

Section 9. Executive Committee.

A. Members of Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chairman, First Vice Chairman, Second Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and shall include, in addition, two (2) additional Central Committee members. These two members shall be elected by a simple majority of those present and voting at the organizational meeting.

B. Duties of Executive Committee.

- 1. Develop the policy for the administration of any permanent headquarters.

2. Authorize any expenditure not in excess of \$200.00 other than for routine administrative expenses such as rent, telephone, postage, taxes, etc.
3. Meet regularly, formulate policy, and make recommendations to the full Central Committee.
4. Authorize the number of Central Committee members that may be appointed to each of the subcommittees.

Section 10. Duties of the Chairman of the Central Committee.

- A. Preside at all meetings of the Central Committee and the Executive Committee thereof.
- B. Call regular and special meetings of the full Central Committee or Executive Committee, when in his/her judgment, the same shall be necessary. However, the Central Committee shall hold regular meetings at least nine (9) times annually and provide advance notice for each regular meeting to the Chairman of the State Central Committee.
- C. Conduct the affairs of the Central Committee within the established laws of Maryland and the Republican Party and the established purposes and will of the Central Committee.
- D. Appoint all subcommittees and special committees (except Executive Committee) subject to the approval of the Central Committee.
- E. Supervise the expenditure of Central Committee funds and co-sign all checks with the Treasurer.
- F. Implement the policy developed for the administration of a headquarters.
- G. Oversee the maintenance of all past and current Central Committee Records.
- H. Ensure that proper order is maintained during meetings and during the process in which business is being conducted.
 1. The Chair may appoint a Sergeant-at-Arms to maintain order at meetings and events, and man the door during an Executive Session. This position serves in perpetuity at the pleasure of the Chair. They may or may not be a member of the Central Committee. The Sergeant-at-Arms is responsible to carry out the orders of the chair to maintain proper order during meetings.
 2. To ensure order, the Chair retains the right to name members of the Central Committee when such a member is repeatedly out of order and refuses to yield or commits a grave offense against the Committee or one of its members in the course of the meeting. If the individual continues to refuse to yield after the naming of such individual, the Chair may order the expulsion of that individual by the Sergeant-at-Arms for that sitting of the Committee. This order can be appealed

to the Central Committee with a 2/3 vote to overturn the original order.

Section 11. Duties of the First Vice Chairman.

Preside at all meetings in the absence of the Chairman, participate as a member of the Executive Committee, and perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Chairman.

Section 12. Duties of the Second Vice Chairman.

Preside at all meetings in the absence of the Chairman and First Vice Chairman, participate as a member of the Executive Committee, and perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Chairman.

Section 13. Duties of the Secretary.

- A. Record, review, and certify that minutes of meetings are correct and any other duties assigned by the Chairman.
- B. Maintain strict control of the minutes until same are approved by a simple majority of those members of the Central Committee present and voting. Retain approved copies in a permanent file.
- C. Coordinate communication with the State Central Committee Headquarters on distribution of all literature and policy statements.
- D. Maintain attendance records of all regular and special meetings.
- E. Maintain a current roster of Central Committee Members and Central Committee Alternates.

Section 14. Duties of the Treasurer.

- A. At all regular meetings, present a Treasurer's report on the status of all funds.
- B. Provide a printed statement to all Central Committee members semiannually on all income and disbursements during the previous six (6) month period. This semiannual statement is due on the first meeting in January and July, or at the request of two-thirds (2/3) of the total authorized Committee.
- C. Co-sign all checks with the Chairman.
- D. Present to the Central Committee for vote all expenditures in excess of \$200.00 (other than routine administrative expenditures). Such expenditures must be approved by a simple majority of those present and voting.

- E. Maintain supporting documentation for all receipts and expenditures.
- F. Prepare and file all required federal and state election reports and tax returns by their due dates.
- G. Oversee the maintenance of all past and current Central Committee Records.

ARTICLE II – ADOPTION CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS.

The Republican Central Committee of Baltimore County Constitution and Bylaws shall be adopted and become effective upon the favorable vote of two-thirds (2/3) of those members of the Committee present and voting at a regular or special meeting of the Committee provided due notice in accordance with Article I, Section 3, B, 1 is given to all members of the Central Committee in the case of a special meeting.

ARTICLE III – AMENDMENTS TO CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS.

- A. The Republican Central Committee of Baltimore County Constitution and Bylaws shall be amended by a favorable vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at any regular or special meeting of the Committee. All such votes will be by voice poll and the vote of all present will be individually recorded. Notice of wording and purpose of proposed amendments shall be given not less than seven (7) days prior to the meeting at which their adoption will be considered.
- B. Any amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws shall be filed with the State Administrative Board of Election Laws and State Central Committee within thirty (30) days after adoption.

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS as prepared August 1970, amended December 1970, amended March 1973, restated incorporating amendments April 1973, revised and updated September 1975, amended 1983, restated incorporating amendments June 1988, amended June 1996, amended December 1998 and amended and restated September 2003, amended and restated February 9, 2004, amended August 8, 2011, amended July 9, 2012, amended September 2018, restated as incorporated herein and amended April 2019, amended September 2019, amended March 2021, amended October 2021, amended October 2022.