



BULLOCH COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY

RULES OF THE BULLOCH COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY

1. MEMBERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION

1.1 QUALIFICATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION IN PARTY ACTIONS

All electors¹ who are in accord with the principles of the Republican Party, believe in its declaration of policy and are in agreement with its aims and purposes may participate as members of the Bulloch County Republican Party (hereinafter “BCRP”) in its conventions or precinct caucuses. All chairmen² and members of committees, delegates to conventions and voters in precinct caucuses, provided for in these Rules, shall be members of the BCRP and must be electors of the respective units which they represent as chairmen, members, delegates, or voters in precinct caucuses.

¹ As defined by O.C.G.A. § 21-2-2(7): “Elector” means any person who shall possess all of the qualifications for voting now or hereafter prescribed by the laws of this state, including applicable charter provisions, and shall have registered in accordance with this chapter.

² The terms, “Chairman” and “Vice-Chairman”, and all other such terms used in these rules shall be gender neutral so that a person of either gender may hold such office.

1.2 PUBLICATION OF QUALIFICATIONS

The qualifications and conditions for participation in the BCRP shall be published in all official calls for precinct caucuses and conventions called pursuant to these Rules and pursuant to the Rules and Call of the Georgia Republican Party Convention.

2. COUNTY COMMITTEE

2.1 COUNTY COMMITTEE

The County Committee shall be officially known as the “Bulloch County Republican Committee” hereinafter the “County Committee.” The County Conventions shall elect County Delegates and Alternates to the District and State Conventions.

While in session, the County Committee shall be the governing body (except while the County Convention of the BCRP is in session) of the BCRP, which is a political organization and political party. While in session, the County Committee shall be vested with all the duties, power, and privileges possessed by the County Convention and the County Executive Committee. The County Committee, while in session, shall act for the BCRP.

2.2 MEMBERS

The County Committee shall be composed of the following members who shall be voting members unless otherwise specified, and no person may simultaneously hold more than one voting position:

- A. County Chairman
- B. First Vice-Chairman
- C. Second Vice-Chairman
- D. Secretary
- E. Treasurer
- F. Precinct Chairmen from each Precinct in Bulloch County
- G. No more than six (6) persons appointed by the County Chairman
- H. All members of the State Committee who reside in Bulloch County.
- I. All members of the District Committee who reside in Bulloch County.
- J. The immediate past Chairman of the BCRP, if they are a current resident of Bulloch County and request in writing to the County Chairman to be added to the County Committee.
- K. Honorary Non-Voting Members
 - 1. Elected Officials - All State or County Elected officials who ran as Republicans, were elected as Republican nominees, reside in Bulloch County, and request to the County Chairman in writing to be added to the County Committee.
 - 2. Allied Organizations
 - a) The Chairman of the Georgia Southern University College Republicans
 - b) The President of the Georgia Black Republican Council
 - c) The Director of the Republican Women's Federation for Bulloch County
 - d) A Representative from the Young Republicans Club in Bulloch County recognized by the Georgia Federation of Young Republicans residing in Bulloch County
 - e) The Chairman of the Bulloch County Teenage Republicans

2.3 DUTIES OF THE COUNTY COMMITTEE

- A. The County Committee shall publish a notice of the State Call and make arrangements for the County Convention and the Precinct Caucuses and fix the basis of representation by Delegates and Alternates to the County Convention and the time and place for holding the County Convention consistent with the Georgia Republican Party Rules and the State Call.
- B. The County Committee shall decide all controversies arising within its jurisdiction, except those arising from the conduct of a county convention, which shall be adjudicated under provisions of Rule 7.5 (C) with a right to appeal the decision of the County Committee to the District Committee. In the event of controversies arising within the County BCRP organization, petition shall first be made to the County

Committee. Said petition by at least qualified five (5) qualified voters as defined in Rule 1.1, setting forth the particulars of the controversy shall be filed with the County Chairman no later than thirty (30) days from the date of the alleged event giving rise to the controversy. The petition shall be heard at the next regularly scheduled County Committee meeting, but in no event more than forty-five (45) days following receipt by the County Chairman of the petition. Appeals of the County Committee decision may be made within thirty (30) days from the date of the decision appealed from by petition signed by at least five (5) qualified voters as defined in Rule 1.1 if the county had fewer than 100 elected delegates to its last County Convention or at least twenty-five (25) qualified voters as defined in Rule 1.1 if the county had 100 or more elected delegates to its last County Convention. Said appeal shall be heard by (a) District Committee if the County is located entirely within a district or, (b) the District Committee of the District having a plurality of the Appeals to the District Committee shall be filed with the District Chairman. There shall be a right to file a petition to request that the County Committee review the decision of the District Committee on appeals under this Rule. Said petition by at least five (5) qualified voters as defined in Rule 1.1 setting forth particulars of the controversy shall be filed with the State Secretary at BCRP headquarters. The State Secretary shall refer such petition to the Committee on Appeals. The Committee on Appeals, may, in its discretion, hear such petition or recommend to the County Committee that the County Committee summarily affirm the decision of the District Committee. If the Committee on Appeals elects to hear the petition, it shall do so in accordance with Rule 7.5.

2.4 ELECTION OF COUNTY OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY COMMITTEE

The officers and members of the County Committee shall be elected in odd-numbered years by the respective County Conventions. They shall begin office at the adjournment of the County Convention and shall hold office for two years and until their successors are duly elected and qualified, unless sooner removed in accordance with these Rules.

2.5 PRECINCT COMMITTEEMEN

Any vacancies on the Precinct Committee not filled pursuant to Rules 7.1 or 7.4 may be filled by the County Committee. Except as provided in Rule 7.1, each Precinct Caucus or Committee shall elect its own Chairman and other officers in accordance with any applicable County Party Rules or otherwise as it deems necessary.

3. COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

3.1 AUTHORITY

The County Executive Committee³ shall have the duty, responsibility, power, and authority to conduct the affairs of the BCRP between meetings of the County Committee and between County Conventions, including without limitation exercising countywide jurisdiction and control over party affairs.

³ As defined by O.C.G.A. § 21-2-111(c): *The respective county executive committees of each political party shall formulate, adopt, and promulgate rules and regulations, consistent with law and the rules and regulations of the state executive committee, governing the conduct of conventions and other party affairs. No such rule and regulation shall be effective until copies thereof, certified by the chairperson, have been filed with the superintendent of the county.*

3.2 MEMBERSHIP

A. Voting Members. The Voting members of the Executive Committee of the County Committee shall be composed of those positions specified in Rule 2.2 (A) through (E) provided, however, that no person shall simultaneously hold more than one voting position.

4. MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEES

4.1 NOTICE; FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS; MINUTES

- A. Meetings of the County Committee and the County Executive Committee shall be held on written notice mailed, faxed, or sent by written electronic communication not less than twelve (12) days prior to the meeting on the call of the Chairman or upon a call issued by the Secretary upon the written request of one-third (1/3) of the voting members of such committee.
- B. When a State or National emergency is declared by the appropriate government official, the Georgia Election Code or the Rules of the Republican National Committee, or other immediate and urgent situation shall require action by the County Committee or the County Executive Committee in a time frame shorter than the notice period specified in Rule 4.1(A), the County Committee or County Executive Committee, as the case may be, shall be authorized to suspend the time period for notice of a meeting required under Rule 4.1(A) upon a two-thirds vote.
- C. Attendance at a meeting of the County Committee or County Executive Committee by a member shall constitute a waiver by that person of any notice required for such meeting.
- D. The Executive Committee shall meet not less than quarterly, provided, however, that two of those must be an in-person meeting.
- E. The County Committee shall meet not less than semi-annually, provided, however, that one of those must be an in-person meeting.
- F. Written minutes of all business transacted at meetings shall be mailed, faxed, or sent by written electronic communication to every member of their respective committee within ten (10) days after each meeting.

4.2 QUORUM

Twenty-five percent of the voting members of each County and Precinct Committee, present in person or by proxy, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

4.3 FORM OF PROXY

All proxies shall be in writing, shall be signed by the maker, and shall be substantially in the following form:

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, THAT I _____ OF Bulloch County do hereby constitute and appoint _____ my true and lawful attorney to vote at a meeting of the _____ Committee to be held on _____ day of _____, 20____, or at any adjourned meeting thereof, and for me in name, place and stead to vote upon any question that properly may come before such meeting, with all the power that I should possess if personally present, hereby revoking all previous proxies.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this _____ day of _____, 20____.

4.4 VOTING OF PROXIES

Members may be represented by proxies, subject to the following conditions: (a) Any member may direct his proxy only to another voting member, (b) no proxy may be directed to or voted by the County Chairman, and (c) no member may vote more than five (5) proxies. There shall be no proxies allowed at any Precinct Caucus or County Convention.

4.5 ATTENDANCE AND VOTING BY ELECTRONIC MEANS

A. Meetings of the County Committee and the County Executive Committee may be attended in person, by proxy as provided in Rule 4.4, or by audio or video conference call.

B. Except as to votes requiring a secret ballot, any action required or permitted to be taken by the County Committee or the County Executive Committee may be taken without a meeting by written consent as follows:

1) The action must be evidenced by one or more consents in writing or by electronic transmission describing the action taken, signed (including electronically) by no fewer than the required number of Committee members, and delivered to the County Secretary.

2) Action taken by written consent shall be effective when the last Committee member required for approval signs and delivers the consent, unless the consent specifies a different effective date.

3) The Secretary of the BCRP shall report to the members of the applicable Committee, the results of any matter as to which action is proposed to be taken by consent within eight (8) business days of submission to the Committee Members.

4) A consent signed and delivered by a Committee Member has the same force and effect as a vote cast by a Member at a meeting.

C. Votes cast and taken by audio or video conference call shall be taken pursuant to roll call vote, which roll call may be conducted electronically.

5. OFFICERS

5.1 DUTIES OF THE COUNTY CHAIRMAN

The County Chairman shall be the chairman of the County Committee, chairman of the County Executive Committee, and spokesman of the BCRP and shall perform the duties required by these Rules, the County Convention, the County Committee, and the County Executive Committee. The County Chairman shall convene the County Committee and the County Executive Committee when the needs of the BCRP require or at such other time as specified in Rule 4.1. The County Chairman shall preside at all County Committee meetings and County Executive Committee meetings. The Chairman shall appoint a Chairman and Secretary of the County Conventions with the approval of the County Executive Committee until temporary organization of the Convention is completed. The County Chairman shall appoint all pre-convention committees with the approval of the County Executive Committee. The County Chairman shall be responsible for the general direction of the BCRP. The Chairman shall appoint such temporary committees and their members as the County Chairman shall deem appropriate and shall fill any vacancies on such temporary committees which shall occur in such positions due to death, resignation, or removal. The County Chairman shall remove such officers of temporary committees and dissolve such temporary committees when he deems desirable.

5.2 DUTIES OF THE VICE-CHAIRMEN

A. The First Vice-Chairman shall perform the duties of the County Chairman during the period of any incapacity of the County Chairman and shall perform other duties assigned by the County Chairman, the County Committee, or the County Executive Committee.

B. The Second Vice-Chairman shall serve under the direction of the County Chairman and shall, in the event of any incapacity of both the County Chairman and First Vice-Chairman, perform the duties of County Chairman and shall have other such duties and responsibilities as assigned by the County Chairman, the County Committee, or the County Executive Committee.

5.3 DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY

A. The Secretary shall keep minutes of County Committee and County Executive Committee meetings and shall be the custodian of those minutes. The Secretary shall give all notices required for meetings under Rule 4.1(a) and shall furnish copies of all minutes required by Rule 4.1(f). The Secretary shall, under the direction of the County Committee which shall meet for that purpose immediately before each County Convention, prepare the temporary roll of Delegates and Alternates of the said County Convention. Said roll shall govern the proceedings of the County Convention until changed by the County Convention itself. The Secretary shall keep a roster of the names and addresses of all County Committee members and shall perform such other duties prescribed by the County Committee.

5.4 DUTIES OF THE TREASURER

A. The Treasurer shall have the custody and responsibility of the funds of the BCRP, shall deposit said funds in a bank or banks selected by the County Executive Committee, which funds may be drawn as prescribed by the County Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall present at each County Committee meeting and County Executive Committee meeting a financial report.

B. Upon the authorization of the Treasurer and any one other member of the County Executive Committee shall have the authority to draw checks on BCRP bank accounts. The Treasurer shall maintain and utilize a debit card to draw funds necessary to pay for authorized expenditures.

6. ELECTION AND REMOVAL OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS; PROCEDURE FOR FILLING VACANCIES

6.1 TERMS OF OFFICE

The terms of the members of the County Committee and the County Executive Committee who are elected at a convention shall begin immediately following the adjournment of the convention at which each was elected. The terms of other members of the County Committee and County Executive Committee shall begin upon the occurrence of the respective event which qualifies each for membership on the County Committee or County Executive Committee.

6.2 REMOVAL OF COUNTY OFFICERS

A. Any County officer may be removed from office for cause by a vote of a two-thirds (2/3) of a quorum present at any duly called meeting of the County Committee; provided however, such individual must be given written notice of said meeting mailed or circulated by written electronic communication at least thirty-two (32) days in advance thereof, setting forth the grounds for removal, and be given an opportunity to be heard in person or by his representative. "Cause" as used herein shall include

continued failure to perform his duties or conduct detrimental to the best interests of the BCRP, all as may be determined by the two-third (2/3) vote of a quorum of the County Committee.

B. Absent dispensation by the committee with appropriate jurisdiction, if a member of the County Committee shall publicly advocate the election of another candidate for an office for which the Republican Party has nominated a candidate, that member shall be removed from party office.

C. As soon as a County Committee or County Executive Committee member qualifies to run for an elected public office for which at least one other Republican has also qualified, he shall be deemed to have resigned. An officer who qualifies as a candidate for an elected public office for which no other Republican has also qualified shall be deemed to have resigned immediately upon being elected to that office. As soon as any member qualifies as a candidate for elected office as a candidate of any political party other than the Republican Party, he shall be deemed to have resigned all positions in the BCRP.

D. An officer, committee member, organizer, worker, or active participant of another political party is disqualified from holding any positions of any type within the BCRP. They shall also be deemed as disqualified from participating in any precinct caucus or County Convention held by the BCRP. Further, they shall be disqualified as a delegate or alternate to the County Convention, the District Convention, or State Convention.

E. Anyone presented as a candidate for any delegate or alternate position, an officer of the Party, a county committee member, or a precinct committee officer or member shall sign the following oath:

I DO SWEAR OR AFFIRM MY ALLEGIANCE TO THE GEORGIA REPUBLICAN PARTY.

Signature of Candidate: _____ Date: _____

6.3 RESTRICTIONS ON ENDORSEMENTS BY BCRP OFFICIALS

Members of the County Executive Committee and the County Committee shall not use their official title in any manner in connection with their support of, any candidate for any public office in the State of Georgia in either a special election or for the Republican nomination in a primary where there is at least one other announced Republican candidate.

6.4 FILLING VACANCIES IN OFFICES ELECTED BY THE COUNTY CONVENTION

In the event of death, resignation, or removal from office of any elected County Officer, except for the position of County Chairman, the County Executive Committee shall elect a successor by a majority vote of a quorum present. In the event of a vacancy in the position of County Chairman, the First Vice-Chairman shall automatically serve as acting Chairman until the County Committee elects a County Chairman. All resignations are deemed to be effective upon notice. No vote to accept a resignation shall be required.

7. PRECINCT CAUCUSES AND CONVENTIONS

7.1 THE STATE CALL

Pursuant to the Call issued by the County Committee, on the dates and times set forth, or within the range of dates allowed, in the Call, there shall be held in each odd-numbered year and in each Presidential Election year:

A. Precinct Caucuses for each Precinct, which shall elect Delegates and Alternates to the respective County Conventions, and in each odd-numbered year shall also elect Precinct officers and Precinct Committeemen.

B. County Conventions, which in odd-numbered years shall elect officers for the Party in the respective Counties for the next two years and adopt any new or amended existing rules pursuant to Rule 7.8, and which in both odd-numbered and in Presidential Election years shall elect Delegates and Alternates to the Congressional District and State Conventions and conduct all other necessary and proper business.

C. The County Chairman, upon receipt of this Call, shall cause a meeting of the County Committee to be held to make all arrangements necessary for the Precinct Caucuses and the County Convention, including, but not limited to, the adoption of any plan authorized by these Rules.

7.2 HOLDING OF PRECINCT CAUCUSES AND COUNTY CONVENTIONS

A. Precinct Caucuses shall be held for each Precinct in accordance with the Call at a single location as determined by the County Committee. Publication of notice shall be handled as per the State.

B. If, at a Precinct Caucus, any precinct does not caucus or does not elect a full delegation, any unfilled delegate or alternate positions for that precinct may not be filled by any other precinct or by the Precinct Caucus. No alternate position may be filled until all delegate positions are filled.

C. The County Chairman shall appoint interim County Convention Committees and their respective Chairmen, subject to approval by the County Executive Committee.

7.3 ALLOCATION OF DELEGATES TO COUNTY CONVENTIONS

A. Each Precinct shall be entitled to one Delegate and one Alternate to the County Convention. Each Precinct shall be entitled to additional Delegates and additional Alternates as per the State Call and State Party Rules.

7.4 REPORTS AND FILING OF CREDENTIALS

A. All credentials and reports shall be filed as per the State Call.

7.5 APPEALS RELATING TO PRECINCT CAUCUSES AND CONVENTIONS

Notwithstanding the provisions of these Rules and applicable District and State Party Rules, the following appeal procedures shall apply to disputes regarding Precinct Caucuses and County Conventions:

A. Any disputed action regarding a Precinct Caucus that occurs prior to the date of the County Convention shall be appealed in writing to the County Committee (with copies of the appeal filed with the applicable District Committee, and the County Committee on Appeals) within five (5) days of adjournment of the Precinct Caucus. No appeal petition shall be heard unless it shall be in writing and signed by a number of registered participants in the Precinct Caucus equal to not less than twenty percent (20%) of the number of Delegates to the County Convention allocated to the Precinct(s) from which such disputed action shall have arisen. If a County fails to hear and decide the appeal within twelve (12) days of its receipt of the appeal, the appeal will be automatically be referred to the District Committee of the Congressional District in which the largest number of voters from the County reside.

B. If the Precinct Caucus occurs the same day as the County any disputed actions regarding the Precinct Caucus or regarding the County Convention must be appealed in writing to the District Committee, within five (5) days of adjournment of the County Convention in question, with a copy of such appeal filed with the County Committee on Appeals at BCRP headquarters. No appeal petition shall be heard unless it shall be in writing and, if the appeal involves disputed actions arising from the Precinct Caucus, signed by registered participants in the Precinct Caucus equal to not less than twenty

percent (20%) of the number of Delegates to the County Convention allocated to the Precinct(s) from which such disputed action shall have arisen, or if the appeal involves disputed actions arising from the County Convention, by not less than twenty percent (20%) of the registered Delegates to the County Convention. In Counties lying within multiple Congressional Districts, the appeal should be presented to the District Committee of the Congressional District in which the largest number of voters from the County reside. All appeals to the District Committee shall be filed with the appropriate District Chairman.

C. Should the District Committee not hear and decide the appeal within ten (10) days of receiving the appeal, the appeal will automatically be referred to the County Committee on Appeals and reviewed and decided within ten (10) days of receipt of such referral by the State Committee on Appeals.

D. If the District Committee takes up the appeal, it shall report its findings to both the State Committee on Appeals and the appellants. Should a party wish to appeal the decision of the District Committee with respect to the County to the County Committee on Appeals, they shall do so within five (5) days of the date of the District Committee's decision.

7.6 GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO PRECINCT CAUCUSES AND CONVENTIONS

A. Open Meetings. The Precinct Caucuses and Conventions shall be open to the public as spectators.

B. Rules Regarding Delegates & Alternates. (1) Only registered voters (electors) of a given County Precinct or County may be elected as a Delegate or Alternate to, or, hold office, vote or otherwise participate in the respective Precinct Caucuses or Conventions. No Precinct Caucus or Convention may elect any Alternates before filling all allocated Delegate positions. (2) After all Delegate positions have been filled, Precinct Caucuses and Conventions shall attempt to elect a number of Alternates equal to the number of Delegates. (3) Delegates and Alternates shall not be paired. (4) No unit rule may be imposed by a Precinct, County, District, or State Convention on any Delegate elected by it. (5) A person does not have to be in attendance or be a Delegate or Alternate to the Convention at which he or she is elected to serve as Delegates or Alternates to another convention. (6) Delegates may not cast fractional votes.

C. Meeting Locations. Precinct Caucuses and County Conventions shall be held within the respective Counties.

D. Access to Lists. Any person offering as a candidate for the position as a party officer or County Committee member shall be entitled to access on an equitable basis, subject signing a terms of use agreement, to the lists of the names, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses (if provided) of Delegates and Alternates who are eligible to vote in the election in which such candidate is seeking office.

E. Committees in Session. No official business shall be transacted at any Convention while any of its Committees are in session.

F. Determination of Population. Population of the various Counties for all purposes under this Rule 7 shall be determined by reference to the then-most recent decennial U.S. Census.

G. If an alternate to a convention is seated, the alternate and no other shall vote in the absence of a delegate.

7.7 RULES OF ORDER

All Precinct Caucuses and County Conventions shall be governed and conducted: first, in accordance with these Rules and the Call, and second, except as modified by these Rules or by the State Call, or, with regard to the respective County, by the respective rules of each such County, the latest edition of Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised.

7.8 ORGANIZATION OF VACANT PRECINCTS

Where for any reason a Precinct Caucus is not conducted on the date set in the Call for such meetings in odd-numbered years, the County Committee may, at any time after the State Convention held in such odd-numbered years, elect one or more Precinct officers and committeemen for such Precinct to serve until the next Precinct Caucus or earlier removal from office in accordance with these Rules.

8. CONDUCT OF REPUBLICAN PRIMARIES

8.1 NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES AND SELECTION OF PARTY OFFICIALS

The County Committee, or the County Executive Committee upon failure of the County Committee to act, may adopt and promulgate rules in accordance with Georgia law, providing for the manner of substitute nominations in the event a candidate nominated by a BCRP primary should die, resign or otherwise become disqualified.

8.2 OATH OF AFFIRMATION OF CANDIDATES

Any candidate for elective office running as a Republican Party candidate shall submit to the appropriate level of the Party the following oath affirming his or her allegiance to the party by signing the following oath:

I DO SWEAR OR AFFIRM MY ALLEGIANCE TO THE GEORGIA REPUBLICAN PARTY.

Signature of Candidate: _____ Date: _____

9. MISCELLANEOUS RULES

9.1 AMENDMENTS TO THESE RULES

These Rules may be amended at any County Convention of the BCRP by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of a quorum present or by the County Committee by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of a quorum present. If the Rules are amended at a County Committee meeting, the meeting must be duly held after written notice mailed, faxed, or sent by written electronic communication at least twelve (12) days prior to the meeting to all members of the County Committee setting forth in detail the proposed amendments.

9.2 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THESE RULES

These Rules and any amendments thereto, shall become effective upon certification of the County Chairman and the County Secretary.

9.3 RULES OF ORDER

Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall be followed in all meetings of the BCRP, including, without limitation, the County Committee and County Executive Committee, unless modified by, respectively, these Rules, applicable County Party rules, or applicable District Party rules; provided, however, that the provisions of the State Call shall govern all Precinct Caucuses and County Conventions.