

THE CONSTITUTION
OF THE
REPUBLICAN PARTY OF OCONTO COUNTY

ARTICLE I

NAME

The name of this organization shall be: “The Republican Party of Oconto County”.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE

The purpose of the this organization shall be to unify, under one central organization, the activities of the Republican Party of Oconto County, and to advance in every honorable way fundamental Republican principles and policies, and as a voluntary organization, recruit conservative Republican candidates for public office, and cooperate and assist in all local, county, state and national elections, to the end that our republican form of government, as created under the Constitution of the United States and the State of Wisconsin, be preserved for all people.

As a constituent, self-governing part of the Republican Party of Wisconsin, this organization shall direct, manage, supervise and control its business, property and funds.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in this organization shall be available to all citizens eligible to vote who believe in the objectives, purpose and principles of the Republican Party and who are not members of another political party registered with the Federal Elections Commission and/or the State of Wisconsin Government Accountability Board. Status as a voting member shall be conferred only upon those members who reside in Oconto County and

are in good standing as recorded by the Secretary as of the date of the County Caucus each calendar year.

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

I. The officers of the Republican Party of Oconto County shall consist of a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, a Secretary and a Treasurer. These officers shall be elected at the County Caucus in the odd numbered years. These officers shall not be monetarily compensated.

A. Duties:

1. The Chairperson shall represent this organization in an official capacity and shall preside at all meeting and caucuses of the Party, at the Executive Committee meetings and shall generally supervise the work of the organization. The Chairperson shall be an ex-officio member of all committees and shall appoint ad hoc committee coordinators.
2. The Vice-Chairperson shall perform the duties of the Chairperson in the Chairperson's absence, shall assume the Chairmanship in the event of its vacancy for the unexpired term of the regularly elected Chairperson, shall otherwise perform the duties as may be assigned by the Chairperson as well as any duties usually associated with the office of Vice-Chairperson.
3. The Secretary or designee shall keep and read the minutes of all meetings and shall be the custodian of all records of the organization in whatever format required, including all membership correspondence.
4. The Treasurer shall receive and be custodian of all of the organization's funds, pay all bills not exceeding \$100.00 individually without approval, and shall pay all bills greater than \$100.00 as approved by the Executive Committee. The

Treasurer shall keep an account of monies received and disbursed and shall report to the Executive Committee, the Wisconsin Government Accountability Board and to the general membership.

B. Term:

The term of the officers shall be two (2) years and until their successors are elected and installed.

II. The Executive Committee shall consist of the four (4) elected officers, the immediate past Chairperson plus two (2) members designated by the Chairperson and confirmed by a majority of the elected officers.

III. The Executive Committee shall have authority to conduct the business of the Republican Party of Oconto County, including setting annual, caucus to caucus, membership dues.

IV. The Executive Committee shall have the authority to establish permanent or ad-hoc committees or both for the purpose of conducting the business of the Republican Party of Oconto County.

V. The Executive Committee is exclusively empowered to fill elected officer vacancies on the Executive Committee as soon as possible after the vacancy occurs. A person elected by the Executive Committee to fill a vacancy shall fill the position upon election and shall serve for the balance of the unexpired term to which they were elected.

ARTICLE V

COUNTY CAUCUS AND SPECIAL MEETINGS

A County Caucus shall be conducted at times as may be required by the Republican Party of Wisconsin Constitution. A duly constituted County Caucus shall be called by the Chairperson each year prior to April 1st. A minimum of fourteen (14) days prior notice shall be given to the membership by inclusion in a county-wide publication or alternatively by written or printed notice to each member at his or her last known address. The County Caucus shall elect delegates and alternate delegates to the State Convention and the District Caucus each year and four (4) officers in the odd numbered years.

Additional delegates can be named at the discretion of the Chairperson if the proposed delegate is a member in good standing and makes their interest known to the Chairperson prior to the start of the County Caucus. Any other member in good standing as of the date of the County Caucus will be considered an alternate delegate to the extent that alternate delegate seats are available.

If neither the Chairperson nor the Vice-Chairperson calls such County Caucus at least thirty (30) days before the date set for the District Caucus, the District Chairperson may call such County Caucus for the Republican Party of Oconto County in the manner outlined in this article.

Voting by proxy is prohibited. Only members in good standing of the Republican Party of Oconto County at the time of the County Caucus shall be eligible to vote in the County Caucus, District Caucus and State Convention.

If any question arises as to the voting status of any person attending the County Caucus, a decision shall be made by a vote of the Executive Committee members present. A majority vote of those present is required to exclude a person from voting at the County Caucus.

A quorum for a membership meeting or a County Caucus shall be twenty-five percent (25%) of the authorized delegate total for Oconto County at the immediately preceding Republican State Convention, but never less than eight (8). A quorum of the Executive Committee shall be a majority of the membership of the Executive Committee.

In no event shall one individual have more than one (1) vote on any issue.

Special meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the Chairperson, or upon written request of five (5) members of the Executive Committee. Notice of the meeting shall be given to each member of the Executive Committee. Special county membership meetings may be called upon notice by the Chairperson, at the direction of a majority of the Executive Committee or upon the petition of eight (8) members in good standing. The petition shall state the purpose of the meeting.

Roberts Rules of Order, newly revised (latest edition), shall govern all proceedings except where inconsistent with the Constitution or By-Laws of this organization.

ARTICLE VI

NOMINATIONS

The Chairman, with the approval of the Executive Committee, shall establish a Party Officer Nominations Committee. Upon the call of the Chairperson, the nominating committee shall meet at least two weeks before the County Caucus in the odd numbered years. Any additional nominations shall be made from the floor. If there is more than one (1) candidate for an office, an election shall be held by written ballot. A majority of votes cast by members present and in good standing shall determine the person who shall hold the position.

No person shall be nominated without that person's prior consent.

ARTICLE VII

PUBLIC POSITIONS

The Executive Committee may take a public position upon any issue and represent the Republican Party of Oconto County when two-thirds (2/3) or more of the membership of the Executive Committee concurs in the position.

Neither the Republican Party of Oconto County nor its Executive Committee shall endorse a candidate or candidates for public office prior to a primary election. The elected officers as individuals may endorse a candidate or candidates at any time but not on behalf of the Republican Party of Oconto County.

ARTICLE VIII

FINANCE

- A. In the event of the dissolution of the Republican Party of Oconto County, the remaining assets shall be transferred to the Republican Party of Wisconsin.
- B. Bills incurred by this organization shall be satisfied by check drawn upon the account of the Republican Party of Oconto County.
- C. The Executive Committee may establish and control any expense account.
- D. The Executive Committee may develop a budget in the fall of each calendar year. This budget shall anticipate revenue and expenses for the coming year.
- E. The Chairperson may directly authorize disbursements of less than \$ 100.00. Expenditures of \$ 100.00 or more require authorization by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE IX

BY-LAWS

By-Laws may be adopted in compliance with this Constitution by a majority vote at any duly called county meeting or County Caucus.

ARTICLE X

Miscellaneous

In the event of any conflict or ambiguity in this Constitution with the Constitution of the Republican Party of Wisconsin, the provisions of the Constitution of the Republican Party of Wisconsin shall prevail.

ARTICLE XI

CONSTRUCTION AND AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended at any County Caucus if notice is included in the call of the Caucus stating that amendments will be considered at the County Caucus. An amendment shall be adopted only by a majority vote of the members in good standing present.

This Constitution was adopted unanimously by the members present at the 2002 Caucus of the Republican Party of Oconto County at Kelly Lake, Wisconsin, February 17, 2002, amended by the members present at the January 15, 2011 Caucus of the Republican Party of Oconto County at Oconto Falls, amended by the members present at the January 18th, 2014 Caucus of the Republican Party of Oconto County at Gillett and further amended by the members present at the January 24th, 2015 Caucus of the Republican Party of Oconto County at Suring.