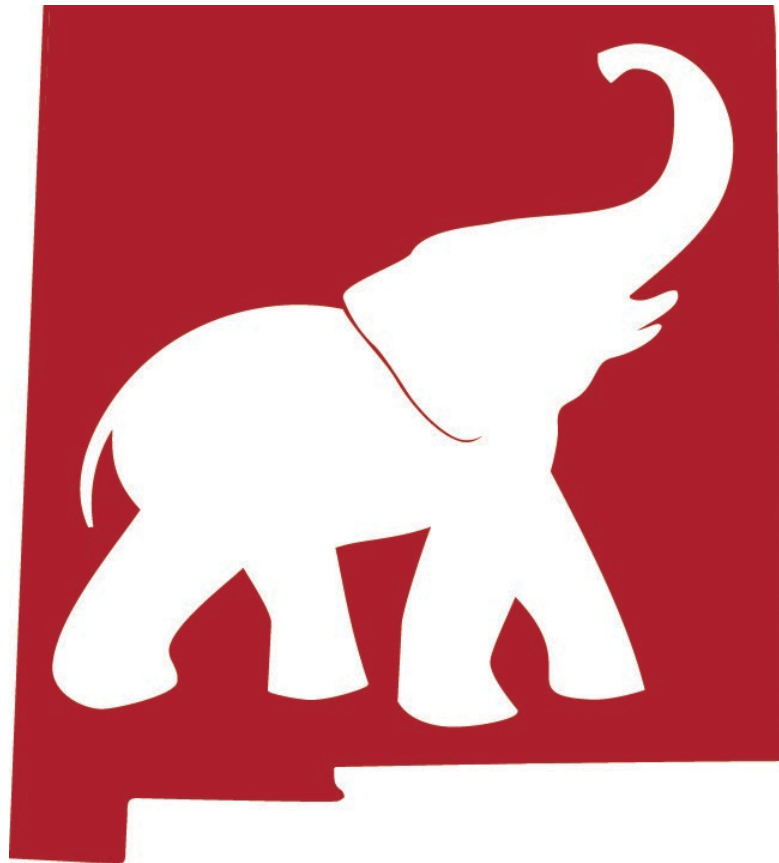


***UNIFORM STATE RULES***  
***OF THE***  
***REPUBLICAN PARTY OF NEW MEXICO***



**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

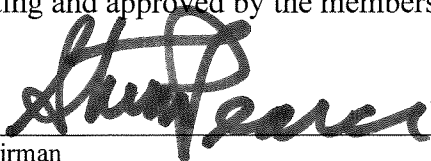
**DECEMBER 16, 2021**

This copy of the

**UNIFORM STATE RULES OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF NEW MEXICO**

supersede any and all previous Uniform State Rules of The Republican Party of New Mexico along with any addendums thereto, I, **Steve Pearce**, The Republican Party of New Mexico Chairman and **Mari Trujillo Spinelli** The Republican Party of New Mexico Secretary, hereby

**CERTIFY:** that these rules disclose a complete, true, and accurate set of “**The Uniform State Rules of The Republican Party of New Mexico and addendums**” thereto as amended on November 16, 2021 at a duly called Republican Party of New Mexico State Central Committee Meeting and approved by the members in attendance.



Chairman  
Republican Party of New Mexico



Secretary  
Republican Party of New Mexico

STATE OF NEW MEXICO)

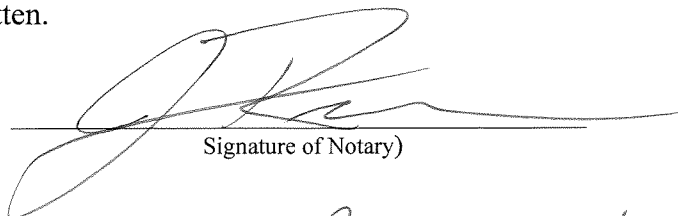
)ss.

COUNTY OF BERNALILLO)

On this 30 day of November, 2021 before me, the subscriber, a Notary Public in and for said State and County, personally appeared Steve Pearce and Mari Trujillo Spinelli, the Chairman, and Secretary of The Republican Party of New Mexico respectively, known or identified to me to be the person(s) whose names are subscribed within the instrument, and in due form of law pertaining hereto and acknowledged to me that they executed the same as their voluntary act and deed on behalf of said organization.

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal in said state and county on the day and year last above written.

Notary Seal



Signature of Notary)



**OFFICIAL SEAL**  
Jesse Rodriguez  
NOTARY PUBLIC-State of New Mexico  
My Commission Expires 9-22-2024

My Commission Expires: 9-22-2024

## ARTICLE 1. GENERAL

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### 1-1. GENERAL: PARTY NAME PARTY EMBLEM USE OF NAME & EMBLEM

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#### 1-1-1. PARTY NAME

- A. The Republican Party organization in the state of New Mexico shall be known as "The Republican Party of New Mexico."
- B. The Republican Party organization within each county of the state of New Mexico shall be known as "The Republican Party of \_\_\_\_\_ County" with the appropriate county name inserted.

#### 1-1-2. PARTY EMBLEM

The Republican Party of New Mexico and the Republican parties of each of the counties of the state of New Mexico shall have as their emblem the flag of the United States of America.

#### 1-1-3. USE OF THE PARTY NAME AND EMBLEM

- A. Neither the name "Republican" nor the name "Republican Party" shall be used by any person, group, or convention, except in strict conformity with these rules and the Election Code of New Mexico NMAC.
- B. Should any question arise as to whether a person, persons, or group filed under the name "Republican" or the use of the copyrighted "Republican" emblem has been done contrary to these rules or the Election Code of New Mexico, such question shall be determined by the Republican State Central Committee or the appropriate county central committee.

#### 1-1-4. PARTY HEADQUARTERS

Official state or county Republican Party headquarters shall be established only by the state or county officers, respectively.

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### 1-2. GENERAL: MEMBERSHIP PARTICIPATION CONVENTION PARTICIPATION

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#### 1-2-1. PARTY MEMBERSHIP - PARTICIPATION

- A. Party Membership: Any qualified voter in New Mexico whose properly registered political party affiliation is "Republican" shall be considered a member of The Republican Party of New Mexico and of the Republican Party of the county in which the voter is so registered and is eligible to participate in Republican Party affairs in accordance with these rules.
- B. Participation: It is the intent and purpose of these rules to encourage and allow the broadest possible participation of all Republican voters in Republican Party activities at all levels and to assure that the Republican Party is open and accessible.

## 1-2-2. PARTY GOVERNMENT AND CONVENTION PARTICIPATION

- A. Committees: Each member, officer, or candidate for same, of the State Central Committee, any county contingent of the State Central Committee, any county central committee, or any ward or precinct committee must be a qualified and properly registered Republican voter living at the address of registration in the New Mexico county, ward, or precinct involved as of the date of the call for the organizational meeting of the committee.
- B. Conventions: Each participant, delegate, officer, or candidate for same to or of any Republican State convention, any Republican county convention, any Republican ward caucus, or any Republican precinct caucus must be a qualified and properly registered Republican voter in the New Mexico county, ward, or precinct involved as of the date of the call for each convention. New delegates shall be elected for each convention. Unless elected, ex officio members of central committees will not be delegates to conventions.
- C. Automatic Resignation by Registered Change of Party or Residence: A properly registered change of political party affiliation to anything other than "Republican" or a registered change of residence to one outside the New Mexico county, ward or precinct involved shall constitute automatic and immediate resignation from any central, ward, or precinct committee membership or office or candidacy for same and from any convention delegacy or office or candidacy for same for which there is a residency requirement.

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## 1-3. GENERAL: PARTY STRUCTURE GOVERNING & ADMINISTRATIVE BODIES

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### 1-3-1. GOVERNING BODIES

- A. The affairs of The Republican Party of New Mexico shall be governed by substantially representative governing bodies that shall be at the state level, a State Central Committee, and, at the county level, a county central committee.
- B. Elective members of the State Central Committee contingent from each county and elective members of the county central committee for each county shall be elected by a Republican county convention in each county.

### 1-3-2. ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS AND BODIES

- A. Ward/Precinct Base: Each county shall adopt, in its county supplementary rules, either a "ward-based" or a "precinct-based" administrative organization. The officers shall be elected as stated in paragraphs B. and C. below.
- B. Ward-based County - Ward and Precinct Officers: In a ward-based county administrative organization, ward officers shall be elected by a Republican ward caucus for each ward in the county. The elected ward chairman for the ward shall appoint precinct chairmen for the precincts within the ward.
- C. Precinct-based County-Precinct Officers: In a precinct-based county administrative organization, precinct officers shall be elected by a Republican precinct caucus for each precinct in the county.
- D. Ward Committee - Precinct Committee: Any elected group of ward or precinct officers or appointed replacements and any others who may be additionally provided for in the county

supplementary rules of a particular county shall be known as the Republican ward or precinct committee for the ward or precinct involved with the duty of administratively carrying out the policies of the Republican State Central Committee and the Republican county central committee for the county within which the ward or precinct is located.

**1-3-3. ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS:**

Unless otherwise prohibited by New Mexico Statutes or the Uniform State Rules, electronic means of communication may be used for official Republican Party Communication at both the state and county levels. Central Committee members without email addresses on file with respective Republican Party office will be contacted using the U.S. Postal Service. Individuals may specify to the county or state party the option they prefer.

**1-3-4. ELECTRONIC MEETINGS:**

In the event of a declared federal or state emergency, all county and state meetings and conventions may be conducted via electronic means in which all participants can simultaneously hear each other and have the opportunity for recognition analogous to a regular in-person meeting. Voting processes may be conducted via electronic means or by mail, as determined by the meeting or convention. Other allowances for electronic meetings may be included elsewhere in these rules. Any conflicting language in the rules shall defer to this rule.

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**1-4. GENERAL: CONFLICT OF INTEREST RESTRICTIONS**

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**1-4-1. RECRUITMENT OF CANDIDATES**

Nothing in this article shall be construed to prohibit party officers/employees from recruiting Republican candidates to run for public offices.

**1-4-2. EMPLOYEES OF THE PARTY – RESTRICTIONS**

No money in the treasury of The Republican Party of New Mexico, nor in-kind aid given directly or indirectly to the party or one of its committees, agents or representatives, shall be expended directly or indirectly to aid the nominee of a primary election of any one or more persons as against any one or more other persons of the Republican Party running in such primary election. This restriction does not prevent the party from making available identical non-monetary aid to all Republican candidates in a particular primary race.

**1-4-3. PARTY OFFICERS -- ENDORSEMENTS PROHIBITED**

Officers shall not publicly endorse one Republican candidate over another Republican candidate. (This does not apply to ward officers.)

**1-4-4. WHEN A PARTY OFFICER BECOMES A CANDIDATE FOR PUBLIC OFFICE**

In the event the state chairman or any other state officer of the Republican State Central Committee files as a candidate for public office and there is another Republican who has filed for the same office, the state officer shall immediately vacate the party office. In that event, the successor shall be selected in the manner for filling vacancies as provided for in these rules.

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**1-5. GENERAL: RULES**

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**1-5-1. GENDER REFERENCES**

References to persons or positions in these Uniform State Rules and in all county supplementary rules shall be interpreted to refer to both women and men unless there is a specific declaration otherwise, as is the case in abiding by certain Republican National Committee rules.

**1-5-2. UNIFORM STATE RULES**

The Republican Party of New Mexico shall be organized and governed in accordance with these Uniform State Rules and any proper amendments thereto. The Uniform State Rules shall apply uniformly to each county party organization throughout the state.

A. USR Rule Suspension No rule in these Uniform State Rules can be suspended at either the state or county level.

**1-5-3. COUNTY SUPPLEMENTARY RULES**

Each county shall have a set of county supplementary rules that provide for situations and circumstances of unique concern to a county.

A. CSR Rule Suspension: No rule in any proper and properly filed set of county supplementary rules can be suspended.

**END OF ARTICLE 1**

## ARTICLE 2. STATE

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### 2-1. STATE: CENTRAL COMMITTEE

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#### 2-1-1. STATE - CENTRAL COMMITTEE - GOVERNING BODY

The Republican State Central Committee shall be the governing body of and shall have general supervision and control of the political affairs of The Republican Party of New Mexico.

#### 2-1-2. STATE - CENTRAL COMMITTEE - SPECIAL POWERS AND DUTIES

- A. Delegation of Authority to State Executive Committee: The State Central Committee shall have the power to delegate any part of its authority to a State Executive Committee, provided such delegation is not in conflict with any law.
- B. Power to Settle Factional Differences: The State Central Committee shall have the power to settle factional differences and to prevent damage to the party welfare. The State Central Committee shall have the power to call together any county central committee for the purpose of rearranging such county committee or its officers or enlarging the membership thereof, and shall determine the method of rearranging or enlarging any such county committee and shall have the power to rearrange or replace any precinct or ward committee or its officers, as hereinafter specifically provided in this rule.
- C. If a county chairman fails or refuses to call a meeting of a county central committee when such meeting is provided for by these rules, or when such meeting is duly ordered by the state chairman then and in that event the state chairman shall, upon a majority vote of the State Executive Committee, decree a vacancy in the office of such county chairman and shall call a meeting of the county central committee for the purpose of electing a new county chairman. Such meeting shall be called in accordance with these rules by the state chairman in lieu of the county chairman, and the person elected at such meeting as chairman of the county central committee shall automatically be the county chairman of the Republican Party in said county.
- D. When the State Central Committee, in its discretion, finds that any precinct caucus, ward caucus, county convention, or election, or any combination thereof was improperly held, or was not held, or where any dispute involving factional differences is presented to the State Central Committee, it shall have the power to select new precinct officers, ward officers, county officers, members of the county central committee, and members of the State Central Committee from that county.

#### 2-1-3. STATE - CENTRAL COMMITTEE - MEMBERSHIP APPORTIONMENT

- A. Apportionment: The State Central Committee shall consist of a membership as follows:
  - 1. One (1) elected member from each county in the state of New Mexico;
  - 2. An additional number of elected members from each county consisting of one (1) member for each one thousand (1,000 ) votes or remaining major fraction thereof cast in the county for the Republican nominee for governor at the last preceding gubernatorial election for which official election canvass records are available;
  - 3. All county officers, not to exceed five (5);
  - 4. The National committeeman and the National committeewoman;
  - 5. Three members (3) to be selected by the State Young Republicans;

6. Three (3) members to be selected by the State College Republicans;
  7. Three (3) members to be selected by the New Mexico Federation of Republican Women;
  8. Any New Mexico registered Republican who is:
    - a. An incumbent member of the cabinet of the President of the United States,
    - b. Any incumbent Republican member of the United States Senate,
    - c. Any incumbent Republican member of the United States House of Representatives,
    - d. Any incumbent Republican statewide elected office holder, judges excepted,
    - e. Any incumbent Republican member of the New Mexico Senate, and
    - f. Any incumbent Republican member of the New Mexico House of Representatives.
  9. All former state chairmen, all former National committeemen, and all former National committeewomen;
  10. Each officer of the Republican State Central Committee; and
  11. The chairman of the Advisory State Rules Committee.
- B. Membership in the State Central Committee shall be by only one of the aforementioned methods.
- C. Affiliate organizations shall be in good standing with their national organizations and remain so.
- D. Fractional Votes: Fractional votes or fractional memberships in the State Central Committee shall not be recognized. Each State Central Committee member has one vote.
- E. County Contingent:
1. The county contingent to the State Central Committee shall consist of:
    - a. All County officers, not to exceed five (5) and
    - b. The elected members from the county or any appointed replacements.
  2. The elected members of the county contingent to the State Central Committee shall be elected at the Biennial Organizational County Convention held in the county, and they shall hold office as provided in 3-3-1-C of these Uniform State Rules.
- F. Proxies: Proxies for the State Central Committee meetings are provided in 3-3-1-D of these Uniform State Rules.

#### **2-1-4. STATE - CENTRAL COMMITTEE - STATE OFFICERS**

- A. Organizational Meeting and Election of State Officers: At a meeting of the State Central Committee called between November 15, and January 15, following the biennial general election, the State Central Committee shall elect a:
- Chairman,  
First Vice-Chairman,  
Second Vice-Chairman,  
State Vice-Chairman from Congressional District I,  
State Vice-Chairman from Congressional District II,  
State Vice-Chairman from Congressional District III,  
Secretary,  
Treasurer.



1. State Vice-Chairmen from Congressional Districts - Nomination & Selection - District Caucuses: At the Biennial Organizational Meeting of the State Central Committee described above in Rule 2-1-4.A the members of the State Central Committee from each congressional district shall caucus and nominate a single candidate for the office of state vice-chairman from each of their respective districts. Voting at each district caucus shall be by secret ballot.
    - a. Exception – Secret Ballot: A voice vote may be taken if there is only one (1) candidate.
  2. State Vice-Chairmen from Congressional Districts - At-Large Confirmation & Election: Each nominee for state vice-chairman from each congressional district shall be confirmed or rejected by a majority vote of the State Central Committee; such confirmation shall constitute election by the State Central Committee at-large.
- B. Terms of Office: The term of each elected officer of the State Central Committee shall begin the first day following his or her election, and such officer shall serve for two years or until his or her successor is duly elected or appointed.
- C. Vacancies:
1. General: Any vacancy occurring in the office of any State Central Committee officer shall be filled by the State Executive Committee and confirmed at the next meeting of the State Central Committee, provided that, in case of the vacancy of the chairmanship of the State Central Committee, a meeting of that committee shall be called by the first vice-chairman or, in his or her absence, the second vice chairman for a time not later than thirty (30) days after such vacancy occurs, for the purpose of selecting a permanent state chairman. In the event the first vice-chairman or, in his or her absence, the second vice chairman fails or refuses to call such a meeting, a meeting for the same purpose may be called, with proper notice, by any ten (10) members of the State Central Committee.
  2. Treasurer: In the case of a vacancy occurring in the office of treasurer of the State Central Committee, the office shall be temporarily filled by an available individual designated by the state chairman, who shall serve until a replacement shall be elected at a properly called State Central Committee meeting within thirty (30) days after such vacancy, occurs.
  3. At no time shall the offices or duties of chairman and treasurer of the State Central Committee reside in the same person.
- D. Removal of State Central Committee Officer: Any officer of the State Central Committee may be removed by a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of all the members of the State Central Committee present in person at a meeting properly called for the purpose and attended by at least 51% of the entire membership of the committee. In such voting, proxies shall not be recognized.
- E. State Officers - Ex Officio Memberships: Each officer of the State Central Committee shall be an ex officio member of both the State Central Committee and the State Executive Committee.
- F. State Chairman - Powers & Duties: The chairman of the State Central Committee shall automatically be the state chairman of The Republican Party of New Mexico with the following powers and duties:
1. General Duties: The state chairman shall perform all the duties imposed upon him or her under these rules, such other duties as may be imposed upon him or her by the State Central Committee, all the duties usually incumbent upon him or her in connection with the office of state chairman, and any duties provided by law.

2. Duty to Call State Central Committee Meetings: The state chairman shall have the power to call, with proper notice, meetings of the State Central Committee at such times as he or she may deem proper and shall have the duty to call such meetings when required by these rules.
  3. Duty to Preside: It shall be the duty of the state chairman to preside at meetings of the State Central Committee.
  4. Duty to Specify Week for Holding Elections: The state chairman shall have the duty to specify the two (2) weeks for the holding of meetings to elect any party officers, including delegates.
  5. Duty to Appoint Committees: The state chairman shall have the duty to appoint such committees as may be required by these rules.
  6. Power to Appoint: The state chairman shall have the power to appoint such other assistants, coordinators or committees as he or she may deem proper.
  7. Failure to "Call" a Regular Biennial Organizational County Convention: In case of failure or refusal of a county chairman or any county party organization in any county to call and/or hold a proper Biennial Organizational County Convention for the election of a State Central Committee County Contingent and/or a county central committee, the state chairman shall call and supervise the conduct of such a Biennial Organizational County Convention.
  8. Power to Employ: The state chairman and the State Executive Committee shall have the power to employ an executive director and other employees to perform such duties as the state chairman and the State Executive Committee shall prescribe.
  9. Annual Budget: The chairman with the assistance of the treasurer and the executive director shall submit a budget by November 30, of each year for the successive year, for approval by the elected officers and the National committeeman and committeewoman, and shall make this budget available to the State Central Committee.
  10. Expenditure of Funds Authorization: The executive director shall be limited to authorizing expenditures contained in the party's budget. Items not in the budget shall be approved by the chairman or, in the absence of the chairman, the first vice-chairman.
  11. Duty to Properly Transition: The state officers (and all headquarters personnel) shall have the duty to transition their office to their duly elected successor with all required assets (property, paper and computer files, reports, budgets, artifacts, etc.) up to date and accounted for.
- G. State First Vice-Chairman - Powers and Duties: The state first vice-chairman shall exercise the powers and perform all the duties of the state chairman in his or her absence and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the state chairman.
- H. State Second Vice-Chairman - Powers and Duties: The state second vice-chairman shall exercise the powers and perform all the duties of the state chairman in the absence of both the state chairman and the state first vice-chairman and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the state chairman.
- I. State Vice-Chairmen from Congressional Districts - Powers and Duties: The state vice-chairmen for the congressional districts shall perform such duties as may be assigned by the state chairman.
- J. State Secretary – Duties: The secretary of the State Central Committee shall carefully preserve all of the minutes of the meetings of the State Central Committee and those of the State Executive Committee, and shall perform all duties that may be required by such committees.

- K. State Treasurer – Duties: The treasurer of the State Central Committee shall perform such duties as may be required by the chairman of the State Central Committee and by law.
- L. Chairman - Salary: The state chairman may be paid an annual salary in addition to the expenses (travel, food, lodging, communications, etc.) associated with carrying out the duties of this office. A majority vote of the group comprising all the other elected state officers plus the national committeeman and national committeewoman may create a compensation committee for the purpose of recommending salary and expense accounts for the state chairman. The state central committee will approve or modify any such recommendations.

#### 2-1-5. STATE - CENTRAL COMMITTEE - MEETINGS - NOTICES

- A. Notices of State Central Committee Meetings: A written notice of any state central committee meeting shall be given to each member of the state central committee by any proper officer or group of members not less than ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting.
- B. Meetings “Called” by SCC Members: Any twenty-five (25) or more members of the State Central Committee, acting in unison, shall have the power to call meetings of the State Central Committee along with a written agenda of specific issues by giving proper notice.
- C. Quorum: A State Central Committee meeting quorum shall consist of those state central committee members present in person or by proper proxy at the time, date, and public place stated in the meeting call.
- D. State Central Committee Members: Copies of any SCC membership list including all contact data shall be sent to all members within seventy-two (72) hours of any changes. The State shall send this list at a minimum, quarterly, to each member and each county chair. The last county central committee list submitted to the state shall be the relevant county membership list utilized when a “Call” is made and distributed to the SCC membership. That list will remain in effect until a new list is submitted to the State.
- E. Special Rules - Recommendation of: The State Central Committee may prescribe special rules for governing the conduct of and procedures for State Central Committee Meetings and state conventions, provided such rules shall not be in conflict with these Uniform State Rules, or any law.
- F. Exception - Notice of Meetings: Vacancies on the general election ballot shall be filled according to law. Notice of the meeting by telephone or other electronic means shall be permitted to fill the vacancies. A vacancy filled by the appropriate county or district State Central Committee members shall be deemed the action of the State Central Committee.

#### 2-1-6. STATE - CENTRAL COMMITTEE - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- A. Membership: The State Executive Committee shall consist of a membership as follows:
1. The officers of the State Central Committee,
  2. The chairman of the State Finance Committee,
  3. The chairman of the Advisory State Rules Committee,
  4. The national committeeman and national committeewoman,
  5. Not fewer than fifteen (15) or more than thirty (30) members appointed by, and who shall serve at the pleasure of, the state chairman.

- B. Chairman: The state chairman shall be the chairman of the State Executive Committee.
- C. Secretary: The state secretary shall be the secretary of the State Executive Committee.
- D. Record of Meetings and Action: The State Executive Committee shall keep a record of all its proceedings and any action taken by the State Executive Committee which shall be effective from the date of the action taken and which shall be binding until such time as the state central committee shall otherwise order. The minutes of the State Executive Committee meetings shall be made available to any member of the state central committee who requests them.
- E. Annual Audit: The State Executive Committee shall obtain an annual audit of all accounts and records of The Republican Party of New Mexico within sixty (60) days after the end of the fiscal year, and shall submit a financial statement at least annually to the members of the state central committee.

#### 2-1-7. STATE - CENTRAL COMMITTEE - STATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

##### A. State Finance Committee

- 1. Committee Membership: The state chairman shall appoint a State Finance Committee, which committee shall perform all duties that may be required by the state chairman. The committee shall have a chairman and a co-chairman appointed from its membership by the state chairman.
- 2. Treasurer Member Ex Officio: The treasurer of the State Central Committee shall be an ex officio member of the State Finance Committee.
- 3. Committee Chairman - Ex officio Membership: The chairman of the State Finance Committee shall be an ex officio member of the State Executive Committee.
- 4. Committee Members - Removal: Removal of any appointive member of the State Finance Committee shall be made by the state chairman and confirmed by the State Executive Committee.

#### 2-1-8. STATE - CENTRAL COMMITTEE – ADVISORY STATE RULES COMMITTEE

##### A. There shall be a standing Advisory State Rules Committee.

- 1. Committee Membership: The Advisory State Rules Committee shall consist of six (6) members from each United States House District and six (6) additional members from the state at-large, for a total membership of twenty-four (24).
- 2. Committee Members - Appointment: Members of the Advisory State Rules Committee shall be appointed by the state chairman and confirmed by the State Central Committee.
- 3. Committee Members - Vacancy: A vacancy on the Advisory State Rules Committee occurring during a term of office shall be filled for the remainder of the term only.
- 4. Terms of Office: The terms of office of the members of the Advisory State Rules Committee shall be three (3) years. Each term shall begin on the first day of December and end on the last day of November three years thereafter. For the purpose of staggering terms the committee will be divided into three groups, with each having two members from each congressional district and two members chosen at large.
- 5. Committee Members - In the Case of Reapportionment: In the case of reapportionment of a United States House District creating a vacancy in the membership of the Advisory State Rules Committee from that district, such vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the state

chairman for the remainder of the vacant term involved. Should an incumbent member of the Advisory State Rules Committee be redistricted into a district that has no vacancy, such member shall serve as a temporary supernumerary state-at-large member for the length of the remainder of the term for which he or she was appointed when in his or her former district.

6. Committee Members - Removal: Removal of a member of the Advisory State Rules Committee shall be done only for just cause by a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of the members of the State Central Committee present in person at a meeting properly called for the purpose and attended by at least 51% of the entire membership of the State Central Committee. In such voting, proxies shall not be recognized.
7. Committee Chairman: The Advisory State Rules Committee shall have a chairman appointed from its membership by the state chairman.
8. Committee Chairman - Ex officio Membership: The chairman of the Advisory State Rules Committee shall be an ex officio member of the State Executive Committee and the State Central Committee.

B. Duties: The Advisory State Rules Committee shall:

1. For Conformity with the Law: Review the existing Uniform State Rules for conformity or conflict with the law.
2. For county supplementary rules: Review the county supplementary rules, filed from the various counties, for conformity with these Uniform State Rules and with the law.
3. For Format and Style: Review and recommend format and style for any proposed amendment to these Uniform State Rules. In no case shall such a review be considered a requirement for the passage of any such amendment.

C. Merits of Substance of a Proposed Amendment - Judgment thereof: It shall not be a duty of the Advisory State Rules Committee to pass judgment of any kind on the merits of the substance of any proposed amendment to these Uniform State Rules.

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## **2-2. STATE: CONVENTIONS**

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### **2-2-1. STATE - CONVENTIONS - REGULAR**

Regular Republican State Conventions shall be held as follows:

- A. Quadrennial Republican State Convention: In the years in which the presidential elections occur, and in accordance with Republican Party National Rules, a Quadrennial Republican State Convention shall be held to:
  1. Choose presidential electors;
  2. Select delegates and alternate delegates to the Republican National Convention;
  3. Elect a Republican National Committeeman and a National Committeewoman; and
  4. Act on any other proper business that may come before the convention.
- B. Pre-Primary Republican State Convention: A Pre-Primary Republican State Convention shall be held in accordance with state law. In the year of the New Mexico gubernatorial election, adoption of a quadrennial Republican State Platform shall be an agenda item for the Pre-Primary Republican State Convention.

**2-2-2. STATE - CONVENTIONS - SPECIAL**

Special Republican state or district Conventions may be called for special purposes and in particular, where the primary election law does not apply, for the purpose of nominating candidates for public office and for the nominating of a candidate for United States Representative to Congress where a vacancy has occurred in that office.

**2-2-3. STATE - CONVENTIONS - OFFICER MEETING HELD TO CALL**

- A. At least three (3) months prior to the holding of any Republican state convention, a meeting of the elected officers of the State Central Committee shall be held to:
1. Call for and set the purpose, time, date, and public place for the holding of the state convention;
  2. Determine the number of delegates to the state convention from each county;
  3. Provide for the nomination of temporary officers of the state convention;
  4. Provide for the recommendation of special rules for governing the conduct of and procedures for the state convention;
  5. Call for and set the time, date, and public place for the holding of a meeting of the State Central Committee to immediately precede the state convention to:
    - a. Consider any contests of delegations to the state convention.
    - b. Determine the temporary roll of delegates to the state convention.
    - c. Select the temporary officers of the state convention.
    - d. Recommend any special rules for the state convention, and
    - e. Consider any other proper business.
  6. Consider any other proper business.
- B. A written report of all action taken at the above meeting, and a packet of procedures to follow shall be provided to each county chairman in sufficient time to plan for the corresponding county convention.

**2-2-4. STATE - CONVENTIONS - NOTICES**

A. Publication & Distribution of Notices:

1. After a meeting of the elected officers of the State Central Committee held to call a Republican State Convention, the secretary of the State Central Committee shall distribute to each member of the State Central Committee a notice of “the call” and publish it on the state website not less than twenty-one (21) days prior to the convention. The notice shall designate the general purpose, time, date, and public place of the convention; the number of delegates allocated to each county; and the time limit for the filing of contests with the secretary of the State Central Committee.
2. Included with the call for any state convention shall be a call for the required State Central Committee meeting to immediately precede the convention.

**2-2-5. STATE - CONVENTIONS - MEMBERSHIP**

- A. Roll of Delegates: The roll of delegates to a Republican State Convention shall consist of all of the delegates properly elected by the county conventions, properly held for the purpose in each county, as determined by the state convention, in accordance with these rules.
- B. Basis for Delegate Apportionment: The number of delegates from each county at a state convention shall be one (1) delegate for each four hundred (400) votes, or remaining major fraction thereof, cast in the county for the Republican nominee for governor in the last preceding gubernatorial election for which official election canvass records are available.
- C. Proxies - Proxy Certificates: Any properly elected delegate to a Republican state convention may appoint any qualified registered Republican voter of his or her county as his or her proxy to act and vote in his or her stead at the state convention, unless otherwise prohibited in these rules. Each proxy certificate must be in writing and signed by the delegate giving the proxy, and shall name the person to be the proxy, shall name the convention for which given, and shall state the date it was signed. Each such proxy certificate must be registered and accepted by the credentials committee of the convention before said proxy may be exercised at the convention.
- D. Proxy Limit: No person shall be permitted to hold and/or exercise more than five (5) proxies to a Republican state convention.
- E. Proxy Prohibition - Alternate Delegates: When proxies are prohibited at a Republican state convention by rules adopted by the Republican National Convention, proxies are prohibited by these Uniform State Rules. One (1) alternate delegate for each delegate to that state convention may be elected at each county convention held for the purpose of electing such delegates.
1. Alternate delegates may be elected in the same manner and at the same time and under the same rules as the delegates to that state convention are elected.
  2. An elected delegate may not serve as an alternate delegate.

## 2-2-6. STATE - CONVENTIONS - MEETING OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE PRECEDING

The Republican State Central Committee shall meet immediately preceding any Republican state convention at the time, date, and public place designated in the call for the convention. The purpose of this State Central Committee meeting is to consider any contests of delegations to the state convention, determine the temporary roll of delegates to the state convention, select the temporary officers, recommend any special rules for the state convention, and consider any other proper business.

- A. Contests: Contests, if any, of delegations to any Republican state convention shall be filed with the secretary of the State Central Committee not later than one (1) hour prior to the time designated for the meeting of the State Central Committee or at the time specified in the call. Only a Republican from the affected county or the Advisory State Rules Committee may file. All contests so filed shall be heard and first determined by the State Central Committee.
1. No contest shall be considered by the State Central Committee unless filed within the time designated in the call for the state convention, except by unanimous consent of the committee; nor shall any contest be considered by the state convention unless the same has been filed in accordance with these rules and first considered by the State Central Committee
  2. The state convention shall have full power to settle any contests and determine the permanent roll of delegates to the state convention, but in voting at the state convention the members of any delegation contesting or contested shall not have the right to vote upon the contest affecting their particular county, but shall have the right to vote upon any other contests or

other matters arising prior to the final determination of the permanent roll of delegates to the Republican state convention.

B. Temporary Roll of Delegates: The State Central Committee shall, immediately after the determination of any contests, make a temporary roll of delegates to the state convention. The delegates constituting the temporary roll of delegates to the state convention shall have the power to confirm the temporary roll of delegates, or may appoint a Credentials Committee to further consider and report its findings as to any contests.

C. Temporary Officers - Selection of: The State Central Committee shall select the temporary officers of the state convention, which officers shall hold their positions until permanent officers are selected by the convention.

The temporary officers of the state convention shall be:

1. Temporary chairman,
2. Temporary vice-chairman,
3. Temporary secretary.

#### **2-2-7. STATE - CONVENTIONS - PRELIMINARY SESSION**

A. Meeting: The Republican state convention shall meet at the time, on the date, and at the public place designated in the call for the convention.

B. Call to Order: The state convention shall be called to order by the state chairman who shall announce the temporary officers selected by the State Central Committee. These temporary officers shall serve until permanent officers are named by the convention.

C. Opening Address: The temporary chairman, or someone selected by him or her, shall deliver the opening address of the convention.

D. Preliminary Session - Order of Business: Under the temporary officers of the state convention, the convention shall:

1. Consider the temporary roll of delegates to the state convention, furnished by the State Central Committee, for either affirmation or further consideration and determination of contests.
2. Appoint any and all committees the state convention may determine proper for the purpose of the convention and shall determine the method of selecting the same and the number of members of each committee. These committees shall report back to the convention, which shall have the power to accept, reject, or modify any report of any such committee.
3. Hear the opening address.
4. Hear appropriate committee reports.
5. Determine the permanent roll of delegates to the state convention.
6. Select the permanent officers of the state convention who shall be:
  - a. Convention chairman,
  - b. Convention vice-chairman,
  - c. Convention secretary.

#### **2-2-8. STATE - CONVENTIONS - MAIN SESSION**



Under the permanent officers of the Republican state convention, the permanent roll of delegates to the Republican state convention shall proceed with the business for which the convention was called.

**2-2-9. STATE - CONVENTIONS – PROHIBITED (UNIT RULE - FRACTIONAL VOTES)**

- A. Vote by the “Unit Rule” at any Republican state convention is prohibited.
- B. “Fractional” votes at any Republican state convention are prohibited.

**2-2-10. STATE - DISTRICT CONVENTIONS – NATL CONVENTION DELEGATE SELECTION**

For any Republican state or district convention at which delegates and alternate delegates from New Mexico to the Republican national convention are to be selected, the following shall be used:

- A. Representation: The Republican Party of New Mexico shall endeavor to have equal representation of men and women in its delegation to the Republican national convention. This is not intended to be the basis of any kind of quota system.
- B. Allocations: The number of national convention delegates and alternate delegates selected shall be in strict conformity with the rules adopted for and the call for each Republican national convention.
- C. Special Allocation - Four Women and Four Men: The total number of New Mexico delegates shall include at least four women and four men, and the total number of New Mexico alternate delegates shall include at least four women and four men. This special allocation is to ensure full membership on all of the four committees of the Republican national convention.
- D. General Procedure for Nominating and Electing Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the Republican National Convention: The following general procedures should be followed in nominating and selecting delegates and alternate delegates to the Republican National Convention:
  - 1. Self-Nomination: Any properly qualified registered New Mexico Republican voter wishing to be a nominee for delegate or alternate delegate to the Republican national convention shall, prior to the Quadrennial Republican State Convention, file a written notice of his or her self-nomination with the state chairman not later than a due date set by the state chairman. Not less than thirty (30) days prior to the due date set by the state chairman, written notice of that date shall be mailed to each county chairman.
    - a. A self-nominee shall be a properly qualified registered New Mexico Republican voter on or before October 1, of the year before the year in which the Republican National Convention is to be held.
    - b. A self-nominee can run in his or her congressional district election or in the statewide at-large election, but not both.
    - c. The notice of self-nomination shall contain the nominee's:
      - Full name,
      - Gender,
      - Registered residence address,
      - Current mailing address,
      - County of voter registration,
      - Telephone numbers, and a
      - "Congressional district election" or "statewide at-large election" designation (but not both).

2. State Chairman's List of Self-Nominees: Immediately after the deadline for the filing of self-nominations for delegate or alternate delegate to the Republican national convention, the state chairman shall direct that a list be prepared of all properly filed and qualified self-nominees.

The state chairman's list shall contain each nominee's

Full name,  
Gender,  
Registered residence address,  
Current mailing address,  
County of voter registration,  
Telephone numbers, and a  
"Congressional district election" or "Statewide at-large election" designation (but not both).

Copies of the state chairman's list of self-nominees shall be made available promptly, upon request, to any properly qualified elected delegate or alternate delegate to the Quadrennial State Convention.

3. Exception - No Floor Nominations: There shall be no nominations from the floor of any convention for delegate and/or alternate delegate to the Republican national convention except in the case of actual failure of the self-nomination process to meet the allocated number of elected delegates or alternate delegates.
4. Election of Delegates and Alternate Delegates - Ballots - Voting: Election of delegates and alternate delegates to the Republican National Convention shall be by secret ballot appropriate and separate for each congressional district as authorized by the elected officers of the State Central Committee and prepared prior to the convention. The names of all qualified self-nominees, properly filed prior to the involved convention, shall be listed on each appropriate ballot in alphabetical order of surname, along with gender and county of voter registration for each. The ballot for each congressional district shall include the list of self-nominees for the district election and the list of self-nominees for at-large election by the state convention.
5. Determination of Delegates and Alternate Delegates - Rosters - Boards of Election Judges - Resolution of Tie Votes: Election shall be determined for the convention by a board of election judges confirmed by each congressional district and the state convention at large. Election of delegates and alternate delegates shall be determined by the election judges, by highest votes received, from a roster of nominated candidates arranged in descending order of votes received. Tie votes shall be resolved by lot.
6. Vacancy in the New Mexico Delegation: In the event of a vacancy occurring in the New Mexico delegation prior to the formal certification of the delegation to the Republican national convention, the state chairman, in consultation with the involved board of election judges, and in conformance with national requirements, shall determine a replacement from the convention roster, based on the highest vote received. Such action shall be deemed formal action of the involved convention.
7. Ballot Preparation and Handling/Election /Determination of Results - Detailed Procedures - Preliminary Committees: At a meeting of the elected officers of the State Central Committee held to call the Quadrennial State Convention, the state chairman shall appoint the following committees:
  - a. A Preliminary Rules and Order of Business Committee to draft special rules;
  - b. A Preliminary Ballot Preparation, Voting Procedures and Security Committee;

- c. A Preliminary Board of Election Judges -- a minimum of one (1) from each congressional district.
  8. Republican National Convention - Costs and Expenses - Delegates and Alternate Delegates: Each delegate and alternate delegate to the Republican national convention from New Mexico shall pay his or her own expenses, and funds of The Republican Party of New Mexico shall not be used.
- E. Republican National Convention – 1<sup>st</sup> Vote:
1. Each presidential candidate and the uncommitted category shall be entitled to a pro-rata share of the delegates to the New Mexico delegation if they received fifteen percent (15%) or more of the total presidential primary vote.
  2. The method to determine the pro-rata share shall be simple arithmetic proportion.

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**2-3. STATE: NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS - VACANCIES**

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**2-3-1. STATE - NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBER VACANCIES**

In the event of a vacancy in the office of the Republican National Committeeman or Republican National Committeewoman, the State Central Committee shall elect his or her successor at a properly called meeting within thirty (30) days after such vacancy occurs.

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**2-4. STATE: CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE**

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**2-4-1. STATE - CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE - NOMINATION BY CONVENTION**

All Republican candidates for state or multi-county district public office, in any instance where the primary election law does not apply, shall be nominated by a majority of all delegates present in person or by proper proxy at a state convention called for the purpose. Such nominations shall be certified to the New Mexico Secretary of State by the chairman and secretary of the state convention within seventy-two (72) hours after the convention has adjourned.

**2-4-2. STATE - CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE - PARTY NOMINEES**

All Republican candidates for state or multi-county districted public office regularly and lawfully nominated, under and by virtue of the primary election law or these rules, shall be the candidates of the Republican Party for the respective offices to which they were so nominated.

**2-4-3. STATE - CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE - VACANCIES**

If a vacancy occurs in the certified lists of Republican candidates for state or multi-county district public office, either before or after any primary election, such vacancy can be filled under the law. The vacancy shall be filled by the State Central Committee, or appropriate county, or appropriate district members of the State Central Committee, which action shall be deemed the action of the State Central Committee. The chairman and the secretary of the State Central Committee shall certify to and file with the New Mexico Secretary of State the name of the candidate selected by the State Central Committee to fill the vacancy.

**2-4-4. STATE - UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - VACANCIES**

If a vacancy occurs in the office of a United States Representative, a candidate to fill such vacancy shall be nominated by a properly called meeting of a special ad hoc congressional district central committee comprised of the members of the State Central Committee from the involved congressional district. Or, if the ad hoc congressional district central committee finds it possible within the law, such candidate shall be nominated by a Special Congressional District Convention which shall be called and conducted, as applicable, in the manner of a state convention as provided in the Uniform State Rules.

Any ad hoc congressional district central committee called to nominate or to provide for the nomination of a candidate to fill a vacancy in the office of United States Representative shall be confined to that purpose only.

The Uniform State Rules governing the State Central Committee shall be, where applicable, the rules for governing any ad hoc congressional district central committee.

The officers of the State Central Committee shall be the officers of any ad hoc congressional district central committee, but no one of them shall be permitted to vote in the ad hoc congressional district central committee proceedings unless he or she happens to be a properly registered Republican voter of the involved congressional district.

The legally required published notices for any meeting to elect delegates to any convention resulting from this rule shall be published at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting, notwithstanding any other rule.

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**2-5. STATE: UNIFORM STATE RULES**

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**2-5-1. STATE - UNIFORM STATE RULES - AMENDMENT**

- A. These Uniform State Rules of The Republican Party of New Mexico may be amended by a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of the members of the State Central Committee present in person or by proxy at any regularly called meeting thereof.
- B. Any member of the State Central Committee may properly submit in writing a proposed amendment to these Uniform State Rules to the advisory state rules committee chairman, who shall have the duty to see that the proposed amendment is included with the next call for a meeting of the State Central Committee, unless the proposed amendment shall have been disapproved for such inclusion by the State Executive Committee.
- C. Any proposed amendment to these Uniform State Rules which has been properly submitted in writing to each member of the State Central Committee prior to or with the official call for a meeting of the State Central Committee adopted in substance by a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of the members of the committee present in person or by proxy at the meeting.
- D. Any member of the State Central Committee may properly submit in writing a proposed amendment to these Uniform State Rules directly to each member of the State Central Committee

**2-5-2. STATE - UNIFORM STATE RULES - FILING OF AMENDMENTS**

A. Any amendment to these Uniform State Rules properly adopted at a meeting of the State Central Committee shall be filed within fourteen (14) days by the state chairman and state secretary with the:

1. New Mexico Secretary of State
2. The county clerk of each county in the state,
3. The county chairman in each county in the state.

**2-5-3. STATE - UNIFORM STATE RULES - AMENDMENT EFFECT**

In accordance with the New Mexico Election Code, with regard to political party rule, no amendment shall be made less than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to any general election, nor shall any amendment be effective until thirty (30) days after being filed.

**END OF ARTICLE 2.**

## ARTICLE 3. COUNTY

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### 3-1. COUNTY: CENTRAL COMMITTEE

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#### 3-1-1. COUNTY - CENTRAL COMMITTEE - GOVERNING BODY

The Republican county central committee in each county in the state of New Mexico shall be the governing body of and shall have general supervision and control of the political affairs of the Republican Party of that county.

#### 3-1-2. COUNTY - CENTRAL COMMITTEE - SPECIAL POWERS

Each county central committee shall have the power to delegate any part of its authority to a County Executive Committee, provided such delegation is not in conflict with any law.

#### 3-1-3. COUNTY - CENTRAL COMMITTEE - MEMBERSHIP

A. Apportionment: Each county central committee shall consist of a membership as follows:

1. The ward chairman of each ward in a ward-based county or the precinct chairman of each precinct in a precinct-based county;
2. An additional number of elected members nominated from each ward in a ward-based county or from each precinct in a precinct-based county, such numbers to be proportionally based on the number of votes cast in each such ward or precinct for the Republican candidate for governor in the last preceding gubernatorial election for which official election canvass records are available, the proportion to be determined by each county central committee and properly included in the county supplementary rules of each county; and
3. Ex officio members, as provided for in the county supplementary rules.

B. Terms of Office: The elected members of the county central committee shall be elected at the Biennial Organizational County Convention held in each county for that purpose, as provided in these rules, and shall hold office for a period of two years, or until their successors are selected. Vacancies at this meeting of the new county central committee shall be filled in accordance with the county supplementary rules.

C. Proxies: Any member of a county central committee may appoint any qualified registered Republican voter of his or her ward in a ward-based county or of his or her precinct in a precinct-based county as his or her proxy for any meeting of the county central committee unless prohibited in these rules.

D. Vacancies: Any vacancy occurring in the membership of a county central committee shall be filled by appointment by the county chairman.

E. Removal of County Central Committee Member: Any elected or appointed member of a county central committee may be removed by a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of all the members of the county central committee present in person at a meeting properly called for the purpose and attended by at least 51% of the entire membership of the committee. In such voting, proxies shall not be recognized.

- F. Automatic Vacancy in Position of County Central Committee Member: Each elected or appointed member of the county central committee shall be officially registered as a Republican voter and shall reside in, and his or her registered residence shall be in the ward/precinct in which he or she has been elected or appointed to serve. Should any elected or appointed member of the county central committee from a ward/precinct change his or her registered political party designation or should his or her registered residence for any reason cease to be in the ward/precinct, then the position of such county central committee member shall immediately be deemed vacant and a successor shall be selected in the manner provided in these rules for the filling of county central committee membership vacancies.

### 3-1-4. COUNTY - CENTRAL COMMITTEE - COUNTY OFFICERS

- A. Organizational Meeting and Election of County Officers: At an organizational meeting of each county central committee to be held during the Biennial Organizational County Convention and immediately following the selection of the new members of the county central committee by the convention, the newly constituted county central committee shall elect a:
1. Chairman,
  2. First Vice-Chairman,
  3. Second Vice-Chairman,
  4. Secretary, and
  5. Treasurer.
- B. Terms of Office: The term of each elected officer of each county central committee shall begin the first day following his or her election, and he or she shall serve for two (2) years or until his or her successor is duly elected or appointed.
- C. Vacancies:
1. General: Any vacancy occurring in the office of any county central committee officer shall be filled by the county executive committee and confirmed at the next meeting of the county central committee, provided that, in case of the vacancy of the chairmanship of the county central committee, a meeting of that committee shall be called by the first vice-chairman or, in his or her absence, the second vice chairman for a time not to exceed thirty (30) days after such vacancy occurs, for the purpose of selecting a permanent county chairman. In the event the first vice-chairman or, in his or her absence, the second vice chairman fails or refuses to call such a meeting, a meeting for the same purpose may be called, with proper notice, by any ten (10) members of the county central committee.
  2. Treasurer: In the case of a vacancy occurring in the office of treasurer of the county central committee, the office shall be temporarily filled by an available individual designated by the county chairman, who shall serve until a replacement shall be elected at a properly called county central committee meeting not to exceed thirty (30) days after such vacancy, occurs.
  3. At no time shall the offices or duties of chairman and treasurer of the county central committee reside in the same person.
- D. Removal of County Officers: Any officer of a county central committee may be removed by a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of all the members of the county central committee present in person at a meeting properly called for the purpose and attended by at least 51% of the entire membership of the committee. In such voting, proxies shall not be recognized.
- E. County Officers - Ex officio Memberships: Each officer of each county central committee shall be an ex officio member of both the county central committee and the County Executive Committee.

- F. County Chairman - Powers and Duties: The chairman of each county central committee shall automatically be the county chairman of the Republican Party of the county with the following powers and duties:
1. Duty to "call" County Central Committee Meetings: The chairman of the Republican Party of the county shall have the following powers and duties to call, with proper notice, meetings of the county central committee at such times as he or she may deem proper and shall have the duty to call such meetings when required by these rules.
  2. Duty to Preside: It shall be the duty of the county chairman to preside at the meetings of the county central committee.
  3. Duty - Calls and Notices: It shall be the duty of the county chairman to insure that all calls and notices for meetings and conventions are properly issued in accordance with these rules and the law.
  4. Duty to Certify: It shall be the duty of the incoming and/or outgoing county chairman to certify the results of the Biennial Organizational County Convention to the state chairman.
  5. Duty to Appoint Committees: The county chairman shall have the duty to appoint such committees as may be required by these rules.
  6. Power to Appoint: The county chairman shall have the power to appoint such other assistants, coordinators, or committees as he or she may deem proper.
  7. General Duties: The county chairman shall perform all the duties imposed under these rules, such other duties as may be imposed by the county central committee, all the duties usually incumbent upon a county chairman, and any duties mandated by law.
  8. Duty to Properly Transition to Successor: The county chairman (and all other county officers) shall have the duty to transition their office to their duly elected successor with all required assets (property, paper and computer files, reports, budgets, artifacts, etc.) up to date and accounted for.
- G. County First Vice-Chairman - Powers and Duties: The county first vice-chairman shall exercise the powers and perform all the duties of the county chairman in his or her absence and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the county chairman.
- H. County Second Vice-Chairman - Powers and Duties: The county second vice-chairman shall exercise the powers and perform all the duties of the county chairman in the absence of both the county chairman and the first vice-chairman and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned by the county chairman.
- I. County Secretary - Duties: The secretary of the county central committee shall carefully preserve all of the minutes of the meetings of the county central committee and those of the County Executive Committee and shall perform all duties that may be required by such committees.
- J. County Treasurer - Duties: The treasurer of the county central committee shall perform such duties as may be required by the county central committee.

### **3-1-5. COUNTY - CENTRAL COMMITTEE - MEETINGS - NOTICES**

- A. Notices of County Central Committee Meetings: A written notice of any county central committee meeting shall be given to each member of the county central committee by any proper officer or group of members not less than five (5) days prior to the date of the meeting.



- B. Meetings Called by One-third ( $\frac{1}{3}$ ) of the Members: One-third ( $\frac{1}{3}$ ) or more of the members of the county central committee, acting in unison, may call a meeting of the county central committee along with a written agenda of specific issues by giving proper notice.
- C. Quorum: A county central committee meeting quorum shall consist of those county central committee members present in person or by proper proxy at the time, date, and public place stated in the meeting call.
- D. County Central Committee Members: Copies of any county central committee membership list, including all contact data shall be sent to all members within seventy-two (72) hours of any changes. The County Party shall send the list to the CCC membership at a minimum quarterly. Once a "call" is made at the County, the last distributed and confirmed membership list shall be the list for use with the call.
- E. Special Rules - Recommendation of The county central committee may prescribe special rules for governing the conduct of and procedures for county central committee Meetings and County Conventions, provided such rules shall not be in conflict with these Uniform State Rules, the county supplementary rules of the county involved, or any law.

### 3-1-6. COUNTY - CENTRAL COMMITTEE - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- A. Membership: Each county shall have a county executive committee consisting of the ex officio members and such additional members named by the county chairman and confirmed by the county central committee, as may be provided for in the county supplementary rules.
- B. Chairman: The county chairman shall be the chairman of the county executive committee.
- C. Secretary: The county secretary shall be the secretary of the county executive committee.
- D. Record of Meetings: The county executive committee shall keep a record of all its proceedings.
- E. Annual Audit: Each county executive committee shall obtain an annual audit or review of all accounts and records of the Republican Party of its county within sixty (60) days after the end of the fiscal year and shall submit a financial statement at least annually to the members of the county central committee.
- F. Removal of County Executive Committee Members: Removal of any appointive member of the County Executive Committee shall be made by the county chairman and confirmed by the county central committee.

### 3-1-7. COUNTY - CENTRAL COMMITTEE - COUNTY FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Each county may have a county finance committee named by the county chairman and approved by the County Executive Committee.
  - 1. The treasurer of the county central committee shall be an ex officio member of the county finance committee.
  - 2. The chairman of the county finance committee shall be an ex officio member of the county executive committee.
  - 3. The county finance committee shall have the duty to cooperate with the state finance program.
  - 4. The county finance committee shall be responsible to the County Executive Committee for all funds coming into its hands.

5. The county finance committee may appoint such other agents as it deems necessary for canvassing and collection of money.
6. Removal of any appointive member of the County Finance Committee shall be made by the county chairman and confirmed by the county executive committee.
7. The county finance committee shall have a chairman appointed from its membership by the county chairman.

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### **3-2. COUNTY: CONVENTIONS**

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#### **3-2-1. COUNTY - CONVENTIONS - REGULAR**

Regular Republican county conventions shall be held as follows:

- A. Quadrennial - To Elect Delegates to the Quadrennial Republican State Convention: In any year in which a presidential election occurs, a county convention shall be held in each county during the time specified by the state chairman and as designated by the elected officers of each county central committee in a proper call for the county convention to elect delegates to the Quadrennial Republican State Convention.
- B. Pre-Primary County Convention: In any year in which a Pre-Primary Republican State Convention occurs, a county convention shall be held in each county during the time specified by the state chairman and as designated by the elected officers of each county central committee in a proper call for the county convention, for the purpose of electing delegates to the Pre-Primary Republican State Convention. In the year of the New Mexico gubernatorial election, the Quadrennial Republican State Platform shall be an agenda item in the Pre-Primary County Convention.
- C. Biennial Organizational County Convention: In odd-numbered years, a Biennial Organizational County Convention shall be held in each county during the time specified by the state chairman. The time, date, and public place for each such organizational county convention shall be designated by the elected officers of each county central committee in a proper call to:
  1. Elect a new county central committee;
  2. Recess convention for a meeting of the new county central committee to elect new county officers.
  3. Elect a new county contingent of members of the State Central Committee, and
  4. Consider any other proper business.

#### **3-2-2. COUNTY - CONVENTIONS - SPECIAL**

Special Republican county conventions may be called for special purposes and, in particular, where the primary election law does not apply, for the purpose of nominating candidates for public office.

#### **3-2-3. COUNTY - CONVENTIONS - OFFICER MEETING HELD TO CALL**

- A. At least twenty-eight (28) days prior to the holding of any county convention, a meeting of the elected officers of the county central committee shall be held to:

1. Call for and set the purpose, time, date, and public place for the holding of the county convention;
2. Determine whether to hold the pre-convention caucuses on a date separate from the county convention or to hold a county mass meeting with caucuses on the same day and at the same location;
3. Call for and set the time, date, and public places for the holding of the pre-convention ward caucuses in ward-based counties or precinct caucuses in precinct-based counties during the week specified by the State Chairman, the purpose of which will be to elect delegates to the county convention and consider any other proper business.
4. Identify the Republican candidate whose vote tally in the last preceding gubernatorial election shall be the basis of apportionment for delegates to the county convention;
5. Determine the proportion to be used for setting the number of delegates to the county convention from each ward in a ward-based county or each precinct in a precinct-based county, such number to be proportionally based upon the votes cast for the Republican candidate determined under Item 4 of this Rule 3-2-3;
6. Determine the number of delegates to the county convention from each ward in a ward-based county or from each precinct in a precinct-based county;
7. Provide for the nomination of temporary officers of the county convention;
8. Provide for or prescribe any special rules for governing the conduct of and procedures for the ward or precinct caucuses and the county convention;
9. Call for and set the time, date, and public place for the holding of a meeting of the county central committee to immediately precede the county convention to:
  - a. Consider any contests of delegations to the county convention,
  - b. Determine the temporary roll of delegates to the county convention,
  - c. Select the temporary officers of the county convention,
  - d. Prescribe any special rules for the county convention,
  - e. Consider any other proper business.
10. Consider any other proper business.

#### **3-2-4. COUNTY - CONVENTIONS - NOTICES**

##### **A. Distribution of Notices:**

1. After a meeting of the elected officers of the county central committee held to call the county convention and ward or precinct caucuses, the secretary of the county central committee shall deliver to each member of the county central committee a notice of the call not less than fourteen (14) days prior to the convention. The notice shall designate the general purposes, times, dates, and public places of the convention and caucuses, the number of delegates allocated to each ward or precinct, and the time limit for the filing of contests with the secretary of the county central committee.
2. Included with the call for any county convention shall be a call for the required county central committee meeting to immediately precede the county convention.
3. The notice shall include the specify time, date, and public place for holding each meeting as provided by law.

- B. Published Notices: A notice of the county convention and ward or precinct caucuses shall be published by the officers of the county party organization in written form using any electronic media available to the public, as defined in the county supplementary rules and also sent to the state for publication on the state website at least fourteen (14) days prior to each meeting.

### 3-2-5. COUNTY - CONVENTIONS - MEMBERSHIP

- A. Membership Roll of Delegates: The roll of delegates to a Republican County Convention shall consist of all of the delegates properly elected by ward caucuses in ward-based counties or precinct caucuses in precinct-based counties, properly held for the purpose in each ward or precinct or at a properly held county mass meeting, as determined by the county convention in accordance with these rules.
- B. Proxies: The acceptance of proxies at any county convention shall be determined by the county supplementary rules.

### 3-2-6. COUNTY - CONVENTIONS - MEETING OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE PRECEDING

The county central committee shall meet immediately preceding any county convention, at the time, date, and public place designated in the call for the convention, for the purposes of considering any contests of delegations to the county convention, determining the temporary roll of delegates to the county convention selecting the temporary officers of the county convention, prescribing any special rules for the county convention and considering other proper business.

- A. Contests: Contests, if any, of delegations to any county convention shall be filed with the secretary of the county central committee not later than one hour prior to the time designated for the meeting of the county central committee called to meet immediately preceding the convention or at a time specified in the call. All contests so filed shall be heard and first determined by the county central committee.
1. No contest shall be considered by the county central committee unless filed within the time designated in the call for the county convention, except by unanimous consent of the committee; nor shall any contest be considered by the county convention unless the same has been filed in accordance with these rules and first considered by the county central committee.
  2. The county convention shall have full power to settle any contests and determine the permanent roll of delegates of the county convention, but in voting at the convention, the members of any delegation contesting or contested shall not have the right to vote upon the contest affecting their particular ward or precinct, but shall have the right to vote upon all other contests or other matters arising prior to the final determination of the permanent roll of delegates to the county convention.
- B. Temporary Roll of Delegates: The county central committee shall, immediately after the determination of any contests, make a temporary roll of delegates to the county convention. The delegates constituting the temporary roll of delegates of the county convention shall have the power to confirm the temporary roll of delegates, or may appoint a credentials committee to further consider and report their findings as to any contests.
- C. Temporary Officers - Selection of: The county central committee shall select the temporary officers of the county convention, which officers shall hold their positions until permanent officers are selected by the convention.

The temporary officers of the county convention shall be:

1. Temporary chairman,

2. Temporary vice-chairman,
3. Temporary secretary, who shall be the secretary of the county central committee, if present and able to serve.

**3-2-7. COUNTY - CONVENTIONS - PRELIMINARY SESSION**

- A. Meeting: The county convention shall meet at the time, on the date, and at the public place designated in the call for the convention.
- B. Call to Order: The county convention shall be called to order by the county chairman, who shall announce the temporary officers selected by the county central committee. These temporary officers shall serve until permanent officers are selected by the convention.
- C. Opening Address: The temporary chairman, or someone selected by him or her, shall deliver the opening address of the convention.
- D. Preliminary Session - Order of Business: Under the temporary officers of the county convention, the convention shall:
  1. Consider the temporary roll of delegates to the county convention, furnished by the county central committee, for either affirmation or further consideration and determination of contests;
  2. Appoint any and all committees the county convention may determine proper for the purpose of the convention, and shall determine the method of selecting the same and the number of members of each committee. These committees shall report back to the convention, which shall have the power to accept, reject, or modify any report of any such committee;
  3. Hear the opening address;
  4. Hear appropriate committee reports;
  5. Determine the permanent roll of delegates to the county convention; and
  6. Select the permanent officers of the county convention, who shall be:
    - a. Convention chairman,
    - b. Convention vice-chairman,
    - c. Convention secretary.

**3-2-8. COUNTY - CONVENTIONS - MAIN SESSION**

Under the permanent officers of the county convention, the permanent roll of delegates to the county convention shall proceed with the business for which the convention was called.

**3-2-9. COUNTY - CONVENTIONS - UNIT RULE**

Vote by the "unit rule" at any county convention is prohibited.

**3-2-10. COUNTY - CONVENTIONS - ADJOURNMENT - TIME, DATE AND/OR PLACE**

A county convention may be adjourned to another time, date, and/or public place by an affirmative vote of at least two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) of the qualified delegates present in person or by proxy at the county convention as called.

### 3-2-11. COUNTY - CONVENTIONS - CERTIFIED TALLIED RESULTS OF ELECTIONS

Written certified tallied results of all election votes cast at any county convention shall be carefully preserved and certified copies forthwith delivered by the officers of the convention to both the county chairman and the state chairman.

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### 3-3. COUNTY: STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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#### 3-3-1. COUNTY - STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS - COUNTY CONTINGENT

- A. Election: The elected members of the county contingent of the State Central Committee from each county shall be elected by and at the Regular Biennial Organizational County Convention.
- B. Certification: The county chairman or his or her designee in each county shall, within five (5) days after the county convention, certify to the state chairman the names and addresses of the members of the newly elected State Central Committee County Contingent.
- C. Terms of Office: The elected members of the State Central Committee County Contingent shall hold office for a period of two (2) years, or until their successors are selected and qualified.
- D. Proxies - Proxy Certificate: Any member of the State Central Committee may appoint any qualified registered Republican voter of his or her county as his or her proxy to act and vote in his or her stead at any meeting of the State Central Committee, unless prohibited in these rules. In the case of ex officio members, proxies may be appointed from the appropriate organizational body. Each proxy certificate must be in writing and signed by the State Central Committee member giving the proxy, and shall name the person to be the proxy, shall name the meeting for which given, and shall state the date it was signed. Each such proxy certificate must be registered and accepted by the State Central Committee before said proxy may be exercised at the State Central Committee meeting.
- E. Proxy Limit: No person shall be permitted to hold and/or exercise more than five (5) proxies of members of the State Central Committee at any meeting of the State Central Committee.
- F. Vacancies: Any vacancy occurring in the membership of a State Central Committee county contingent shall be filled by appointment in accordance with the county supplementary rules by the county chairman in the county where the vacancy occurs, and he or she shall certify same to the chairman and secretary of the State Central Committee, and such appointee shall thereupon become a member of the State Central Committee for the remainder of the term of office of the member being replaced.
- G. Removal of State Central Committee County Contingent Member: Any member of a State Central Committee county contingent may be removed by a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of all the members of the county central committee present in person at a meeting properly called for the purpose and attended in person by at least 51% of the entire membership. In such voting, proxies shall not be recognized.

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**3-4. COUNTY: CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE**

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**3-4-1. COUNTY - CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE - NOMINATION BY CONVENTION**

All Republican candidates for county public office, in any instance where the primary election law does not apply, shall be nominated by a majority vote of all delegates, present in person or by proper proxy at a county convention called for the purpose. Such nominations shall be certified by the proper officials, as provided by law, within seventy-two (72) hours after the convention has adjourned.

**3-4-2. COUNTY - CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE - PARTY NOMINEES**

All Republican candidates for county public office regularly and lawfully nominated under and by virtue of the primary election law, or these rules, shall be the candidates of the Republican Party for the respective offices for which they were so nominated.

**3-4-3. COUNTY - CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE - VACANCIES**

If a vacancy occurs in the certified list of Republican candidates for county public office, either before or after any primary election, and such vacancy can be filled under the law, the vacancy shall be filled by the county central committee, and the name of the replacement Republican candidate so chosen shall be filed with the county clerk, as required by law.

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**3-5. COUNTY: COUNTY SUPPLEMENTARY RULES**

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**3-5-1. COUNTY - COUNTY SUPPLEMENTARY RULES - PROVISIONS**

Each county central committee shall adopt a set of county supplementary rules that is not in conflict with these Uniform State Rules or with the law and that does not abridge the lawful political rights of any person.

A. The county supplementary rules shall:

1. Adopt these Uniform State Rules and any subsequent amendments thereto for the basic organization and government of the Republican Party in the county;
2. Adopt a ward or precinct base, but not both, for the administrative organization of the Republican Party in the county. In a ward-based county, the county central committee shall define wards for the county for party organizational purposes;
3. Specify the basis for determining the number of elective members to the county central committee contingent from a ward or precinct shall be the number of votes and major fraction thereof cast in each particular ward or precinct, as the county is based, for the Republican candidate for governor in the last preceding gubernatorial election for which official election canvass records are available;
4. Specify the procedure for filling positions on the county central committee, if any are left vacant by a Regular Biennial Organizational County Convention; and
5. Specify the procedure for filling vacancies in the county contingent to the State Central Committee.

- B. The county supplementary rules may provide for:
1. Additional members of the county executive committee;
  2. Additional elected officers of the county central committee;
  3. Additional ward or precinct caucus procedures;
  4. Additional rules for the conduct of the affairs of the Republican Party within the county;
  5. County mass meetings;
  6. The use and limit of proxies at county conventions.

**3-5-2. COUNTY – COUNTY SUPPLEMENTARY RULES - AMENDMENT**

The county supplementary rules for each county may be amended by a majority vote of the members of the county central committee present in person or by proxy at any regularly called meeting thereof.

**3-5-3. COUNTY - COUNTY SUPPLEMENTARY RULES - FILING**

The county supplementary rules for a county or any subsequent amendments thereto, properly adopted at a meeting of the county central committee of that county shall be filed within fourteen (14) days by the county chairman and county secretary with:

- A. The state secretary of for referral to the Advisory State Rules Committee for review for conformity or conflict with these Uniform State Rules and with the law, and for subsequent permanent filing by the state secretary;
- B. The county clerk of the involved county,
- C. The New Mexico Secretary of State.

**3-5-4. COUNTY - COUNTY SUPPLEMENTARY RULES - AMENDMENT EFFECT**

In accordance with the New Mexico Election Code, with regard to political party rules, no amendment shall be made less than one hundred twenty (120) days prior to any general election, nor shall any amendment be effective until thirty (30) days after being filed.

**END OF ARTICLE 3.**



## ARTICLE 4. WARD / PRECINCT

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### 4-1. WARD/PRECINCT: WARD/PRECINCT COMMITTEE

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#### 4-1-1. WARD/PRECINCT - WARD/PRECINCT COMMITTEE - ADMINISTRATIVE BODY

The affairs of the Republican Party within a county at the ward/precinct level shall be administered by a ward/precinct committee within each ward/precinct.

#### 4-1-2. WARD/PRECINCT - WARD/PRECINCT COMMITTEE - MEMBERSHIP

The ward/precinct committee shall consist of the officers of the ward/precinct, provided for in these Uniform State Rules, and any others who may be additionally provided for in the county supplementary rules of a particular county.

#### 4-1-3. WARD/PRECINCT - ELECTED OFFICERS

##### A. Ward/Precinct Officers - Election, Qualifications, and Duties:

1. At a ward/precinct caucus called prior to or during the Regular Biennial Organizational County Convention, the following ward/precinct officers shall be elected:

Chairman,  
Vice-chairman,  
Secretary.

2. Each ward/precinct officer shall be officially registered as a Republican voter and shall reside in, and his or her registered residence shall be in, the ward/precinct in which he or she was elected or appointed to serve. Should any ward/precinct officer change his or her registered political party designation, or should his or her residence or registered residence for any reason cease to be in the ward/precinct, then the office of such ward/precinct officer shall immediately be deemed vacant, and a successor shall be selected in the manner provided in these rules for the filling of ward/precinct officer vacancies.

- ##### B. Ward/Precinct Officers - Terms of Office: Each elected officer shall serve for two (2) years, except as otherwise provided in these rules or until his or her successor is duly elected or appointed. The term of each elected ward/precinct officer shall begin the day of the organizational meeting of the county central committee at the Biennial Organizational County Convention.

- ##### C. Ward/Precinct Officers - Vacancies: Vacancies in ward/precinct offices shall be filled by appointment by the county chairman to complete the term of the officer being replaced.

##### D. Ward/Precinct Officers - Removal:

1. Any ward/precinct officer may be removed by a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of the county executive committee when
  - a. The ward/precinct officer refuses or neglects his or her duties as such, or
  - b. The county chairman informs the county executive committee in writing that the ward/precinct officer has been accused by voters of his or her ward or precinct of being disloyal to the Republican Party.

2. Any ward/precinct officer accused of refusal or neglect of duty, or of party disloyalty, shall be given not less than five (5) days written notice that a vote on the question of his or her removal is to be taken by the county executive committee at a designated time, date, and place, and, if the accused officer desires, he or she shall be entitled to a hearing before the county executive committee before the vote on the question of his or her removal is held.
- E. Ward/Precinct Chairman - Duties: The duties of each ward/precinct chairman shall be:
1. To implement the organizational program of the county central committee;
  2. To prepare for and hold ward/precinct caucuses as provided for in these rules;
  3. To obtain and recommend to the county chairman a full complement of qualified Republican election officials to serve on the precinct board of each precinct;
  4. To provide at least the number of qualified Republican watchers and challengers designated by the county chairman for each primary, general, and partisan special election;
  5. To cooperate with the county finance program, and
  6. To serve as an ex officio member of the county central committee.
- F. Ward Chairman - Special Provision: In any precinct-based county that is not divided into two or more wards, the county chairman shall serve as and perform any functions of a ward chairman as may be required.
- G. Redefinition of Ward or Precinct Boundaries - Effect on Elected Officers: On the occasion of the redefinition of Republican ward boundaries by a Republican county central committee or the redefinition of county voting precinct boundaries by a board of county commissioners, the offices of any elected party officers of each affected previously existing ward or precinct shall be abolished. The offices of the elected party officers in each newly redefined ward or precinct shall be deemed vacant and shall be filled by appointment of the county chairman as provided elsewhere in these rules.

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## 4-2. WARD/PRECINCT: CAUCUSES

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### 4-2-1. WARD/PRECINCT - CAUCUSES - GENERAL

- A. Biennial Caucuses to Elect Officers and Delegates: In odd-numbered years during the dates specified by the state chairman, the elected officers of each county central committee shall call caucuses for each ward in a ward-based county or for each precinct in a precinct-based county for the purposes of electing new officers and for electing delegates to the Biennial Organizational County Convention.
- B. Ward/Precinct Caucuses - Form - Local Meetings - County Mass Meetings: The elected officers of each county central committee shall determine for each county whether ward/precinct caucuses shall be held locally for each ward/precinct or shall be held centrally at a county mass meeting. Such determination may be made for each call or may be provided for as regular policy in a county's supplementary rules.
- C. Ward/Precinct Caucuses to Elect Delegates to a County Convention: Prior to any county convention, ward/precinct caucuses shall be held within the county to elect delegates to the county convention from each ward or precinct as required.

D. Ward/Precinct Caucuses - Elections - Paper Ballots - Certification of Results:

1. Voting in any elections held at a ward/precinct caucus for the election of a chairman or for the election of delegates to a county convention, shall be by written secret paper ballot, except that a voice vote may be taken if there is only one (1) candidate for any one (1) ballot position.
2. All votes taken at a ward/precinct caucus for the election of ward/precinct officers or for the election of delegates to a county convention shall be carefully tallied and the tallied results certified in writing by the ward/precinct caucus officers.
3. The written certified tallied results of all election votes and any paper ballots cast at a ward/precinct caucus shall be carefully preserved and forthwith delivered by the officers of the caucus to the county chairman.

E. Ward/Precinct Caucuses - Order of Business: The elected officers of each county central committee shall prescribe such rules for the conduct of ward/precinct caucuses as they may deem proper, in addition to the following minimum order of business for a ward/precinct caucus:

1. Call to order by the ward/precinct chairman;
2. Reading of the official call;
3. Nomination and election of officers of the ward/precinct caucus;
4. Nomination and election of new ward/precinct officers, when required by the caucus call, conducted by the caucus officers;
5. Nomination and election of delegates to a county convention, when required by the caucus call, conducted by the caucus officers;
6. Any other proper business.

F. Ward/Precinct Caucuses - Proxies: No proxies shall be recognized or exercised at any ward/precinct caucus.

G. Ward/Precinct Caucuses - Adjournment to another Time, Date, and/or Public Place: A ward/precinct caucus shall be held at the time, date, and public place designated in the official caucus call, and shall not be adjourned to another time, date, or public place.

**END OF ARTICLE 4.**

**END OF THE UNIFORM STATE RULES**

## ADDENDUM

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<b>DEFINITIONS:</b>	<b>AS USED IN THESE RULES</b>
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1. **“Agenda”** a list of items to be discussed at a formal meeting. It serves as a roadmap for a meeting by moving from one item to the next and can designate who is responsible for specific action items.
2. **“Caucus”** a meeting of voters registered in the same ward or precinct.
3. **“Delegate”** an individual elected to serve one time at a specific convention.
4. **“Disaster or Emergency”** a period when damage or injury to persons or property in New Mexico, caused by natural disaster, epidemic, pandemic, or enemy attack, is of such a magnitude that an emergency is declared by the chief executive officer of the United States and/or the chief executive officer of New Mexico.
5. **“Ex officio”** by virtue of office or official position. The member of a committee with full voting rights who is part of it by virtue of the position they hold in another committee.
6. **“Fiscal Year”** starts on the first day of January and ends on the last day of December. It is used for accounting purposes to prepare financial reports and does not necessarily coincide with campaign finance reporting requirements of the SOS or the Federal Election Commission (FEC).
7. **“In Writing”** shall be defined as something typed, printed, lithographed, photographed or recorded in some other mode representing or reproducing words in a viable form. This shall also include any digital communication or digitally stored communication.
8. **“Opposition Candidate”** any candidate who is not a Republican.
9. **“Organizational Bodies”** are defined groups that are responsible for electing ex officio members to the Central Committee.
10. **“Precinct(s)”** are the physical boundaries for a voting group determined by the boards of county commissioners in each county in accordance with the Election Code of New Mexico.
11. **“Proxy”** the written designation that a committee member gives to another person to act in his or her stead.
12. **“Publicly”** perceived, or existing in open view.
13. **“The Call” or “Official Call”** the notice of an upcoming meeting sent to members of the committee.
14. **“Unit Rule”** a provision to cast a sub-group’s total number of allocated votes in agreement with only a majority vote of that same sub-group.
15. **“Vacancy”** as used in these rules exists for any unfilled position. The position shall be filled as prescribed in these rules or in the county supplementary rules

16. **“Ward”** a group of contiguous precincts. e.g., legislative district, county commission district, school district, etc., following precinct boundaries as defined in the county supplementary rules of each county.

17. **“Ward/Precinct”** means “ward” in a ward-based county and “precinct” in a precinct-based county.