



**BYLAWS OF THE
SOUTH DAKOTA REPUBLICAN PARTY**

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SECTION I

STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

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SD Secretary of State

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1. Purpose: The purpose of the State Central Committee shall be to coordinate the activities of the South Dakota Republican Party, to promote the establishment of Republican principles and policies and to give effective assistance in the conduct of national, state and local elections.

2. Powers and Duties: In addition to those duties and functions prescribed by law, the State Central Committee when convened shall have full power and authority in all matters affecting the party organizations and functioning except as to such powers and functions as by law are conferred upon the state party convention. The general management of the affairs of the South Dakota Republican Party shall be vested in the State Central Committee. It may exercise all powers and duties of the State Executive Board. It shall so organize its operations and designate such officers and other personnel as it may determine necessary to accomplish its purposes.

3. Organization: The State Central Committee shall consist of the county chairman, county vice chairman, state central committeeman and state central committeewoman from each county, the state chairman, state vice chairman, state secretary, state treasurer, national committeeman, national committeewoman, and the statewide chairman of each of the auxiliaries recognized in Section VII.2.

4. Officers: The officers of the State Central Committee are the state chairman and the state vice chairman, who shall be of opposite sex, the state secretary and the state treasurer. These officers shall be elected at the first meeting of the State Central Committee held every odd numbered calendar year and shall hold their offices for a term of two years or until their successors are elected. With the approval of the State Central Committee, the state chairman shall appoint a deputy treasurer and such other officers as may be deemed necessary.

5. Duties of Officers:

A. State Chairman: The state chairman, as head of the South Dakota Republican Party, shall have the following duties:

1. The state chairman shall have charge of the State Party Headquarters.
2. The state chairman shall submit an annual budget by January 1 of each year to be approved by the State Central Committee.
3. The state chairman shall submit an annual plan of party goals and objectives to be approved by the State Central Committee.
4. The state chairman shall preside over meetings of the State Central Committee and the State Executive Board.



5. The state chairman shall coordinate and supervise the work of the other officers and of the County Central Committees.
 6. The state chairman shall carry out any instructions given him/her by the State Executive Board and the State Central Committee.
 7. The state chairman shall call meetings of the State Executive Board and the State Central Committee as hereinafter provided.
 8. The state chairman shall appoint members to any committees deemed necessary for the operation of the Republican Party.
 9. The state chairman shall appoint a state finance director who shall serve at the pleasure of the state chairman.
 10. The state chairman shall appoint a finance committee composed of such membership as the state chairman shall determine to assist in meeting the financial needs of the State Central Committee.
 11. The state chairperson shall expeditiously organize inactive counties in order to reenfranchise Republican voters in those counties. The state chairperson will respond to counties who wish to reorganize within 15 days of contact by county central committee representatives and/or the regional director. The state chairperson and/or the regional director shall facilitate a county central committee meeting to organize the county and elect new officers within thirty (30) days or at a mutually agreed upon date/time with the county. Failure by the state chairperson and/or regional director to act shall serve as approval in absentia.
- B. State Vice Chairman: The state vice chairman shall perform the duties of the state chairman in the absence or disability of the state chairman.
- C. State Secretary: The state secretary shall have the following duties:
1. The state secretary shall prepare suitable notices of forthcoming meetings of the State Central Committee.
 2. The state secretary shall keep records of the attendance and of the meetings of each meeting of the State Central Committee and the Executive Board and prepare the minutes of all such meetings.
 3. The state secretary shall disseminate point of contact information, including name, title, mailing address, email address, and phone number, for all State Central Committee members to all county chairpersons not less than twenty (20) days prior to the Winter and Summer meetings.
- D. State Treasurer: The state treasurer shall have the following duties:
1. The state treasurer shall maintain adequate financial records and provide reports thereon to the State Central Committee. Receipts shall be given for money received upon policies established by the State Executive Board.
 2. The state treasurer shall make all disbursements for Party expenditures according to a procedure approved by the State Executive Board.
 3. The state treasurer shall file financial reports as required by law.
 4. The state treasurer shall post such bonds as are necessary in amount fixed by State Central Committee.



6. Vacancies:

- A. Events Causing Vacancy: The following events shall cause an officer of the State Central Committee to forfeit his or her office and the office declared vacant: death, resignation, failure to reside in the state, failure to be a registered Republican voter, filing any document with the Secretary of State or a county auditor to be an independent candidate in a general or special election in a race for a partisan public office in which a Republican has been nominated or has filed a petition for the Republican nomination, conviction of a felony, or violation of a bond required to be posted.
- B. State Chairman: The state vice chairman shall automatically become state chairman whenever a vacancy shall occur in that office and shall serve the remainder of the term.
- C. State Treasurer: The deputy treasurer shall automatically become state treasurer whenever a vacancy shall occur in that office and shall serve the remainder of the term.
- D. Other Offices: Any vacancy occurring in the office of state vice chairman or state secretary shall be filled in the following manner:
 1. Upon the vacancy, the state chairman may appoint a proxy who shall perform the duties of the office until the next meeting of the State Central Committee as provided below.
 2. At the next regular or special meeting of the State Central Committee an election shall be held to fill the vacancy.
 3. The position shall be filled by majority vote of the State Central Committee members who are present at the meeting and that person shall serve the remainder of the term.
- E. National Committeeman and National Committeewoman: Any vacancy in the positions of national committeeman or national committeewoman shall be filled in the same manner as provided above in Sec. I.6.D. A vacancy shall occur in those positions as provided in the rules of the national Republican Party.

7. Meetings:

- A. Regular Meetings: Two regular meetings of the State Central Committee shall be held each year upon the call of the state chairman. One meeting shall be held during February, March or April, and the second meeting shall be held during June, July, August, or September. The State Central Committee may move these meetings to a month other than those specified. The State Central Committee shall set the date of the next State Central Committee meeting before adjourning a convened meeting.
- B. Special Meetings: Special meetings for specific purposes may be called by the state chairman or upon the written request of at least one member of each county delegation of at least 10 different counties.



- C. **Notices:** Notices of all meetings shall be sent at least 14 days in advance of the meeting to all members of the State Central Committee and shall clearly indicate the agenda, place, date and hour of the meeting. This provision shall not limit any member from presenting any matter at a regular meeting whether or not included in the agenda in the written notice, except for bylaw amendments. Notices may be sent by at least one of the following methods: mail, email or text message.
- D. **Minutes:** Unofficial minutes of all meetings shall be made available upon request to State Central Committee members within 14 days of the meeting date.
- E. **Quorum:** A quorum of the State Central Committee shall consist of at least 45 members. A member is considered present if the member is at the meeting in person, is represented by proxy, or is attending by telephone teleconference or other electronic (audio or video) means.
- F. **Voting:** The voting at each meeting shall be on the basis of one vote for each member present. Voting shall be by roll call ballot if requested by one-fifth of the members present.
- G. **Proxies:** Proxies shall be allowed for attendance and voting at meetings of the State Central Committee under the following circumstances:
1. All proxies must be in writing and signed by the person granting the proxy.
 2. No person may hold more than one proxy.
 3. A member of a county delegation may grant his or her proxy only to another registered Republican who resides in the county the member represents.
 4. The state chairman, state vice chairman, state secretary, state treasurer, national committeeman and national committeewoman may grant his or her proxy to any registered Republican who resides in the state.
- H. **Rules of Order:** The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the State Central Committee in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the State Central Committee may adopt.
- I. **Electronic Meetings:** A meeting of the State Central Committee may be held electronically. Notice of an electronic meeting is valid if sent at least five days in advance, not including weekends or holidays. No proxies are permitted at a meeting held electronically.

SECTION II

STATE EXECUTIVE BOARD

1. **Membership:** The State Executive Board shall consist of the state chairman, state vice chairman, state secretary, state treasurer, national committeeman, national committeewoman, and six members of the State Central Committee elected by the State Central Committee as directors. There shall be no more than one director from each of the regions defined in Section VI.8. The directors shall be elected at the same time and for the same term as the state officers, and vacancies shall be



governed by Sections I.6.A. and I.6.D. Paid lobbyists, paid directly, or indirectly, shall be ineligible from holding any State Executive Board position.

- 2. Powers and Duties:** The State Executive Board shall have the following powers and duties:
 - A. Prepare written job descriptions for Executive Director and other personnel.
 - B. Employ the Executive Director and other personnel.
 - C. Advise and give direction to the state chairman and executive director in their oversight of the party and the performance of their duties.
 - D. Carry out these bylaws subject to the will of the State Central Committee.
 - E. Act for the State Central Committee between meetings of the State Central Committee.
- 3. Meetings:** Regular meetings of the State Executive Board shall be held at the call of the state chairman. Meetings shall be held at a time and place designated by the state chairman. A meeting of the State Executive Board may be held electronically.
- 4. Transition and Return of Party Property:**
 - A. Party Property Defined. "Party Property" includes all physical and electronic property, official records, data, accounts, administrative credentials, and materials belonging to or used for the business of the South Dakota Republican Party.
 - B. Duty to Transfer. Upon the election or appointment of a successor, or upon leaving a party position for any reason, each outgoing officer, regional director, other elected member or appointed personnel of the State Executive Board (and any other person holding party property by virtue of a party position) shall deliver all party property in their possession to their successor or to the state chairman (or the chairman's designee) within five (5) calendar days and shall provide a written inventory of items and accounts transferred.
 - C. Failure to Comply. If party property is not transferred by the deadline, the State Executive Board may direct reasonable steps to secure and recover party property and access, including changing credentials and contacting vendors or platforms, and may take further action consistent with these bylaws and the organization's legal counsel.

SECTION III

COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE

- 1. Organization:** The County Central Committee of each county shall consist of the precinct committeeman and committeewoman from each precinct in the county, the county chairman, county vice chairman, secretary, treasurer, state committeeman, state committeewoman, Republican state legislators residing in the county and



Republican elected officials of the county limited to county auditor, county treasurer, register of deeds, sheriff, state's attorney, county coroner and county commissioners. Those Republican legislators and Republican elected county officials shall be those duly elected and certified in the most recent general election regardless of whether they have been sworn in or those persons filling vacancies of these positions as prescribed by state law. Each member shall be entitled to vote at any County Central Committee meeting.

- 2. Precinct committeemen and committeewomen:** One precinct committeeman and one precinct committeewoman from each precinct in the county shall be elected at the primary election pursuant to SDCL §§ 12-5-4 to 12-5-13, inclusive, and shall hold his or her office until the next primary election. If no person is elected at the primary election, the position shall be deemed vacant and may be filled in the same manner as other vacancies.
- 3. Officers:** The elected officers of a County Central Committee are the county chairman and county vice chairman, who shall be of the opposite sex, a county secretary, a county treasurer, a state committeeman and a state committeewoman, who shall hold their offices for a term of two years or until their successors have been elected. The office of secretary and treasurer may be held by the same person. With the approval of the County Central Committee, the county chairman may appoint a deputy treasurer.
- 4. Organizational Meeting:** The County Central Committee shall meet in the county between November 15 following the general election and the following January 31 and proceed to form their party organization by electing officers. A majority vote of the County Central Committee members present and voting shall constitute an election, which shall be certified to the county auditor, secretary of state, and state secretary of the State Central Committee.
- 5. Duties of Officers:**
 - A. County Chairman: The county chairman, as head of the Republican Party in the county, has the following duties:
 1. Direct county Republican Party affairs as well as to conduct the political campaign in the county.
 2. Attend and serve as a voting member at meetings of the State Central Committee.
 3. Carry out the annual plan of party goals and objectives of the state chairman.
 4. Seek to obtain a full Republican slate for all county and legislative positions, including precinct committeemen and precinct committeewomen, in the primary election.