



STAFFORD COUNTY REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE BYLAWS

Adopted October 20, 2014

Amended March 8, 2021

Amended April 12, 2021

Amended May 10, 2021

Article I: Qualifications for Participation in Party Actions

All legal and qualified voters in Stafford County, regardless of race, religion, color, national origin, or sex who meet the requirements set forth in Article I of the Republican Party of Virginia Plan of Organization (the "State Party Plan") are qualified to participate as members of the Republican Party in its mass meetings, conventions, primaries, and party canvasses.

Article II: The Committee

(a) There shall be a permanent committee known as the Stafford County Republican Committee ("SCRC"), established pursuant to the State Party Plan.

(b) The SCRC shall determine whether candidates for local and constitutional public offices shall be nominated by mass meeting, Party canvass, convention, or primary. It shall call all regular and special mass meetings, Party canvasses, conventions, and make all arrangements therefore and, if a convention, determine the basis of representation. Authority to make such arrangements (other than a time and whether there shall be, and the requirements for, any prefilings) may, at the discretion of the Committee, be delegated to the Chairman. It shall cooperate with the Republican Party of Virginia State Central Committee, the First District Republican Committee, and the Legislative District Committees within its boundaries in conducting all elections and fund raising activities.

(c) The SCRC shall be comprised of

- (i) All elected Members;
- (ii) All elected public officials residing in Stafford County who were nominees of the Republican Party for the office held;
- (iii) the Chairman; and
- (iv) the Vice Chairmen, Secretary, and Treasurer.

(b) Former Chairmen of the SCRC, former Stafford elected Republican officials, and Republican-endorsed officials holding non-partisan public offices shall be granted non-voting, ex-officio membership status.

(c) Members shall be apportioned by precinct in accordance with the State Party Plan.

Article III: Membership

1. Membership Generally

(a) Members of the SCRC (“Members”) must be members of the Republican Party in accordance with the qualifications set forth in Article I.

(b) Elected Members must be elected to the SCRC either at a biennial mass meeting called for the purpose of reconstituting the SCRC, or by a regular business meeting of the SCRC.

(c) Once elected a Member of the SCRC, the term of such Membership shall endure until the next biennial mass meeting called for the purpose of reconstituting the SCRC.

2. Membership Applications

(a) Prospective Members must remit a completed membership application form, and any required dues payment, as included with the Official Call for the biennial Stafford County Republican Mass Meeting called for the purpose of reconstituting the SCRC and electing its Chairman, or

(b) Prospective Members who wish to join at a time other than the biennial mass meeting may submit a completed membership application form, and any required dues payment, to the Chairman or Secretary of the SCRC or to such person that may be designated for that purpose by the Chairman.

3. Membership Vetting Procedures

(a) The Nominations Committee shall be responsible for examining membership applications to ensure adherence to required qualifications for participation in Republican Party actions set forth in Article I.

(b) This examination must include, at a minimum, a check against available voting records for participation in non-Republican primary elections, and checking the Republican Party of Virginia database for indication of non-Republican political activity.

(c) By majority vote of its members, the Nominations Committee shall issue a report to the mass meeting or SCRC, as applicable, indicating that body’s considered judgment about which prospective Members meet the Article I qualifications, and which prospective Members do not, including reasons why.

(d) The Nominations Committee report shall constitute the nominations for election as Member of the SCRC; provided, however, that the Nominations Committee report is debatable and amendable, and any amendment adding to the names of qualified prospective Members shall be accepted unless defeated by a 2/3rds vote of the mass meeting or SCRC. However, any proposed amendment of a Nominations Committee

report to a mass meeting that adds the name of any individual who has not properly prefiled in accordance with the Official Call for that mass meeting shall be out of order.

(e) Membership applications submitted at any time other than for the biennial mass meeting, but at least two weeks ahead of an ensuing SCRC meeting, shall be voted on at that SCRC business meeting. Applications submitted within two weeks of an ensuing SCRC business meeting shall be voted at the next later business meeting, unless the Nominations Committee, in its discretion, reports that it has had sufficient time to conduct the examination required by this Article III(3) for a vote to occur at the ensuing SCRC business meeting.

4. Dues

(a) Annual membership dues shall be \$40 for each voting Member of the committee, provided, however, that those who are Members by virtue of being elected public officials residing in Stafford County who were nominees of the Republican Party shall not be required to pay dues, although it is strongly encouraged that they do so. Payment of dues shall be made concurrently with prefiling for membership in the SCRC ahead of a biennial mass meeting, in accordance with the provisions of the Official Call, and on the one-year anniversary of such mass meeting.

(b) However, dues for current membership shall be \$20 if paid after January 1 but before the biennial mass meeting or, in odd numbered years, the anniversary of the prior biennial mass meeting. For avoidance of doubt, any persons availing themselves of this procedure will still owe the full amount of annual dues at the next biennial mass meeting or its anniversary date.

(c) A Member whose dues have become past due may not vote in SCRC business meetings. However, the vote of that person may be immediately restored upon payment of dues owed.

5. Absences

A Member automatically loses his/her status as Member if absent three (3) consecutive meetings without representation by a person holding a proxy. Membership may be restored without additional membership application or payment of dues by a majority vote of the SCRC. For this section, a meeting shall include all properly called meetings of the SCRC at which roll is called, whether or not a quorum is present.

6. Removal

Any Member, including the Chairman or other officers, may be removed from office by the vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the other Members of the Committee, after being furnished with notice that such removal will be sought, with the charges, in writing, signed by not less than one-third (1/3) of the Members; and allowing thirty (30) days within which to appear and defend against the charges.

7. Duties

(a) Each Member is expected to provide at least ten (10) hours of volunteer work in the furtherance of Republican Party activities during each calendar year. Such activities are exclusive of attendance at Committee meetings but include, though they are not limited to, assisting candidates for federal, state or local offices.

(b) It shall be the responsibility of each Member to attend all meetings of the Committee and be informed about all relevant Party matters, to the best of their ability.

Article III: Officers

1. Chairman

(a) The Chairman shall be elected by a majority of the biennial mass meeting called for the purpose of reconstituting the SCRC. Nomination for Chairman shall be allowed for any person meeting the qualifications set forth in Article I.

(b) The Chairman shall issue calls adopted by the SCRC for mass meetings, party canvasses, or conventions and shall preside until a temporary organization is effected. See Article VIII, Section A of the State Party Plan. In the case of such an activity for an election district in which the Chairman is not a registered voter, the Chairman shall designate a representative who is a registered voter of that election district to preside until temporary organization is effected.

(c) The Chairman shall convene the SCRC when required, but in no event less than once during each calendar quarter, with no more than four (4) months between each meeting, and shall preside at the meetings of the Committee. He shall be responsible for sending notice of the call for a Committee meeting to all members of the Committee, which shall include the agenda for the meeting.

(d) The Chairman may appoint members and officers of ad hoc committees as may be advisable to handle discrete actions for the SCRC. Such appointments may be overruled on a motion passed by majority vote of the SCRC.

(e) The Chairman shall carry out all other duties established by law or the State Party Plan, in close consultation with the SCRC and its other officers.

(f) Should the office of Chairman become vacant, the Committee shall conduct a mass meeting for the purpose of electing a new Chairman within 45 days.

2. First Vice Chairman

(a) The First Vice Chairman shall be a Member elected to this position by a majority vote of the SCRC at its first business meeting following the biennial mass meeting called for the purpose of reconstituting the SCRC, or as soon as practicable after the position may be vacated.

(b) The First Vice Chairman shall perform the duties of the Chairman if the Chairman is unable or should the office of Chairman be vacant.

(c) The First Vice Chairman shall serve on the Executive Committee, and shall preside over the Election Day Operations Committee.

3. Secretary

(a) The Secretary shall be a Member elected to this position by a majority vote of the SCRC at its first business meeting following the biennial mass meeting called for the purpose of reconstituting the SCRC, or as soon as practicable after the position may be vacated.

(b) The Secretary shall serve on the Executive Committee, and shall preside over the Nominations Committee.

4. Treasurer

(a) The Treasurer shall be a Member elected to this position by a majority vote of the SCRC at its first business meeting following the biennial mass meeting called for the purpose of reconstituting the SCRC, or as soon as practicable after the position may be vacated.

(b) The Treasurer shall serve on the Executive Committee, and shall preside over the Finance Committee.

5. Second Vice Chairman

(a) The Second Vice Chairman shall be a Member appointed to this position by the Chairman, serving at the pleasure of the Chairman.

(b) The Second Vice Chairman shall serve on the Executive Committee, and shall otherwise provide advice and counsel to the Chairman and other members of the Executive Committee.

Article IV: Standing Committees

1. Nominations Committee

(a) The Nominations Committee shall be responsible for vetting applications for membership, delegate prefile forms, and nominees for public or Republican Party office

as a means of enforcing the provisions of Article I, including but not limited to the provisions set forth in Article III.

(b) The Secretary shall be the presiding officer for meetings of the Nominations Committee, which shall meet in a place and time proposed by the Secretary. Such meetings shall not be considered business meetings of the SCRC, and may be conducted telephonically.

(c) The Chairman shall appoint the Members, other than the Secretary, of the Nominations Committee. Such appointments shall be made in a way calculated to ensure as much as possible that the membership of the Nominations Committee is representative of the SCRC as a whole. There shall be an odd number of total members of the Nominations Committee.

2. Magisterial District Committees

(a) A standing committee is hereby created for each magisterial district within Stafford County. Each Magisterial District Committee (“MDC”) shall be comprised of all Members who reside in the respective magisterial district.

(b) Each MDC has primary responsibility for Election Day Operations in their respective magisterial district.

(c) The SCRC’s authority to decide methods of nominations for candidates for the Board of Supervisors is hereby delegated to each respective MDC.

(d) Each MDC shall have a Chairman elected by members of the MDC at the first business meeting of the SCRC after the biennial mass meeting called for the purpose of reconstituting the SCRC. Each MDC shall elect other officers and appoint subcommittees as it sees fit in order to carry out the duties of the MDC.

(i) The foregoing notwithstanding, prior to the 2016 biennial mass meeting, the SCRC Chairman shall appoint MDC Chairmen.

3. Election Day Operations Committee

(a) The Election Day Operations (“EDO”) Committee shall be responsible for organizing electioneering efforts on behalf of Republican candidates on and immediately before each election day. The EDO Committee shall also endeavor to ensure as much Republican coverage as possible inside polling places for purposes of ensuring election integrity and to support election day turnout efforts. The EDO Committee shall also endeavor to coordinate with Republican candidates and other Republican Party organizations to support post-election efforts, including recounts.

(b) The EDO Committee shall be comprised of the First Vice Chairman as presiding officer, each MDC Chairman, and up to two additional voting members to be appointed by the Executive Committee.

4. Finance

(a) The Finance Committee shall be comprised of the Treasurer and any financially competent Members who may from time to time support the accounting and reporting functions of the Treasurer.

(b) The Finance Committee shall, independently of the Treasurer, conduct an annual internal review of the books and accounts of the SCRC during the 4th calendar quarter of each year and report their findings to the Executive Committee.

5. Events

(a) The Events Committee shall be responsible for planning and hosting all public events of the SCRC, including but not limited to fundraisers, rallies, and social events.

(b) The Events Committee shall be comprised of members appointed by the Chairman.

6. Executive Committee

(a) The Executive Committee shall be charged with carrying out the business of the SCRC between meetings of the SCRC, or in instances when waiting to take action until the next SCRC meeting would be impractical.

(b) The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chairman; the Vice Chairmen; the Magisterial District Chairmen; the Secretary; the Treasurer; the immediate past Chairman; and any members of the State Central Committee residing in Stafford County.

(c) By a majority vote of the total number of its members (regardless of how many are in attendance) the Executive Committee may authorize an expenditure of funds by the SCRC.

(d) The Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the Chairman, or at the call of any four Executive Committee members. Only the Chairman, Vice Chairmen, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be counted for purposes of establishing quorum. Three of the five officers present shall constitute a quorum. The Executive Committee may conduct its business telephonically.

Article V: Miscellaneous

1. Parliamentary Order. The SCRC shall be governed by the State Party Plan, these bylaws, and by Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (11th Ed), in that order of descending precedence.

2. Quorum.

Quorum for SCRC business meetings shall consist of 20% of voting Members in good standing in attendance at a properly called meeting.

3. Proxies.

(a) A Member may be represented SCRC business meetings, or meetings of Standing Committees, by proxy, provided that (i) no single individual may cast more than one vote per ballot at any meeting; (b) the proxy holder meets the qualifications for membership in the Committee; (c) where membership on the Committee or subcommittee is contingent upon residence in a particular election district or organization, the proxy holder must be a member of the same election district or organization represented by the absent member of the committee; and (d) the proxy reads substantially as follows and is signed by the maker thereof:

I, _____, of _____ Magisterial District, _____ Precinct, do hereby appoint _____ to vote as my proxy at the duly noticed meeting of the Stafford County Republican Committee the _____ day of _____, 20____, or at any adjourned meeting thereof, and for me and in my name, place, and stead to vote upon any question that properly may come before such meeting, with all the power I should possess if personally present, hereby revoking all previous proxies, this _____ day of _____, 20____.

Signed _____

4. Limitation of SCRC Involvement in Intra-Party Contests.

(a) No SCRC funds shall be contributed to any candidate in a Republican nomination contest or to any candidate competing for a Republican Party office.

(b) The SCRC shall not make any endorsement of a candidate in a Republican nomination contest or of any candidate competing for a Republican Party office.

(c) Individual Members, including the Chairman, may endorse the candidates referenced above in (a) and (c) provided that such endorsement is in that Member's personal capacity and is not made to appear to be offered on behalf of the SCRC.

5. Amendment. These bylaws may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the Members present at a meeting called for such purpose, provided that notice of the specific amendments to be made has been made to the Members at least one week in advance of the meeting at which it will be considered.

6. Membership List. Any Member in good standing may request, and the Secretary shall provide, a copy of the list of all Members maintained by the Secretary, to include relevant contact information. Members must treat this list as confidential, and shall pledge to not disclose such list to any non-Member. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Chairman may, if requested, provide the Membership List to Republican candidates and to the First Congressional District Committee or to the Republican Party of Virginia.