

Harris County Republican Party Bylaws / 2020-22

ARTICLE I - Name

The name of this organization is the "Harris County Republican Party." References to this organization in these Bylaws and other documents may be by its proper name as written in this article or the "HCRP" or the "Party". This organization is established by these Bylaws and the Texas Election Code, Section 171.02. References to the Texas Election Code in these Bylaws and other documents may be by its proper name as written in this article or the "TEC" or the "Code."

ARTICLE II - Object

The object of this organization shall be to perform the duties assigned to it in the TEC, to support, assist, and elect Republican candidates to public office, and to establish, promote, and educate the voting public on positions and issues consistent with the State and/or National Republican Party Platforms. The Harris County Republican Party does not endorse in primary elections.

ARTICLE III - Members

Section 1 – Membership: Voting membership on the Harris County Republican Party's Executive Committee shall be limited to the County Chairman and the Precinct Chairmen from each county election precinct pursuant to Sec. 171.022 of the TEC (See Secs. 171.021 - 171.054 of the TEC).

Section 2 – Vacancies:

- A. Vacancy Defined: A vacancy is an open, unfilled, or unoccupied place in either the position of County Chairman or Precinct Chairman.
- B. Method of Filling Vacancies: A Precinct Chairman vacancy shall be filled by a majority vote. A list of legally qualified applicants recommended by the Vacancy Committee shall be mailed with the meeting call.

Section 3 – Term of Office: The term of office is two (2) years beginning the 20th day after the primary run-off election day (TEC Sec. 171.022).

Section 4 – Resignations: All resignations shall be submitted in writing and delivered in person, by regular US Postal Service mail, or by electronic mail to the County Chairman or the Secretary.

ARTICLE IV - Officers

Section 1 – Officers Named: The officers of the HCRP Executive Committee shall be a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Legal Counsel, Sergeant-at-Arms, Parliamentarian and Chaplain and three (3) Special Assistants to the Chairman. The officers shall perform the duties prescribed by these Bylaws, Standing Rules of the Executive Committee, the TEC, the Rules of the Republican Party of Texas (RPT) and adopted parliamentary authority.

Section 2 – Method of Election and/or Appointment: The Chairman shall be the County Chairman elected in the primary, or by the Executive Committee to fill a vacancy. The Executive Committee shall elect the Secretary, who need not be a member. The Chairman shall appoint the Vice-Chairman, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Legal Counsel, subject to approval by a majority vote of the Executive Committee. The Chairman shall appoint the Treasurer, Parliamentarian, Chaplain and Special Assistants to the Chairman, not subject to vote of the Executive Committee.

Harris County Republican Party Bylaws / 2020-22

The Sergeant-at-Arms must be a Precinct Chairman, and all officers must be registered voters in Harris County and have voted in the most recent Republican primary.

Section 3 – Succession of Officers: The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee. In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman shall preside. In the absence of the Vice Chairman, the Secretary, or any member in the absence of the Secretary, shall preside over the election of a chairman pro tem.

Section 4 – Duties and Responsibilities:

- A. The Chairman of the Executive Committee shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee and shall be the Committee's official representative and spokesman. In addition, the Chairman shall be charged with the following duties and powers: 1) To be responsible for the safekeeping of the records of the Harris County Republican Party and to turn them over to his/her successor when he/she vacates the office; 2) To have the usual powers of supervision and management necessary to maintaining a well ordered County Headquarters including employment of an executive director subject to the approval of the Advisory Board as described in Article VII Section 3, and such supportive staff as warranted; 3) To prepare an annual, calendar-year budget for presentation to the Advisory Board and Executive Committee, and to provide a budget comparison update at each HCRP Executive Committee meeting; 4) To make party records available for inspection by executive committee members during regular office hours upon prior request; 5) To cooperate with the Financial Oversight Committee; and 6) To distribute all resolutions of the HCRP Executive Committee as specifically prescribed in their passed resolutions.
- B. The Vice-chairman shall assist the Chairman, as requested, in the execution of his/ her duties. In the event the office of the County Chairman becomes vacant, the Vice-Chairman shall act in that place until a new County Chairman is elected.
- C. The Secretary shall be capable of assuming the duties normally required of a recording secretary, and shall have the following duties; 1) In the event the office of County Chairman becomes vacant, the Secretary shall call a meeting of the Executive Committee for the purpose of electing a new Chairman, as outlined in Section 171.025 of the Texas Election Code; 2) To keep an accurate record of the minutes of all meetings of the Executive Committee A permanent certified copy, bearing his/her signature and that of the presiding officer, shall be kept in a binder at County Headquarters, a copy of which shall be furnished to any Executive Committeeman upon request; The permanent binder shall be removed from County Headquarters only to be taken to Executive Committee meetings; 3) To keep a current list of Executive Committeemen and shall furnish a list of vacancies which have occurred during the previous month to the Advisory Board, as well as to the districts' Vacancy Committee members; A current list of Executive Committeemen, officers, and Standing Committee members, as well as members of Special Committees or other committees, shall be furnished upon request to any Executive Committeemen and shall be brought to each Executive Committee meeting. 4) The Secretary shall keep a permanent, acted record of the Bylaws, Standing Rules and Special Rules of Order of the Executive Committee, a copy of which shall be furnished to any Executive Committeeman upon request and shall be brought to each meeting of the Executive Committee; 5) The Secretary shall keep a date record of Standing Committee, Special Committee and other committee meetings, reminding Standing Committee, Special Committee and other committee chairman when meetings are required and maintaining an up-to-date file on Standing Committee, Special Committee and other Committee minutes and; 6) The Secretary shall perform those duties specified in the Texas Election Code.

Harris County Republican Party Bylaws / 2020-22

- D. The Treasurer shall be custodian of the funds deposited in the Party's account, shall give a financial report at each regular Executive Committee meeting, shall cooperate with the Financial Oversight Committee, and shall perform applicable duties required by federal and state statutes.
- E. The Legal Counsel shall advise the Chairman of the Party's legal responsibilities and statutory obligations.
- F. The Parliamentarian shall advise the presiding officer on matters of parliamentary procedure upon request.
- G. The Chaplain shall give the invocation at each meeting of the Executive Committee and at official gatherings of the County Party, when appropriate.
- H. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall assist the presiding officer in maintaining order at all Executive Committee meetings and shall be responsible for designating separate seating for guests at the meetings.

ARTICLE V - Meetings of the Executive Committee

Section 1 – Quarterly Meetings: Regular quarterly meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held quarterly, once during the period from January through March and in each subsequent quarter, unless otherwise ordered by the Advisory Board or Executive Committee. Executive Committee meetings may be held electronically at the discretion of the County Chairman, provided that the meeting call and electronic meeting service meet the requirements of Article V Section 8.

Section 2 – Calling Meetings: Regular and statutory meetings shall be called by the Chairman. Special meetings may be called by the Chairman, the Advisory Board, or any member upon written demand of one-fourth (1/4 or 25%) of the membership.

Section 3 – Organizational Meeting: The first meeting of a new Executive Committee shall be known as the Organizational Meeting and shall be held after the term of office begins for the County Chairman and within 65 days after runoff primary election day, unless prescribed otherwise by the Texas Election Code or by the Rules of the Republican Party of Texas. The Agenda for this meeting shall include but not be limited to: A) Swearing in of the newly elected Executive Committee; B) Elections of Officers and Committee Members; C) Submission of appointments for approval, and; D) Submission of Bylaws and Rules for approval.

Section 4 – Method of Calling Meetings: All meetings of the Executive Committee shall be called by electronic mail. A member may receive meeting notices by regular US Postal Service mail if that member provides a written request to the Secretary to receive Executive Committee meeting notices by regular US Postal Service mail. Meeting notices shall be transmitted or postmarked, at least fourteen (14) days before the meeting, except in the event of a stated emergency, in which case it shall be sent at least five (5) days beforehand.

Section 5 – Chairman's Appointments: Except for the Organizational Meeting, the names of appointees submitted for approval shall be included in the meeting call for the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

Section 6 – Quorum for Executive Committee Meetings: A quorum for an Executive Committee Meeting shall be one-fourth (1/4) of the Committee Membership for regular business. A quorum for statutory business shall be those present and a quorum for other business shall be that stated in the TEC.

Harris County Republican Party Bylaws / 2020-22

Section 7 – Time Limits for Committee Reports: No committee report presented to the Harris County Executive Committee shall exceed five (5) minutes. The Executive Committee may limit or extend the time for the committee report by adopting an enabling motion. Such enabling motion shall require a majority vote and shall not be debatable.

Section 8 – Electronic Meetings: Meetings of the Executive Committee, Advisory Board, Organizational Senate Districts, and Standing and Ad Hoc Committees may be held electronically, provided that the following requirements are met:

- A. The County Chairman must designate, subject to approval of the Advisory Board, an electronic meeting service that meets the following requirements: 1) ability of members to view and access [and present] documents, 2) ability of the chairman or secretary to record votes, and 3) ability of the chairman (or a designated moderator) to facilitate participation and protect the rights of members and non-members.
- B. The County Chairman must ensure that committee chairmen and meeting moderators are properly trained to use the electronic meeting service.
- C. The electronic meeting call must be sent with secure credentials that allows members to join at the designated meeting time.
- D. The chairman must ensure that all other requirements under these Bylaws are met, including but not limited to meeting notice, quorum, and minutes issuance.

ARTICLE VI - Organization

Section 1 – District Executive Committee: The Harris County Republican Precinct Chairmen residing in each Senatorial District constitute a Senatorial District Executive Committee within Harris County and each shall caucus at the Organizational Meeting to elect a District Chairman, who shall be the district executive committee chairman or district executive committeeman from the county specified by TEC Sec. 171.053-054. The immediate past District Chairman shall be the temporary caucus chairman, if able to serve; otherwise the County Chairman shall appoint the temporary caucus chairman.

Section 2 – District Chair Vacancies: Vacancies in the office of Senatorial District Chairman shall be filled at a Senatorial District Executive Committee meeting called by the County Chairman to occur no later than the date of the next County Executive Committee Meeting. The County Chairman shall call the meeting to fill a vacancy, or remove a District Chairman. If he fails to call a meeting, such a meeting may be called by any member of the affected District upon written demand of one fourth (1/4) of the membership of that District. A two-thirds vote of those present and voting is required to remove a District Chairman. For the purposes of this section a quorum shall be twenty-five percent (25%) of the District Executive Committee. The call for such a meeting shall be sent to all of the District Executive Committee membership. Such call shall be postmarked at least fourteen (14) days prior to the meeting. The call shall include the purpose of the meeting, and shall provide for the election of a new chairman, if appropriate.

Section 3 – Senatorial District Chairmen: Each Senatorial District Chairman shall have the following duties and powers: 1) To recommend to the Vacancy Committee legally qualified candidates to fill vacancies in the office of precinct chairman in the election precincts within the district; 2) To call district meetings, over which he/she shall preside, for the purpose of filling elective vacancies on the Standing Committees as prescribed in these Standing Rules; 3) To

Harris County Republican Party Bylaws / 2020-22

appoint a vice-chairman and such other organizational assistants as needed in the district; 4) To appoint a member of the Financial Development, Engagement, and Judicial Recruitment and Screening Committee as prescribed in the Bylaws, and 5) To serve as liaison between the Advisory Board and the district executive committee.

Section 4 – Elections to Committees: Senatorial Districts 4, 6, 7, 11, 13, 15, 17 and 18, individually, shall be called Organizational Senatorial Districts (OSD), and shall caucus at the organization meeting to elect members to the standing committees. The OSDs shall meet as needed to fill vacancies on the committees, with the meeting to occur no later than the date of the next County Executive Committee Meeting. OSD caucus meetings may be held electronically at the discretion of the OSD Chairman (or at the discretion of the County Chairman if the OSD Chairmanship is vacant) and provided that the meeting call and electronic meeting service meet the requirements of Article V, Section 4 and Section 8.

Section 5 – Election Judges: The County Chairman shall submit a list of Republican Election Judges or Alternate Election Judges per precinct to the Harris County Commissioner Court for approval in each general election cycle. Republican Election Judges or Alternate Election Judges, one per precinct, must be Republican Primary voters or members of the Republican Party [Required by TEC Section 32.002(c)].

ARTICLE VII - Advisory Board

Section 1 – Advisory Board Established: The Advisory Board consists of the County Chairman, the Secretary, the Senatorial District Chairmen and three at-large members appointed by the County Chairman who may be anyone of the County Chairman's choosing except staff, employees, or paid consultants. The County Chairman shall appoint a Secretary for the Advisory Board who may be anyone of the County Chairman's choosing except staff, employees, or paid consultants. Minutes shall be filed within ten (10) days of each meeting. Other HCRP officers shall be ex-officio members without a vote. The County Chairman shall serve as the Chairman of the Advisory Board. A quorum is a majority of the membership.

Section 2 – Meetings of Advisory Board: The Advisory Board shall meet quarterly immediately before Executive Committee meetings and more often if necessary, at the call of the County Chairman or one fourth (1/4 or 25%) of the voting members. The committee agenda shall include but not be limited to review of the agenda for the next meeting of the Executive Committee. Advisory Board meetings may be held electronically at the discretion of the County Chairman, provided that the meeting call and electronic meeting service meet the requirements of Article V Section 8.

Section 3 – Additional Duties: The Advisory Board shall advise the County Chairman on party matters. The County Chairman shall present a financial report to the Advisory Board for review at its regular meeting. The hiring of an Executive Director by the party shall be subject to approval by a majority vote of those present and voting at a meeting of the Advisory Board. Any expenditures by the Harris County Republican Party that would cause the Party to expend more than \$25,000 within a twelve (12)-month period, including salaries, consulting fees, retainers, and contractual commitments, must be approved by a majority vote of those present and voting at a meeting of the Advisory Board. A majority of the members of the Advisory Board may instead approve such expenditures by email outside of a meeting, provided that a hard-copy record of any such approval is included in the minutes of the next meeting of the Advisory Board. All contracts entered into by the Harris County Republican Party shall contain provisions so that precinct chairs and Advisory Board members are not individually or collectively liable for contracts, fulfillment, or disputes arising from contracts.

Harris County Republican Party Bylaws / 2020-22

ARTICLE VIII - Standing and Ad Hoc Committees

Section 1 – Committee Composition:

- A. Committees Named: There shall be twelve (12) standing committees: Vacancy, Rules, Candidates, Judicial Recruitment and Screening, Training and Development, Financial Development, Young Leadership Development, Engagement, Ballot Security, Military Partnership, Local Government, and Financial Oversight.
- B. Committee Composition: Except as noted in this subsection or in the subsection addressing the specific committee, standing committees shall be composed of three (3) members appointed by the County Chairman and approved by the Executive Committee, and senate district representative members selected by each Organizational Senatorial Districts (OSD). Vacancy, Rules, and Training and Development Committees shall be composed of one (1) member appointed by the County Chairman and approved by the Executive Committee, and senate district representative members selected by each Organizational Senatorial Districts (OSD). Senate district representative members of Vacancy, Rules, Candidates, Judicial Recruitment and Screening, Financial Development, Engagement, Local Government, and Financial Oversight shall be elected by each Organizational Senatorial District (OSD). Senate district representative members of Military Partnership, Ballot Security, and Training and Development shall be appointed by Organizational Senatorial District Chairmen. The County Chairman shall appoint each committee chairman from the Committee Membership except, for the Vacancy, Rules, Candidates, Training and Development, Military Partnership and Financial Oversight Committees. Vacancy, Rules, Candidates, Training and Development, Military Partnership and Financial Oversight Committees shall elect their own Chairmen. Each OSD shall be entitled to senate district representation on each standing committee equal to one member per fifty (50) precinct chairmen or major fraction thereof and elected at the most recent primary unless otherwise specifically provided for in the subsection for the specific committee. The County Chairman and Secretary shall be ex-officio members of each standing committee established by this Article. The Ballot Security, Training and Development, Financial Development, Young Leadership Development, Engagement, and Military Partnership Committee Chairmen may appoint additional ex-officio non-voting members of those committees, at the committee chairman's discretion. The Local Government Committee Chairman may appoint additional ex-officio non-voting members of that committee, subject to approval by the committee.
- C. Definition of Quorum for Committee Meetings: A quorum is a majority of the Committee Membership.
- D. Committees and Committee Meetings: 1) The County Chairman shall call the first meeting within six (6) weeks of the organizational meeting. The agenda for the first meeting shall include the election of a Committee Chairman except for those committees where the County Chairman appoints the Committee Chairman. Subsequent meetings shall be called by the committee chairman, or by any member upon written demand of one fourth (1/4) of the committee membership. The committee chairman shall be replaced upon resignation within six weeks of resignation by the majority vote of the committee. Unless otherwise unanimously agreed to by the members of a committee, no committee meetings shall be held during the week of the Republican National Convention, the Republican State Convention, the Republican Senatorial District Convention, the Primary Election, the Primary Run-off Election or other uniform election dates as defined in the TEC. 2) The Standing Committees are sub-committees of the Executive Committee. Standing Committees shall meet as specified below, and shall file their minutes within ten (10) days at County headquarters. Any Executive Committeeman has the privilege of attending any Standing Committee meeting and may address the committee within the time constraints set by the committee, but may not participate in

Harris County Republican Party Bylaws / 2020-22

the committee's deliberation. 3) Standing Committees may adopt supplemental rules as long as they do not conflict with directives of the Executive Committee or the By-laws, the Special Rules of Order, or the Standing Rules of the Executive Committee. 4) Standing and Ad Hoc Committee meetings may be held electronically at the discretion of the Committee Chairman (or at the discretion of the County Chairman if the Committee Chairmanship is vacant), provided that the meeting call and electronic meeting service meet the requirements of Article V Section 8.

- E. Committee Membership: Members shall be registered voters in Harris County and affiliated with the Republican Party. All members of the Vacancy and Rules Committee shall be members of the Executive Committee. Persons serving on the Rules, Vacancy, Candidates or Judicial Recruitment and Screening Committee may not serve on more than one of these four (4) standing committees simultaneously. This shall be the only limitation regarding multiple committee membership. Additional requirements for committee membership or privileges for committee appointments may be indicated in Section 2 of this Article.
- F. Participation Required: Members of committees established by this Article shall participate in committee activities. Members not participating shall be automatically removed from committee membership upon three (3) consecutive absences from regularly called meetings.

Section 2 – Committee Description and Duties:

- A. The Vacancy Committee: The Vacancy Committee shall meet monthly (Regular Meeting) unless otherwise ordered by majority vote of said committee (Special Meeting) to interview and recommend qualified applicants to fill vacant precinct chairmen positions. Special Meetings shall not be considered in determining automatic removal. The Vacancy Committee shall seek, recruit and interview legally qualified persons to fill precinct chairman vacancies and shall determine by majority vote the applicant whom it recommends for each precinct. All votes regarding applicants shall be recorded in the minutes of the Vacancy Committee. All recommended applicants by the Vacancy Committee will be included in the Meeting Call for the next Executive Committee meeting.
- B. The Rules Committee: The Rules Committee shall meet as needed to consider recommendations on changes to the Bylaws, Special Rules of Order or Standing Rules. The committee shall meet before the end of the term to formulate a recommendation to the next executive committee for Bylaws, Standing Rules and Special Rules of Order. The Parliamentarian and Legal Counsel shall be ex-officio non-voting members of the committee. The Rules Committee shall meet as often as necessary to review the rules under which the Executive Committee operates and may recommend amendments to the Executive Committee for consideration.
- C. The Candidates Committee: The Candidates Committee shall meet as needed to research, review, train, and promote non-judicial candidates. The County Chairman may appoint not more than three (3) additional members from among non-judicial Republican officeholders in Harris County. The Candidates Committee shall develop and carry out a continuing program for researching, reviewing, training, and promoting Republican candidates for public office. The Candidates Committee shall investigate and report the qualifications of all candidates of all nonjudicial offices that appear on the ballot in Harris County. The Candidates Committee must have the approval of the Party Chairman or the Executive Committee before releasing the results of any committee action. The Candidates Committee shall take such steps it deems

Harris County Republican Party Bylaws / 2020-22

appropriate in its discretion to publicize the fact of its existence and the necessity of potential non-judicial candidates' participation in the review process. Any candidate for non-judicial office in Harris County who fails to participate in the Candidate Committee interview process may not be entitled to participate in any joint campaign activities or appear in any materials sponsored or assisted by the party.

- D. The Judicial Recruitment and Screening Committee: The Judicial Recruitment and Screening Committee shall meet as needed to research, review, train, and promote judicial candidates. The Judicial Recruitment and Screening Committee shall be composed of: a) Legal Counsel, b) four (4) additional members appointed by the County Chairman, no more than two of which can be attorneys, and c) one (1) member from each OSD appointed by the chairman of the OSD. No judicial candidate, or anyone related to a judicial candidate within two degrees of affinity of consanguinity, shall be eligible to be a member. The committee shall utilize standards approved by the Executive Committee as submitted by the Ad Hoc Committee on Judicial Standards. The Judicial Recruitment and Screening Committee shall investigate and report the qualifications of all candidates for all judicial offices that appear on the ballot in Harris County. The JSC shall promulgate an application form to be used by judicial candidates. Each candidate shall complete the application and attend an interview with the JSC. Upon completion of such interview and such other investigation deemed appropriate by the JSC in its discretion, the JSC shall release a list of unqualified candidates to the County Chairman and the Executive Committee prior to the primary (or runoff). The JSC shall take such steps it deems necessary in its discretion to publicize the fact of its existence and the necessity of potential candidate's participation in the review process. Any candidate for judicial office who fails to participate in the JSC interview process may not be entitled to participate in any joint campaign activities or appear in any materials sponsored or assisted by the Party.
- E. The Training and Development Committee: The Training and Development Committee shall meet as needed to train party workers. District Chairmen shall be ex-officio non-voting members of the committee. The Training and Development Committee shall develop and conduct a training program for party workers that shall include training in precinct organization and operations. The Training and Development Committee shall meet as often as necessary to fulfill its duties.
- F. The Financial Development Committee: The Financial Development Committee shall focus on raising the money needed to fully fund the Party and its activities and its candidates via memberships, sustaining programs, corporate programs and fund raising events. The County Chairman shall appoint members of the Committee, the OSD Chairman shall designate one member each, and the County Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Treasurer shall be voting members of the committee. The Financial Development Committee shall be responsible for fund raising for the Harris County Republican Party.
- G. The Young Leadership Development Committee: The Young Leadership Development Committee will develop and produce a young leadership program for a limited number of Republicans under age thirty-five (35), who have been accepted by application. The County Chairman will appoint all members of the Young Leadership Development Committee. The Young Leadership Development Committee shall develop and carry out training of young Republicans so that a new group of campaign leaders will be developed every two years.
- H. The Engagement Committee: The Engagement Committee will work to develop and implement programs designed to increase Republican voter turnout and encourage Republican growth in minority communities and engage in development of a long-term plan in this area for the future of the Republican Party. The

Harris County Republican Party Bylaws / 2020-22

committee membership will consist of: a) Ten (10) members appointed by the County Chairman, b) Three (3) Party Officers or Committee Chairmen as appointed by the County Chairman, and c) Each OSD Chairman (or his appointed representative), who shall be ex-officio voting members. The Engagement Committee shall be responsible for developing and implementing programs designed to increase Republican voter turnout.

- I. The Ballot Security Committee: The responsibilities of the Ballot Security Committee shall include but not be limited to defending the integrity of the elections to the end that one voted ballot reflects the will of one qualified voter. The Committee on Ballot Security shall be assigned functions and duties which shall include but not be limited to the recruitment and training of poll watchers, election inspectors and other officers and ballot security personnel to protect the integrity and the veracity of the election process.
- J. The Military Partnership Committee: The responsibilities of the Military Partnership Committee shall be to interface with military personnel and the families of military personnel from the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corp, Merchant Marines, Coast Guard, National Guard and Texas State Guard. The committee will work to strengthen relationships between the Republican Party and Republican candidates with military personnel and veterans of military service. The scope of the committee's work shall include, but not be limited to, voter registration, voter education and the promotion of the use of ballots by mail for eligible military personnel and their families. The committee shall elect its chairman from among its membership. All committee members shall be Honorably Discharged veterans, widows and widowers and persons related to same through the first degree of consanguinity or affinity.
- K. The Local Government Committee: The Local Government Committee can meet as needed to research and review propositions, bond issues, governmental charters/by-laws changes, tax changes, non-partisan elections, and city ordinances. If the Committee votes by the majority to bring a local issue before the HCRP Executive Committee it must be accompanied by a resolution about that issue which will be part of the committee's report to the HCRP Executive Committee, and must be distributed with the HCRP meeting call.
- L. The Financial Oversight Committee: The Financial Oversight Committee shall have the authority to inspect the Party's books, records, financial statements and governmental reports to determine that proper accounting controls and procedures are in effect and that the Party is in compliance with the applicable governmental accounting requirements. The Committee shall meet as needed to prepare its biennial report for the Advisory Board and Executive Committee. The Committee shall be made up of one (1) member from each OSD, elected by the OSD. Each committee member must be a precinct chair and have a demonstrated background in accounting or business. The Committee shall elect its own Chairman. The County Chairman and Treasurer shall be ex-officio, non-voting members of the Committee. The Committee shall submit its report at least thirty (30) days prior the fourth quarter meetings of the Advisory Board and the Executive Committee (but in no case, later than November 1) in odd-numbered years.
- M. Ad Hoc and Special Committees: Ad Hoc and Special Committees may be established by the County Chairman, the Advisory Board or the Executive Committee as needed to perform duties not covered by standing committees. Any committee so appointed shall report to the Chairman and to the Executive Committee only. All reports for publication must be approved by a majority vote of the Executive Committee. If approval is needed before a regularly scheduled Executive Committee Meeting, approval may be granted by a majority vote of the Advisory Board.

Harris County Republican Party Bylaws / 2020-22

Section 3 – Limitations and Requirements:

- A. Limitations on Committee's Membership: No staff, employee, contractor, sub-contractor or any other person receiving compensation for services from the Harris County Republican Party, the Republican Party of Texas, the Republican National Committee or any Party auxiliary may serve on or be a member of any committee in the Harris County Republican Party. This is not intended to preclude a consultant for a candidate or candidates or lobbyist from serving as a committee member provided there is disclosure of such activity or such interest by such persons to the officers of the Harris County Republican Party and members of the committee on which the person serves.
- B. Requirements for Meeting Calls: All committee meetings shall be called by electronic mail. A member may receive meeting notices by regular US Postal Service mail, if that member provides a written request to the Secretary to receive standing, ad hoc, and/or special committee meeting notices by regular US Postal Service mail. Meeting notices shall be transmitted or postmarked at least ten (10) days prior to a meeting. All committee meetings shall be held at the office of the Harris County Republican Party unless otherwise agreed to by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the committee membership. Any electronic meeting convened using the approved electronic meeting service shall be considered held at the office of the Harris County Republican Party. All committee members shall be notified of each committee meeting. All standing committee meetings shall be posted on the website of the Harris County Republican Party no later than one (1) business day after scheduling.

ARTICLE IX - Authority of Executive Committee

Section 1 – Restrictions on Publications: Consistent with objectives set forth in Article II, any publication of the Harris County Republican Party containing advertising relating to contested Republican Primary or Run-off Elections shall bear the following disclaimer printed in at least 12 point type: "Advertisements contained herein do not constitute an endorsement by the Harris County Republican Party. Advertisers are solely responsible for advertisement content. Acceptance of political advertisement should not be construed as preference for one candidate and/or organization over another by the Harris County Republican Party. The Harris County Republican Party does not endorse candidates in contested primary elections." In addition to the Harris County Republican Party's disclaimer, each advertisement shall bear a disclaimer, in at least 12 point type, by the advertiser indicating that it is a paid advertisement and listing the advertiser's name, address and telephone number. Additionally, all Republican candidates shall be given equal access to participate. The Harris County Republican Party reserves the right to reject ads based on content. No ads that endorse one Republican candidate over another in a contested primary or run-off election shall be accepted.

Section 2 – Executive Committee as Final Authority: The Executive Committee is the final authority on all public policy positions of endorsements of the Harris County Republican Party. No HCRP officer, executive committee member, committee chairman, contractor, employee or anyone associated with the HCRP may communicate any official position, policy or endorsement of the HCRP either verbally or in writing or use the HCRP's letterhead, logo or name in any communication to the media or to the public indicating an official position of the HCRP without an affirmative vote of the Executive Committee at any regular or special meeting, a quorum being present. An individual may be identified by his/her HCRP title in any personal endorsement.

Exception: Between Executive Committee meetings, the Advisory Board may, by a two-thirds vote at an Advisory Board meeting, endorse a candidate in a nonpartisan election. Any such endorsement must not conflict

Harris County Republican Party Bylaws / 2020-22

with any position of the Executive Committee, and may be overturned by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Section 3 – Finances: No officer or employee of the Executive Committee shall pledge the credit of the Executive Committee for the purposes of obtaining any loan without approval of the Advisory Board by two-thirds (2/3) vote. In-kind contributions or services from the county party to any candidate shall be available uniformly to all Republican candidates for offices of the same type or class in that election.

ARTICLE X - Parliamentary Authority

Section 1 – The Executive Committee shall operate in accordance with the Texas Election Code and the Rules of the Republican Party of Texas (RPT). The Bylaws, Special Rules of Order and Standing Rules adopted by the Executive Committee comprise the Supplemental Executive Committee Rules explicitly permitted by RPT Rule No. 8.

Section 2 – The rules contained in the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern the Executive Committee in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with state law, the Rules of the Republican Party of Texas, these Bylaws, Standing Rules and Special Rules of Order that the Executive Committee may adopt.

ARTICLE XI - Amendment of Bylaws

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote with previous written notice, except an amendment to bring the Bylaws into compliance with federal or state statutes, the Texas Election Code (TEC) or the Rules of the Republican Party of Texas (RPT) may be effected by a majority vote without notice.

ADOPTION OF BYLAWS

Adopted by the Executive Committee of the Harris County Republican Party on the August 18, 2020.

ATTEST:

Keith Nielsen
County Chairman

Josh Flynn
Secretary

Harris County Republican Party Bylaws / 2020-22

Rule No. 8A – Petition Required for County Chairs in Certain Counties

(Permanent State Executive Committee Rule) – Persons filing for the office of County Chair in a county with a minimum of eight (8) incumbent precinct chairmen shall include a nominating petition containing the signatures of at least 10 percent of the incumbent precinct chairs serving on the County Executive Committee, or two (2) – whichever is greater, using a form of promulgated by the Republican Party of Texas. The nominating petition shall contain the candidate's sworn oath that each of the signatures thereon is of an incumbent Precinct Chair and was signed in the presence of the candidate. Any county executive committee of a county with a population of fewer than 300,000 may, by majority vote, opt out of this requirement.

Sec. 171.022. COMMITTEE COMPOSITION. (a) A county executive committee consists of:

(1) a county chair, who is the presiding officer, elected at the general primary election by majority vote of the qualified voters of the county who vote in the primary on that office or appointed by the county executive committee as provided by this subchapter; and

(2) a precinct chair from each county election precinct, elected at the general primary by majority vote of the qualified voters of the precinct who vote in the primary on that office, subject to Section [171.0221](#), or appointed by the county executive committee as provided by this subchapter.

(b) Except as provided by Subsection (d), if no candidate receives a majority of the votes, a runoff to determine the office is conducted in the same manner as a runoff primary election to determine a nomination for public office. The candidates to be in a runoff are determined in the same manner as candidates in a runoff for a nomination.

(c) Each committee member serves for a term of two years beginning the 20th day after runoff primary election day.

(d) The state executive committee by rule may provide for the election of the county chair or precinct chairs of a particular county by plurality vote.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 211, Sec. 1, eff. Jan. 1, 1986. Amended by Acts 1993, 73rd Leg., ch. 728, Sec. 63, eff. Sept. 1, 1993; Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 499, Sec. 1, eff. Sept. 1, 1997; Acts 1997, 75th Leg.,

Harris County Republican Party Bylaws / 2020-22

ch. 864, Sec. 114, eff. Sept. 1, 1997; Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 1349, Sec. 59, eff. Sept. 1, 1997.

Sec. 171.0221. ELECTION NOT HELD FOR OFFICE OF PRECINCT CHAIR.

(a) If only one candidate's name is to be placed on the ballot for the office of precinct chair and no candidate's name is to be placed on the list of write-in candidates for that office, the election for that office is not held, and the unopposed candidate, if otherwise eligible, shall be declared elected to the office at the time of the local canvass.

(b) The county chair shall prepare a document that shall be posted that states: "Pursuant to Section [171.0221](#), Election Code, (insert name of unopposed candidate for precinct chair), if otherwise eligible, shall be declared elected to the office of precinct chair at the time of the local canvass." The county chair or entity contracted to hold the election shall distribute copies of the document to the presiding judge of the election precinct with the other election supplies. An election officer shall post the document in one or more locations in the polling place where it can be read by persons waiting to vote.

(c) The county chair shall post the name of a candidate declared elected under Subsection (a) at a public place in the election precinct.

Added by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 499, Sec. 2, eff. Sept. 1, 1997.

Amended by:

Acts 2013, 83rd Leg., R.S., Ch. 1054 (H.B. [3102](#)), Sec. 10, eff. June 14, 2013.

Sec. 171.023. RESIDENCE OF PRECINCT CHAIR. (a) To be eligible to be a candidate for or to serve as a precinct chair, a person must reside in the election precinct in addition to satisfying the other applicable eligibility requirements.

(b) A change in a county election precinct boundary creates a vacancy in the office of precinct chair if more than one precinct chair resides in the changed precinct or if none resides there.

(c) For the purpose of determining whether a precinct chair is a resident of a particular county election precinct, a change in a precinct boundary is not effective until February 1 following the adoption of the order making the change, except as provided by Subsection (d).

Harris County Republican Party Bylaws / 2020-22

(d) If a change in a precinct boundary made by an order adopted on or after February 1 of a primary election year is scheduled to become effective before general primary election day, the change is effective on the date the order is adopted for the purpose specified by Subsection (c).

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 211, Sec. 1, eff. Jan. 1, 1986. Amended by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., ch. 864, Sec. 115, eff. Sept. 1, 1997; Acts 1999, 76th Leg., ch. 62, Sec. 5.12, eff. Sept. 1, 1999.