

# Bylaws of the MONTGOMERY COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY OF TEXAS 2020-2022

Adopted August 18, A.D. 2020

## ARTICLE I – Name

The name of this organization shall be the “Montgomery County Republican Party of Texas”, hereinafter referred to as the “Executive Committee”.

## ARTICLE II – Purpose

For the purpose of advancing the political interests and effectiveness of Montgomery County Republicans and complying with laws governing political parties, the Executive Committee shall:

1. Promote and support the election of Republican candidates to public office;
2. Perform such duties as specified in the Texas Election Code;
3. Supervise the overall conduct of primary elections [TEC 172];
4. Administer a biennial County Primary and manage the county primary fund [TEC 173B];
5. Observe all state and federal election laws;
6. Promote the State Republican Party platform and positions; and
7. Perform such other duties as are consistent with the objectives stated in this Article.

## ARTICLE III – Membership

### Section 1. Composition

The Executive Committee shall consist of the County Chairman and the Precinct Chairmen of the respective election precincts, otherwise known as the Executive Committee, in the county [TEC [171.022](#)].

### Section 2. Eligibility

To be eligible to be a candidate for or to serve as Precinct Chairman or County Chairman, a person must be a qualified voter residing within the bounds of the entity represented, and that person must have voted in the most recent prior Republican primary or take an oath of affiliation to the Republican Party [TEC [161.005](#); [171.023](#)].

### Section 3. Term

Each Executive Committee member serves for a term of up to two (2) years, ending on the twentieth (20th) day after the primary runoff election day [TEC [171.022\(c\)](#)].

### Section 4. Filling Vacancies

Any vacancy in the office of Precinct Chairman shall be filled by appointment of the Executive Committee. The person selected to fill the vacancy must receive a majority vote of those Committee members voting [TEC [171.024](#)] and must be eligible to serve as a Republican Precinct Chairman.

- A. Except as provided in Subsection B, one third (33.33%) of the total membership, excluding vacant chairs, of the Executive Committee must participate in the election to fill a vacancy in the office of precinct chair [[TEC 171.024\(c\)](#) and [RPT Rule 9.a](#)].
- B. If there is only one candidate to fill a vacancy and that person was elected as a Precinct Chairman in the most recent primary election in Montgomery County and is eligible to serve in the office, only twenty-five percent (25%) of the total membership of the Executive Committee must participate in the election to fill the vacancy. [[TEC 171.024\(c\)](#) and [RPT Rule 9.a](#)].

## **Section 5. Duties**

- 1. Follow the bylaws of the 2020-2022 MCRP Executive Committee,
- 2. Regularly attend Executive Committee meetings, and
- 3. Support the purposes listed in Article II.

## **Section 6. Resignation and Removal**

If a member or an officer of the Executive Committee wishes to resign,

- 1. The member or officer must give written notice to the Secretary.
- 2. If the notice is not specific to position of resignation, it applies to all positions held within the Executive Committee.
- 3. If the notice is not specific to the effective date of the resignation, it is effective immediately upon receipt by the Secretary.
- 4. Failure to follow the duties of a member is subject to formal reprimand, censure, and removal in accordance with the resolution adopted by the Executive Committee, [TEC 171.029](#) and [RPT rule 8n](#). Any such action requires two thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) approval of members present and voting (not counting vacancies) with at least 50% of the members voting.

## **ARTICLE IV – Officers**

### **Section 1. Elected Officers**

In addition to the County Chairman, the Elected Officers of the Executive Committee shall be the Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer.

#### **A. County Chairman**

The County Chairman 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 and is subject to all applicable laws [[TEC 171.021-171.029](#) and [RPT Rules 8](#) and [9](#)].

#### **B. Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer**

- 1. Shall be a person who resides within Montgomery County and voted in the most recent Republican primary election.
- 2. Shall be elected by the Executive Committee at the biennial organization meeting.  
Nomination: Nominations for each position shall be made from the floor. After

nominations have been made, the nominees shall draw numbered lots as to speaking order. The nominee drawing the number 1 shall speak first, each nominee shall have three (3) minutes to speak, with no time for those who wish to speak on behalf of the nominee.

3. Voting: After all nomination speeches have concluded, voting shall be conducted by secret paper ballot. The Chairman shall appoint three (3) non-nominated Precinct Chairs to count the ballots. Each nominee may have one (1) teller to witness the vote counting. The candidate receiving the majority of the votes shall win the election.
4. Runoff: If no candidate receives the majority of the votes, a runoff election shall be conducted for the recipients with the two highest vote counts. There shall be no additional time for speeches. A new paper ballot shall be prepared.
5. Voice Vote: If there is only one nomination for a position, the voting may be by voice vote, or the presiding Chairman may declare the sole nominee elected.

## **Section 2. Officer Terms**

The term of office for all officers expires concurrently with that of the Executive Committee.

## **Section 3. Removal of Officers**

The Vice Chairman, Secretary, or Treasurer shall be removed by a two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of the Executive Committee members present with at least 50% of the members voting.

## **Section 4. Filling Officer Vacancies**

- A. County Chairman: A vacancy in the office of County Chairman shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Election Code [[TEC 171.025](#)]. A majority of the total membership of the Executive Committee must participate in the election to fill a vacancy in the office of county chair [[TEC 171.024\(b\)](#)].
- B. Vice Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer: A vacancy in the office of Vice Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer shall be filled in accordance with the procedures in Article IV, Section 1 of these bylaws at the next called Executive Committee meeting with at least 40% of members voting.

## **Section 5: Officer Duties**

Duties of the officers shall be as follows:

- A. County Chairman – The County Chairman, as the presiding officer of the executive committee, shall ensure compliance of the Executive Committee with all applicable federal and state laws, with these bylaws, and with the Rules of the Republican Party. The Chairman shall preside over the Steering Committee. That office shall make available any and all information to Steering, Permanent and Ad-Hoc Committees, within a reasonable time, depending on the urgency of the situation. The county chairman shall facilitate transfer of all assets (including but not limited to bank accounts, online presence, email lists, contact lists, and leased space) to the control of the Executive Committee, except for the bank accounts over which the county chair has authority pursuant to Section 171.028 of the Texas Election Code. The bylaws shall not deprive the Chairman statutory authority and duties outlined in the Texas Election Code, or conflict with the Texas Election Code in any way.

- B. Vice Chairman – The Vice Chairman shall preside over the Steering Committee in the absence of the Chairman, and shall assist the Chairman, as requested, in performance of the office. In the event of the Chairman’s absence or inability to serve, the Vice Chairman shall serve as acting Chairman until the Chairman resumes their duties or until a new Chairman is elected. In the absence of the Vice Chairman, the Secretary shall preside over Executive Committee meetings.
- C. Secretary – The Secretary shall carry out the usual duties of that office, keeping an up-to-date roll of the Executive Committee members and ensuring that each member receives timely notices of meetings and maintaining a permanent file containing the minutes of all Executive Committee meetings. In the event of a vacancy in the office of County Chairman, the Secretary shall call a meeting of the Executive Committee for the purpose of electing a new Chairman, as outlined in the Texas Election Code [TEC 171.025 (a)]. The Secretary is authorized to receive and preserve applications for a place on the primary ballot, as provided in the Texas Election Code [TEC 171.022 (a)(2)]. The Secretary shall preside over Executive Committee meetings in the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman, and the Steering Committee in the absence of the Chairman and Vice Chairman. At the start of each meeting, the presiding officer shall direct the Secretary to do a roll call to assess who is present. The Secretary also maintains Executive Committee attendance records.
- D. Treasurer – The Treasurer shall be responsible for keeping necessary and appropriate financial records for the Executive Committee, for complying with all applicable state and federal laws [statutes] with regard to reporting contributions and expenditures, and shall prepare periodic reports of the financial condition for presentation to the Executive Committee, as requested by the Steering Committee.

**ARTICLE V – Steering Committee**

**Section 1. Composition and Election**

The Steering Committee shall be composed of the County Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and five (5) Precinct Chairs. (These five (5) precinct chairs are called Executive Committee Representatives or EC Reps or EC Representatives).

- A. Presiding Officer: The Chairman shall preside over the Steering Committee. In his or her absence, the Vice Chairman shall preside over the Steering Committee.
- B. Voting Members: The voting members of the Steering Committee shall be the Chairman, the Vice Chairman, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and the five (5) elected EC Representatives.
- C. Election of the five (5) EC Representatives
  - 1. The EC Representatives shall be elected by the Executive Committee at the biennial organizational meeting.
  - 2. Nominations: Nominations shall be made from the floor. After nominations have been made, the nominees shall draw numbered lots as to speaking order. The nominee drawing the number 1 shall speak first, followed by number 2, and so forth in sequential number order. Each nominee shall have a total of three (3) minutes to speak, with no time for those who wish to speak on behalf of the nominee.
  - 3. Voting: After all nomination speeches have concluded, voting shall be conducted by secret paper ballot. The Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Secretary shall count the votes. Each nominee may have one (1) teller to witness the vote counting.

4. Ballots: Each paper ballot shall consist of up to five (5) blank lines, one for each open EC Representative position. Each Precinct Chair present shall be entitled to receive one paper ballot. On the paper ballot, those entitled to vote may write up to five names - one name per line. The order in which the names are written on the ballot is of no consequence. A ballot may not contain the name of any nominee(s) multiple times; in such an event the name of nominee(s) shall be counted as having received only one vote per nominee on the particular paper ballot. However, if a ballot contains six or more different names, then that entire cast ballot shall be declared invalid and shall not be counted.
5. Declaring Winner: Each open position is filled in descending order of votes received, provided that the nominee so assigned has received a majority of the total votes cast.
6. Runoff: In the event that any open EC Representative positions remain after each nominee receiving a majority of votes has been assigned a position, a runoff election shall be conducted for the nominees who did not receive a majority of votes. There shall be no additional time for speeches. A new paper ballot containing lines for the number of positions remaining to be filled shall be prepared. Each voting member present shall be entitled to receive one paper ballot. On the paper ballot, those entitled to vote may write up to one name per line. A ballot may not contain the name of any nominee(s) multiple times; if a ballot contains the name of any nominee(s) multiple times, the name(s) of nominee(s) shall be counted as having received only one vote per nominee on that particular paper ballot. If a ballot contains more different names than remaining positions, then that entire cast ballot shall be declared invalid and shall not be counted.
7. Conclusion of Voting: Each open position is filled in descending order of votes received, provided that the nominee so assigned has received a majority of the total votes cast. If necessary, the runoff process is repeated until all open EC Representative positions have been filled.
8. Voice Vote: If the number of nominees is the same or less than the number of open EC Representative positions, then voting may be by voice vote, or the presiding officer may declare those nominees elected.

## **Section 2. Quorum, Meetings, Voting, and Proxies**

- A. Quorum: A quorum for the Steering Committee shall consist of 40% or more of the voting members. Matters shall only be voted on in a meeting where a quorum of Steering Committee members is present in person, via telephone conference call, or a combination of in person and via telephone conference.
- B. Meetings and Voting: No meeting and no voting shall be conducted via email, except when declared open by majority vote of the Steering Committee or by the presiding officer, either in the call of the meeting or after the meeting has come to order. All Steering Committee members shall be allowed to attend any Steering Committee meeting in person or via telephone conference call. The Secretary shall keep written minutes of all Steering Committee meetings and shall distribute the written minutes to the Executive Committee with the call for the next scheduled Executive Committee meeting.
- C. Proxies: No proxies are allowed for Steering Committee members [RPT Rule No. 6].
- D. Any Steering Committee meeting is open to the Executive Committee or any Standing or Ad-Hoc committee member.

### **Section 3. Steering Committee Duties**

It shall be the duty of the Steering Committee to:

- A. Assume responsibility for the transaction of business necessary between meetings of the Executive Committee and to:
  - 1. Prepare an annual budget for the Executive Committee each year;
  - 2. Submit that budget to the Executive Committee each year at a meeting during the fourth quarter of the preceding calendar year;
  - 3. Execute all written contracts concerning employment, leases between the Executive Committee and any other third parties involving proceeds; and
  - 4. Authorize expenditures in accordance with the adopted budget and as funds are available.
- B. Appoint, remove, and fill vacancies with the concurrence of a majority of the members of the Executive Committee present at a called meeting of the Executive Committee for positions as follows:
  - 1. The Parliamentarian;
  - 2. The Sergeant at Arms;
  - 3. The Legal Counsel;
  - 4. The Rules Committee Chair;
  - 5. The Resolutions Committee Chair;
  - 6. The Candidates Committee Chair;
  - 7. The Finance Review Committee Chair;
  - 8. The Fundraising Committee Chair;
  - 9. The Technology Committee Chair;
  - 10. The Marketing/PR Committee Chair;
  - 11. The Community Engagement Committee Chair;
  - 12. The Headquarters Committee Chair;
  - 13. The Precinct Chair Support Committee Chair;
  - 14. Other standing, special, or ad hoc committee chairs as may be deemed necessary by the Executive Committee; and
  - 15. Other officers as deemed necessary.
- C. Develop the agenda for the Executive Committee meetings; and
- D. Adhere to election law requirements.
- E. Embrace all initiatives of the Statewide party (RPT).
- F. Recommend to the convening authority, members of the EC or other eligible Montgomery County voters, a list of personnel to officiate primary, runoff and general elections pertaining to the Republican Party. The Steering Committee must refrain from arbitrarily removing experienced members from being Election Judges, without due cause, primarily resulting from actionable complaints from Montgomery County Election Central and/or the Texas Secretary of State, regarding the conduct of an election.

### **Section 4. Executive Committee Meeting Calls**

The Steering Committee may call an Executive Committee meeting by a majority vote. (Article VI, Section 2 - Meetings, within these By-Laws).

## **Section 5. Steering Committee Terms**

The elected Steering Committee members' terms expire concurrent with that of the Executive Committee.

## **Section 6. Steering Committee Meeting Calls**

Meetings can be called by the Chairman or Vice Chairman or at least three (3) members of the Steering Committee by a petition sent to the entire Steering Committee. Notice of regular Steering Committee Meetings must be at least seven (7) days before the meeting. Notice of an emergency Steering Committee Meetings must be at least two (2) days before the meeting.

Notice of all Steering Committee meetings consist of:

- Notice of date, time, location, and agenda,
- posting on website calendar, and
- Notice emailed to Executive Committee members and officers, all Sub Committee Chairs and Steering Committee members.

## **Section 7. Agenda**

Whoever has called the Steering Committee meeting shall prepare an agenda to be sent pursuant to Article V Section 6. The agenda for all Steering Committee meetings must be approved by majority vote at the beginning of each meeting. The Steering Committee may amend the agenda at the beginning of the meeting.

# **ARTICLE VI – Meetings**

## **Section 1. Frequency**

The Executive Committee shall meet at all times as required by the Texas Election Code and shall have at least one regular meeting each quarter.

## **Section 2. Meeting Calls**

Regular and statutory meetings shall be called by the County Chairman or the Steering Committee. Special meetings of the Executive Committee may be called by the County Chairman, with the approval of a majority of the Steering Committee. Special meetings also may be called by written petition signed by twenty percent (20%) of the total membership (not including vacancies) of the Executive Committee delivered to the Chairman, the Steering Committee, or to the Secretary at least fourteen (14) days before the desired meeting date, or in the event of a stated emergency, two (2) days. The purpose and order of business of the meeting must be stated in the call for any statutory, regular, or special meeting.

## **Section 3. Meeting Notice**

Notice of regular and special meetings of the Executive Committee shall be sent to each member of the Executive Committee by mail or e-mail at least fourteen (14) days in advance. Notice of meetings

of standing, special or ad hoc Sub Committees shall be posted on the website and emailed to County Chairman and Vice Chairman and subcommittee members at least seven (7) days in advance, two (2) days in advance for an emergency meeting.

#### **Section 4. Committee Report Submission**

All Sub Committee reports shall be submitted at the Executive Committee meeting.

#### **Section 5. Quorum**

A quorum for all meetings required by the Texas Election Code, in which only statutorily required business is conducted, shall be those members present [[RPT Rule 9.b](#)]. A quorum for the conduct of any other business except filling vacancies shall be twenty-five percent (25%) of the total membership of the Executive Committee, unless otherwise noted within these bylaws. [[TEC 171.024](#)]

#### **Section 6. Agenda**

The agenda for regular meetings of the Executive Committee shall include New Business. The presiding officer shall respectfully give all precinct chairs an opportunity to present information during New Business. The Chairman or Steering Committee, whichever has called the County Executive Committee, shall prepare an agenda, and send it to the precinct chairs with the meeting call. The agenda for all county executive committee meetings must be approved by majority vote at the beginning of each meeting. The executive committee may amend the agenda at the beginning of the meeting, by majority vote of those present and once the agenda is approved it can be changed by 2/3 vote of members present.

#### **Section 7. Discussion and Debate**

Discussion or debate on any resolution or other matter of business brought before the Executive Committee shall be limited to a total of four (4) speakers "For" and four (4) speakers "Against". (There does not need to be an equal number of "For" and "Against" speakers.) Each speaker shall be entitled to speak not more than five (5) minutes on a main motion and two (2) minutes on amending motions, provided, however, that the limitations contained in this section may be suspended by a majority vote of those members present and voting.

#### **Section 8. Open to the Public**

All Executive Committee meetings shall be open to the public. The public shall be allowed to film or record at any time.

### **ARTICLE VII – Sub Committees**

#### **Section 1. Victory 2020 Committee**

The purpose of the committee is to lead, organize, and encourage the effort to "get out the vote" for all uncensured Republican candidates in the November 2020 election. At the organizational Executive Committee meeting, the Executive Committee shall elect by majority vote the chair of the Victory 2020 Committee. The Victory 2020 Committee chair shall select the members of the



committee. The Executive Committee maintains control of the Victory 2020 Committee chair and members.

## **Section 2. Vacancy Committee**

The purpose of the committee is to review and recommend individuals to fill vacancies. At the organizational Executive Committee meeting, the Executive Committee shall elect by majority vote the chair of the Vacancy Committee. The chair shall select the members of the committee. There should be a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 15 members on this committee. The Executive Committee maintains control of the Vacancy Committee chair and members. The Vacancy Committee shall report vacancy recommendations to the Executive Committee for a vote. Each vacancy is voted separately.

## **Section 3. Resolutions Committee**

The Steering Committee shall establish and appoint a chair for the Resolutions Committee for the purpose of considering resolutions. Resolutions should be emailed to the Resolutions Committee chair several days prior to an Executive Committee meeting. For a resolution to be considered at an Executive Committee meeting, sufficient paper copies of the resolution shall be available at the meeting.

## **Section 4. Rules Committee**

The Steering Committee shall establish and appoint a chair for the Rules Committee for the purpose of considering supplemental rules that are not in conflict with the most recent Texas Election Code, Republican Party of Texas Rules, or changes to these bylaws.

## **Section 5. Financial Review Committee**

The Steering Committee shall establish and appoint a chair for the Financial Review Committee for the purpose of providing oversight and review of all finances related to Executive Committee funds. The Treasurer is required to be a member of the Finance Committee.

## **Section 6. Candidates Committee**

The Steering Committee shall establish and appoint a chair for the Candidates Committee. They shall vet candidates and/or issues in non-partisan races. The Candidates Committee shall present their report to the Executive Committee. Passage of a motion to endorse or oppose a candidate or issue in a non-partisan election shall require a majority vote of the Executive Committee members present and voting.

## **Section 7. Fundraising Committee**

The Steering Committee shall establish and appoint a chair for a Fundraising Committee for the purpose of raising money for the party. The committee may also plan fundraising events at the direction of the Steering Committee and with the approval of the Executive Committee. Any expenditures made to raise funds must be approved through normal policies and procedures established by the Steering Committee and the Executive Committee. The Treasurer is required to be a member of the Fundraising Committee.

## **Section 8. Technology Committee**

The Steering Committee shall establish and appoint a chair for the Technology Committee for the purpose of using technology to support the purposes of the party.

## **Section 9. Marketing/PR Committee**

The Steering Committee shall establish and appoint a chair for the Marketing/PR Committee. The purpose of the committee is to promote the efforts of the Montgomery County Republican Party and its brand through public relations initiatives and postings via the email distribution list, social media, and other sources. In addition, the Marketing/PR Committee works with other committees to maximize efforts for successful events and other community involvement activities.

## **Section 10. Headquarters Committee**

The Steering Committee shall establish and appoint a chair for the Headquarters Committee. The purpose of the committee is to develop and maintain a list and schedule of volunteers to support the day-to-day operations of the Montgomery County Republican Party headquarters.

## **Section 11. Community Engagement Committee**

The Steering Committee shall establish and appoint a chair for the Community Engagement Committee. The purpose of the committee is to engage Republican voters in voter registration drives, events, and community involvement activities.

## **Section 12. Precinct Chair Support Committee**

The Steering Committee shall establish and appoint a chair for the Precinct Chair Support Committee. The purpose of the committee is to develop and conduct training programs and prepare training materials and resources for Precinct Chairs. The committee is also responsible for developing a mentorship program to support new Precinct Chairs.

## **Section 13. Other Standing Committees**

The Steering Committee may establish and appoint such standing committees as it deems necessary, subject to the confirmation of a majority of the Executive Committee.

## **Section 14. Special or Ad Hoc Committees**

The Steering Committee may establish and appoint such special or ad hoc committees as it deems necessary to assist in carrying out such duties not specifically assigned to a standing committee, subject to the confirmation of a majority of the Executive Committee.

## **Section 15. Sub Committee Membership**

Membership shall be no less than three (3) members, nominated by the Sub Committee Chair and confirmed by the Executive Committee, by majority vote of members present and voting. A member

of the respective committees above are not required to be a member of the Executive Committee but must be a resident of Montgomery County who voted in the most recent Republican Primary.

### **Section 16. Transparency**

When the Steering Committee recommends a committee chair and/or members of any committee(s), the names and positions for said committee(s) shall be published on the MCRP website and sent to all Executive Committee members no less than 14 days prior to the meeting to vote on said committee(s).

Notice for all committee meetings shall be published on the MCRP website at least three (3) days before the scheduled meeting.

### **Section 17. Sub Committee Quorum and removal**

Sub Committee meeting quorum shall be 33% of subcommittee membership, but never less than 3 people. Sub Committee members who have never attended the Sub Committee meeting shall not be counted when calculating a quorum. Sub Committee members who have missed 3 meetings in a row shall be automatically removed from the Sub Committee.

## **ARTICLE VIII – Publication of Bylaws and Meeting Minutes**

A copy of the Bylaws of the Executive Committee, as adopted by the Executive Committee, shall be posted on the Montgomery County Republican Party website within three (3) business days of adoption. A copy of the Executive Committee meeting minutes shall be posted on the Montgomery County Republican Party website within three business days.

## **ARTICLE IX – Paid Staff Policy**

### **Section 1. Paid Staff Member Neutrality**

Paid staff members shall remain neutral in intraparty contests for both public and Party offices.

### **Section 2. Hiring and Termination of Paid Staff**

Authority to hire or terminate all paid staff shall rest with the Executive Committee. All employment opportunities shall be considered “At-Will”. A majority vote by the Executive Committee with at least 50% of the membership voting shall be required to hire or terminate any paid staff.

### **Section 3.**

The Steering Committee shall review the performance of all paid staff at least annually and present a report on their findings to the Executive Committee at least fourteen (14) days in advance of the next scheduled meeting and presented at that meeting the Executive Committee.

## **ARTICLE X – Parliamentary Authority**

The rules contained in the most recent edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* shall govern the Executive Committee in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws, any special rules the Executive Committee may adopt, the rules of the Republican Party of Texas, or applicable law.

## **ARTICLE XI – Area Chairs**

### **Section 1. Establishment and Purpose of Area Chairs**

The Montgomery County Republican Party shall establish area chairs to lead and organize Republican efforts and to assist the Precinct Chairs within their respective areas (precincts) of responsibility.

### **Section 2. Area Chair Election**

Area chairs shall be elected by majority vote of a caucus composed of the Precinct Chairs within a geographical area comprised of precincts. Area Chairs shall appoint a vice-chair to assist them in their duties.

### **Section 3. Area Chair Areas**

The Steering Committee shall determine the boundaries of each area chair region.

## **ARTICLE XII – Candidate/Issue Endorsements & Censures**

### **Section 1. Primary Ballot Endorsement (Prohibited)**

The Executive Committee and Steering Committee, as a collective body, shall not endorse any candidate or issue on the Republican primary or primary runoff ballot. The exception to this rule is found in Section 3 of this Article. This does not preclude a precinct chair, or a group of chairs, from supporting, recommending, or endorsing candidates or issues. The resources of the MCRP, including the official email system, social media accounts, mailing list, etc. may not be used by any Executive Committee member(s) to support a candidate, to promote any endorsement by any Executive Committee member(s), or issue in the Republican primary or primary runoff.

### **Section 2. Non-Partisan Election Endorsement (Allowed)**

The Executive Committee may endorse identifiable and uncensured Republican candidates in non-partisan races. If more than one identifiable and uncensured Republican candidate is running in a non-partisan race, they shall endorse all of the identifiable and uncensured Republican candidates or none of them. The Executive Committee shall not choose one identifiable and uncensured Republican over another identifiable Republican in a non-partisan race. The Montgomery County Executive Committee may support or oppose any issue in a nonpartisan election when it is clearly spelled out in the current Texas GOP Platform.

### **Section 3. Censured Candidate**

The Executive Committee may by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting, with 50% or more of the members voting, adopt a resolution censuring a Republican public or party office holder or candidate representing all or a portion of the County for not fulfilling their duties or for three (3) or more actions taken during the current biennium in opposition to the core principles of the Republican Party of Texas defined in the Preamble of the Party Platform as described in Rule No. 43A. Such a resolution may include that the named office holder be penalized and censured and declare that no Rule or Bylaw enacted by any division of the Party at any level that demands the Executive Committee be neutral intraparty contests shall be observed with respect to the named candidate, and no financial or other support shall be provided to their campaign by the Party except that which is required by law. Any such penalty shall expire after the current biennium. If there is more than 1 other candidate in the race with the named candidate, all candidates other than the named candidate must be treated equally.

## **ARTICLE XIII – Website and Social Media**

### **Section 1. Website and Social Media**

The Steering Committee shall direct a Sub Committee to oversee the website and social media functions. All members and officers of the Executive Committee shall only use the official website and social media accounts for official Executive Committee functions. The Executive Committee has ultimate control over the committee in charge of website and social media.

At the beginning of the biennium, all previous online presence of the Executive Committee as a collective body shall be transferred to the current Executive Committee. Failure to do so is misconduct and subject to formal reprimand, censure, and removal from membership in the Executive Committee, pursuant to the procedures set forth in these bylaws. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing should be construed to prevent or limit the personal social media functions or online presence of individual members.

### **Section 2. Contact and Email Lists**

The Executive Committee shall be ultimately responsible for control, maintenance and usage of the contact and email list from the 2016-2018 Executive Committee, 2018-2020 Executive Committee, and 2020-2022 Executive Committee. The county chair shall provide full access to these lists to the Executive Committee. Failure to do so is misconduct and subject to formal reprimand, censure, and removal from membership in the Executive Committee, pursuant to the procedures set forth in these bylaws.

### **Section 3. Headquarters**

The Executive Committee shall be ultimately responsible for control of any office space leased by the MCRP. The county chair shall turn over control of any office space leased by MCRP for non-statutory uses to the Executive Committee. Failure to do so is misconduct and subject to formal reprimand, censure, and removal from membership in the Executive Committee, pursuant to the procedures set forth in these bylaws.

## **ARTICLE XIV – Amendment of Bylaws**

### **Section 1. Proposal of Amendments**

Any member or officer desiring to propose an amendment to these Bylaws shall submit a written copy to the Secretary not less than 21 days prior to a statutory, regular, or special meeting of the Executive Committee, at which meeting such proposed amendments shall be referred to the Rules Committee for its consideration. The Rules Committee shall report its recommendation to the Executive Committee at its next statutory, regular meeting or special meeting called for the purpose of amending the rules.

### **Section 2. Notification to Executive Committee**

All members of the Executive Committee shall be emailed all proposed amendments within 3 days of receipt by the Secretary. All members of the Executive Committee shall be emailed the Rules Committee report no less than 7 days prior to the scheduled meeting at which the Executive Committee shall vote on the proposed rule changes.

### **Section 3. Adoption of Amendments**

Amendments to the Bylaws need a ye a vote of two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present when at least 50% of the members are voting at a scheduled Executive Committee meeting.

## **ARTICLE XV – Contracts**

### **Section 1. Approval**

Any contract shall need the review and approval of the Steering Committee before consideration and approval by the Executive Committee.

### **Section 2. Who can sign**

Contracts can only be signed by the County Chairman, and/or Vice Chairman, and/or Treasurer after approval by the Executive Committee.

### **Section 3. Duration**

No contract has any effect beyond the 20th day after the 2022 Montgomery County Republican Runoff election.

### **Section 4. Responsibility**

The signer(s) bear personal financial responsibility and other obligations for any contracts extending or having any effect beyond the 20th day after the 2022 Montgomery County Republican Runoff election.

Any executed contract on behalf of the Executive Committee not approved by the Executive Committee is null and void.

### **ARTICLE XVI – Online Meetings**

By majority vote of any Sub Committee, the Sub Committee may choose an online meeting format for their committee. In person and online meetings of a Sub Committee are open to the all Executive Committee members and officers, Sub Committee members & Steering Committee members as well as those persons identified in [RPT 8g](#).

By majority vote of the Steering Committee, the Steering Committee may choose an online meeting format for their committee. In person and online meetings of a Steering Committee are open to the all Executive Committee members and officers, Sub Committee chairs & Steering Committee members as well as those persons identified in [RPT 8g](#).

## **Addendum A - Definitions - (these are not part of the bylaws)**

The terms used throughout these bylaws are defined as follows:

1. **“Executive Committee” and “EC”** - both mean the Montgomery County Republican Party of Texas.
2. **“County Chairman”** - the presiding officer, elected at the general primary election [Article IV, Sec. 1]
3. **“Precinct Chairman”** - an elected (or appointed) Republican Party representative from each county election precinct [Article III]
4. **“Election precinct”** - a numbered political subdivision, determined by a county’s commissioners court, that is compact and contiguous, based mainly on geography boundaries, population, and access to voting [TEC Title 4, Chapter 42]
5. **“Qualified voter”** - is 18 years or older; a United States citizen; has not been determined to be totally or partially mentally incapacitated; not a convicted felon; is a resident of Texas and is a registered voter[TEC Title 2, Chap. 11].
6. **“Primary”** - a process by which the general public can indicate their preference for a candidate in an upcoming general election or by-election, thus narrowing the field of candidates. And/or to vote on issues.
7. **“Primary runoff”** - an initial vote did not result in a winner because it was tied or too close to call. A runoff election settles the matter, providing a final decision.
8. **“Majority vote”** means greater than 50%.
9. **“RPT”** means Republican Party of Texas
10. **“Elected Officer”** - Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer
11. **“Quorum”** - a minimum number of members required to be present
12. **“Standing Committee”** - Committee/s with a continued existence, formed to do its assigned work on an ongoing basis.
13. **“Special”** or **“Ad Hoc”** committee - for a special purpose or end at hand; also, by extension, improvised or impromptu
14. **“Area Chair”** - representatives elected in caucuses that lead and organize Republican efforts and to assist the Precinct Chairs within their respective areas of responsibility [Article XI].
15. **“Caucus”** - closed meeting of a group of persons belonging to the same political party or faction usually to select candidates or to decide on policy.
16. **“Area”** - a defined, geographical boundary
17. **“Candidates Committee”** - vets candidates and/or issues in non-partisan races [Article VII Sec. 3 6]