

BANKS COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY

ARTICLE I. NAME, PURPOSE, AND FUNCTION

A. NAME

This organization shall be known and referred to as the Banks County Republican Party.

B. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Banks County Republican Party shall be to develop, foster, advance, and perpetuate the principles of the Republican Party, to support and otherwise do all within its power to insure the election of all Republican nominees for public office whose name appears on the general election and any special election or other regular election ballots in Banks County.

C. FUNCTION

The Banks County Republican Party, consisting of its members shall serve as the central and unified authority and representative body of the Republican platform and policies within Banks County. It shall function to develop, implement, encourage, educate and create Republican principles within Banks County and it shall strive to recruit and elect qualified Republican candidates to every available public office.

ARTICLE II - PARTY MEMBERSHIP

- A. Membership in the party shall be open to all legal and qualified registered voters residing within Banks County who subscribe to the principles of the Republican Party. Membership within the Party will require the acceptance of the membership application and the annual payment of dues.
- B. A member in good standing shall be a dues paying member who has actively volunteered in at least 10 hours of official Banks County Republican Party activities including meetings, fund raising, and campaigning, excluding any called conventions and non-Republican campaigning. Board will review members not meeting these criteria for eligibility. Eligibility can be determined by Executive Board review and/or by merit system that uses participation in party functions and event as criteria
- C. Non-residents of Banks County that subscribe to the principles of the Republican Party can be a non-resident member of the Banks County Republican Party. Non-residents will be non-voting members and will not be able to hold office.
- D. Membership dues shall be paid in full for one year of membership within the Banks County Republican Party. Membership begins on acceptance of dues payment and approval of the Executive Board. Any member who resigns from the Party shall forfeit any portion of dues paid. In the case of a denial of approving the membership by the Executive Board, all dues will be refunded less any fees associated in processing the payment (e.g.. credit card processing fees, etc.). Any member that has his/her membership revoked shall forfeit any dues paid prior to said revocation of membership.

ARTICLE III - ORGANIZATION OF COUNTY COMMITTEE

A. PURPOSE

The Banks County Committee shall be the governing body (except while the Banks County Convention of the Banks Republican Party is in session) of the Banks Republican Party, which is a political organization and political party as defined by Georgia law. The Banks County Committee shall, in the interim between County Conventions, be vested with all duties, power, and privileges possessed by the County Convention and shall act for the Banks County Republican Party.

B. MEMBERSHIP

The County Committee shall be the governing body of the Banks County Republican Party. Members shall be members in good standing and shall consist of:

1. County Chairman
2. Vice Chairman
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Parliamentarian
6. Immediate Past Chairman
7. All members of District Committees and the State Committee who reside in Banks County
8. The Chairman of each of the thirteen (13) county precincts who are members in good standing.

C. VOTING PRIVILEGES

All members in good standing of the County Committee shall be voting members.

D. QUORUM

A Quorum for the transaction of business for the Banks County Committee shall constitute presence in person or by a proxy fifty (50) percent of the voting members of the County Committee.

E. PROXIES

No member shall vote more than two individual proxies at any single County Committee meeting. Each member shall be responsible for submitting his/her own proxy to the representative of his choice. A committee member's proxy shall be revoked by said member upon his attendance at the committee meeting for which it was given. All proxies must be submitted to the Secretary prior to or during roll call of committee meetings.

F. DUTIES

1. COUNTY COMMITTEE

The County Committee has the duty to enhance the prestige and reputation and to build the voting and financial strength of the Banks County Republican Party. The County Committee shall be responsible for filling officer vacancies.

2. CHAIRMAN

- a. The Chairman shall be the chief executive of the Banks County Republican Party.
- b. The Chairman shall be the spokesman for the Banks County Republican Party and for the County Committee and it shall be his/her duty to communicate directly with the news media. In performing this function, the Chairman may delegate this responsibility and may appoint at his/her discretion a Publicity Chairman.
- c. The Chairman shall be the presiding officer at each meeting of the County Committee, and shall issue the call for and preside at each county convention unless replaced by a temporary convention chairman, and shall appoint such sergeants at arms as may be necessary to maintain order.
- d. The Chairman shall appoint, with the advice and consent of the County Committee, such standing committees as deemed appropriate.
- e. The Chairman shall exercise all the duties, responsibilities and powers delegated by these rules, and such other duties, responsibilities and powers consistent with these rules, and such other duties, which the County Committee may assign the Chairman.
- f. The County Chairman may at his/her discretion appoint a Chaplain to serve without vote.
- g. The Chairman may authorize expenditure of \$300.00 without prior authorization from the Executive Board.
- h. The Chairman shall appoint house committee to prepare facilities to all County meetings.

3. VICE CHAIRMAN

The Vice Chairman shall coordinate the efforts of the Banks County Republican party in supporting all opposed Republican candidates in General Elections and shall be responsible for coordinating the activities of the precincts in conjunction with the precinct chairman, as the county Chairman may direct.

4. SECRETARY

The Secretary shall be the official record keeper of the Banks County Republican Party and shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the County Committee and the Executive Board and shall keep an accurate attendance Record at County Committee meetings and Executive Board Meetings. The Secretary shall be the custodian of party records except the Treasurers books. The Secretary will call the role when it is required and shall be responsible for personal correspondence such as, but not limited to, expression of gratitude, concern, condolence and congratulations and other duties the Chairman may assign.

5. TREASURER

The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all funds of the Banks County Republican Party and of the County Committee. The Treasurer shall account for the same by regular monthly statements, shall supervise the preparation and execution of the budget, shall furnish a report to the Chairman, of those members whose dues are delinquent and shall perform such other duties as the Chairman may designate.

G. ABSENCE OF THE CHAIRMAN

In the absence of the Chairman, at any regular or called meeting of the County Committee or the Executive Board, the presiding officer shall be determined by the following line of succession: the Vice Chairman, the Secretary, the Treasurer.

H. MEETINGS

1. At the call of the County Chairman, the County Committee shall hold a minimum of two (2) meetings annually. The County Chairman shall determine the specific time and date of said meetings. Additional County Committee meetings may be called by the County Chairman, or upon written notice requesting a meeting, presented to the Secretary by one-third (1/3) of the members of the County Committee.
2. All County committee meeting notices shall be delivered by facsimile, e-mail, text, phone, or U. S. Postal Service. The notice shall designate the time and place of said meeting and shall be sent by the Secretary not less than three (3) days prior to the meeting.
3. Place designated by notice of said meeting. The place may also be an audio/video/teleconferencing means where such place will be the information given to members that provides access to the electronic meeting.

I. TERM OF OFFICE

The officers and members of the County Committee shall be elected at the County Convention. Their term of office shall begin upon adjournment of the County Convention except for officers and members elected between conventions to fill vacancies, in which case the term shall begin at time of election. All terms of office shall extend until the convening of the next odd year County Convention unless sooner removed in accordance with these rules.

J. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

1. Any member of the County committee may be removed from the County Committee for cause by fifty percent plus one (50%+one) of the other members of the County Committee at any duly called meeting of the County Committee. However, such individuals must be given written notice of such meeting, sent at least ten (10) days in advance thereof, setting forth the grounds and such individual must be given the opportunity to be present, and to be heard in person and/or by any representative of his choice. "Cause" as used herein shall include:
 - a. Failure to perform duties of his office,
 - b. Failure to participate in the affairs of the Party,
 - c. Conduct detrimental to the best interests of the Party, d. Three absences from a regular County meeting,

2. All Members of the Executive Board are expected to support the official qualified candidates of the Republican Party in all contested general elections and non-contested Republican Party elections, except as identified herein. Public support of any candidate in opposition to the official Republican candidate in a general election by an elected officer shall constitute conduct detrimental to the best interests of the party, except as identified herein. Should seventy-five (75%) percent of Executive Committee agree, and then the Rule shall be suspended.
3. Neither the Chairman nor the Vice Chairmen shall publicly support any candidates during a contested primary. Vice Chairmen may support any Republican Presidential candidate of his/her choice provided that neither that officer's title nor party resources may be used in conjunction with any campaign media.
4. Any other such causes as may be determined by the Executive Board.

K. VACANCIES

Any vacancies caused by death, resignation, suspension, continued failure to perform or termination of residence with the County, shall be filled by the County Chairman, pending approval by the County Committee. The Chairman or Acting Chairman shall call a meeting within thirty (30) days of the County Committee to fill vacancy. Notice of the called meeting shall be delivered by facsimile, e-mail, text, phone or US. Postal Service no less than three (3) days prior to the meeting.

ARTICLE IV - ORGANIZATION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

A. MEMBERSHIP

The Executive Board shall consist of the following County Committee Officers:

1. Chairman
2. Vice Chairman
3. Secretary
4. Treasurer
5. Immediate Past Chairman

B. VOTING

All members in good standing.

C. DUTIES

1. The Executive Board of the Banks County Republican Party shall have the duty, responsibility, power and authority to conduct the affairs of the Banks County Republican Party between meetings of the County Committee.
2. In accordance of the State Call, the Executive Board shall implement County Conventions and Mass Meetings, shall fix a place for holding same, and shall make arrangements.

3. The Executive Board shall have the authority to allocate and to contribute funds of the Banks County Republican Party to the official campaign funds of Republican Party nominees.
4. The Executive Board or County Chairman may authorize and obtain an audit of the books of Banks County Republican Party at least once each year.
5. The Executive Board shall approve the County Chairman's appointment of a Parliamentarian.

D. MEETINGS

1. The Executive Board shall meet at the call of the Chairman, or upon written notice requesting a meeting to the Secretary by 1/3 of the members of the Executive Board.
2. All notices shall be delivered by facsimile, e-mail, text, phone call, or US. Postal. The notice shall designate time and place of said meeting and shall be sent by the Secretary not less than three (3) days prior to the meeting.
3. An emergency meeting of the Executive Board may be called without the three (3) day notice if approval is given by at least fifty (50) percent of the Executive Board over the phone. The request for an emergency meeting must include the time, place and the date of said meeting.
4. Place designated by notice of said meeting. The place may also be an audio/video/teleconferencing means where such place will be the information given to members that provides access to the electronic meeting.

E. QUORUM

Present in person or by proxy of fifty (50) percent of the voting members of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business of the Board.

F. TERM OF OFFICE

The officers and members of the County Committee shall be elected by the County Convention. Their term of office shall begin upon adjournment of the County Convention except for officers and members elected between conventions to fill vacancies, in which case the term shall begin at time of election. All terms of office shall extend until the convening of the next odd year County Convention unless sooner removed in accordance with these rules.

ARTICLE V - COUNTY CONVENTIONS AND MASS MEETINGS

A. MEETING DATES

Pursuant to an official call of the Georgia Republican State Committee, County Conventions and Precinct Mass Meetings shall be held in each odd-numbered year to conduct business including, but not limited to, electing party leadership. Subject to a call from the Georgia Republican State Committee, additional County Conventions and Precinct Mass Meetings shall be held each presidential election year to conduct business including, but not limited to, electing Delegates and Alternate Delegates to District State Republican Conventions.

B. ELECTION OF DELEGATES

Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the County Conventions shall be elected at Mass Meetings held in accordance with the Call of the Georgia Republican State Committee. In conformity with the Rules of the Georgia Republican Party only Delegates and Alternate Delegates elected at a Precinct Mass Meeting may participate in a County Convention.

1. Precinct Mass Meetings

Each precinct elects Delegates and Alternate Delegates within a Delegate caucus and an Alternate Delegate caucus. Preference in the determination of Delegate or Alternate Delegate eligibility will be by merit system. (ART 2)(B)(1)

2. Permanent Election of permanent precinct chairman in odd year elections will be caucused by all participants of a precinct caucus. A majority vote shall be required for election.

C. COMMITTEES IN SESSION

No official business may be transacted at any Convention and Mass Meeting while any of its temporary or permanent committees are in session.

D. RULES OF ORDER

Robert's Rules of Order Shall govern all deliberations of County Conventions and Precinct Mass Meetings, and their respective committees, except to the extent that they are modified by the Georgia Republican State Committee, by these Rules or by a majority vote of said Convention, Mass Meetings or committee in session, a quorum being present.

E. DISTRIBUTION OF RESOLUTIONS

The following shall be used as a procedure for all submitted resolutions to the Rules and Resolutions committee.

1. Resolutions that are submitted to the Committee on Rules and Resolutions during county conventions will be ranked by said committee for the following criteria:
 - a. A resolution that pertains only to the sentiments of the Banks County Republican Party shall be marked as "County".
 - b. A resolution that pertains to a Congressional District that draws upon Banks County for qualified delegates to its District Convention shall be marked as "District".
 - c. A resolution that pertains to the State of Georgia shall be marked as "State".
2. Resolutions shall have one, two or all three marks as described in A, B, or C.
3. Upon passage of any resolution at County Convention, the mark shall be used to send a copy as a submitted resolution to the appropriate Rules and Resolutions Committee automatically. Resolutions marked solely as "County" shall have no further distribution.

F. STANDING RULES FOR CONVENTIONS AND MASS MEETINGS

1. Cell phones and other electronic devices shall be turned off during a Precinct Mass Meeting or a County Convention. This rule shall not apply to emergency personnel and first responders or any individual with expressed permission from the Chairman.
2. No signs or placards are allowed within the delegation during Mass Precinct Meetings or County Conventions unless authorized by the Chairman.
3. Persons who are active members of organizations including recognized and unrecognized political parties whose principles/bylaws are in contrast with the principles of the Banks County Republican Party shall be subject to disqualification as an alternate delegate or delegate to the County Convention.
4. Participants failing to comply with these rules will forfeit their delegate or alternate status and will be removed from the proceedings.

ARTICLE VI - ALLOCATION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATE DELEGATES TO THE CONGRESSIONAL CONVENTIONS AND THE GEORGIA STATE CONVENTION

- A. Delegates and Alternate Delegates allocated to Banks County for the Congressional District(s) and the Georgia State Republican Conventions shall be elected at the County Convention.
- B. District and State Delegates and Alternate Delegates, shall be allocated to and elected from the Congressional District(s) in the same proportion as their respective vote for the Republican presidential candidate in the immediate preceding presidential election.

ARTICLE VII- CANDIDATES

- A. The County Committee shall not qualify any person to enter any Republican Primary Election in Banks County conducted for the purpose of nominating candidates for public office, unless that person shall first make an affidavit, under oath or affirmation, that he or she is duly qualified under the laws of Georgia to hold such office, is a dues paid Banks County Republican Party member in good standing, and that he/she affirms allegiance to the Republican Party by signing the following oath: I do hereby swear (or affirm) my allegiance to the Republican Party.
- B. Candidate Selection - to identify and solicit suitable candidates to run as Republicans for office in Banks County. Unless a candidate is specifically solicited by the Banks County Republican Party to run in an upcoming election, it shall be the policy of the Banks County Republican Party that Banks County Republican Party funds directed to any candidate, by a vote of the membership, shall only be provided to candidates who meet all of the following conditions:
 1. Candidate is a member in good standing of the Banks County Republican Party, who has maintained membership and paid dues for at least one year.
 2. Have demonstrated allegiance to the Banks County Republican Party by regular attendance at meetings, participation in campaigns of other candidates and actively supported fund raising projects.

3. Have a Banks County Republican Party member (not the candidate) present a motion to the membership of the Banks County Republican Party, at a regular meeting, to have funds distributed to the candidate.
- C. Should two or more qualifying candidates (by the above requirements) enter a primary election seeking the same office, the Banks County Republican Party will not provide aid to any candidate in such a race. Candidates, who face other Republican opposition, not from within the Banks County Republican Party, may receive aid. The amount of monetary aid, which will not exceed \$500, for such a contribution shall be by a means of a majority vote from the membership present in a regularly scheduled meeting after discussion following the offering of the motion and second.

ARTICLE VIII - CONFLICT OF RULES

To the extent that any rule herein, or section thereof, is or becomes in conflict with the rules of the Georgia Republican Party or the Georgia Election Code, such rule or section thereof is superseded thereby and void, and the remainder of these Rules shall not be affected.

ARTICLE IX - DEFINITION OF PARLIAMENTARY TERMS

A. MAJORITY

More than half of the votes cast.

B. QUORUM

The specified number of members required to hold a legal meeting.

C. TWO-THIRDS

Two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast.

D. MAN

The term "man", as used in Chairman or vice Chairman and the term "he", as used in he, his, or him, does not indicate the gender of the holder of the office.

E. NOTICE

All notices will either be given in written form and shall be mailed or can be in the form of facsimile or e-mail.

ARTICLE X - AMENDMENTS

A. These Rules may be amended in following ways:

- 1. At any County Convention of the Banks County Republican Party by a majority vote of those present.**
- 2. At any County Committee meeting of the Banks County Republican Party by a seventy-five (75%) percent vote, of quorum being present. Each member of the County Committee shall be notified, at least three (3) days prior to the meeting, setting forth the intention to amend the rules, and details of the proposed amendment(s).**

B. Said amendment(s) shall become effective when adopted and recorded with the Probate Court of Banks County unless otherwise provided.