

**Article I
Name and Purpose**

Section 1. This organization is the Rhea County Republican Party and will be referred to as the RCRP throughout this document.

Section 2. The purposes of the RCRP include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a) Electing Republican candidates to office on the national, state, and local levels;
- b) Recruiting Republican candidates to run for office;
- c) Assisting the Tennessee Republican Party and the Republican National Committee;
- d) Recruiting membership in the Republican Party at all levels;
- e) Promoting public awareness of the Republican position on public issues and fostering good citizenship in general;
- f) Increasing the effectiveness of our members in the cause of good government through active political participation;
- g) Raising funds for Republican election campaigns and;
- h) Promoting Republican ideals.

**Article II
RCRP Executive Committee**

Section 1. The affairs of the RCRP shall be governed by the RCRP Executive Committee, in accordance with the Bylaws of the Tennessee Republican Party and the Bylaws contained herein.

Section 2. The RCRP Executive Committee

- a) These Officers shall comprise the Voting Members:
 1. Chair
 2. Vice-Chair (opposite sex as Chair)
 3. Secretary,
 4. Treasurer
 5. Vice-Treasurer
 6. Immediate Past Chair
 7. Chair of the Republican Women's Organization (when such exists)
 8. Chair of the Young Republicans (when such exists), and;
 9. All State Executive Committee Members representing the County. These Officers constitute Voting Members.
- b) The Vice-Chair will assume the duties of the Chair in his/her absence.

- c) In addition to the Voting Members named in this Section, the Executive Committee may appoint a Parliamentarian, a Sergeant-at-Arms, and Legal Counsel; but these latter three will not be Voting Members.

Section 3. Neither the RCRP Executive Committee as a body, nor the RCRP Chair, shall endorse any Republican candidate in a contested primary election for local, State, or national elections.

- a) Section 3 above shall not apply to the RCRP Chair in a primary election in which the RCRP Chair, the RCRP Chair's spouse or his/her immediate family member is a candidate.
- b) If the RCRP Chair runs for public office in a contested Republican primary, he/she shall resign as RCRP Chair within ten (10) days after the filing deadline.

Section 4. The Officers of the County Executive Committee are expected to attend every meeting. Should a Member of the RCRP Executive Committee be absent without a valid excuse for three regularly-scheduled meetings of the RCRP, or of the RCRP Executive Committee, a motion for their removal from the RCRP Executive Committee may be made by any Member in Good Standing of the RCRP.

Section 5. Any Officer elected to the RCRP Executive Committee may be removed by a motion and a vote taken among RCRP Members in good standing; removal from office is accomplished by a simple majority vote of those Members present.

Article III Election of Officers

Section 1. Election of Officers to the RCRP Executive Committee shall be made in accordance with the State Bylaws (copies available from the RCRP Chair or State Executive Committee Members). Officers serving on the RCRP Executive Committee shall be elected at the RCRP Reorganization meetings, which shall be held between January 15 and April 15 of each odd-numbered year. In the event of death, resignation, or moving out of the county by an Officer elected to the RCRP Executive Committee, the RCRP shall immediately elect a replacement to serve until the next Reorganization.

Section 2. All officers of the RCRP Executive Committee are elected for two-year terms and are limited to two consecutive full terms in the same office. An exception is that the RCRP Chair may, as prescribed by the Tennessee Republican Party Bylaws, be elected to a 3rd term for so long as the population of Rhea County is fewer than 50,000 people.

- a) Each Candidate seeking election to the RCRP Executive Committee shall be a Member in good standing of the Rhea County Republican Party and shall have attended at least six (6) of its previous twelve (12) meetings.

- b) If there are no Candidates meeting the criterion outlined in Article III, Section 2, Paragraph a), then nominations for Candidates to serve on the RCRP Executive Committee may be made by the Nominating Committee and from the floor.

Article IV Meetings

Section 1. The RCRP Executive Committee shall set its schedule at the beginning of each year; this will enhance the Committee's ability to plan effective strategies and meetings.

Section 2. The RCRP Executive Committee shall meet at least quarterly and shall meet monthly during election years.

Section 3. Special meetings may be called by the Chair or, in the absence of the Chair, by any two (2) Officers of the RCRP Executive Committee, provided that five (5) days written notice is given to the Membership.

- a) Notices of meetings of the RCRP Executive Committee may be given to the Membership via the Rhea County Republican Party Facebook Page, at the Rhea County Republican Party webpage, or via email.

Article V Officers' Duties

Section 1. The RCRP Chair shall be the Chief Executive of the RCRP and of the RCRP Executive Committee. The Chair shall be responsible for the management and administration of the business and civic affairs of the RCRP, and of the RCRP Executive Committee. The Chair shall coordinate the political activities of the RCRP.

- a) The Chair shall preserve order and decorum at all meetings.
- b) The RCRP Chair shall have the right to approve all special committee chairs.
- c) The Chair shall be responsible for maintaining consistent, durable and reliable links of communication with the State Republican Party, RCRP Membership, and the public that includes:
 - 1. telephone number
 - 2. mailing address
 - 3. e-mail address
 - 4. shipping address

Section 2. The Vice Chair shall perform the duties of the RCRP Chair in his/her absence. If both the RCRP Chair and Vice-Chair are absent from a meeting of the RCRP Executive

Committee, or from a regular meeting of the RCRP, the RCRP Executive Committee who are present shall elect a temporary RCRP Chair to preside at the meeting.

Section 3. The Secretary shall take minutes of each meeting of the RCRP Executive Committee meetings and of all regular meetings. If the Secretary is absent from Executive Committee meetings or regular meetings, the Secretary shall be responsible for obtaining a replacement. The Secretary shall perform such other clerical duties as may be assigned by the RCRP Chair or the RCRP Executive Committee. All records of the Secretary shall be retained and remain the property of the RCRP Executive Committee.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall be responsible for implementing an internal system of financial controls. The Treasurer shall be responsible for reconciling the bank accounts to the bank statement, and shall be responsible for counting and depositing funds received by the RCRP. The Treasurer shall provide a report at each regular and Executive Committee meeting, communicating all receipts and disbursements since the previous meeting. All records of the Treasurer shall be and remain the property of the RCRP Executive Committee.

- a) The Treasurer shall submit a Treasurer's report to the Tennessee Republican Party on or before the first Monday of April, and the second Monday of September.

Article VI Membership

Section 1. A person shall be a voting member of the RCRP if he/she is a "bona fide" Republican. The term "bona fide" means a registered voter residing in Rhea County who also meets the following criteria:

- a) A citizen who is actively involved in the RCRP or State Republican Party.
- b) A citizen who has voted in at least two (2) of the four (4) most recent State and/or local Republican Primary elections, or;
- c) A citizen who, upon challenge, signs a public, written affirmation of allegiance to the Republican Party.

Section 2. Only persons who have voted in the last three (3) out of four (4) State Primaries as a Republican are qualified to hold County Party Leadership positions, including the RCRP Executive Committee. The Chair is required to have voted in the last three (3) State Republican Primaries.

Article VII Bylaws

Section 1. Every four (4) years, in the year following the Presidential election, the newly-elected RCRP Executive Committee will evaluate its Bylaws to ensure that they provide for

effective operation and administration of the RCRP, and that they do not conflict with the State Republican Party Bylaws.

Section 2. These Bylaws may be amended by a majority of the full voting membership of the RCRP Executive Committee at any meeting, provided that notice of the meeting at which the vote is to be taken includes a copy of the proposed amendment. Any amendment is subject to the approval by the Chair of the Tennessee Republican Party.

**Article VIII
Conformity**

These Bylaws are intended to conform to all Bylaws, Rules, and Regulations of the Tennessee Republican Party, including those of the Republican National Committee, governing federal and Tennessee Statutes, Rules, and Regulations.

**Article IX
Robert’s Rules of Order**

The most recent revised edition of Robert’s Rules of Order shall govern all proceedings of matters not specifically covered by these Bylaws.

Elizabeth Gryder, Chair Date

Kris Bancroft, Vice-Chair Date

Judith Bancroft, Secretary Date

Ted Engel, Treasurer Date

Marvin Keener, Vice Treasurer Date