

ELBERT COUNTY REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE BYLAWS

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Elbert County Republican Central Committee, hereinafter referred to as the ECR.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

Section 1. Political Organization. The ECR is organized as an unincorporated political organization within the meaning of and pursuant to Section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or under corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) and is a party committee pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.) 1-3-103.

Section 2. Primary Purpose. Recognizing the fundamental principles of the Republican Party as reflected in the County, State and National Platforms, the primary purpose of this organization shall be to identify, promote and elect Republican candidates to office; to achieve the objectives of the Republican Party at Local, State and National levels; to perform the functions set forth in the election laws of the State of Colorado; to encourage membership in the Republican Party of all persons regardless of age, race, national origin or gender; to encourage all citizens to participate freely in the democratic process and in all phases of government; and to facilitate the free flow of ideas as they relate to the election process and all phases of government.

Section 3. Secondary Purposes.

- A. Educating electors in the principles of the Republican Party.
- B. Promoting and supporting only Republican candidates for County, State, and National offices.
- C. Raising funds for the Republican Party for the express purpose of achieving as many Republican Party victories as possible.

ARTICLE III. POLICY

Section 1. All applicable provisions of the Colorado Revised Statutes shall be a part of these bylaws.

Section 2. All references to male include the female.

Section 3. Campaign donations. Republican candidates in Elbert County who are officially designated as the Republican nominee after a primary may request financial assistance from the ECR. The Executive Committee shall receive and consider all such requests and may, in its sole discretion and on such terms and conditions as it may determine, offer financial assistance as it deems appropriate. A County or District candidate who refuses to support and sign the ECR platform is ineligible to receive funds from the ECR. This decision is subject to review and revision by the ECR.

Section 4. Endorsements. The ECR acting as an entity, or the ECR elected officers shall not publicly support or endorse any Republican candidate that is involved in a primary who could represent Elbert County residents in a partisan race. Any candidate in the primary election who refuses to sign and support the County Republican Platform shall be publicly identified as having refused to sign and support the platform. The ECR shall withdraw its endorsement of any candidate in the general election who refuses to sign and support the Republican platform at whatever level of government the individual is a candidate for public office.

Section 5. Any Elbert County Republican Party candidate who has gone through the assemblies may use the Party's bulk mailing permit, at the candidate's expense.

Section 6. Recruitment of a candidate at the primary level shall not be construed as an endorsement of a candidate at the primary level, and recruitment of additional candidates shall not be construed as a lack of support for existing candidates.

Section 7. Distribution of announcements, notifications, communications and documents. All references to the mailing and/or distribution of calls, announcements, notifications and other information including meeting minutes and reports shall be interpreted to mean being conveyed and distributed through either the United States Postal Service or electronic methods including, but not limited to: electronic mail, electronic file transfer(s), the World Wide Web, or facsimile. The Secretary shall solicit and maintain a listing of the distribution method preferred by each member of the ECR. ECR members are responsible for ensuring the accuracy, completeness, and currency of all physical and electronic addresses on file with the Secretary.

ARTICLE IV. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligibility. Members of the ECR shall reside in or be elected to represent Elbert County and shall be registered Republicans as shown on the records of the County Clerk where they reside.

Section 2. Composition.

- A. Voting Members.** The ECR shall be composed of all Elbert County Precinct Committee People, District Captains, County party officers, and elected Republican County, State, or Federal office holders who reside in Elbert County.
- B. Non-Voting Members.** Appointed members of any committee including the Executive Committee shall be ex-officio members, without vote, of the ECR unless they are otherwise eligible as a voting member. Elected State and Federal officials who represent Elbert County, but who do not reside in Elbert County shall also be ex-officio non-voting members of the ECR.

ARTICLE V. PRECINCT COMMITTEE PERSONS

Section 1. Election. Precinct Committee Persons shall be elected, by majority vote, by members of their respective precincts. The elections for Precinct Committee Persons shall be held during the biennial precinct caucus meetings.

Section 2. Duties. It is the duty of Precinct Committee People to conduct precinct caucuses in accordance with Colorado Revised Statutes and CRC bylaws. The District Captain or his designee will distribute the information and supplies needed to conduct a caucus to Precinct Committee People. After the caucuses, the District Captain or his designee will promptly return all supplies, forms and reports to the Chairman. It is also the duty of Precinct Committee People to attend all ECR meetings. Precinct Committee persons will serve as the primary contact with registered Republicans in their precinct. Precinct Committee persons will be asked to participate in the various activities it undertakes to further the Republican cause in Elbert County. Precinct Committee persons will serve on at least one standing committee of the Elbert County Republican Party. Precinct Committee persons are expected to attend Caucus Training before the next Caucus.

Section 3. Conduct of Elected Precinct Committee Person. No elected Precinct Committee Person of the ECR shall publicly support an independent candidate or candidate of another political party. (Ref Art. V, Sec. 4B)

Section 4. Vacancies in Precincts.

- A. Legal Ineligibility.** Vacancies occurring by legal ineligibility of a Precinct Committee Person shall include but not be limited to death, written resignation, failure to maintain registration as a Republican, or moving out of the precinct represented.
- B. Removal from Office.** Precinct Committee People may be removed from office by the Credentials Committee at the County Assembly or Convention as provided by law, or at any time by a sixty-percent (60%) vote of those ECR members present and voting, after notice to and hearing for the precinct committee person affected. Action of the ECR shall be final.
- C. Declaration of Candidacy.** Declaring a candidacy for an elected public office, which requires a declaration of political party affiliation as a component of the registration or declaration process, shall be deemed a resignation as Precinct Committee Person.

Acceptance of election to an office in the ECR or as District Captain shall be deemed as a resignation from the position of Precinct Committee Person.

- D. Attendance at Meetings.** A Precinct Committee Person who personally misses three (3) ECR meetings in a row may be deemed to have submitted their resignation from office unless considered and excused by majority vote of the ECR.

Section 5. Filling Vacancies. In the event of a vacancy in a Precinct Committee Person position, the District Captain will be responsible for nominations to fill the vacant position(s). (Ref. Article VI, Section 2, paragraph B)

ARTICLE VI. DISTRICT CAPTAINS

Section 1. Representation.

- A.** There shall be at least one (1) District Captain per Commissioner District.
- B.** District Captains shall represent not more than five (5) precincts, each district consisting of an equal number of precincts when possible, and no precinct shall be split into two or more districts.

Section 2. Duties.

- A.** The District Captains shall serve their district, providing leadership and guidance to precinct committee people in that district.
- B.** In the event of a vacancy in a precinct committee person position, the District Captain will locate potential replacements and submit one or more nominees to the Executive Committee of the ECR.
- C.** The preliminary allocation of precincts among the District Captains shall be recommended by the District Captains to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee, upon receiving the recommendations of the District Captains, shall consider such recommendations on the allocation of the precincts into the Districts and make a recommendation to the ECR for their action(s).
- D.** District Captains are to perform other duties as required by these bylaws or by the Chairman. (Ref. Article VII, Sec. 2)
- E.** District Captains shall serve as Delegates to the County Assembly, the State Convention and all Higher Assemblies.

ARTICLE VII. OFFICERS

Section 1. Elected officers. The elected officers shall be the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. These officers shall be elected by the ECR as a whole. Elected government officials are ineligible to serve as officers of the ECR.

Section 2. Conduct of elected officers. No elected officer of the ECR may retain elected Party Office after declaring their candidacy for a public office which requires a declaration of political party affiliation as a component of the registration or declaration process. Declaring such a candidacy shall be deemed a resignation. Elected officer of the ECR shall not publicly support a Republican candidate who represents Elbert County residents, who are involved in a primary, or publicly support an independent candidate or candidate of another political party.

Section 3. Term of Office. Officers shall assume office at the close of the meeting at which they are elected and shall serve until their successors are elected. The term of office for elected officers shall be two (2) years.

Section 4. Duties of Officers.

- A.** The Chairman shall be the chief executive officer of the ECR; prepare and preside at all meetings of the ECR and the Executive Committee; enforce the bylaws and rules of the ECR; report to the ECR and the Executive Committee when and as those committees require; appoint necessary staff members and all standing and special committees, unless otherwise stated in these bylaws; file, with the assistance of the Secretary all reports as required by law; submit a budget to the Executive Committee for approval for a two-year period beginning May 1st of odd numbered years; make arrangements for the County Central Committee meetings, assembly and conventions; and perform other duties as

required by law, these bylaws, or by the ECR. The Chairman shall be ex-officio and a voting member of all committees with the exception of the audit committee, and shall not be included in the count determining presence of a quorum. The Chairman shall serve as a representative to the CRC. The Chairman shall serve as a Delegate to the County Assembly, the State Convention and all Higher Assemblies.

- B. The Vice-Chairman is to exercise the function of the Chairman in his absence, incapacity or at his request and perform other duties as required by law, these bylaws, or by the Chairman. The Vice-Chairman shall serve as a representative to the CRC. The Vice-Chairman shall serve as a Delegate to the County Assembly, the State Convention and all Higher Assemblies.
- C. The Secretary shall be the chief clerical officer of the ECR and shall record the minutes of all meetings of the ECR and the Executive Committee; issue written calls for meetings at the direction of the Chairman; maintain accurate lists of the membership of all committees; assist the Chairman in filing all reports as required by law or the CRC; be custodian of all records and proceedings of the ECR, county assemblies, conventions and perform other duties as required by law, these bylaws, or the Chairman. The Secretary shall serve as a representative to the CRC. The Secretary shall serve as a Delegate to the County Assembly, the State Convention and all Higher Assemblies.
- D. The Treasurer shall be custodian of all funds held by the ECR and shall file with the appropriate authorities all statements and reports required by State and/or Federal law; comply with all other applicable State and/or Federal laws and perform such other duties as prescribed by the Chairman of the ECR. The Treasurer shall serve as a Delegate to the County Assembly, the State Convention and all Higher Assemblies.
- E. No member of the ECR shall hold more than one elected office.

Section 5.

Election of Officers.

- A. **Eligibility.** No person is eligible for an elected officer position unless such person has been a resident of Elbert County and a registered Republican as shown on the records of the county clerk for at least one (1) year prior to becoming an officer.
- B. **Nomination.** Candidates shall be nominated only by voting members of the ECR, from the floor, at the organizational meeting or at a special meeting called for the purpose of electing officers.
- C. **Voting.** Election to office shall be by majority vote of those present and voting. In the event no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast after the first ballot has been taken, the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes cast on the first ballot shall have a run-off election. In the event of a tie in the run-off, a second run-off shall be conducted. In the event of a tie in the second run-off, the winner shall be determined by lot.
- D. **Vacancy.** A vacancy shall exist, when any member of the Executive Committee no longer lives within the district he or she represents or county boundaries for any reason. A vacancy in any elected office of the ECR shall be filled at a vacancy committee meeting called for such purpose within thirty (30) days of the vacancy. The vacancy committee shall consist of all voting members of the ECR. The Executive Committee shall decide by majority vote whether sufficient evidence exists to declare a vacancy because of absence or disability. The action by the Executive Committee shall be subject to review by the ECR under Article V, Section 5E.
- E. **Removal.** Any elected officer or District Captain (Ref. Article IX Section 5) of the ECR may be removed from the office at any time for whatever cause the ECR may deem sufficient by a vote of 60% of the entire voting membership of the ECR at a meeting called for that purpose. Written notice, giving time, place, and purpose of the meeting shall be sent to each voting member of the ECR at least fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting. The action of the ECR shall be final. If the ECR removes an elected officer or District Captain, the ECR may, by majority vote, immediately proceed to fill the vacancy as provided in these bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII. MEETINGS

- Section 1. Organizational Meeting.** As required by CRS, the biennial organizational meeting of the ECR shall be held between February 1st and 15th of odd-numbered years. Its purpose: to elect a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. At least one (1) District Captain shall be elected from each of the three (3) districts. The District Captains are to be elected by the precinct committee people from their respective districts if a quorum is present from that district. In the event a quorum is not present the Chairman shall call a meeting of those precinct committee people within fifteen (15) days to elect such District Captain(s). The organizational meeting shall conduct such other business as may properly come before it.
- Section 2. County Assembly and Convention.** County assemblies and conventions shall be held in accordance with State law and the CRC bylaws. Allocation of delegates to the County Assembly or Convention from each precinct shall be approved by the ECR. The Chairman or his designee shall recommend to ECR members the proposed allocation of delegates in the call for this special meeting.
- Section 3. Regular Meetings.** The ECR shall meet at least quarterly at a date and time as determined by the Chairman in the first call of each calendar year.
- Section 4. Special Meetings.** All other meetings of the ECR shall be special meetings. Special meetings of the ECR may be called at any time by the Chairman, or by a majority vote of the Executive Committee, or upon the written request of one-third of the voting members of the ECR. A meeting will be called by the Chairman or Secretary within fifteen (15) days on receipt of qualified notification.
- Section 5. Official calls.** Calls for a meeting shall be in writing, with inclusion of a copy of the minutes from the last Central Committee Meeting and sent to the last known address of each member on file with the Secretary. Distribution shall be a minimum of fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting, except that if amendments to the Bylaws are proposed, the call shall be sent a minimum of thirty (30) days prior to the meeting. The call shall state the time, place, date and business of the meeting, but the business of the meeting shall not be limited to matters stated in the call except as required in these bylaws. (Ref. Article XV)
- Section 6. Quorum.** A quorum shall be one-third of the voting membership of the ECR, except that once the presence of a quorum has been established, the departure of members shall not be cause for adjournment.
- Section 7. Voting.** Voting for election of officers shall be by secret ballot unless uncontested. All other voting shall be by voice or rising vote. Each voting member has only one (1) vote. Voting by proxy will be allowed except as may be prohibited by law or the CRC bylaws, provided such proxy is carried by a registered Republican from the absent parties own area of representation who has no other vote on the ECR. The proxy party shall carry a proxy signed by the absent party and shall be presented to the Secretary prior to the roll call of the meeting, including vacancy committee meetings.

ARTICLE IX. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Section 1. Membership.** Voting members of the Executive Committee shall be the elected officers of the ECR and the District Captains. Non-voting members of the Executive Committee shall include the immediate past Chairman and Vice-Chairman provided they are registered Republicans residing in Elbert County, the Chairperson of any affiliated Elbert County Republican organization and all elected county officials who are members of the ECR.
- Section 2. Duties.**
- A.** The purpose of the Executive Committee is to serve as an advisory committee to the Chairman and to the ECR.
 - B.** In emergency situations the Executive Committee shall have all the powers of the ECR to act between meetings of the ECR except as otherwise provided by law, the CRC or these bylaws. Including expenditures of up to \$500.00.
 - C.** The Executive Committee shall recommend a division of the precincts into Districts, with each District consisting of an equal number of precincts, when possible, and as close to the County Commissioner District boundaries as possible. (Ref. Article V, Sec. 2B)

Section 3. Meetings.

- A. Regular Meetings.** Meetings of the Executive Committee shall convene at the call of the Chairman, or one third of the voting members of the Executive Committee. The call shall be in writing, stating time, place and purpose of the meeting; sent to the last known address of all voting and non-voting members at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting.
- B. Special Meetings.** Special meetings of the Executive Committee may be called at any time by the Chairman, or by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Section 4. Minutes. Minutes will be kept of all Executive Committee meetings and promptly sent to all members of the Executive Committee and to all members of the ECR with the next call of the ECR.

Section 5. Member Responsibility. Failure to personally attend three (3) consecutive meetings of the Executive Committee by any voting member, unless excused by majority vote of the Executive Committee, shall require action under provisions of Article VII, Section 5, parts D and/or E.

ARTICLE X. STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Section 1. Standing Committees. The standing committees shall include but not be limited to: Audit, Finance, Training, Credentials, Resolutions and Candidate Advisory. Chairmen of these committees shall be appointed by the County Chairman. Standing committees shall serve in the same capacity at the County Assembly.

- A. Audit Committee.** The Audit Committee shall be composed of no fewer than three (3) people, none of whom shall be members of the Executive Committee. The audit committee shall audit the books of the ECR in January of odd-numbered years and shall make a written report of its findings at the ECR organizational meeting. The Audit Committee shall also audit the books at other times as requested by the Executive Committee or the Chairman.
- B. Finance Committee.** The Finance Committee shall plan and oversee all fund raising projects of the ECR subject to approval of the Executive Committee. The Finance Committee shall consist of at least three (3) members and shall include the Vice-Chairman and Treasurer of the ECR.
- C. Training Committee.** The Training Committee shall be composed of the Chairman, such others as may be appointed, and the District Captains. The Training Committee shall be responsible for the training of Precinct Committee People and such other people as may be designated by the Precinct Committee People. The Training Committee shall conduct at least one (1) training session or participate in countywide training sessions for each district's precinct committee people prior to the precinct caucus.
- D. Credentials Committee.** The Credentials Committee shall be responsible for determining the qualifications of any person who is or claims to be a voting member of the ECR, Executive Committee, or a delegate to any assembly or convention. The Credentials Committee shall be not less than five (5) people to include the Credentials Committee Chairman, and the District Captains or their designees.
- E. Resolutions Committee.** The Resolutions Committee shall be responsible for drawing up one (1) or more proposed resolutions at least one (1) month prior to the precinct caucuses for consideration and possible action by each precinct caucus. The Resolutions Committee shall not be less than five (5) people. See Article XII, Section 3.

The Resolutions Committee shall facilitate the process of enacting resolutions expounding the fundamental principles of the Republican Party. The Elbert County Republican Party Platform shall be a written reflection of the primary purpose as outlined in the Elbert County Republican Central Committee Bylaws. (Ref Article II Section 2.) The Resolutions Committee members shall not be less than five people.

The Resolutions Committee shall be responsible for drawing up one or more resolutions at least thirty (30) days prior to the precinct caucuses for consideration and action by each

precinct caucus. Resolutions proposed by the Resolutions Committee and resolutions introduced by registered Elbert County Republican participants at the precinct caucus are eligible for action by each precinct caucus. A majority vote by the caucus shall advance that resolution for consideration of the Resolutions Committee, and must include name, address, phone and if available email of the person submitting the proposal.

The Resolutions Committee shall meet after the precinct caucus and prior to the county assembly for the purpose of confirming the precinct caucus action and to determine if the resolution conforms to the requirement of expounding a fundamental principle of the Republican Party. A two-thirds majority vote by the committee shall advance that resolution for consideration of the county assembly. The Resolutions Committee is authorized to condense the resolution's wording to make it more concise, and to consolidate resolutions similar in wording into a single proposal. See Article XII, Section 3.

F. Candidate Advisory Committee. The Candidate Advisory Committee shall be responsible for advising and instructing possible candidates regarding rules and etiquette in running for office.

Section 2. Special Committees. Special Committees may be appointed at the discretion of the Chairman.

Section 3. Quorum Requirements. The quorum of any standing or special committee shall consist of a majority of the members of the Committee.

ARTICLE XI. VACANCIES AND REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

Section 1. Vacancies in the Office of County Commissioner. Appointments to fill a Republican vacancy on the Elbert County Board of County Commissioners shall be made by majority vote within ten (10) days in accordance with Article XIV Section 9 of the Colorado Constitution and relevant law by the Elbert County Republican Party County Commissioner Vacancy Committee, composed of the entire voting membership of the ECR. The ECR Chairman shall serve as Chairman of the Vacancy Committee. No public hearing will be held.

Section 2. Vacancies in other elected county offices. When a vacancy occurs in any other elected county office held by a Republican, the ECR shall make recommendations promptly to the Board of County Commissioners concerning an appointment to fill such vacancy. The Republican members of the Board of County Commissioners shall maintain regular communications with the ECR regarding the recommended appointee for the vacant position.

Section 3. Vacancies in designation or nomination. When a vacancy occurs in a party assembly designation, the ECR shall promptly appoint, by a majority vote of the ECR, a replacement candidate who meets all the requirements of candidacy as of the date of the assembly that make the original designation, according to the procedures outlined in Colorado Revised Statutes Title 1, Article 4, 1-4-1-1 Withdrawal from Candidacy, and 1-4-1002 Vacancies in Designation or Nomination.

ARTICLE XII. ASSEMBLIES, CONVENTIONS

Section 1. Governing law.

A. ECR assemblies and conventions shall be held in accordance with Colorado Revised Statutes CRS and Colorado Republican Central Committee (CRC) bylaws.

Section 2. The Credentials Committee will certify a delegation from each precinct in the County. Any challenge to this certification shall be submitted in writing at least seven (7) days prior to the assembly. The challenged delegation shall have the right to respond in writing. Both the written challenge and the response will be submitted to the Assembly for resolution.

Section 3. The Resolutions Committee will present the proposed resolutions sent to each precinct caucus and report to the assembly/convention the results of all actions by the members of the precinct caucuses.

The Resolutions Committee shall report to the county assembly the advancement of resolutions out of the precinct caucuses, and resolutions committee. Resolutions receiving a two-thirds (2/3) vote by the seated county assembly delegates shall be inducted into the Elbert County Republican Party Platform, and filed with the Colorado Republican Committee Chairman, and the Colorado Republican State Central Committee Resolutions Committee.

Section 4. The County Chairman shall appoint a delegate selection committee from the certified delegations to the assembly to review precinct nominations for delegates to higher assemblies. It will be the responsibility of this delegate selection committee to follow the desired order if specified by the precinct caucuses in naming delegates to higher assemblies. The Elbert County Assembly or Convention shall have final authority for certifying delegates to higher assemblies.

ARTICLE XIII. CONTROVERSY

If a controversy arises which cannot be resolved within the ECR or Elbert County Assembly/Convention, the matter shall be promptly referred to the Executive Committee of the Colorado State Republican Central Committee.

ARTICLE XIV. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

ROBERT’S RULES OF ORDER NEWLY REVISED shall govern the ECR whenever they are applicable and not inconsistent with these bylaws, State law or the CRC bylaws. A parliamentarian appointed by the Chairman shall be present at all meetings of the ECR.

ARTICLE XV. AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

These bylaws supersede all prior bylaws for the ECR, and may only be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting at an ECR meeting called as provided in these bylaws. When amendments to the bylaws are proposed, the meeting call shall be sent at a minimum of thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.

Adopted: January 21, 2010

Scott W. Wills, Chairman

Aija Tobiss, Secretary