

# 2017 SD 35 REPUBLICAN PARTY OF MINNESOTA CONVENTION

February 18, 2017

## PROPOSED RULES

### GENERAL

1. **Order of business:** The order of business of this convention shall be as listed in the official Agenda of the convention, subject to the discretion of the presiding chair.
2. **Adoption, amendment and suspension of rules:** These Rules shall be adopted by majority vote and may not be amended or suspended except by a two-thirds vote of the convention.
3. **Matters not addressed:** Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall be the parliamentary authority on all points not covered by the Constitution of the Republican Party of Minnesota, the Statutes of the State of Minnesota, the Official Convention Call of the Convention, or the Rules adopted by this Convention.
4. **Quorum:** A quorum shall consist of a majority of the duly elected delegates registered for the convention as given in the preliminary report of the Credentials Committee. Once a quorum of more than 50% of the delegates seated in this Convention has been established, there shall be no further question as to the quorum.
5. **Committee Reports:** No second shall be required to a motion to adopt the majority report of any committee. A minority report of any committee may be offered for substitution for the majority report if signed by three committee members. All proposed Constitutional changes must be submitted as instructed by the official convention call.
6. **Campaign materials:** All campaign literature must clearly identify who it was prepared and paid for by. No campaign signs may be placed next to or behind the stage. All campaign signs must be hung with blue painter's tape. Campaigns are responsible for any damage caused by their campaign materials.

### SEATING OF DELEGATES

7. **Permanent Roll:** The permanent roll of the convention shall be constituted as follows:
  - a. The duly elected delegates of each precinct who are actually present.
  - b. If any duly elected delegate to this Convention is absent, then a duly elected alternate from that precinct shall be seated in their stead.
  - c. If no duly elected delegates or alternates from a precinct are present, that precinct shall have no representation.
  - d. When a registered delegate arrives late or returns to the floor of the convention after a period of absence, that delegate shall be immediately seated and shall assume the seat of the lowest ranked seated alternate, if any.
  - e. The order of seating of alternates shall be as follows:
    - (1) The Precincts shall caucus after acceptance of the first credentials committee report. If the Precinct Chair or Vice Chair is not present, the seated delegates shall elect a chair, and then proceed to fill the vacancies.
    - (2) Vacancies shall be filled by the alternates in the order in which they were ranked by the Precinct Caucus. If not ranked, then by vote of the seated delegates. If a tie vote arises, the chair shall appoint, by coin toss, one of the alternates who participated in the tie to be seated.

(3) If a precinct has any vacancies which can't be filled by an alternate from the same precinct, the vacancy will remain. No cross seating is allowed.

(4) No Alternates may be seated prior to the first Credentials report.

8. **Precinct voting strength:** The voting strength of each precinct shall be the number of delegates and seated alternates present on the floor.
9. **Additional credentials reports:** The Credentials Committee shall report any changes in the delegations prior to endorsement or straw ballot votes or when requested by the Chair.
10. **Closing of registration:** No delegate or alternate shall be permitted to register with the Credentials Committee after the final report of that committee is adopted.

### SPEAKING

11. **Etiquette:** A delegate, or seated alternate, wishing to speak shall rise, address the Chair, and state his/her name and precinct, and the purpose for which he/she rises.
12. **Limits on debate:** Debate on any motion or subject shall be limited to one (1) minute by each speaker. No person shall be allowed to speak more than twice upon the same subject. No person shall be allowed to speak a second time until all those desiring to speak have had a first opportunity to do so. Debate on any one motion or subject may have up to four (4) pro and four (4) con speakers, except by request of the majority of the convention.
13. **Visiting speakers:** Visiting speakers not on the official Agenda of the Convention shall be allowed to speak at the discretion of the Chair. Said speakers shall be limited to the following time periods:
  - a. Elected U.S. Representative - 15 minutes.
  - b. U.S. Representative's surrogate - 5 minutes.
  - c. Elected state legislators – 10 minutes.
  - d. Candidates for state or congressional district party office - 10 minutes.
  - e. Other speakers – 2 minutes.
14. **Timekeeper:** The Convention Chair shall appoint a timekeeper for the purpose of timing discussion, debate and speeches during the Convention.

### VOTING

15. **No unit rule:** There shall be no voting under the unit rule at this Convention.
16. **Eligible voters:** Only delegates and seated alternates registered and present at this Convention shall be permitted to vote.
17. **Printed ballots:** The convention shall use printed ballots, when applicable, as provided by the Search/Nominating Committee.
18. **Manner of voting:** The vote on all questions shall be by acclamation subject to the following restrictions:
  - a. A rising vote shall be taken if requested by any delegate, or at the discretion of the Chair.
  - b. A roll call vote by precinct shall be taken if requested by five or more precincts.
  - c. Voting for Delegates and Alternates shall be done by secret ballot.

d. Voting for endorsement shall be done by secret ballot.

19. **Motion to lay on the table:** A motion to lay on the table shall require a two-thirds vote of those voting on the question to be adopted.

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

20. **Search/Nominating Committee:** Each person seeking election as a basic political organization unit officer must appear before the Search/Nominating Committee. Each person seeking an office shall understand the duties of that position and be willing to fulfill them. The Search/Nominating Committee shall remain in session for at least 10 minutes after adoption of these rules. The Search/Nominating Committee shall report the names of all qualified persons who appear before them.

21. **Candidate addresses:** Candidates or their surrogate shall be allowed to speak for up to three minutes before a vote is taken.

21. **Nominations:** Nominations may be made from the floor providing that the nominee has made an appearance before the Search/Nominating Committee. Any candidate not elected to a higher office may be nominated to a lower office or from the floor without reappearing before the Search/Nominating Committee.

22. **Election:** Any candidate who receives a majority vote shall be considered elected. If no candidate receives a majority vote, balloting will continue until a candidate is elected by a majority vote.

23. **Elimination of candidates:** If there are more than two candidates running for an office and no candidate receives a majority of the ballots cast, the candidate with the lowest vote total shall be eliminated from the ensuing ballots.

24. **Division by House Districts:** The Convention shall divide into House Districts before balloting to elect any candidate for offices elected by House District. Only those delegates and seated alternates residing in the Candidate's House District may vote in his/her election.

### ELECTION OF STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES

25. **Search/Nominating Committee:** Each person seeking election as a delegate or alternate to the State Central Committee must appear before the Search/Nominating Committee. This is accomplished by having their name affixed to a Search/Nominating Committee Form set forth for that purpose. The Search/Nominating Committee shall report the names of all persons who appear before them. Nominations for delegates and alternates shall remain open for 10 minutes after adoption of these rules.

26. **Election by Congressional District sub-caucuses:** The Convention shall divide into sub-caucuses by Congressional District before balloting for the election of delegates and alternates to the State Central Committee. The voting for delegates and alternates shall be conducted by the delegates and seated alternates in each Congressional District, with five (5) delegates elected in the Sixth Congressional District and one (1) delegate elected in the Third Congressional District. Each Congressional District sub-caucus may elect up to three (3) times as many alternates as its number of allotted delegates.

27. **Election on a single ballot:** Each Congressional District sub-caucus shall elect State Central Committee delegates and alternates on one ballot with descending order priority to establish ranking of alternates. In the event of a tie, a coin toss, in the presence of the Chief Teller and two witnesses, shall decide the rank.

28. **Candidate addresses:** Nominees or their surrogate for delegate or alternate to the State Central Committee may address the Convention for the purpose of stating their qualifications and views on issues or candidates for a period not to exceed one minute.

29. **Invalid ballots:** Each ballot cast shall vote for exactly five (5) different candidates (for delegates in the Sixth Congressional District) or one (1) candidate (for delegates in the Third Congressional District) or it shall be declared an invalid ballot. Any ballot casting a vote for a candidate who did not appear before the Search/Nominating Committee shall be declared an invalid ballot.