

Rules of the Brunswick County Republican Party Convention. March 17, 2012

Statement of Purpose: It is the purpose of these rules to provide for a fair and open convention in a manner that facilitates the business of the convention, respects the rights of all participants, and encourages full participation of Brunswick County Republicans.

Voting Body: The voting body shall be duly elected delegates in accordance with the North Carolina Republican Plan of Organization and the Brunswick County Republican Party Plan of Organization. All delegates will wear name tags or other identifier given to them by the Credentials Committee. Delegates shall be seated by precinct, separate and apart from alternates and guests.

Convention Officers: The officers of the convention shall be Convention Chairman and Secretary. The Convention Chairman may appoint a Parliamentarian, Sergeant-at-Arms and Assistant Sergeants-at-Arms as necessary.

Quorum: A quorum is twenty-five percent (25%) of those delegates (including alternates filling delegate seats), registered and attending, as certified by the Credentials Committee and reported to the Convention prior to voting on any matters to come before the Convention. Provided a quorum is present during any vote, the majority shall be determined by those present and voting.

Registration: Registration shall open at 9:00 a.m. and close at 10:00 a.m. on Convention day. Individuals arriving after 10:00 a.m. shall not be seated as delegates.

Credentials: Motions to amend the report of the Credentials Committee may occur only immediately following the presentation of the Credentials Committee report and prior to its adoption. Prior to the adoption of the report of the Credentials Committee, no person shall be seated as a Delegate or Alternate unless duly elected as a Delegate or Alternate at their respective precinct meeting.

Voting: Votes shall be by voice vote or by a standing vote of Convention delegates, except for the election of County Party Officers, which shall be by secret ballot in contested races. A delegate casting a vote must be on the floor of the Convention at the time such vote is cast and recorded. A majority of all votes cast shall be necessary for the election of Officers of the Brunswick County Republican Party. In the event that a majority is not received by the nominee receiving the highest number of votes, subsequent balloting shall be conducted; however only votes cast for the nominees receiving the first and second most votes from the first ballot shall be counted in subsequent voting. In elections for at-large executive committee members, the top five vote-getters shall be elected.

County Plan of Organization: Each year the delegates to the County Convention shall approve the Brunswick County Plan of Organization. In accordance with that document, the Plan of Organization Committee shall give written notice, of all business it will place before the Convention, at least thirty (30) days prior to the Convention by placing its report on the County website. Any proposed amendments not included in the Plan of Organization Committee's posted report may be submitted by the committee or a delegate on the day of the convention, but only if the Convention delegates pass a motion to consider such amendments by a two-thirds majority. In all situations, the maker of the motion to amend the Plan of Organization shall provide a printed copy of the amendment to each delegate attending the convention.

Nominations: In the odd numbered years, in accordance with the County Plan of Organization, The Nominating Committee shall post its report on the County website thirty (30) days prior to the Convention. The committee shall present its full report prior to the Convention floor being opened for additional nominations. The Nominating Committee's report does not require a second. The Nominating Committee shall have up to five (5) minutes to present its report. Upon presentation of the Nominating Committee report, the Convention Chairman shall ask if there are additional nominations. Additional nominations for county officers may be made from the podium upon recognition by the Convention Chairman. Nominators will be allocated three (3) minutes for a nominating speech from the podium. Nominators must state their name and precinct of residence. Up to three (3) Delegates may second a nomination from the floor of the Convention upon recognition by the Convention Chairman. They must state their name, precinct of residence and the name and office of the nominee being seconded; there shall be no seconding speeches. Before balloting for election to an office, the Convention Chairman shall allocate five (5) minutes for speeches by each nominee for that office. Candidates shall speak in the order in which they were nominated.

Elections: County officers shall be elected in the odd numbered years in the following order: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Members at Large and other officers as defined in the Plan of organization.

Teller Committee: In the odd numbered years, the Convention Chairman shall appoint a Teller Committee of at least two (2), to count ballots. Each nominee for an office may name an observer to observe the Teller Committee.

Motions: The Convention Chairman may require that Motions be furnished in writing to the Convention Chairman before action is taken. Only delegates or alternates filling delegate seats may introduce motions. No motion shall be in order unless each maker and each delegate seconding it, states his or her name and precinct of residence.

Discussion: Only delegates or alternates filling delegate seats may participate in discussion. A delegate must obtain recognition from the Convention Chairman and must stand and state his/her name and precinct prior to speaking. No Delegate shall speak to the Convention longer than **two (2) minutes** at any one time nor, more than twice on any motion open for discussion. Any other speaker should state whether he is speaking in favor of or in opposition to that Motion. Speakers shall alternate as to those speaking in favor and those speaking in opposition to the Motion. Discussion on a Motion shall be limited to **one (1) minute** per speaker. No delegate may speak a second time until all others who wish to speak have had an opportunity to do so. No delegate may be given the floor more than twice on the same question without unanimous consent of the voting body.

Time Keeper: A time keeper appointed by the Convention Chairman, will indicate to each speaker, a thirty second warning before the expiration of the allotted time.

Resolutions: In accordance with the County Plan of Organization, the Resolutions Committee shall post notice of all business it will place before the Convention, at least thirty (30) days prior to the Convention by placing its report on the County website. Any resolutions not included in its posted report may be submitted by the Committee or a delegate on the day of the Convention, but only if the Convention delegates pass a motion to consider the resolution by a two-thirds majority. In all situations, the maker of the resolution shall provide a printed copy of the resolution to each delegate attending the convention. Resolutions regarding issues sufficiently addressed in the National and State Republican Party Platforms will be ruled out of order, considered as unnecessary.

Order of Conduct: The Sergeant at Arms, with the Convention Chairman's approval, shall maintain the right to have any disruptive Delegates, Alternates, or Guests who refuse to adhere to the rules of the convention removed from the convention floor.

Convention Guests: Only Delegates and Alternates will be allowed on the floor of the Convention. All guests must remain seated in the section designated for guests.

Parliamentary Authority: Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised, Current Edition, shall govern this convention in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these rules or the County or State Plan of Organization.

Suspension of Rules: A two-thirds vote is required to suspend, amend or add to these rules after their adoption, except that the rules contained herein, which are drawn from or implement provisions of the County or State Plan of Organization, may not be suspended.

Respectfully Submitted: The Convention Rules Committee, Vince Musilli, Chairman.