



## RULES

*Governing the*

Columbia County  
Republican Committee

**Rules  
Governing the  
COLUMBIA COUNTY  
REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE**

**ARTICLE 1  
The County Committee**

Section 1. **How Constituted.** The County Committee shall be constituted by the election in each election district within the County of two members, each of whom shall be an enrolled member of the Republican Party. Such members shall be elected for terms of two years at the general primary election to be held in the year 1965 and in each alternate year thereafter. Notwithstanding the above, an additional committee member may be added to serve within an election district upon written request of the Town Chairman to the County Chairman. Such additional committee member may be elected to the committee at a subsequent meeting of the Committee and shall thereafter be elected according to law.

Section 2. **Officers: How Chosen, Terms, Vacancies: How Filled.** The officers of the County Committee shall be a Chairman, one Vice-Chairman, one Vice-Chairwoman, a Secretary, and a Treasurer, who shall be elected by the Committee at the meeting held for organization of the County Committee. Such officers need not be elected members of the Committee, but such are not elected members shall not be entitled to vote, nor shall they be counted in making a quorum. All officers shall serve until their successors are chosen. Vacancies shall be filled by the County Committee except that vacancies in offices other than Chairman may be filled by appointment by the Chairman, such appointments to continue only until the next meeting of the Committee.

Section 3. **Officers: Powers and Duties.**

The powers and duties of all officers of the County Committee shall be such as usually appertain to such offices.

Section 4. **Subcommittees: How Appointed and How Constituted.**

The Chairman of the County Committee may appoint subcommittees of such number and composed in whole or in part, of persons not members of the County Committee as may be deemed advisable to promote the Party's interests, not inconsistent with the provisions of law or with these rules.

Section 5. **Organization Meetings.**

The County Committee shall meet within twenty days after the annual primary election at which its members are elected and shall organize by the election of its officers for two year terms and within three days thereafter shall file with the Board of Elections of the County a certificate stating the names and post office addresses of such officers.

Section 6. **Meetings: How and By Whom Called.**

The County Committee shall meet at the call of the Chairman, or if the Chairman fails or refuses to call a meeting, at the call of the Vice-Chairman upon the written request to the Vice-Chairman of twenty or members of the County Committee. At least five days notice of each meeting stating the time, place and object of such meeting shall be given by mail or via email to each member of the committee. Members will be emailed the official notification by the Secretary of the Party, unless they direct in writing that they do not wish to be notified via email.

**Section 7. Meetings: Attendance; Quorum.**

If any member of the County Committee is unable to attend any meeting of the Committee he may delegate an enrolled voter of the Party by proxy to represent him at such meeting. One-third of all the members of the County Committee, attending a meeting in person or by proxy shall constitute a quorum.

**Section 8. Voting.**

In voting upon all questions coming before the Committee at each meeting thereof, each member attending the meeting in person or by proxy shall cast one-half the exact vote recorded for the Republican candidate for Governor at the last preceding gubernatorial election in the election district which he represents. If an additional committee member is elected pursuant to Section 1, each committee member within such election district shall cast one-third of the exact vote recorded for the Republican candidate for Governor at the last preceding gubernatorial election in the election district which he represents.

**Section 9. Meetings: Procedure.**

The general rules of Parliamentary Law shall be followed in all meetings of the County Committee.

**Section 10. Removal of a Member.**

A member of the County Committee may be removed by such committee for disloyalty to the Party or corruption in office, after notice and a hearing upon written charges to be heard by the County Committee or a subcommittee thereof appointed for that purpose which shall report its findings to the full committee.

**ARTICLE II  
Executive Committee**

**Section 1. How Constituted.**

There shall be an Executive Committee of the County Committee consisting of seven members to be chosen in the manner herein provided. The County of Columbia is hereby divided into seven Executive Committee Districts to be constituted and numbered as follows:

- District No. 1-the City of Hudson
- District No. 2 – the Towns of New Lebanon, Canaan and Chatham

- District No. 3- the Towns of Austerlitz, Ghent and Hillsdale
- District No. 4 – the Towns of Kinderhook, Stuyvesant and Stockport
- District No. 5 – the Towns of Claverack, Greenport and Taghkanic
- District No. 6 – the Towns of Livingston, Germantown and Clermont
- District No. 7 – the Towns of Copake, Ancram and Gallatin.

The Chairman of the County Committee shall be the member of the Executive Committee for the district in which he resides and the Chairman of the City Committee of the City of Hudson shall be the member of the Executive Committee for District No. 1.

The members of the County Committee from the towns comprising each of the other Executive Districts shall meet not less than 16 and not more than 25 days after the Primary Election at which time the members of the County Committee shall have been elected and shall elect one of their numbers a Member of the Executive Committee. A majority vote of all the members of the County Committee within the Executive Committee District shall be required for election.

The meetings shall be organized with a presiding officer and a secretary. The secretary of the meeting shall certify in writing to the secretary of the County Committee within three days after the meeting the election of a Member of the Executive Committee.

Meetings shall be called by the Executive Committeeman then in office by mailing notice thereof to each Committeeman in the Executive District at least five days prior to the day of the meeting, giving the time and place of the meeting which shall be held within the Executive Committee District. In case the Executive Committee member shall fail or neglect to issue a call for such meeting within 20 days after the Primary Election, the Chairman of the County Committee shall issue such call.

The term of office of each elected member of the Executive Committee shall expire on the 25th day next succeeding the Primary Election of the members of the County Committee.

## Section 2. **Officers.**

The Chairman of the County Committee shall be the Chairman of the Executive Committee. The Secretary of the County Committee shall be the Secretary of the Executive Committee but if such Secretary be not a member of the Executive Committee as provided in Article II, Section 1 of these Rules he/she shall not be entitled to vote nor shall he be counting in making a quorum. The Executive Committee may appoint such other officers and subcommittees as it shall deem necessary not inconsistent with the provisions of law or these rules.

## Section 3. **Powers and Duties.**

The Executive Committee shall be the general advisory committee as to all Party matters; shall, subject to the rules and determinations of the county Committee, manage and direct all campaigns for the election of Republican nominees for County, State and National offices; advise with all other committees as from time to time may seem expedient; and perform such other functions as may be provided or permitted by law or by the County Committee.

**Section 4. Authorization of Nomination for Candidates not enrolled in the Republican Party**

The County Committee is empowered in accordance with and pursuant to the provisions of Section 6-120 of the Election Law by majority vote of those present at a regularly called meeting of such County Committee to authorize the designation or nomination of a person as a candidate for a public office who is not enrolled as a member of the Republican Party.

**Section 5. Meetings: Attendance.**

Proxies shall not be recognized at meetings of the Executive Committee and any elected member of the Committee who fails to attend three consecutive meetings of said Committee forfeits his membership therein.

**Section 6. Meetings: Quorum.**

A majority of the members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

**Section 7. Members to Vote on All Questions.**

Each member of the Executive Committee present at a meeting thereof, shall vote on each and every question stated from the chair unless excused from voting by the remaining members of the Executive Committee present at the meeting.

**Section 8. Meetings: How and By Whom Called.**

The Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the Chairman, or if the Chairman fails or refuses to call a meeting, then the said committee shall meet at the call of two members thereof upon at least three days written notice, not counting Sunday and other holidays, to each member of the Committee stating the time, place and object of such meeting. Such written notice may be via email, if so designated by the Party Secretary and/or Chairman.

**ARTICLE III**

**The City Committee of the City of Hudson**

**Section 1. How Constituted.**

There shall be a City Committee of the City of Hudson, which shall consist of the members of the County Committee elected from the several election districts within the City of Hudson.

**Section 2. Officers: When Elected.**

The officers of the City Committee shall be a Chairman, a Secretary and a Treasurer, who shall be elected for two-year terms by the City Committee at a meeting to be held within twenty days after the primary election at which the members of the County Committee shall have been elected. Such officers

need not be elected members of the City Committee but such as are not elected members shall not be entitled to vote nor shall they be counted in making a quorum.

**Section 3. Duties.**

The City Committee of the City of Hudson shall fill, forthwith, all vacancies in nominations made at a primary election for a city office in said city by a majority vote of all the members of said Committee at a meeting held for that purpose.

**Section 4. Meetings: How and by Whom Called.**

The City Committee shall meet at the call of the Chairman or if the Chairman fails or refuses to call a meeting, then the said Committee shall meet at the call of three members thereof, upon at least three days' written notice, not counting Sundays and other holidays, to each member of the Committee stating the time, place and object of such meeting.

**Section 5. Rules.** The City Committee may make rules for its guidance and government not inconsistent with law or with the rules of the County Committee.

**ARTICLE IV  
Town Committees**

**Section 1. The existing Town Committees are continued.** Town Committees shall be composed of county committee members from such town elected pursuant to the Election law.

**Section 2.** All town or village nominations shall be made in accordance with law and the custom prevailing in the respective towns or villages at the time of the adoption of these rules, provided, however, that no person not enrolled as provided by law as a member of the Republican Party shall be permitted to participate or vote in a town or village caucus.

**Section 3.** Each town or village committee may make rules for its guidance and government not inconsistent with law or with these rules.

**ARTICLE V  
Vacancies**

**Section 1.** Vacancies in the membership of the County Committee, however caused, shall be filled by the County Committee. Vacancies in the membership of the Executive Committee shall be filled in the manner provided for original election to membership therein. Vacancies in Town Committees shall be filled in accordance with the rules of said Committees or with the custom prevailing in the respective towns or city at the time of the adoption of these rules.

Section 2. When a vacancy in a nomination for public office made at a primary election for county office is caused by declination, disqualification or death of a candidate, or by a tie vote, or when a candidate is to be nominated for a county elective office to be filled at a special election, the members of the County Committee shall be duly convened, and a majority of a quorum shall nominate a candidate for the office to be filled in accordance with election law.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **Amendments**

Section 1. **How Made.** These rules may be amended from time to time by majority vote of the County Committee, provided a copy of the proposed amendment shall be sent with the notice of the meeting at which such amendment is proposed, such notice to be not less than five days before such meeting, and to be emailed or mailed to the post office address of each member of the County Committee, as provided for in these rules.

STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF COLUMBIA.

I have compared the preceding with the original rules duly adopted at a regular meeting of the Republican County Committee of Columbia County on April 18, 1936 together with amendments thereto adopted subsequently, and do hereby certify that the same is a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of said original rules and amendments thereto.

HOLLY TANNER, SECRETARY

Reprinted February 1970  
Reformatted February 5, 2003  
Amended September 2011