



Minnesota Republican State Central Committee

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March 29, 1960

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Wayzata
National Committeewoman

HERBERT O. JOHNSON
Executive Secretary

Joseph Donovan
Secretary of State
State Capitol
St. Paul, Minnesota

Dear Sir:

This is to certify that the enclosed copy of the
Constitution of the Republican Party of Minnesota
is the official copy of said document.

Sincerely,

Ed Viehman, State Chairman

Herbert O. Johnson
Executive Secretary

EV/k

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STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FILED
APR - 1 1960

Secretary of State

CONSTITUTION
of the
REPUBLICAN PARTY
of
MINNESOTA

Revised to include amendments
adopted up to and including
September 12, 1959.

Article I

NAME AND OBJECTS

SECTION 1. The name of this organization shall be the Republican Party of Minnesota.

SECTION 2. The objects of the party shall be the maintenance of government of, by, and for the people according to the constitution and laws of the United States and the State of Minnesota, and the furtherance of such principles as may from time to time be adopted by party conventions.

Article II

MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. The membership of the party shall be composed of all voters of the State of Minnesota who desire to support the objects of the party.

SECTION 2. It shall be the duty of the several county committees to enroll all members of the party within their respective counties, so far as practicable. The form of enrollment shall be prescribed by the state executive committee, and shall be uniform throughout the state, but no qualifications for membership shall be imposed except as provided by this constitution. Opportunity for enrollment shall be open at all times to all voters who are eligible for membership under Section 1 of this article.

SECTION 3. County committees may invite voluntary payment of dues by members of the party within their respective counties, but payment of dues shall not be required as a condition for membership.

SECTION 4. Nothing in this constitution shall be construed to deny or abridge the rights of any voter to participate in any party caucus, primary or convention wherein he is entitled by law to participate.

Article III

CONVENTIONS

SECTION 1. A regular state convention of the party shall be held in each general election year at such time and place as the state executive committee or the state central committee may determine. Special state conventions may be called at such other times and places and for such purposes as the state executive committee or the state central committee may determine.

SECTION 2. State conventions shall be composed of delegates and alternates from the respective counties of the state, apportioned upon such basis as the state executive committee or the state central committee may determine; provided,

that the basis of apportionment shall be uniform throughout the state, and shall be based upon the gubernatorial vote cast during the last preceding presidential election. Delegates and alternates shall be elected at county conventions; provided, that the county chairman and chairwoman of each county, however selected, shall be delegates ex officio, and shall be included in the number allotted to the county. All state delegates and their alternates shall serve until their successors are duly elected. All state, district and county delegates and alternates shall be elected in general election years and shall hold office for a term of two years or until their successors are duly elected.

SECTION 3. Congressional district conventions shall be held annually at the call of the state executive committee, the state central committee, or the district committees of the respective districts, and at such other times and for such other purposes as the committee calling the conventions may determine. The place of holding district conventions in each district shall be determined by the district committee.

SECTION 4. District conventions shall be composed of delegates from the counties of the respective districts, apportioned and elected at the county conventions held in even-numbered years in like manner as delegates to state conventions, and including the county chairmen and chairwomen, ex officio; provided, that in any district consisting of or including a portion of a county, delegates from such portion to the district convention shall be selected in such manner at a caucus of the delegates representing such portion as the county convention may determine, the county chairman and chairwoman to be included in the delegation of the portion in which they respectively reside; provided further, that in any district consisting of an entire single county, the district convention shall be composed of the same delegates as the county convention.

SECTION 5. County conventions shall be held annually at the call of the state executive committee, the state central committee, or the district committee, preceding district and state conventions. Delegates to district and state conventions shall be elected at the county conventions held in even-numbered years. Special county conventions may be held at the call of the state executive committee, the state central committee, or the county committees of the respective counties at such times and for such purposes as the committee calling the same may determine. County conventions shall be held at county seats unless otherwise determined by the respective county committees.

SECTION 6. County conventions shall be composed of delegates elected by the members of the party in the respective election districts or other subdivisions of the county; provided, that in any city of the first class intermediate conventions composed of delegates elected by the members of the party may be held in the respective wards or other subdivisions of the city for the purpose of electing delegates to the county convention, if so determined by the county committee. The number of delegates at each county convention and the basis of their apportionment shall be determined by the county committee; provided, that such basis shall be uniform throughout each county.

SECTION 7. Alternates may be elected for any convention delegates, to serve and vote in case of the absence or incapacity of delegates.

SECTION 8. The conventions herein provided for shall transact such business as is specified by statute or in the call of the convention, and may transact such other business as a majority of the convention may determine. Such conventions

may endorse candidates for public office, provided that in case of a proposal for endorsement of a candidate whose constituency is not coterminous with the territory of the convention, only those delegates residing within such constituency shall vote upon the proposal. Any endorsement of candidates shall be by majority vote of the delegates eligible to vote, except as specified in Section 9 of this Article.

SECTION 9. Any candidate for the office of United States Senator, and any candidate for the state office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, Auditor, Treasurer and Railroad and Warehouse Commissioner may be granted pre-primary endorsement by any state, district or county convention if he receives 60% of the vote of such convention. When more than one such candidate is nominated for endorsement, none of them shall be voted upon separately and the candidacy of all shall be submitted on each ballot. This section shall not affect the endorsement rights or powers of any convention except as set forth specifically herein.

Article IV

STATE PARTY ADMINISTRATION

SECTION 1. The general management of the affairs of the party in the state shall be vested in the state central committee, subject to the direction of the state convention.

SECTION 2. The state central committee shall consist of all the county chairmen and chairwomen, the members of the state executive committee, and additional county representatives elected as hereinafter provided. Each county in which there were cast at the last preceding national election more than ten thousand votes for the Republican candidate for governor shall be entitled to one additional representative on the state central committee for each ten thousand votes or major fraction thereof cast for such candidate in excess of the first ten thousand votes, such additional representatives to be elected in the same manner as county chairmen and chairwomen. When a county loses representation on the state central committee due to the election of one of its representatives to an office in a district or on the state central committee then the county committee of his or her residence shall elect one additional member to the state central committee for each such loss.

SECTION 3. The officers of the state party organization shall be a chairman, chairwoman, first vice-chairman, first vice-chairwoman, second vice-chairman, second vice-chairwoman, third vice-chairman, third vice-chairwoman, secretary and treasurer. They shall act as officers of the state central committee and the state executive committee. It shall be within their power to organize or cause to be organized each precinct in the state.

SECTION 4. The state party officers and the national committeeman and national committeewoman shall constitute an executive council and shall have the powers and duties usually incident to their respective offices, subject to the direction of the state convention, the state central committee, and the state executive committee.

SECTION 5. The state executive committee shall consist of the state party officers, the national committeeman and the national committeewoman, the district chairmen and chairwomen, the chairman and chairwoman of any county which consists of one complete congressional district and part of another congressional district,

two additional representatives, of whom one shall be a man and one shall be a woman, from each congressional district, twelve members at large, the chairman and deputy chairman of the Minnesota Republican Finance Committee, and the chairman and/or chairwoman of the state-wide Republican Auxiliary organizations which are the Minnesota Federation of Women's Republican Clubs, the Minnesota Republican Workshop, the Young Republican League of Minnesota, and the Minnesota Federation of College Republican Clubs. Six of the members at large shall be men appointed by the state chairman, and six shall be women, appointed by the state chairwoman. The appointment of the members at large shall be made with the advice and consent of the other members of the executive committee or a majority thereof.

SECTION 6. The state executive committee shall have charge of the administration of state party affairs, subject to the direction of the state convention and the state central committee.

SECTION 7. In November of each even numbered year a nominating committee composed of district chairmen and chairwomen, or district vice-chairmen and chairwomen, or their appointees shall meet and select a slate of candidates for each state party office. In January of each odd numbered year, the state central committee shall meet at the call of the state chairman, of any three of their own number, and elect the state party officers from any members of the party; provided, however, that the members-at-large of the state central committee, referred to in Article IV, Section 5, shall not be entitled to vote at such election.

SECTION 8. In the year of each Presidential election, immediately after the state convention which precedes the Republican national convention, the state central committee shall meet and select a national committeeman and a national committeewoman; provided, however, that the members-at-large of the state central committee referred to in Article IV, Section 5, and the representative members on the state central committee referred to in Article VII shall not be entitled to participate in such selection.

SECTION 9. The state party officers and the other members of the state executive committee and the state central committee shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified.

SECTION 10. District representatives on the State Executive Committee and their alternates shall be elected by the District Convention.

SECTION 11. County vice-chairmen and vice-chairwomen shall be alternates for their respective chairmen and chairwomen on the state central committee, unless other alternates have been elected by the respective county conventions. Alternates shall be selected for all members of the state central committee in the same manner as the members of the state central committee are selected. In the event that any qualified member and his or her alternate is unable to attend a meeting of the state central committee, the county executive committee is authorized to appoint a substitute member for that meeting.

SECTION 12. Meetings of the state central committee may be called by the chairman or by the state executive committee or by any ten members of the state central committee. Written notice of each meeting shall be mailed to each member at least ten days in advance.

SECTION 13. Meetings of the state executive committee may be called by the chairman or by any five members of the committee. Written notice of each meeting shall be mailed to each member at least five days in advance.

SECTION 14. The presence of either the chairman or the chairwoman or an alternate from each of at least one-third of the counties in the state shall be required to constitute a quorum of the state central committee.

SECTION 15. No voting by proxy shall be permitted at any meeting of the state executive committee. At any meeting of the state central committee, the membership present from any one county may vote the total vote for that county. In the event the members present are not in unanimous agreement, each member present shall vote his proportionate share of the total vote of the county.

SECTION 16. No state party officers shall, by any official act or by the use of his official position or influence, favor or promote the endorsement of any candidate for public office at any party convention, or favor or promote the candidacy at any primary election of any candidate who has not been endorsed by the state convention in the case of a state or national office, or by the convention or conventions of the constituency in the case of a lesser office. Violation of this provision shall be cause for removal.

Article V

DISTRICT PARTY ADMINISTRATION

SECTION 1. The management of the affairs of the party pertaining to each congressional district shall be vested in the district committee of such district, subject to the direction of the state central committee, the state executive committee, and the district convention; provided, that the district committee shall have no jurisdiction over local affairs within the respective counties in the district.

SECTION 2. Each congressional district committee shall be composed of all the county chairmen and chairwomen of the district, with alternates the same as for the state central committee, and the members of the district executive committee, provided that where any congressional district consists of an entire single county, the county committee shall be the district committee for such district; provided further, that where a district includes a portion of a county, with other territory, a man and a woman representing such portion on the district committee shall be selected in such manner at a caucus of the delegates representing such portion as the district convention may determine; provided further, that where a district consists of only a portion of a county, the members of the county committee representing the election districts or other subdivisions within such portion, together with the members of the district executive committee, shall be the district committee for such district; provided further, that where a district consists of a portion of a county together with other counties, the portion thereof in which there were cast at the last preceding national election more than 10,000 votes for the Republican candidate for governor, shall be entitled to one additional representative on the district committee for each 10,000 votes or major fraction thereof cast for such candidate in excess of the first 10,000 votes, such additional representatives to be elected in the same manner as county chairmen and chairwomen. Provided, however, that in any event the total representation of any county or portion thereof shall not exceed the total aggregate representation of all of the other counties in said district.

SECTION 3. The officers of each congressional district committee shall be a chairman, chairwoman, vice-chairman, vice-chairwoman, secretary, and treasurer.

SECTION 4. The district executive committee shall consist of the officers of the district committee, provided that in any congressional district consisting of a single county, the county executive committee shall act as the district executive committee.

SECTION 5. The delegates to each district convention held in odd-numbered years shall elect the officers of the district committee from any members of the party residing within the district with the county chairmen and chairwomen and other county representatives on the district committee serving as the nominating committee for said convention; provided, that in any congressional district consisting of an entire single county, the officers of the county committee shall act as officers of the district committee; provided, further, that where a district consists of only a portion of a county, the officers of the district committee shall be selected in odd-numbered years in such manner as the district convention may determine.

Article VI

COUNTY PARTY ADMINISTRATION

SECTION 1. The management of the affairs of the party within each county shall be vested in the county committee of the county, subject to the direction of state and district authorities as to matters within the scope of their respective functions; provided, that organizers or other representatives of state or district authorities shall not solicit memberships or funds within any county without the approval of the county chairman and chairwoman.

SECTION 2. The county committee shall consist of the county party officers and such other members as the county convention may prescribe. The officers and other members of the county committee shall be elected at each county convention held in odd-numbered years, provided, that such county convention may provide for the selection of such officers and members in such other manner as it may deem proper.

SECTION 3. The officers of each county organization shall be a chairman and a chairwoman, a vice-chairman and a vice-chairwoman, a secretary, a treasurer, and such others as the county convention may prescribe, and it shall be their duty to organize or cause to be organized each ward and/or precinct in their county.

SECTION 4. The county convention may provide for a county executive committee, of such size as it deems proper, who shall be members of the county committee.

SECTION 5. The following form of county and local organization is recommended, subject to such modifications as may be prescribed or authorized by the county convention in each county:

- (a) A chairman and chairwoman in each election precinct shall be elected at the precinct caucus, and provided that should such officers not be elected at the precinct caucus such officers shall be selected as the county convention or county committee may prescribe;
- (b) The county committee to be composed of all said precinct chairmen and chairwomen, the officers of the county committee, and the members of the county executive committee;
- (c) The county executive committee to consist of nine members, including the officers.

Article VII

NOMINEES' REPRESENTATIVES AND COMMITTEES

SECTION 1. Each Republican state constitutional officer and each Republican senator and representative in Congress, or his appointee, shall be a member of the state executive committee for the duration of his term of office. Membership of such elected officials or their appointees shall be subject to the approval of the other members of the state executive committee or a majority thereof. Any such elected official, or his appointee, may be removed by a two-thirds vote of those present in any meeting of the state executive committee. Any such appointee may be removed at any time by the elected official appointing him.

Article VIII

REMOVALS AND VACANCIES

SECTION 1. Any officer of the state central committee may be removed by a two-thirds vote of those present at any meeting of the state central committee.

SECTION 2. Any member at large on the state executive committee may be removed by the appointing authority at any time.

SECTION 3. Any district representative on the state executive committee, any officer of a district committee, or any member of a district executive committee may be removed by a two-thirds vote of all the members of the district committee.

SECTION 4. Any county representative on a district committee, any officers of a county committee, or any member of a county executive committee may be removed by a two-thirds vote of all the members of the county committee.

SECTION 5. Notice of every proposal for removal by any committee or other body of the party shall be included in the notice of the meeting, and the individual concerned shall be served with a detailed statement of the charges against him, at least ten days prior to such meeting.

SECTION 6. All vacancies in party offices or committee memberships shall be filled for the unexpired term by the respective bodies or officers having power of election or appointment, except in case of officers or members of district or county committees, which shall be filled by such committees. Unless otherwise expressly provided, all party officers and committee members shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified. In the event of a vacancy in the office of State Chairman or State Chairwoman, the state central committee shall meet within 30 days thereafter to elect a successor.

Article IX

AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1. This constitution may be amended by a majority vote by the delegates present at any state convention, provided, that any proposal for an amendment shall be referred to a committee appointed for the purpose before it shall be voted upon by the convention.

Article X

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 1. Any body within the party organization may adopt and amend by-laws for its own government not inconsistent with this constitution.

SECTION 2. The right of special organizations having Republican affiliations to exist and carry on their activities as they see fit, consistent with the objects, platforms, and principles of the party, shall be recognized, and the organization of permanent local clubs and organizations of party members for the purpose of holding meetings and carrying on other activities in furtherance of party and public welfare shall be permitted and encouraged, provided, that no such special or local organization shall participate in party government or administration, and the activities of all such organizations during election campaigns shall be coordinated with authorized party activities and subject to the direction of the regularly constituted party authorities.

SECTION 3. In the case of a vacancy in the office of any state or district chairman or chairwoman or county chairman or chairwoman, the corresponding vice-chairman or vice-chairwoman, in the case of the state or district, and the chairwoman or second vice-chairman in the case of the county shall perform the duties of the office until the election of a successor.

SECTION 4. That a permanent constitutional committee be established to serve during the interim between each convention and the following state convention. That the membership of this permanent committee be the same as the membership of the constitution committee of each convention.

SECTION 5. No person shall at the same time be an officer of a district committee and an officer of the state central committee.

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STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FILED
APR - 1 1960
Joseph R. Anderson
Secretary of State