

1 **REPUBLICAN PARTY of CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6**  
2 **Convention Rules**

3 April 23, 2016, Monticello Middle School, 800 East Broadway, Monticello, MN 55362  
4

5 General

6 *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, shall be the parliamentary authority on all points not covered by the statutes  
7 of the State of Minnesota, the Constitution and Bylaws of the Republican Party of Minnesota, the Constitution and  
8 Bylaws of the Republican Party of Congressional District 6 (CD6), the Official Call of this convention, or the rules  
9 adopted by this convention. These rules, once adopted, shall not be amended nor suspended except by a two-thirds  
10 vote of the Convention.

11 Order of Business

12 The order of business of this convention shall be as stated in the 2016 Convention Agenda. A motion to adjourn the  
13 convention shall not be in order until all items on the Agenda have been addressed on the convention floor excluding  
14 agenda item "other business". All persons on the convention premises shall register with the appropriate Credentials  
15 committee member. Any person denied credentials should be referred to the Credential Committee Chair for final  
16 determination. Guest credentials, campaign credentials, press credentials and other 'visitor' credentials shall not be  
17 limited in number. All persons must sign in with credentials committee chair or designee to receive their personal  
18 credentials. Access to the convention floor will be restricted to those persons with valid convention credentials. All  
19 persons on the convention floor shall outwardly display convention credentials. Any person misrepresenting their  
20 credentials will be denied access to the convention floor for the balance of the convention.

21 Speaking and Floor Privileges

22 A delegate or seated alternate wishing to speak shall rise, address the chair, state his/her name and the Basic  
23 Political Organizational Unit (BPOU) they are from, and the purpose for which he/she rises. Only seated delegates or  
24 alternates shall be allowed to make motions or address the convention for debate.

25 The convention chair shall appoint a timekeeper for the purpose of timing discussion, debate and speeches during  
26 the convention. Debate upon any motion or subject shall be limited to one and half minutes. No person shall be  
27 allowed to speak more than twice upon the same subject nor shall any person speak a second time until all others  
28 who wish to speak have had the opportunity to do so. At least two speakers on each side of a question shall be  
29 afforded the opportunity to speak before a motion to "move the previous question" or a motion to "lay on the table"  
30 shall be in order. The total time allowed for debate on each motion or subject shall not exceed six minutes. After  
31 there have been two speakers on one side and the chair has asked two times for a speaker in opposition, if there is  
32 no speaker on the opposing side, the debate will be ended.

33 The chair of the Convention may recognize visitors and give them the privilege of speaking for up to 5 minutes, with  
34 the exception of the elected Congressman, who shall be afforded up to 20 minutes.

35 Quorum

36 A quorum shall be determined, and if appropriate, declared after the preliminary report of the Credentials Committee.  
37 A quorum shall consist of a numerical majority of the total number of registered delegates as given in the preliminary  
38 report of the Credentials Committee. In no event shall the quorum be less than 10% of the eligible delegates  
39 allocated to said convention. Once a quorum has been established, a quorum call shall be out of order. Registration  
40 will be open for 30 minutes after the convention is called to order. BPOU chairs, or designee shall be responsible for  
41 seating delegates and alternates per the CD6 Constitution, Art. X, Sec. 3 and reporting any change in voting strength  
42 to the Chair of the Credentials committee.

43 Permanent Roll of the Convention

44 The permanent roll of the convention shall be constituted as follows:

- 45 1) The duly elected delegates to the CD6 convention of each BPOU elected at the BPOU convention who are  
46 actually present and registered. As provided in the Republican Party of Minnesota Constitution, Art. V, Sec. 4,  
47 "When a delegate returns to the floor of the convention, he or she will be seated immediately."  
48 2) If any duly elected delegate to this convention is absent at any time a vote is to be taken, then a duly elected  
49 alternate from that BPOU shall be seated in his/her stead by the BPOU chair or designee. If the BPOU chair or  
50 designee is not present, a temporary chair for that BPOU shall be appointed by the convention chair. The order of  
51 seating of alternates shall be as follows.  
52 a) From the duly elected alternates of the BPOU, alternates shall be seated according to the procedure  
53 established by the constitution or bylaws of the BPOU.  
54 b) If no other procedure is established alternates shall be seated in order of votes received at the BPOU  
55 convention.  
56 c) If a vote count is not available, alternates to be seated at this convention shall be elected by majority vote of  
57 seated delegates of that BPOU.  
58 d) If no duly elected delegates or seated alternates are present, there shall be no representation from that BPOU.  
59 e) The report of seated alternates shall be reported to the Chair of the credentials committee.

60 The voting strength of each BPOU shall be the number of delegates and seated alternates present on the convention  
61 floor as reported to the convention Chair by the Chair of the Credentials committee. The Credentials committee chair  
62 may report any changes in the delegations prior to the election for each office or when requested by the convention  
63 chair. Each BPOU chair or designee will issued the proper number of voting cards by the credentials committee.  
64 Each BPOU chair or designee will be in charge of maintaining the distribution and collection of the voting cards.

65 Convention Etiquette

66 Please silence cell phones. No audio or video recording will be allowed unless specifically approved in writing by 6<sup>th</sup>  
67 Congressional District Chair or Deputy Chair.

68 Signs, Banners, Stickers and other Distributed Material

69 Any and all materials distributed at the convention will contain the name of the organization or the name and address  
70 of the individual(s) paying for the material, with the exception of lapel stickers and the signs of those running for  
71 National Delegate/Alternate. The sergeant-at-arms will confiscate any material not having such a disclaimer and the  
72 person or persons distributing the material will have their convention credentials revoked and they will be barred from  
73 the convention floor.

74 If the venue allows, there shall be no more than 10 signs, advocating an issue or candidate, posted or affixed to  
75 surfaces within the *convention hall*, with no more than one of the 10 exceeding eight square feet in area. The total  
76 number of signs posted or affixed inside the *convention premises*, shall not exceed 50 advocating an issue or  
77 candidate, with no more than five of the 50 exceeding eight square feet in area. Signs, banners or stickers being held  
78 or worn by persons are exempted from this requirement. No signs shall be allowed within 10 feet of the stage center  
79 or podium area except during candidate speeches. Candidate signage will be limited to those seeking a Republican  
80 endorsed office.

81 No convention staff, including page, sergeant-at-arms, chair, secretary, parliamentarian, credentials committee chair,  
82 rules committee chair, constitution committee chair, nominations committee chair, Chief teller and tellers (while  
83 tallying ballots), time keeper or other convention officials, speaking from the podium, shall exhibit any outward sign of  
84 support for or engage in any activities on behalf of any candidates until election for that office has been completed.

85 Voting

86 Only registered delegates and seated alternates, present on the floor with an official voting card to this Convention,  
87 shall be permitted to vote.

88 The vote on all questions shall be by voting cards subject to the following restrictions:

- 89 1) There shall be no voting by proxy or unit rule.
- 90 2) A secret (paper) ballot shall be used for all contested elections and endorsements. All ballots will be supplied by  
91 the appointed Tellers.
- 92 3) If division of the assembly is called for by any three seated delegates or alternates; or at the discretion of the  
93 convention chair, a rising vote shall be taken.
- 94 4) Roll call votes shall be taken at the request of a majority of the delegates and seated alternates or at the  
95 discretion of the convention chair.
- 96 5) The Chair, or designee, of each BPOU shall distribute and collect the paper ballots from the delegates of their  
97 BPOU, verify the ballots as to number and deposit them with the Tellers. If the Chair of the BPOU is not seated,  
98 and a designee has not otherwise been appointed by the BPOU Chair, the BPOU seated delegates shall appoint  
99 a designee for that BPOU. The BPOU Chair, or designee, shall not open or count the ballots for their BPOU,  
100 except for roll call votes or to ensure the correct number of ballots received. Only Tellers shall open and count  
101 the ballots for a candidate during non-roll call votes.
- 102 6) If there is a dispute as to the number of votes cast, the Head Teller shall decide the dispute and, if necessary,  
103 shall have appointed tellers canvass the vote of that BPOU by separate written ballots, which shall then be the  
104 votes for that BPOU.
- 105 7) In the event a candidate for a particular office runs unopposed, a 2/3 vote to endorse by acclamation shall be  
106 acceptable.

107 Endorsement Question

108 The nominations committee shall report to the convention all offices for which they have received written notification  
109 by candidates that are seeking endorsement. The Convention shall then first determine by simple majority vote, for  
110 each office, whether endorsement shall be considered.

111 Endorsement Procedure

112 All candidates or their representatives must notify the Nominations Committee of their intent to seek endorsement in  
113 writing by April 19th, 2016. Any candidate who fails to notify the Nominations Committee within the time specified  
114 cannot be nominated. Only one candidate may be endorsed for a single office. If candidates for more than one office  
115 are to be endorsed, the Convention shall vote on each office separately.

116 Only those delegates and seated alternates eligible to vote in the primary or general election for the candidate(s) for  
117 the office for which is currently being considered shall be entitled to vote on the endorsement of said candidate(s).

118 A ballot with pre-printed names may be used provided all requirements from the Republican Party of Minnesota  
119 Constitution are met. When there are more than two candidates running for an office, any candidate who receives

120 10% or less of the vote on any ballot shall be dropped from the next ballot. A candidate may remove his or her name  
121 from consideration at any time.

122 The nominations committee shall first give their report for any office that is being considered. A report of 'qualified' by  
123 the nomination committee indicates that candidate is nominated and no second is required. Each nominated  
124 candidate shall be given 15 minutes total floor time which the candidate may use for nominating and seconding  
125 speeches and/or a personal address to the Convention. The order of each candidate's time shall be determined by  
126 lot, with all speeches by or for a given candidate completed before a second candidate is allowed their time. The  
127 Convention Chair shall be apprised by the Timekeeper of each candidate's time and the Chair shall resume control of  
128 the convention floor when their time is expired.

129 Any candidate shall be considered endorsed who shall by secret ballot receive the affirmative vote of 60% of the  
130 convention, if the 60% is greater than or equal to at least a majority of the registered delegates and seated alternates  
131 as established by the last report of the credentials committee preceding such vote.

132 If no candidate receives at least 60%, another ballot will be required with only those candidates receiving 10% or  
133 more of the votes on the first ballot proceeding to the next round. Beginning the third and subsequent ballots, only  
134 those candidates receiving 25% or more of the votes total will proceed to the next round. Balloting will continue in this  
135 manner until a candidate receives 60% or more of the votes.

136 After the endorsement, the endorsed candidate may address the convention for up to seven minutes.

137 Election of National Convention Delegates and Alternates

138 The Convention Chair shall announce the number of National Delegates and Alternates allotted to this CD and how  
139 the National Delegates and Alternates will be bound on the first ballot only at the National Convention based upon the  
140 results of the Presidential Preference Ballot. The Chair shall also describe the duties and responsibilities of the office,  
141 and shall instruct the Secretary to record the vote totals.

142 The 6th Congressional District is allocated three (3) National Delegates and three (3) National Alternates. Based  
143 upon the results of the Presidential Preference Ballot conducted on March 1, 2016 at the precinct caucuses, National  
144 Delegates are to be bound on the first ballot only as follows:

| Candidate    | National Delegate |
|--------------|-------------------|
| Ted Cruz     | 1                 |
| Marco Rubio  | 1                 |
| Donald Trump | 1                 |

145 National Alternates, should they be seated at the National Convention, are bound to the Presidential candidate of the  
146 National Delegate they replace on the first ballot only.

147 Any delegate or alternate to the 6th Congressional District with intent to seek election for National Delegate or  
148 Alternate must notify the Nominations Committee in writing by April 19th, 2016. Any candidate who fails to notify the  
149 Nominations Committee within the time specified cannot be nominated. When notifying the Nominations Committee,  
150 the candidate must declare which Presidential candidate they wish to be bound to for the purpose of electing National  
151 Delegates. Candidates may not select more than one Presidential candidate.

152 Candidates shall be given up to 2 minutes to address the Convention.

153 Balloting for National Delegate

154 Voting for National Delegate shall be on one pre-printed ballot with all National Delegate candidates grouped by the  
155 Presidential candidate with whom they chose to be bound. Each delegate may only vote for one candidate for  
156 National Delegate. Any ballot that contains more than 1 vote will be considered spoiled. The top vote getter in each  
157 group shall be the National Delegate bound to their respective Presidential candidate. It is not necessary for the  
158 candidates to receive a majority of the votes to win. Ties will be decided by coin toss or other random method  
159 acceptable to all the tied candidates.

160 Balloting for National Alternate

161 Any candidates for National Delegate who are not elected shall be placed on a new ballot for National Alternate. Each  
162 delegate can vote for up to three candidates regardless of the Presidential candidate they chose to be bound. Any  
163 ballots containing more than three 3 votes will be considered spoiled. The top three vote getters will be the three  
164 National Alternates, ranked by the number of votes received. It is not necessary for the candidates to receive a  
165 majority of the votes to win. Ties will be decided by coin toss or other random method acceptable to all the tied  
166 candidates.

167 Election of National Elector

168 Any person seeking election to be the National Elector must notify the Nominations Committee in writing by April  
169 19th, 2016. The nominations committee shall report the names of all qualified candidates and no other names shall  
170 be entered for election to be the National Elector. Each candidate for National Elector will have 5 minutes total to  
171 address the convention for nominations, seconding and candidate speeches.

172 If no candidate receives more than 50% on the first ballot, another ballot will be required with only those candidates  
173 receiving 10% or more of the votes on the first ballot proceeding to the next round. Beginning the third and

174 subsequent ballots, the candidate receiving the lowest vote total will be eliminated from the next ballot. Balloting will  
175 continue in this manner until a majority is reached.

176 Spoiled Ballots

177 Votes may be cast for any person who, by law and by these rules, is eligible for election to the office or position under  
178 consideration. Ballots which are blank, unintelligible, marked with symbols, or are cast for someone other than an  
179 eligible person shall not be tallied and will be considered "spoiled". On elections involving endorsements of public  
180 office holders ballots may be cast stating "no preference", "undecided" or indicating "no endorsement" and shall be  
181 considered valid and tallied in the final count.

182 Resolutions

183 Consideration of the Resolutions Committee report will proceed in three stages:

184 A. Delegates should familiarize themselves with the resolutions brought forward by the Resolutions Committee  
185 Report, prior to the official presentation of the Report. The Report of the Resolutions Committee is to be  
186 considered as proposed changes to the existing platform.

187 B. Each proposed resolution will be read by the chair. Unless debate is extended by a simple majority of  
188 delegates and seated alternates on the convention floor, the debate will be ended after there have been 2  
189 speakers for and 2 against. Discussion will be alternated between "for and against". If there is no speaker  
190 on the opposing side, the debate will be ended.

191 C. After debate, there must be a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote to approve the resolution.

192 Recess

193 In the event the Convention votes to recess rather than adjourn, the Chair of the Convention, prior to the vote on the  
194 question, shall announce that the only delegates and alternates eligible to register for the reconvened Convention are  
195 those delegates and alternates registered as of the last Credentials Committee report of the original Convention.  
196 However, the number of votes required for endorsement at the reconvened Convention shall remain an affirmative  
197 vote of 60% of the convention, upon the condition that that number is also greater than 50% of delegates and  
198 alternates seated as stated in the final report of the Credentials Committee *at the original Convention*.