

MINNESOTA REPUBLICAN STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE
4940 Viking Drive, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55435
Telephone: 920-5750

GEORGE THISS, *Chairman*
MRS. MARK G. BRATAAS, *Chairwoman*

GEORGE ETZELL, *National Committeeman*
MRS. RUSSELL T. LUND, *National Committeewoman*

November 9, 1967

OD

The Honorable Joseph L. Donovan
Secretary of State
State Capitol
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Chapter 202.20, Subdivision 4, I am sending you a copy of the Constitution of the Republican Party of Minnesota, as amended at our last State Convention held at Moorhead, Minnesota, on September 15 and 16.

Sincerely,

George Thiss
George Thiss
Chairman

GT:ph

Enclosure

#19247
STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FILED
NOV 13 1967

Joseph L. Donovan
Secretary of State

19247

CONSTITUTION
of the
REPUBLICAN PARTY
of
MINNESOTA

Including amendments adopted
September 16, 1967

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 implementation 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 responsibility of the several County Committees to expand the membership of the Party within their respective counties. 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.

#19247
STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FILED
NOV 13 1967

Joseph A. Olson
Secretary of State

Article IIICONVENTIONSSECTION 1:

a. A regular State Convention of the Party shall be held in each general election year at such time and place as 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 Central Committee may determine.

b. The State Chairman shall, subject to the advice and consent of the District Chairmen and Chairwomen, appoint a Platform Committee, a Resolutions Committee, a Rules Committee, a Credentials Committee, and such other State Convention Committees as may be necessary or desirable. Such committees shall begin to perform their respective duties before the Convention opens, and shall be subject to the confirmation of the State Convention. Such committees shall be selected from the official roster of duly elected Delegates or Alternates to said State Convention.

SECTION 2: State Conventions shall be composed of the following:

- a. The members of the State Executive Committee, except the Chairmen and Chairwomen of Hennepin, Ramsey, and St. Louis counties, as Delegates-at-large, for whom there shall be no Alternates;
- b. The Chairman and Chairwoman of each county, as Delegates from their respective counties, who shall be included within the number of Delegates allotted to their respective counties as herein provided;
- c. Delegates from the various counties of the state who are elected at County Conventions.

The number of Delegates from the various counties, including therein the County Chairman and Chairwoman, shall be apportioned among the counties 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 vote cast for the Republican candidate for Governor in the last preceding state-wide general election; or if such election were a Presidential election, the vote cast for the Republican candidate for President; provide further that the County Chairman and Chairwoman shall, in any event, compose the minimum number of Delegates from any county.

SECTION 3: District Conventions shall be held annually at the Call of the State Executive Committee, the State Central Committee, or the 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 the following:

- a. Members of the State Executive Committee designated in subdivisions a and b of Article IV, Section 6, residing within the district as Delegates-at-large, for whom there shall be no Alternates; and
- b. Delegates apportioned and elected at the County Conventions, in like manner, as Delegates to State Conventions, and including the County Chairmen and Chairwomen, who shall be included as part of the county allocation, 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 Chairmen and Chairwomen to be included in the delegation of the portion in which they respectively reside.

SECTION 5: County Conventions shall be held annually at the Call of the State Executive Committee, the State Central Committee, the District Committee, or the County Committee preceding District and State Conventions. Delegates and Alternates to District and State Conventions shall be elected at the County Conventions in even-numbered years, or if provided in the County Constitution, may be elected annually. Special County Conventions may be held at the Call of the State Executive Committee, the State Central Committee, the District 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 at the Precinct Caucuses which are held in each precinct every general election year as required by Minnesota statutes. The number of Delegates and Alternates 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 the county and shall be based on the vote cast for the Republican candidate for Governor in the last preceding state-wide general election; or if such election were a Presidential election, the vote cast for the Republican candidate for President. Special Precinct Caucuses may be called by the County Committee for the purpose of filling vacancies. A County Constitution may authorize the following to serve as additional Delegates without Alternates to the County Convention provided such reside within the County, and if elected, were elected as Republicans:

- a. County Chairman and Chairwoman;
- b. Congressional District Chairman and Chairwoman;
- c. Republican State Chairman and Chairwoman;
- d. Republican National Committeeman and Committeewoman;
- e. State constitutional officers;
- f. U. S. Senator
- g. U. S. Congressman

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FILED
NOV 13 1967
Joseph A. Johnson
Secretary of State

SECTION 7: All State, District and County Delegates and Alternates shall be elected in general election years and shall hold office until their successors are duly elected, or upon adoption in their respective County Constitution, counties may elect Delegates and Alternates to the District and State Conventions annually in the same manner as provided in the general election year, and these Delegates and Alternates elected under this option shall hold office for a term of one year, or until their successors are duly elected.

SECTION 8: Conventions shall transact such business as is specified in the Call of the Convention, and may transact such other business as a majority of the Convention may determine, subject to the provisions of Article VIII, Section 2. Such Conventions may endorse candidates for any public office. 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.

SECTION 9:

a. Any candidate for public office may be granted pre-primary endorsement by any State, District, County or other authorized Convention if he receives 60 per cent of the voting strength of the Convention as established by the last report of the Credentials Committee preceding such vote. The rules of any such Convention may provide that where only one candidate is nominated for endorsement for a particular office, endorsement may be granted if such candidate receives 60 per cent of the votes cast on the proposal. Excepting the 60 per cent requirement, County Constitutions may establish different rules of endorsement for Conventions relating to Legislative District or areas smaller than the entire County. 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.

b. An endorsement for public office at a Convention below the level of the one which is representative of the entire electorate for the office shall be no more than an expression of the sentiment of the Convention. An endorsement may carry with it the commitment of Party resources, finances, and manpower only when made at the Convention which is representative of the entire electorate for the office.

c. Legislative District Endorsing Conventions wholly within a given county may be held subject to the provisions of said County Constitution and By-laws, provided said provisions are not in conflict with State statutes or the Republican State Constitution. Where a Legislative District crosses County lines but lies within a Congressional District, the Congressional District Chairman and Chairwoman shall issue the Call for an Endorsing Convention and appoint a convener upon the written request (which specifies the agreed upon delegate voting strength) of a majority of the County Chairmen and Chairwomen whose territory lies within the Legislative District or pursuant to such other procedure as may be authorized by the District Constitution. Where a Legislative District crosses County and Congressional District lines, the State Chairman and Chairwoman shall issue the Call for an Endorsing Convention and appoint a convener upon the written request (which specifies the agreed upon delegate voting strength) of a majority of the County Chairmen and Chairwomen whose territory lies within the Legislative District. Eligible voters at Legislative Endorsing Conventions shall be the Delegates or their Alternates as duly elected at the most recent Republican Precinct Caucus held within the political boundaries of the Legislative District.

SECTION 10: The first order of business of a State or District Convention shall be seating of the Alternates. The permanent voting roll of the Convention shall be composed of the Delegates of each county who actually are present, and in the absence of any Delegate to the Convention, an Alternate shall be seated in his stead during his absence. If no person has been elected as Alternate for a specific Delegate, and the County Constitution or By-laws of the county involved does not provide a procedure for the seating of Alternates, the ward, village, Legislative District, County Commissioner District, or other primary nominating unit which nominated the absent Delegate, shall, by a Caucus of its Delegates, select a replacement for the absent Delegate from among its duly elected Alternates. In the absence of an Alternate from any such primary nominating unit, an Alternate from another primary nominating unit from the county shall be seated. When a Delegate returns to the floor of the Convention, he or she will be seated immediately. This section is not intended to affect the right of the Convention to authorize by rule the Delegates present to vote the entire voting strength of the County.

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 control of the State Convention.

SECTION 2: The State Central Committee shall consist of the following:

- a. The members of the State Executive Committee;
- b. The County Chairmen and Chairwomen;
- c. Additional county representatives from each county in which more than five thousand Republican votes were cast for Governor in the last preceding election. Said counties shall be entitled to one additional representative on the State Central Committee for each five thousand votes or major fraction thereof cast for such candidate in excess of the first five thousand votes. Such additional representatives are to be elected in the same manner as County Chairmen and Chairwomen. Vacancies created by resignation, death, removal from office or geographical area or election of a representative to an office on the State Central Committee or on the District Committee which places said person on the State Executive Committee shall be filled by the County Committee;
- d. One duly elected representative or in his absence a duly elected alternate from each of the following: The Minnesota Republican Council of Arts, Professions, and Sciences (CAPS); the Minnesota Republican Minorities Division; and the Minnesota Republican Nationalities Division.

SECTION 3: The officers of the state Party organization shall be a Chairman, a Chairwoman, three Vice-Chairmen, three Vice-Chairwomen, a Secretary and a 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 shall have the powers and duties usually incident to their respective offices and those which are prescribed by but not in conflict with this Constitution or from time to time assigned to them by the State Central Committee, State Executive Committee, or through action at any State Party Convention.

SECTION 5: The State Executive Committee shall have charge of the administration of State Party affairs, subject to the direction and control of the State Convention and the State Central Committee.

STATE OF MINNESOTA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FILED

NOV 13 1967

Joseph A. Olson
Secretary of State

SECTION 6: The State Executive Committee shall consist of the following:

- a. The members of the Executive Council;
- b. District Chairmen and Chairwomen;
- c. Chairmen and Chairwomen of Hennepin, Ramsey and St. Louis counties;
- d. Two additional representatives, of whom one shall be a man and one shall be a woman, from each Congressional District;
- e. Twelve Members-at-large, of whom six 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;
- f. The Chairman and/or Chairwoman or, in case of absence, a duly designated alternate from each of the state-wide Republican Auxiliary organizations, which are as follows:
 - Minnesota Federation of Women's Republican Clubs
 - Minnesota Republican Workshop
 - Young Republican League of Minnesota
 - College Republicans of Minnesota
- g. Each Republican state constitutional officer (except the Governor), and each Republican member from Minnesota of the House of Representatives in Congress, or his appointee, shall be a member of the State Executive Committee for the duration of his term of office. A Republican Governor of Minnesota or a Republican United States Senator from Minnesota shall be entitled to appoint one person to the State Executive Committee for the duration of said elected official's term. 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.

SECTION 7: The State Executive Council shall have charge of the conduct of State Party affairs between meetings of, and subject to the direction of, the State Convention, the State Central Committee, and the State Executive Committee. They shall, if necessary, designate a Vice-Chairman to act for the Chairman in the Chairman's temporary absence or inability to act.

SECTION 8: The State Executive Council shall consist of the following:

- a. The State Party Officers;
- b. The National Committeeman and Committeewoman;
- c. The Governor of Minnesota if he was elected as a Republican. If the Governor is unable to attend, he may send a representative to any meeting of the State Executive Council.
- d. Any United States Senator if he was elected as a Republican from Minnesota. If the Senator is unable to attend, he may send a representative to any meeting of the State Executive Council.
- e. The Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Minnesota Republican Finance Committee.

SECTION 9: Following the District Conventions in each odd-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 June of each odd-numbered year, the State Central Committee shall meet at the Call of the State Chairman, or 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 6, e, shall not be entitled to vote at such election.

SECTION 10: 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 6, e, and the representative members on the State Central Committee referred to in Article IV, Section 6, g, shall not be entitled to participate in such election.

SECTION 11: 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 12: District Representatives on the State Executive Committee and their Alternates shall be elected by the District Convention.

SECTION 13: 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 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 county 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 14: Meetings of the State Central Committee may be called by the Chairman or by the State Executive Committee or by any twenty members of the State Central Committee who must be from no less than two Congressional Districts. Written notice of each meeting shall be mailed to each member at least ten days in advance.

SECTION 15: 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 16: 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 17: 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.

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FILED
NOV 13 1967

Joseph A. Olson
Secretary of State

SECTION 18: State Party Officers shall hold as a specific responsibility the continuing search for qualified candidates and encouragement of them to seek public office.

No State Party Officer shall use his official position to promote pre-primary endorsement support or to induce the candidacy of any individual by assuring Republican support prior to any endorsement by the Convention which is representative of the entire electorate for the office.

SECTION 19: Persons appointed under this Article shall have terms of office expiring with the death, removal from office or geographical area, resignation or expiration of the term, of the appointing officer, and each such person may be removed at the discretion of the appointing officer.

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 in the Third, Fourth and Fifth Congressional Districts, the District Committees shall be composed as provided by their respective District Constitutions and/or By-laws.

SECTION 3: The officers of each Congressional District Committee shall be a Chairman, Chairwoman, Vice-Chairman, Vice-Chairwoman, Secretary, Treasurer, and such additional officers as may be determined by each Congressional District Constitution and/or By-laws.

SECTION 4: The District Executive Committee shall consist of the officers of the District Committee and such additional members as provided by the respective District Constitutions and/or By-laws.

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. In the absence of any provision in the District Constitution, the nominating committee of said Convention shall consist of the County Chairmen and Chairwomen in the district involved, or their designated Alternates. 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 Constitution and/or By-laws may provide.

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 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 for each election precinct shall be elected at the Precinct Caucus which is held in each precinct every general election year as required by Minnesota statutes. The County Committee may call a special Precinct Caucus for the purpose of filling vacancies or it may provide for the appointment of an acting officer to perform the functions of any office in which there is a vacancy until an officer is duly elected;
- 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

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.

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FILED
NOV 13 1967

James A. Johnson
Secretary of State

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 shall be filled for the unexpired term by the respective bodies or officers having power of election or appointment, except,

- a. Officers or members of District or County Committees which shall be filled by such committees;
- b. Additional District Representatives to the State Executive Committee shall be filled by the District Committee; and
- c. Additional County Representatives to the State Central Committee shall be filled by the County Committee affected.

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.

SECTION 7: 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 shall perform the duties of the office until the election of a successor.

SECTION 8: In the case of vacancies among the Congressional District and State Convention Delegates elected from the respective counties of the state, counties having such vacancies may elect Delegates and Alternates to fill such vacancies in the same manner in which the original Delegates and Alternates are elected.

SECTION 9: A vacancy shall occur upon the death or resignation of an officer, committee or council member or upon his removal from the geographical area from which he was elected. A vacancy shall occur in a Delegate's position upon his death, resignation, or removal from the geographical area from which he was elected, or upon the failure of the body having power of election to fill such position, if no duly elected Alternate is available to fill the vacancy.

Article VIII

AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1: Immediately following each regular State Convention, two persons shall be appointed from each Congressional District, by the District Chairmen and Chairwomen, to serve as a State Constitution Committee. The Chairman of this committee shall be appointed by the Chairman of the State Central Committee. This committee shall serve through the next succeeding regular State Convention.

SECTION 2: This Constitution may be amended by a majority vote at any State Convention, provided that any proposal for amendment shall be referred to the State Constitution Committee before it shall be voted upon by the Convention.

Article IXGENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 1: Any body within the Party organization may adopt and amend a Constitution and/or By-laws for its own government not inconsistent with this Constitution.

SECTION 2: Any group applying for Auxiliary status shall submit a copy of its By-laws and/or Constitution which specifies the purpose, officers, and membership of the organization to the State Chairman, who in turn shall send copies to the members of the State Central Committee at least thirty days prior to any official action. Upon receiving prior written notice that the matter will be on the agenda, the State Central Committee may recommend the addition or removal of an Auxiliary by instructing the Constitution Committee to place the proposal before the next State Convention. Immediately upon addition or removal of an organization from Auxiliary status by the State Convention, Article IV, Section 6, f, listing state-wide Auxiliary organizations shall be amended.

SECTION 3: 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 or 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 4: No person shall at the same time be an officer of a District Committee and an officer of the State Central Committee.

#19247

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATEFILED
NOV 13 1907*Joseph A. Johnson*
Secretary of State

19247