

# Blue Earth County Republicans 2026 CONVENTION RULES

## **Section 1: GENERAL**

1. *Latest Edition of the Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*, shall be the parliamentary authority on all points not covered by the Constitution of the Republican Party of Minnesota, the Statutes of the State of Minnesota, the Official Convention Call of the Convention, or the Rules adopted by this Convention.
2. The order of business of this convention shall be as listed in the official agenda of the convention, subject to the discretion of the presiding Chair.
3. A motion to adjourn shall be debatable until the completion of the official business of the Convention, as stated in the agenda.
4. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the delegates registered at the Convention as given in the preliminary report of the Credentials Committee and shall be superseded by a majority of the delegates and seated alternates as given in the final or most recent report of the Credentials Committee. Once a quorum number has been established, it shall remain until adjournment of the Convention.
5. Once adopted, these Rules shall neither be amended nor suspended except by two-thirds of the voting strength of the Convention as reported by the last Credentials Committee Report.
6. All representatives of any form of media must register (free of charge) and be properly credentialed by the Credentials Committee. The media includes anyone who is recording all or parts of the convention by any electronic means. Only mainstream established media, official Republican Party or candidates will be allowed. So called "trackers", DFL party and pseudo party "recorders", bloggers, etc. will not be credentialed or allowed.
7. Mobile devices shall be turned off or set to silent mode. Any individuals or items determined by the Chair to be a disruption may be removed from the Convention floor at the sole discretion of the Convention Chair.

## **Section 2: SEATING OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES**

8. The permanent roll of the delegates entitled to speak and vote at this Convention shall consist of the duly elected delegates who are registered and such alternates who shall be registered and seated in accordance with these Rules.
9. In the absence of any delegate to the Convention, an alternate shall be seated, only during that delegate's absence from the floor. When a registered delegate returns

to the floor of the convention, they shall be immediately seated, with the exception being that if balloting has started there will be no change in seating until that round of balloting has finished.

10. The order of seating of alternates shall be as follows: a) If alternates were ranked by the precinct caucus, alternates shall be seated in order of ranking. b) If alternates are not ranked, each vacancy shall be filled by majority vote of seated delegates of that precinct. c) If no delegates are present and seated, the Executive Committee Chair shall fill the vacancy by lot.
11. There shall be no cross-seating between precincts.
12. The voting strength of each precinct shall be the number of delegates and seated alternates present on the floor.
13. The Credentials Committee shall report any changes in the delegations prior to election of officers, election of candidates, election of delegates and alternates, voting on resolutions if requested or any time as requested by the Convention Chair.

## **Section 3: SPEAKING**

14. A delegate or seated alternate wishing to speak shall rise, address the Chair, state his/her name and precinct, and state the purpose for which he/she rises. Each speaker must identify whether they speak in the affirmative or the negative before being allowed to speak on a motion or resolution.
15. Debate on any motion or subject shall be limited to one (1) minute by each speaker. No person shall be allowed to speak more than twice upon the same subject. No person shall be allowed to speak a second time until all those desiring to speak have had a first opportunity to do so. Total debate on any motion or subject is limited to six (6) minutes, including not more than three (3) minutes pro and three (3) minutes con in alternating order.
16. The Convention Chair shall appoint a timekeeper for the purpose of timing discussion, debate and speeches during the Convention.
17. The Convention Chair at any time may invite any office holder, candidate or distinguished guest to address the Convention for a period not to exceed five (5) minutes.

## **Section 4: VOTING**

18. There shall be no voting under the unit rule in this Convention.
19. Only delegates and seated alternates registered and

present at this Convention shall be permitted on the convention floor or the area designated for delegates and seated alternates during a vote. There shall be no voting by proxy.

20. The vote on all questions shall be by voice vote subject to the following restrictions: a) A rising vote shall be taken if requested by any delegate, seated alternate, or at the discretion of the Chair. b) Voting for officers, delegates, alternates, and for endorsement of candidates shall be by secret ballot for all contested elections.
21. A counted division of the house vote may be taken at the discretion of the Chair and shall be taken if requested by least 15 delegates or seated alternates
22. If there is a dispute as to the vote of any County Commissioner District, the Chair of the Convention shall appoint a judge and two tellers to canvass the vote of said County Commissioner District, and the judge shall report the same to the convention.
23. Blank ballots, ballots with a fictional character or ineligible person will not be counted toward the total number of votes needed to win the election or endorsement. Ballots marked "No", "None", "No Endorsement" or with any candidate's name will be counted.
24. Only ballots handed out by the tellers will be valid to be counted for endorsement and ballots will be handed out on the convention floor or area designated for delegates and seated alternates.
25. If there is a dispute in the number of votes cast or ballots handed out then the convention chair, head teller and head of credentials shall convene and make a ruling on the dispute.
26. Ballots shall be distributed by the tellers and collected by the tellers. If necessary, the chair may appoint extra tellers to collect the ballots.
27. Only tellers shall open and tally ballots. After the tellers have all ballot envelopes, they shall verify the number of ballots before comingling them, and then tally the votes.
28. Each candidate is allowed one representative to observe the vote counting process.
29. No second shall be required to a motion to adopt the majority report of any committee. A minority report of any committee may be offered for substitution for the majority report if signed by three committee members.
30. When the previous question has been ordered on any proposition on which there has been no debate, it shall be in order, before the final vote has been taken, to debate the proposition for six (6) minutes with one-half of that time allotted to those in favor, and one-half to those in opposition to the proposition. The same right of debate

shall be allowed whenever a motion to lay on the table has been made on any proposition on which there has been no debate.

#### **Section 5: ELECTION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES**

31. A delegate may nominate only one person to the delegate or alternate list until all delegates desiring to place names in nomination have been recognized.
32. Two (2) delegates and two (2) alternates shall be elected At-Large to the District and State conventions.
33. All nominations for At-Large delegates and alternates shall be from the floor of the convention. Nominees for At-Large delegate or alternate must reside within Blue Earth County.
34. All remaining delegates and alternates to the District and State conventions shall be apportioned by County Commissioner Districts according to number of delegates allocated to the precincts of each Commissioner District at the 2026 Precinct Caucus, not including those precincts which elected no delegates.
35. All nominations for apportioned delegates and alternates shall be from the floor of the Commissioner District caucus. Nominees must reside within the Commissioner District for which they are nominated.
36. If any Commissioner District does not fill its delegation, the open seats may be elected At-Large by the whole convention.
37. The Commissioner District Chair shall be given the correct number of ballots for the Commissioner District according to the Final Credentials Report and hand them to each duly seated delegate or alternate. Completed ballots will be collected by the Commissioner District Chair or appointed Tellers. If the correct number of ballots is returned, ballots shall be tabulated and results announced to the Commissioner District. The Commissioner District Secretary shall certify and deliver the final results to the County Convention Secretary.
38. Voting shall be by secret ballot. If the number of nominees is equal to or less than the number of available positions, voting may be by acclamation; however, if the vote is for alternates, the nominees must agree, in advance of the acclamation, on what order they shall be ranked.
39. Delegates will not be ranked. Alternates shall be ranked by total votes received. In the event of a tie in votes, a coin toss, a drawing by lot or other similar method deemed appropriate shall determine the ranking.
40. If a delegate is discovered after the convention to have not from the commissioner district to which they were elected

that delegate will be disqualified and the highest rank alternate in that Commissioner District will assume the delegate position and all following alternates that reside within the district will move up a rank. If an alternate that was elected is not from within the commissioner district, then that alternate will be disqualified and the next highest-ranking alternate will assume that position and all following rank alternates will move up a spot.

### **Section 6: RESOLUTIONS**

41. Resolutions from the floor are permitted if the following conditions are met: a) the resolution is submitted in writing to the Convention Secretary within forty-five (45) minutes after the gavel in of the convention, and b) the resolution has been signed by not less than ten (10) delegates or seated alternates.
  
42. Consideration of the Resolution Committee report will occur where the first round of voting will have all pre-convention rules written up that all delegates and seated alternates can vote on. The votes will be tabulated by the tellers. Any resolution that receives over 60% of the vote

will be automatically passed. Any vote that receives less than 40% will be dropped. Any resolution that is over 40% but less than 60% will be debatable item by item along with the resolutions submitted per rule 43 after the start of the convention.

43. Debates on resolutions are governed by the same time limits and conditions of debate as other motions.
  
44. Resolutions, whether debated or not, require a sixty (60) percent vote of the Convention for approval.

### **Section 7: ENDORSEMENT OF LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES**

\*Note: All endorsements for legislative candidates will occur in separate endorsing conventions since all of them cross county lines and will be coordinated with the adjoining counties per the Blue Earth County convention article IV section 4.

– END RULES –

## Robert's Rules of Order Motions Chart

Based on *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (10th Edition)*

**Part 1, Main Motions.** These motions are listed in order of precedence. A motion can be introduced if it is higher on the chart than the pending motion. § indicates the section from Robert's Rules.

§	PURPOSE:	YOU SAY:	INTERRUPT?	2 <sup>ND</sup> ?	DEBATE?	AMEND?	VOTE?
§21	Close meeting	I move to adjourn	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
§20	Take break	I move to recess for ...	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
§19	Register complaint	I rise to a question of privilege	Yes	No	No	No	None
§18	Make follow agenda	I call for the orders of the day	Yes	No	No	No	None
§17	Lay aside temporarily	I move to lay the question on the table	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
§16	Close debate	I move the previous question	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
§15	Limit or extend debate	I move that debate be limited to ...	No	Yes	No	Yes	2/3
§14	Postpone to a certain time	I move to postpone the motion to ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
§13	Refer to committee	I move to refer the motion to ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
§12	Modify wording of motion	I move to amend the motion by ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
§11	Kill main motion	I move that the motion be postponed indefinitely	No	Yes	Yes	No	Majority
§10	Bring business before assembly (a main motion)	I move that [or "to"] ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority

**Part 2, Incidental Motions.** No order of precedence. These motions arise incidentally and are decided immediately.

§	PURPOSE:	YOU SAY:	INTERRUPT?	2 <sup>ND</sup> ?	DEBATE?	AMEND?	VOTE?
§23	Enforce rules	Point of Order	Yes	No	No	No	None
§24	Submit matter to assembly	I appeal from the decision of the chair	Yes	Yes	Varies	No	Majority
§25	Suspend rules	I move to suspend the rules	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
§26	Avoid main motion altogether	I object to the consideration of the question	Yes	No	No	No	2/3
§27	Divide motion	I move to divide the question	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
§29	Demand a rising vote	I move for a rising vote	Yes	No	No	No	None
§33	Parliamentary law question	Parliamentary inquiry	Yes	No	No	No	None
§33	Request for information	Point of information	Yes	No	No	No	None

**Part 3, Motions That Bring a Question Again Before the Assembly.** No order of precedence. Introduce only when nothing else is pending.

§	PURPOSE:	YOU SAY:	INTERRUPT?	2 <sup>ND</sup> ?	DEBATE?	AMEND?	VOTE?
§34	Take matter from table	I move to take from the table ...	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
§35	Cancel previous action	I move to rescind ...	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	2/3 or Majority with notice
§37	Reconsider motion	I move to reconsider ...	No	Yes	Varies	No	Majority