



Franklin County Democrats

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By-laws of the Franklin County Democratic Committee

Article I – Name and Purpose

Section 1. The name of this organization is the Franklin County Democratic Committee.

Section 2. The purpose of this organization is to promote the political principles and candidates of the Democratic Party of the United States; the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; the County of Franklin; and the political subdivisions thereof.

Article II – Membership

Section 1. The County Committee shall be composed of one committeeman and one committeewoman from each election precinct. Election of committee members shall be held every four years in conjunction with the gubernatorial primary election.

Section 2. In the event of a vacancy, by reason of death, resignation, removal from the precinct, change of party enrollment, or otherwise, on the committee, the Chairman of the committee shall submit to the Election Board of Franklin County, Pennsylvania, the name of a legally qualified person to fill such vacancy. The said Election Board shall then update their records showing the new appointments that have been made by the Party Chairman.

Section 3. Members duly certified pursuant to Section 2 hereof shall server for the unexpired term provided by law and shall not be subject to involuntary removal.

Article III – Elected Officers

Section 1. The elected officers of this Committee shall be a County Chairman, First Vice-Chairman (who shall be of the opposite sex of the County Chairman), a Second Vice-Chairman, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The officers of the County Committee shall hold the same office on the Executive Committee.

Section 2. Officers shall be election by the members at a meeting to be held for such purpose not later than thirty (30) days after the certification of the election of the Democratic committeemen and committeewomen by the County Board of Elections. Election of officers shall be by roll-call vote of the members.

Section 3. Officers shall serve from the date of their election until the election of their successors at the meeting indicated in Section 2 of this article.

Section 4. In the event of the death or resignation of the Chairman, the First Vice-Chairman shall serve as Acting Chairman. Within forty-five (45) days from the death or resignation of the Chairman, the First Vice-Chairman, as Acting Chairman, shall hold a special meeting of the members to elect a Chairman to server the remainder of the term thus vacated.

Section 5. In the event of the temporary inability of the Chairman to perform the duties and responsibilities of his position for any reason, the First Vice-Chairman shall server as Acting Chairman.

Section 6. In the event of the death, resignation, or temporary inability of any officer to serve, the Executive Committee shall fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term of for the period of temporary disability, as the case may be. Any special election necessitated by a vacancy shall be held within forty-five (45) days of the occurrence of the vacancy.

Section 7. No elected officer shall be removed from office during the term for which he was elected, unless he or she has been convicted of, or plead guilty to, a felonious crime. Also, a breach of eligibility requirements during his term of office would subject an officer to a hearing by the Executive Committee to determine if he should be removed from office.

Article IV – Duties of Officers

Section 1. The Chairman of the County committee shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee and shall be entitled to vote on all questions. The Chairman shall appoint all standing and special committees, while performing such other duties as usually pertain to the office. If the County Chairman is unable to carry out his duties, they shall be assigned to the Vice Chairmen in order of rank.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of the Vice Chairmen, First and Second, to carry out such duties as the Chairman may designate. In the absence of the Chairman at any meeting the Vice Chairmen, in order of rank, shall fill the Chair during the absence of the Chairman.

Section 3. The Secretary shall keep a record of the minutes of all meetings, and distribute them to all members of the Executive Committee. The minutes of the immediate preceding meeting shall be distributing prior to each meeting of the Executive Committee. The Secretary also performs such other duties as usually pertain to the office.

Section 4. The Treasurer shall receive all monies of the organization and promptly deposit them in a designated financial institution; maintain an accurate account of all receipts and disbursements, and shall be responsible for the printing and distributing of a financial report to be presented at each meeting of the Executive Committee. A budget

shall be prepared for each calendar year and be presented to the Executive Committee for approval prior to the January meeting or as soon thereafter as is reasonably possible.

Article V – Committees

Section 1. The representatives and authoritative committees of the Democratic Party in Franklin County shall be:

1. The County Committee
2. The County Executive Committee
3. Such other subordinate committees as may be designated and established at the discretion of the County Chairman.

Section 2. Only regular registered and enrolled Democratic electors shall be eligible to serve as members or officers of any committee provided by Section 1 of this article, except as provided for by Section 3 of this article.

Section 3. Individuals not registered as Democrat may be appointed to serve on bi-partisan committees to elect Democratic candidates.

Section 4. No person prohibited by law, civil service regulations, etc., shall be eligible to serve on any committee.

Section 5. All appointments to committee shall be made by the County Chairman and appointees shall serve at the pleasure of the said Chairman.

Section 5. All county committees are subject to State Party Rule VII, County Rules and Contests.

Article VI – County Committee

Section 1. The County Committee shall be the duly elected Democratic committeemen and committeewomen, or those appointed to fill vacancies as herein set forth.

Section 2. The Democratic committeemen and committeewomen shall be responsible for the obtaining of new Democratic enrollments, of changing other party enrollments to that of Democratic enrollment, reinstatement of Democratic voters who are being purged, change of address of Democratic voters who have been removed from their enrollment precinct, obtain absentee and military ballots for Democrats, get out the Democratic voters on election day, and such other matters that will inure to the benefit of the Democratic Party, its candidates and policies.

Article VII – Executive Committee

Section 1. Except as otherwise provided herein, all powers of this organization shall be exercised by an Executive Committee.

Section 2. The members of the Executive Committee shall consist of: The State Committeeman and State Committeewoman from Franklin County, the elected officers or this Committee, and the District Chairmen.

Section 3. The Executive Committee shall meet not less frequently than once monthly unless changed by the County Chair, and shall keep accurate records of its proceedings. It shall approve all expenditures of funds, and shall have power to bind this organization in all contractual matters.

Section 4. The Executive Committee may adopt, alter, and amend rules governing its proceedings. The provisions of Articles X and XI shall not apply to meetings of the Executive Committee.

Article VIII – District Chairmen

Section 1. The Chairman shall designate District Chairmen.

Section 2. The Chairman shall, from time to time, designate the area(s) represented by said District Chairmen and at his discretion may name one or more District Chairmen to serve each district so designated.

Section 3. District Chairman shall serve at the pleasure of Chairmen.

Section 4. District Chairmen shall perform such duties as the Chairman shall from time to time designate.

Article IX – Qualifications of Officers

Section 1. All elected and appointed officers and members of the Executive Committee shall be registered Democrats, voting and residing in Franklin County

Article X – Meetings

Section 1. This organization shall meet at such times as shall be determined by the Chairman.

Section 2. The Chairman shall call a special meeting of this organization upon petition of sixty percent of the County Committee. Such meetings shall be held within forty-five (45) days of the filing of such petition with the Chairman.

Section 3. The Secretary shall notify all members by first class mail of all meetings. Such notices shall be postmarked not less than thirteen (13) days prior to the said meeting. Notices of “special meetings” shall stated the purpose of the meeting, unless the meeting is for general purposes, in which case the notice shall so state.

Section 4. Procedures according to Robert’s Rules of Order will be followed during meetings of the Committee or its affiliates and/or subordinate committees.

Article XI – Voting and Proxies

Section 1. Except as set forth in Section 2 of Article III, all votes at meetings of this organization shall be by show of hands unless a majority of those present shall determine that some other method be used.

Section 2. Any member may give any registered voter of his or her precinct a written proxy authorizing the holder thereof to act for and on behalf of such member at any meeting.

Article XII – Withdrawal of Nominated Candidates

Section 1. Any person who has won the Democratic nomination may withdraw his name from nomination by submitting a written request to the Franklin County Board of Elections.

Section 2. Procedures as outlined in the Franklin County Election Code, the Rules of the Democratic Party of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the By-laws of the Franklin County Democratic Committee must be strictly adhered to in nominating a replacement.

Article XIII – Amendments

Section 1. These By-laws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the County Committee Members at a regular or special meeting.

Section 2. Except when proposed at the meeting indicated in Article III, Section 2, no amendment shall be considered by the members unless the proposed amendment shall have been stated in full in the notice of the meeting.

Article XIV – Adoption – Approval – Filing

Section 1. These By-laws adopted by the Democratic committeemen and committeewomen of the Franklin County Democratic Committee shall be approved by

the Pennsylvania State Democratic Committee and filed with the Board of Elections of Franklin County, and at such other places as required by law.

Adopted this 7th day of November 1996.

Mary E Butts, Secretary

William D. Butts, Chairman

Revised 10/10/95

?? SPECIAL NOTICE – For the purpose of gender recognition all references to he or she are equally acceptable for the other except where specifically stated as it relates to the Chairman and Vice Chairman.