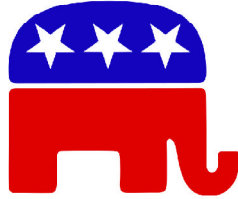


# FANNIN COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY

## BYLAWS



### ARTICLE I – NAME, PURPOSE AND FUNCTION

#### A. NAME

The name of this organization shall be Fannin County Republican Party (referred to as “FCRP” or “the Party”).

#### B. PURPOSE

The purpose(s) of this organization shall be:

1. To increase the effectiveness of Republicans in the cause of good government through active political participation, seeking out and training qualified candidates for all elected offices, including partisan/non-partisan, local, county, state and national elections to the best of our ability and resources.
2. To promote an informed electorate through political education and activity.
3. To foster loyalty to the Republican Party at all levels of government and to promote its ideals and candidates, including non-partisan elections, and appointments to the various local and state boards.
4. To promote the principles of the Republican Party.
5. To support the objectives and policies of the Republican National Committee.
6. To engage in other such activities and to perform such functions and services as may from time to time be necessary to further the cause of the Republican Party, its principles and its candidates.

#### C. FUNCTION

The FCRP shall serve as the central and unified authority and representative body of the Republican platform and policies in Fannin County. It shall function to assist and endeavor to develop, implement, encourage, educate and create Republican principles in Fannin County and shall strive to recruit and to elect qualified Republican candidates to every available public office.

### ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP

#### A. MEMBERS

Upon completion of the membership form, all registered voters residing in Fannin County, Georgia, who are in accord with the principles of the Republican Party, believe in its policies, are in agreement with its aims and purposes and support its candidates, are members of the FCRP. Members are eligible to participate in all regularly scheduled meetings and functions as well as all Mass Meetings and County Conventions.

B. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Upon completion of the associate membership form and with the approval of the Executive Committee, individuals who are interested in supporting the FCRP and its aims and purposes, may be extended associate membership into the FCRP. For associate membership, residency and voter requirements may be waived. Associate members shall have no voting rights and are not eligible to be members of the Executive Committee.

**ARTICLE III-**

**ORGANIZATION OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

A. MEMBERSHIP

The Executive Committee shall be composed of the following members who shall be voting members unless otherwise specified:

**1. Committee Members**

- County Chair
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair
- Secretary
- Assistant Secretary
- Treasurer
- Assistant Treasurer
- Chair/Captain of each voting precinct

**2. Ex Officio Members**

The following members shall be considered honorary members *ex officio* of the County Committee and shall not have a vote and shall not be counted for a quorum:

- Republican Representatives from the Elections and Registration Board
- Elected Republican officials residing in Fannin County
- Chair of the Fannin County Republican Women
- Chair of the Fannin County Teenage Republicans
- Previous Chair of FCRP
- Parliamentarian and/or General Counsel

B. MEETINGS

The Executive Committee shall meet *at least* on a quarterly basis.

Notice of regular monthly meeting shall be published in a county newspaper prior to the meeting at least three (3) days in advance of the actual meeting. Should an occasion arise when the regular scheduled meeting cannot be held or an additional meeting is necessary, written notice (if possible) shall be published no later than seven (7) days before the meeting is to be held.

Robert's Rules of Order (*latest edition*) shall govern this organization in all matters of procedure not covered by these Bylaws.

Official findings and recommendations of the Executive Committee, with a quorum present, shall be determined by a majority vote unless specifically required elsewhere requiring a two thirds (2/3) majority.

The Executive Committee shall transact FCRP business in the interim between Mass Meetings/County Conventions, be vested with all duties, powers, and privileges of the Party, shall act as the Party for the membership, and shall be the governing body of said Party, as provided for in these Rules and defined by Georgia Law (O.C.G.A. 21-2-113).

#### C. VOTING PRIVILEGES

All members of the Executive Committee shall be voting members. All members shall have one vote.

#### D. QUORUMS AND PROXIES

##### 1. Quorums

A quorum for the transaction of business for the Executive Committee shall constitute a presence in person or by proxy no less than seven of the following members:

- County Chair
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair
- Secretary
- Assistant Secretary
- Treasurer
- Assistant Treasurer
- Chair/Captain of each voting precinct

While a person may hold more than one position for the purposes of a quorum, no person shall be entitled to more than one vote.

##### 2. Proxies

Proxies acceptable by facsimile or electronic transmission as shown in Addendum (A) attached to these rules shall specify the meeting for which they are given, and shall be assigned by the author. No verbal proxies are permitted. No proxies shall be allowed at the County Convention or Mass Meeting. A committee members' proxy shall be revoked by said member upon his attendance at the committee meeting for which it was given. No member shall hold more than three proxies at any single committee meeting. Each member shall be responsible for submitting his own proxy to the representative of his choice. No member shall submit more than three (3) proxies in lieu of his/her attendance in any consecutive twelve (12) month period. Details regarding the issuance and submittal of proxies are described in Article VII.

#### E. TERM OF OFFICE

Officers shall be elected at the County Convention and shall hold office for a period of two (2) years. The term of office shall begin upon adjournment of the County Convention except for officers elected to fill vacancies, in which case the term begins at the time of election. All terms extend until the convening of the next odd year County Convention unless sooner removed or appointed in accordance with these rules.

#### F. REMOVAL FROM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Individuals may be removed from membership by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Committee in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order (*Newest Edition*) for the following reasons:

1. Public support of any candidate or nominee of an opposition party in a primary, runoff, or general election by a member shall be prima facie evidence of conduct detrimental to the best interests of the Party.

2. Findings by the Executive Committee that said member has acted in such manner to bring discredit upon the Party. This shall include illegal acts, illicit behavior, or public acts that disgrace, discredit, or obstruct the causes of the Party.

Any officer may be removed **for cause** by the Executive Committee, subject to the terms and conditions prescribed herein, by two thirds (2/3) vote of a quorum present at a duly called meeting of the Party, provided that such individual shall be given:

1. Written notice of such meeting sent by certified mail and postmarked at least ten (10) business days in advance thereof, setting forth the grounds for removal.
2. An opportunity to be present at such meeting and to be heard in person and /or by any representative of his/her choice.
3. Any officer removed from their position may appeal the decision of the Executive Committee in accordance with the rules and regulations of the district and state parties to the Ninth District Republican Party Chair.

“Cause” as used herein shall include, but not be limited to, the following reasons:

1. Continued failure to perform his/her duties or participate in the affairs of the Executive Committee.
2. Failure to attend in person or by proxy three (3) consecutive meetings of the Party or three (3) executive committee meetings.
3. Conduct detrimental to the Party (see Article II, Paragraph (2, b). Public support of any candidate or nominee of an opposition party in a primary, runoff, or general election by any member is considered conduct detrimental to the best interests of the Party. Public endorsement or support by a Member of the Executive Committee in their official capacity, of any candidate not endorsed by the Party shall be considered conduct detrimental to the best interests of the Party.
4. Declaration or filing to run for public office shall automatically remove such officer from the Executive Committee.

## G VACANCIES

In the event a vacancy is created in the office of Chair, the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair shall immediately vacate his/her office and become Acting Chair and serve as same with all duties and powers of the County Chair until the next regular or special called FCRP meeting. Unless the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair becomes a candidate for the vacated position, the Acting Chair will automatically return to their former elected position immediately following the election for Chair. If any party officer seeks an unexpired party position, the officer is deemed to have vacated their position, and there must be an election for the vacated seat as well.

The intention to fill the position shall be published at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting. In the event that the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair is unable to discharge their responsibility and assume the position of Chair, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair shall function as outlined above.

In the event a vacancy is created in the office of any other position on the Executive Committee, the Chair shall have the authority to appoint someone to fill that vacancy until a regular election is held for filling such vacancy at the next FCRP regular or special called meeting. The intention to fill such vacancy shall be published at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting.

When any officer vacates their office for any reason, all monies, property, and documents rightly belonging to the Party shall be delivered to the Chair or the Chair's designee within fifteen (15) days.

#### **ARTICLE IV – DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

##### **A. CHAIR**

The County Chair shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Party, shall preside at all meetings thereof, shall have the general supervision of the affairs and the Executive Committee, shall convene County Conventions, and shall be the official spokesperson for the Party. The Chair shall be responsible for providing a place to meet for the Executive Committee, the regular scheduled monthly meetings, and any other special meeting or function of the Party. The Chair shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee. The Chair shall be responsible for the following and additional acts as necessary.

For all meetings, it is the responsibility of the County Chair to ensure a written agenda is provided at each meeting. In addition to appointing a Parliamentarian, the County Chair may appoint special committees and their Chairs as deemed desirable, and may dissolve such committees with approval of the Executive Committee. Appointment to County Boards and Commissions such as the Republican members of the Fannin County Board of Elections shall require approval by a majority of the Executive Committee. The County Chair shall appoint temporary County Convention Committees and their respective Chairs, subject to the approval by a majority of the Executive Committee, not less than twenty (20) days before a County Convention. When the Rules provide that the County Chair shall have the power to appoint, this power does not transfer to the Chair if another officer presides over meetings.

The County Chair shall be responsible for coordinating the FCRP with the State and District Committees. These duties shall include, but are not limited to, coordinating details involved with Mass Meetings and the County Convention.

The County Chair shall be responsible for coordinating all programs for the FCRP.

##### **B. FIRST VICE CHAIR**

The 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair shall preside over all meetings in the absence of the Chair. They shall perform duties and special assignments as requested by the County Chair.

##### **C. SECOND VICE CHAIR**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair shall preside over all meetings in the absence of the County Chair and the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair. Additional duties and special assignments shall also be performed as requested by the County Chair.

##### **D. SECRETARY**

The Secretary shall be the official record keeper of the FCRP. The Secretary shall also perform the following duties:

1. Keep and maintain an accurate record of the proceedings of all official meetings to include an accurate attendance record.
2. Maintain an accurate list of Active Members and list of Associate Members (if available), members of all committees and their functions, and notify members of upcoming meetings, events, and conventions.
3. Be the custodian of Party records, except the Treasurer's records.

4. Provide records to Members upon written request. The Secretary should be allowed reasonable time to comply with the nature of the request. No records shall be released to non-Members, however, without prior approval of the Executive Committee.
5. Perform such other duties as assigned by the County Chair.

#### E. ASSISTANT SECRETARY

In the event that the Secretary is unable to perform a specific assignment or fulfill their responsibilities on a temporary basis, the Assistant Secretary shall perform the duties of Secretary. Additional duties and responsibilities may be assigned by the County Chairman.

#### F. TREASURER

The Treasurer shall be the Chief Financial Officer of the FCRP and shall be the custodian of all financial records of the Party. No financial records or status shall be released to non-Active Members without prior approval by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer shall perform the following duties:

1. Collect all monies due to the FCRP.
2. With the approval of the Executive Committee, is authorized to make payment of all just debts of the FCRP.
3. Records of all collections and expenditures from the FCRP treasury shall be reviewed and signed by the Treasurer. The Treasurer's ledgers, books, and records may be audited by the Executive Committee at any time. A report of all revenues and expenditures shall be made available to all members of the Party when the annual budget is presented at the County Convention.
4. Perform other such duties as assigned by the County Chair.

#### G. ASSISTANT TREASURER

In the event that the Treasurer is unable to perform a specific assignment or fulfill their responsibilities on a temporary basis, the Assistant Secretary shall perform the duties of Secretary. Additional duties and responsibilities may be assigned by the County Chairman.

#### H. PARLIAMENTARIAN / GENERAL COUNSEL

The Parliamentarian shall maintain order during all meetings and functions of the Party. The Parliamentarian shall be responsible for ensuring that all voters are in accordance with the provisions of Article II. The Parliamentarian shall be well versed in the Fannin County Republican Party Rules, the Georgia Republican Party Rules, and *Robert's Rules of Order*. The Parliamentarian shall advise the County Chair and the Executive Committee on these regulatory matters concerning the FCRP. They shall also perform such other duties as may be assigned by the County Chair.

#### G. PRECINCT CHAIR

A Precinct Chair (and Precinct Vice Chair, when applicable) shall be elected by those qualified persons participating in each precinct mass meeting election in accordance with the State Call. Precinct Chairs and Vice Chairs shall reside in their precinct. They shall preside over all meetings and caucuses of their precinct during their term of office. Their primary duties may include:

1. Membership recruitment and development
2. Host precinct meetings
3. Communication from the precinct to the County Party.
4. Voter registration
5. Involving citizens with party activities
6. Implementing Party strategy
7. Supporting Republican candidates
8. Voter turnout
9. Provide names to the County Chair of persons willing to serve in appointed or elected positions on boards or committees, poll watchers, poll workers or to provide sign placement locations.

#### H. ELECTION BOARD MEMBERS

The Election Board Members shall be appointed by the County Chair and approved by a majority vote of the County Executive Committee. Duties of the Election Board Members shall be governed by the State Election Code, State Laws, and the State Election Board. The Election Board Members shall provide the County Chair with a written report of all meetings.

The two (2) Republican members of the Fannin County Board of Registration and Elections shall be elected at the February general meeting of the FCRP on even years, called by the Chair. The Chair shall be responsible for giving advance notice to the members of the FCRP of such meetings, and the notice should be made by publication of the time, the date, the place and the purpose of the meeting in the newspapers of Fannin County that have a general circulation.

The Chairman of the FCRP shall certify the Election of aforesaid members to the governing authority of Fannin County and to the Clerk of the Superior Court of Fannin County in accordance with Georgia Laws 1986 volume 2, NO. 774 at pages 3533-3539. Certification shall be within five (5) days of the aforesaid election of the two (2) members.

#### **ARTICLE V – MASS MEETINGS AND COUNTY CONVENTIONS**

The FCRP shall hold Mass Meetings and County Conventions in accordance with the Georgia Republican Party as outlined in Sections 4 and 5 of the Georgia Republican Party Rules.

#### **ARTICLE VI – CONFLICT OF RULES/SEVERABILITY**

Any rule or section in these rules that conflicts with the Rules of the Georgia Republican Party or the Georgia Election Code is superseded and is thereby void. The remainder of these rules shall not be affected.

#### **ARTICLE VII – AMENDMENTS**

These Rules may be amended or replaced in their entirety as follows:

1. At any County Convention of the Fannin County Republican Party with a majority vote (50% + 1) can modify any existing rule(s); OR

2. At any monthly meeting of the FCRP. The proposed amendment(s) or change(s) must be read at the first monthly meeting. At a subsequent meeting, a second reading must take place. After an opportunity for discussion on the proposed change(s), a two thirds (2/3) vote of eligible voters present can modify any existing rule(s). Prior to the first monthly meeting, Executive Board Members shall be given notice at least ten (10) days prior to the initial meeting setting forth the intention to amend or replace the Rules and details of the proposed amendment(s) or replacement.

Said amendment(s) or replacement(s) shall become effective when adopted and recorded.

*[Addendum A (PROXY) on next page]*

Presented by Rules Committee:

Kevin Harris, Chairman, Bill McDonald, Gina Adams, Nick Wimberley and Lisa Pack  
September 17, 2007

Approved: October 15, 2007



Bill Simonds, Chairman



Elaine Owen, Secretary

*Original Signed copy with Minutes  
October 15, 2007 by Chairman Bill  
Simonds and Secretary Elaine Owen*

**ADDENDUM A**

**PROXY**

STATE OF GEORGIA

COUNTY OF FANNIN

**PROXY**

FANNIN COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENT, THAT I \_\_\_\_\_ do hereby  
constitute and appoint \_\_\_\_\_ my true and lawful attorney to vote at a meeting of  
the \_\_\_\_\_ Committee and to be held on \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
20\_\_\_\_, or at any adjourned meeting thereof, and for me in my name, place and stead to vote upon any  
question that properly may come before such meeting, with all the power that I should possess if personally  
present, hereby revoking all previous proxies.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this \_\_\_\_\_ day of  
\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

WITNESS (OPTIONAL) \_\_\_\_\_