



Charleston County Republican Party

**Executive
Committee and
Precinct Manual**

Paid For By The Charleston County Republican Party
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Revised August 1, 2021

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CCRP Mission Statement

Promote the principles of the Republican Party; to advance those principles through public affairs, and to elect the best Republican candidates to public service in our nation, state and county.

The Republican Creed

I do not choose to be a common man. It is my right to be uncommon.

If I can seek opportunity, not security, I want to take the calculated risk to dream and build, to fail and to succeed.

I refuse to barter incentive for dole.

I prefer the challenges of life to guaranteed security, the thrill of fulfillment to the stale calm of utopia.

I will not trade freedom for beneficence, nor my dignity for a handout.

I will never cower before any master, save my God.

It is my heritage to stand erect, proud and unafraid.

**To think and act for myself, enjoy the benefit of my creations; to face the whole world boldly and say,
"I am a free American."**

June 2021

Introduction

The Charleston County Republican Party Committee Manual is for the use of County Committee leadership, particularly the Chairman, State Executive Committeeman, and other county party officers.

Although this manual should not be regarded as part of the State Party Rules or have the force of the State Party Rules, this Manual is provided for explanatory or advisory purposes.

This manual is designed to help local Republican party leaders understand the structure, operations and responsibilities of the party leadership. In a nutshell, this manual spells out job descriptions for different party positions.

County chairman and local county executive committees occupy a position of great responsibility and authority under our State Party Rules - they are the backbone of the South Carolina Republican Party. We believe local party leaders deserve most of the credits for the South Carolina Republican Party's steady rise to majority status during the past 5 decades.

In addition to this manual, South Carolina Republican leaders should consult other sources, including:

*** Rules of the South Carolina Republican Party.** Governs the structure and operation of the South Carolina Republican party at the county, district and statewide levels. Please see the South Carolina Republican Party website at sc.gop/rules for a copy of the current State Party Rules.

* **Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.** Governs Party operations where the State Party Rules or local bylaws are silent. The chairman should obtain a copy for reference and to further understand the principles of conducting organizational meetings.

* **South Carolina State Election Law.** Broadly governs Party operations and election activity.

County Executive Committee

The County Executive Committee serves an extremely important role in the operation of the party. After all, it is the County Executive Committee that conducts the affairs of the party closest to the “grassroots.”

The County Executive Committee is responsible for the most visible of all organizational and campaign activities: voter registration, membership recruitment, yard signs, phone banks, door-to-door, event hosting, literature drops, GOTV, poll worker and poll watchers recruitment/training, etc.

Structure of the County Executive Committee

The county executive committee consist of one voting representative per organized precinct and the county elected committee officers.

County Committeeman: Each precinct within the county is entitled to one county committeeman on the County Executive Committee. This member is elected at meetings for a 2 year term during precinct reorganization. Precinct members must live within the precinct that they represent (**which means the position is vacated when a member moves to a different precinct**).

Committee Officers: The County Committee is required to have a Chairman, at least one Vice Chairman, State Executive Committeeman, Secretary and Treasurer. The County Chairman, Vice Chairman and State Executive Committeemen are elected at the County Convention for a 2 year term. When a vacancy occurs, the County Executive Committee elects a new County Chairman, Vice Chairman or State Executive Committeeman for the remaining portion of the unexpired term.

The County Executive Committee, through its bylaws establishes the other officers of the committee. The County Executive Committee elects a Secretary and Treasurer at

the first meeting that follows the biennial county convention. When a vacancy occurs in one of these positions the County Executive Committee fills the vacancy for the remaining portion of the term.

Vice Chairman, presides in the absence of the County Chairman.

Secretary, keeps minutes of meetings, maintains the roster of County Executive Committee members and certifies organizational documents (such as delegate lists).

Treasurer, is custodian of the committee funds and has certain responsibilities (under state and federal law) for campaign finance compliance and disclosure.

Voting, County Executive Committeemen are entitled to vote on all matters if they meet any qualifications based on payment of dues.

The County Chairman only votes on the County Executive Committee in case of a tie. The Vice Chairman, and State Executive Committeeman, are entitled to vote on all matters. The other officers, however, are not entitled to vote unless they also represent a precinct on the County Executive Committee as that precinct's executive committeeman.

Operation of the County Executive Committee

County Executive Committee Meetings: The County Chairman presides at all County Executive Committee meetings. The County Executive Committee meets at the call of the chairman, any three committeemen, or by 10% of the committee's membership, whichever is greater, at such time and place as he or they choose, but no meeting can be held without each member of the committee having been given at least 24 hours written notice. The County Executive Committee can also meet and act by telephone conference upon 24 hours written notice. "Written notice" in state party rules is defined as mail by the United States Postal Service, electronic mail, or private mail delivery service.

Parliamentary procedure: County Executive Committee meetings should be conducted in accordance with recognize parliamentary procedure. This protects all members and generally helps move along decisions in an orderly fashion.

Proxies: When a voting member of the County Executive Committee cannot attend a meeting in person, the member is entitled to send a proxy. The holder of the proxy must be someone who is not already a voting member (because no person may cast more than one vote at a meeting). In addition, if the absent member is a county

committeeman, the proxy holder must reside in the same precinct. Proxies are only permitted for Committee meetings. If a county committeeman does not attend scheduled meetings of the county committee and does not appoint a proxy in writing, the precinct president shall be considered an automatic proxy. Requirements for a proper proxy are provided at the end of this document.

Absences: The State Party Rules specify that if a committee member is absent for three (3) consecutive meetings without representation by proxy and without good cause, the member automatically loses their position on the Executive Committee. The purpose of this provision is to enable the committee to fill membership slots with active members. It also helps minimize the chances that a committee cannot meet the quorum requirement and therefore become paralyzed as an organization. It is imperative that the Secretary keep accurate membership rolls and attendance records. The rule on absences does not apply to ex-officio members. Also, County Committeemen are entitled to an opportunity to show good cause for their absences before they are dropped from the committee rolls.

Responsibilities of the County Chairman

The County Chairman is in a unique leadership position with the Republican Party. In many ways, it is the most important party leadership position because of the County Chairman's many responsibilities. It is necessary that the County Chairman, as the representative of the party, be a person who is well spoken and articulate and able to speak intelligently and competently on important issues.

A County Chairman must also ensure that the committee is organized and carrying out its functions; work with other County Chairmen to conduct the affairs of the party at the congressional district and state wide levels; work closely with the SCGOP, fulfill the duties imposed by state law in certifying Party nominees for public office; comply with all state and federal election laws; and finally, communicate and coordinate with Republicans, elected officials, candidates and staff to elect Republicans to public office.

These responsibilities fall into three (3) distinct areas: the requirements of the State Party Rules; state and federal election laws and good management principles.

Chair Meeting: The County Chairman calls for and presides at meetings of the County Executive Committee. The Chairman must issue a written notice at least 24 hours prior to each meeting.

Issue Calls for Meetings and Conventions: The County Chairman, acting at the direction of the County Executive Committee, issues the "call" for meetings and

conventions. With regard to county conventions, the County Executive Committee determines the date, time and place; the County Chairman's role is ministerial.

Preside Initially at County Conventions: At the county convention, the County Chairman calls the convention to order and conducts the election of convention officers (i.e., — the temporary president and temporary secretary). Keep in mind that the convention president may be a different person from the County Chairman (but does not have to be). The convention is a distinct entity, separate and apart from the County Executive Committee, and as such it may elect its own president and secretary. The role of the convention president is simply to preside for the duration of the convention. The convention president has no power or authority (other than to make certifications) following the convention. In contrast, the County Chairman has on-going responsibilities and serves a two (2) year term.

Membership on Other Committees: County Chairs are also welcome to attend State Executive Committee meetings, but do not have a vote, (their State Executive Committeeman for their county is the voting number). Should the State Executive Committeeman not attend a State Executive Committee Meeting, the County Chair holds the automatic proxy vote for that meeting?

Nominations for Public Office: Under both the State Party Rules and South Carolina law, the County Chairman certain functions relating to the nomination candidates. The County Chairman certifies to the State and Local Election Commissions the names of candidates who properly file for the Republican primary (this will be coordinated with the SCGOP).

Voter Lists: Under South Carolina law a County Chairman may purchase a list of registered voters within their county from the State Election Commission. Most County Chairman, however, use the SCGOP's data because that database has added certain information, such as phone numbers and voting history and is paired with consumer data. The State Election Commission's voter list do not contain phone numbers or voting history. **All members of the State Executive Committee must sign a Data Use Agreement in order to obtain access to the GOP Data Center.** The data is owned by the SCGOP and the RNC and is not to be distributed or sold to anyone outside of the SCGOP Executive Committee. Should anyone violate the Data Use Agreement, their access will be revoked and will not be re-issued.

Poll Workers: An ongoing initiative should be recruiting Poll Workers for the local County Election Commission. Poll Workers are paid to work the polls on election day by

the County Election Commission - for additional information or requirements for Poll Workers contact your local County Election Commission or go to SCvotes.org.

Management: Good management principles require that the County Chairman be organized, plan ahead, communicate well and know how to motivate volunteers. After all, the Republican Party is a voluntary association of like-minded individuals. Where differences do exist, the County Chairman should resolve these differences amicably and encourage constructive action. The State Party Rules do not prohibit the County Chairman from taking sides in a nomination or dispute, however, to be an effective leader, the County Chairman should strive to be impartial in most instances and work with all factions or groups within the Party. It is important that the county chair work as a team member with local Republican elected officials and state out of local disputes, as much as possible, rather it is in a public setting or on social media.

Volunteer Activities: The County Chairman is responsible for Within the county, the County Chairman may need to undertake an active candidate recruitment effort as a year-round activity. With the increasing amount of time and money devoted to elections, many potential candidates may not begin preparing — without encouragement — until it is too late to mount a successful campaign against a well organized and well funded it opponent. Candidate recruitment requires considerable time and patience, but it pays off when the Party is victorious on Election Day. The County Chairman should contact the SCGOP if there are any political candidates or if you have any potential candidates that would like to run for office, so that appropriate steps and data can be provided to help the candidate in their decision to run for potential office.

Social Media/Technology: The County Chairman (or their/the County Executive Committee's appointee) is usually responsible for running the county's social media and technology efforts. These include newsletters, Facebook, Twitter, other forms of social media and sending regular email updates to local party members. **DO NOT USE THIS AS A PERSONAL PLATFORM.** There is a difference between stating facts and getting into "social media fights." Unfortunately in this day and age anyone can be sued for any and everything, including posting on social media. The SCGOP will not cover legal expenses related to social media posts and encourages all members to use decorum and common sense when posting. Remember, social media posts are never truly deleted and you are responsible for your own posts. You represent yourself, the county party and the SCGOP when posting content.

Events: The County Chairman (or their/the County Executive Committee's appointee) is usually responsible for organizing official Republican events held within the county. Given South Carolina's "First in the South" Presidential Primary, this is especially important. Events with other conservative auxiliary organizations, community

organizations, etc, are encouraged. It is important to have the county party represented at various community events **throughout the year. Suggestions include but are not limited to; parade floats, festival booths, youth sporting sponsorships, table sponsor for community organization, partner with local non profit organizations / drives , etc. Should you need insurance coverage or help with event promotion, contact the SCGOP for help.**

Endorsements / Third Party. The role of the County Chair and any other elected party leader is to support the Republican ticket (even if you were for another candidate during the Primary). Once the Primary is over and the candidate is decided for the general election, it is the role of the SCGOP and county party to go all in and support the nominee. Publicly supporting a third-party candidate (on social media, financially, word of mouth) is cause for removal from office per SCGOP State Party Rules. Further, it is not the role or decorum of party leaders to publicly attack Republican elected officials. **If you have a disagreement, go to that person privately to resolve the issue, not via social media or mass email.**

General Responsibilities of Party Officers

Party officers are responsible for promoting **all Republican candidates** running for office and for growing the Republican Party in their area. This can be accomplished as follows:

Register new Republican voters. When a new family or person moves into an area, party leaders should talk with them about local politics and if they are Republican, register them to vote. This early outreach to new voters shows the Party is engaged in the community and associates the friendly face of a neighbor with the Party. The SCGOP will provide each county, at different times throughout the year, a list of residents that have just moved into a certain area and need to register to vote. This list should be a proactive way to register and engage with new republican voters. Community festivals and meetings are another way to reach out to new potential voters and get them registered. Voter registration should be an ongoing initiative throughout the year.

Attend party events and fundraising activities. Whether it is attending an annual dinner, summer picnic or fall election rally, these events will be of little value unless they are supported by the “party regulars.” ALWAYS have a sign-in sheet at an event — you want to be able to capture as much information on these attendees as possible (name, address, email, phone number, etc.). This will help you add potential new members / volunteers / donors to the local party. Use every opportunity given to

engage voters and conduct outreach for the party.

Work on Election Day. In this day and age, Election Day is really election month due to early voting. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE to prepare for Election Day and the day leading up. Continuously and year-round, help the SCGOP recruit candidates for each precinct and volunteer to Get-Out-The-Vote on Election Day. There are multiple opportunities to engage on Election Day, often referred to as Election Day Operations. The SCGOP will provide this information as elections get underway.

Organize events. Party leaders should help organize events for the local Republican nominated candidates in the area and introduce them to your neighbors and key residents. Events are a great way to fundraise, recruit volunteers, and garner interest in the party.

Walk door-to-door. Good Party leaders work hand in hand with all Republican candidates and introduce them to their neighbors. This is best done on a precinct by precinct level and can easily be organized using a walk-app that helps to target likely Republican voters.

Act as a surrogate. Party leaders including the County Chairman and State Executive Committeeman should speak on behalf of Republican candidates in the area. Check with local Republican elected officials and other community leaders to get engaged in this process.

Identify new volunteers. Help the SCGOP identify new volunteers from the area who want to get involved and bring them to GOP events.

Develop a newsletter. Weekly emails are a great way to keep constituents up-to-date on issues and party events (local & national).

Stay informed about the candidates and the issues. This helps to enhance discussion with voters in the area.

Lead the GOTV effort. Organize or take part during campaign season in an organized door-to-door and phone calling effort to Get-Out-The-Vote in your area. The success of turning Out republican voters for our candidates rely on the success of your network built as a county party leader working year round.

Standing and Ad-hoc Committees

- * **Communications**
- * **Precinct Development & GOTV**
- * **Education**
- * **Parliamentarian**
- * **Poll Officials & Observers**
- * **Book Club**
- * **Outreach**
- * **Events & Fundraising**
- * **New Membership & Welcoming**
- * **Bylaws**
- * **Data Management**
- * **Training**
- * **Election Integrity Committee**

PROXY

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, that guy, of, do hereby

constitute and appoint to vote _____

As my proxy at a meeting of the Republican Executive Committee on the day _____ 20__ or at any adjourned meeting thereof and for me and in my name, place and stead to vote upon any question that may properly come before such meeting, with all the power I should possess personally present, here by revoking all previous proxies.

State Party Rule 8 States that in order to be a valid, a proxy must be in writing (written letter or electronic communication) that is dated, signed by

the author or (apparent with electronic media who the sender is), give the full name and address of the person designated as proxy and specify the specific meeting for which the proxy is given. A duly executed copy of the proxy shall be given to the chairman or secretary of the group, committee or meeting at which the proxy attends.



2021 SCGOP Precinct Reorganization Guide

Descriptions of Precinct Officers

President

- Sets meetings for precincts
- Presides at precinct meetings
- Arranges for precinct reorganization
- Attends County Executive Committee meetings

County Executive Committeeman

- Votes on behalf of the precinct at County Executive Committee meetings
- Maintains contact with and reports to the precinct members when appropriate
- Must be willing to attend County Executive Committee meeting on a monthly basis

Secretary

- Keeps meeting records/minutes
- Keeps list of precinct members
- Maintains contact with and reports to the precinct when appropriate

Treasurer

- Receives, disburses and accounts for funds generated by the precinct

Vice-President

- Fills in for President when necessary

Delegate to County Convention

- Attends County Convention and any subsequent meetings in order to vote on business matters related to County Convention and District Convention.

Notes

Suggested Guidelines for Conducting Precinct Elections

1. When organized, a permanent precinct president, one or more vice presidents, a secretary, a treasurer and a county committeeman to the county executive committee may be elected.
2. One person may not hold more than one office unless there are fewer than five (5) people present at the meeting.
3. When conducting elections for Delegates/ Alternates to the County Convention, follow the same procedure for officer elections. The number of Delegates from each precinct that are allotted to the County Convention will be on the outside of the Precinct packet. An equal number of alternates may also be elected (State Party Rule 4-c-5).
4. Precinct officers do not assume the duties of their office until after the County Convention (State Party Rule 4-c-4).
5. Once the elections have been held, each attendee must complete the bottom portion of Form 1 and return it to the Precinct President.
6. The Precinct President must turn in completed Form 1s and the Form 2 to the County Party Chairman no later than five (5) days following the precinct meeting (State Party Rule 4-c-5).
7. A certified list of precinct members, precinct officers, and delegates/alternates shall be forwarded to the State Party Chairman by the County Chairman no later than seven (7) days following the Precinct Meeting (State Party Rule 4-c-5).

THE RULES of the SOUTH CAROLINA REPUBLICAN PARTY

**AS ADOPTED BY THE 1962 South Carolina Republican Party
State Convention**

South Carolina Republican Party Rules

RULE 4

PRECINCT ORGANIZATION

(a) Initial Organization

(1) Initial organization of a precinct in a county that does not have a county organization that is recognized by the State Executive Committee shall be in accordance with such instructions and procedures as the State Chairman shall direct. Such initial organization may be accomplished at any time in the manner as hereinafter stated.

(2) Initial organization of a precinct in a county that has a county party organization, which is recognized by the State Executive Committee, shall be under the direction of the County Chairman, their designee, State Chairman or other Party official designated by the State Chairman upon noncompliance or refusal by County Chairman. Precincts undergoing initial organization that did not go through reorganization may be organized at any time and shall be immediately recognized by the County Executive Committee without a make-up meeting.

(b) Reorganization

(1) Organized precincts shall meet during the month of March at an appropriate place within the county at a time and day set by the County Executive Committee of each non-general election year, or at such other time and date as may be required by law for reorganization.

(2) Only those precincts previously certified or recognized as duly organized shall conduct reorganizational meetings.

(c) Proceedings

In all organization and reorganization meetings of precinct, business may be conducted as follows:

(1) The meeting shall be called to order by the precinct president or vice-president, if the president is not present, in an organized precinct. In an unorganized precinct, the meeting shall be called to order by such person as may have been designated by the county chairman (or State Chairman, if applicable) to arrange the meeting, and if none, then by some person in attendance who is eligible for membership in the precinct. See Rule 4(c) (3) for eligibility requirements.

(2) A temporary president, a temporary secretary, and a committee on credentials for the purpose of organizing or reorganizing shall be elected.

(3) The credentials committee shall report the names of those in attendance who are eligible for membership and who have signed the membership roll, verifying that each member is in fact eligible for membership. Membership eligibility is determined by the member having a current, valid voter registration certificate in that precinct, and either (1) the person having voted in the election designated for the purposes of delegate allocation set forth in Rule 4(c)(5) or (2) the person being elected to membership at a precinct meeting.

(4) When organized, a permanent president, one or more vice-presidents, a secretary, a treasurer, and a county committeeman to the county executive committee (a minimum of five (5) officers) may be elected. One person may not hold more than one office unless there are fewer than five people present at the meeting. Such committees as may be desired may be created. Precinct officers do not assume the duties of their office until after the county convention set forth in Rule 5(b) has been held, unless they are elected from a precinct not organized during the month of March under regular precinct reorganization.

(5) Delegates and alternates to the county convention shall be elected from among the members of the precinct in attendance and/or those whose membership is set forth in the poll list of the preceding primary election and/or those who are absent from the reorganization meeting but who have submitted the properly signed forms. In situations where there are more members present wishing to run for county delegate than delegate positions available (or those who have submitted proper paperwork), a vote shall be taken with each present eligible member having as many votes to cast as delegate positions available. No member absent from the meeting may cast a vote, but they may be voted for and considered a candidate. In the case of fewer members present than delegate slots allotted, all members shall become delegates. A list of the candidates shall be arranged in the order of the number of votes received by them, with the candidate receiving the greatest number ranked first, and candidates with fewer votes ranked in descending order of the number of votes received by each in succession. The number of votes received by each candidate also shall be shown on said list. In the case of a tie, the position of the tying candidates on the list shall be determined by drawing lots. Those candidates with the most votes will be delegates, and the rest will be alternates in descending order of the total number of votes received. Delegates and alternates are not required to be in attendance at the precinct meeting. Each precinct shall have one delegate for every twenty-five (25) members and major fraction thereof, based upon the number of votes polled in the first primary of the preceding general election year or based upon the number of votes for presidential electors at the last preceding general election thereof

from the precinct as determined by the State Executive Committee; or if the last preceding nominations were by convention, the representation shall be based upon the number of votes for presidential electors at the last preceding general election therefore from the precinct (7-9-70). All precinct representation shall be based on the same election. An equal number of alternates may also be elected. The precinct secretary and precinct president shall certify the names of precinct members, precinct officers and delegates and alternates, along with their own certifications, to the county chairman no later than five (5) days following the initial precinct meeting. Vacancies in any precinct delegation at any County

Convention or reconvened convention shall be filled from among the alternate delegates present. No delegate or alternate shall be elected by the precinct less than five (5) days before the County Convention. A certified list of precinct members, precinct officers and delegates and alternates shall be forwarded to the State Chairman by the county chairman no later than seven (7) days following the initial meeting, and no later than three (3) days after a make-up meeting. The county chairman shall make the certified list of delegates and alternates to the county convention available to any delegate, alternate or precinct officer no later than three (3) days after a make-up meeting. Such certified lists shall contain all contact information known to the county party. Upon receipt of the lists from the precinct, the county chairman shall promptly notify the precinct president of any irregularities found therein, and conversely, the precinct president shall be informed if the lists are in order.

(6) Except for organization and reorganization meetings, the president or five (5) members may call special meetings of the precinct at any time by giving at least forty-eight (48) hours public notice.

(7) If federal or state actions result in the creation of new precincts, consolidation of precincts or redrawing of precinct lines that cause duly elected precinct officers and delegates to no longer reside within their original precinct, the offices of the affected officers and delegates shall be declared vacant. The County executive committee shall set a date within forty-five (45) days of such action for a special precinct reorganization meeting for those precincts affected. The meeting shall be held in one location within the county and under the direction of the county chairman, their designee, the State Chairman or other Party official designated by the State Chairman upon noncompliance or refusal by County Chairman.

(8) The County chairman shall also set a date no later than five days prior to the county convention for precincts to meet, referred to as a make-up meeting, that have failed to organize or re-organize or that need to conduct further business, including the ability of precincts to fulfill their delegate allotment to the mail by

the county chairman and given opportunity to show cause before the County Executive Committee why he should not be removed from office.

(4) County convention. The make-up meeting for all precincts shall be held in one central location in the county and shall be properly advertised.

(d) Resignations, vacancies

(1) Resignations by any officer shall be submitted to the president and secretary. The County committeeman shall submit his resignation to the county chairman also. The precinct shall fill all vacancies in its elective offices, including county committeeman. If an elected officer or committeeman becomes disabled and cannot act or serve, or if he abandons his office by refusing to serve, he shall be notified in writing by the county executive committee, upon concurrence of a majority of the entire executive committee, that his office will be declared vacant, effective thirty (30) days from the date of notice, unless the person gives earlier notice of his resignation or unless, within that time, he resumes the full duties of his office or furnishes a reason acceptable to the county executive committee as to why his office should not be declared vacant.

(2) A vacancy shall occur immediately if any elected officer or executive committeeman moves his legal residence outside the geographical area his office encompasses, and such vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of the Rules. Should any officer or delegate publicly endorse or financially support a candidate for partisan office other than a duly nominated Republican candidate, unless there is no Republican nominee in the relevant race, they shall immediately vacate their Republican Party office. The State Executive Committee may waive this provision in statewide and multi-county elections, and the county executive committees may waive this provision for their county and less-than-county elections.

(3) Additionally, any County Executive Committee may declare vacant the office of any member of the County Executive Committee who is absent from three (3) consecutive County Executive Committee meetings without good cause when such committeeman has not been represented by a designated proxy or by the precinct president in attendance in his place. Provided, however, before such committeeman's office shall have been declared vacant, he shall be notified by certified mail. Should a vacancy occur in the office of a County Executive Committeeman or Precinct Chairman, and if there be no other members or officers of the precinct, the precinct shall become unorganized. Upon notice by the

Executive Committee and at the discretion of the County Chairman that there is someone interested in re-organizing the precinct, it shall become organized pursuant to Rule 4(a).

(5) A vacancy shall occur as covered in Rule 15.

(6) A precinct meeting may be called by the precinct president or five other precinct members for the purpose of filling a vacancy among its officers, but such meetings require 48 hours written notice to all precinct members. For the purposes of these rules, unless otherwise specified, "Written notice" shall be defined as mail by the United States Postal Service, electronic mail, or private mail delivery service.

(7) The precinct secretary shall keep a current roll have members, removing names as a result of death, transfer, resignation, request, etc., New precinct members may be added as indicated by state party rules.

RULE 5

COUNTY ORGANIZATION

(a) Initial Organization

(1) Initial organization of a county organization in a county not having a county party organization which is recognized by the State Executive Committee shall be in accordance with instructions and procedures as the State Chairman may direct. Such counties may be organized at any time.

(b) County Convention

(1) In every non-general election year, the County Convention shall be called by the County Executive Committee in each county having an organization recognized by the State Executive Committee. The convention shall be held during the month of April, no less than 14 days following precinct reorganization meetings, and the specific date, time and location of the convention shall be set by the County Executive Committee. A notice shall be caused to be published by the County Executive Committee once a week for two consecutive weeks, not more than three nor less than two weeks before the actual day of the convention in a

newspaper having general circulation in the county. The list of delegates certified by the president and secretary of each precinct shall constitute the temporary roll of the County Convention (7-9-70).

(c) Convention Proceedings

In all county conventions, business shall be conducted as follows:

(1) The meeting shall be called to order by the county chairman, or vice-chairman if the chairman is not present. (7-9-80)

(2) A temporary convention president, a temporary secretary and a committee on credentials for the purpose of organizing shall be elected. (7-9-80)

(3) The credentials committee shall make its report to the county convention body; and any appeals regarding the credentials committee's report shall be made by way of amendment to the county convention (7-9-80). Further appeals may be made to the State Executive Committee at its next meeting thereafter, and if necessary, to the next regular state convention meeting.

(4) When organized, a permanent convention president, secretary, and treasurer shall be elected. It shall also elect the county chairman, county vice-chairman (preferably of the opposite sex), a state executive committeeman, (7-9-80), and other such officers as the convention deems necessary, who shall serve for a term of two (2) years or until their successors are elected

(5) It shall also elect delegates to the district and State Convention. One delegate shall be elected for each six thousand residents in the county or majority fraction thereof, according to the latest official United States Census, plus two additional delegates. Double the number of delegates may be elected in which case each delegate shall have one-half vote. An equal number of alternates may also be elected (7-9-80). Should the county convention desire to designate the order of alternates who might fill vacancies, it may do so. Where no order of alternates is designated, the order in which the names are submitted to the state party shall be deemed the order of succession. The convention shall designate one of its delegates as a member of the state credentials committee.

(6) If a county is divided between two or more congressional districts, the number of state convention delegates to which such county shall be entitled shall be apportioned among the district as nearly as possible based on the population residing in each congressional district as a percentage of the entire population of the county at the last decennial census. Each State Convention delegate elected to attend a Congressional District Convention shall be a resident of the congressional

district the person is elected to represent and shall be elected only by those County Convention delegates who are residents of the same congressional district.

(7) A list certified by the convention secretary and signed by the convention president and/or county chairman, of all officers, delegates, and alternates elected by the county convention shall be forwarded by the county chairman or convention secretary to the State Chairman and a copy to the district chairman not later than five (5) days following the county convention. Such list also shall include the name of the delegate chosen to serve on the credentials committee.

(8) The county convention shall be recessed in non-general election years and may be reconvened in the following general election year, during the month set by the state committee, to conduct such business, as it deems advisable, including nomination of candidates.

(d) County Executive Committee

(1) The precincts in each county shall be held together and operated under the control of a County Executive Committee, which shall consist of one (1) committeeman from each precinct elected by the precinct. The County executive committee, when elected, shall by majority vote elect its own officers, except those who were elected by the county convention per party rules. Appointed officers need not be executive committeemen. An officer of the County Executive Committee who is not an executive committeeman shall not be entitled to vote on any question. The county chairman may vote only in case of a tie vote.

(2) The state executive committeeman from the county shall also be an officer of the County Executive Committee and shall be entitled to vote on any question..Of the county convention in each non-general election year.

(3) The tenure of office of the county committeeman shall be until the convening
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South Carolina Republican Party Rules Of the county convention in each non-general election year.

(4) The secretary of the County Executive Committee shall keep such record of the committee's meetings as the committee may direct. Any written record that is kept shall be in duplicate, one copy for the chairman and one copy to be retained by the secretary.

(5) The County Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the chairman, any three committeemen, or by ten percent of the Committee's membership, whichever is greater, at such time and place as he or they shall appoint, but no meeting shall be held without each member of the committee having been given at least twenty-four (24) hours written notice thereof. The County Executive Committee may also meet and act by telephone conference upon twenty-four (24) hours written notice. For the purposes of these rules, unless otherwise specified, "Written notice" shall be defined as mail by the United States Postal Service, electronic mail, or private mail delivery service.

(e) Resignations, vacancies

(1) Resignation by any officer shall be submitted in writing to the county chairman and county secretary. Resignation by a county executive committeeman shall also be to the president and secretary of this precinct. Resignation by the state executive committeeman shall be to the county chairman, county secretary and State Chairman and State Secretary.

(2) The County Executive Committee may remove any appointed officer at any time. It may fill any vacancies among its appointed officers.

(3) Should the office of the county chairman, county vice-chairman or State Executive Committeeman become vacant, the County Executive Committee shall fill the vacancy by electing a chairman, vice-chairman or Executive Committeeman, respectively, for the unexpired term. Vacancy in the office of county chairman shall not cause the vice-chairman to succeed to the office of chairman unless elected thereto by the County Executive Committee. Vacancies in these offices that are filled by the County Executive Committee will not cause such officers to be "appointed" officers by the committee, but the same as if elected by the County Convention.

(4) If an elected officer or committeeman becomes disabled and cannot act or serve, or if he abandons his office by refusing to serve, he shall be notified in writing by the county executive committee, upon concurrence of a majority of the entire executive committee, that his office will be declared vacant, effective thirty (30) days from the date of the notice, unless the person gives earlier notice of his resignation or unless, within that time, he resumes the full duties of his office or furnishes a reason acceptable to the county executive committee as to why his office should not be declared vacant.

(5) Additionally, any County Executive Committee may declare vacant the office of any member of the County Executive Committee who is absent from three (3)

consecutive County Executive Committee meetings without good cause when such committeeman has not been represented by a designated proxy (8c) or by the precinct president in a attendance in his place.

Provided, however, before such committeeman's office shall have been declared vacant, he shall be notified by certified mail by the county chairman and given opportunity to show cause before the County Executive Committee why he should not be removed from office. Should any officer or delegate publicly endorse or financially support a candidate for partisan office other than a duly nominated Republican candidate, unless there is no Republican nominee in the relevant race, they shall immediately vacate their Republican Party office. The State Executive Committee may waive this provision in statewide and multi-county elections, and the county executive committees may waive this provision for their county and less-than-county elections.

(6) A vacancy shall occur immediately if any elected officer or county executive committee moves his residence outside the geographical area his offices encompasses, and such vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of these Rules.

(7) A vacancy shall occur as covered under Rule 15.