

BENTON COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY BYLAWS

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of the committee shall be the Benton County Democratic Party.

ARTICLE II. OBJECT

The object of this organization shall be to promote the ideals and principles of the Democratic Party and to aid in the election of Democrat nominees for public office.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

All residents of Benton County, regardless of race, creed, age, or sex are eligible to become members of the Benton County Democratic Party.

ARTICLE IV. POWERS & RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 1. The government and direction of the affairs of the Benton County Democratic Party are vested in this organization, subject to the bylaws of the State of Tennessee and the rules of the Tennessee Democratic Executive Committee.

Section 2. Among the responsibilities of the Party are:

- A. The officers and Executive Committee members and members of this organization shall support the nominees of the Democratic Party.
- B. The officers and Executive Committee members shall plan and conduct all county meetings and conventions.
- C. Records shall be kept of all Party meetings and business. A complete list of all officers and Executive Committee members shall be forwarded to the Chairman of the Tennessee Democratic Party within ten days of an election.
- D. The officers and Executive Committee members shall constitute the voting membership of the Benton County Democratic Party.

ARTICLE V. OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of Benton County Democratic Party shall be Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer, all of whom shall be elected by the Benton County Democratic Committee for a two-year term, or until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

Section 2. The officers shall be elected by a simple majority of the Benton County Democratic Executive Committee at a well-publicized meeting called for the purpose of electing officers. In the event a majority prevails with the low-vote-getter being dropped from the next ballot.

Section 3. The officers shall be elected in April of odd-numbered years.

ARTICLE VI. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 1. The Benton County Democratic Executive Committee shall be elected from the county Commission Districts and shall consist of one (1) man and one (1) woman, and one (1) at-large without regard to gender from each county commission district for a term of two (2) years.

Section 2. The Executive Committee members shall be elected at a county convention called for the purpose of electing Executive Committee members. Among the provisions for the convention are:

1. The convention shall be well-publicized in the local media, i.e., Fourteen-days notice must be given;
2. All voting age residents of Benton County who can attest that they are bona fide Democrats are eligible to vote at the convention and to be a candidate for the Executive Committee;
3. Separate elections will be held for each Executive Committee position;
4. A plurality shall prevail for each election. In the case of a tie, a run-off between those tied shall be held to decide the winner;
5. Method of voting shall be decided by the convention before balloting begins;
6. After the convention is convened, the Chair shall call for nominations for each Executive Committee position. After the nominations cease, the ballot is closed and the elections shall commence.

Section 3. Vacancies shall be filled by the Executive Committee at the next regular meeting.

Section 4. Any member that misses three(3) consecutive meeting unexcused will be replace on the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VII. MEETINGS

Section 1. Regular meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held four times a year, in January, April, July, and October, or when called by the Chair or one-third of the Executive Committee members.

Section 2. A quorum for the transaction of business shall be one more than half the membership.

Section 3. Neither proxies nor voting -by-the-unit rule shall be allowed at any meeting of the Executive Committee.

Section 4. Vacancies shall be filled by the Chair from each district, if possible. If no person is available to serve from the district, then the Chair shall fill the vacancy from the membership at large without regard to gender and appointment to the Executive Committee shall be ratified at the next regular meeting of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VIII. COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Chair may establish committees, as it deems appropriate for this committee.

ARTICLE IX. RESOLUTIONS

Section 1. All proposed resolutions must be submitted to the Chair at least one (1) week prior to a meeting. Emergency resolutions may be brought before the body by consent of two-thirds majority of those present.

ARTICLE X. PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

Section 1. The current edition of Roberts Rules of Order, Newly-Revised shall govern this organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the bylaws and any special rules of order which may be adopted.

ARTICLE XI. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. The Bylaws may be amended or substituted by a two-thirds vote of the total membership of the Executive Committee at any meeting of this organization called for the purpose of amending these Bylaws.