

Bylaw Proposals

(additions are underlined, removals ~~strikethrough~~)

Bylaw Proposal 1

Submitted by Geoff Cox, Cache GOP Chair

ARTICLE 1. THE COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE

The Republican Party Central Committee of Cache County, Utah, hereinafter referred to as the "Central Committee," shall consist of all

Voting Precinct Chairs, Vice Chairs, Treasurers, and Secretaries elected at the most recent Republican Party Caucuses (mass meetings) held in their respective Precincts, the

duly elected or appointed members of the Executive Committee listed in Article 5 below, the

District Vice Chairs, the

members of the State Central Committee, the

Cache County Republican Women's Chair, the

Utah State University College Republicans Chair, the

Cache County Teenage Republicans Chair, the

Cache County Republican Veterans Caucus Chair, ~~and~~ the

elected Presidents or Chairs of official party Auxiliaries, and the

elected Republican state and county officials representing or residing in Cache County.

The Central Committee shall govern the affairs of the Republican Party in Cache County and shall exercise those powers conferred by the Utah Republican Party Constitution and by these By- laws.

Discussion: I introduced a bylaw change at the last Central Committee Meeting to convert the District Vice Chairs into co-District Chairs. The objection in the meeting was that this would make the Executive Committee too large. This proposal provides the DVC's voting rights on the Central Committee but leaves their status on the Executive Committee unchanged. I believe the DVC's should have voting rights as any Central Committee Member in recognition of their hard work and familiarity with the issues of the party. Also, the elected members of the State Central Committee should also be members of the County Central Committee. The Auxiliary Chairs should be members of the Central Committee or there is no reason to apply to be an official Auxiliary.

Bylaw Proposal 2

Submitted by Geoff Cox, Cache GOP Chair

There is a conflict with 8A and 8C that cannot coexist. This update solves the conflict and provides a mechanism to ensure no delegate position is unrepresented at conventions.

Delete 8C:

~~**(8C) Any absence in an ex officio delegate position shall be filled by the Executive Committee, which shall select a substitute from among the District Vice Chairs.**~~

Append 8A with the following:

(8A) Any absence caused by the inability of any duly elected county, state or ex officio delegate to attend a County or State Republican Party Convention or Special Election, shall be filled by the respective precinct Chair, who shall select a substitute from the voting precinct in which the absence occurs from among the alternate delegates elected at the precinct caucus in elected rank order. **If an absence of an ex-officio delegate cannot be filled by a precinct chair after contacting every alternate delegate per 8A, the Precinct Chair may request the Executive Committee fill the absence by selecting a substitute from among the District Vice Chairs.**

Bylaw Proposal 3

Submitted by Natalie Levi, Cache GOP Vice Chair

2C Email **and texting are** **is** the official **communication** mediums of the Cache GOP.

Discussion: Party leadership is concerned that email is losing its effectiveness as a communication medium and would like to add texting as an option. Sending 3000 texts costs \$0.029 each = \$100. We have about 300 precinct leaders, 500 county delegates, 140 state delegates. We also have 4000 contacts from Caucus registration.

Bylaw Proposal 4

Submitted by Natalie Levi, Cache GOP Vice Chair

3B Party Property belongs to the county party and will be transferred to the new officers within 48 hours of their election. Party Property includes: All contacts, calendars, emails, login IDs, passwords of party cloud drives, accounts, bank accounts, Treasury bookkeeping and accounting records, IRS and State, organizational documents, correspondence, determination letters, as well as any other party assets used during the function and operations of the party as well as items purchased by the party.

Discussion: To ensure a smooth transition to the next set of party leaders, this bylaw requires the outgoing leadership to transfer party assets and information quickly.

Bylaw Proposal 5

Submitted by Layne Beck, Smithfield 8 Secretary

(5A4) At the County Organizing Convention (odd-numbered years), the Central Committee members, along with the elected county delegates, shall divide themselves into separate caucuses for each of the County Council Districts within the County and shall each elect by majority vote a County Council District Chair to the Executive Committee.

The duly elected County Council District Chairs shall, ~~with approval from the Executive Committee~~, appoint a County Council District Vice-Chair, and shall act as representatives of their respective County Council Districts on the Executive Committee. They shall be seated immediately after election and shall serve through the next county organizing convention.

Logic and reason for this change:

When the party moved to elect County Council District Chairs over Legislative district chairs the decision was made by this body to allow the Elected Council District Chairs to choose who they would like to work with as the District Vice Chair without election.

We should either go back to the delegates electing the Vice Chairs or allow the Council District Chairs to appoint the vice chair. We have a difficult time getting people to run for the District Chair positions. It makes sense to have these district chairs appointed without the unnecessary step of the Executive Committee approval. This action will accommodate the intent of the change to Council District Chairs vs Legislative District Chairs..

Sponsor:

Layne Beck, Smithfield 8 Secretary

Co-Sponsors:

Kim Hamblin Northeast District Vice Chair

Jana Atkinson Northeast District Chair

Bylaw Proposal 6

Submitted by Layne Beck, Smithfield 8 Secretary

(6A) NUMBERS OF DELEGATES. The total number of delegates to the county convention shall be no less than five hundred (500). The total number of state delegates allowed from each county is determined by the State Party. **All State Party Delegates shall be allocated to the precincts to be elected at precinct caucus meetings in compliance with State Party Constitution Article XII Section 1(A).**

(6B5) Ex Officio Delegates: The County Executive Committee voting members, members of the State Republican Central Committee who represent Cache County, and Republican State and Cache County elected officials who reside in Cache County shall have ex officio delegate status to the county ~~and state~~ conventions, if they so desire. ~~Ex officio delegates to the state convention are subject to ratification by the county nominating convention.~~

Voting precinct chair and Auxiliary Chairs/Presidents shall have ex officio delegate status to the county nominating convention. Precinct Officers and Auxiliary Chairs/Presidents shall have ex officio delegate status to the county organizing convention. Ex officio delegate status shall go with the office, not with the person. Ex officio delegates are in addition to the delegate allocation determined above (6B2).

For your Reference:

ARTICLE XII (State Party Constitution) [https://utgop.org/governing-documents/CAUCUS AND CONVENTION PROCEDURES](https://utgop.org/governing-documents/CAUCUS_AND_CONVENTION_PROCEDURES)

Section 1. Precinct Caucuses

A. Precinct Caucuses shall be held in each even-numbered year. The State Central Committee shall designate the date thereof at least eight weeks prior to the caucuses. The County Party shall designate the locations. *The County Party shall designate, based upon the relative Republican strength of each precinct, the number of delegates to be elected in each individual caucus meeting.*

Relative Republican strength shall be calculated by aggregating the total combined county Republican votes cast at the previous election for Governor/Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, State Auditor, and State Treasurer, excluding the vote for any candidate who had no opposition. *Each precinct's portion of the aggregate vote shall be calculated on a strict percentage basis, without rounding.* The County Party shall give notice of each individual caucus meeting by notifying the local news media and requiring three notices to be posted in the precinct. Each individual caucus shall be open to any Utah citizen who resides in the precinct, who will be at least 18 by the time of that year's general election. The State Party, through its Bylaws, may restrict participation and voting in the precinct caucuses based on party affiliation. The caucus shall convene at 7:00 Utah Republican Constitution (as amended on 05-01-2021)

Logic and reason for this change:

Almost every election cycle Cache County's state delegates have had credential challenges because of this practice of political grift of allocating state delegate status to County and State elected officials and County Party Officers. Over the 35+ years I have been attending state conventions Cache County has given State Delegate Status to as many as 30% of our State Convention Delegation.

While we can appreciate the work these individuals do in their respective roles, and I do. Ask yourself these questions: 1.) Why should we not elect all of our State Delegates at the precinct level? 2.) Why should elected officials and party officers be awarded State Delegate status by virtue of being elected to a different position?

Please read Article XII Section A. of the State Party Constitution. (Included above)

"The County Party shall designate, based upon the relative Republican strength of each precinct, the number of delegates to be elected in each individual caucus meeting. "

Cache County Republican Party should bring our bylaws into compliance with the Utah Republican Party Constitution. End the long time practice of political grift by adopting this amendment.

Sponsor:

Layne Beck, Smithfield 8 Secretary

Co-Sponsors:

Jana Atkinson, Northeast District Chair
Kim Hamblin, Northeast District Vice Chair

Response By Geoff Cox: Layne suggests that Article XII Section A does not allow County Parties to allocate State Delegates to county party officials or elected officials. However, Article VII of the State Party Constitution states:

ARTICLE VII, COUNTY PARTIES. A. Constitution and Bylaws. **Each County Party shall, by its central committee or its convention, adopt a Constitution and/or Bylaws, which shall govern its procedures, including the selection of those party officers, delegates,** and representatives who represent only that county or its parts. Any provision of those documents that is contrary to state law or to a specific provision of this Constitution is null and void.

3. The governing documents of a County Party applicable to the **choosing of state delegates** shall be those on file with the State Party 30 days prior to the voting precinct caucuses.

If the State Constitution Article XII,1,A is sufficient in defining how delegates are allocated, then why does Article VII A,3 give the county parties authority to govern the selection and choosing of state delegates? There would be no reason to file a document with the State GOP regarding the county's method of choosing of state delegates if the interpretation of Article XII 1,A is correct. Therefore, Cache County Bylaws currently comply with both Article VII and XII of the State GOP Constitution. Utah County does not allow ex officio state delegates, but Salt Lake County does.

Response By Clair Ellis: Please vote No on **Bylaw Proposal 6**, sponsored by Layne Beck. This is a repeat of a proposal that has been debated and voted down by the county party several times over the years. The proposal would end ex officio (automatic) state delegate status for our county party officers and Republican elected officials.

Here are the reasons this proposal was rejected every other time.

1. The claim that our county party rule about ex officio delegates violates the state party constitution is not true. That constitution specifically recognizes county party authority to choose its representatives, including delegates, according to its own rules. The proposal sponsors didn't mention this provision, which was added specifically to settle the delegate allocation issue. (I was on the state party committee that wrote it and it was approved by members on both sides of the delegate issue.) Prior to this provision, some county parties were not following their own rules in allocating delegates. This provision helped end that.

" Each County Party shall, by its central committee or its convention, adopt a Constitution and/or Bylaws, which shall govern its procedures, including the selection of those party officers, delegates, and representatives who represent

only that county or its parts. Any provision of those documents that is contrary to state law or to a specific provision of this Constitution is null and void." Article VII

2. The claim that ex officio delegates violates the state party constitution Article XII is not true. The sponsors are correct that a few delegates from other counties, such as Mike Ridgway, have challenged ex officio delegates, but not for several years, and those old challenges were overwhelmingly rejected by votes of the state convention each time. Ridgway and company even sued the state party over the issue, but the court didn't even take up the case after most of Ridgway's co-plaintiffs withdrew their names from the lawsuit. Article XII allows a county to "designate" any number of its state delegates to be elected by precincts and requires that those delegates be allocated by the "strength formula", but does not require a county to designate that all its delegates or even any of them be elected by precincts. (When this provision was adopted decades ago, precincts only nominated state delegates and they had to be elected at county conventions.)

3. Proposals have been made to the state convention several times over the years to specifically require all state delegate positions to be elected by precincts and the state delegates have voted it down every time. Those proposals would not be needed if the party constitution already required that all delegates be elected by precincts.

4. Given this history, the bylaw sponsors' claim that the county party is "grifting" in choosing its delegates is simply slander and should never have been said. The Cache Republican Party has carefully followed its duly adopted rules and our delegates have always been credentialed by the state party.

5. Cache County's ex officio delegate provision has served the county party well. Relationships between the party and Republican elected officials in Cache have been constructive and productive. I especially appreciated those relationships when I was county party chair twenty years ago and it's still true. The officials need the party and the party needs its elected officials. We shouldn't be at odds. Likewise for party officers who often administer precinct caucuses and cannot attend their own caucus. Selecting these handfuls of party workers as a small portion of our total state delegation is a good party building strategy. Counties like Utah County that booted its elected officials from delegate positions in 2012 have had contentious relationships ever since.

6. Ex officio delegates are often the most experienced and skilled representatives for our small county at the state convention. They magnify Cache's influence among the larger county delegations. This is a personal preference, but I would rather be represented at state convention by Chris and Kiersten Wilson and Casey Snider, or by our county party officers, who were chosen by Republicans in the entire county, than two additional people I don't know who are elected or appointed by some random precincts.

7. The state party's "Republican strength" delegate allocation formula that this bylaw proposal relies on is badly flawed and far from a "gold standard" for allocating delegates. It is based on a precinct's votes for Governor and three other statewide officials, including votes by Democrats and non-Republicans, and not on the number of Republicans living in the precinct. Since those votes happen only every four years, the formula can't even be used if precinct boundaries change in the meantime, so party officials have to just guess at the allocation. It is far from pure.

8. The "Republican strength" formula does not give a precinct any benefit from getting one of its members elected to a party or a public office, as does the current ex officio rule. There is no better indicator of a precinct's success in Republican strength than getting one of its own elected to office. Our current rule adds the elected official to that precinct's delegate allocation. If this bylaw proposal is adopted, those precincts would be punished and other party members in that precinct would have to run against those officials to become state delegates.

Bylaw Proposal 7

Submitted by John Powell, Wellsville 1 Precinct Chair

Append 8A with the following:

When the number of elected delegates is less than the qualified number, empty positions may be filled with alternate delegates.

Discussion: If a precinct does not elect the total number of allocated delegates, alternate can be used to ensure precinct is fully represented. This directly impacted our precinct this past spring at the County Convention.