

CONTINUING BYLAWS  
OF THE  
COCHISE COUNTY LIBERTARIAN  
COMMITTEE

Adopted April 3rd, 2021

**Definitions:**

County Committee: Cochise County Committee of the Arizona Libertarian Party.

## **ARTICLE I. OFFICERS**

### **Section 1: Elected Officers**

#### **A) Composition:**

The officers of the County Committee are defined and shall be elected as specified by Arizona Revised Statutes; to wit, the officers of the County Committee shall be: 1) the Chairman, 2) the First Vice Chairman, 3) the Second Vice Chairman, 4) the Secretary, and 5) the Treasurer. All officers shall take office immediately upon adjournment of the statutory organizing meeting of the County Committee.

#### **B) Acting Officers:**

If the Cochise County Chairman is temporarily absent or the position of Chairman becomes permanently vacant, the First Vice Chairman (followed, if necessary, by the Second Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer, in that order) shall assume, as acting Chairman, the duties of Chairman. Upon return from any temporary absence, the Cochise County Chairman shall automatically re-assume the duties of Chairman. If no officer is available, the Chairman of the State Committee of the Arizona Libertarian Party shall appoint a Precinct Committeeman who resides within Cochise County as acting Chairman to assume the duties of Chairman until at least one elected officer is available.

#### **C) Removal of Officers:**

The County Committee may remove any officer of the County Committee from office for misfeasance, malfeasance, or nonfeasance of duty. Removing any County Committee officer shall require at least a two-thirds vote of the Cochise County Precinct Committeemen voting at a County Committee meeting. However, before a vote is taken to remove an officer from office, the disciplinary procedures chapters of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall be followed in order to examine whether an officer of the County Committee has been derelict in their duty.

#### **D) Vacancies:**

If any County Committee office becomes permanently vacant after the position was filled, the Cochise County Chairman or acting Chairman shall cause notice to be made to all Cochise County Precinct Committeemen within 14 days of such vacancy and shall seek nominations for the position. If the position of Chairman is vacated, the procedure by Bylaw 6 shall be followed to establish an acting Chairman until a new Cochise County Chairman is duly elected. All Cochise County Precinct Committeemen are eligible to run for any vacancy. The Cochise County Chairman or acting Chairman shall cause a County Committee meeting to be held no earlier than 21 days after the notification of the vacancy and no later than 35 days after such notification for the purpose of electing a replacement officer. All Cochise County Precinct Committeemen are eligible to vote at this County Committee meeting.

## **Section 2: Duties of Officers**

The duties of the officers of the County Committee shall include but not limited to the following: 1) ensuring that the Libertarian Party has ballot status locally, 2) recruiting Libertarians wishing to seek elective office, 3) registering voters as members of the Libertarian Party, 4) educating the electorate on the virtues of Libertarian principles, and 5) bringing laws into closer agreement with Libertarian principles through the initiative and referendum process, through the legal challenge of unjust laws, and through the persuasion of sitting lawmakers.

## **Section 3: General Powers of the Officers**

The officers of the County Committee shall manage all affairs of the County Committee, and the officers shall have the power to make contracts and set general policy on behalf of the County Committee. The officers of the County Committee shall have final authority over all County Committee finances. The officers, however, may establish funds available to the Chairman and the Treasurer for discretionary expenses. The officers of the County Committee shall fulfill all legal requirements of the State of Arizona, in particular, all requirements currently set out in Title 16 of the Arizona Revised Statutes governing political parties, elections, and campaign finance.

## **Section 4: Specific Powers of the Officers**

### **A) Chairman:**

The Cochise County Chairman or acting Chairman is the Chief Executive Officer of the County Committee. The Chairman or acting Chairman presides over the meetings of the County Committee Officers, and the Chairman or acting Chairman presides over the meetings of the entire County Committee. In addition to the powers delegated in Article IV, the Chairman or acting Chairman shall have the power to form or abolish all other committees, create or abolish other positions, including paid positions, and make all appointments to these committees and positions as needed to carry on the business of the County Committee. The Chairman or acting Chairman is responsible for overseeing the performance of their appointees, and all committee members, appointees, and employees shall serve at the discretion of the Chairman or acting Chairman. Furthermore, the Chairman or acting Chairman, at their discretion, may delegate some of their authority.

### **B) First Vice Chairman and Second Vice Chairman:**

In the absence of the Chairman or acting Chairman, the First Vice Chairman shall preside over the meetings of the officers or the meetings of the entire County Committee. In the simultaneous absence of the Chairman or acting Chairman, and the First Vice Chairman, the Second Vice Chairman shall preside over the meetings of the officers or the meetings of the entire County Committee.

**C) Secretary:**

The Secretary shall correspond with other organizations and individuals as needed. The Secretary shall keep all non-financial written records of the County Committee and shall keep and maintain all minutes of meetings of the County Committee Officers and of meetings of the entire County Committee. The Secretary may appoint, as their designated agent, an Assistant Secretary who will serve at the Secretary's discretion.

**D) Treasurer:**

The Treasurer shall receive all funds and maintain complete and current financial records for the County Committee. The Treasurer shall maintain all legal financial documentation for the County Committee and shall file all appropriate Cochise County, State of Arizona, and Federal documents. As pursuant to Title 16 (16-904) of the Arizona Revised Statutes, no expenditure may be made on behalf of the County Committee without the authorization of the Treasurer or their designated agent. The Treasurer may appoint, as their designated agent, an Assistant Treasurer who will serve at the Treasurer's discretion.

**F) Veto and Modifying Power of the Officers:**

By a two-thirds vote at a meeting of the officers, the officers of the County Committee may veto or modify any decision that any officer, appointee, committee, or employee has made on behalf of the County Committee.

**ARTICLE II. NOMINATIONS, ELECTIONS, AND VOTING**

## **Section 1: Election of State Committeemen**

At the statutory organizing meeting of the County Committee, any three elected Cochise County Precinct Committeemen may assemble as a group and may elect a State Committeeman from the elected membership of the County Committee. If any three elected Cochise County Precinct Committeemen choose to elect a State Committeeman, they may elect only one State Committeeman, and they may not participate in the election of the remaining state committeeman by the County Committee.

## **Section 2: Voting for None of the Above (NOTA)**

“None of the Above” also known as “NOTA” shall always be a voting option in elections for officers of the County Committee and in elections for State Committeeman. No candidate, including NOTA, may receive more than one vote for an office on a single ballot, regardless of the number of positions being filled for that office. No candidate shall be elected to office who receives the same or fewer votes than NOTA. Such offices are considered held by NOTA, are considered vacant, and can only be filled by a new election.

## **Section 3: Voting Absentee**

In any matter upon which County Committee officers are entitled to vote, anyone eligible to vote may vote absentee prior to or at the meeting at which voting is to occur. An absentee vote may be written or made by telephone or other suitable communication devices, subject to such authentication procedures as are deemed necessary by the Secretary to verify the identity of the person voting.

## **Section 4: Proxy Voting**

Proxy voting is allowed at meetings of the County Committee. Proxy votes shall meet the following requirements: 1) Only a registered Libertarian residing within the precinct of a Cochise County precinct committeeman may act as a proxy voter for that precinct committeeman. 2) A proxy is only valid for a specific meeting of the County Committee, and that proxy is not valid for any future meetings of the County Committee. 3) Every proxy shall be attested by a notary public or two witnesses. Proxy voting is not allowed at meetings of the County Committee officers.

# **ARTICLE III. MEETINGS**

## **Section 1: Special Meeting**

The Cochise County Chairman or acting Chairman may convene a meeting of the County Committee officers at any time the Cochise County Chairman or acting Chairman so desires. A majority of the Cochise County Committee officers may also convene a meeting of the County Committee officers. The Cochise County Chairman or acting Chairman may convene a meeting of the County Committee at their discretion upon 7 days notice to all Cochise County Precinct Committeemen. The Cochise County Chairman or acting Chairman must cause a general meeting of the County Committee to be convened, within 14 days, upon the request of 50 percent or more of the County Committee officers or 25 percent or more of the Cochise County Precinct Committeemen.

## **Section 2: Quorum**

A quorum to do business for County Committee officers shall consist of a simple majority of the number of such officers serving. A quorum for any matter upon which all Cochise County Precinct Committeemen may vote is defined as 25 percent or more of all Libertarian Precinct Committeemen residing in Cochise County. These quorum requirements shall not apply to the biannual statutory organizing meeting of the County Committee. A quorum for a biannual statutory organizing meeting shall be the elected Cochise County precinct commitment attending such a meeting.

## **ARTICLE IV. SPECIAL, SELECT, OR STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **Section 1: Organizing Committees**

The Chairman or acting Chairman of the County Committee shall have the authority to create and to make appointments to special, select, or standing committees consisting of registered Cochise County Libertarian Voters. Such special, select, or standing committees shall serve at the discretion of the Cochise County Chairman or acting Chairman.

## **ARTICLE V. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

### **Section 1: Cochise County Proceedings Rules of Order**

The County Committee adopts Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised as the governing parliamentary authority for the County Committee and its officers.

## **ARTICLE VI. BYLAWS AND ORGANIZING DOCUMENTS**

### **Section 1: Bylaws Changes**

Changes to these Bylaws may be proposed by any Cochise County Precinct Committeeman and must be ratified by at least a two-thirds vote of the Cochise County Precinct Committeemen voting at a County Committee meeting in order for such changes to become effective. Upon ratification, such changes shall take effect immediately.

### **Section 2: Constitution, Bylaws, and Minutes Distribution**

A copy of the Arizona Libertarian Party Constitution, a copy of these Bylaws, or a copy of any minutes shall be provided to any Cochise County Precinct Committeeman who requests a copy.

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