

Constitution of the Libertarian Party of Washington County  
Amended February 19, 2005

**I. Purpose.** To build the Libertarian party in Washington County, facilitating electoral and policy success. Toward these ends, the Libertarian Party of Washington County (LPWC) is hereby established and incorporated under this constitution and associated bylaws.

**II. Membership.** All LPO members in good standing, whose primary residence is within Washington County, are eligible for membership in the LPWC. All Libertarian electors registered to vote in Washington County are also eligible. Only LPWC members who are LPO members and are registered as Libertarian voters are eligible to hold official positions of responsibility in the LPWC.

**III. Organization.** The Libertarian Party of Washington County Central Committee, hereinafter referred to as the "Central Committee," is the sole policy making body of the LPWC.

**IV. Parliamentary Authority.** Robert's Rules of Order shall be the parliamentary authority in all matters of order not specifically covered in this Constitution and its' By-laws. The Central Committee shall adopt a specific version of Robert's Rules of Order to work under within 90 days of the adoption of this constitution.

**V. Conventions.**

- a. Annual Convention.** The Annual Convention must take place between January 1 and May 31 of each year. Time and location to be set by the Central Committee.
- b. Candidate Nominating Conventions.** The Central Committee may hold candidate nominating conventions as provided for in the LPO governing documents and state laws during election years. All qualified Libertarian electors must be allowed to participate in nominating conventions, regardless of their LPWC membership status.

**VI. Bylaws.**

- a. Authority of.** The attached Bylaws are subordinate to this Constitution.
- b. Amendments.** The Bylaws may be amended, by a two-thirds majority of delegates to the Annual Convention. All amendments to the By-laws shall be noted and dated, as to the date of acceptance by Central Committee or ratification at Convention.

**VII. Constitutional Amendments.** This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote at annual convention. Amendments shall be noted and dated as to ratification at convention.

Bylaws of the Libertarian Party of Washington County  
Amended on January 16, 2006

**Article I - Organization**

- a. **Composition of the LPWC Central Committee.** Subject to these bylaws, the Central Committee shall be constituted and organized to minimally comply with Oregon Revised Statutes 248.015 through 248.045. Other officers and directors may be appointed by the Central Committee as provided for in these bylaws. All officers and directors shall be considered members of the Central Committee and may each cast one vote, subject to these Bylaws. LPWC members may hold more than one position on the Central Committee, but may cast no more than one vote each. No votes by proxy will be permitted.
- b. **Election of Precinct Committee Chairpersons (PCPs).** Elections shall be conducted to minimally comply with Oregon Revised Statutes 248.015 through 248.045
- c. **Appointment of Precinct Committee Chairpersons (PCPs).** The Central Committee may appoint eligible LPWC members to PCP positions, which are or become vacant. Such appointments may be made between Annual Conventions at any valid Central Committee meeting. Such appointees will serve until the end of the current term.
- d. **Officers and Directors.** As a part of the Annual Convention, after PCPs are elected, the new Central Committee shall elect eligible LPWC members to the officer and director positions outlined in this section. Newly elected officers and directors begin their terms of office upon adjournment of the Annual Convention at which they are elected. All officers and directors will serve until the end of the next Annual Convention. Between Annual Conventions, officer and director positions, which are or become vacant, may be filled by the Central Committee at any valid Central Committee meeting. Such appointees will serve through the next Annual Convention.

**1. Officers.**

- a. **Chair.** Shall preside over all conventions and Central Committee meetings. The Chair is the chief executive of the LPWC. The Chair is the primary representative of the LPWC, unless the Central Committee selects another LPWC member who is registered as a Libertarian elector. The Chair may vote in accordance with Roberts' Rules of Order.
- b. **Vice Chair.** Shall perform the duties of the Chair, should the Chair be absent. Shall perform other duties as assigned by the LPWC Central Committee. Shall become the Chair if the Chair resigns or if the Central Committee determines by a two-thirds vote that the Chair is unable or unwilling to perform competently as Chair.
- c. **Secretary.** Shall keep the minutes of each meeting and all conventions in addition to any other records required by the Central Committee. The secretary shall file documents with government entities as required by law. Shall keep and make available electronic and/or printed copies of official LPWC documents.
- d. **Treasurer.** Shall set up and maintain an accounting system and will receive and disburse funds. The Treasurer shall issue written reports at each Central Committee meeting and at Annual Convention. Shall file documents with governmental agencies required by law.

**II Directors.**

- a. **Fundraising Director.** Shall initiate and coordinate fundraising efforts.
- b. **Membership Director.** Shall keep current membership information and report membership information to the Libertarian Party of Oregon as required. Shall initiate and coordinate membership recruitment efforts.
- c. **Communication Director.** Shall be responsible for issuing press releases and publishing a newsletter as directed by the Central Committee. Shall provide notices to LPWC members and registered Libertarian electors as required by the Central Committee and these bylaws, using information provided by the LPWC secretary.
- d. **Campaign Director.** Shall initiate campaign recruitment efforts and watch for opportunities to get Libertarians elected or appointed to public offices in Washington County. Where practical, shall coordinate support for political campaigns.
- e. **Precinct Development Director.** Responsible for the organization and coordination of political activity at the precinct level within Washington County.

**E. Meetings.** The Central Committee will meet no less frequently than once every ninety days. Electronic and/or written notice to each Central Committee member shall be provided no less than ten days before the meeting at issue is to take place.

**F. State Committee Delegation**

- a. The county chair shall be an automatic delegate to the Libertarian Party of Oregon State Committee.
- b. Additional delegates shall be elected at the annual county convention by a majority vote.
- c. Alternates equal to the number of delegates shall be elected at the Annual Convention by a majority vote. Alternates will be elected in order of position. First alternates will be the first to fill vacancies
- d. Vacancies shall be filled by a majority vote of the County Central committee at a regularly scheduled meeting.
- e. All delegates to the Libertarian Party of Oregon State Committee from Washington County must be members of the LPWC Steering Committee.

Article II – CONVENTIONS

- a. **Eligibility to participate in LPWC Annual Conventions.** All LPWC members who hold continuous membership during the thirty days prior to an Annual Convention will be eligible to participate as delegates in LPWC Annual Conventions.
- b. **Frequency.** LPWC Annual Conventions shall be held between Jan. 1 and May 31 of each year.
- c. **Credentials Committee.** The Central Committee will appoint a Credentials Committee consisting of three LPWC members no later than thirty days before each convention. Individual committee members will serve until the close of the next Annual Convention, but may be replaced at any time by the Central Committee. Within ten days of their appointment, members of the Credentials Committee will select a Chair.
- d. **Credentials Committee Functions.** The Credentials Committee will be empowered to submit a report to each convention determining delegate eligibility. Eligibility will be determined by Oregon election law, LPO governing documents and LPWC governing documents. The Credentials Committee report, in its original or amended form, becomes official once adopted by the convention.
- e. **Notice.** Electronic and/or written notice to LPWC members of any convention shall be provided no less than thirty days in advance. In the case of Candidate Nominating Conventions, Oregon election laws relating to prior notice will also be observed and shall take precedence over this section.

Article III - GOVERNMENT AFFILIATIONS

- a. **Makes the LPWC an officially recognized PAC.** The Libertarian Party of Washington County (LPWC) shall become an officially recognized political action committee (PAC). The LPWC Chair shall complete the appropriate forms and file them with the Oregon Secretary of State Elections Division within sixty days after this document is adopted by an organizational meeting.
- b. **Interaction with Government Entities.** Provided there is no conflict with state law governing the functions of minor political parties, portions of Oregon Revised Statutes 248.015 through 248.045, which require interaction with government entities shall not apply until the Libertarian Party qualifies as a "major political party" under state law.

Article IV - OTHER ISSUES

- a. **Date of Notice.** The date on which mailed notices are said to have been provided by the LPWC Secretary shall be the postmarked date on received notices. In the case of electronic notices, the date shown on the receiving software shall be used to determine when the notice was sent. If notices were marked sent on dates before and after any given deadline, the LPWC Chair will determine if the notice is valid.
- b. **Dispute Resolution.** The LPO Judicial Committee shall be the final authority regarding the resolution of any disagreements regarding the interpretation or implementation of any LPWC governing document.

PRECINCT COMMITTEEPERSONS

**248.015 Precinct committeepersons; qualifications; election; vote required; term.** (1) A precinct committeeperson shall be a representative of the major political party in the precinct. At the primary election a major political party shall elect from its members a committeeperson of each sex for every 500 electors, or major fraction thereof, who are registered in the precinct on January 31 of the year of the primary election. In any event the political party members of a precinct shall be entitled to elect not less than one committeeperson of each sex in the precinct. No person shall hold office as committeeperson in more than one precinct.

(2) A member of a major political party may become a candidate for precinct committeeperson of the precinct in which the person is registered, or of a precinct within the same county adjoining that precinct, by filing a declaration of candidacy described in ORS 249.031, except as provided in subsection (3) of this section.

(3) ORS 249.031 (1)(i) shall not apply to declarations of candidacy for candidates for precinct committeeperson.

(4) A member of the major political party who has been a member of that party for 180 days before the primary election may be elected by write-in votes as precinct committeeperson of the precinct in which the member is registered, or of a precinct within the same county adjoining that precinct.

(5) Unless a qualified person receives at least three votes, no person shall be deemed to have been elected as precinct committeeperson and the office of committeeperson shall be vacant.

(6) The term of office of a precinct committeeperson is from the 24th day after the date of the primary election until the 24th day after the date of the next following primary election.

(7) A precinct committeeperson shall not be considered a public officer. [1965 c.407 §§3, 7; subsection (6) enacted as 1967 c.540 §3 (3); 1969 c.282 §1; 1977 c.199 §1; 1977 c.644 §1; 1979 c.190 §73; 1981 c.862 §1; 1991 c.87 §1; 1991 c.107 §3; 1995 c.712 §17]

**248.017 Candidacy for office of precinct committeeperson by person who attains age of 18 years after deadline for filing declaration of candidacy.** Notwithstanding any provision of ORS 248.015, an otherwise qualified person who will attain the age of 18 years after the deadline for filing a declaration of candidacy for the office of precinct committeeperson and on or before the date of the primary election, and who is registered as a member of the major political party not later than the date of the primary election, is eligible to file a nominating petition for the office of precinct committeeperson, to be listed on the ballot and to be elected to the office, including by write-in votes. [1993 c.583 §2; 1995 c.712 §18]

**248.018** [1973 c.827 §24b; repealed by 1979 c.190 §431]

**248.020** [Amended by 1957 c.608 §50; repealed by 1965 c.407 §18]

**248.023 Certificates of election; acceptance of office; list of precinct committeepersons; offices declared vacant when no committeeperson elected.** (1) Not later than the 20th day after a primary election, the county clerk shall mail a certificate of election to each newly elected precinct committeeperson within the county. The clerk also shall mail an "Acceptance of Office" form to each person elected by write-in votes to the office of committeeperson. The form shall include a statement to be signed by the person elected that the person is qualified to hold the office.

(2) A person elected by write-in votes to the office of precinct committeeperson shall be certified for the office by filing with the county clerk, not later than the 27th day after the date of the primary election, a signed "Acceptance of Office" form.

(3) Not later than the 31st day after a primary election, the county clerk shall prepare, maintain and furnish to the chairpersons of the respective retiring county central committees within the county and the chairpersons of the state central committees, a list of the party precinct committeepersons elected and certified. At the same time the county

clerk shall declare the other offices of committeeperson vacant. [1965 c.407 §§4,5; 1975 c.779 §5; 1977 c.644 §2; 1979 c.190 §74; 1987 c.267 §10; 1995 c.607 §75; 1995 c.712 §19]

**248.024 Resignation or ineligibility of precinct committeeperson.** (1) A precinct committeeperson may resign from the office by filing a written notification of resignation with the county clerk. Upon receipt of this notification, the county clerk shall:

- (a) Remove the name of the person from the list of committeepersons.
- (b) Declare that office vacant.
- (c) Notify the appropriate county central committee.

(2) When a precinct committeeperson ceases to be registered in the precinct in which the committeeperson was elected or a precinct adjoining that precinct within the same county, changes political party registration or dies, the county central committee shall notify the county clerk of the fact. Upon receipt of this notification, if the county clerk determines that the notification is correct, the clerk shall:

- (a) Remove the name of the person from the list of committeepersons.
- (b) Declare that office vacant. [Formerly 248.047]

**248.025** [1965 c.407 §6; 1979 c.190 §79; renumbered 248.031]

**248.026 Selection of precinct committeeperson to fill vacancy; effective date of selection; term; powers.**

(1) The members of a county central committee may select a member of the major political party who is registered in the precinct in which the vacancy exists, or registered in a precinct within the same county adjoining that precinct, to fill a vacancy in the office of precinct committeeperson.

(2) When a county central committee votes to select a person to fill a vacancy in the office of precinct committeeperson, the chairperson of the committee shall give written notice to the county clerk of the proposed selection. The selection shall take effect when the county clerk upon timely verification of eligibility, places the name of the person selected on the list of committeepersons. The county clerk shall then send written notice of the selection to the person and the county central committee.

(3) A person selected to fill a vacancy in the office of precinct committeeperson may be removed from office at the pleasure of the central committee, but, except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, otherwise shall hold the office for the unexpired term and shall have the powers, duties and privileges of an elected committeeperson.

(4) A person selected to fill a vacancy in the office of precinct committeeperson may not vote on the election of county central committee officers at the organizational meeting of the committee as provided in ORS 248.035. A person selected to fill a vacancy in the office of precinct committeeperson may vote to fill any vacancy in a committee office after the organizational meeting. [Formerly 248.055; 1987 c.620 §1; 2005 c.506 §3]

**248.027 Committeeperson to continue on central committee despite change in precinct.** A precinct committeeperson who represents a precinct which is subsequently combined, consolidated or abolished shall continue to be a member of the county central committee until the end of that committeeperson's regular term of office. [Formerly 248.057]

**248.029 Recall procedure.** (1) Except as provided in this section, the provisions for recall of a public officer under ORS 249.002 to 249.013 and 249.865 to 249.877, apply to a recall election of a precinct committeeperson.

(2) A precinct committeeperson may be recalled by a petition signed by the number of party members equal to not less than 25 percent of the number of party members who voted in the precinct as it existed at the preceding

primary election. The petitioners shall state in not more than 200 words on the recall petition the reasons for the recall. If the committeeperson resigns, the resignation shall take effect on the date of the resignation. If the committeeperson does not resign before the fifth day after the petition is filed with the county clerk, a special election shall be ordered by the county clerk to be held not later than the 25th day after the petition is filed to determine whether the committeeperson will be recalled. The recall election shall be held in the precinct as it existed when the committeeperson was elected. On the ballot shall be printed the reasons for the recall stated in the recall petition, and, in not more than 200 words, the committeeperson's justification of the committeeperson's actions in office. The committeeperson shall continue to perform duties of the office until the result of the special election is declared.

(3) The cost of the election shall be paid by the county central committee of the party of the committeeperson. [Formerly 248.053; 1981 c.173 §19; 1987 c.267 §11; 1995 c.712 §20]

**248.030** [Amended by 1957 c.608 §51; repealed by 1965 c.407 §18]

#### COUNTY CENTRAL COMMITTEE

**248.031 Precinct committeepersons as county central committee; status and functions of committee.** The precinct committeepersons of the county shall constitute the county central committee of their party. The county central committee of each major political party is the highest party authority in county party matters and may adopt rules or resolutions for any matter of party government within the county which is not controlled by the laws of this state. [Formerly 248.025]

**248.033 Organizational meeting; notice.** (1) The organizational meeting of a county central committee shall be held no less frequently than every 25 months.

(2) The retiring county central committee shall prepare a written notice designating the time, date and place of the meeting and file a copy of the notice with the county clerk not later than the 40th day before the date of the meeting. The retiring county central committee also shall mail a copy of the notice to the state central committee.

(3) Upon request of a county central committee, the county clerk shall provide the county central committee, without charge, a list of the names, addresses and other contact information, including electronic mail addresses or telephone numbers, of persons holding the office of precinct committeeperson for that major political party on the date the clerk receives notice of an organizational meeting under subsection (2) of this section.

(4) The chairperson of the retiring county central committee shall mail a copy of the notice of the time, date and place of the meeting, not later than the 10th day before the meeting, to each member of the county central committee. If permitted by the bylaws of the county central committee, the county central committee may notify members by means other than by mail. [1965 c.407 §8; 1975 c.779 §6; 1977 c.644 §3; 1979 c.190 §80; 1981 c.862 §2; 1987 c.267 §12; 1995 c.712 §21; 2005 c.506 §1]

**248.035 Transfer of property; election of officers; notice of election; eligibility to vote.** (1) At the organizational meeting of a county central committee:

(a) The officers of the retiring county central committee shall make available to the committee the property, records and funds owned or controlled by the retiring committee.

(b) The committee next shall elect a chairperson, vice chairperson and other officers the committee considers necessary. The persons elected to the offices need not be members of the county central committee. The committee shall determine the term of each office. Only a newly elected precinct committeeperson may vote on the election of committee officers.

(2) The elected chairperson, within 48 hours of the chairperson's election, shall send a list of the officers of the committee to the county clerk and to the state central committee.

(3) Only a newly elected precinct committeeperson or a person appointed or selected to fill a vacancy in the office of committeeperson may vote to fill a vacancy in a committee office. Immediately before a meeting of the county central committee at which there may be an election to fill a vacancy in a committee office, the chairperson shall obtain from the county clerk a list of committee members. The list shall determine the eligibility of a committeeperson to vote to fill a vacancy in a committee office. [1965 c.407 §9 (1), (2), (3), (4); 1973 c.773 §5; 1975 c.779 §7; 1979 c.190 §81; 2005 c.506 §4]

**248.040** [Repealed by 1965 c.407 §18]

**248.043 Procedure if meeting not called; filling vacancies when no precinct committeeperson elected; term of appointee; notice to county clerk.** If a newly elected county central committee fails to meet or to organize or if no person within a county is elected by a major political party as a precinct committeeperson, the chairperson of the retiring state central committee shall appoint a temporary chairperson of the county central committee. The temporary chairperson shall call an organizational meeting and organize the committee as provided by applicable provisions of ORS 248.033 and 248.035. A temporary chairperson appointed when no precinct committeeperson is elected may appoint members to fill the vacancies in the office of committeeperson for the precinct in which the persons are registered. A person so appointed may be removed from office at the pleasure of the central committee, but otherwise shall hold the office of committeeperson for the unexpired term and shall have the powers, duties and privileges of a committeeperson. When a person is appointed to the office of committeeperson pursuant to this subsection, the temporary chairperson shall notify, in writing, the county clerk of the appointment. The county clerk shall place the name of the person appointed on the list of committeepersons. [1965 c.407 §9 (5), (6); 1979 c.190 §82]

**248.045 Proxies prohibited; bylaws or rules; executive committee functions; voting privileges.** Proxies in no instance shall be permitted to participate at any county central committee meeting. At any meeting of the county central committee, the committee may:

(1) Adopt, amend or repeal bylaws or rules for the government of the political party in the county.

(2) By the adoption of bylaws or of a resolution, select an executive committee and authorize the executive committee to exercise those powers delegated to it by the central committee including, but not limited to, the power to fill a vacancy in the office of committeeperson pursuant to ORS 248.026. In no event may the central committee delegate, or the executive committee exercise, the power to elect a person to, or fill a vacancy in a committee office. The persons selected as the executive committee need not be members of the county central committee.

(3) Except as provided by ORS 248.035 (3), grant participation and voting privileges to a:

(a) Person who holds a public office or an office of a political party.

(b) Person who has been nominated for a public office at the preceding primary election.

(c) Member of the executive committee of the county central committee. [1965 c.407 §10; 1979 c.190 §83; 1987 c.267 §13; 1995 c.712 §22]