

Constitution of the Weber County Libertarian Party

(Adopted 00/00/2021)

Article I: Name & Purpose

1. Name

This organization will be known as the Weber County Libertarian Party. In this Constitution, it may also be referred to as the WCLP or the "Party."

2. Purpose

The WCLP is a political party based on the principles of Libertarianism. The Party's purposes are to:

- Nominate and support with all available resources candidates for political offices who subscribe to Libertarian principles;
- Champion and promote individual liberty and the philosophy and principles of Libertarianism within Weber County; and
- Promote and support Libertarian Party organizations in Utah.

3. Compliance

The Party will always comply with local, state, and federal election laws. If there is any conflict between the Party's Constitution and Bylaws and prevailing election laws, the State of Utah's law supersedes this Constitution and Bylaws.

In case any parts of the Bylaws are, or become, inconsistent with Utah law, the Executive Committee is empowered to revise them into compliance for immediate use.

4. Affiliation

The Party is affiliated with the Utah Libertarian Party, Libertarian Party, Libertarian National Committee and other similarly affiliated Libertarian organizations throughout the state and country.

Article II: Statement of Principles

1. Principles

Members of the Party subscribe to the Statement of Principles of the Libertarian Party, and specifically believe:

- Each individual possesses the right to life and liberty, and justly acquired property including the right to defend them;
- No person or organization, political or voluntary, has the right to initiate force or fraud against another person, nor to use force against another's property;
- All individuals are entitled to exercise their right of agency, and to choose their own lifestyle as long as they do not forcibly interfere with the equal right of others to live their lives in whatever manner they choose;
- The voluntary exchange of goods and services is a fundamental right of the individual; and
- The only moral basis of government is to ensure the individual's freedom from force or fraud.

2. Violation of Principles

Violation of any one of these principles is cause for expulsion from the Party.

The causes and procedures for expelling a member from the Party shall be defined in the Party Bylaws. Expulsion is reviewed & approved by the Executive Committee and shall occur in accordance with applicable local, state, & federal laws.

Article III: Officers & the Executive Committee

1. Officers & Responsibilities

The Party Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer are individually the Party Officers and collectively its Executive Committee (EC).

The Chair is the Party's chief executive officer and presides at all Conventions and at all meetings of the Executive Committee. The Chair is responsible for appointing new EC members when such offices become vacant, subject to the consent of the EC. The Chair serves as the Party's liaison with any appropriate body for all matters relating to the Party's relationship with the Utah Libertarian Party, the State of Utah and other political organizations. The Chair is the Party's official spokesperson for the press and representative to the State Central Committee.

The Vice-Chair performs the duties of the Chair when the Chair is, for any reason, unable to perform the duties of the office. The Vice-Chair will also carry out such other duties for the benefit of the Party as directed by the Chair.

The Secretary keeps the minutes and records of all Party Conventions and meetings of the Executive Committee. The Secretary will report at Conventions concerning such Party activities as the Executive Committee or the Chair directs. The Secretary

will make such reports as required by law to the State of Utah. The Secretary will provide in writing the names of all candidates nominated by the party to the Secretary of the state party.

The Treasurer is responsible for the Party's financial activities. The Treasurer will report to each meeting of the EC, and to Conventions, the current financial status, expenditures, and income of the party. The Treasurer will submit financial reports as required by law to the State of Utah and Federal filing agencies. A County Party Treasurer may request advice from the State Party Treasurer but the accuracy of reports shall be verified by County Party officers.

2. Terms of Office

Officers are elected for two-year terms at organizing conventions held during odd-numbered years and assume office at 12:01 a.m. one day following adjournment of the convention at which they are elected.

3. Vacancies

If the office of Chair falls vacant, the Vice-Chair succeeds to that office. In the event that both the offices of Chair and Vice-Chair fall vacant the line of succession will be the Party Secretary, and then the Party Treasurer. Other Party officer vacancies will be filled by nomination of the Chair and a vote of the Executive Committee. Officers so elected will complete the term of the office vacated.

4. Removal from Office

Any officer of the Party may be removed from office by a three-fourths vote of the entire EC, due to a violation of Article 2 Section 2 of this Constitution and/or nonperformance of duties as outlined by Article 3 Section 1.

5. Qualification

To be a member of the EC, an individual must be a dues-paying member in good standing of the Utah Libertarian Party and a current resident of Davis County, Utah.

6. Ad Hoc Positions

The Chair may at his/her discretion and with the approval of the EC add ad hoc positions with specific responsibilities, such as campaigns chair, membership chair, publicity chair, fundraising chair, newsletter editor, et al. These ad hoc members may attend EC meetings but have no vote.

7. Meetings & Quorums

The EC will meet at least once each quarter. Three officers compose a quorum, providing one of them is the Chair or Vice-Chair. At any time that there is not a full slate of elected Party officers, including a Chair or Vice-Chair, a simple majority of remaining officers will constitute an EC meeting quorum. Any officer who misses any three meetings in a year without satisfactory advance notification may be removed by majority vote of remaining officers.

In case any parts of the bylaws are, or become, inconsistent with Utah law, the EC is empowered to make revisions to bring them into compliance for immediate use.

Article IV: Central Committee

If the Chair is unable to attend a scheduled meeting of the SCC, they may designate the Vice Chair to attend in their place.

Article V: Finances

1. Financial General Standards

The Party's fiscal year runs from (TBA) 1 to (TBA) 31.

The EC will adopt documented financial procedures, a copy of which will be made available to members of the Party. These procedures will include:

- Two signatures required for all checks other than payments pre-approved and recorded by the EC,
- a bookkeeping system, and
- a system for handling cash donations.

The Party will not run a budget deficit or accrue monthly or yearly debt. Monthly expenses shall not exceed bank account balance available for withdrawal.

Executive Committee members may use personal credit cards to make payment for goods and services – not to exceed budgeted funding – for which receipts must be submitted for reimbursement within 30 days or such expense may only be noted as a designated donation. All expense reimbursements shall be resolved prior to new officer assignments.

The Party bank transactions and online donation records shall be made available for review at the organizing convention or for any EC Meetings.

2. Member Audit

The financial records of the Party may be reviewed once each year by a committee composed of three Dues-paying Members in good standing, none of whom are

Party officers, elected for this purpose by the EC. The report of their review may be presented to the annual convention. The Party's financial and other records will made be available to Dues-paying Members in good standing by appointment.

3. Designated Donations

Any individual may donate funds to the Party for a specific purpose. The Party guarantees such gifts will be used as directed, providing it is consistent with the Party's purpose and principles. All such designated donations and their disposition will be included in the regular Treasurer's report. If the EC decides the purpose for which the donation is made is inappropriate, the person making the gift will be given the opportunity to re-designate his/her gift or have it refunded in its entirety. Non-designated donations will be put in the Party's general treasury for use at the discretion of the EC.

Article VI: Membership

1. Qualifications

Membership in the Weber County Libertarian Party of Utah is open to anyone who:

- manifests his/her agreement with the Statement of Principles of the state Party by signing the Pledge, and
- is a current resident of Weber County, Utah.

2. The Pledge

I do not believe in nor advocate the initiation of force or fraud as a means of achieving political or social goals.

3. Good Standing

Effective (Adoption Date), 2021, a member will be in good standing provided his/her membership has not been revoked.

4. Acceptance and Revocation

The EC reserves the right to pass on the acceptability of membership applications and to revoke the membership of any individual who advocates or manifests behavior inconsistent with the Pledge or the Party's principle enumerated in Article Two.

Members with revoked membership status shall be retained on membership roster with a revocation status annotation. Terms for appeal and reinstatement shall be defined in Bylaws.

Article VII: Conventions & Elections

Procedures

1. Conventions

Every year the Party must hold a convention for all members. In odd-numbered years, the Party will hold an organizing convention to elect new officers. In even-numbered years, the Party will hold a nominating convention to choose candidates for political office. Convention proceedings will be governed by the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

The Party's Convention must be held no less than 48 hours prior to the state party convention.

2. Direct Democracy

Only members in good standing and attending the convention may vote on issues or Party candidates that come before them. All Members attending constitute a quorum.

3. Majority Rule

In all elections for Party office, or delegate status, a simple majority is required to elect a candidate.

4. None of the Above

In all Party elections for political office, “none of the above” will be offered as an alternative until defeated. If that choice prevails, the Party will officially have no candidate in that election and the state Secretary will so notify the appropriate political entity.

5. Filing Fee Reimbursements

Candidacy filing fees should be paid from candidate’s fund-raising efforts and reimbursement should not be necessary as it is a candidate’s responsibility to budget for such efforts.

Given filing deadlines for candidates for office, should “none of the above” win over a candidate who has already paid filing fees the EC shall note at convention the ability of the Party to reimburse candidate(s) filing fees. This rule only applies for those candidates who are dues paying members in good standing and who were so at the time of fee filing. Candidates with revoked membership or who are not dues paying members in good standing are not eligible for filing fee reimbursement. The EC may enter private session to evaluate any reimbursement.

A candidate convicted of criminal behavior who has paid the filing fees and loses to “none of the above” may appeal for fee reimbursement, but any such reimbursement shall be at the discretion of the EC.

Article VIII: Ratification & Amendment

1. Ratification

This Constitution becomes effective immediately upon being approved by a two-thirds majority of those members in good standing present and voting at the Party Convention to which it is presented. It repeals and supersedes any previous Constitution and/or By-Laws.

2. Amendment

This Constitution may be temporarily amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the EC subject to permanent ratification of the voters at any Party convention, except for Article Two Statement of Principles which may be amended only by the three-fourths consent of those voting at the convention. Amendments may be proposed by any three (3) members in good standing by written notice to the Secretary 30 days prior to the next convention.

3. Bylaws

This Constitution may be supplemented by bylaws governing procedural matters. Bylaws may be proposed and adopted by the EC which are not immediately subject to approval by the general membership. The membership may alter or revoke bylaws at any annual convention providing such alteration or revocation is compliant with State and Federal law. The general membership shall not have the

power to subject the members of the governing bodies in the EC, or the Party, to legal action from municipal, state, or Federal governing agencies.

4. Notification

Written notice of all proposed Constitutional amendments must be mailed, and/or emailed, to all members in good standing at least ten days in advance of the Convention. Such notice need not be made separately from any publication regularly prepared by the Party. Social media and Party website posting is appreciated and encouraged but is not sufficient on its own to stand as acceptable notice.