

**By-Laws of the Knox County Republican Committee**  
Adopted December 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011

**ARTICLE I – NAME**

The name of this committee shall be the Knox County Republican Committee, and shall be the official governing body of the Knox County Republican Party.

**Article II – PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES**

The Knox County Republican Committee shall lead and support the Republicans of Knox County, Maine. It shall cooperate with the Maine State Republican Committee to promote the principles and ideals of the Republican Party. It shall supply direction and leadership for the performance of organizational activities, work through and with the City and Town Republican Committees of Knox County. In furthering the programs of the Knox County Republicans, the Knox County Republican Committee shall work closely with the Knox County Republican Women, the Young Republicans organization in Knox County, and other Republican groups as may be established and organized from time to time.

**Article III – MEMBERSHIP**

The County Committee shall be composed of the following with full voting rights:

- A) The municipal Republican Committee Chair from each town or city in the County.
- B) The municipal Republican Finance Chair from each town or city in the County.
- C) From each town in the county the following formula is to be used based upon Republican enrollment:
  - 1. Two (2) voting members allotted for the first 200 or portion thereof
  - 2. One (1) voting member allotted for every 200 or portion thereof after the first 200.
- A. The State Committeeman and the State Committeewoman from Knox County shall be full members on the County Committee.
- B. Any person elected as a Republican to a county or state office that represents a town or portion of a town in Knox County, whether or not a resident of Knox County, shall be a member of the Knox County Republican Committee. These offices include, but are not necessarily limited to: State Senator(s), State Representative(s), the District Attorney representing Knox County, Sheriff, Judge of Probate, Register of Probate, and Commissioner(s) of Knox County.
- C. The Chair or President (or their duly appointed alternate) of the following groups:
  - a. The Knox County Republican Women

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- b. The Midcoast Young Republicans (should such group exist)
- c. The Knox County Teenage Republicans (should such group exist and the Chair be of legal voting age and registered to vote in the County)
- D. An officer of the Knox County Republican Committee who is not already a member representing one of the other categories of membership on the Committee (A through F above).

Vacancies shall be filled in accordance with Article IV (Vacancies) below.

### **Article IV – OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS THEREOF**

The officers of the County Committee shall be a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. The officers must be enrolled Republicans residing in Knox County.

These Officers shall be elected at the January meeting that follows the biennial November general election by the members of the County Committee and shall serve from the adjournment of the January meeting until their successors are duly elected.

In the case of a vacancy in any office, the County Committee shall nominate and elect a successor to complete the term of the office that was vacated.

The Chair, at his/her discretion, may appoint project chairs to attain the goals of the Committee as set forth in Article VI (Duties of the County Committee) below. The Chair may authorize the project chair to appoint a co-chair or assistants to complete the projects and functions of the Knox County Republican Committee.

### **Article V – COMMITTEEMAN, COMMITTEEWOMAN, AT-LARGE MEMBERS OF THE STATE REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE AND ELECTIONS THEREOF**

The State Committeeman, State Committeewoman and any at-large members of the Republican State Committee shall be nominated and elected by the delegates assembled at the County Caucus that shall be held at the biennial Republican State Convention. The State Committeeman and State Committeewoman need not be delegates to the Republican State Convention.

In case of a vacancy, the County Committee shall nominate a successor and forward the name to the State Committee for election by the State Committee.

### **Article VI – DUTIES OF THE COUNTY COMMITTEE**

The County Committee shall be responsible for:

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- A. The welfare of the Republican Party in Knox County and shall take whatever steps are necessary to strengthen the party,
- B. The encouragement of all persons to register and enroll in the Republican Party and to vote in all countywide elections,
- C. The support of all Republican candidates, regardless of the office sought,
- D. The issuance of such publicity and arrangement of such rallies and other meetings as may seem wise to the committee,
- E. The dissemination of information to the public,
- F. The cooperation with the state and municipal Republican committees, and
- G. Such other acts as may be necessary in the furtherance of the foregoing purposes.

### Article VII – CANDIDATE RECRUITMENT

The Knox County Republican Committee shall take the lead in the recruitment of candidates for public office. These offices include, but are not limited to: state senator, state representative, county commissioner, county sheriff, judge of probate and registrar of probate. Each candidate recruited must have the ability to fulfill the duties of the office sought; generally subscribe to the principles of the Republican Party, and have an earnest desire to be elected.

### Article VIII – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

There shall be an executive committee consisting of the officers of the County Committee and the State Committeeman and the State Committeewoman for Knox County. With the approval of the KCRC, by majority vote, the chairman may nominate two at-large members to the executive committee. Also with the approval of the committee, by majority vote, the members of the Next Generation subcommittee will nominate a leader to the executive committee. All executive committee members must have residence in Knox County and be voting members of the committee.

It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to disburse all the funds of the County Committee for political purposes, and the treasurer shall pay no bill nor disburse any money except for those expenses necessary to carry out the administrative functions of the County Committee, unless such disbursements shall have been approved by a majority of the Executive Committee as attested by the Chair, or, in his/her absence or inability to act, by the Vice-Chair of the committee.

The Executive Committee may have discretion to act in furtherance of the foregoing purposes as stated in Article VI (Duties of the County Committee) above, but shall be bound to follow any instruction(s) given it by the County Committee at a properly convened meeting at which a quorum is present.

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At any meeting of the Executive Committee a majority of the members shall constitute a quorum.

Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be called by the Chair, or, in his/her absence or inability to act, by the Vice-Chair, and all members of the Committee shall have actual notice of such meeting at least five days before such meeting. The Chair, Vice-Chair or Secretary may sign such notice, which may be distributed by 1<sup>st</sup> Class U.S. Postal mail, electronic mail or telephone call.

### Article IX – FINANCE CHAIR

The Chair of the County Committee, with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, shall appoint a County Finance Chair. Upon appointment, the Finance Chair will be a member of the Executive Committee.

### Article X – ATTENDANCE

In the event that any County Committee member shall fail to be in attendance in person or by proxy for more than three consecutive meetings or shall fail to attend in person one-half of the regularly scheduled meetings within a twelve month period, the Executive Committee may declare the membership position vacant and the Secretary shall so notify the town or city committee or other proper organization. In-person attendance requirements for island members may be waived on an individual basis by the Executive Committee.

### Article XI – PROXIES

Each member of the County Committee shall be entitled to one vote on all questions at any regular meeting if present in person or if represented by a proxy duly appointed in writing by such member.

The proxy for a member must be of the town or city or other proper organization as the person who appointed him or her.

Any State Senator, State Representative or District Attorney who is a County Committee member residing outside of Knox County and members of the County Committee residing on Isle au Haut, North Haven, Vinalhaven, Matinicus and Criehaven unable to attend a called meeting may vote by proxy delivered to any enrolled Knox County Republican or may vote by proxy containing specific voting instructions delivered in writing to the Secretary.

Other than the Secretary by specific proxy as set forth above, no other County Committee member shall be entitled to vote more than one proxy of another and no other individual shall be entitled to vote more than one proxy. All proxies shall specifically identify the date of the meeting at which the proxy will be authorized and valid.

With the exception of the specific proxy delivered to the Secretary in accordance with the above

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provisions, a proxy may be a general authorization that contains specific instructions.

**Article XII – CALLING OF MEETINGS**

A meeting of the County Committee may be held at any time upon the call of the Chair or, in his or her absence or inability to act, by the Vice-Chair.

Upon written petition of a least ten (10) members of said Committee representing at least three (3) cities or town of Knox County filed with any member of the Executive Committee, such member of said Executive Committee shall be empowered to call such a meeting.

Notice of any meeting of County Committee shall be given in writing and mailed either by 1<sup>st</sup> Class U.S. Postal mail or via electronic mail at least two weeks before such meeting is to be held. Said notice shall contain the time and place of such meeting and, so far as possible, the purpose of said meeting.

**Article XIII – RESOLVES, RESOLUTIONS, RECALLS, AND RELATED ACTIONS**

Resolutions to be heard and voted on by the Knox County Republican Committee shall be presented in writing, either via U.S. Postal Service, in person, or by electronic mail, to any member of the Executive Committee of the Knox County Republican Committee at least ten (10) days prior to any regularly scheduled meeting or in conjunction with a request for a special meeting made in accordance with Article XII (Calling of Meetings). Each Resolution to be placed before the Knox County Republican Committee must be signed by at least ten (10) members of the Committee representing at least three (3) cities or towns in Knox County.

Any officer of the Knox County Republican Committee may be recalled using the same process used for resolutions. A 2/3ds vote of the assembled membership is required to remove an officer of the Committee.

**Article XIV – QUORUM**

Ten members of the County Committee shall constitute a quorum.

**Article XV – VACANCIES**

In filling a vacancy, the County Committee or County Caucus shall elect a person residing in the town or city where the vacancy arose upon recommendation of the town committee, if any.

In filling a vacancy, the County Committee Secretary shall notify in writing the town or city committee

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or other proper organization where the vacancy arose. The town or city committee or other organization at a regularly scheduled meeting or special meeting within sixty days of the written notice shall elect a replacement member in accordance with its By-Laws or adopted procedures and shall notify the County Committee Secretary in writing of the new member with five days of the election.

### **Article XVI– AMENDMENTS**

These by-laws may be amended at any County Committee meeting by a two-thirds vote of the members present at such meeting, provided a notice in writing of the proposed amendments is mailed to each member at least one week prior to the meeting.