

# Island County Republican Party Bylaws

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#### **Preamble**

In Island County, Washington, the Republican Party is a hybrid organization consisting of the Island County Republican Party and its governing Central Committee. Unlike the perpetual duration of the Island County Republican Party, its Central Committee is a non-continuing body that springs into existence by operation of law on December 1st of each even-numbered year.

Amendable Bylaws adopted by the Precinct Committee Officers of each newly organized Central Committee are generally the organization's controlling document and may be supplemented by Standing Rules, Precinct Caucus Rules, and Convention Rules. Such bylaws and rules are subordinate to state law and to the Bylaws of the Washington State Republican Party (WSRP).

#### **Article 1: Organization**

The name of the statutory organization shall be the Island County Republican Party Central Committee, hereinafter referred to as the Central Committee. The non-statutory names shall be the Island County Republican Party, Island County GOP, Island County Republicans, Republicans of Island County, and hereinafter referred to as the ICRP.

#### **Article 2: Mission and Vision**

The mission of the ICRP is to contribute to and participate in the Republican Party as an effective vehicle for improving public policy; to promote voter, donor, and volunteer support for those candidates for public office that the Island County Republican Party Central Committee has endorsed; to publicly support Republican principles and recruit new members.

Our political vision is to provide the county, state and nation with Republican candidates and office holders that merit majority voter support by championing freedom, prosperity, and a more limited government while governing in accordance with the U.S. and Washington State Constitutions and guided by the principles outlined in the Declaration of Independence and the County, State, and National Republican Party Platforms.

Further, the Central Committee is mandated to fulfill those functions conferred by the Revised Code of Washington ("RCW") and the WSRP Bylaws.

#### **Article 3: Membership**

3.1 **Members.** Precinct Committee Officers (PCOs), Precinct Captains, Executive Officers, and Committee Chairs shall be considered members of the ICRP.

3.2 **Other Members.** The Central Committee may establish non-voting General and Associate Membership categories in the ICRP and determine their rights and privileges.

3.3 **Good Standing.** An ICRP member shall maintain Good Standing as set forth below:

3.3.1 Pay annual dues as determined by the Standing Rules.

3.3.2 Adhere to the following principles of conduct recognizing:

3.3.2a The Republican Party encourages free discussion and civil debate.

3.3.2b The Republican Party is a party open to all.

3.3.2c As Republicans, we conduct ourselves with mutual respect in all our interactions, communications, and representations.

3.3.2d Participants accept the duty to facilitate the orderly conduct of meetings.

3.3.2e Republicans do not engage in abusive confrontations of any kind.

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- 3.4 **Denial of Good Standing for Conduct.** The Island County Republican Party as a private organization has the right to exclude persons who have committed egregious, flagrant, and continued violations of the Principles of Conduct including those who display an open and public hostility to ICRP or its members. Good Standing may be denied through the end of the member's term for violation of Principles defined in Section 3.3.2 by the following process:
- 3.4.1 Submitting a complaint to the ICRP Chair, signed by at least 10 PCOs, to deny Good Standing.
  - 3.4.2 Upon receiving a complaint, the ICRP Chair shall:
    - 3.4.2a Notify the Executive Board within seven days.
    - 3.4.2b Notify the subject of the complaint within seven days, including a copy of the complaint, inviting a written response to the Executive Board.
    - 3.4.2c Provide the subject of the complaint at least seven days' notice before the Executive Board Meeting where it will be reviewed for submission to the Central Committee.
    - 3.4.2d Schedule consideration of the complaint on the Agenda at the next Regular Meeting of the Central Committee. The ICRP Chair may make only one postponement of the scheduling of the complaint to allow the subject to attend so long as it does not exceed the time constraints of Article 3.4.5.
  - 3.4.3 At the next Regular Central Committee meeting:
    - 3.4.3a The person who is the subject of the complaint must be allowed to speak and respond to the complaint.
    - 3.4.3b The member who initially submitted the complaint must be present at the meeting. Additionally, at least five of the PCOs who signed the complaint also need to attend.
    - 3.4.3c If the complainant and the required minimum of five PCOs fail to appear at the meeting, the complaint will be immediately dismissed.
    - 3.4.3d By a two-thirds affirmative vote of the entire body of the Central Committee, the subject of the complaint shall be denied Good Standing, which shall exclude the individual from all meetings, conventions, and other activities of the ICRP, except those activities which are statutorily required under Washington State Law.
  - 3.4.4 The complaint can be withdrawn by the Complainant at any time.
  - 3.4.5 The complaint process must be concluded within sixty-five days of the submission of the complaint.
  - 3.4.6 PCOs or Captains who have been Denied Good Standing shall not be counted for the purpose of establishing a quorum at any Central Committee Meeting. The Precinct Office of Appointed PCOs and Captains denied Good Standing will automatically be deemed vacant. A Precinct Captain can be appointed to the Precinct of an Elected PCO denied Good Standing.

### **Article 4: Precinct Committee Officers and Captains**

- 4.1 **Elected Precinct Committee Officers (PCOs):** Duly elected in their respective precinct in a state primary election, certified by the Supervisor of Elections of Island County, and confirmed by the Island County Republican Party at the Organization Meeting.
- 4.2 **Appointed PCOs:** Appointed by the County Chair any time following the Organization Meeting to fill a precinct vacancy, appointees reside within the confines of the precinct they are appointed to represent.

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- 4.2.1a Appointed PCO's have the same rights and privileges as Elected PCOs 30 days after appointment, except in the event of voting to fill a vacancy of a Republican-held partisan office in Island County or the 10<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, then an appointed PCO must have been appointed 60 days prior to the vacancy as prescribed in WSRP Bylaws and Article 2, Section 15 of the Washington State Constitution.
- 4.3 **Precinct Captain**: Appointed by the County Chair anytime following the Organization Meeting to fill a precinct vacancy, these appointees do not live within the confines of the precinct they are appointed to represent. They have the same rights and privileges as Appointed PCOs 30 days after appointment, except they shall not vote in the election of ICRP officers or to fill a vacancy of a Republican-held partisan office in Island County or the 10th Legislative District.
- 4.4 **Eligibility**. To be eligible to be a PCO or Precinct Captain, a person must be a registered voter in Island County, at least 18 years of age by the time of the PCO election or at time of appointment and declare themselves to be a member of the Republican Party. (RCW 29A.80.041)
- 4.4.1 **Precinct Vacancies**. A precinct shall be considered vacant if: there is a failure to elect, the current PCO moves out of the precinct, the Captain moves out of Island County, by written resignation submitted to the County Chair, or the member is denied Good Standing.
- 4.5 **Duties of PCOs**. PCOs and Captains will:
- 4.5.1 Attend Meetings of the Central Committee and ICRP Standing and Ad Hoc Committee Meetings of which they are members, help direct party matters, and formulate policy.
- 4.5.2 Build relationships and identify Republican voters in their precinct through canvassing or calling and participating in voter identification or voter outreach programs.
- 4.5.3 Recruit new volunteers and members.
- 4.5.4 Support Republican candidates and campaigns within their precinct.
- 4.5.5 Assist with fundraising, events, and caucus/conventions.
- 4.5.6 Notify Executive Officers when Democrat activity is spotted in their precinct; e.g. doorbelling, direct mail, TV ads, radio ads, newspaper ads, polling texts/calls, etc.
- 4.5.7 Provide current contact information promptly to the Secretary, including at a minimum: email, phone number(s), and physical and mailing address.

## **Article 5: Central Committee**

- 5.1 **Authority of the Central Committee**. The Central Committee is the governing body of the ICRP. The Central Committee may revoke by a two-thirds majority any action of the Executive Board.
- 5.2 **Members of the Central Committee**.
- 5.2.1 The voting members of the Central Committee shall be: Elected PCOs, Appointed PCOs, and Precinct Captains.
- 5.2.2 The ex-officio, non-voting members of the Central Committee shall be any Republican elected to, and currently holding office in, the Federal Legislature from the Second Congressional District, the State Legislature from the Tenth Legislative District, partisan office in Island County Government, and duly appointed Chairs of Committees that are not PCOs or Captains.
- 5.3 **Only One Vote Per Member**. It is understood that regardless of elected position or appointment, no person will be granted more than one vote as a member of the ICRP Central Committee.
- 5.4 **Meetings of the Central Committee**.

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- 5.4.1 **Regular Meetings.** The Central Committee shall meet a minimum of four (4) times each calendar year. Properly called Central Committee meetings at which the attendance requirement for a quorum is not met shall count toward the minimum number of required meetings. The Organization Meeting shall not count toward the minimum number of required meetings.
- 5.4.1a The first meeting of odd-numbered years shall be in January.
- 5.4.1b Central Committee meetings shall be at the call and place designated by the Chair of the Central Committee.
- 5.4.1c The Call to Meeting shall go out no later than seven (7) calendar days before the meeting date with an Agenda, a copy of the previous meeting minutes to be approved, and the Treasurer's Report. The Call to Meeting shall be sent via email or USPS.
- 5.4.2 **Special Meetings.** Special meetings of the Central Committee may be called by the Chair, or by three (3) members of the Executive Board, or at the request of twenty-five percent (25%) of the Central Committee voting Members, provided: 1) a written request specifying the reason(s) for calling the meeting has been delivered to the Chair; and, 2) the Chair fails to act for a period of five (5) working days after receipt of the request.
- 5.4.2a A call for a special meeting shall be in writing and delivered to all members of the Central Committee no later than three (3) business days prior to the date of the meeting with an Agenda; said call to meeting may be sent via USPS or email.
- 5.4.2b All special meetings shall be conducted under the same rules as regular meetings, except for topics discussed during the special meeting are limited to the items on the Agenda in the Call to Meeting.
- 5.4.3 **Organization Meeting.** Per RCW 29A.80.030, the Central Committee, comprised of the newly elected PCOs, shall hold an Organization Meeting following each state general election held in even-numbered years for the purpose of organization at an easily accessible location within the county, subsequent to the certification of precinct committee officers by the county auditor and no later than the second Saturday of the following January.
- 5.4.3a The authorized officers of the retiring committee shall cause notice of the time and place of the meeting to be mailed via USPS or Email to each precinct committee officer at least seventy-two hours before the date of the meeting.
- 5.4.3b At its organization meeting, the county central committee shall elect a Chair, a Vice Chair (whose sex shall be opposite of that of the Chair, RCW 29A.80.030), a State Committeeman, and a State Committeewoman.
- 5.4.3c The Central Committee shall adopt initial Bylaws and Standing Rules as described in Section 14.1.
- 5.4.4 **Quorum.** A quorum for any meeting shall be established when greater than 25% of eligible voting Members are present at a meeting unless otherwise specified. A quorum count may be called before each vote if the number of voting Members has changed during the course of a meeting.
- 5.4.5 **Video Meetings.** The Central Committee shall meet in person unless the Chair determines that extraordinary circumstances prevent an in-person meeting. Any Standing or Ad Hoc committee may meet via videoconference should the Chair of the committee determine that meeting in person is impractical.

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- 5.4.6 **Planning for the Organization Meeting.** The retiring Central Committee is authorized to direct the Treasurer to expend such sums of money as are necessary in order to notify and provide the duly elected PCOs with the call and the agenda of the Organization Meeting. The Central Committee is further authorized to provide adequate space and equipment essential for the meeting.
- 5.5 **Temporary Suspension of Voting Rights.** A voting member of the Central Committee will temporarily have their voting rights suspended when:
  - 5.5.1 They are not in Good Standing under 3.3.1.
  - 5.5.2 They have been absent from three (3) consecutive Central Committee Meetings without an excused absence.
  - 5.5.3 Suspended PCOs are not counted as a part of quorum.
- 5.6 **Reinstatement of Voting Rights.** Voting rights shall be reinstated in the following instances:
  - 5.6.1 When a member's voting rights are suspended under 5.5.1, those rights will be upon payment of dues.
  - 5.6.2 When a member's voting rights are suspended under 5.5.2, those rights will be reinstated at the attendance of the second consecutive meeting.

### **Article 6: Executive Officers**

- 6.1 **Executive Officers.** The Executive Officers of the Central Committee shall consist of a Chair, a Vice Chair (whose gender must differ from that of the Chair, as required by RCW 29A.80.030), a State Committeeman, a State Committeewoman, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.
  - 6.1.1 The Chair, Vice Chair, State Committeeman, and State Committeewoman shall be elected at the Organization Meeting. The Secretary and Treasurer shall be appointed by the Chair.
  - 6.1.2 Each Executive Officer serves a term beginning upon their election or appointment and concluding with the convening of the next Organization Meeting, unless they vacate the office early or are removed. Executive Officers are eligible for re-election or reappointment to additional terms.
- 6.2 **Executive Officer Eligibility.** To be eligible to be an Executive Officer, a person must be a registered voter in Island County, at least 18 years of age by the time of election or appointment and declare themselves to be a member of the Republican Party.
- 6.3 **Candidate Neutrality.** No ICRP Executive Officer in their official capacity shall publicly endorse any candidate before an endorsement or recommendation is made by the ICRP or WSRP, nor endorse any candidate affiliated with another political party. Executive Officers may, without penalty, express their Presidential preferences using forms provided by the RNC or WSRP or during caucus or convention activities in a Presidential election year. The intent of this provision is to ensure neutrality and fairness toward all Republican candidates, particularly in races where multiple Republicans are campaigning for the same office or when an incumbent Republican faces a Republican challenger. It does not prohibit paid campaign work for Republican candidates, except as a Campaign Manager. Violations result in automatic resignation, and the office is declared vacant.
- 6.4 **Contracts.** The Executive Officers are authorized to enter into and sign contracts on behalf of the ICRP with prior approval of a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote cast by the Executive Officers.

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6.4.1 **Encumbrment.** The Executive Officers shall not encumber the Central Committee with any contractual obligation that extends beyond November 30th of the following even-numbered year unless such obligation may be terminated without penalty after the successive Organization Meeting by providing the vendor with no more than one month's notice.

### **Duties of the Executive Officers:**

6.5.1 **Duties of the Chair.** The Chair of the ICRP (County Chair) shall:

- 6.5.1a Develop the Agenda, preside over all meetings of the ICRP Executive Board and Central Committee, and attend the ICRP Convention.
- 6.5.1b Arrange and schedule meetings for the Central Committee and Executive Board, and cause the Call to Meeting to be disseminated.
- 6.5.1c Appoint all Committee Chairs, described in **Article 8**, subject to approval by the Executive Board, except the Nominating and the Finance and Fundraising Committees; however, the County Chair shall appoint four (4) additional members to assist the Treasurer with his or her duties as Chair of the Finance and Fundraising Committee per **Article 8.1.6**;
- 6.5.1d Attend all meetings of the WSRP State Committee or appoint a proxy, first choosing the Vice Chair if (s)he is available, so long as County Chairs are voting members of the WSRP State Committee.
- 6.5.1e Be an authorized signer on the ICRP's checking account.
- 6.5.1f Have a discretionary fund, not to exceed \$500.00 during any calendar year, to be used for materials, office supplies, signs, advertising, and other items necessary to promote and conduct the business of the ICRP, providing receipts to the Treasurer as prescribed by law.

6.5.2 **Duties of the Vice Chair.** The Vice Chair of the ICRP shall:

- 6.5.2a Attend all meetings of the ICRP Executive Board, Central Committee, and the ICRP Convention.
- 6.5.2b Assume the duties of the Chair of the ICRP in his or her absence and temporarily assume the position of Chair in the event of a vacancy until a new Chair can be elected by the Central Committee.
- 6.5.2c Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Chair.

6.5.3 **Duties of the State Committeeman and State Committeewoman.** The State Committeeman and State Committeewoman of the ICRP shall:

- 6.5.3a Attend all meetings of the ICRP Executive Board, Central Committee, and the ICRP Convention.
- 6.5.3b Attend all meetings of the WSRP Central Committee or appoint a proxy; said proxy shall be a Voting Member of the ICRP in good standing.
- 6.5.3c Participate in official WSRP activities and serve on WSRP Committees, to assure that the ICRP is visible and represented at the state level.

6.5.4 **Duties of the Secretary.** The Secretary of the ICRP shall:

- 6.5.4a Attend all meetings of the ICRP Executive Board, Central Committee, and the ICRP Convention.
- 6.5.4b Record the minutes of all ICRP Executive and Central Committee meetings.

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- 6.5.4c Send the Central Committee meeting calls as well as any special meeting call(s) as directed by the Chair; such meeting calls may be made by USPS or transmitted electronically, by email, and must follow notification timelines as set by the Bylaws.
- 6.5.4d Prepare and distribute to all members of the ICRP Central Committee the minutes of each Central Committee meeting and ICRP Convention, not more than ten (10) days after each meeting and/or event.
- 6.5.4e Maintain an official list of Members, both voting and non-voting.
- 6.5.4f Distribute other materials as directed by the Chair.
- 6.5.4g Maintain the official records of the ICRP and transfer records to the succeeding Secretary within 30 days of appointment.

**6.5.5 Duties of the Treasurer.** The Treasurer of the ICRP shall:

- 6.5.5a Attend all meetings of the ICRP Executive Board, Central Committee, and the ICRP Convention.
- 6.5.5b Attend WA PDC Disclosure and ORCA Demonstration trainings within 60 days of appointment.
- 6.5.5c Submit required reports to the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC) in accordance with PDC requirements.
- 6.5.5d Serve as Chair of the Finance and Fundraising Committee.
- 6.5.5e Receive and serve as custodian of any and all funds of the ICRP.
- 6.5.5f Maintain a general checking account for depositing monies received by the ICRP.
- 6.5.5g Pay all bills of the ICRP and issue checks in payment of legitimate obligations in a timely manner.
- 6.5.5h Prepare monthly financial statements and submit them to the Executive Board and Central Committee at regular meetings.
- 6.5.5i Make all financial records immediately available to the Chair of the ICRP upon request.
- 6.5.5j Maintain records of donors and attendees of special events.
- 6.5.5k Maintain records of all dues-paying Members and arrange for the billing of annual dues.
- 6.5.5l Maintain the official financial records of the ICRP and transfer records to the succeeding Treasurer within 30 days of appointment.

6.6 **Primary Residence.** If an Officer of the Central Committee establishes their primary residence outside of Island County, such action shall constitute an automatic resignation, and the office deemed vacant.

6.7 **Running for Public Office.** If an Executive Officer files to run for elected office (other than PCO) with the WA Secretary of State or meets the threshold of “Declaring Candidacy” by the WA Public Disclosure Commission, such action shall constitute an automatic resignation and the office deemed vacant.

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- 6.8 **Removal of an Executive Officer.** Any Executive Officer may be removed from the Executive Board for cause by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting members of the Central Committee, with prior notice provided at the previous meeting of the Central Committee, or with the call of the meeting at which the vote is taken. If notice is provided with the call of the meeting, a seven (7) day written notice call shall be required. Voting for removal shall be by secret ballot.
- 6.9 **Inability of Officers to Serve, Succession.** In the event of a vacancy in an office of the Executive Board, whether voluntarily or by removal by the body for cause, the successor shall be determined as follows:
- 6.9.1 If the position of Chair of the ICRP is vacant, the Vice Chair shall temporarily assume the duties of the Chair until an election by the Central Committee, no later than the second regular central committee after the vacancy occurs.
- 6.9.2 If the position of Vice Chair of the ICRP is vacant, the Chair shall appoint a Vice Chair to serve until a Vice Chair is elected no later than the second regular meeting of the ICRP after the vacancy.
- 6.9.3 If the office of Chair and Vice Chair are both vacant, the State Committeeman or State Committeewoman (or both) may, upon mutual agreement, assume temporary leadership of the ICRP for the purpose of recruiting a suitable Chairperson as soon as possible.
- 6.9.4 In the event of a vacancy, the Chair may make a temporary appointment to fill the vacancy until such times as the vacancy can be filled by election. Nominations shall be accepted from the floor. All elections to fill such vacancies shall be held no later than the second Central Committee meeting held after the occurrence of the vacancy.

### **Article 7: The Executive Board**

#### **7.1 Members of the Executive Board.**

- 7.1.1 The voting Members of the Executive Board shall be:
- 7.1.1a The Chair, Vice Chair, State Committeeman, State Committeewoman, Secretary, and Treasurer.
- 7.1.1b The duly appointed Chair of any Standing Committee whose appointment has been ratified by a vote of the Executive Committee.
- 7.1.2 The ex-officio, non-voting Members of the Executive Board shall be:
- 7.1.2a Any Republican elected to, and currently holding office in, the Federal Legislature from the Second Congressional District, the State Legislature from the Tenth Legislative District, or partisan office in Island County Government.
- 7.1.2b The Chair of any Standing Committee appointed by the County Chair but not yet approved by the Executive Committee; Chairs of ad hoc committees.
- 7.1.2c The Parliamentarian.

7.2 **Responsibilities of the Executive Board.** The Executive Board is responsible for planning the annual program, including fundraising projects, of the Central Committee. Such plan shall be submitted to the Central Committee for approval no later than the February meeting each year.

7.3 **Supervision by the Executive Board.** The Executive Board shall exercise general supervision of the business affairs of the Central Committee between its business meetings, shall make recommendations to the Central Committee, and shall perform other such duties as are specified in the Bylaws. The Executive Board shall be subject to the orders of the Central Committee, and none of its acts shall conflict with action taken by the Central Committee.

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- 7.4 **Video Meetings.** The Executive Board may meet via videoconference at the determination of the Chair.
- 7.5 **Meetings of the Executive Board.**
- 7.5.1 **Regular Meetings.** Unless otherwise ordered by the Executive Board, regular meetings of the Executive Board shall be held at least four (4) times each year.
- 7.5.1a The Call To Meeting shall go out to the entire Central Committee via email no later than seven (7) calendar days before the meeting date with an Agenda and a copy of the previous Executive Board meeting minutes.
- 7.5.1b Quorum shall be 50% of the voting members of the Executive Board.
- 7.5.1c Executive Board Meetings shall be open to attendance by voting members of the Central Committee, except for issues to be discussed in Executive Session.
- 7.5.2 **Special Meetings.** Special meetings may be called upon the written request of three (3) voting members of the Board to the Chair.
- 7.5.2a A call for a special meeting shall be in writing and delivered to all members of the Executive Board at least three (3) business days prior to the date of the meeting. Said call to meeting shall be issued by USPS and/or electronically with delivery confirmation requested.
- 7.5.2b All special meetings shall be conducted under the same rules as regular meetings, except for topics discussed during the special meeting are limited to the items on the Agenda in the Call to Meeting.

## **Article 8: Committees**

- 8.1 **Standing Committees.** The following Chairs of Standing Committees except Finance and Fundraising shall be appointed by the County Chair:
- 8.1.1 **Finance Review:** The Finance Review Committee shall be comprised of three (3) persons appointed by the County Chair No later than the third Central Committee meeting of the year. Their duty is to review the Treasurer's accounts at the close of the calendar year and to report their findings to the Executive Board.
- 8.1.2 **Bylaws and Standing Rules:** This committee shall be comprised of at least 1 PCO and two other members in good standing. The duty of this committee shall be to ensure that the ICRP bylaws are in compliance with WSRP bylaws, RCWs, and WACs; review Bylaws and Standing Rules for relevance and recommend necessary amendments; and review amendments proposed by Central Committee members.
- 8.1.3 **Endorsements:** The Endorsements Committee shall be comprised of at least three (3) PCOs, including one from each County Commissioners' District. It shall be the duty of this Committee to recommend action on ballot measures, initiatives, and bonds, vet candidates, and oversee the endorsement process outlined in Article 9. In the event of a conflict of interest (paid staff, family member, or prospective candidacy), a member will recuse themselves from this committee.
- 8.1.4 **Recruitment:** This committee shall be comprised of at least one (1) PCO. The duty of this committee shall be to identify and recruit PCOs/Captains for vacant precincts, volunteers, and candidates for state, county, and local offices – elected and appointed. This committee will pass along PCO/Captain candidates for appointment to the Chair for consideration and further action.

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- 8.1.5 **Local Issues:** This committee shall be comprised of at least one (1) PCO. The duty of this committee shall be to provide policy analysis, issue alerts, and legislation tracking at the local and - when relevant - state and federal level, and provide analysis on state and local initiatives and referendums.
- 8.1.6 **Finance and Fundraising:** The Finance and Fundraising Committee shall be comprised of the Treasurer, who chairs this committee, and four (4) additional Members to be appointed by the Committee Chair. It shall be the duty of this Committee to prepare a budget for the calendar year beginning January 1 and submit the budget at the second regular meeting of the Central Committee. The budget shall include a financial plan for acquiring funding for ICRP operating expenses and candidate contributions and include a calendar of events showing the time and place of each fundraising effort. This Committee will assist the Executive Board in organizing and executing fundraising projects.
- 8.1.7 **Membership:** This committee shall be comprised of at least one member of the Central Committee and/or one Member of the Finance and Fundraising Committee. The duty of this committee shall be to maintain and develop the General Membership programming of the ICRP as described by Article 3 – including but not limited to the benefits and marketing of the General Membership program.
- 8.1.8 **Communications:** This committee shall be comprised of at least one member of the Central Committee. It shall be the duty of this committee to maintain and send out the Monthly Newsletter, act as Moderator for the private ICRP Facebook Group(s), create and manage the content of public-facing ICRP social media accounts, and maintain the ICRP website. All public-facing communications must be reviewed by the Executive Committee prior to sharing. This committee does not speak for the ICRP but publishes content that matches the messaging of the Central Committee.
- 8.1.9 **PCO Advisory:** This Committee shall be comprised at least of three members of the Central Committee (ideally, one from each County Commissioner District). It shall be the duty of this committee to provide training and development opportunities for PCOs, assistance for community outreach, and other duties determined to meet the goals of this committee
- 8.2 **Special “Ad Hoc” Committees.** The following Ad Hoc committees may be created for specific purpose and cease to exist when their purpose has been achieved; Ad Hoc Chairs are appointed by the County Chair.
  - 8.2.1 **Caucus and Convention:** This Committee shall be comprised of three members of the Central Committee (ideally, one from each County Commissioner District). The duty of this committee shall be to plan and execute the Caucus and Convention of the ICRP per the Call from the Washington State Republican Party according to WSRP Bylaws.
  - 8.2.2 **Nominating:** No later than June of even-numbered years, a Nominating Committee comprised of one (1) member from each County Commissioner’s District shall be elected by the Central Committee. The Nominating Committee shall elect its own Chair. It shall be the duty of this Committee to nominate candidates for offices within the ICRP. At the Organization Meeting, the Nominating Committee shall present a slate of candidates for consideration by the newly organized Central Committee. A slate shall be one candidate for each position to be filled. Nominations from the floor will also be accepted at the Organization Meeting.
  - 8.2.3 **Event Committee(s):** These committees may be established no later than two months before any event to help with the planning and execution, e.g. Lincoln Day, Constitution Day, fairs, parades, etc.

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- 8.3 **Additional Committees.** Other committees, Standing or Ad Hoc, shall be appointed by the County Chair as the Central Committee or Executive Board deems necessary to carry out the work of the Central Committee.
- 8.4 **Ex-Officio Committee Members.** The County Chair, or their designee from the Executive Board, shall serve as an ex-officio member of every ICRP Committee unless a member of the Executive Board is already serving on the committee. The County Chair shall not serve on the Nominating Committee in any capacity.

### **Article 9: Endorsements**

- 9.1 **Endorsement Process.** Endorsements shall be held in the following manner:
- 9.1.1 The Endorsement process for candidates and ballot measures by the Central Committee will be managed by the Endorsement Committee, including setting up procedures and guidelines that do not conflict with the Bylaws.
  - 9.1.2 Endorsements of all candidates and campaigns must be considered during the same meeting unless special circumstances arise after the Endorsement meeting.
  - 9.1.3 Endorsements will only be considered if they are a scheduled agenda item for a Regular Central Committee meeting as prescribed in 5.4.1.c or a Special meeting called with a minimum of 10 days' notice. Endorsements from the floor shall not be permitted.
  - 9.1.4 The Primary Election endorsements will be made no later than six (6) weeks from the end of the WA Filing Period. In the event endorsements need to be made after the Primary Election, such a meeting will be held no later than six (6) weeks after the Primary Election.
  - 9.1.5 Endorsements in the Primary Election shall stand through the General Election.
- 9.2 **Candidate Vetting.** The Endorsement Committee shall perform research and vetting (including in-person or video interviews) on candidates and ballot measures to determine viability and ensure that the candidate's platform/philosophy aligns with a majority of the Republican principles. Vetting may include background checks.
- 9.2.1 Candidates must ensure all documents are properly filed with the WA Secretary of State, the WA Public Disclosure Commission or the Federal Election Committee (whichever is relevant), and maintain proper filings with the appropriate entities. The Endorsement Committee must confirm filings before making a recommendation.
- 9.3 **Non-Partisan Candidates & Ballot Measures.** The Endorsement Committee may choose to recommend to support or oppose nonpartisan candidates and ballot measures. Non-partisan candidates and ballot measures supported by the ICRP can only use the term "recommended". Recommended candidates may receive limited access to resources at the determination of the Executive Board, but cannot receive funding.
- 9.4 **Partisan Candidates.** The Endorsement Committee may choose to recommend to support or oppose partisan candidates, or not to act at all.
- 9.4.1 **Types of Support/Opposition.**
    - 9.4.1a **Endorsement:** Candidates have full support and resources of the ICRP, which includes the ability to use the ICRP name as endorsed/supportive and receive funds from the ICRP.
    - 9.4.1b **Qualified:** Candidates will be able to use ICRP resources but may not use the ICRP name as supportive, nor receive funding.

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- 9.4.1c **Take No Action:** The ICRP will not be making a commitment one way or another. The candidate does not have access to ICRP resources or funding at this time but allows the possibility of future endorsement.
- 9.4.1d **Do Not Endorse:** Does not receive support or endorsement from the ICRP, cannot use the ICRP name as supportive, and is not open to future consideration of support from the ICRP in the current election cycle.
- 9.4.2 **Incumbent Republican Candidates.** Incumbent candidates currently holding and running for the same office may receive an endorsement with just a simple vetting and only a simple majority approval.
- 9.5 **Approval of Endorsements.** Decisions to support candidates or ballot measures require a quorum of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting Central Committee members and approval by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote.
- 9.6 **Removal of Endorsement or Support.** Any voting member of the Central Committee may move that endorsement or support be revoked. The threshold for removal will be the same as approval. Reasons for removal may include, but are not limited to moral turpitude, criminal activity, and fiscal improprieties.
- 9.7 **Resources Available to Candidates.** ICRP resources available to candidates vary from year to year and may include the following: PCO roster, Membership roster, mailing lists, USPS Permits, low-cost printing, social media posting, data “apps” (etc.)
- 9.8 **Number of Endorsements.** The Central Committee may not endorse more than two candidates for a specific office.

### **Article 10: County Caucus and Convention**

- 10.1 **Arranging the Caucus and Convention.** The County Chair shall arrange and provide for a Republican Party County Caucus and Convention in accordance with the call received from the Republican Party State Committee, for the purpose of electing delegates to the Republican Party State Convention, receiving reports, considering resolutions, and transacting such other business as may properly come before it.
- 10.2 **Eligible Participants.** Any registered voter of the precinct in which the caucus is being conducted who is willing to state by signing a Registration form and List of Participants at Precinct Caucus form that he/she considers him/herself to be a Republican and has not participated and will not participate in the current-year caucus or convention system of any other political party shall be eligible to participate in the caucus.
- 10.3 **Automatic Delegates to the County Convention.** In accordance with Washington State rules, the Chair, Vice Chair, State Committeeman, State Committeewoman, PCOs, and Precinct Chairs shall be automatic at-large Delegates to the County Convention, any other provision of this article notwithstanding.
- 10.4 **Convention Committees.** Convention Committees appointed by the County Chair shall include the following: General Arrangements, Credentials, Standing Rules, Program, Elections, and Platform.
- 10.5 **Temporary Chair of the County Convention.** The County Chair shall be the temporary Chairman of the County Convention.
- 10.6 **County Convention Fee.** A participation fee may be charged for the County Convention.

### **Article 11: Parliamentary Procedure**

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11.1 The rules contained in the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern in all cases where they are applicable, and where they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws or with any special rules of order the Central Committee may adopt.

### **Article 12: Post-Primary Nomination of Partisan Candidates**

- 12.1 **Nomination Timeline.** In the meeting immediately following a primary election where partisan races were on the ballot, the Central Committee shall nominate all Republican candidates in partisan races as Republicans, regardless of endorsement status.
- 12.2 **Why we nominate.** The WSRP advises that the parties “nominate” partisan candidates, regardless of endorsement status, after the primary election to prevent a Washington legal loophole from bringing mischief. This allows the party to maintain the right to fill the position following their election should a vacancy occur.
- 12.3 Nomination of a candidate does not constitute an endorsement from the ICRP.

### **Article 13: Adoption of Bylaws and Amendments**

- 13.1 **Initial Bylaws Adoption.** Initial Adoption of the Bylaws and Standing Rules shall be by a simple majority of the duly Elected PCOs at the Organization Meeting. Initial Bylaws and Standing Rules shall be provided no later than 10 days prior to the Organization Meeting via email or USPS.
- 13.2 **Bylaws Amendments.** Following their adoption, these Bylaws may be amended at any Regular Meeting of the Central Committee by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote, so long as a quorum is established and provided that the amendment has been submitted in writing to the Bylaws Committee Chair.
- 13.2.1 Once submitted, the Bylaws Committee will review and respond to the amendment sponsor within 14 days.
- 13.2.2 Once the Bylaws Committee approves the amendment, they shall format and prepare the amendment to be distributed to the Central Committee with the next Call to Meeting. If not approved, the amendment sponsor may bring it to the Committee during New Business.
- 13.3 **Inactive Bylaws Committee.** If a Bylaws committee is not active by June of an even-numbered year, the Chair shall appoint a new Bylaws Committee Chair to review and revise, if necessary, the Bylaws to present at the Organization Meeting.

The foregoing Bylaws of the ICRP were duly adopted as provided herein on the Organization meeting 7th of December 2024.

Island County Republican Party

James H. Spoltman, Chair