

## **Washington State**

### **7<sup>TH</sup> Legislative District Democratic Central Committee**

**MISSION STATEMENT:** To build and maintain an effective grassroots party organization that can help win local elections and maximize the Democratic vote in all elections

## **By-Laws**

Adopted: April 21, 2007

### **ARTICLE I – NAME**

The name of this organization shall be: 7<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Democratic Central Committee

### **ARTICLE II – PURPOSE**

The purpose of this organization shall be:

- To serve as the administrative body of the Democratic Party for the 7<sup>th</sup> Legislative District of Washington State;
- To operate as statutorily authorized and as permitted pursuant to the charter of the State and National Democratic Party organizations.

### **ARTICLE III – OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of this organization shall be:

- To actively foster and promote the principals of the Democratic Party;
- To actively seek out qualified candidates for elective offices to represent the residents in the District;
- To actively support the campaigns of Democratic candidates of the District;
- To prioritize financial support for candidates representing the District;
- To gather and disseminate information concerning Democratic beliefs, values, and goals;
- To provide accurate, factual information that will assist the public in becoming better informed about issues that most directly affect their life and standard of living.

### **ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP**

Membership shall consist of:

- Democratic Precinct Committee Officers, both elected and appointed;

- Elected Democratic officials representing residents of the District;
- Any person declaring their status as a Democrat residing in the District.

## **ARTICLE V – OFFICERS, DUTIES AND ELECTIONS**

### **OFFICERS**

The officers are Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer.

The Chair and Vice Chair are elected by Precinct Committee Officers who have been elected to their position in the last general election. The Chair and Vice Chair will be of opposite sex and from different counties in the District.

The Chair will appoint a Secretary and Treasurer and any other positions that are considered necessary.

### **DUTIES**

The duties are:

- The Chair shall preside at all meetings; and shall assure that the business of the organization takes place through active development and support of an effective organizational structure; maintaining a good and timely communication system; and encouraging active involvement in Democratic activities.
- The Vice Chair shall assume the duties of the Chair if the Chair is not able to attend a meeting, and shall be assigned duties commensurate with the purpose of the organization as determined by the Chair such as coordinating communications and information dissemination.
- The Secretary shall maintain an active record of the proceedings of the organization. This includes, but is not limited to, the recording of meeting minutes and accepting correspondence directed to the organization.
- The Treasurer shall receive all monies and deposit same in one bank, pay bills, and keep required financial accounts; and work closely with any fundraising activities.

The Executive Board of the District shall consist of the officers and State Committeepersons. The duties of the Executive Board are to conduct the business of the District as necessary between regularly scheduled general meetings.

A State Committeeman and State Committeewoman will be elected at the re-organization meeting at the same time as the Chair and Vice Chair and under the same rules.

### **ELECTIONS**

The elections for Chair, Vice Chair and the State Committeeman and State Committeewoman will be held at the reorganization meeting. The reorganization meeting shall take place once every two years. It will be prior to the WSDCC bi-annual reorganization meeting and within six weeks of that meeting.

An attempt will be made to have representation of officers and State Committeepersons from throughout the District.

## TERM OF OFFICE

The term of office is two years.

## VACANCIES

Vacancies in the position of Chair, Vice Chair, State Committeewoman, State Committeeman or any representative the legislative district organization is authorized to send to other Party organizations will be filled at the first regular meeting following the vacancy, as provided in Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised. Only elected Precinct Committee Officers, and Precinct Committee Officers appointed after the reorganization meeting, shall vote in an election for these positions.

## REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

An officer or State Committeeperson can be removed from office for failure to perform the duties of the office or failure to abide by the By-laws of the organization upon a vote of the majority of elected Precinct Committee Officers.

## ARTICLE VI -- VOTING RIGHTS

All members of the 7<sup>th</sup> Legislative District shall have equal voice and vote. The only exceptions are:

- The re-organization meeting for the election of Chair, Vice Chair, State Committeeman and State Committeewoman. In this case only elected Precinct Committee Officers from the 7<sup>th</sup> LD can vote for these positions.
- The vote for filling a vacancy in the position of Chair, Vice Chair, State Committeewoman, State Committeeman or any representative the legislative district organization is authorized to send to other Party organizations. Only elected Precinct Committee Officers and Precinct Committee Officers appointed after the reorganization meeting shall vote in an election for these positions.
- The vote for removal of an elected officer from office for failure to perform the duties of the position. In this case only elected Precinct Committee Officers from the 7<sup>th</sup> LD can vote.

## ARTICLE VII – MEETINGS

There shall be at least four scheduled meetings of the membership each year. Every two years there will be a reorganization meeting prior to the State reorganization meeting.

The regularly scheduled meetings for the year are to be announced no later than at the first meeting of the year.

Care is to be taken to coordinate meeting dates with other county and State meetings and events to avoid conflicts as much as possible.

An effort shall be made to rotate the regular meeting places throughout the District.

Written notification of the meetings and the agenda for the meeting will be sent to all Precinct Committee Officers so it will be received two weeks prior to each meeting.

Electronic notification with acknowledgement of receipt may serve in lieu of written notification. Without acknowledgement of receipt a written notice must be sent.

## **ARTICLE VIII – FINANCE**

Options for annual financial support of the organization include:

- Contributions from each county organization within the District
- Fundraising activities identified during the year
- Donations from membership

## **ARTICLE IX – PARLIMENTARY AUTHORITY**

The Rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall govern this Club in all cases in which they are applicable and are not in conflict with these Bylaws or the Charter and Bylaws of the Washington State Democratic Central Committee.

## **ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS**

Only elected Precinct Committee Officers and Precinct Committee Officers appointed after the re-organizational meeting shall vote on the adoption or amendment of Bylaws.

Changes to the by-laws will be recommended by a By-laws committee. The Chair of the District will serve as chair of this committee. An attempt will be made to have representation from each county on the committee.

Prior notice must be given in writing to the elected Precinct Committee Officers and Precinct Committee officers appointed after the re-organizational meeting by the Chair at least one month prior to the meeting.