

**BY-LAWS OF THE  
CHAMPAIGN COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL COMMITTEE**

- I. These By-Laws of the Champaign County Democratic Central Committee shall govern the operations of the Champaign County Democratic Central Committee.
  - A. The Illinois Election Code 10 ILCS 5/1-1 et seq. shall govern all activities of the Champaign County Democratic Central Committee.
  - B. Members of the committee shall be all of the Democratic precinct committeemen, hereafter referred to as committee-persons in Champaign County lawfully elected or appointed in accordance with Illinois Compiled Statutes, 10 ILCS 5/7-8 (d).
- II.
  - 1) The Champaign County Democratic Central Committee shall hold a county convention as provided by the Illinois Election Code.
    - A. The officers of the organization shall be elected at the County Convention to be held in Champaign County 29 days after the general primary election in the even numbered years, pursuant to statute.
    - B. An officer shall be elected upon receiving a majority of the Central Committee votes cast, where each committee-person votes with the number of votes cast in his/her precinct in the last Democratic primary.
    - C. The officers shall be a chairman, hereafter referred to as Chair, one or more vice chairs, a secretary and a treasurer. The Chair must be a precinct committee-person, as provided by statute. The other officers must be precinct committee-persons, or be appointed to the Central Committee before assuming their offices.
  - 2) The Central Committee shall have a minimum of ten regular monthly meetings per year. Additional meetings may be held either on the call of the chair, on the call of a majority of the executive committee (not including vacant offices), or on the call of twenty-five percent of the members, upon five days written notification of all members in accordance with the Illinois Compiled Statutes 10 ILCS 5/7-9 (h).
  - 3) Voting at the Central Committee meetings may be by voice vote or a show of hands, but if two members demand it, a roll call shall be taken. In any roll call vote of the Central Committee the number of ballots cast in the last Democratic primary in each precinct shall be the number of votes cast by the precinct committee-person from that precinct. A majority of votes so cast shall decide the outcome of the roll call vote.
  - 4) The Central Committee meetings shall be plenary sessions in which all questions of business can be decided. If a majority of Central Committee members are present, the actions it takes shall be binding on the Executive Committee. At least five days notice shall be given of all meetings.
  - 5) The meetings of the Central Committee shall be open to the public, and all interested persons shall be encouraged to participate in the proceedings.

- III.
  - 1) The Chair shall preside at meetings of the Central Committee and the Executive Committee and oversee the affairs of the Central Committee under the supervision of the Executive Committee.
  - 2) The Vice Chairs shall assist the Chair in the performance of his/her duties.
  - 3) The Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of and handle the correspondence of the Central Committee and the Executive Committee, and shall keep the files of the Central Committee.
  - 4) The Treasurer shall receive and keep safe all monies, shall disburse these on the authority of the Executive Committee, and shall keep records of all financial transactions.
    - A. Money received on behalf of the Committee shall be promptly submitted to the Treasurer, who shall record the transaction and promptly deposit such funds in the account of the Central Committee.
    - B. Expenditures shall be by checks drawn by the Treasurer on the basis of bills and invoices approved by the Chair and the Executive Committee.
    - C. The Treasurer shall assume the responsibility for the filing of federal and state financial reports and shall have the responsibility to assume additional duties as required by law.
    - D. The Chair and the Treasurer shall serve as officers for all Political Action Committees (PAC's) formed by the Champaign County Democratic Central Committee.
    - E. The Treasurer shall prepare a financial report for all Executive Committee meetings and regular Central Committee meetings, including the purpose for expenditures. Also the Treasurer shall prepare an annual statement accounting for receipts, disbursements, and the balance.
  - 5) The Chair may designate a chair *pro tempore* to preside at specific meetings of the Central Committee or Executive Committee at which neither the Chair nor the First Vice-Chair are able to preside.
  - 6) When an office of the Central Committee becomes vacant, it shall be filled promptly by an election held by the Central Committee. When the Chair's office becomes vacant, it shall be filled by the First Vice Chair, until a new chair has been elected.
  - 7) The Central Committee expresses special concern for encouraging wider participation in all programs and activities of the Democratic Party by minorities, native Americans, women and youth.
- IV. The Central Committee will encourage qualified Democratic candidates to file for office and will seek a complete slate of competent Democratic candidates for local and district office at each election.

- V. 1) The Executive Committee shall decide all business pertaining to the Central Committee between meetings of the Central Committee. The Executive Committee or its designee shall prepare the agenda for Central Committee meetings. It shall report to the Central Committee meetings all actions taken since the last meeting. It shall meet regularly and as the need arises.
- 2) The Executive Committee shall consist of the elected officers plus such additional members as may be selected by the Central Committee at the county convention or at subsequent meetings. Voting members must be precinct committee-persons.
- 3) The Executive Committee shall create such other committees as it deems advisable. All committee appointments shall be reported at the next meeting of the Central Committee. All committees must secure approval of the Executive Committee for all expenditures.
- VI. Ballot Measure Endorsements: The Central Committee may take positions on issues which will appear on a ballot in any election, hereafter referred to as a ballot measure. Notice that the Committee will consider adopting a position on a ballot measure shall be by a motion made and passed by a simple majority at a regular Central Committee meeting. The decision to support or oppose the ballot measure shall be voted upon at a subsequent meeting of the Central Committee and shall require a two-thirds majority of those present and voting for passage.
- VII. Candidate Endorsements:
- 1) The Executive Committee may consider endorsing Democratic candidates for local and district offices in non-partisan or primary elections. The Executive Committee shall be charged with conducting any candidate endorsement review process, in which all Democratic candidates will be asked to complete an endorsement application and may be asked for an interview.
- 2) Upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, the Central Committee by a two-thirds majority vote of those present and voting may endorse Democratic candidates for local and district offices in non-partisan or primary elections. Notice that the Central Committee will vote on candidate endorsements shall be provided to the Central Committee at least five days prior to the meeting at which the vote will take place.
- 3) Multiple candidate endorsements for the same office are not precluded.
- VIII. 1) Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, will be the official guide to parliamentary procedure at all meetings.
- 2) These by-laws may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the total Central Committee roll call votes cast. Any amendments to the by-laws must be proposed at one monthly Central Committee meeting and not voted upon until the next monthly Central Committee meeting, with notice mailed to all members of the proposed changes and the date, place and time of the meeting at which a vote will be held.

*Adopted by the Democratic Central Committee on Wednesday, August 23, 2006*