

BY-LAWS OF THE HURON COUNTY DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE

ARTICLE I – NAME & PURPOSE

1. The name of the organization shall be the Huron County Democratic Committee, commonly referred to as the Huron County Democratic Party or HCDP.
2. The HCDP is organized to help build a stronger Democratic Party presence in the county by supporting the Michigan Democratic Party (herein after referred to as MDP) values of opportunity, community and accountability. The HCDP is to promote the philosophy of the Democratic Party and to elect Democrats who support this philosophy; and further, to unite and to aid in the activities of all Party members, precinct delegates, committees officeholders, candidates and all other Democrats working to promote wide and active participation in the Democratic Party.

ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP

1. Membership shall consist of those applying for membership in the HCDP who support the purpose stated in ARTICLE I, Section 2 above.
2. Membership shall be open to all persons regardless of actual or perceived race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, economic status, religion, ethnic identity ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, physical appearance or disability.
3. Membership may be revoked by a two-thirds vote of the Executive Committee members present for acts detrimental to the philosophy of the MDP or HCDP.

ARTICLE III – MEETINGS

1. The regular monthly meeting shall be open to HCDP members and prospective members and shall be conducted by the elected officers. The date and time of the regular monthly meeting shall be set by the County Chair and/or the Executive Committee. At monthly meetings the order of business shall proceed to include:
 - a. Pledge of Allegiance
 - b. Minutes of the previous meeting
 - c. Officer reports
 1. Treasurer
 2. Recording Secretary
 3. Vice-Chair
 4. Chair
 - d. Committee reports
 - e. Member announcements
 - f. Adjournment
2. In addition to the regular monthly meetings, the Executive Committee, the standing committees, and the officers may meet throughout the year on an as-needed basis at Special Meetings.
3. The time and date of each regular monthly meeting will be announced in the minutes, by e-mail, postings to the HCDP Facebook or Website, or other suitable means. Special meetings may be called without prior notice.

ARTICLE IV – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. The HCDP Executive Committee (Hereinafter referred to as the EC) shall be responsible for the
Overall policy and direction of the HCDP and shall be elected in accordance with MDP Rules:
 - a. One-third of the EC shall consist of the most recent nominees for countywide offices, State House, State Senate and US House of Representatives at the August Primary Election.
 - b. Two-thirds of the EC are elected, using proportional voting, by delegates to the County Convention held within twenty (20) days of the November general election. Delegates to said convention shall be HCDP members who are currently MDP members, precinct delegates, and the above mentioned nominees for elected office.
2. The newly elected EC, must maintain their HCDP and MDP membership, and shall elect its Officers, which shall also serve as Officers of HCDP. Those positions are: Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson (opposite gender as the Chairperson), Secretary and Treasurer. The EC may add a Corresponding Secretary position if need be.
3. Officers must be members of the MDP, but do not necessarily have to be elected members of the EC. EC Officers are considered full members of the EC with full voting rights.
4. Members of the EC receive no compensation. However, Members of the EC may be reimbursed
for reasonable and appropriate HCDP related business expenses approved by a vote of the Officers.
5. The EC shall meet as necessary at an agreed upon time and place.
6. A quorum must be one-half of the Executive Committee before business can be transacted or motions made or passed.
7. All EC members shall serve two year terms beginning at the time of election.

ARTICLE V – COUNTY OFFICERS

1. There shall be four officers of the HCDP consisting of a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Officers are elected by the EC. In addition to their duties as an EC member, the County Officers are responsible for the day-to-day operations of the County Committee.
2. The office of Secretary may be divided between a Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary at the discretion of the EC. The Corresponding Secretary shall enjoy all the same rights and restrictions, voting and otherwise, as the regular officers.
3. Election of new officers by the EC shall occur within thirty (30) days of the Fall Convention. These officers shall also be the officers of the EC.
4. All officers shall serve two year terms beginning at the time of election and are eligible for re-election.
5. A quorum for a regular meeting or for a meeting of the officers shall be at least three officers.
6. An official meeting may be called by the Chair if at least two other officers agree and can attend.
7. Proxies are not allowed in any HCDP meeting.
8. The duties of the officers are as follows:
 - a. The Chair shall convene regularly scheduled meetings, approve the chairperson of the standing committees, approve the agenda for meetings, as well as being an ex-officio member of all standing committees. The Chair is the head of the HCDP and takes on all other responsibilities that this position implies.

- b. The Vice Chair will take on the responsibilities of the Chair if the Chair is absent or incapacitated. The Vice-Chair shall oversee the activities of all Standing Committees.
 - c. The Secretary shall be responsible for maintaining HCDP records, including the minutes at all membership and EC meetings.
 - d. The Treasurer is the custodian of the party's funds and shall make a report at each monthly meeting to the membership. In addition, a detailed budget report and a report of all account activity including deposits and checks drawn on the accounts shall be provided to the Officers at each monthly meeting. The Treasurer shall submit a proposed budget to the Officer Group for approval. The Treasurer shall be responsible for bill payment, bookkeeping, and financial recordkeeping. The Treasurer shall also be responsible for filing, in a timely manner, all necessary election reports as required by the Bureau of Elections.
 - e. The Corresponding Secretary, if elected by the EC, shall be responsible for sending meeting and event announcements to members, prospects, and the local media, and for all other HCDP correspondence as needed.
9. When a vacancy occurs, nominations may be received and/or presented by the EC. These nominations shall be voted upon at the earliest practicable meeting. These vacancies will be filled only to the end of that particular officer's term.
 10. Resignation of an officer must be in writing and received by any current HCDP officer. An officer may be removed for excessive absences or other cause by a two-thirds vote of the EC.
 11. The officers of the HCDP shall receive no compensation. However, officers may be reimbursed for reasonable and appropriate HCDP related business expenses either approved by a vote of the officers or in accordance with the current HCDP "Meeting Reimbursement Policy Guidelines for Officers".

ARTICLE VI – COMMITTEES

1. The HCDP officers may create and/or approve committees as needed, such as fundraising and special events. The HCDP Chair shall approve all committee chairpersons.
2. Standing committees may include:
 - a. Candidate Recruitment Committee
 - b. Membership Recruitment Committee
 - c. Communications Committee
 - d. Headquarters Committee
 - e. Young Democrats Committee

ARTICLE VII – AMENDMENTS

1. These By-laws may be amended when necessary by a two-thirds majority of the HCDP officers after review and approval by a majority of the HCDP members present at two consecutive regular monthly meetings. Proposed amendments must be submitted to the Secretary to be sent out with regular Board announcements.

ARTICLE VIII – STANDARD REQUIREMENTS AND PROVISIONS

1. Under Article 2.B. of the Rules of the Michigan Democratic Party, certain standard rules are required:
 - a. No rule shall be adopted which is inconsistent with the rules of the Michigan Democratic Party.

- b. Any rule adopted shall be made available on request in writing to any HCDP or Michigan Democratic Party member.
- c. The latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall be used on any question of procedure.
- d. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the HCDP or any committee thereof shall be of the opposite sex.
- e. The Unit Rule shall be prohibited at any level in the HCDP.
- f. No rule shall be adopted which would cause any person to cast a vote or be recorded as voting contrary to that person's judgment.
- g. Vote shall not be taken by secret ballot at any meeting or at any level of the HCDP.

ARTICLE IX: DISSOLUTION

1. The HCDP shall be a non-profit organization and upon its dissolution as a county party, all assets and real and personal property of the HCDP and of its committees shall revert either: A.) to a newly formed and recognized Huron County Democratic Party or Club; or B.) in the event no such newly formed and recognized group exists, to the benefit of the Michigan Democratic Party. No part of the income or assets of the HCDP shall inure to any of its members except for the reimbursement of actual expenses, reasonable compensation for services approved by the HCDP, or a contribution for electing a member to office if the HCDP so approves.

These By-laws were approved in accordance with Article VII above at an Officer Meeting of the HCDP on June 11, 2019. By-laws were presented at monthly membership meetings in May and June.