

# **Ogemaw County Democratic Party Bylaws**

## **ARTICLE I. Name**

Section 1. This organization shall be known as the Ogemaw County Democratic Party. It shall consist of all members of the Michigan Democratic Party and all duly elected democratic precinct delegates residing in Ogemaw County.

## **ARTICLE II. Purpose**

Section 1. The purpose of Ogemaw County Democratic Party 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.

Section 2. The Ogemaw County Democratic Party shall be a non-profit organization and upon its dissolution, all asset and real and personal property of the Party and its committees shall revert to the benefit of the Michigan Democratic Party. No part of the income or assets of the Party shall inure to any of its members except of the reimbursement of actual expenses, reasonable compensation for services (if the party approves), or a contribution for electing a member to office (if the party so approves).

## **ARTICLE III. Fundamental Principles**

Section 1. All public meetings of the Ogemaw County Democratic Party, at all levels, shall be open to all members of the Democratic Party regardless of actual or perceived race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, economic status, religion, ethnic identity, ancestry, martial status, sexual orientation, physical appearance or disability.

Section 2. No tests for membership in, nor any oaths of loyalty to the Ogemaw County Democratic Party shall be required or used which has the effect of requiring prospective or current members of the Democratic Party to acquiesce in, condone, or support discrimination on the grounds of actual or perceived race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, economic status, religion, ethnic identity, ancestry, martial status, sexual orientation, physical appearance or disability.

Section 3. The time and place for all public meetings of the Ogemaw County Democratic Party, on all levels, shall be publicized fully and in such a manner as to assure timely notice to all interested persons. Such meetings must be held in places accessible to all Party members and large enough to accommodate all interested persons.

Section 4. The Ogemaw County Democratic Party, on all levels, shall support the broadest possible participation without discrimination on grounds of actual or perceived

race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, economic status religion, ethnic identity, ancestry, martial status, sexual orientation, physical appearance or disability.

Section 5. The Ogemaw County Democratic party shall publicize fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to all interested parties a full description of the legal and practical procedures for selection of Ogemaw County Democratic Party officers and representatives on all levels. Publication of those procedures shall be done in such a fashion that all prospective and current members of the Ogemaw County Democratic Party will be fully and adequately informed of the pertinent procedure in time to participate in each selection procedures, at all levels, of the Ogemaw County Democratic Party organization.

Section 6. The Ogemaw County Democratic Party shall publicize fully and in such a manner as to assure notice to all interest parties a complete description of the legal and practical qualifications for all officers and representatives of the Ogemaw County Democratic Party. Such publication shall be done in a timely fashion so that all prospective candidates or applicants for any elected or appointed position within the Ogemaw County Democratic Party will have full and adequate opportunity to complete for office.

Section 7. Proportional voting shall be used in the election of delegates and alternates to any Convention.

Section 8. All rules and Bylaws of the Ogemaw County Democratic Party, at all levels, shall be consistent with the Rules of the Michigan Democratic Party and shall be available on request in writing to any member of the Ogemaw County Democratic Party.

Section 9. The unit rule is prohibited at all levels of the Ogemaw County Democratic Party.

Section 10. No rule shall be adopted at any level of the Ogemaw County Democratic Party which would require a person to cast a vote or be recorded as voting contrary to that person's judgment.

Section 11. On all questions of procedure not resolved by the Rules of the Michigan Democratic Party or these Bylaws, the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall be used.

Section 12. The Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of any unit, committee, caucus, or convention of the Ogemaw County Democratic Party shall be of the opposite sex.

Section 13. Votes shall not be taken by secret ballot at any meeting of the Ogemaw County Democratic Party at any level.

## **ARTICLE IV. Membership**

Section 1. Membership of the Ogemaw County Democratic Party shall consist of all duly elected democratic precinct delegates of the county, members of the Michigan Democratic Party residing in the county and members of the Ogemaw County Democratic Party.

Section 2. Precinct delegates shall be apportioned and selected in accordance with the Rules of the Michigan Democratic Party.

Section 3. The Officers and County Committees of the Ogemaw County Democratic Party shall be selected in accordance with the Rules of the Michigan Democratic Party.

## **ARTICLE V. Meetings**

Section 1. The regular meetings of the Ogemaw County Democratic Party shall be on the day of each month at the location and time designated in the meeting notice.

Section 2. Subject to the Rules of the Michigan Democratic Party and these Bylaws, all meetings shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order (latest edition)

## **ARTICLE VI. Officers**

Section 1. Officers shall be selected in accordance with the rules of the Michigan Democratic Party. The Officers are the Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson of the opposite sex of the Chairperson, a Secretary and a Treasurer. Officers make up the County Committee.

Section 2. The Chairman shall preside at all regular county membership meetings, and have such other duties as are usual to the office of the County Chairperson, or that maybe required by this organization.

Section 3. The Vice-Chairman shall be a member of the opposite sex from the Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson shall assist the Chairperson in the discharge of his/her duties, and shall temporarily assume the duties and responsibilities of the Chairperson in his/her absence.

Section 4. The Secretary of this organization shall keep an accurate record and minutes of the proceedings of the regular Ogemaw County Democratic Party meetings. He/She shall keep and preserve all the books, documents, correspondence, records, minutes, effects, and any other property of this organization, and when a new secretary all the aforesaid items kept and preserved during his/her tenure of office. He/She shall see that proper notification is given to the membership of their monthly meetings.

Section 5. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the financial receipts and disbursements of this organization subject to the approval of the general membership at their regular monthly meetings. The funds of this organization shall be deposited in banks and shall be drawn upon checks signed by any of the following officers: Chairperson, Secretary, and Treasurer. The Treasurer shall make financial reports to the membership at all regular meetings. When a new Treasurer is elected, the past Treasurer shall forthwith deliver to the new Treasurer the funds and all the books and records kept during his/her tenure in office.

## **ARTICLE VII. Committees**

Section 1. The Chairperson shall appoint the committees and committee chairpersons necessary for the work of the organization.

Section 2. Standing Committees shall include the following:

1. Rules and Bylaws Committee
2. Candidate Recruitment Committee
3. Policy and Resolutions Committee
4. Campaign Committee

Section 3. These committees shall include the appropriate subcommittees. The Chairperson of the County Party shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees.

## **ARTICLE VIII. Order of Business**

Section 1. At meetings the business of the organization shall proceed in the following order:

1. Call to Order
2. Secretary's Report
3. Treasurer's Report
4. Communications
5. Old Business
6. New Business
7. Other
8. Next Meeting Date Announcement
9. Adjournment

## **ARTICLE IX. Amendments**

Section 1. Proposals for change or amendments to these Bylaws shall first be referred to the Rules and Bylaws Committee which shall report its recommendations to the next regular County meeting or special meeting called for that purpose.

Section 2. These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3<sup>rd</sup>) majority vote of the members of the Ogemaw County Democratic Party present at a meeting.

Section 3. These Bylaws shall be in full force and effect upon their adoption and shall supersede all other bylaws, rules, motions and policies of a contrary nature with the exception of the Rules of the Michigan Democratic Party.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010.

Attested to by: \_\_\_\_\_, Chair, Ogemaw County Democratic Party.  
Dale Sheltroun