**LEE COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY**

**PLAN OF ORGANIZATION**

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 Republican Party Chairman Republican Party Secretary

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# ARTICLE I

# DECLARATIONS

#  PREAMBLE

We, the Members of the Republican Party of Lee County, North Carolina, dedicated to the values and principles fostered within our state and federal party platforms, conscious of our civic responsibilities and rights, firm in our determination to preserve the traditional American principles that government ought to be limited in size and must be of the people, by the people and for the people do, for the purpose of uniting and coordinating our efforts for maximum influence and efficiency, herewith establish this Plan of Organization for the Lee County Republican Party of North Carolina.

1. **MISSION OF THE LEE COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY**

The mission of the Lee County Republican Party is to elect Republican candidates for political office at local, state and federal levels; then to hold them accountable to the conservative values and principles of the local, state, and national Republican Party Platforms and Plans of Organization.

1. **PURPOSE OF THE LEE COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY**

The purpose of the Lee County Republican Party is to organize and coalesce precincts into an effective (conservative) county organization prepared to recruit, train, support, resource and elect candidates to public office. The Lee County Republican Party remains active year-round to maintain and grow the organization, to monitor and advise its elected officials on the operations of local, state and federal governments, and to hold its elected officials accountable for preserving and defending the values and principles enumerated in Republican Party Platforms and Plans of Organization.

1. **GOALS OF THE LEE COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY**
2. Organize local Republican members into effective precincts & a dynamic county organization.
3. Perform fundraising operations to finance the operations of the local Party.
4. Maintain a year-round headquarters operation to serve the operational needs of the local Party and to assist with District and State-level Party operations.
5. Participate in District and State-level Republican Party activities and events.

5. Monitor and communicate the impacts of legislative, executive, and judicial branch developments at local, state, and federal levels.

6. Train and educate local Republican Party activists.

7. Recruit, advise, support, resource, and elect Republicans to political office at all levels of government.

8. Advise and assist elected Republican officials in executing their duties.

9. Uphold and enforce the traditional American values and principles enumerated in the county, state and federal Republican Platforms and Plans of Organization.

10. Grow the local Republican party membership through voter registration drives, community outreach, and education programs that demonstrate the superiority of Republican values and principles.

# ARTICLE II

# PARTY MEMBERSHIP

1. GENERAL

All citizens of Lee County who are registered Republicans are also Members of the Republican Party of North Carolina. Except where Members are subject to party discipline, they shall have full rights and privileges to participate in the official affairs of the Republican Party in accordance with these rules. All references herein to Delegates, Alternates, Officers, and Members shall, in all cases, mean persons identified and registered with the Republican Party in the Precinct of their residence. Any person running for a Republican Party office in the state of North Carolina GOP, congressional district, county or precinct shall be a resident of the jurisdiction in which he seeks office.

1. MEMBERSHIP IN GOOD STANDING

The Lee County GOP places special trust and confidence in Members who have been continuously registered with the Republican Party, who have resided in Lee County for the most recent 12 months, who voted in the most recent General Election, and who voted the Republican ballot in the most recent (first) primary election. Members who fulfill all of these qualifications and who are not subject to party disciplinary action shall be considered Members in Good Standing within the Lee County Republican Party and will be eligible to serve as officers at precinct and county levels. This status of ‘membership in good standing’ has no bearing on a member’s eligibility to seek elected public office, as those qualifications are governed by North Carolina state statutes. Membership in good standing is not required for a Member to serve as a delegate to precinct, county, congressional district, or state conventions. Waiver of the ‘member in good standing’ qualification for serving as an officer at precinct or county level requires a 2/3 vote of the body at the annual Lee County Republican Party convention or unanimous consent of the Lee County Republican Party Executive Committee at one of its quarterly meetings.

# ARTICLE III

#  PRECINCT ORGANIZATION

1. ANNUAL PRECINCT MEETINGS
	1. Call to Precinct Meetings

In every year, the County Chairman shall call Precinct Meetings during the month of February or March, after giving fifteen (15) days written notice to each Precinct Chairman by notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the County as provided for in Article V.A.3., or by announcing the precinct meetings via email notice and on the county website and social media page(s). The Precinct Chairs shall be informed as to the number of registered Republicans entitled to cast votes at the county convention. Failure of the County Chairman to act in compliance with the provision above shall be cause for any Member of the County Executive Committee to call said Precinct Meetings by electronic notification or by notice in a newspaper of general circulation within the County as provided for in Article V.I. Every Republican registered prior to January 31 preceding the meeting and attending the precinct meeting shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote in all matters before the Committee, except that the January 31 requirement shall not apply to residents who have moved into the Precinct within thirty (30) days of the Precinct Meeting.

* 1. Election of Precinct Officers

At odd-year Precinct Meetings, at which a quorum is one person, attendees shall elect a Precinct Committee consisting of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and other officers as deemed necessary by the Precinct Committee to conduct the business of the Precinct. If no Secretary is elected, the Chairman or Vice-Chairman will fulfill the duties assigned to the Secretary in this Plan of Organization. Officers of the Precinct Committee shall hold their offices for two (2) years or until their successors are chosen.

* 1. Election of Delegates

The annual Precinct Meetings shall elect one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate to the County Convention per precinct. Each precinct may also elect one (1) additional Delegate and Alternate for each one hundred (100) registered Republican voters, or major fraction thereof, residing in the precinct as of January 31 of that year. Members must attend their respective annual precinct meetings in order to be seated as a delegate at the subsequent County Convention.

* 1. Duties of Officers

The Chairman of each Precinct shall certify the election of Officers, Committee Members, and Delegates and Alternates to the County Convention on forms stipulated by the Lee GOP Credentials Committee. Complete credentials shall be in the hands of the County Secretary by the deadline set by the County Chairman, which shall be at least two (2) days prior to the Credentials Committee Meeting except where the Precinct Meetings and the County Convention are held on the same day. No Delegate or Alternate to the County Convention shall be added to the Credentials List following the adjournment of the Precinct Meeting. This delegate list shall be made immediately available to any Republican candidate for office at that candidate's reasonable expense, after the candidate provides a signed confidentiality and use agreement indicating said list will be used only for activities related to the candidate's run for office.

* 1. Other Precinct Meetings
		1. Other Meetings of the Precinct general Membership may be held at such time as shall be designated by the Chairman of the Precinct Committee after giving five (5) days’ notice of such Meeting in a newspaper of general circulation within the County, or by email, or by US Postal Service mail, or by other electronic means; or upon similar call of one-third (1/3) of the Members of the Precinct Committee, or ten (10) Members of the general Precinct Membership.
		2. In the event a Precinct fails to properly organize or the Precinct Chairman fails to perform required functions, the County Chairman shall appoint a Temporary Precinct Chairman who shall serve for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days, during which time a County Executive Committee meeting shall be called and a new Precinct Chairman shall be elected by the County Executive Committee. All County Executive Committee members present at the meeting may vote in the election.
1. PRECINCT COMMITTEE
	1. Duties of Precinct Committee

The Precinct Committee shall cooperate with the County Executive Committee in all elections and Party activities, provide the County Executive Committee with a list of Party Members within the Precinct suitable for appointment as Election Officials, and promote the goals and objectives of the Party within the Precinct.

* 1. Duties of Precinct Officers
1. The Chairman of the Precinct shall have general supervision over the affairs of the Party within the Precinct, shall preside at all meetings of the Precinct, and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Precinct Committee and the Lee County Executive Committee. In coordination with the Precinct Secretary, the Chairman shall certify the election of Officers, Precinct Committee Members, and Delegates and Alternates to the County Convention on forms created by the County Credentials Committee. The Chairman shall participate as a voting member in County GOP Executive Committee meetings. The Precinct Chair is responsible for outreach to registered Republicans residing in the precinct to keep them informed about Lee GOP activities. The Precinct Chair assists the County officers in recruiting candidates to serve in the Party and to compete for elected office. The Precinct Chair assists party officers in identifying volunteers to be inside poll observers, election judges, and outside poll workers for his assigned precinct.
2. The Precinct Vice-Chairman shall function as Chairman in the absence of the Chairman. The Vice Chairman shall participate as a voting member in Lee County GOP Executive Committee meetings. The Vice Chairman shall perform the duties of the Secretary at Precinct Committee meetings in the absence of the Secretary.
3. The Precinct Secretary shall keep all minutes and records and shall maintain a list of registered Republican voters and volunteers within the Precinct, unless otherwise maintained and provided by the County Executive Committee. In coordination with the Precinct Chairman, the Secretary shall certify the election of Officers, Precinct Committee Members, and Delegates and Alternates to the County Convention, on forms created by the County Credentials Committee. The Secretary of each precinct shall maintain the list and contact information for Members of the Precinct Committee, keeping the Lee County GOP Secretary and Director of Precinct Operations updated as that information changes.
	1. Vacancies and Removals
		1. Vacancies due to death, resignation, discontinuance of residency within the Precinct, removal of any Officer or other Member of the Precinct Committee, or for any other reason, shall be filled by the remaining Members of the Precinct Committee.
		2. The procedure for removal of any precinct Member or Officer is defined in Article V.E.

# ARTICLE IV

# LEE COUNTY ORGANIZATION

1. ANNUAL CONVENTION
	1. Call to Convention
		1. A County Convention shall be called every year by the Lee GOP Chairman, at a suitable location within the county, within the month of March, at least ten (10) days prior to the scheduled District Convention, following procedures given in Article V.A.3.
		2. Not more than sixty (60) or less than thirty (30) days before the County Convention, the Chairman shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of at least three (3) members in good standing of the Lee County Republican Party, whose duty shall be to take such actions as they deem necessary to present to the Convention a recommended slate of qualified candidates for Lee GOP officeholders.
		3. At or about the time of the call of the Convention, the County Chairman, with the advice and consent of the Executive Board, shall appoint a credentials committee consisting of no less than three (3) people, which will meet and issue its report on Delegates and Alternates certified to that Convention at least three (3) days in advance of the convening of the Convention, unless the County holds its Precinct Meetings and County Convention on the same day. All Delegates and Alternates challenged in the report of the Credentials Committee shall be notified prior to the day of the Convention and allowed to present their case to the Credentials Committee prior to the convening of the Convention. The Delegates and Alternates elected at the Precinct Meetings, unless successfully challenged, shall sit as Delegates and Alternates to the County Convention.
		4. If the County Chairman fails, refuses, or neglects to call a County Convention as required by this Article, it shall become the duty of the ranking Vice-Chairman to act in that capacity. The Vice-Chairman shall give at least ten (10) days’ notice thereof to all Precinct Chairmen and County Executive Committee Members and shall follow procedures given in Article V.A. If the County Chairman or Vice-Chairmen do not call for a County Convention, it shall be cause for any Member of the County Executive Committee, with the approval of the Congressional District Chairman, or Chairmen, to call such County Convention.
	2. Convention Action
		1. Each year, the Lee County Convention shall adopt or amend the written County Plan of Organization not inconsistent with the State Plan of Organization, a current copy of which shall be on file at the County Headquarters, District Headquarters’, and State Headquarters. If the County Convention fails to adopt a new written County Plan of Organization, the previously adopted County Plan of Organization shall remain in effect.
		2. Elections
			1. In every odd-numbered year the Lee County Convention shall elect a Chairman; 1st Vice-Chairman (for Finance & Administration); Vice Chairman for Policy, Platform & Legislative Liaison; Vice Chairman for Recruitment and Outreach; Vice Chairman for Programs, Events and Scheduling; Vice Chairman for Public Information; Election Operations Coordinator; Veterans Outreach Coordinator; Latin Outreach Coordinator; Parliamentarian; Secretary; Treasurer; Webmaster, Historian, General Counsel, and Director of Precinct Operations who shall serve for a term of two (2) years or until they are replaced.
			2. The County Convention shall elect one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate to Congressional District and State Conventions, plus one (1) additional Delegate and Alternate for every two hundred fifty (250) Republicans, or major fraction thereof, registered in Lee county, as of January 31 of that year. The County shall further elect one (1) Delegate and Alternate for each Republican elected to the state legislature and to public office on the state or national level from Lee County in the last election held for that office. With respect to the District Convention, the additional one (1) Delegate and one (1) Alternate shall only be elected to the District Convention being held in the District in which said Republican elected to the state legislature and to public office on the state or national level actually lives.
			3. If Lee County is divided between two (2) or more Congressional Districts, the State Plan of Organization determines how to prorate the Delegate votes among the applicable Congressional Districts.
	3. Credentials

The Chairman and Secretary of the County Executive Committee shall certify the election of Officers, Committee Members, Delegates, Alternates and Precinct Chairs and Precinct Vice-Chairs to the District and State Conventions, on forms furnished by the State Central Committee and in conformance with Article V. Completed Credentials shall be in the hands of the Congressional District Secretary and the State Headquarters by the deadline set by the State Chairman. All County Credentials for the State Convention should be mailed to State Headquarters no later than ten (10) days following the date of the County Convention or the deadline set by the State Chairman, whichever date comes first. The postmark date will be used to determine compliance for mailed credentials. No Delegates or Alternates shall be added to the Credentials list following the adjournment of the County Convention. Copies of all newspaper notices, in addition to a list of county and precinct officers, shall be submitted to the NC Republican Party and all applicable Congressional District Committees along with County Credentials.

* 1. Convention Fees for Delegates to County, District and State Conventions

There will be no convention fee required for participation in the annual Lee County GOP convention. For each person elected to be a Delegate or an Alternate to the District or State Convention, the County shall forward to the State Party a fee set by the State Central Committee to defray the costs for communicating Convention materials to elected Delegates and Alternates. Lee County Delegates and Alternates may be asked to pay this fee during or shortly after the annual Precinct Meetings or County Convention. Participation in the applicable annual GOP Congressional District Convention or State Convention is subject to additional fees and charges as set by the respective District and State Executive Committees.

1. LEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.
	1. Membership
		1. The Lee County Executive Board consisting of- County Chairman; 1st Vice-Chairman (for Finance & Administration); Vice Chairman for Policy, Platform & Legislative Liaison; Vice Chairman for Recruitment and Outreach; Vice Chairman for Programs, Events and Scheduling; Vice Chairman for Public Information; Fundraising Director; Election Operations Director; Veterans Outreach Coordinator; Latin Outreach Coordinator; Young Republicans Coordinator (which becomes Ex Officio when the Young Republicans organization is chartered and active); Parliamentarian; Secretary; Treasurer; Webmaster, Historian; General Counsel; and Director of Precinct Operations. These members are included in the count to determine a quorum of the Executive Committee.
		2. The elected Lee County senior official from other exclusively Republican organizations when properly chartered- consisting of 10 or more dues-paying, regular Republican members, in continuously active status (i.e., meeting at least once each calendar quarter in Lee County)- including but not limited to: President or Chairman of a Lee County Republican Men’s Organization; President or Chairman of a Lee County Republican Women’s Organization, President or Chairman of a Lee County Republican Business Professionals Organization; and President or Chairman of a Lee County Young Republicans’ organization. Each such organizational representative shall be a voting, ex officio member of the Executive Committee until that organization reaches membership of 25 dues-paying regular Republican members; whereupon the representative shall be a voting member of the Executive Committee. These members are included in the count to determine a quorum of the Executive Committee.
		3. All Precinct Chairmen and Vice Chairmen will be ex officio, voting members of the Executive Committee. These officials are not subject to removal from the Lee GOP Executive Committee for non-attendance at Executive Committee meetings. These members are included in the count to determine a quorum of the Executive Committee.
		4. All Republican officials elected or appointed to town, city, county, state, or federal-level elective public office who reside in Lee County will be ex officio voting members of the Executive Committee. These members are not counted to determine a quorum of the Executive Committee. These officials are not subject to removal for non-attendance at Lee GOP Executive Committee meetings.
		5. All former Chairmen of the Lee County GOP who left the office in good standing upon completion of one or more full terms as Chairman of the Lee County Republican Party, and who, have continuously resided in Lee County, shall be Ex Officio voting members of the Lee GOP Executive Committee. These members are not counted to determine a quorum of the Executive Committee. These officials are not subject to removal for non-attendance at Executive Committee meetings.
	2. Powers and Duties
		1. The County Executive Committee shall cooperate with the District and State Executive Committees in all elections and Party activities; shall encourage qualified candidates for office within the County; shall adopt a budget; shall recommend nominees to the State Chairman for appointments to the County Board of Elections; and shall have active management of Party affairs within the County. It shall approve an Auditing Committee of not less than three (3) Members each and may nominate such other Committees as may be deemed necessary. The County Chairman and 1st Vice-Chairman shall be Ex-officio Members of all Committees with the exception of the Auditing Committee.
		2. In the event the County Plan of Organization becomes inconsistent with the State Party Plan of Organization, the County Executive Committee must, at the next called meeting, bring the County Plan of Organization into compliance with the State Party Plan of Organization. The County Plan of Organization must be brought into compliance within thirty (30) days.
		3. The County Executive Committee may amend the County Plan of Organization upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Committee after providing written notice to Executive Committee members via either email or first class United States Mail of the meeting, advising members regarding the substance of the proposed amendment and provided a quorum is present. The Chairman shall ensure submission, by United States mail and electronic transfer, the Lee County Plan of Organizations, and amendments thereto, to the applicable GOP Congressional District Secretary and the NCGOP State Headquarters within thirty (30) days after adoption, in order for the Plan and/or amendment to become valid.
	3. Lee County GOP Executive Committee Meetings

The County Executive Committee shall meet quarterly, at the call of the County Chairman, after giving ten (10) days written or digital notice to all members; or upon similar call of one-third (1/3) of the active voting members of the Executive Committee. One-fourth (1/4) of the active members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

* 1. Duties of Officers
		1. The Chairman of the Lee County Republican Party, with the advice and consent of the County Executive Committee, shall have general supervision over the affairs of the Party within the County. The Chairman shall issue the call for Precinct Meetings, the County Convention, Executive Committee and Executive Board meetings, and shall preside at all the Meetings of the County Executive Committee and the Executive Board. The Chairman shall set the agenda for all meetings of the Executive Board and Executive Committee. The Chairman shall appoint a Temporary Chairman of the County Convention, who may be himself. The Chairman shall make periodic reports on the status of the Party within his County to the District Chairman. The Chairman shall be responsible for the creation and maintenance of a Republican organization in every precinct within his County. The Chairman shall obtain and manage a list of all registered Republicans within the County and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the County, District, or State Executive Committees.

The Chairman shall also be a member of the District and State Executive Committees, and the Judicial, Senatorial, and Legislative District Executive Committees. The Chairman shall be an ex officio, voting member of all standing and ad hoc committees within the county, except for the Auditing Committee.

The County Chairman shall appoint:

* + - 1. Members of the (standing) Finance Committee as set out in Article IV.C.1.
			2. The (standing) Auditing Committee and its Chairman who shall have those duties and responsibilities set out in Article IV.C.2.
			3. Members of ad hoc, time-limited committees to conduct local Republican Party activities pursuant to the party’s mission, purpose and goals. Any such committees are subject to the approval of the Executive Committee.
		1. The 1st Vice-Chairman (for Finance and Administration) shall function as Lee GOP Chairman in the absence of the Chairman and shall have such other duties as may be prescribed by the County Executive Committee. The 1st Vice-Chairman shall be an ex-officio voting member of all standing and ad hoc Lee GOP committees except for the Auditing Committee. He shall also be a Member of the applicable Congressional District and State Executive Committees. The 1st Vice Chairman (for Finance and Administration) shall chair the Lee County GOP’s Finance Committee and is responsible for overseeing the preparation of the party’s annual budget, overseeing the preparation and submission of official financial reports, and management oversight of all official fundraising activities by the Lee GOP. This Vice Chairman is the principal coordinator for facility management, maintenance and upkeep of the Lee GOP Headquarters including window displays, room availability, and general prioritization for scheduling facility use.
		2. The Vice Chairman for Policy, Platform & Legislative Liaison shall function as the second Vice Chairman, is the custodian of the County’s Plan of Organization, and annually coordinates updates to that document. He is also responsible for coordinating, documenting, and distributing Lee County GOP’s policies, platforms, and resolutions as applicable. With the advice and consent of the party’s Executive Committee, he will coordinate Lee County GOP inputs into all of the State GOP and congressional district resolution and platform initiatives. He is responsible to liaison with local (City Council, Town Commission, Board of Commissioners, and School Board) government authorities and with state elected officials on behalf of the Lee GOP, subject to the review and approval of the Executive Committee, as applicable.
		3. The Vice Chairman for Programs, Events, and Scheduling shall function as the third ranking Vice-Chairman and is responsible for planning and coordinating the activities of the Lee GOP, with the advice and consent of the party’s Executive Committee. Party activities include special dinners and celebrations, booths and support at fairs and other information sharing opportunities, and party and candidate participation in political forums. This Vice Chairman is the custodian and chief content manager for the party’s official calendar and coordinates with the Webmaster to ensure relevant activities are published and broadly disseminated.
		4. The Vice Chairman for Recruitment and Outreach shall function as the fourth ranking Vice Chairman and is responsible for coordinating the county-wide recruitment efforts to bring individuals into the Lee County Republican Party and to identify Republican candidates for political and party offices. This Vice Chairman coordinates outreach efforts to broaden the base of the party along conservative lines. This officer monitors and publishes weekly and monthly voter registration changes, contacts new Republican registrants, coordinates voter registration drives, and provides liaison to civic groups to educate prospective members, where appropriate.
		5. The Vice Chairman for Public Information shall function as the fifth ranking Vice Chairman and is responsible to coordinate the marketing and promotion of the Lee GOP. This Vice Chairman works in coordination with the Webmaster with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee to promote the Lee GOP and to inform citizens about the party’s platform, policies, and activities. This Vice Chairman is responsible for preparation and coordination of press releases and shall use social media, print media, radio, television, the internet and other emerging digital platforms. This individual is Lee County GOP’s primary point of contact and central administrator for the NCGOP Nationbuilder platform. He manages and oversees operations within the Lee County GOP Digital Studio.
		6. The Secretary shall prepare and keep minutes, agendas and other important records of all Executive Committee and Executive Board proceedings with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee. He shall maintain an updated roster and contact information on all Precinct Officers and Executive Board and Executive Committee Members. Such records - including all Credentials Lists - shall be available, upon request, to any registered Republican within the County. The Secretary shall furnish to the Congressional District Chairman and to State Headquarters up-to-date lists of all Precinct Chairmen. The Secretary shall retain all records for the Lee GOP Executive Board and Executive Committee in digital form for a period of two years. Records older than two years will be turned over annually to the Lee GOP Historian, within 30 days following the county convention.
		7. The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all funds for Party expenditures pursuant to the authority duly authorized by the County Executive Committee, shall make updated financial reports at all County Executive Committee and Executive Board Meetings, and shall fulfill all financial reporting and other financial obligations required under State and Federal election laws with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee. The Treasurer is the custodian of the annual budget and is responsible for ensuring all receipts and payments remain within tolerances as established by the Executive Committee.
		8. The Webmaster is responsible for static and dynamic content management of all public information for the Lee GOP. Pursuant to guidance from the Executive Committee and Executive Board, and under the supervision of the Vice Chairman for Public Information, the Webmaster will manage a range of digital tools and content management permissions for the party to keep the general public updated and informed about the events and activities of the Lee County GOP. In coordination with the Vice Chairman for Programs, Events and Scheduling the Webmaster will ensure the party calendar is continually posted and updated. The Webmaster is responsible for maintaining and publishing the current list of precinct officials, Executive Committee officials, and the names and pictures of all Lee County elected (Republican) officials. The webmaster is responsible for researching and advising the Executive Board and Executive Committee on tools and methods for using the internet, social media, and other digital tools pursuant to party goals and objectives.
		9. The Fundraising Director is responsible for planning, coordinating and managing Lee GOP fundraising activities throughout the year, subject to review of the Finance Committee and the approval of the Executive Committee. The Fundraising Director coordinates with and assists the Treasurer in documenting contributions, contributors and cash flows into the Lee County Republican Party general fund.
		10. The Election Operations Director is responsible to organize, schedule and direct GOP election support activities for all primary, general and special elections; to include (but not limited to) sign emplacement and removal, conservative ballot development and distribution, indoor poll watchers, telephonic (get-out-the-vote) operations, beverage and food support at the polls, and outdoor electioneering at the polls (in coordination with precinct chairs).
		11. The Veterans Outreach Coordinator is the Republican Party liaison to the local veteran organizations and the Lee County Veterans Support Officer (VSO), responsible to build good will with these organizations and to elicit their support of GOP activities in the Lee County. This coordinator will alert GOP and local elected Republican officials about local veteran issues and events. He will help the Vice Chairman for Recruitment and Outreach encourage local veterans to join the Republican Party and participate in its activities.
		12. The Latin Outreach Coordinator is the Lee County GOP’s liaison to local Hispanic church, business, civic, and fraternal organizations and is responsible for expanding the Republican base among the voting Latin population in Lee County. The coordinator will assist in translating and distributing conservative party materials to prospective Latin voters. The coordinator will alert the party leadership about and coordinate party involvement in cyclical and special events and other opportunities for Latin outreach.
		13. The Young Republicans Coordinator is responsible for organizing and directing the activities of registered Lee County Republicans between the ages of 18 and 40. This position may convert to the President (or ranking Lee County member) of the Sandhills Young Republicans organization, an Ex Officio voting member of the Lee County GOP Executive Board, after the Young Republicans organization becomes appropriately chartered and active.
		14. The Parliamentarian is responsible to advise the Executive Committee on procedural and legal matters to include, but not limited to Roberts Rules of Order, compliance with the State, District and County Plans of Organization, and fulfillment of requirements as dictated by court orders and other administrative and legal directives.
		15. The Historian is responsible to retain useful and relevant historical records of the Lee County GOP including, but not limited to minutes, agendas and supporting documentation from all Executive Board and Executive Committee meetings; all historical updates to the County Plan of Organization; lists of party officials, service records of prior elected officials from Lee County, and photos and recordings of special GOP and other political events in Lee County. The Historian will receive from the Secretary all records more than two years old within 30 days following each annual convention.
		16. The General Counsel is responsible for monitoring election law changes, advising the Executive Board on legal matters, and participating in pre- and post-election events with potential legal implications for the local party. The General Counsel will confer with the District General Counsels and the NCGOP General Counsel as appropriate to ensure the local party is prepared to identify and pursue legal remedies for voter, ballot and election fraud issues.
		17. The Director of Precinct Operations is the central coordinator for all 10 precincts in Lee County. This person assists the Chairman in organizing and educating the precinct leadership teams, reviews relevant materials and adopts best practices for building healthy precincts; directs voter registration drives and assists in get-out-the-vote (GOTV) efforts within the county; assists candidates in securing precinct information relevant to their campaigns; coordinates precinct training; and acts as data coordinator on voter registration and voting history among all Lee County registered voters.
	1. Vacancies and Removals
		1. Vacancies due to death, prolonged illness, resignation, discontinuance of residency within the County, removal of any Officer or other Member of the County Executive Committee, or for any other reason, shall be replaced by vote of the remaining members of the County Executive Committee.
		2. The procedures for removal of any Member or Officer are defined in Article V.E., below.
1. LEE COUNTY FINANCE AND AUDITING COMMITTEES
	1. Finance Committee

The County Finance Committee shall be composed of the County Chairman, 1st Vice-Chairman (for Finance and Administration), the Fundraising Director, the County Treasurer, and not less than one other person from membership of the Lee GOP. The Committee shall cooperate with the Congressional District and State Finance Committees and shall have active management of Lee County Republican Party fund-raising efforts within the County. The Committee will be chaired by the 1st Vice Chairman (for Finance and Administration) and will meet at least quarterly, prior to the scheduled Executive Committee meetings.

* 1. Auditing Committee

The members of the Auditing Committee shall be annually nominated by the County Chairman within thirty (30) days following the county GOP’s annual convention. Membership of the Auditing Committee shall include the Treasurer as a non-voting (ex-officio) representative to provide relevant information about the party’s budget, receipts and expenditures. The Chairman of the Auditing Committee shall be nominated by the Party Chairman, subject to the approval of the county’s Executive Committee. The Auditing Committee Chairman shall be an active member of the Lee GOP who does not otherwise serve in any political capacity as a Lee GOP Executive Committee or as an elected political official. The names of the committee shall be presented for consent of the County Executive Committee at its first post-convention meeting each year. Once its members are approved, the Auditing Committee shall conduct a yearly (or more frequent) review of the budget and financial records of the County and report the findings of its review to the County Executive Committee for approval and action as appropriate. The review to be conducted shall be of the type and nature the Auditing Committee deems appropriate so long as the Committee complies with all laws and regulations of the State of North Carolina.

1. LEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE BOARD
	1. Membership
		1. County Chairman; 1st Vice-Chairman (for Finance & Administration); Vice Chairman for Policy, Platform & Legislative Liaison; Vice Chairman for Recruitment and Outreach; Vice Chairman for Programs, Events and Scheduling; Vice Chairman for Public Information; Fundraising Director; Election Operations Director; Veterans Outreach Coordinator; Latin Outreach Coordinator; Young Republicans Coordinator (becomes Ex Officio once the organization is chartered and active); Parliamentarian; Secretary; Treasurer; Webmaster, Historian, General Counsel, and Director of Precinct Operations.
		2. The elected Lee County senior official from other exclusively Republican organizations when properly chartered- consisting of 10 or more dues-paying, regular Republican members, in continuously active status (i.e., meeting at least once each calendar quarter in Lee County)- including but not limited to: President or Chairman of a Lee County Republican Men’s Organization; President or Chairman of a Lee County Republican Women’s Organization; President or Chairman of a Lee County Republican Business Professionals Organization; and President or Chairman of the Sandhills Young Republicans organization. Each such organizational representative shall be a non-voting, ex officio member of the Executive Board until that organization reaches membership of 25 dues-paying regular Republican members from Lee County; whereupon the representative shall be a voting member of the Executive Board.
	2. Powers and Duties

The County Executive Board shall formulate and propose programs, events, and matters of policy to the Executive Committee. The Executive Board shall coordinate and supervise the activities of the Lee County Republican Party between meetings of the Executive Committee, pursuant to the expressed intent of the Executive Committee.

* 1. Executive Board Meetings
		1. The County Executive Board shall meet monthly, and at the discretion of the County Chairman upon five (5) days’ written or electronic notice of such meeting. Special meetings may be called by consent of one-third (1/3) of the active voting members of the County Executive Board after giving at least seventy-two (72) hours’ notice, digital or written. The publication of the Lee County Republican Party calendar of events shall include recurring monthly meetings and shall serve as official written notice of monthly meetings.
		2. The Chairman may call an emergency meeting of the Executive Board with less than seventy-two (72) hours’ notice with the oral, digital or written consent of at least (2/3) of the active voting members of the Executive Board. These short-notice meetings shall be limited to bona fide emergencies where serious financial, health, or public relations matters compel immediate official action by the Executive Board.
		3. Telephonic or web-based (digital) participation in Executive Board meetings may be permitted or required when a member’s health or employment situation necessitates calling in or when the county is under an emergency order limiting the ability for in-person meetings.
		4. One half (1/2) of the Executive Board members serving at the time of the meeting shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at all Executive Board meetings. Any member without voting rights will not be counted in quorum tabulations, either as present or in the membership total.
		5. An Executive Board member who fails to participate in three consecutive, properly noticed Executive Board or Committee meetings shall be determined to have forfeited his right to serve in his elected or appointed capacity. He may be removed from his elected or appointed position by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Committee at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
1. HEADQUARTERS OPERATIONS & RECURRING GENERAL MEMBERSHIP, RECRUITMENT, & OUTREACH MEETINGS
	1. The Lee GOP Headquarters will be operated year-round during times and days in which one or more Members are available to greet and serve visitors. A volunteer schedule for opening the headquarters will be posted at the front desk of the Lee GOP Headquarters.
	2. Except where preempted by adverse weather or scheduling conflicts, the Lee GOP Headquarters will be open for unstructured, weekly, General Membership gatherings each Friday night between 6:00PM and 8:00PM. These meetings are open to the general public, regardless of political affiliation. These gatherings will be referred to as Make America Great Again (MAGA) Friday events and their purpose is recruitment and outreach. Pizza and sodas will be served to those in attendance. One or more officers of the Lee GOP Executive Board must be present to conduct each MAGA Friday event.
	3. Rooms in the Lee GOP Headquarters will be available for scheduling by any officer of the Lee GOP Executive Committee to fulfill duties and responsibilities under this Plan of Organization. Prior coordination for use of rooms must be completed two weeks in advance with the Vice Chairman for Programs, Events and Scheduling. A master schedule will be maintained at the front desk of the Lee GOP. Use of the Digital Studio must be coordinated two weeks in advance with the Vice Chairman for Pubic Information.

**ARTICLE V**

**GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES**

1. CONVENTION PROCEDURES
	1. Annual Conventions and Presidential Election Year Conventions
		1. The County Convention shall be called to order by the County Chairman (or in the absence of the Chairman by the ranking Vice-Chairman) who shall have the power to appoint the necessary Convention Committees and Temporary Officers at or before the convening of the Convention.
		2. No member of a credentials committee created by this Plan shall be eligible to be elected to an officer or Executive Board position at the convention for which the credentials committee serves, nor shall a credentials committee member publicly support anyone for an office to be elected by said convention, unless waiver of these provisions is pre-approved by a vote of the body prior to the election of officers. Except when voting in convention, members of credentials committees shall strive to maintain the integrity of the convention and the committee by conducting the business of the committee with impartiality and strict neutrality on the business and elections of said convention.
	2. Voting Procedures
		1. No Precinct shall cast more votes than it has duly elected Delegates on the floor at the County Convention.
		2. No person shall be seated as a Delegate at any County, District or State Convention unless such person shall have been duly elected a Delegate or Alternate by the appropriate Precinct Meeting or County Convention; except, the registered Republican or Republicans, present at a County Convention from an unorganized Precinct, which has not had its credentials accepted, shall have the right to vote one vote per Precinct, prorated among those present from that Precinct.
		3. No Delegate, Alternate or any other Member of a Convention shall cast any vote by proxy; provided, however, that, when not inconsistent with the Rules of the Republican National Committee, any Delegate or Delegates present shall have the right to cast the entire vote of the County in District and State Conventions. Votes for Chairman and Vice-Chairman will be by county according to the number of Delegates authorized to attend the state convention, so long as there is one (1) delegate, from that county, on the floor to vote the Delegates authorized.
		4. Ex-officio members of the committees have the same voting rights as the other committee members, and are not counted in determining if a quorum is present. When an Ex-officio member of a committee ceases to hold the office that entitles him/her to such membership, his/her membership terminates automatically.
	3. Newspaper of General Circulation and Notice of Meetings

When used, notice published in a newspaper of general circulation in the County for the purpose of this Plan of Organization shall include either a paid advertisement or a news item, provided it includes the time, date, location and purpose of the Meeting. Such notices shall appear in the newspaper at least fifteen (15) days prior to the Meeting or Convention. This in no way relieves the County Chairman of the responsibility of providing written notice to party officers as may be otherwise required by this Plan of Organization. Where appropriate, the county Executive Board may vote to notice meetings via other, more efficient means (other than print media) including, but not limited to, direct email message to active members of the party, notice on the county website, notice on party social media pages, or digital advertising on frequently viewed websites and social media platforms.

* 1. Challenges

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Plan of Organization, challenges to Delegates and Alternates must be made in their capacity as individual Delegates and Alternates. The successful challenges of individuals in their capacity as Delegates and Alternates shall not affect the seating of other Delegates and Alternates in the same Precinct or County Delegates unless it can be demonstrated by a preponderance of the evidence that the previous election of such successfully challenged Delegates and Alternates resulted in the election of other Delegates and Alternates within such Delegation who would not otherwise have been elected, but for the votes of the unqualified Delegates or Alternates.

* 1. General Election Procedures

Notwithstanding any other Article in this Plan of Organization, the allocated Delegate slots and then the allocated Alternate slots allotted under this Plan of Organization to a Precinct or the County shall be filled first by the election of those duly qualified registered Republicans eligible to vote, present at such Meeting or Convention and desiring to be elected to fill such slots. All duly qualified Republicans registered to vote may be elected by qualified Republicans attending the meeting to fill slots that have not been filled by Republicans attending the meeting or conventions.

* 1. Non-Partisan Candidates and Office Holders

No County, Congressional District or State Committee of the North Carolina Republican Party shall offer an opportunity for a candidate for, or current office holder of a "non-partisan office," who is not a Registered Republican, to address a Republican Convention or other function sponsored by the North Carolina Republican Party or any of its subdivisions.

1. OFFICIAL RECORDS

Minutes shall be kept for all official actions taken by all Committees and for all Conventions, and a copy shall be filed with the Chairman of the appropriate Committee or Convention and with Republican State Headquarters where required. Minutes, agendas, and other official records from all Executive Committee meetings, Executive Board meetings, and Convention proceedings will be continuously available via electronic files to respective members. All official records will be retained for a minimum of three years or according to state statutes, whichever is longer.

1. FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS
	1. Records

The Chairman, 1st Vice Chairman (for Finance and Administration), and Treasurer of the County Executive Committee shall keep faithful and accurate records of any and all monies received by them for the use of the said Committee and shall make faithful and accurate reports thereof when so requested.

* 1. Loans

No County Officer shall cause the Party to undertake a loan without the prior approval of the County Executive Committee.

* 1. Budgeted Expenses

No County Officer shall exceed the approved, budgeted expenditures without expressed written approval from the County Executive Committee.

* 1. Leases and Contractual Agreements

No County Officer shall commit the County Party to a lease or other contractual agreement without the expressed written approval of the Lee County Republican Party Executive Committee.

1. APPOINTMENTS
	1. Notification

It shall be the duty of the State Chairman to transmit notice of known vacancies on a County, District or State level to those persons having jurisdiction over such appointments.

* 1. Filling Vacancies
		1. When a vacancy occurs in a governmental office for which a Party recommendation is called for, the vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the laws of the State of North Carolina and the terms of this Plan. The abovementioned recommendation shall be provided by the committee having jurisdiction over the district which is subject of the vacancy.
		2. In multi-county offices or state legislative offices, the responsibility for calling the meeting rests with the State Chairman. The State Chairman may delegate this authority to the appropriate district or county chairman or the Congressional District Chairman if the county or congressional district, as the case may be, encompasses the entire district or county in which the vacancy occurs.
		3. Unless otherwise provided by law, notice to committee members of the time, date, location and purpose of the meeting at which a recommendation for filling the vacancy will be considered, must be made by certified United States Mail to the last known address of the committee member. Notice must be mailed at least ten days prior to the date of the meeting, unless good cause exists for shortening the time period. In no case may the meeting be scheduled for a date and time less than five days after the mailing of the notice to committee members.
		4. In those cases where the State Chairman or, by appointment, the county, district, or Congressional District Chairman calls the meeting, the State Chairman shall designate the person to chair the meeting. The vote shall be conducted in a method reasonably calculated to assure accuracy and fairness to all potential candidates for the position.
		5. Should any cause or provision found in this section be deemed inconsistent with the laws of the State of North Carolina, those laws shall govern as to the particular clause or provision and the remainder of this section shall apply.
1. PARTY DISCIPLINE
	1. Rule of Law- Good Order and Discipline

The Lee County Republican Party respects the rule of law and recognizes the need for good order and discipline among its members. The Party also cherishes individual liberties and will seek to preserve those liberties to the extent they do not infringe on the rights and privileges of a Party organization as a whole, to the extent they do not violate approved NCGOP, District, or County Party Policy or Rules, and to the extent they do not willfully undermine approved Party Platforms, diminishing the stature and reputation of the Party and its values. When a Republican party officer or publicly elected Republican official is reported to be violation of the Party’s approved Plan of Organization, Rules, or Platform, that officer or official may be subject to party discipline.

* 1. Administration of Party Discipline

The administration of party discipline in the Lee County Republican Party will be in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised (RONR) where not inconsistent with the North Carolina Republican Party (NCGOP) Plan of Organization, the 8th Congressional District Republican Plan of Organization, the 13th Congressional District Republican Plan of Organization, and the Lee County Republican Party Plan of Organization.

* 1. Discipline at Lowest Practical Level

Disciplinary procedures will always originate and be disposed of at the lowest practical level within the North Carolina Republican Party hierarchy- precinct, county, district, or state level as appropriate.

* 1. Party Disloyalty.
		1. Party Disloyalty is defined as: the act of any registered Republican attempting to influence or found to have influenced the outcome of any election against a Republican candidate for public office or a Republican endorsed by the appropriate Republican Executive Committee, other than support for an opposing Republican Candidate in a Republican primary. The scope of this definition includes the action of any Republican inappropriately influencing the internal election of officials on public councils, boards and commissions to favor a non-Republican candidate running against a qualified Republican candidate. These jurisdictions include the local school board, board of county commissioners, city council, town commission, and their subordinate organizations. The scope of this definition also includes the willful invitation of non-Republican political officials or non-Republican candidates for political office to official Republican Party gatherings for purposes of addressing the body in an official or unofficial capacity.
		2. Party Disloyalty Disciplinary Action at Precinct or County Level

Upon receiving the report of Party Disloyalty, the County Chairman will gather evidence and bring the charges before the County Executive Board for review and consideration. If found to have merit, the charges will be preferred to the County Executive Committee for disposition. The accused official will be given at least fourteen (14) days’ notice of a hearing before the Executive Committee and afforded the opportunity to provide a defense. The accused may be removed from a Republican Party committee for the duration of his term upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the County Executive Committee. A Republican party member who is found by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the County Executive Committee to have committed party disloyalty may be declared ineligible to serve in a Republican Party committee under the County Plan of Organization for a period of up to five (5) years. The committee may also impose the penalties of temporary suspension, censure, cessation of support, or barring from party premises for a period of up to five (5) years, as appropriate. The committee may also pass a resolution requesting district or state-level action for Party Disloyalty under the provisions of the applicable District or State Plans of Organization. Republican Party officials elected to public office determined by the County, District, or State Executive Committee to have committed party disloyalty may be subject to the penalties of censure, cessation of support, and a ban from Lee County Republican Party facilities and events for a period of up to 5 years.

* + 1. Party Disloyalty Disciplinary Action at State Level.

 For disciplinary action at the state-level, charges of Party disloyalty may be brought by petition of fifty (50) members of the State Executive Committee, or by resolution of a County or District Republican Executive Committee. The State Executive Committee may declare a Republican found to have engaged in Party disloyalty as ineligible to serve in any party office under the Plan of Organization for a period of time of up to five (5) years. The committee may also impose the lesser penalties including, but not limited to, temporary suspension and censure, as appropriate.

* 1. Dereliction of Duty.
		1. Republican Party Precinct, County, District, and State Officials.
			1. Dereliction of Duty by a Republican Party Official is defined as the willful and repetitive failure to perform one’s duties in appointed or elected Party office, as defined under the County, District and State Plans of Organization. Article III (Precinct Organization) and Article IV (County Organization) of this Plan of Organization outline the duties and responsibilities for party officials in the Lee County Republican Party and its subdivisions. These duties and responsibilities are assigned for operational expediency in the Lee County Republican Party so the organization may continue to grow and be successful in pursuit of its mission, purpose, goals and objectives. Party members who seek and accept responsibility for these positions should recognize the importance of fulfilling their assigned tasks. Failure to perform their duties diminishes the overall effectiveness of the Party and may result in loss of representation among our county, state, and federal-level elected positions. Willful and repetitive failure to perform one’s duties as assigned in this Plan of Organization is justification for removal from their appointed or elected Party position.
			2. A report of Dereliction of Duty may be made against any appointed or elected Party official by any member of the Lee County Republican Party. Upon receiving the report, the County Chairman will gather evidence and bring the charges before the County Executive Board for review and consideration. If found to have merit by a board majority, the charges will be preferred to the County Executive Committee for disposition. The accused official will be given at least fourteen (14) days’ notice of a hearing before the Executive Committee and afforded the opportunity to provide a defense. The accused may be removed from party office for the duration of his term upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the County Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may also impose the penalties of temporary suspension, verbal admonishment, and censure, as appropriate.
		2. Publicly Elected Republican Officials.
			1. Dereliction of Duty by publicly elected officials is defined as the willful and repetitive violation of one’s oath of office, the willful and repetitive violation of the state or federal constitution, or the willful and repetitive violation of the spirit and intent of the North Carolina Republican Party Platform or Plan of Organization. The Party well recognizes the latitude required for publicly elected officials to represent all constituents; however, elected Republican officials must also be accountable to preserve and defend the principles and values of the Republican Party, which includes adherence to the Republican National Committee’s (RNC) quadrennial platform, and adherence to the North Carolina Republican Party’s (NCGOP) Plan of Organization and Platform, as adopted at each NCGOP annual convention.
			2. A report of Dereliction of Duty may be made against any publicly elected Republican official by any member of the Lee County Republican Party. Upon receiving the report, the County Chairman will gather evidence and bring the charges before the County Executive Board for review and consideration. If found to have merit by a board majority, the charges will be preferred to the County Executive Committee for disposition. The accused official (or an appropriate staff representative) will be given at least thirty (30) days’ notice of a hearing before the Executive Committee and afforded the opportunity to provide a defense. If found guilty of Dereliction of Duty by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Committee, the accused public official may be subject to Lee County Republican Party censure, cessation of campaign support, and a bar from Republican premises and official events for the remainder of his term in office.
	2. Misconduct and Other Infractions Reflecting Discredit on the Lee County Republican Party
		1. Felony Conviction.

If a member of the Lee County Republican Party is convicted of a felony after election to a Committee organized under this Plan, that member’s seat is immediately declared vacant without the need for further action. Each member shall have the affirmative duty to inform the County Chairman in writing immediately upon his conviction of a felony; provided that the failure of a member to notify the Chairman in writing shall not delay, prevent or restrict the expulsion of such member from such Committee in accordance with this Section.

* + 1. Felony Conviction Defined

For the purposes hereof, a “conviction” shall be defined as the conviction of or the entering of a guilty plea, an Alford plea, or a plea of no contest to a felony.

* + 1. Other Personal Misconduct

If a member is reported to have committed a misdemeanor infraction, ethical breach, or other personal misconduct that seriously impairs that member’s ability to serve effectively, or that discredits the integrity and dignity of the Lee County Republican Party, the report will be provided to the County Chairman to gather evidence. The County Chairman will bring the charges before the County Executive Board for consideration. If found to have merit by a board majority, the charges will be preferred to the County Executive Committee for disposition. The accused official will be given at least fourteen (14) days’ notice of a hearing before the Executive Committee and afforded the opportunity to resign voluntarily or to provide a defense. The accused may be removed from party office for the duration of his term upon a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the County Executive Committee. The Executive Committee may also impose the penalties of verbal admonishment, written censure, and temporary suspension, as appropriate.

* 1. Forfeiture of Rights and Privileges

 Any current or former Officer of a Precinct Committee or County Executive Committee who, for any reason, is removed or who resigns from a party position, shall forfeit all rights and privileges in any way connected with that position for the duration of the term of disciplinary action.

* 1. Restoration of Rights and Privileges

Twelve (12) months after a member has completed all penalties assigned through party discipline, all rights and privileges as a Lee County Republican Party member will be restored and the member will be eligible to serve as an officer on precinct or county-level committees. However, felony conviction of a member constitutes a permanent prohibition of that member serving as a Precinct or County officer in the Lee County Republican Party. Subsequent political pardon or commutation of a member’s felony conviction or sentence shall not serve as justification for restoration of that member’s service as an officer in a Lee County Precinct, Executive Board, or Executive Committee position.

1. REFRAIN FROM UTILIZING POWERS OF OFFICE IN REPUBLICAN PRIMARY

Each Officer of the Lee County Republican Party Executive Committee and Executive Board shall refrain from utilizing the powers and dignity of his office or position in any Republican Primary for public office, except where explicitly authorized by party disciplinary action.

1. PARTY OFFICERS AS CANDIDATES

In the event that an officer of the Lee County Republican Party shall announce his intent to run for public office or shall file a notice of candidacy with the Board of Elections, that person shall be deemed to have resigned his office within the Party, effective seven (7) days after the close of filing, and the then-existing vacancy may be filled as provided for in this Plan. The officer may petition the County Executive Committee for exemption from this provision and the County Executive Committee may, for good cause shown, grant such an exemption with a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote. This exemption shall be deemed void if any other Republican files with the Board of Elections for the same public office within that election cycle.

1. ENDORSEMENTS IN NON-PARTISAN ELECTIONS
	1. In non-partisan elections, the Lee County GOP Executive Committee shall have exclusive authority to endorse registered Republicans running in that county. The Lee County GOP Executive Committee shall not issue endorsements in non-partisan races unless the applicable jurisdiction resides entirely within the County. All members of the County Executive Committee may vote on non-partisan endorsements for jurisdictions wholly encompassed within the County, regardless of whether Committee members live within the jurisdiction in question.
	2. In non-partisan, statewide judicial elections, the NCGOP State Executive Committee shall have the exclusive authority to endorse registered Republicans. The Lee County GOP Executive Committee shall not issue endorsements of non-partisan, statewide judicial candidates inconsistent with State Executive Committee endorsements.
	3. With respect to any endorsement provided for in this section (Article VII. I.), and unless otherwise provided by law, notice to committee members of the time, date, location, and purpose of the meeting at which any such endorsement will be considered must be made by email or by United States Mail to the last known address of the committee member. Notice must be electronically transmitted or mailed at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the meeting, unless good cause exists for shortening the time period. In no case may the meeting be scheduled for a time and date less than (5) days after the notice to committee members. Such notice shall also be provided to all registered Republican candidates seeking the office for which the endorsement is made.
2. NOTICE
	1. “Written notice” as used in this plan shall mean notice sent through the United States Postal Service (USPS) first class mail or the last known email address provided by the intended recipients.
	2. The date postmarked by the USPS or the day/time stamp on an email or digital message shall be conclusive as to the date notice was given. “Electronic Notice” is determined by the day/time stamp prominently displayed on an outgoing email or digital message.

# ARTICLE VI

**AMENDMENTS, APPLICABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS PLAN**

1. AMENDMENTS TO PLAN OF ORGANIZATION
	1. The Lee County Plan of Organization may be amended, not inconsistent with the Rules of the Republican National Committee, at the County Convention by a majority vote of those in attendance. It may also be amended by vote of the County Executive Committee provided that the Executive Committee meeting is properly noticed, the notice of the meeting advises the members of the proposed amendment(s), a quorum is present, and two-thirds (2/3) of those present vote in favor of the amendment.
	2. The Executive Committee shall have authority to correct any spelling or typographical errors in the Plan of Organization as a housekeeping matter in such manner that the change does not alter the substance or intent of the Plan.
2. APPLICABILITY
	1. Rules as to Towns and Cities

This Plan of Organization is not intended to extend to or establish organizations for the Republican Party of various towns and cities of the State of North Carolina as separate units from the Precinct and County Organization. Qualified and registered Republican voters of the towns and cities of the state may organize and promulgate their own rules not inconsistent with these rules and the organizations herein established.

* 1. Rules as to Counties

The Precinct and County Committees and the County Conventions are authorized to promulgate such additional rules and establish such additional Party Officers or Committees for their respective organizations, not inconsistent with these rules, as shall be deemed necessary.

1. AUTHORITY
	1. Conflict with State Plan of Organization

Any Article in this Plan or part thereof in conflict with the State Plan of Organization shall be void and have no effect. However, the invalidation of any Article or part thereof shall have no effect on the remainder which shall remain in force and effect.

* 1. Controversies Within Organizations Under the County Plan of Organization

 Controversies with respect to the organizations set up under this Plan shall be escalated first to the County Executive Committee; then, if appealed, to the applicable Republican Party Congressional District Executive Committee; then, if appealed, to a State Arbitration Committee whose members shall be the State Chairman, State Vice-Chairman, National Committeeman, National Committeewoman and General Counsel. Parties before the County Executive Committee, the District Executive Committee, or State Arbitration Committee shall have a reasonable opportunity to present their cases through argument and submission of evidence. The length and parameters of such argument, as well as the admission and consideration of such evidence, shall be solely within the discretion of the applicable Committee, but the Committee must afford parties a reasonable opportunity to present their cases. Rulings from the Committee shall be made within 60 days, and any decision of the State GOP’s Arbitration Committee shall be final. All parties who participate in an appeal or arbitration shall have access to the final, written decision of the Committee.

3. Parliamentary Authority

The current edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (RONR) shall govern all proceedings, except when inconsistent with this State Plan of Organization or Convention Rules properly adopted.

4. Gender and Number

The masculine pronoun or title herein includes the feminine and other gender identities, and the singular herein includes the plural, wherever appropriate.

### 5. Days

All references to "days" shall mean calendar days unless otherwise stated.

1. EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS PLAN

This Plan of Organization shall become effective and shall repeal and supersede all other plans and rules, except as specifically noted, immediately following its approval during the County Convention, March 4, 2022.