



BENTON COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY

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Approved: **SIGNATURE** David Comstock
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6.2 VETTING COMMITTEE CHARTER

This charter outlines the purpose, organization, functions, and procedures of the Benton County Republican Party Vetting Committee.

PURPOSE

The purposes of the Vetting Committee (**VC**) are to: 1) vet candidates for the election of officers of the BCRP Executive Committee (**EC**) during the month prior to each biennial organization meeting or following a resignation; 2) vet candidates for replacement of any elected official who dies, retires, or is otherwise removed from office; and 3) vet Republican candidates who file for and run for elected offices in both partisan and nonpartisan elections in Benton County. The overall purpose of the Vetting Committee is to provide the Central Committee (**CC**) with information about candidates.

ORGANIZATION

The Vetting Committee is a standing committee of the BCRP composed of five (5) Precinct Committee Officers in good standing elected by the Central Committee within 90 days of each biennial Organization Meeting. The elected members of the Vetting Committee elect the Chair by majority vote. Committee members serve a two-year term ending with the election of a new Vetting Committee. The management of the Committee is vested in the Chair, who will appoint an alternate Chair when necessary to maintain the activities of the Committee. The individual members of the Committee will be responsible for executing specific tasks or assignments that comprise the activities of the Committee.

FUNCTIONS

The Vetting Committee generally conducts its business at Committee meetings, supplemented by telephone, written, or electronic communications at their respective work or home locations. Meetings of the Vetting Committee are scheduled as needed to fulfill the purposes of the Committee. The Committee will conduct other business of BCRP as assigned by the CC Chair and/or the Executive Committee. The Chair will ensure that the minutes of each meeting are recorded and distributed. Any emails to the BCRP mailing list will be done through a request to Communications, who will distribute through the proper channels. Any fliers, emails, designs, etc made by the VC for use by the BCRP will be turned over to the BCRP secretary.

SCOPE

The scope of activities of the Vetting Committee is limited to those defined in the Purposes of the Committee and as assigned to the Committee by the Executive Committee. The standing assignments include:

- The Committee will vet candidates for the election of officers of the BCRP Executive Committee during the month prior to each biennial organization meeting or following a resignation. The goal of the Committee will be to provide the names of two Republicans in good standing for each position on a ballot for election by the Central Committee.
- In the event that any elected official in Benton County (excluding Precinct Committee Officers), or the State Legislature representing any Legislative District in Benton County, resigns, retires, dies, or is otherwise removed from office, the Vetting Committee will solicit and vet at least three (3) candidates who will be presented to the Central Committee. The Central Committee will rank the top three (3) candidates from those presented, based on secret ballots cast by the required quorum of members. The CC Chair will present the ranking by the Central Committee to the Benton County Commissioners for their appointment to fill the vacant position. In the event that LD 8, LD 14, LD 15, or LD 16 is affected, BCRP will work with all applicable County Republican Parties to select a candidate.
- A goal of the BCRP is to elect qualified Republicans to every office in Benton County. The Vetting Committee will vet Republican candidates who file for and run for elected offices in both partisan and nonpartisan elections. Republican candidates seeking an endorsement who have been vetted and determined to be eligible for endorsement shall be invited to speak to the Central Committee at a regular meeting. In accordance with BCRP Policy 6.2, Section 8, the candidate shall be invited to a Candidate Interview Forum (CIF).
- Create a candidate packet to detail, for a candidate, how to seek endorsement from the BCRP. This packet will be available, by request, to candidates.
- Organize a CIF for all candidates post filing date.
- Conduct and record interviews of candidates seeking endorsement using approved questions.
- Provide unbiased report of Vetting Findings to the CC.

PROCEDURES

Detailed procedures may be developed as needed by the Vetting Committee to facilitate the performance of Committee activities. Such Procedures will be approved by a majority of the Vetting Committee and ratified by the Executive Committee and retained for use by future Vetting Committee members. Any changes to this Charter will be approved by the Executive Committee.

Current Vetting Committee procedures include:

1. Procedure for Vetting Candidates for BCRP Elected Officers,
2. Procedure for Vetting Candidates for Appointment to Vacant Elected Offices, and
3. Procedure for recommending endorsement of Candidates for Elected Offices.