

MONTGOMERY COUNTY CONVENTION RULES

March 16th, 2023

1. The purpose of this Reorganization Convention is to elect Officers and Executive Committee members and adopt the County Bylaws as prescribed by the Tennessee Democratic Party.
2. All members of the Montgomery County Democratic Party who are registered voters in the county and who attest they are bona fide Democrats by execution of the Pledge of Support Form and proper identification are eligible to participate, vote and to be candidates for the Executive Committee and/or Officers.
3. Only bona fide Democrats in attendance at the Reorganization Convention shall be permitted to vote. The definition of a bona fide Democrat is: An Individual whose record of public service, actions, accomplishments, public writings, and/or public statements affirmatively demonstrates they are faithful to the interests, welfare, and success of the Democratic Party of the United States and of the state of Tennessee. The State Party or a county party are able to make exceptions to this rule in the spirit of an inclusive and a growing party.
4. In preparation for this Reorganization Convention our current Chair has appointed a Credentials Committee and a Rules and Convention Committee. The Reorganization Convention has been well publicized in as many platforms as are available to us.
5. The Credentials Committee shall verify the Pledges of Support of all attendees. This committee shall also be responsible to settle grievances. Proxy voting is prohibited. All votes shall be public and shall not be by secret ballot.
6. Registration shall be closed for the Convention at 4:15 PM, and no others will be allowed to participate save those individuals waiting in line to be credentialed when the Convention is called to order.
7. After the Reorganization Convention is called to order, the Chair will follow the agenda and ask for reports from the Credentials Committee and the Rules and Convention Committee. Actions on these reports will be taken.

8. A majority shall prevail in each election.
9. The current Presiding Officer of the Convention will break any ties in all elections.
10. Process for election of Officers:

Convention elects Selectors - Convention elects Selectors: The Chair shall call for nominations from the floor for 31 female selectors and 32 male selectors. Separate elections may be held for each position or the body may approve selectors en masse. After the nominations cease, the ballot is closed and the elections shall commence. A majority shall prevail for each election. If a tie results after three attempts, the incumbent County Party Chair will cast the deciding vote.

The Chair shall then call for nominations for each of the two (2) District Representative Executive Committee positions. Separate elections shall be held for each position, while attempting to demonstrate gender and racial equity. After the nominations cease, the ballot is closed and the elections shall commence. A majority shall prevail for each election. In the case where a majority is not reached, the low vote getter is dropped, and voting proceeds with the remaining candidates. In the case of a tie, a runoff between those tied shall be held to decide the winner. If a tie results after three attempts, the incumbent County Party Chair will cast the deciding vote.

Upon the completion of the elections a report of the results of the elections will be provided in writing to the Secretary of the County Party.

The Oath of office shall be administered to the newly elected Executive Committee, including Officers.

Attendees will be encouraged to form caucuses representing communities they identify with.

11. Only convention members shall be permitted to make motions, ask questions, debate, and vote.
12. Any member wishing to make a motion, ask a question, nominate a candidate, or second a motion or nomination shall give their name before being recognized.

13. No member may speak a second time on a current motion until all others have had an opportunity to speak.
14. All newly elected members of the Montgomery County Party Executive Committee must take the Oath of Office. Having already signed their Credential and Pledge of Support form prior to the start of the convention, their election and Oath of Office will be indicated on their Credential and Pledge of Support form by the Convention Committee and reported to the TNDP.
15. All members wishing to ask questions will be limited to 1 minute.
16. When addressing the assembly, no individual will be allowed to be recognized more than three times.
17. Participants being recognized to make nominations or second nominations for officers and nominees may choose to speak with the following limits:
 - Nomination: 45 seconds
 - Second to nomination: 30 seconds
 - Candidate: 1.5 minutes
18. We are recommending the following procedures for voting:
 - (1) Voting by raised hand is the preferred method of voting.
 - (2) Standing vote is the second preferred method of voting.
19. "Robert's Rules of Order" shall be the authority for those things not covered by these rules and the Party Bylaws.
20. A complete list of all officers shall be reported to the Tennessee Democratic Party on the same day as this Reorganization and list of participants and other Executive Committee positions within three days following the process outlined in the Reorganization Guidelines.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES:

Members of the Credentials Committee will have to be available to work the convention from the time the doors open until the convention convenes to conduct business.

1. Assign at least two people to assist with check in.
2. Have people at the door to welcome participants and give the Pledge Sheet and a place to complete. Table, Clipboards, etc.
3. Participants will be able to check-in virtually up to 24 hrs prior to the convention.
4. The Credentials Committee decides any questions or challenges coming out of the registration process.
5. Count the number registered for each district and report to the convention before any vote is taken.

Those at the Tables will:

1. Make sure everyone has fully completed the required Credential Pledge form to support Democratic Candidates.
2. Make sure everyone participating is a registered voter in this county or completes a voter registration form at check in.
3. Give a name tag with the proper District number.

CONVENTION CHAIR CALLS FOR CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT

CREDENTIALS CHAIR NAMES THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE AND MAKES THE REPORT

