

MONTANA DEMOCRATS

2017 Officers Convention Proposed Procedural Rules

Saturday, August 12th | 9:00am
Radisson Colonial Hotel - 2301 Colonial Drive, Helena

Rule 1—Nominations

Nominations will be accepted in the following order:

Office	Qualifications
Chair	Montana resident
Vice Chair	Montana resident, opposite sex of Chair
Treasurer	Montana resident
Secretary	Montana resident
Male Eastern District Chair	Male County Chair or Vice Chair, resident in Eastern District
Female Eastern District Chair	Female County Chair or Vice Chair, resident in Eastern District
Male Western District Chair	Male County Chair or Vice Chair, resident in Western District
Female Western District Chair	Female County Chair or Vice Chair, resident in Western District
2 Male Eastern District Members – A,B	Male resident of Eastern District
2 Female Eastern District Members – A,B	Female resident of Eastern District
2 Male Western District Members – A,B	Male resident of Western District
2 Female Western District Members – A,B	Female resident of Western District

All offices listed above will be filled by vote of the entire convention.

A. Candidates for any office must be nominated by a delegate.

B. The **combined** total for all speeches in favor of a candidate for chair or vice chair including:

- i. the nomination, (1 min)
- ii. seconding speeches, and (1 min)
- iii. the speech by the candidate her or himself (3 min)

may not exceed 5 minutes total per candidate.

C. The **combined** total for all speeches in favor of a candidate for other offices –including:

- i. the nomination, (30 sec.)
- ii. seconding speeches, and (30 sec.)
- iii. the speech by the candidate her or himself (2 min)

may not exceed 3 minutes total per candidate.

D. Speakers will be warned with a yellow card when they are within thirty seconds of reaching their time limit, and a red card will be held up when time has expired.

E. The Presiding Officer will accept all immediate nominations for each office and call for further

nominations for any office after completing the list, at which point a motion to close nominations will be in order.

Rule 2—Elections

The following will apply:

Delegates

Rule 8 Section B, Point 2 of the State Rules state: “Delegates to the State Officers Convention shall include all members of the Montana Democratic State Central Committee and Democratic incumbents of the Montana Legislature.

- Persons serving as delegates may hold only one delegate position. Persons eligible to hold more than one delegate position must designate the position for which they want to serve as a delegate. Vacant positions may be filled by an eligible alternate.
- Only delegates with proper credentials and in the designated delegate section of the convention may vote.
- Non-delegates must remain outside of the delegate section and all attendees must remain orderly and follow the requests of the ushers.

Voting Procedures

- No ballot shall be removed from the designated delegate section of the convention.
- Elections will be conducted in the order listed above.
- If there are no nominations for a position, that election will be moved to the end of the list and taken up again once all other elections have taken place.
- For elections of the District Member Positions the following procedures will be followed:
 - a. All nominations for both positions, “A” and “B”, will be taken.
 - b. Election for position “A” will be held.
 - c. The presiding officer will ask remaining nominees if they still wish to be considered for position “B”,
 - d. Election for position “B” will be held.
- Ballots for candidates shall be counted only if the identity of the voter can be ascertained from the information on the ballot.
- The person receiving 50% plus one of the votes cast shall be declared elected. Whenever a subsequent ballot is needed for a candidate to receive more than 50% of the vote, the name of the person receiving the fewest votes previously shall be deleted from the ballot.
- Ties will be broken by voting a second ballot containing only the names of those who tied.
- In accordance with Democratic National Committee requirements, all elections for officers will be by open ballot unless, by unanimous consent of delegates present, the convention shall choose to elect unopposed candidates by a voice vote.