

**CONSTITUTION and BY-LAWS**  
**TRUMBULL COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CENTRAL and EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES**  
**Amended February 15, 1994**

**PREAMBLE**

**WHEREAS**, the Ohio Revised Code provides that the Controlling Committee of each county shall be a County Central Committee consisting of one member from each election precinct; and

**WHEREAS**, the law further provides that each party Controlling Committee shall elect an Executive Committee, which shall have such powers as may be granted to it by the party controlling committee; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the desire of the Democrats of Trumbull County, Ohio, that the Central and Executive Committees be structured in such manner so that all Democrats may have a voice and a party in the business, organization and efficient operation of our party;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, be it resolved by the Trumbull County Democratic Central Committee as follows:

**NAME, PURPOSE and MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1.1 NAME: The name of this organization shall be the Trumbull County Democratic Central Committee.

Section 1.2 MEMBERSHIP: Membership shall be comprised of those individuals who have been duly appointed or elected to a four (4) year term pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 3517.03 as a Democratic precinct committee person from the precinct in which he/she lives.

Section 1.3 PURPOSE: The purpose of this organization is to foster, encourage, and promote the policies, programs, and ideals of the Democratic Party at the national, state and local levels. It is an additional purpose to encourage and promote qualified individuals to seek public office in the Democratic Party at all levels.

Section 1.4 EXCLUSION FROM HOLDING APPOINTED OR ELECTED POSITIONS:

Any individual who has, prior to an endorsement meeting and subsequent to the last endorsement meeting, run as an independent candidate for any office anywhere shall not be eligible for any appointed or elected positions within the central committee for four (4) years from the date of the election that the name appeared on the ballot as an independent candidate.

## OFFICERS, DUTIES and SUCCESSION

Section 2.1 OFFICERS: There shall be three (3) principal officers, namely Chairman, First Vice Chairman and Secretary. In addition there shall be a Treasurer to be appointed by the principal officers. The Treasurer shall be qualified by education, experience or otherwise, to competently perform the duties of Treasurer.

Section 2.2 OTHER VICE-CHAIRMEN: There shall be eight (8) additional Vice Chairmen to be elected geographically as set forth from the following geographical areas:

<b>2nd Vice Chairman</b>	Girard, McDonald, Liberty
<b>3rd Vice Chairman</b>	Howland, Cortland, Mecca
<b>4th Vice Chairman</b>	Newton Falls, Newton Twp., Lordstown, Braceville, Southington, Champion
<b>5th Vice Chairman</b>	Hubbard City, Hubbard Twp., Brookfield, Hartford
<b>6th Vice Chairman</b>	Warren City: 1st,2nd,3rd,4th wards
<b>7th Vice Chairman</b>	Warren City: 5th,6th,7th wards and Warren Twp.
<b>8th Vice Chairman</b>	Niles City, Weathersfield
<b>9th Vice Chairman</b>	Bazetta, Bloomfield, Farmington, Fowler, Greene, Gustavus, Johnston, Kinsman, Mesopotamia, Orangeville, Vienna, Vernon, West Farmington, Bristol

Section 2.3 DUTIES: Duties of the officers shall be as follows:

A. Chairman: The Chairman shall be the chief Executive Officer of the organization and shall perform all functions normally performed by a Chairman or President. He shall be empowered to establish committees, appoint committee chairmen and committee members from time to time as required. He shall have the right and power to perform such other services as may be required or as set forth herein.

B. First Vice Chairman: The First Vice Chairman shall perform the duties of the Chairman in case of the absence, death, disability or resignation of the Chairman.

C. Secretary: The Secretary shall keep minutes of all proceedings of this organization and shall make proper record of the same which shall be attested to by him and he shall perform such other duties as may be directed by the

Chairman. He shall be responsible for preparing the filing of all non-financial reports required by law.

D. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall receive and have in his charge all money and other receipts of this organization and he shall disburse the same only upon written order of the Chairman. He shall keep an accurate account of all money and other assets received and disbursed by him, and shall perform such duties as may be required by the Chairman. He shall be responsible for preparing and filing any financial reports that may be required by law. He shall prepare and file with the Central Committee an annual financial report. The Treasurer shall be bonded, at the expense of the Central Committee, by a reputable insurance carrier. The Treasurer shall be appointed by the three principal officers. He shall be a registered Democrat and reside in Trumbull County.

E. Additional Vice-Chairmen: The eight additional vice-chairmen elected from the geographical areas set forth in Section 2.2 shall be available to assist the Chairman in the performance of his duties with respect to the particular geographical area represented and such other duties as may be required by the Chairman.

F. Parliamentarian: The Parliamentarian shall be appointed by the Chairman and serve at his discretion. He shall be a registered Democrat and reside in Trumbull County.

G. Corresponding Secretary: A Corresponding Secretary may be appointed by the Chairman and serve at his discretion. The corresponding secretary shall be a registered Democrat and reside in Trumbull County.

H. Sergeant at Arms: A Sergeant at Arms may be appointed by the Chairman and serve at his discretion. He shall be a registered Democrat and reside in Trumbull County.

Section 2.4 SUCCESSION: The order of succession of the duties, rights and responsibilities of the principal officers of this organization shall be the Chairman and First Vice-Chairman. Thereafter, any other vacancies of principal officers shall be filled for the unexpired term by the Chairman. All of the other eight Vice Chairmen shall be equal in office with no succession involved.

Section 2.5 ELECTION OF PRINCIPAL OFFICERS: To be eligible for election as Chairman, First Vice Chairman or Secretary, the candidate must file a nominating petition with the Corresponding Secretary no later than three (3) days after the certification of the official primary election results by the Trumbull County Board of Elections in the year of the gubernatorial primary on or before 4:00 p.m. on said date. The petition must contain the signatures of at least 25 elected precinct committee persons signing in support of the candidacy. The Secretary shall verify all petition signatures. An individual may offer himself as a candidate for not more than one office. The Secretary shall prepare and make available a form to be used for the petition.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Section 3.1 DISTRICTS: For organizational purposes, Trumbull County shall be divided into 30 districts as follows:

<b>District #1</b>	Niles 1st and 4th Wards
<b>District #2</b>	Niles 2nd Ward
<b>District #3</b>	Niles 3rd Ward
<b>District #4</b>	Girard 1st and 2nd Wards
<b>District #5</b>	Girard 3rd and 4th Wards; McDonald
<b>District #6</b>	Weathersfield
<b>District #7</b>	Hubbard City
<b>District #8</b>	Hubbard Township
<b>District #9</b>	Liberty Twp. A-J
<b>District #10</b>	Liberty Twp. K-U
<b>District #11</b>	Fowler, Gustavus, Hartford, Orangeville, Johnston
<b>District #12</b>	Kinsman, Vienna, Vernon

<b>District #13</b>	Howland A-H
<b>District #14</b>	Howland J-S
<b>District #15</b>	Howland T-Z
<b>District #16</b>	Farmington, West Farmington, Bloomfield, Bristol, Greene, Mesopotamia
<b>District #17</b>	Warren Twp.
<b>District #18</b>	Newton Falls, Newton Twp.
<b>District #19</b>	Lordstown, Braceville, Southington
<b>District #20</b>	Cortland
<b>District #21</b>	Bazetta, Mecca
<b>District #22</b>	Champion
<b>District #23</b>	Brookfield
<b>District #24</b>	Warren 1st Ward
<b>District #25</b>	Warren 2nd Ward
<b>District #26</b>	Warren 3rd Ward
<b>District #27</b>	Warren 4th Ward
<b>District #28</b>	Warren 5th Ward
<b>District #29</b>	Warren 6th Ward
<b>District #30</b>	Warren 7th Ward

Section 3.2 DISTRICT MEMBERS: Each such district shall be entitled to be represented on the Executive Committee by one of its members. That member must be elected by an absolute majority of the number of precinct committee persons in the district present at the reorganizational meeting by signing a petition made available the night of the meeting. In the event no quorum is present, or if no majority is received, then the member from the district shall be appointed by the principal officers.

Section 3.3 AT-LARGE MEMBERS: In addition to the 30 members of the Executive Committee elected from the district, said Executive Committee shall also consist of all principal officers of the Central Committee, which principal officers shall hold office correspondingly in the Executive Committee. In addition, said Committee shall further consist of 40 members At-Large to be appointed from the membership of the Central

Committee by the principal officers and said member shall serve at the discretion of the principal officers.

### MEETINGS OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

Section 4.1 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING: Pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 3517.04, the organizational meeting shall be held not earlier than six (6) nor later than fifteen (15) days following the declaration of the results by the Board of Elections certifying the results of the election of members of the Trumbull County Central Committee. The date, place and time of said meeting shall be designated by the retiring Chairman. Notice of such meeting shall be sent to each member elect at least five days prior to any such meeting.

Section 4.2 ORDER OF BUSINESS: The order of business of the organizational meeting shall be as follows:

1. Call to order by retiring Chairman or Secretary .
2. Election of temporary Chairman and Secretary provided that neither temporary officer shall be eligible for election as a permanent officer.
3. Presentation of candidates for Chairman, including a short speech and seconding speech.
4. Presentation of candidate for First Vice Chairman, including a short speech by candidate and a seconding speech.
5. Presentation of candidate for Secretary, including a short speech and seconding speech.
6. Election of three principal officers.
7. Presentation of by-laws.
8. Election of eight additional vice-chairmen.
9. Election of Executive Committee Members by district.
10. Presentation of financial report by Treasurer.
11. Old Business.
12. New Business.

Section 4.3 OTHER MEETINGS: Other meetings of the Central Committee may be called by the Chairman, by the other two principal officers, or by twenty-five (25) members of the Central Committee by a written petition to the Chairman. Notice of such meetings shall be sent by first class mail at least seven days prior to such meeting stating the time and place and the nature of business to be considered at such meeting.

Section 4.4 QUORUM: At least 100 members of the Central Committee are required at any meeting in order to lawfully conduct business of the Central Committee.

Section 4.5 PROXY VOTES: There shall be no proxies permitted for any vote of the Committee either oral or in writing.

### VOTING

Section 5.1 SECRET BALLOT: Voting for the election of principal officers, voting for endorsement of candidates for public office, and voting to fill an existing vacancy in public office shall be conducted by secret ballot. Details and arrangements for the secret ballot shall be provided for by the Elections Committee.

Section 5.2 OTHER VOTES: All other matters acted upon by the Central and Executive Committee shall be by voice, standing, secret or roll call vote at the discretion of the Chairman.

Section 5.3 REQUIRED VOTE: A majority vote of those present and voting is required for approval of any matter before the Central or Executive Committee, except for the vote to amend these by-laws set forth in Section 8.1

### ENDORSEMENTS FOR PUBLIC OFFICE

Section 6.1 GENERAL POLICY: It is the general policy of this Committee to endorse deserving Democratic candidates for public office and also to consider and vote upon the endorsement of public issues if desired by the Central Committee. The endorsement meeting shall be held not less than fifty (50) days prior to the date of the primary election in the even-numbered years. Endorsements will be confined to district and county-wide offices. Any individual who has, prior to this endorsement meeting and subsequent to the last endorsement meeting, run as an independent

candidate for any office anywhere shall not be eligible for endorsement for four (4) years from the date of the election that the name appeared on the ballot as an independent candidate.

Section 6.2 PARTY ENDORSEMENT: To be considered for the party endorsement, a candidate must comply with the following rules in addition to those contained in Section 6.3:

A. A candidate must submit the following items to the corresponding secretary on or before 3:00 p.m. five (5) days prior to the endorsement meeting:

- 1) A resume
- 2) A signed written request for endorsement; and
- 3) A contribution in the amount of \$95.00 to help defray the costs of the endorsement meeting.

B. A candidate must present himself for consideration in person before the Central Committee. The Chairman, upon receiving sufficient advance notice has the authority to excuse the appearance of a candidate who unavoidably cannot be present.

By secret ballot, the candidate must receive a simple majority (50% plus) of those present and voting. To be endorsed, an issue must also receive a simple majority. When two or more candidates are seeking an endorsement and a simple majority (50% plus) is not received on the first ballot, a second ballot will take place between the two candidates receiving the most votes. A simple majority (50% plus) of ballots cast must be received on the second ballot to be endorsed. After that, no endorsement.

Section 6.3 SHARED CAMPAIGN EXPENSE: After endorsements are made by the Central Committee, an informal meeting of endorsed candidates will be held with the principal officers to determine the type of campaign to be conducted. The Treasurer will request from each candidate a proportionate share of the total shared campaign expenditures. Said request must be paid within ten (10) days by check or money order made payable to the Trumbull County Democratic Candidates Shared Expense Account. If request is not paid, the candidate will not be included on any type of literature, advertisement, or communication and will not be considered



for endorsement the next time he/she seeks any elected office for which endorsement herein is available.

### VACANCIES

Section 7.1 CENTRAL COMMITTEE: In case of a vacancy caused by death, resignation, failure to elect or removal from the precinct from which a committeeperson was chosen, the Executive Committee shall fill the vacancy for the unexpired term by a majority vote.

Section 7.2 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: In case of any vacancy on the Executive Committee, the principal officers shall fill the unexpired term.

Section 7.3 PRINCIPAL OFFICERS: In the event of a vacancy in the office of Chairman, the First Vice Chairman shall succeed to that office. A vacancy in any other principal office may be filled by the Chairman from the ranks of the Central Committee.

### AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS

Section 8.1: These by-laws of the Trumbull County Democratic Central and Executive Committee may be amended only by a 2/3 vote of the membership at a meeting duly called for this purpose, and only when the members have been given seven (7) days advance written notice.

### MEETING PROCEDURE

Section 9.1 ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER: Robert's Rules of Order shall prevail at all meetings in all circumstances not otherwise provided for in these Articles of Association and By-Laws.

### COMMITTEES

Section 10.1: The following standing committees shall be established and maintained:

1. Elections Committee
2. Endorsements Committee
3. Fund Raising Committee
4. Labor Liaison Committee
5. Voter Registration Committee
6. Minority Liaison Committee
7. Senior Citizen Liaison Committee
8. Speakers Committee
9. Business Liaison Committee
10. Other Club Liaison

Section 10.2: The Chairman shall appoint the members of each standing committee and its chairperson and they shall serve at his discretion.


Section 10.3: Nothing shall limit the Chairman to create and appoint such other committees as may be necessary to conduct the business or affairs of this organization.

Section 10.4: The Chairman shall be an ex-officio member of all standing committees, and those committees shall submit minutes of each of their meetings to the party Secretary.

The foregoing Constitution and By-Laws shall become effective immediately upon ratification.

-CERTIFICATION-

I certify that the foregoing Constitution and By-Laws were duly approved and adopted by the Trumbull County Democratic Central Committee on the 15th day of February, 1994.

  
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Fred Alberini, Chairman