

Constitution of the Minnesota Organization of Republican Veterans

Preamble

The Minnesota Organization of Republican Veterans (MORVets) welcome the participation of all citizens of Minnesota who are veterans of the United States Armed Forces, National Guard, Coast Guard, Police Officer, Fire Fighters and their families or friends that are concerned with the implementation of honest, efficient, and responsive government. We associate ourselves together with a mission to elect Republican military veterans or other member of the organization that is seeking elected office to become veteran advocates and influence legislation important to MORVets. We believe in the equality of all, as stated in the Declaration of Independence. Therefore, we commit to equal representation and opportunity for all and preservation of the rights of each individual. It is the purpose of this constitution to ensure that the Minnesota Organization of Republican Veterans provide for full participation with equal opportunity for all citizens of Minnesota regardless of age, race, sex, religion, social or economic status.

Article I-Name

The name of this organization shall be the Minnesota Organization of Republican Veterans, hereinafter referred to as "MORVets".

Article II-Purpose

Section 1: The purpose and objectives of the MORVets shall be the maintenance and advancement of good government according to the Constitution and laws of the United States and the State of Minnesota through the promotion of the purposes and objectives of the MORVets.

Section 2: The purposes and duties of the MORVets shall include those imposed by law and custom as outlined in the Bylaws of MORVets. In addition the MORVets shall:

- A) Organize or cause to be organized one sub-unit in each Congressional District area;
- B) Encourage the formation of auxiliary Republican groups, and cooperate with and coordinate their activities with the MORVets;
- C) Assist in conducting campaigns for the adoption of laws, and for the election of qualified candidates for public office that exemplify the principles and objectives of the MORVets; and
- D) Administer the affairs of the MORVets.

Article III-Membership

The membership of MORVets shall be composed of all citizens eligible to vote with a residential address within the state of Minnesota who wish to be affiliated and have paid dues, as outlined in the bylaws, to maintain good standing with the MORVets and who support the purposes and objectives of the MORVets.

Article IV-Management and Structure

Section 1: The management of the MORVets shall rest with the MORVets Executive Committee, subject to the direction of the MORVets Convention, the MORVets Bylaws, this Constitution and applicable state statutes of law.

Section 2: The MORVets Executive Committee shall be composed of the MORVets Chair, First Vice Chair, Second Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, one (1) Congressional District Leader from each of Congressional District and one member appointed by the Chair with the approval of a majority of the Executive Committee.

Section 3: Duties: The duties of the Executive Committee shall be as follows:

- A) The MORVets Chair shall conduct MORVets Executive Committee meetings in accordance with the MORVets Bylaws. The Chair shall also be an ex-officio member of all MORVets committees.
- B) The First and Second Vice Chairs shall act in place of the Chair as defined in the Bylaws.
- C) The Secretary shall keep minutes of meetings, be responsible for written correspondence with the members of the Executive Committee, and delegates and alternates to MORVets conventions and other correspondence that may be necessary.
- D) The Treasurer shall be responsible for all organization moneys, keep financial records, disburse moneys as authorized by the Executive Committee, prepare and submit all reports to the state as required by law and provide appropriate reports to the Finance Committee.
- E) Congressional District Leaders shall manage the affairs of the MORVets within their Congressional District. The At-Large Leader shall act in MORVets affairs at the direction of the Executive Committee.

Section 4: Finances: The MORVets financial records shall be maintained in an orderly fashion by the MORVets Treasurer.

- A) All records shall be reviewed quarterly by the Executive Committee.
- B) At least every odd year the Executive Committee shall designate the financial institution to be used as a depository for Party funds after the Convention.

- C) All financial institution signature cards shall be signed by the MORVets Chair, First Vice Chair, Second Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary.
- D) All disbursements from MORVets shall be drawn from the designated account(s).
- E) All funds coming to the MORVets from any source shall be deposited in the designated account(s).

Article V- Elections

Section 1: The MORVets Officers shall be elected to a two-year term by the members at the odd-year MORVets Convention.

- A) The Chair, First Vice Chair, Second Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected at large by the members at the MORVets Convention.
- B) Congressional District Leaders appointed by the Chair with the approval of the Executive Committee.
- C) The At-Large Leader shall be appointed by the MORVets Chair with the approval of the Executive Committee.
- D) The Delegates and Alternates to the RPM State and Congressional District Conventions shall be elected in accordance with the RPM Constitution.

Section 2: The At-Large Leader and the Leaders of each Congressional District shall serve a term concurrent with the MORVets officers.

Section 3: A nominating committee shall be appointed by the MORVets Executive Committee in advance of the odd-year MORVets convention, for the purpose of nominating candidates for the various Officer positions. Nominations for officer positions can only be made by the nominating committee. Nominations for Congressional District Leaders may be through the Nominations committee or from the floor of their respective caucus.

Article VI-Meetings

Section 1: Requirements:

- A) Regular Committee Meetings: The Executive Committee may establish calendar of regular meetings provided that a 10-day written notice is given to the members of the Committee.
- B) Special Committee Meetings: The Executive Committee shall meet at the call of the Chair, at the request of any three (3) members of the Committee, or at the request of 25% of the membership. Three (3) days notice shall be provided to members of the Committee.

Section 2: "Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised" shall govern the proceedings of all meetings of the Executive Committee.

Article VII-Conventions

Section 1: MORVets Conventions shall be held at least every other year as outlined in the MORVets Bylaws. Special MORVets Conventions shall be held at the call of the majority of the MORVets Executive Committee, provided that a minimum of ten (10) days notice, in writing, be sent to each member.

Section 2: At all MORVets Conventions, the first (1st) order of business shall be the credentials report. The convention shall then proceed to the seating of the delegates, as outlined in Article VII, Section three (3). The convention shall organize and be seated by Congressional District and shall be entitled to one (1) vote for each member present and seated.

Section 3: The MORVets Convention shall be composed of all members who have met membership requirements as of 10 days prior to the convention. The credentials committee shall seat all members of each congressional district who are present and in good standing.

Section 4: Delegates and alternates to the Republican Party State and Congressional District Conventions shall be elected in accordance with the RPM Constitution and shall continue as such until their successors are elected. If the Delegate or Alternate offices are vacant, the MORVets Chair with the approval of the Executive Committee may appoint replacements until such time as new delegates or alternates are elected by a MORVets convention.

Section 5: A motion to endorse will be in order at any MORVets Convention in the years when these elections occur. This motion must carry by a majority vote.

- A) The MORVets Convention may endorse a candidate for any Minnesota public elected office.
- B) Endorsement require sixty (60) percent of the voting strength of the convention and that number of votes must exceed fifty (50) percent of the number of seated members reported at the last credentials report prior to the ballot. The total valid ballots cast shall govern the voting strength.

Article VIII-Vacancies and Removals

Section 1: Vacancies will be resolved as outlined in the MORVets Bylaws.

Section 2: An officer of the Executive Committee or other MORVets representative may be removed from office by a two-thirds (2/3) vote at any meeting of the seated (present and voting) Executive committee members provided that the officer in question be furnished with a fourteen (14) day notice, in writing, of the charges that may warrant removal. Further, the member in question shall be entitled to respond to these charges in person or in writing prior to the vote to remove. Once removed, the office shall be considered vacant in accordance with section 1 of this Article.

Section 3: If a member of the Executive Committee is absent without cause from more than four (4) consecutive meetings, this person shall be subject to the removal provisions outlined in Section 2 of this Article.

Section 4: It is the duty of all Executive Committee members to support Republican endorsed candidates. Should any member of this body actively and publicly campaign against a Republican endorsed candidate, that member may be removed from the Executive Committee in accordance with the provisions of Section 2 of this Article.

Section 5: Any elected member of the Executive Committee who announces their candidacy for an elected public office that may be considered for endorsement by MORVets shall be placed on immediate leave of absence and if he/she receives endorsement or runs in the Primary Election, that position on the Executive Committee shall be deemed vacant in accordance with the provisions of Section 1 of this Article.

Article IX - Dissolution

In the event the MORVets cease to hold a convention as stated in this constitution, the MORVets shall be considered dissolved.

Article X- Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at any MORVets Convention where at least 10% of the MORVets members are present, provided that the proposed amendments be first referred to a duly appointed Constitution Committee, and that the Official Convention Call indicates that constitutional amendments will be considered.