

## Preamble

We, the Democrats of Grayson County, united in common purpose, hereby rededicate ourselves to the principles which have historically sustained our Party. Recognizing that the vitality of the County's political institutions has been the foundation of its enduring strength, we acknowledge that a political party which wishes to lead must listen to those it would lead, a party which would ask for the people's trust must prove that it trusts the people and a party which hopes to call forth the best the County can achieve must embody the best of the County's heritage and traditions.

What we seek for our County, we hope for all people: Individual freedom in the framework of a just society and political freedom in the framework of meaningful participation by all citizens. Bound by the United States Constitution, aware that a party must be responsive to the worthy of responsibility, we pledge ourselves to open, honest endeavor and to the conduct of public affairs in a manner worthy of a society of free people.

Under God, and for these ends and upon these principles, we do establish and adopt this Constitution and By-Laws of the Grayson County Democratic Party.

Grayson County Democratic Party  
Constitution and By-Laws

Article I Name and Authority

The name of this organization shall be the Grayson County Democratic Party, (herein, the Party). It shall have such authority and powers as may be granted, delegated, or otherwise permitted by the laws of the United States and the State of Texas, by the Charter and By-Laws of the Democratic Party of the United States, and the Constitution of the Texas Democratic Party.

Article II Membership

Membership in the Grayson County Democratic Party is open to all citizens of Grayson County who support the Party's ideals and principles. Persons under the age for registering to vote are also encouraged to participate in the activities of the Party.

Sustaining Membership

You do not have to pay dues to be a member of the Grayson County Democratic Party. We need and want you in the Party. The Party does encourage all Democrats (with Party leadership leading the way) to contribute to the "Sustaining" of the Party. The governing body shall establish contribution levels.

Article III Rules of Order

All meeting of the Grayson County Democratic Party shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised except as it may be otherwise provided herein or as provided in the Rules of the Democratic Party of Texas, and applicable laws of the State of Texas, including, without limitation. The Texas Election Code.

## Article IV

## Party Officers

### Section I

All Grayson County Democratic Party Officers Shall be residents of Grayson County, and moving residence outside of the County Shall constitute Automatic Vacancy. The Party Officers covered by this Provision include “County Chair, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and all Precinct Chairs.”

Acceptance by any person of a Grayson County Democratic Party Office and Participation in that Capacity Constitutes an Agreement to the Provision in the Texas Democratic Party's “Statement of Principles” that “Every person who accepts a Party Office at any level (including the position of Convention Delegate and Alternate) must Agree to Support “All” of the Party's Nominees or Shall Be Subject to Removal.”

### Section 2

#### County Officers/Terms/Duties

The elected officers of the Grayson County Democratic Party shall be: County Chairman, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair, County Secretary and County Treasurer. The elected Precinct Chair along with elected Precinct Chairs shall constitute the County Executive Committee.

### Section 3

#### Duties

Chairman ---- County Chairs have numerous responsibilities, including leading their county's Executive Committees; working closely with candidates, Precinct Chairs, and the Texas Democratic Party Staff; conducting primary elections and certifying results; and building a network of volunteers and Precinct Chairs to get out the Vote in November.

The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Grayson County Democratic Party and the Executive Committee; shall appoint the Chair of Standing Committees; appoint Special Events and Ad Hoc Committees as needed and be an ex-officio member of all Committees.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair ---- Shall serve as Acting Chair in the absence or temporary inability or disability of the Chair. The 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair shall perform such other duties as may be delegated, assigned or directed by the Chair, the Grayson County Democratic Party or its Executive Committee or these By-Laws. The 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair Shall be an ex-officio member of all Committees.

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair ---- Shall serve as Acting Chair in the Absence or temporary

inability or disability of the Chair and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair shall perform such other duties as may be delegated, assigned or directed by the Chair, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair, the Grayson County Democratic Party or its Executive Committee or the By-Laws. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Shall be an ex-officio member of all Committees.

County Secretary ---- The County Secretary shall be responsible for the taking, recording and distribution of the minutes of the meetings of the Grayson County Democratic Party. The Secretary shall have custody and control over a;; the books, papers, records, and other documents of the Grayson County Democratic Party. The Secretary is responsible for official correspondence, and maintains the official membership and address list of the Grayson County Democratic Party.

Treasurer ---- The Treasurer shall keep accounts of all monies received by the Grayson County Democratic Party. The Treasurer shall deposit all monies and valuables in the name of the Grayson County Democratic Party in such Depositories as the Grayson County Democratic Party shall designate. Disbursement checks shall bear any two (2) signatures by the following authorized officers: Treasurer, Chairman or 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair. The Treasurer shall prepare and present a financial report for the regular meetings of the Grayson County Democratic Party. The Treasurer shall keep on his person “On hand Cash”, no more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00).

Parliamentarian ---- The Parliamentarian shall know the Roberts Rules of Order as used by the Grayson County Democratic Party and shall resolve all disputes about its interpretation. He/she shall also maintain Order for all meetings of the Party.

(Article IV Continue, Section 4)

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The Immediate Past Chairman and the President of any Grayson County Young Democratic Clubs shall serve as Voting members of the Executive Board.

All officers of the Grayson County Democratic Party are encouraged to lead by example and make every attempt to be at the very least a “Sustaining Member”.

B

Vacancies ---- In the event of the death, disability or resignation of any officer of the Grayson County Democratic Party, the vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the Unexpired term by the County Executive Committee at its next regular meeting or at the Special meeting called for that purpose.

Article V (I)

The Executive Committee

There shall be a County Executive Committee of the Grayson County Democratic Party, comprised of the Chair of the Grayson County Democratic Party and the Chair from each of its Precincts.

- (A) County Chair shall be elected by majority vote in the Party Primary Election held in Even-numbered years. The County Chair shall be elected by the qualified voters of the County, and the Precinct Chairs by the qualified voters of their respective Precincts. The remaining officers are elected by the general membership.
- (B) The term of office for members of the County Executive Committee shall begin on the twentieth day following the completion of the state and county primary process and shall continue for two (2) years or until their successors are elected and certified.
- (C) The County Executive Committee meetings shall be chaired by the County Chair. . If the County Chair is not present, then the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair shall conduct the meeting.

Duties and Responsibilities

- (1) Statutory duties of the County Executive Committee include collecting filing fees, appointing watchers, determining the order of names on the ballot, canvassing Primary results and setting and publicizing times and places for the Precinct and County Conventions. Additional responsibilities are outlined in the Texas Election Code.
- (2) In addition to its statutory duties, the County Executive Committee shall have Primary responsibility for planning and for coordinating the General Election Campaigns of the Democratic Party's nominees within the County
- (3) The County Executive Committee may establish such committees as it deem appropriate to carry out its non-statutory duties and may appoint committee members who are not members of the Grayson County Executive Committee.

Article V (2) Executive Board

The Executive Board of the Grayson County Democratic Party shall be

comprised of the Officers of the Party and the Chair of each Standing Committee. The Executive Board shall have the authority to act on all matters requiring immediate consideration.

## Article VI Meetings

### (A) Regular Meetings

The Grayson County Democratic Party shall meet once a month at a place and time designated by the Party Chair.

The Executive Committee shall meet quarterly at a place and time designated by the Party Chair.

The Executive Board shall meet once a month at a place and time designated by the Party Chair.

### (B) Called Meetings

Called Meetings of the Grayson County Democratic Party, Executive Committee or Executive Board may be Called by any three (3) Officers of the Party, upon one week notice to the Party Members. Such notice shall state the date, time and place of such a meeting and proposed agenda to be considered. Only agenda items may be discussed and/or vote on.

### (C) Quorums

A quorum of any meeting of the Grayson County Democratic Party shall consist of those members present, so long as at least three (3) officers are present.

## Article VII Standing and Ad Hoc Committees

### (1)

There shall be Standing and Ad Hoc Committees as necessary to conduct business and programs of the Grayson County Democratic Party. The Chair of each committee shall be appointed by the Chair of the Grayson County Democratic Party.

The term of the Standing Committee memberships shall be for the full term of the Grayson County Democratic Party Chairman which appointed them. Ad Hoc Committees shall be established as needed by the Grayson County Democratic Chair.

### (2) Standing Committees

#### (1) Candidate Recruitment and Development

The Grayson County Democratic Party's Candidate Recruitment Committee is charged with establishing a process to recruit qualified candidates for every feasible office on the ballot each year. The committee is further charged to provide the information a candidate needs to run, the training the candidate may need and the contacts the candidate will need to run a successful campaign.

- (2) Precinct Chair Recruitment and Development  
Precinct Chairs are the lifeblood of the Grayson County Democratic Party. They sit on our county's executive committee, help conduct party business and play a critical role in contacting democratic voters in their individual precincts. There is no more important job in the Democratic Party. This committee will be charged with recruiting and developing those who are interested in becoming a Precinct Chair.
- (3) Publicity Committee  
This committee shall be responsible for all public relations activities; for keeping the local news media informed of programs and activities; for coordination press conferences and media relations for visiting elected officials and to enable the Grayson County Democratic Party to speak with one voice.
- (4) Fundraising Committee  
This Committee shall be charged with devising ways and means of raising revenue for the Grayson County Democratic Party.
- (5) Program and Events  
This Committee shall be charged with promoting the visibility and participation of the Grayson County Democratic Party through its involvement in programs and special events within our community.
- (6) Minority Outreach  
This Committee shall be charged with reaching out to, embracing and supporting all segments of our community; to promote the Grayson County Democratic Party as Inclusive rather than Exclusive; “Open the door and let the people in”.
- (7) Communications and Technology  
This Committee is charged with the management, update and upkeep of the website of the Grayson County Democratic Party. It is also responsible for the oversight of the Party's Email communications. Other duties may include involvement in training for our new members.
- (8) Policy and Issue Development  
This Committee is charged with the formulating and interpretation of policies and issues within the Democratic Party. It also lends support to training regarding such policies and issues.

## Article VIII            Removal

A member of the Grayson County Democratic Party may be considered disqualified for office and removed.

- A. Grounds for such disqualification and removal from office shall include:
1. For malfeasance or misfeasance in office.
  2. Upon conviction of a felony while holding an office.
  3. For openly supporting or endorsing a candidate for public office of another political party or an independent candidate who is opposed or will be opposed by a Democratic nominee for the same office. Violation of this subsection may include endorsing or making public statements of support for a candidate; donating money or in-kind goods or services that are subject to official reporting; displaying signs on real or personal property; wearing or displaying campaign buttons, bumper stickers, or similar displays; or participating in coordinated or cooperative campaign efforts in support of such a candidate or candidates.
- B. Every person who accepts a Party office at any level (including the position of Convention Delegate and Alternate) must agree to support all of the Party's nominees or shall be removed.

Article IX                      Adoption and Amendment of By-Laws

1. These By-Laws shall become effective immediately following their adoption by an affirmative vote of a two-thirds majority of the weighted vote of the Grayson County Democratic Party present and voting.
2. These By-Laws may be amended after the introduction of a resolution stating the amendment submitted at a meeting.
3. Grayson County Democratic Party and adopted at the next meeting by two-thirds majority of the weighted vote present and voting.