



## **Rules of Order for the 2024 Convention of the Libertarian Party of Arkansas, February 23-25, 2024**

### **RULE 1: ORDER OF BUSINESS AND TIMETABLE**

1. As specified in the LPAR bylaws, Section IV.4., the standing order of business for the 2024 Convention (omitting unnecessary items) shall be as follows:
  - a. Call to order by the State Chair;
  - b. Opening Ceremonies;
  - c. Secretary report on actions taken by the State Executive Committee;
  - d. Treasurer report of money collected, money spent, and money remaining;
  - e. Nomination of candidates for public office;
  - f. Special election for At-Large Representative on the Executive Committee;
  - g. Selection of Presidential Electors (4 by District Caucus + 2 At-Large)
  - h. Selection of delegates and alternates to the national convention;
  - i. Report of the Platform Committee and action on its report;
  - j. Other business;
  - k. Adjournment.
2. Scheduled business shall take place along the following timetable [tentative]:
  - a. Session 1: Saturday, February 24, 9:00 AM – 11:30 PM
  - b. Session 2: Saturday, February 24, 1:30 PM – 4:15 PM
  - c. Session 3: Sunday, February 25, 9:00 AM – 11:45 PM
  - d. Session 4: Sunday, February 25, 1:00 PM – ? PM
  - e. Business may also be suspended for a period of time for breakout/training sessions, or by simple majority vote in order to accommodate visiting speakers or other convention activities.

### **RULE 2: VOTING PROCEDURE AND MOTIONS**

1. Except as otherwise specified, voting will be by either voice vote or show of hands. If any Member objects to the Chair's ruling on the outcome of a voice vote, a show of hands shall be conducted.
2. On matters that require a two-thirds vote, including the suspension of these rules, voting will be by show of hands or rising vote. If any Member objects to the Chair's ruling on the outcome of a show of hands, a rising vote shall be conducted.
3. The Chair may require any motion offered from the Convention floor to be in submitted in writing, signed by the mover and submitted to the Secretary.

### **RULE 3: PROCEDURES FOR THE NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE**

1. Order of voting:
  - a. Nominations will be considered in the following order:
    - i. Federal Offices (House of Representatives)
    - ii. State Constitutional Offices (Treasurer of State)
    - iii. State Senate
    - iv. State House
    - v. County, Township, and Local Offices
  - b. Nominations for the state General Assembly (Senate then House) will be taken up in order of district numbers. Nominations for county offices will be considered in alphabetical order by county, and by district number (if relevant) within counties.
  - c. At the discretion of the Chair, or by a majority of the Convention Delegates present and voting, nominations for previously-considered offices that were left vacant may be reconsidered at any time during the convention.
2. Discussion:
  - a. Each candidate will be allocated up to 6 minutes to present his or her case for nomination, with opening comments limited to no more than 3 minutes and with up to 3 minutes reserved for questions from the floor.
  - b. When two or more candidates have been nominated for the same office, their 6 minute allocations will be combined to create time for a debate. The debate will be structured as follows:
    - i. Each candidate will be allocated up to 2 minutes for an opening statement.
    - ii. Questions from the floor will be directed to each candidate in turn, but all candidates will have an opportunity to answer each question.
    - iii. Each candidate will be allocated up to 1 minute for a closing statement.
  - c. After candidates have completed their presentation/debate, the floor will be open to brief comments in support of a candidate or "None of The Above" (NOTA).
2. Voting procedures
  - a. Contested nominations: In the case of nominations for which more than one person has been presented as a candidate, voting will take place by secret ballot. Convention delegates may vote for any individual or for "None of The Above" (NOTA).
    - i. Any candidate (including NOTA) who receives a majority of the votes cast will be declared the party's nominee for that office.
    - ii. If no candidate receives a majority, the person with the lowest number of votes will be dropped from the list of candidates and another round of voting will take place. (NOTA is always on the ballot).
    - iii. The process described in sections (i.) and (ii.) will continue until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast.
  - b. Uncontested nominations: If only one person is being considered for nomination, voting by secret ballot will be suspended by unanimous consent: Convention delegates may vote for the named candidate or for NOTA by a show of hands. Any Member may call for a secret ballot at any time (and does not need to have the floor to do so).

- c. Election of NOTA: If NOTA receives a majority of votes for any office, the office shall be considered vacant and the Chair will proceed to consideration of the next office as specified in Section (1.).

#### **RULE 4: PROCEDURES FOR THE NOMINATION OF PARTY OFFICERS (At-Large Representative)**

1. Voting procedures
  - a. Contested nominations: If more than one person has been nominated as a candidate, voting will take place by secret ballot. Convention delegates may vote for any individual or for “None Of The Above” (NOTA). Prior to any vote, candidates and/or their advocates will each be given up to 6 minutes to present their case to the convention delegates.
  - b. Any candidate (including NOTA) who receives a majority of the votes cast will be declared elected for that office.
  - c. If no candidate receives a majority, the person with the lowest number of votes will be dropped from the list of candidates and another round of voting will take place. (Note: NOTA is always on the ballot).
  - d. The process described in sections (a.) through (c.) will continue until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast.
2. Uncontested nominations: If only one person has been nominated for an office, voting by secret ballot will be suspended by unanimous consent: Convention delegates may vote for the named candidate or for NOTA by a show of hands. Any member may call for a secret ballot at any time, and such a request will be considered a privileged motion.
3. Election of NOTA: If NOTA receives a majority of votes, the office shall be considered vacant.

#### **RULE 5: PROCEDURES FOR THE SELECTION OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS**

1. Election of Four District Electors: The convention will break into regional caucuses, representing the four U.S. Congressional districts, to select one nominee from each region. Upon re-convening, the Convention will be called upon to approve the nominated panel by majority vote. If, for any reason, nominee(s) are not approved by the Convention, the regional caucus(es) will reconvene, and the procedure will repeat until a slate of district electors is selected.
2. Election of Two At-Large Electors: Nominees for the two remaining Electors will be through open nomination from the floor.
  - a. If only two are nominated, the Convention will vote on confirming the two as at-large electors. Voting by secret ballot will be suspended by unanimous consent: Convention delegates may vote for the two candidates or for NOTA by a show of hands. If NOTA receives a majority of votes cast, then the two at-large positions will be considered separately, under the general rules pertaining to a candidate for public office.

- b. If more than two are nominated, the at-large positions will be considered contested.
  - i. Each nominee or their designee will have three (3) minutes to speak in favor of their nomination.
  - ii. Voting will take place by secret ballot, with each Member voting for up to two (2) of the nominees.
  - iii. Any candidate who receives a majority of votes cast will be selected as an elector.
  - iv. If a candidate fails to receive a majority of affirmative votes cast, then the position will be considered vacant and the nomination for the remaining at-large position(s) will be reconsidered by the Convention.

#### **RULE 6: PROCEDURES FOR THE ELECTION OF DELEGATES TO THE NATIONAL CONVENTION**

For the 2024 national LP convention, the LPAR has been allocated eight (8) delegates.

1. First round of voting:
  - a. Ballots including the names of all delegate nominees will be distributed to all voting Members in attendance at the time of election. The candidates in the first round of voting will consist of only those Members who indicated their desire to serve as delegates at least 30 days prior to the State Convention, as specified in the LPAR Bylaws section IV.6.b.
  - b. Prior to the election, the Chair will ask if there are any other Members present who desire to serve as delegates or alternates, but the names of such Members will not be printed on the ballots for the first round of voting.
  - c. Each candidate shall have three (3) minutes to speak to the convention in support of their nomination.
  - d. Members may vote for as few as one (1) or as many as nine (8) candidates from among the names presented on the first ballot. Write-in votes are permitted. Any candidate who receives a majority of votes cast will be elected as a delegate.
  - e. If any candidate fails to receive a majority of votes cast, then a seat on the delegation will be considered vacant. The candidate will remain eligible for election as a delegate or alternate in the second round of voting.
2. Second round of voting:
  - a. Remaining vacancies in the delegation, along with alternates, will be filled by a second ballot in which Members who were not elected in the first round, along with Members who indicated a willingness to serve, per section 1.b. of this Rule, will be included on the ballot.
  - b. Members may vote for as few as one (1) or as many as the number of positions that remain vacant in the allocated LPAR delegation.
  - c. The second-round candidates who receive the most votes will be elected to fill vacant delegate positions.
  - d. After all delegate positions have been filled, remaining candidates will be considered as alternates, in the order of their vote counts in the second round.