

# Democratic Rural Conference of New York State

## 2010 CONVENTION RULES OF THE DEMOCRATIC RURAL CONFERENCE OF NEW YORK STATE

THE DEMOCRATIC RURAL CONFERENCE OF NY STATE will abide by its By-Laws and by these Convention Rules, in the conduct of conventions to hear candidates for State and National office:

1. OFFICERS – The duly elected officers of the DRC shall function as the officers of the convention. The Chair may appoint tellers, sergeant at arms, etc. as necessary.
2. DELEGATES – All voting members of the DRC (as defined in the By-Laws) shall be delegates to the convention. Honorary and Associate members shall be regarded as non-voting guests.
3. VOTING – Each voting member shall have the number of votes as specified by the DRC By-Laws, which is detailed in the attached voting by county document. A member may cast one ballot by a written proxy held by a registered Democrat from the absent member's county, so long as said signed proxy is registered with the DRC Secretary prior to the commencement of the nominations for the office in question. In the event that a County Chair is also a State Committee member, they shall have two ballots per State or National office and may designate (by a duly signed and filed proxy) another registered Democrat from their County to cast their second ballot.
4. PROCEDURE – These Convention Rules, the DRC By-Laws and Robert's Rules of Order Revised shall govern the conduct of the convention, and shall govern in that order of priority in the event of any conflict between them.
5. ENDORSEMENT – There shall be no endorsement of candidates by the DRC.
6. PURPOSE – The purpose of the convention is to bring Democrats together to evaluate the candidates in person. Straw Polls of the delegates in attendance may be conducted and the results publicized, but no such poll shall be construed as an endorsement of a candidate by the DRC.
7. GUESTS – All Democrats are welcome to attend, but the Chair may limit the number of people in the room, in the interest of safety or order.
8. NOMINATION – Candidates shall be placed in nomination, according to alphabetical order, for each office. Each candidate shall be nominated by a single nominating speech of no more than 3 minutes, and by a single seconding/introduction speech of no more than one minute, said time limits may be adjusted by the Chair, in the Chair's sole discretion, so long as candidates for the same office are given equal amounts of time. These speeches will be made by DRC voting members. The candidate will speak after the seconding/introduction speech. The Chair may limit the time allowed each candidate.
9. BALLOT – All candidates who have announced their candidacy, and/or been nominated at the convention, pursuant to these rules, shall appear on the ballot or a space will be provided for a write-in candidate or a candidate nominated at the convention.