

# **LD 21 DEMOCRATS -SUMMARY MEETING RULES- ENDORSEMENTS**

## **Section 1. Definitions.**

- A. Sole Endorsement: An endorsement made by the LD21 Dems that, once made, prohibits any other endorsement for the same office.
- B. Dual Endorsement: An endorsement in which the LD21 Dems decide to endorse more than one candidate. If a candidate has been given a sole endorsement, no other candidate can be endorsed. If a candidate has been given an endorsement but it was not specified as a sole endorsement, then a dual endorsement is possible for that position.
- C. Slate: In order to make the endorsement process more efficient and save time, the Endorsement Committee may group candidates who are being recommended for endorsement into one group or “slate” for consideration as a whole group rather than as individual candidates. Slates are reserved for candidates that the Endorsement Committee determines are strong candidates for endorsement by the LD21 Dems.

## **Section 3. Candidate Endorsement.**

- A. The Endorsement Committee Chair will present the endorsement request to the membership at the meeting as scheduled, along with a summary of the evaluation and the Endorsement Committee recommendation. A recommendation from the Endorsement Committee to endorse the candidate immediately places the matter before the membership for consideration
- B. To receive endorsement a recommended candidate need only be approved by the majority vote of the eligible LD21 Dems members present and voting. To approve a recommendation or request for a sole endorsement the endorsement must be approved by at least 2/3 majority of the eligible LD21 Dems members present and voting.
- C. Motions to endorse made from the floor for a candidate who has not been first reviewed by the endorsement committee will be referred to the endorsement committee. A motion to recommit consideration to the membership, being approved by at least 2/3 of the LD21 Dems members present and voting, will cause the membership to consider the endorsement without referral to the committee.
- D. The membership may vote to endorse, sole endorse, not endorse, table, or return to committee any endorsement request. The membership may make multiple endorsements in the same race if the membership believes it is in the best interest of the LD21 Dems to do so.
- E. Any endorsement may be rescinded. To rescind an endorsement, the Executive Board must place the matter on a Regular or Special Meeting agenda and be published to the membership at least 7 days prior to that meeting. A motion to rescind an endorsement must be approved by at least 2/3 of the LD21 Dems members present and voting.
- F. The endorsement of a candidate for any race in which LD21 residents do not vote in, such as a congressional race, will be in order only if that candidate has been endorsed by the candidate's own County or LD Democrats organization.

- G. A letter signed by the Chair of the LD21 Dems Endorsement Committee will be mailed via USPS or e-mail to each candidate requesting endorsement informing the candidate of the result of the endorsement request. In the case the membership has given the candidate an endorsement, the letter will authorize the use of the LD21 Dems name and logo in the campaign.

#### **Section 4. Slates.**

- A. A slate, when proposed, will be the first order of business under Endorsements. The slate will be considered first as a whole. It is out of order to move to amend the slate presented by the Endorsement Committee by adding candidates to the slate. The motion for the slate by the Endorsement Committee does not require a second. In presenting the slate the Endorsement Committee briefly reports as to the recommendation for each office on the slate and any other candidates running for each office. There are no candidate statements made when the slate is presented. After the slate is presented, candidates may be removed from the slate for individual consideration with a motion, a second, and then a majority vote of the LD21 Dems members present and voting. There is no debate on a motion to remove a candidate from the slate for individual consideration.
- B. The debate on the slate is opened with a speaker for the slate followed by a speaker against the slate, continuing through not more than 8 speakers and alternating speaking for and against the slate if there are speakers on either side of the motion. Speakers must be LD21 Dems members. Speakers are limited to 1 minute each. The Chair may extend to additional speakers.
- C. When debate ends the slate is voted on. The motion to endorse the slate passes with a majority of the LD21 Dems members present and voting to approve the slate. If the motion to approve the slate passes all candidates on the slate are endorsed. If the motion to endorse the slate fails, then the entire slate is dissolved and the Endorsement Committee presents each candidate from the slate to the membership as Individual Candidate Endorsement Recommendations, in the order of the candidates as presented on the slate.
- D. Following the passage of a slate the Chair may invite brief comment from each of the endorsed candidates, not to exceed 1 minute in length.

#### **Section 5. Endorsement Committee Individual Candidate Endorsement Recommendations.**

- A. Following consideration of a slate, if offered, the Endorsement Committee will move to endorse their recommended individual candidates. If a slate fails, the first recommended candidates will be from the failed slate, followed by candidates the Endorsement Committee individually recommends. The motion for an endorsement recommendation by the Endorsement Committee does not require a second.
- B. After a motion to endorse by the Endorsement Committee the candidate or a candidate representative will control a total of 3 minutes for speeches by the candidate, representative, or individuals the candidate invites to speak on their behalf. At the end of the candidate speech there will be 4 minutes for questions and answers. Questions will be asked by LD21 Dems members and may not exceed 20 seconds, and the candidates

answer may not exceed 1 minute. After questions and answers the candidate and any candidate staff will be excused from the meeting while the membership debates.

- C. The Endorsement Committee will have 2 minutes to summarize their evaluation and recommendation. The chair will then invite a speaker for the endorsement followed by a speaker against the endorsement, continuing through not more than 6 speakers and alternating speaking for and against the slate if there are speakers on either side of the motion. Speakers must be LD21 Dems members. Speakers are limited to 1 minute each.
- D. At the discretion of the chair voting may commence immediately after each individual candidate has been considered or following the presentation of all Endorsement Committee candidate endorsement recommendations. In either case candidates and their staff will be excused from the meeting while debate is occurring for their individual endorsement and while voting is occurring. Provisions of Section 8 will be followed when a candidate or staff are also LD21 Dems members. The motion to endorse any candidate passes with a majority of the LD21 Dems members present and voting.

### **Section 6. Pending Endorsement Requests.**

Following consideration of Endorsement Committee individual candidate endorsement recommendations, the Endorsement Committee will report on the status of any other endorsement requests before the committee. This will include candidates that the Endorsement Committee has evaluated and is recommending no endorsement and candidate endorsement requests that remain in committee for further consideration and why.

### **Section 7. Endorsements from the Floor.**

- A. If a LD21 Dems member makes a motion to endorse a candidate that the Endorsement Committee has under consideration in the committee, or for a candidate who has not yet been submitted to the Endorsement Committee for consideration, the LD21 Dems members must approve circumventing the Endorsement Committee review process before proceeding to consider giving an endorsement. A vote to proceed with consideration outside of the normal Endorsement Committee review and recommendation process requires a 2/3 majority of LD21 Dems members present and voting to pass.
- B. If a LD21 Dems member makes a motion to endorse a candidate that the Endorsement Committee has recommended not to endorse, the motion requires a second and, following discussion and a vote of the majority of LD21 Dems members present and voting, it will then be considered by the membership. If the Endorsement Committee has reviewed the candidate and concluded it will make no recommendation, then upon a motion and a second the motion to endorse will be considered by the membership.
- C. If made eligible for endorsement from the floor the candidate or a candidate representative will control a total of 3 minutes for speeches by the candidate, representative, or individuals the candidate invites to speak on their behalf. At the end of the candidate speech there will be 4 minutes for questions and answers. Questions will be asked by LD21 Dems members and may not exceed 20 seconds, and the candidates answer may not exceed 1 minute. After questions and answers the candidate and any candidate staff will be excused from the meeting while the membership debates.

- D. The Endorsement Committee will have 3 minutes to make any comment regarding the candidate and the motion to endorse. The chair will then invite a speaker for the endorsement followed by a speaker against the endorsement, continuing through not more than 6 speakers and alternating speaking against and for the slate if there are speakers on either side of the motion. Speakers must be LD21 Dems members. Speakers are limited to 1 minute each.
- E. Voting will commence immediately after debate. The motion to endorse any candidate passes with a majority of the LD21 Dems members present and voting in favor.

**Section 8. Endorsement Votes by Candidates and Staff.**

Any candidate or candidate staff person who is a LD21 Dems member may vote on matters relating to their endorsement. When excused from the meeting for the purpose of debate related to their candidacy and a vote is occurring, they will be provided a means of submitting their vote along with all other voting members so that it is counted unless it is their desire to abstain from the vote.