

EAST BATON ROUGE REPUBLICAN
PARISH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Resolutions

Thursday, April 12, 2012

RESOLUTION No. 5 — Endorsement Process

WHEREAS the East Baton Rouge Republican Parish Executive Committee desires to provide information on Republican candidates to the registered voters of East Baton Rouge Parish and, where appropriate, to make recommendations or endorsements.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Republican Party of East Baton Rouge Parish does hereby adopt the following Rules on the Endorsement Process:

ENDORSEMENT PROCEDURE
East Baton Rouge Republican Parish Executive Committee

A. Candidate Eligibility

1. In order to be eligible for an endorsement from the Republican Party of East Baton Rouge Parish, the candidate must have been a registered Republican for at least six months prior to the date of qualifying.

2. Every Republican who offers himself as a candidate for public office, which will be voted on in East Baton Rouge Parish, shall receive an Endorsement Questionnaire from the East Baton Rouge Republican Parish Executive Committee.

3. The Endorsement Questionnaire, which shall be designed by the Endorsement Committee and approved by the PEC, shall include some questions which are appropriate for all public offices and other questions which are appropriate for the particular office sought. The questionnaire may ask for other attachments, such as a formal resumé, letters of recommendation, proof of military service or graduation from institutions of higher learning, and other documentation.

4. The candidate shall attach to the returned Endorsement Questionnaire form, a certified proof of registration signed by their Registrar of Voters, indicating that the candidate is a resident of the district from which election is sought, and evidence that the candidate actually resides at that location and has resided there for the period of time required by law for that particular office.

B. Instructions to Candidates

A. The Endorsement Questionnaire shall be accompanied by a letter from the chairman advising the candidates of the procedure they must follow if they desire to be considered for endorsement by the party. The secretary, or a designated member, shall collect the Questionnaires and distribute copies of each Questionnaire to every member of the PEC.

C. Endorsement Meeting

1. The chairman shall determine when endorsement meetings are to be held for a particular election or for a particular public office. He may call such meetings before, during, or after the close of qualifying. Upon receipt by the secretary of a petition signed by a majority of the PEC, the chairman shall call an endorsement meeting within seven days.

2. At a regular monthly meeting or a special called meeting, candidates will be given an opportunity to speak and answer questions from members of the PEC. The meeting shall be open to the public and shall be conducted with fairness to all of those seeking the endorsement.

D. Member Responsibility

1. A member who is a candidate for a particular office being considered for endorsement or who anticipates becoming a candidate for that office must recuse himself from voting on the Endorsement for the office he is seeking.

2. A member who has accepted monetary or other consideration from a candidate who is seeking an endorsement for a particular office must recuse himself from voting on the endorsement for that office.

3. A member who has already personally endorsed a candidate, donated to a candidate, or holds a position in the campaign of a candidate shall disclose that fact in writing to the chairman of the Endorsement Committee prior to the vote on endorsement for that office.

4. In a race with multiple Republican candidates, each member will have the option to cast a vote in favor of "Endorsement" or "No Endorsement" in a separate vote for each candidate.

5. In a race with a single Republican candidate, each member will have the option to cast a vote in favor of "Endorsement" or "No Endorsement".

6. No member may hold more than two proxies at an Endorsement meeting. A quorum, which is a majority of the total membership of the PEC, must be present in person or by proxy at all times in order to conduct business when candidates are speaking or answering questions.

7. Every member shall be allowed to ask two questions of each candidate, after which members may request permission from the chair for an additional question. At the conclusion of the questions, the candidate shall be given the right to close for a period determined by the chair. The members of the PEC shall then be allowed to discuss the candidate's qualifications and platform.

8. When matters of character or reputation come into issue, either the candidate or the chairman may request an executive session, which shall be voted upon by the PEC. If a majority of those voting in person and by proxy agree, the PEC shall meet in executive session solely for the purpose of discussing the matters of character or reputation. All such discussion shall be confidential, and no member of the PEC shall disclose this information outside the meeting. Any member who does reveal any such confidential matter shall be censured by the PEC and barred from participating in executive sessions for the balance of the term.

9. After all candidates in a race have been allowed to address the members, the members shall, by secret ballot, vote for the candidate(s) of their choice. A candidate must receive a majority of the members present in person or by proxy to receive the Endorsement.

10. "No Endorsement" shall be a Candidate in every race.

11. There shall be no automatic endorsement of any incumbent.

12. The secretary and two members designated by the Chairman shall count the votes.

13. All vote totals shall remain secret by those charged with counting the votes.

14. The chairman and any member may meet with a candidate prior to an Endorsement meeting but neither the chairman nor any member shall make a commitment to a candidate that he will receive the endorsement of the party. The chairman may call a meeting of the Endorsement Committee to meet with a candidate or to discuss issues related to an endorsement. In such case, the committee shall report its findings or recommendations to the full PEC.

Done this 12th day of April, 2012

Secretary, East Baton Rouge
Republican Parish Executive Committee