

UTAH COUNTY REPUBLICAN PARTY VOTING PRECINCT CAUCUS MEETINGS

BASICS

- Why:** 1) To educate, organize, and mobilize party members at the grass roots level ;
2) To elect precinct officers (Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer) for a two-year term; and,
3) To elect delegates for a two-year term to represent the precinct at the state and county party conventions.
- Who:** Anyone is welcome to observe. Participation (speaking, voting, and running for office) is reserved for registered Republican voters who reside within the voting precinct. The meeting is conducted by the Precinct Chair or Vice-Chair elected at the previous precinct caucus meeting.
- When:** **MARCH 15, 2012**
- Where:** A local school, a government building, or an individual's home; locations are announced on the website and posted in 3 public places within each precinct at least 5 days prior to the caucus.
- What:** Precinct caucuses review the party platform, nominate individuals to serve as election judges, raise money for the county party, elect precinct officers, and elect delegates to the state and county party conventions.

Precinct Chairs and Vice-Chairs represent their precinct at quarterly County Central Committee Meetings. They also serve "ex-officio" (by virtue of their office) as delegates to the party conventions throughout the two-year term. Precinct Chairs serve as State and County Ex Officio Delegates and Precinct Vice Chairs serve as County Ex Officio Delegates. Delegates have the privilege and responsibility to narrow down the slate of Republican candidates in the nominating conventions (during even-numbered years) and to elect party officers in the organizing conventions (during odd numbered years).

HOW TO BE EFFECTIVE AT THIS MEETING

- Know your area and the precinct leaders elected at the previous meeting, read the party bylaws and platform, know the rules (such as nominating and balloting procedures), know the candidates for elected office; determine who you would tentatively support; and find out how many state and county delegates are allocated to your precinct.
- Ask candidates for delegate or precinct office what they stand for, if they support the party platform, and if they have been asked by a particular candidate or special interest group to run for delegate.
- Be aware of what is going on during the meeting and don't be afraid to speak up using basic parliamentary procedure – Question of Privilege, Point of Order, Request for Information, etc. – but be courteous and respectful!

CONGRATULATIONS ON BEING ELECTED AN OFFICER OR DELEGATE! WHAT NOW?

Make sure your contact information is correct so your precinct, legislative district, and county leaders can communicate with you and give you support and resources. Attend training for new precinct officers. Prepare a folder with sections for each race and subsections for each candidate in that race. Prepare for debates, cottage meetings, phone calls, home visits, events, etc. Participate in online discussion groups and emails. Check out websites, podcasts, blogs, Facebook pages, etc. Build relationships not just between you and the candidates, but also between you and other delegates. Communicate what you learn with voters in your precinct. Study the convention agenda, rules, and proposed resolutions or amendments. Finally, attend the convention(s) and enjoy!

AFTER THE CONVENTIONS, IS IT OVER? NO!

Attend Central Committee meetings throughout the year, work together as a precinct team to organize party activities such as voter registration, fundraising, campaigning for Republican candidates, writing letters to the editor of your local newspaper, etc. Realize that by small but dedicated efforts at the grass roots level, the Republican Party can and will make a difference!