

# Proposed Salt Lake County Republican Party Rules for the December 19, 2009 Special Election to fill County Council District 5 Seat

## Purpose

To elect an individual to send to the County Council for appointment to fill the vacated County Council District 5 seat.

## Qualifications and Credentials

Central Committee members residing in County Council District 5 may be credentialed

## Rules of Order

1. Disputes regarding the interpretation of Special Election rules will be decided by the Party Chair, subject to appeal by a majority of those voting.
2. The number of Central Committee members in attendance at the scheduled start of the Special Election shall constitute a quorum.
3. Only credentialed Central Committee members may speak to the business of the Special Election. The Chair has discretion to recognize anyone to address the Special Election.
4. Any Central Committee member wishing to speak upon the Special Election floor shall rise, address the chair, and if recognized, state his name and voting precinct.
5. The Party shall not give any candidate, organization, or issue exclusive information, rights or privileges to promote their campaign, organization, or issue to the exclusion of any other competing candidate, organization, or issue prior to or during the **Special Election**.
6. No Campaigning, distribution or other interference within ten (10) feet of the Registration Tables or on the floor of the Special Election.
7. Changing any wording in the rules does not affect the remaining sections or subsections.

## Elections & Balloting

### General

1. Candidates' Ballot and Speaking Order shall be determined by random drawing. The drawing will be conducted prior to the Special Election.
  - a. Each candidate shall have up to five (5) minutes to address the committee, which will include nominations.
  - b. Candidates may be nominated or endorsed by individuals other than Central Committee members.
  - c. Nominating speeches are not required.
  - d. Candidates may have their campaign literature distributed to the Central Committee members prior and up to the time that the first Candidate in their race begins to speak.
  - e. After each round of voting, candidates who move on to the next round will have up to two minutes to address the Committee.
2. The Elections Chair shall be responsible for the security relating to the ballots, the accuracy of the count, and directing the access and conduct of all persons within the ballot counting area.
3. Each Candidate shall be allowed one (1) poll watcher for each counting station, plus one (1) additional poll watcher in the ballot counting room.
4. Candidates shall identify their designated poll watchers to the Elections Chair, who shall in turn issue official credentials allowing them access to observe the proceedings of the ballot counting area.

### Balloting

5. The person manning each ballot box will expose the inside of the ballot box to reveal its contents immediately prior to the casting of the first ballot.
6. Polls will open and close as officially announced by the Party Chair.
7. Ballots: (a) containing more than one vote in a Nomination Race; (b) that are not clearly marked; or (c) with a vote for any person who was not properly nominated, will be considered spoiled and will not be counted for that race, either for a candidate or in the calculation of a majority or 60% threshold.
8. Spoiled ballots may be exchanged prior to deposit in the ballot box upon showing of proper credentials and the surrendering of the spoiled ballot at the "Spoiled Ballot Desk(s)" where the spoiled ballot shall be exchanged and immediately destroyed in the presence of the requesting voter.
9. Only County Central Committee members, upon presentation of proper credentials, will be allowed to deposit their own ballots in the designated ballot boxes.
10. Voting for Candidates will be by official ballot only.
11. Central Committee members may only vote for one candidate.
12. Ballot counting shall not commence until after polls have been closed for at least one minute (1).

#### Counting

- 13.** Official tally sheets shall be used to record each counted vote, and will be kept with the supporting ballots. These materials shall be preserved by the Party Officers in a secure location for at least five (5) business days following the Special Election.
- 14.** Any challenges to the counting process must be made to the Party Chair or Designee before the election results of the race are announced.

#### Results

- 15.** Candidates must receive 60% of the vote to be a Party Nominee. Otherwise, if more than two (2) candidates are in a race, each round of balloting shall be used to reduce the number of candidates to no less than two (2) from those receiving the highest percentage of votes that, when combined, represent a majority of votes. Ties shall be determined by a toss of the coin. This process continues until runoff rounds start between the final two (2) Candidates. Runoff rounds will continue until a candidate receives 60%.
- 16.** Any candidate requesting a recount or challenging an election must file a request in writing to the Elections Chair by 5:00 pm two (2) business days following the Special Election.
- 17.** Recounts and challenges may only be brought if they might legitimately affect the outcome of the election.

#### **Physical Arrangements**

The Special Election shall follow the Hosting Facility Policies and Procedures.

Candidates, organizations and individuals using the Special Election for distribution, campaigning or any other promotional or reporting use shall be responsible to research and comply with the Hosting Facility's Policies and Procedures and Central Committee's requirements.

All literature to be distributed shall contain the name(s) and/or contact information of those responsible for the literature.

A representative from the Salt Lake County Republican Party staff will be present to assist with questions about adherence to the Facility's rules.