Becoming a County Chair

Qualifications to be a County Chair:

1) be a qualified voter of the county (Sec. 161.005)
2) not be a county, state, or federal public officeholder or candidate for such office, and
3) in a general election year, be affiliated with the Republican Party through voting in the Republican primary election or runoff or by oath of affiliation (Sec. 162.001 – 162.012)

Methods for becoming a County Chair: (Sec.171.022)

Election for two-year term. Candidates for County Chair run for office in the Primary Election each even-numbered year. A one-page notarized application must be submitted to the County Chair (yourself, if you are seeking re-election) within a one-month filing period. Individuals may also run as write-in candidates (Sec. 171.0231). The winner is determined by majority vote of those voting in the Primary Election.

Appointment to fill vacancy. Any eligible person may be appointed to fill a County Chair vacancy at any time. Appointment is by majority vote of the County Executive Committee present at a properly called meeting with a quorum (171.024-5). If no County Executive Committee is in place, the State Chair may appoint a county chair with the State Executive Committee confirming the appointment (171.027).

Role of the County Chair

Republican Elections[1]

- Accepting applications from local candidates for the Republican Primary Election
- Administering the county's Republican Primary Election
- Managing Primary Election Funds
- Encouraging voters to participate in elections
- Submitting names for Election Judges and the Early Voting Ballot Board
- Supporting ballot integrity
- Appointing and approving poll watchers

Republican Conventions

- Organizing, supervising, and encouraging participation in Precinct and County/Senatorial District Conventions
- Submitting delegates and alternates elected to serve at the State Convention
- Submitting resolutions to be considered by the Platform Committee at the State Convention

County Executive Committee

- Recruiting and providing training for Precinct Chairs
- Appointing officers and committees as needed
- Calling and presiding over all County Executive Committee meetings and ensuring that meetings are held at least quarterly
- Maintaining minutes of all meetings and a roster of all committee members

Represents the County Party and spreads the Republican message

- Being a spokesperson to the local media by answering questions and putting out press releases, newsletters or letters to the editor
- Speaking to organized groups and individual voters in your community about the work the County Republican Party is doing and how others may get involved
- Keeping RPT Headquarters and SREC members informed of County Party activities

Manager of the County Party

- Setting up a headquarters, where possible and financially feasible
- Acting as a support and information source for local candidates
- Helping form Republican clubs where appropriate and working closely with those clubs

Builds the Republican Party

- Promoting a positive image of the Party through local media and by word of mouth
- Maintaining rapport with community business, neighborhood, and civic groups
- Welcoming newcomers to the area and having them register to vote

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[1] Election Administration information is covered in separate materials developed by the Secretary of State and RPT. Please read these materials as there are many deadlines and statutory requirements to follow.

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To go beyond the election requirements

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For more information or to answer any questions please contact
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