

Rules for Reorganization Meeting of the 24th Legislative District Democrats Sunday, January 10, 2021 at 2 pm

Approved by 24th LD Dems Executive Committee, December 26, 2020
For adoption by the Reorganization Meeting

1. Reorganization Meeting

The 24th Legislative District Democrats (24LDD) Reorganization Meeting will take place on Sunday, January 10, 2021 at 2pm. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this public meeting will take place on Zoom. The Washington State Democrats (WSD) have given 24LDD authority to adopt special and necessary rules for the meeting.

These rules shall go into effect when approved by the Executive Committee, shall be approved at the beginning of the Reorganization Meeting, and shall govern all business during the meeting.

The only business of this meeting is the approval of the rules and election of 24LDD officers.

The only qualified electors are elected Precinct Committee Officers (PCOs) who took office December 1, 2020. The electors must be present. There is no proxy voting.

The Chair shall appoint an Election Committee to plan and conduct the meeting and the votes. Committee members who are nominees shall not have access to assigned Unique IDs, open ballots, or tallies in progress.

2. Technology and Accessibility

Optimally, PCOs will be able to take part in a Zoom meeting, click on an internet link to see their ballots, enter their votes in a google form, and receive an email confirmation.

Minimally, PCOs need to be able to hear a Zoom meeting in progress and make a phone call to register their vote during the voting window. Phone participants will also receive an email confirmation.

3. Credentials, Registration, and Unique ID

PCOs must know their Unique ID to vote in the meeting. If they register by 6pm on January 7, their Unique ID will be emailed to them on January 8. If they do not, they will be able to receive it by telephone.

4. Agenda:

Greeting and basic instructions.

Appointment of Recording Secretary and Parliamentarian.

Roll call of PCOs.

Credentials report.

Adoption of the rules, including the Agenda.

Elections.

The order of election is: Chair, Vice Chair, and two State Committee Members of 24LDD.

New county Chairs introduce their Vice Chairs, and State Committee members.

Outgoing Chair's report.

Incoming Chair's remarks.

For the Good of the Order.

Adjournment.

5. Elections

Nominations

Any Democrat residing in the 24th Legislative District may nominate themselves or another Democrat residing in the district for one or more of the offices.

To appear on the ballot and receive votes, candidates must be nominated by January 3, 2021. Nominations are to be sent to the Chair (mrbrucecowan@gmail.com) who shall respond to all nominations within 24-hours of receiving them.

The nominator shall provide the nominee's name, the office(s), phone number, email address, and, if self-nominating, gender identity (male, female, or non-binary). If not a self-nomination, the Chair will ask the nominee if they agree to serve if elected (a requirement for nomination) and, if so, their gender identification.

Nominees may submit a statement of up to 500 words and a photo to be posted on the website and linked through the newsletter.

Nominees may withdraw at any time.

Gender Balance: In order to promote diversity in the party, the Chair and Vice Chair are to be of different genders (Male, Female, Non-Binary), if possible, as are the two State Committee Members.

Election Process:

As each position comes up for election, each nominee will be offered an opportunity to speak for up to four minutes. The nominee may share that time with one supporter. The nominee shall provide the name of the supporter to the Chair before the day of the meeting.

If the Chair's position is contested, the Chair will appoint a temporary Chair for the Chair election.

After the last candidate for the office has spoken in a contested election, the voting period will begin.

The ballot will remain open for ten minutes, and may be extended by the Chair.

The ballots will be as confidential as possible using googleforms. To that end, each elector will be given a Unique Voter Code for their own use.

The Chair election shall take place first. After the Chair is elected, only nominee(s) of a different gender, if any, will be eligible to be elected Vice Chair. If the only nominees are of the same gender as the Chair, they are eligible for election.

In the State Committee Member (SCM) elections, the electors will vote during one voting window for two people of different genders. If the only nominees are of the same gender, they are eligible for election.

Majority requirement

In contested elections, a majority of ballots cast (greater than 50%) is required for election.

If there is only one eligible nominee for a position, the Chair will announce that the nominee is elected by acclamation.

If no nominee receives a majority, nominees will be given a chance to withdraw before the next ballot. This process will be repeated until a nominee receives a majority. If the last two nominees tie, the election will be decided by lot.

Observers

Candidates for the highest-contested office may each designate an observer by January 6 to review the voting process ahead of the meeting and to view the google form and sheets as the votes come in and the tally sheets fill in.

Communication during the Zoom meeting

There will be no social talk among participants until after adjournment.

In the period before the meeting begins, the Host and Cohosts may greet attendees and make announcements.

The setting for the Chat feature in Zoom will not permit participants to chat among themselves. Participants will be able to ask questions of Cohosts during the meeting in Chat.

Cohosts will be able to Chat directions and information to participants and among themselves about procedural issues.

PCOs in attendance will have an opportunity to seek the floor.