

Brazos County Libertarian Party

Bylaws adopted, 03/12/2022

ARTICLE I: General

- A. **Name:** The name of this organization is "**Brazos County Libertarian Party**" (BzLP).
- B. **Purpose:** The purpose of these Bylaws is to define goals, membership, officer election procedure, officer duties, and to provide guidelines for Precinct, County and District Conventions.
- C. **Address:** The official mailing address of the BzLP will be decided by its officers.

ARTICLE II: Goals

The purpose of BzLP is to implement and give voice to the principles and message of the Libertarian Party by:

- a. Informing the public about Libertarian policies and principles.
- b. Nominating and supporting the best candidates for public office to represent the Libertarian Party.
- c. Attracting and developing leaders, volunteers, donors, and members to maintain and grow the BZLP as well as the Texas Libertarian Party and National Libertarian Party.
- d. Working to influence local and state government towards Libertarian Party principles.
- e. Cooperating in activities with other county Libertarian parties, the Texas LP and the National LP.
- f. Performing the duties specified in LPTexas bylaws and operations policy; and
- g. Performing the duties specified in Texas Election Code and other applicable state laws.

ARTICLE III: Members

Members consist of GENERAL, AFFILIATES, DELEGATES and OFFICERS: No dues are required to be a member.

- A. **GENERAL:** Anyone on our mailing list.
- B. **AFFILIATES:** Any BC registered voter who signs an affidavit with the BzLP agreeing not to participate in official activities of any other political party during that election year. See Article 13.01a(5) of the Texas Election Code for details.
- C. **DELEGATES:** BzLP has three types of Delegates: Precinct, District and County. AFFILIATES, at there Precinct Conventions, elect AFFILIATES to represent them at both the BzLP Convention and their District Convention, but the Representatives do not become Delegates until they attend either one or both Conventions. The Representative becomes a Precinct Delegate when he/she attends the BzLP Convention and a District Delegate when he/she attends their District Convention. BzLP also elects AFFILIATES to represent them who become County Delegates when they attend the TLP Convention.
 - 1. **PRECINCT DELEGATES:** Any AFFILIATE who attends the BzLP Convention that was elected to be a delegate by their Precinct Convention or by the BzLP Convention.
 - 2. **DISTRICT DELEGATES:** Any AFFILIATE who attends their District Convention that was elected to be a delegate by their Precinct Convention or by their District Convention.
 - 3. **COUNTY DELEGATES:** Any AFFILIATE who attends the TLP Convention that was elected to be a delegate by the BzLP Convention or by the TLP Convention.
- D. **OFFICERS:** BzLP has three Organizations, each with their own Officers: Precinct, District and County. AFFILIATES at their Precinct Convention elect Precinct Officers. District Delegates at their District Convention elect District Officers. Precinct Delegates at the BzLP County Convention elect County Officers.

See Page 2, ARTICLE IV: Meetings

ARTICLE IV: Meetings

Robert's Rules of Order are recommended for matters of procedure not covered in these Bylaws. The elections for county Officials, terms of office, voter eligibility, and convention dates & times are set by the Texas Election Code.

A. Precinct Conventions: Affiliates in each precinct elect a Chair, any other Officers they deem appropriate, and Representatives to be Delegates at the BzLP County Convention and at their District Convention. They can also adopt resolutions for their Precinct Delegates to present at the BzLP County Convention and carry out other business allowed by LPT rules. In the event a Precinct has no Chair the County Chair can appoint one.

B. County Convention:

1. Precinct Delegates elect, by majority vote against None of the Above (NOTA):
 - a. Affiliates who are attending the convention to also be Precinct Delegates.
 - b. County Officers.
 - c. Candidates they want to run for public office.
 - d. Representatives to be Delegates at the LPT Convention.
2. Precinct Delegates can carry out any other business allowed by LPT rules. They can vote to adopt resolutions, including resolutions for their County Delegates to present at the TLP Convention. They can also vote to change these Bylaws with a 2/3s vote.

C. District Conventions: District Conventions occur to elect those candidates whose district covers more than one county. Precinct Delegates elect, by majority vote against NOTA, the Officers they want to run the Convention and the Candidate they want to run for public office.

D. Officer Meetings: BzLP Officer Meetings can be called by the Chair or two officers with a 10-day notice to the other officers. Most Officers must be present to conduct official business. Each Officer has one vote, except the Chair shall vote only to resolve a tie. Meetings can also be held by Telephone, Email, or Letter, provided no one objects. Officers, with a majority vote may appoint, title, or remove officers and carry out any other business they deem appropriate. All meetings are open to the public. Meetings usually occur monthly with notice published in the BzLP Newsletter.

E. Emergency Meetings: Emergency meetings are Affiliates. The meeting can be called by the Chair, or two Officers or three Affiliates with a 20-day notice (by letter, email, or the BzLP Newsletter) stating clearly why the meeting is being called and what will be voted on. Twenty percent of Affiliates must be present to conduct official business. The meeting can be called to solicit the Delegates consensus on important issues, or for the Affiliates to give more explicit direction to the policies and specific actions of the Officers, or to appoint, title, or remove Officers.

ARTICLE V: Officers

- A. **Function:** The function of the Officers is to manage the affairs of BzLP and implement its goals within the limits of its resources.
- B. **Positions:** The elected Officers of the BzLP shall be Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Other Officers. The last Chair automatically becomes an Officer (called Past Chair) without an election.
- C. **Elections:** Election of Officers shall occur at the BzLP County Convention. Precinct Delegates will elect Officers by majority vote against NOTA. Their terms will begin immediately upon winning the election. Out going Officers will have one week to turn over BzLP records to new Officers.
- D. **Duties:**
1. **Chair:** Chair shall preside over meetings, oversee all activities of the BzLP, perform duties necessary to maintain BzLP legal status as a political party, and perform other duties assigned by LPT.
 2. **Vice Chair:** Vice Chair shall assist the Chair and perform the Chair's duties in his/her absence.
 3. **Secretary:** Secretary shall keep accurate records (minutes) of the proceedings of all official meetings of the BzLP, and shall keep these records up to date and in order in a master file. Secretary shall also keep a list of members, especially the official list of Affiliates with dates of their affiliation as required by law and perform other duties assigned by Chair.
 4. **Treasurer:** Treasurer, or Treasurer's designated agent, shall receive, hold, disburse and account for all BILP funds under the direction of majority vote of Officers. Treasurer shall keep these records up to date and in order in a master file on a monthly basis and perform other duties assigned by Chair. Checks can be signed by the Treasurer or Chair in the event the Treasurer is not available to pay necessary bills.
 5. **Past Chair:** Past Chair has no duties except to attend Meetings and advise Chair.
 6. **Other Officers:** There can be as many Other Officers as there are tasks that need to be done and people willing to do them. But the title of the position, like "Newsletter Editor" or "Candidate Coordinator" or "Communications Director," has to be stated along with their duties before voting can take place.

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