

Republican State Central Committee of Anne Arundel County

Policy on Selecting Nominees for Republican Seats on the Anne Arundel County Board of Elections

Adopted October 1, 2014

Section 1. Purpose.

Section 2-201 of the Maryland Election Law (hereinafter the “State Election Law”) provides that county central committees of the Majority Party (defined as the political party with which the Governor is affiliated) and the Principal Minority Party (defined as the major political party other than which the Governor is affiliated) shall be called upon to nominate individuals to serve as members of the board of elections for the county in which the central committee is located.¹ Nominees of the Majority Party for the county board of elections are selected by the county central committee of the Majority Party of that county, and nominees of the Principal Minority Party are selected by the central committee of the Principal Minority Party of that county. Pursuant to the State Election Law, members of a county board of elections are nominated by local central committees every four years following a gubernatorial election and whenever a vacancy on such county board of elections occurs.

When filling a seat on a county board of elections, the Governor, who makes the final appointment, under the State Election Law, is required to make a request to the appropriate county central committee for a list of nominees from which the Governor is to select. The appropriate county central committee within twenty (20) days from the Governor’s request, must then submit a nominee list of at least four (4) qualified individuals. The Governor has the option of selecting one or more individuals from the list or wholly rejecting the list. In the event all nominees on a submitted list are rejected, the Governor must request the appropriate central committee submit a second list of nominees. In the event the second list is rejected, the Governor must request that the appropriate central committee submit a third list of nominees. After each request, the appropriate central committee must submit a list of at least four (4) qualified nominees within twenty (20) days of the request. Should the Governor wholly reject three lists, or should the appropriate central committee fail to respond to a request within the requisite period, the Governor may appoint any eligible individual to the County Board of Elections seat. Each appointment of the Governor is subject to confirmation by the Maryland State Senate.

The Anne Arundel County Board of Elections (hereinafter the “County Board of Elections”) is comprised of three regular members (two of the Majority Party and one of the Principal Minority Party) and two substitute members (one of the Majority Party and one of the

¹ When the incumbent Governor of Maryland is a member of the Republican Party, the Republican Party is deemed to be the “Majority Party.” When the incumbent Governor of Maryland is a member of the Democratic Party, the Democratic Party is deemed to be the “Majority Party,” and the Republican Party is deemed to be the “Principal Minority Party.”



Principal Minority Party). The Republican State Central Committee of Anne Arundel County (hereinafter the “RSCCAAC”) is responsible for selecting nominees for any regular and substitute seats of the Republican Party on the County Board of Elections.

This policy shall govern the process by which the RSCCAAC selects nominees to the Governor for any Republican seats on the County Board of Elections.

Section 2. Definitions.

For the purposes of this policy, the following terms are defined.

2.1 **RSCCAAC** shall mean the Republican State Central Committee of Anne Arundel County.

2.2 **Constitution and Bylaws** shall mean the Constitution and Bylaws of the Republican State Central Committee of Anne Arundel County.

2.3 **Chair** shall mean the Chairman of the Republican State Central Committee of Anne Arundel County as set forth in Article VI, Section 2 of the Constitution and Bylaws.

2.4 **State Election Law** shall mean the provisions of the Maryland Election Law Article governing the nomination and appointment of members on county boards of elections.

2.5 **County Board of Elections** shall mean the Anne Arundel County Board of Elections.

2.6 **BOE Nominee Selection Process** shall mean the process outlined in this policy by which the RSCCAAC develops and selects a list of nominees for Republican seats on the County Board of Elections.

2.7 **Call for Applications** means a publicly-announced request for applications of qualified individuals who wish to be considered for nomination by the RSCCAAC for a Republican seat on the County Board of Elections as set forth in Section 3 herein.

2.8 **Application Deadline** shall mean the deadline for submitting a timely application to be considered as a nominee of the RSCCAAC for a Republican seat on the County Board of Elections.

2.9 **Request** shall mean a formal request by the Governor to the RSCCAAC for a list of nominees for the Republican seats on the County Board of Elections pursuant to the State Election Law.

2.10 **Selection Meeting** shall mean a Regular or Special Meeting of the RSCCAAC as defined in Article IX of the Constitution and Bylaws during which nominees for a Republican seat on the County Board of Elections will be selected.



2.11 **Nominee List** shall mean a list approved by the RSCCAAC for submission to the Governor containing the names of qualified individuals to be considered for appointment to a Republican seat on the County Board of Elections.

Section 3. Call for Applications.

Unless the RSCCAAC has already approved a Nominee List in accordance with section 6 herein, upon receiving a Request, the Chair or his designee shall, within three (3) days, by the following means, publicly announce a call for applications for nominees in response to the Request:

- (a) by sending an electronic mail (email) message to each of the following for which the Chair has a valid email address:
 - (1) all members and officers of the RSCCAAC;
 - (2) all elected public officials who were elected or appointed as Republicans and represent all or part of Anne Arundel County; and
 - (3) the president of each organization listed in the Official Schedule of Chartered Clubs, which may be found in Annex I of the Constitution and Bylaws; and/or
- (b) by issuing a press release to local media announcing the call for applications for nominees to the Republican seats on the County Board of Elections; and/or
- (c) by posting information about the call for applications and the nomination process on the official website of the RSCCAAC.

Section 4. Applications for Prospective Nominee.

- (a) Any individual who meets the requirements set forth in the State Election Law may apply to the RSCCAAC to be considered as a nominee for a Republican seat on the County Board of Elections. An applicant must
 - (1) be a registered Republican voter in Anne Arundel County at the time of application;
 - (2) have been a registered voter in Anne Arundel County for at least five (5) years preceding the time of application; and
 - (3) be eligible for reappointment to the County Board of Elections.
- (b) Any individual wishing to apply as a candidate for nomination shall submit, prior to the Application Deadline, a statement of his or intention to apply as a candidate for nomination along with a resume and a completed questionnaire.
- (c) The Application Deadline shall be announced at the time of the Call for Applications, and shall in no event, be set less than five (5) days nor more than ten (10) days after the publication of the Call for Application. In the event that the BOE Nominee Selection Process is initiated prior to the receipt of a Request in accordance with Section 6 herein, the Application Deadline shall be set no less than five (5) days nor more than (30) days after the publication of the Call for Applications.
- (d) Any individual wishing to apply as a candidate for nomination may send his or her application via email to the Chair or to the officially published mailing address of the RSCCAAC.
- (e) Any application materials postmarked by the Application Deadline shall be deemed to have been timely filed.
- (f) The Chair or a designee shall confirm receipt of an application by the RSCCAAC.



- (g) Any applications or application materials not timely filed shall not be considered except as provided in section 5 subparagraph (g) herein.
- (h) The Chair shall forward all applications received to all voting members of the RSCCAAC.

Section 5. Selection of Nominees.

- (a) The RSCCAAC shall convene a Selection Meeting within five (5) days after the Application Deadline if the BOE Nominee Selection Process has been initiated in response to a Request. If the RSCCAAC has initiated the BOE Nominee Selection Process prior to the receipt of Request pursuant to Section 6 herein, the Selection Meeting shall occur at the subsequent Regular Meeting of the RSCCAAC following the Application Deadline.
- (b) The Selection Meeting shall require a quorum of the RSCCAAC as defined in Section 8.5 of the Constitution and Bylaws.
- (c) At the Selection Meeting, candidates to be voted upon by the full committee must be motioned and seconded by different members of the RSCCAAC.
- (d) Only those candidates for nomination that submitted timely and complete applications shall initially be considered.
- (e) The order in which applicants shall be considered by the RSCCAAC shall be determined by lottery.
- (f) A candidate shall be selected as a nominee upon receiving a majority of votes of the members of the RSCCAAC present at the Selection Meeting.
- (g) If after consideration of all candidates who submitted timely and complete applications for nomination pursuant to Section 4 herein, the RSCCAAC has failed to select at least four (4) nominees for submission to the Governor, then any eligible individual may considered as a nominee upon motion and second by two different members of the RSCCAAC.
- (h) Voting shall take place by a voice or roll call vote unless by motion and approval by a majority of members it is decided that voting shall occur by written ballot.
- (i) The Secretary or another administrative officer of the RSCCAAC shall collect all ballots in a ballot box.
- (j) The Secretary or another administrative officer of the RSCCAAC shall tally the votes.
- (k) The RSCCAAC shall continue to consider candidates until at least four (4) individuals have been selected as nominees to the Governor. The RSCCAAC shall not submit a list containing fewer than four (4) nominees to the Governor.
- (l) After selecting at least four (4) nominees for submission to the Governor, the RSCCAAC shall, by majority vote, approve an order of ranking in which to list the approved nominees for submission to the Governor.
- (m) Candidates shall be listed on the Nominee List in the order of highest to lowest priority as ranked by the RSCCAAC.

Section 6. Early Initiation of Process for Anticipated Requests.

- (a) In some cases, when the terms of the incumbent County Board of Elections members are nearing expiration or when there is a vacancy in a Republican seat on the County



- Board of Elections, the RSCCAAC, upon a majority vote, may initiate the BOE Nominee Selection Process prior to the receipt of a Request.
- (b) The purpose of early initiation of the BOE Nominee Selection Process is to ensure that the RSCCAAC has sufficient time to complete the BOE Nominee Selection Process and develop the Nominee List.
 - (c) Upon a majority vote of the RSCCAAC to initiate the BOE Nominee Selection Process in accordance with this Section, a Call for Applications shall be published within ten (10) days or such other period as set forth by the RSCCAAC at the time of said vote. The Call for Applications shall otherwise be issued in accordance with the procedures set forth in Section 3 herein.
 - (d) In the event that the RSCCAAC develops a Nominee List in accordance with this Section, but does not receive a Request within one (1) year of when such Nominee List was finally approved, said list shall be deemed to have expired, and the RSCCAAC, upon receipt of a Request, may by majority vote, either (1) reaffirm and renew the previously-expired Nominee List; or (2) restart the BOE Nominee Selection Process and develop a new list of nominees in accordance with this Policy.
 - (e) If the BOE Nominee Selection Process has been initiated, but not completed, prior to the receipt of a Request, then the BOE Nominee Selection Process shall proceed to completion on a timeline as if it had been initiated by a Request (*i.e.*, all deadlines applicable to processes initiated by a Request would govern, etc.).

Section 7. Notification of the Governor.

Unless a Nominee List was developed in accordance with section 6 herein, the Chair shall notify the Governor of the RSCCAAC's nominees for the County Board of Elections within three (3) days after a Nominee List is approved by the RSCCAAC. Pursuant to the State Election Law, the Governor must generally be notified no later than twenty (20) days after the RSCCAAC receives a Request. If a Nominee List was approved in accordance with section 6 herein and remains unexpired or was renewed as set forth in paragraph 6d, the Chair shall deliver such Nominee List to the Governor within three (3) days of receiving a Request.

Section 8. Repeal of Previous Policies or Procedures.

This policy repeals and supersedes any and all policies or procedures of the RSCCAAC for selecting nominees to the County Board of Elections in effect prior to its adoption on October 1, 2014.

