## BY-LAWS OF DEMOCRATIC COUNTY COMMITTEE OF HUNTERDON COUNTY

## Article I – NAME

This organization shall be known as the Democratic County Committee of Hunterdon County.

## Article II - MEMBERSHIP

<u>Section 1. Membership:</u> Membership of the County Committee shall be determined in accordance with any statutes of the State of New Jersey governing such membership. Members of the County Committee shall also serve, for a term identical to the member's term on the County Committee, on the Municipal Committee in the Municipality from which the member was elected. An election shall take place every 2 years to determine membership on the County Committee. County Committee Membership is to be determined pursuant to the laws of the State of New Jersey. Members will be selected by voting districts within the county.

<u>Section 2. Terms of Office:</u> Members of the county committee shall take and hold office pursuant to any and all statutes of the State of New Jersey governing the same.

<u>Section 3. Filling of Vacancies:</u> Pursuant to statute, a vacancy in the office of a member of the county committee shall be filled by the county members of the municipality wherein the vacancy occurs. If there are no such county committee members in the municipality, such vacancy shall be filled by the county chairman. However, no such vacancy shall be filled by the chairman between the date of the Primary and the date of the organizational meeting.

<u>Section 4. Ex-Officio Members:</u> The members of the Democratic State Committee from Hunterdon County shall ex-officio be members of this committee.

#### **Article III - ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

<u>Section 1. Election of Officers:</u> The following officers shall be elected at the organizational meeting of the county committee: 1) Chairman; 2)Vice-Chairman; 3) Secretary; 4) Treasurer. The term of office for each officer shall be two years.

<u>Section 2. Qualification of Officers:</u> Any Democrat shall be eligible to hold any office, whether or not he or she is a member of this committee, provided, however, that he or she is a resident of Hunterdon County and that the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman shall be individuals of the opposite sex.

**Section 3. Terms of Office:** Officers shall hold office until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

Section 4. Method of Election: Elections shall be held as follows: a) If there are no contests, elections shall be held by voice vote; b) If there are contests for any office, election for that office shall be by secret ballot according to rules of procedure adopted by the committee at least 60 days prior to the election; if rules are not adopted, the last years' rules shall apply; c) In the event of a contest for any office, the candidate receiving the votes of more than half of the total number of members present and voting shall be declared elected to that office. In the event no candidate receives the required number of votes on the first ballot, a second ballot shall be taken between the

two candidates receiving the higher number of votes on the first ballot. In the event of a tie, the chairman of the meeting shall cast the deciding ballot.

Section 5. Vacancies in Office: Vacancies occurring in any office shall be filled within 30 days at a special meeting in the manner provided for the regular election of officers. All committee members shall be notified in writing of such vacancy and such special meeting at least ten days prior to said meeting.

Section 6. Executive Committee: The Executive Committee shall be composed of the officers of the County Committee, members of the State Committee from Hunterdon County, seven members at large elected from the county committee, as provided in this article, by the members of the county committee, and five members appointed by the county chairman who are not necessarily members of the county committee and a parliamentarian appointed by the chairman. Of the five members appointed by the county chairman, three shall serve as Regional Vice Chairs, and shall serve for a two year term beginning at the annual reorganization meeting. No two Regional Vice Chairs shall be from the same municipality. The elected members of the Executive Committee shall be chosen at a meeting of the county committee to be held no more than 40 days after the organizational meeting. To be declared elected, a candidate must receive at least 50% of the votes cast for the office by committee members present and voting. No committee member shall vote for any candidate more than once on any single ballot. The Executive Committee shall conduct all business of the county committee between general or special meetings of the county committee.

#### **Article IV - DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

<u>Section 1. Chairman:</u> The chairman shall: a) preside at all meetings of the county committee and of the Executive Committee; b) appoint the chairman of all standing committees and be responsible to the county committee for the faithful performance of their duties; c) faithfully execute the decisions of the county committee; d) together with the Treasurer, sign all vouchers in payment of the disbursements of the county committee; and e) serve as a member ex-officio of all standing committees.

Section 2. Vice Chairman: The Vice Chairman shall: a) assist the chairman in the performance of his duties; b) in the absence of the chairman, preside at meetings of the county committee or of the Executive Committee; and c) in the event of a vacancy in the office of chairman, the vice-chairman shall serve as interim chairman.

<u>Section 3. Secretary:</u> The secretary shall: a) keep full and correct minutes of the proceedings of the county committee and of the Executive Committee; b) keep a complete roster of all members of the county committee and their attendance at meetings; and c) prepare and mail notices of all meetings of the county committee and of the Executive Committee in accordance to the directions contained in these By-Laws.

Section 4. Treasurer: The Treasurer shall: a) deposit all funds of the county committee in such bank as the county committee may designate, subject to the joint order of himself and of the county chairman; b) keep full and complete accounts of all monies received and disbursed by him; c) prepare and file such financial statements as may be required of the county committee by law; d) render a detailed financial report at each regular meeting of the county committee; and e) present a

full statement of all sources of income and expenditures during his term of office at the beginning of the organizational meeting.

Section 5. Additional Duties: In addition to the above enumerated duties, each officer shall perform such other functions as may be required of him by: a) these By-Laws; b) the statutes of the State of New Jersey; c) the rules and procedures of the Democratic State Committee; and d) the County Committee.

## Article V – COMMITTEES

<u>Section 1. Standing Committees:</u> There shall be the following standing committees to the county committee: a) Committee on Rules and By-Laws; b) Finance Committee; c) Platform and Resolutions Committee; d) Publicity and Public Relations Committee; e) Program Committee; and f) Campaign Committee.

<u>Section 2. Membership on Committees:</u> The county chairman shall appoint the chairmen and members of each of the above standing committees within 30 days after the county organizational meeting.

Section 3. Duties of Committees: The standing committees shall have the following duties: a) Committee on Rules and By-Laws: consider and report to the county committee on all questions of law, procedure, or proposed amendments to these By-Laws. The chairman shall also act as Parliamentarian at all meetings of the county committee and Executive Committee. b) Finance Committee: responsible for the raising of funds for the county committee. The finance committee shall have the power to audit the books of the county committee. The Treasurer and the President of the C+ I Club shall be full members of this committee. c) Platform and Resolutions Committee: Prepare the Hunterdon County Democratic Platform for all county campaigns for presentation and recommendation to the Hunterdon County Democratic Committee, conducting public hearings when interest warrants. It shall also be responsible for all resolutions subject to the approval of each such resolution by the full county committee. d) Publicity and Public Relations Committee: handle press and public relations for the county committee, assist candidates in publicizing their records and programs, and help local clubs and municipal candidates in developing proper public relations activities upon request. e) Program Committee: shall make recommendations regarding social and fund raising functions to be undertaken by the county committee and handle all details of such functions. f) Campaign Committee: shall co-ordinate and be responsible for the campaigns of all Democratic candidates running on a multi-municipal basis in Hunterdon County or parts thereof. This committee shall also be responsible for all voter registration activities.

<u>Section 4. Special Committees:</u> The county chairman from time to time may appoint such special committees, for specific purposes, as he may deem advisable.

<u>Section 5. Reports of Committees:</u> All committees shall report at each meeting of the county committee.

## **Article VI - MEETINGS**

<u>Section 1. Organizational Meeting:</u> The organizational meeting of the county committee shall be held after the Primary Election, on the date fixed by statute, in the evening of said day, at such time and place as may be designated by the county chairman in the call for the meeting.

<u>Section 2. Other Regular Meetings:</u> Three regular meetings, in addition to the organizational meeting, shall be held during each calendar year at the call of the county chairman, at least one every three months, said meetings to be held at such a place as may be designated by the county chairman in the call for the meeting.

Section 3. Special Meetings: Special meetings may be held at any time upon the call of the chairman, upon the call of a majority of the Executive Committee, or upon the written request of 20 percent of the elected members of the county committee addressed to the county chairman and the secretary of the county committee.

**Section 4. Quorum:** Twenty percent of the members of the county committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, except for the organizational meeting.

<u>Section 5. Voting:</u> Every elected member of the County Committee shall have the right to vote a single vote on any issue considered at any regular meeting of the County Committee. In the event the chairperson or other officer is not an elected member of the County Committee, he or she shall have the right to vote a single vote on any issue considered at any regular meeting of the County Committee. In the event of a tie vote on any issue presented at any regular meeting of the Committee, the chairperson shall cast the deciding vote to determine the issue.

Section 6. Notice of Meetings: Notice of meetings, setting forth the place, date and hour of meeting shall be provided to all members, via electronic or regular mail, as follows: a) Organizational Meeting - as soon as practicable after the Primary Election; b) Other Regular Meetings - at least ten days prior to the date of the meeting; c) Special Meetings - at least five days prior to the date of the meeting, such notice setting forth the subject matter to be considered at this meeting.

**Section 7. Openness:** All meetings of the county committee shall be open to the public, but only members may vote.

<u>Section 8. Agenda:</u> The following agenda shall be followed by the chairman at all regular or special meetings of the county committee: 1) Call to order; 2) Salute to the Flag; 3) Roll Call; 4) Minutes of the prior meeting; 5) Financial report; 6) Old Business; 7) Reports of standing committees; 8) New Business.

## **Article VII - AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS**

<u>Section 1. Submission of Amendments:</u> Any proposed amendment to these By-laws shall be in writing and shall be submitted to the county chairman and secretary.

<u>Section 2. Referral to Committee:</u> The county chairman, upon receipt of such proposed amendment, shall submit it to the committee on Rules and By-Laws for study and recommendation to the next meeting of the county committee unless such amendment has been recommended by this committee.

**Section 3.** Adoption: An amendment shall be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the county committee present and voting at the meeting at which said amendment is considered. The text of the proposed amendment to the By-Laws shall be sent to each member of the county committee at least 10 days

prior to the county committee meeting at which it is to be considered. Any amendment so adopted shall be effective immediately, unless the amendment itself provides otherwise.

# **Article VIII – PROCEDURES**

<u>Section 1. Procedures:</u> The rules contained in Roberts Rules of Order Revised shall govern the meetings of the Hunterdon County Democratic Committee, except wherein they may be inconsistent with the By-Laws or special rules adopted by this organization.