

Party Canvass Rules

The Washington County Committee of the Republican Party of Virginia, pursuant to the Plan of Organization of the Republican Party of Virginia, hereby adopts these Rules for the conduct of this Party Canvass.

1. The Republican Party Canvass shall be held at Washington County Government Center, 1 Government Center, Abingdon, VA 24210 on Saturday, March 26th, 2022, from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. The purpose of the Canvass shall be to elect a Unit Chairman for the Washington County Republican Committee, committee members and delegates to the Ninth Congressional District Republican Convention.
2. This party canvass shall, to the extent applicable, be governed by and conducted in accordance with the following (giving precedence as listed): the State Party Plan, District or Unit Plan or By-Laws, these rules, and otherwise in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised.
3. Only individuals who are registered to vote as of the day of the party canvass shall be entitled to vote, except as provided for in Article I, Section A.2. of the Plan of Organization of the Republican Party of Virginia.
4. All voters shall meet the requirements as specified in the Call of the Party Canvass.
5. All voters must sign a statement of intent to support the nominees of the Republican Party in the ensuing General Election.
6. The Chairman shall appoint a Credentials Committee of not more than three persons, to register those persons who offer to vote and to count the ballots once the polls are closed. The members of the Credentials Committee shall remain inside the room in which voting is conducted during the period in which voting takes place and until the ballots are counted. The Credentials Committee has the right to request to meet with candidates for chairman prior to the canvass, if they so wish.
7. The Credentials Committee shall determine whether individuals who have prefiled meet the qualifications for the office sought, subject to appeal. The Credentials Committee shall make the final determination in any dispute over the eligibility of a voter to participate in the party canvass.
8. Each candidate shall be entitled to designate one individual to observe the conduct of the canvass and the counting of the ballots.
9. No one will be allowed in the voting area without proper authorization. Candidates shall not loiter or campaign in the room in which voting will take place.
10. The Credentials Committee shall prepare ballots listing the names of all qualified candidates for contested nominations or elections, who have properly filed as required in the Call of the Party Canvass.

11. Any voter who is in line at 2 p.m., but has not yet voted, shall be entitled to cast his vote. A member of the Credentials Committee shall stand at the end of the line to ensure that no further voters join the line once the time for the closing of the polls has arrived. Polls will close as determined by the Chief Teller according to the time on his or her cell phone.
12. As soon as the polls are closed, the Credentials Committee shall immediately proceed to ascertain the vote given at the Canvass and shall continue without adjournment until they declare the results of the canvass. Only the members of the Credentials Committee and a representative of each candidate, if any, shall be permitted to remain in the room once the polls have closed and until the ballots are counted. Ballots shall then be placed in a sealed envelope and preserved and secured by the Credentials Committee for at least thirty (30) days in the event of any challenge to the results.
13. Candidates receiving the largest number of votes, up to the maximum number that can be elected by the canvass for each office, shall be declared elected. If two or more persons have an equal number of votes and a higher number than any other person, the Washington County Republican Committee shall proceed publicly to determine by lot which of the persons shall be declared elected, after those persons have been notified and are allowed an opportunity to be present.
14. The Washington County Committee shall preserve order inside and outside the polling place(s). No person shall hinder, intimidate, or interfere with any qualified voter so as to prevent the voter from casting a secret ballot. The Washington County Committee may order a person violating this Rule to cease such action and, if such action continues, may remove such person from the polling place.