Standing Rules for Chartering County Affiliate Organizations of the Libertarian Party of Oregon (LPO)

These standing rules are promulgated by the LPO Executive Committee pursuant to Article V, Section 2 of the LPO Bylaws, to establish procedures for chartering, maintaining, and revoking affiliate county parties. These rules may be adopted, amended, or rescinded by a majority vote of the Executive Committee at any regular or special meeting, in accordance with Article VII, Section 5 (quorum requirements) and the parliamentary authority (Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, per Article XIX). They do not alter the Bylaws and are subordinate to them.

Rule 1: Purpose and Scope

1.1. The purpose of these rules is to facilitate the formation and operation of county affiliate organizations (hereinafter "county parties") as subsidiary organizations of the LPO, limited to one per county and conducting activities only within that county (Bylaws Article V, Sec. 2). 1.2. Chartering grants official recognition, allowing the county party to use the LPO name, access state resources (e.g., voter lists, training), represent the LPO locally, and potentially receive delegation for nominating candidates in local districts (Bylaws Article V, Sec. 2; Article XI). 1.3. All county parties must align with the LPO's purposes (Bylaws Article II), Statement of Principles (Article III), and all applicable Bylaws provisions.

Rule 2: Eligibility and Requirements for Chartering

2.1. **Petition Requirement**: A group seeking chartering must submit a written petition to the LPO Chairperson and Secretary, signed by at least five (5) individuals who are both regular members of the LPO (Bylaws Article IV, Sec. 3) and registered voters affiliated with the Libertarian Party in the target county (Bylaws Article IV, Sec. 2). Signatures must include full names, addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, and LPO membership numbers (if applicable).

2.2. **Draft Governing Documents**: The petition must include draft bylaws for the county party, which shall:

- Mirror or incorporate relevant LPO Bylaws provisions (e.g., membership classes, officer duties, election procedures, financial accountability).

- Specify county-specific officers (at minimum: Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer), eligibility (must be LPO regular members and LP-registered voters), and terms (not to exceed two years).
- Include provisions for meetings, quorum (at least five members), finances (double-entry bookkeeping, budget approval by 2/3 vote), and compliance with LPO reporting (e.g., transmit bylaws and minutes to LPO Secretary within seven days per Bylaws Article VI, Sec. 7).
- Prohibit conflicts with LPO Bylaws, Oregon election laws (Bylaws Article XVI), or the LPO Statement of Principles.

2.3. **Minimum Membership**: The petition must demonstrate at least five (5) committed regular LPO members residing in the county, aligning with the threshold for qualifying county representation on the Executive Committee (Bylaws Article VII, Sec. 2).

2.4. **Operational Plan**: The petition must include a brief plan outlining proposed activities, such as member recruitment, outreach events, and candidate support, to advance LPO purposes.

2.5. **Proposed Leadership**: The petition must nominate interim officers (Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer) who meet LPO officer eligibility (Bylaws Article VI, Sec. 2; Article VII, Sec. 4) and agree to hold an inaugural meeting within 30 days of chartering to adopt bylaws and elect permanent officers.

Rule 3: Application and Review Process

3.1. **Submission**: Petitions shall be submitted electronically or in writing to the LPO Secretary, who shall acknowledge receipt within seven (7) days and forward to the Executive Committee.

3.2. **Review**: The Executive Committee shall review the petition at its next regular meeting (or a special meeting if requested). The Vice-Chairperson (responsible for assisting county parties per Bylaws Article VI, Sec. 6) shall lead the review, verifying compliance and consulting the Judicial Committee if interpretive issues arise (Bylaws Article IX).

3.3. **Hearing**: Petitioners may request a hearing (in-person or virtual) to present their case, limited to 15 minutes.

3.4. **Approval**: Chartering requires a majority vote of the Executive Committee. Upon approval, the Secretary shall issue a charter certificate, notify the petitioners, and post the county party's details on the LPO website (Bylaws Article XVII analog). Denied petitions may be resubmitted after addressing feedback.

Rule 4: Maintenance and Reporting

4.1. **Ongoing Compliance**: Chartered county parties must:

- Maintain at least five (5) regular LPO members.
- Hold an annual county convention for officer elections and business (quorum: five members).
- Submit updated bylaws, minutes, and financial reports (including balance sheets) to the LPO Secretary quarterly or within seven days of changes (Bylaws Article VI, Sec. 7).
- Participate in LPO annual business conventions by sending members to elect county representatives (Bylaws Article VII, Sec. 3).

4.2. **Financial Accountability**: County parties may collect local dues (separate from LPO's $50 annual dues) but must adhere to GAAP (Bylaws Article VI, Sec. 8) and allow LPO Treasurer inspection upon request.

4.3. **Support from LPO**: The Executive Committee may allocate resources (e.g., funds, materials) via budget (Bylaws Article VIII, Sec. 1) to assist chartered counties.

Rule 5: Delegation of Nomination Authority

5.1. Upon chartering, the Executive Committee may, by majority vote, delegate authority to the county party to convene nominating conventions for public offices in districts wholly within the county (Bylaws Article V, Sec. 2; Article XI). 5.2. Delegated conventions must follow LPO procedures: notice (30 days to regular members), eligibility (registered LP voters), quorum (majority of attendees), and approval voting (Bylaws Article XII).

Rule 6: Revocation or Suspension

6.1. **Grounds**: The Executive Committee may suspend or revoke a charter by a 2/3 vote for:

- Failure to maintain minimum membership or compliance (e.g., reporting).
- Conduct injurious to the LPO (Bylaws Article IV, Sec. 7 analog).

- Violation of Bylaws or these rules.

6.2. **Process**: Written notice of charges shall be sent to the county Chairperson, with a 30-day response period. A hearing may be requested before the Executive Committee or Judicial Committee (Bylaws Article IX). Upon revocation, assets revert to the LPO, and representation on the Executive Committee ends.

6.3. **Appeal**: Revocation may be appealed to the Judicial Committee (Bylaws Article IX, Sec. 4).

Rule 7: Effective Date and Amendments

7.1. These rules take effect upon adoption by the Executive Committee.

7.2. Amendments require a majority vote of the Executive Committee and shall be documented in meeting minutes, with copies distributed to all chartered county parties.
Adopted by the LPO Executive Committee on [Date of Adoption].

Adopted January 17th, 2026

Secretary attest:

