

Standing Rules of the Benton County Democratic Central Committee (BCDCC)

Committees

The ***Standing Committees*** listed in the By-Laws are: By-Laws & Rules Committee and the Platform & Resolutions Committee. Descriptions of these Committees follow.

By-Laws & Rules Committee: This committee will propose amendments to the By-Laws for consideration by the full central committee and to compile the list of “Standing Rules” that detail the committee descriptions, operating procedures and membership requirements of the Benton County Democrats (BCDCC).

Platform & Resolutions Committee: This committee is responsible for maintaining the County Democratic Platform, by holding the platform convention and by considering amendments and additions to it from time to time. It is in this committee’s charter to take up new issues from any source, and propose resolutions for action by the central committee. This committee should select strategic issues and recommend action, in the form of resolutions for consideration by the central committee itself.

Other Committees: Campaign Services & Candidate Development, Candidate Assessment, Communications, Finance & Fundraising, Legislative Process & Accountability, Precinct & Party Development, Technology Infrastructure and Young Democrats Liaison. Descriptions of these Committees follow.

Campaign Services & Candidate Development Committee: The function of the Campaign Services Committee is to assist candidates during the election cycle. In between elections, the committee morphs into an office-holder relations and candidate development committee.

Candidate Assessment Committee: In order to assist candidates during the election cycle, and to help the BCDCC use its resources effectively, the committee will evaluate candidates before the primary and will update its evaluation periodically through the election cycle. The committee’s targeting evaluations will be considered whenever the BCDCC makes decisions about providing support to candidates. Targeting criteria may include electability, the impact of our support on the election, and past and potential future service by the candidate to promote the Democratic Party and its issues. Candidates will be assessed using the Candidate and Office Holder Assessment Matrix. (EC 8-2-05)

Communications Committee: This committee will be looking at new and better ways of keeping the BCDCC and its active supporters informed, strong, and united through our various communications media; working with Benton County Democrats to develop our message(s); getting our message(s) out to the public; raising the visibility of the Democratic Party in Benton County; keeping our volunteers engaged and active; starting new outreach programs to underserved constituents in Benton County; networking with other Democratic organizations in

the state and nation and with other progressive organizations.

Finance & Fundraising Committee: This committee is responsible for the party's financial planning and monitoring. While the primary work of our organization will always be to educate, inform and activate voters for progressive causes we need money to finance our work. Whether it is printing costs, room rental for meetings, phone banks during campaigns or our party headquarters, strong finances will help our party achieve our goals. The fundraising committee will work together to inspire and encourage local Democrats to give to the cause in meaningful, fun and regular ways.

Legislative Process and Accountability Committee: This committee will serve as a two-way avenue of communication between the Benton County Democrats and our elected representatives at the local, state, and national levels.

Precinct and Party Development Committee: This committee will focus on the personal and political development of Benton County Democrats. We will plan and implement a series of activities that give us opportunities to build relationships and networks--social gatherings, training, discussion groups, anything that helps us become more effective agents of change.

Technology Infrastructure Committee: This committee is responsible for the website engine, our listserves, and meeting the technology needs of our headquarters and precinct organizations.

Young Democrats Liaison Committee: Liaison to OSU Democrats and other student and young voter groups.

Resolutions:

Any Letters, Resolutions or Endorsements proposed for a Central Committee vote, must be sent to Central Committee members at least one week prior to the meeting at which the vote is to occur. (Approved October 18, 2007)

Candidate Service Request and Endorsement Policy

In keeping with our mission of *Electing Democrats*, the Benton County Democrats will support Democratic candidates who represent our values and our issues. Support can be provided via a number of resources or services defined below. This support is available to candidates and measures per the table below.

We recognize that serious contests between Democrats are rare, and that Democrats challenging incumbent Democrats are extraordinary. Under such circumstances, we will treat all parties with courtesy.

Suggestions for donations to candidates, or for exceptions to the Candidate Services Policy, will first be considered by the Executive Committee and a recommendation passed on to the Central Committee for a final decision. When a more rapid decision is necessary, the Executive Committee may make the decision and report to the Central Committee.

Definition of who receives services

1. Candidate:
 - Filed for local election (Oregon House races are the responsibility of FuturePac and Oregon Senate races are the responsibility of the Senate Democratic Leadership Fund);
 - Been registered (verified by the County Elections Office) as a Democrat for at least 6 months prior to a request.
2. Endorsed ballot measure.
3. Other ballot measures.

Definition of Services Provided

1. Electronic Voter File, currently provided by the Democratic Party of Oregon (DPO) by the “Voter Activation Network (VAN)” – includes all voter file features such as voter details and history, maps and targeting lists. Limited to geographic area appropriate to that of the candidate (e.g., precinct or county).
 - Must meet DPO Requirements and have a signed Technology Services Agreement.
 - Charges for the electronic voter file can be wholly or partially offset by an in-kind donation at the discretion of the Executive and/or Central Committees.
 - Candidates denied access to the Electronic Voter File should be referred to other sources of voter data.
2. Volunteer and Donor Data – active Democrats including volunteers, newsletter recipients, donors and PCP emails.
 - Our current platform for volunteer data is “My Campaign”. As per DPO regulations, county parties cannot give direct access to My Campaign to any candidate or outside group.
 - Lists of PCPs and donors can be given to candidates in good standing.
 - Lists of contact information for volunteers who have indicated their data that can be shared with candidates can be given to candidates in good standing. (This includes volunteer activities such as canvassing, phone banking, mailings, etc.)
 - Information such as an entire email database cannot be shared without the written permission of the DPO.
 - Candidates can purchase a blank My Campaign platform from the DPO subject to signing an agreement that deals with proper use and protection of information and reciprocity on inputting candidate’s own information into the file.
3. Use of Headquarters office facilities on a shared basis. Includes desk, computer, phones and HQ staff time.
 - Contract required for federal candidates to comply with Federal Election Commission limits.
4. Use of Headquarters’ literature space.
5. Bulk mail permit – use of permit but candidate/campaign must pay all postage and provide own mailing expertise.
6. Donations – with approval of Executive or Central Committees.
7. Phone Bank – on a priority use basis (Endorsed Candidate, Democratic Candidate, Endorsed Ballot Measure) on a first come/first serve basis.
8. Endorsement of Candidate – approval of Central Committee is necessary (advance notice and two-thirds majority vote of the Central Committee is required).

9. Endorsement of Ballot Measure – approval of Central Committee is necessary (if advance notice is given, a majority vote is needed; if no advance is given, a two-thirds majority is required).

	Democratic Candidates	Democratic Primary Candidates	Democratic Candidates for non-partisan office	Endorsed Ballot Measure (for or against)	No-position ballot measures	Other Organizations
Elect. Voter File, with agreement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Volunteer Data	Yes	Yes	**	No	No	No
Use Headquarters, with contract	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	**	**
Literature At Headquarters	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	*
Use Bulk Permit	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Donation of Money	**	**	**	No	No	No
Phone Banks	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	**	**
Endorsement	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No

* May be provided at the discretion of the person in charge of the resource.

** With permission of the Executive Committee or Central Committee.