**CONVENTION CALL**

**Of the REPUBLICAN PARTY**

**For Virginia’s 53rd HOUSE DISTRICT**

As Chair of the 53rd House District Legislative Committee of the Republican Party of Virginia, and pursuant to the Plan of Organization of the Republican Party of Virginia and as directed by the Committee, I, Melvin Adams, do hereby issue this call for a Legislative District Convention to be held on the date and time and at the location shown below:

**Saturday, May 06, 2023, at 10:00 AM ET**

Jefferson Forest High School

1 Cavalier Circle, Forest, VA 24551

OR

An alternate site if necessary for the following purposes:

a) Election of Republican Nominee for the Virginia House of Delegates 53rd District, and

 b) Transaction of such other business as may properly come before the Convention

Q**UALIFICATIONS FOR PARTICIPATION:**

All legal and qualified voters of the 53rd House District under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia,  regardless of race, religion, national origin or sex, who are in accord with the principles of the Republican Party  and who, if requested, express in open meeting either orally or in writing, as may be required by their  Republican unit committee, their intent to support all of its nominees for public office in the ensuing election,  may participate as members of the Republican Party of Virginia in this 53rd House District Convention.  Registered minors who will be 18 years of age by Nov. 07, 2023, may qualify as delegates.

**DELEGATE CHECK-IN:**

Convention check-in shall begin at 8:00 AM ET and shall conclude at 10:00 AM ET. All Delegates in line at 10:00 AM ET shall be allowed to check-in. Delegates will be required to present photo identification as part of the check-in process. The Convention shall be called to order at 10:00 AM ET or upon completion of check-in of all Delegates in line at 10:00 AM ET. Upon commencement of the first ballot for any office and thereafter, no quorum call or point of order regarding the quorum of the Convention or of any Committee thereof shall be in order.

**MILITARY MEMBERS AS DELEGATES:**

Military Members (any members of the Virginia National Guard, or the United States Armed Forces, Merchant Marine, or Coast Guard currently serving on active duty) may be certified as delegates by complying with the procedures detailed in a Unit’s call pursuant to Article VIII, Section H, Paragraph 6 of the Plan of Organization of the Republican Party of Virginia. Military Member delegates or alternate delegates that are unable to attend the convention in person due to obligations of their official military orders shall have their votes cast within their unit delegation according to candidate preference ballots.

Candidate preference ballots will be made available by the 53rdHouse District Republican Committee no later than **April 01, 2023**, and will be made available on the Republican Party of Virginia website or upon request by e-mail to **n4skd2@centralva.net**. Candidate preference ballots must be received no later than **April 24, 2023, by 8:00 PM** physical delivery to Melvin Adams, 938 Ashland Ave, Bedford A 24523. Postmarks do not govern.

**COMPOSITION OF THE CONVENTION:**

The 53rdHouse District Convention shall be composed of delegates and alternate delegates of the respective units they represent. Each Unit shall have one delegate vote per 250 votes of “Republican Party Voting Strength” as defined in the Republican Party of Virginia Plan of Organization. Delegates and alternates shall be elected in county and city mass meetings, party canvasses, or conventions called for this purpose by each unit

committee in conformity with the Plan. The maximum number of delegates and delegate votes of each Unit shall be as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Locality  | Delegate Vote  | Maximum Number of Delegates |
| Bedford County | 131 | 655 |
| Amherst County | 84 | 420 |
| Nelson County | 24 | 120 |

The number of alternates a unit may have shall equal the number of delegates to which it is entitled. The delegates present in each unit delegation shall designate which alternate delegate(s) shall vote in the place of an absent delegate(s) except where the body electing the delegates has determined another method.

**DISTRICT CONVENTION VOLUNTARY REGISTRATION FEE:**

Every person elected as a Delegate or Alternate Delegate to the 53rdHouse District Convention will be asked to pay a voluntary registration fee to help cover the Convention expenses. The $20 voluntary registration fee will be paid to the delegate’s unit committee.

**CERTIFICATION OF DELEGATES:**

Units may or may not, per their Official Calls, have their Delegates or Alternates submit paper pre-files.

If a person pre-files with his or her local unit committee, that person must use the Delegate Form attached to this Call. Whether filed by email, via postal mail, or other methods, all Delegate filings must be received by the date specified in the Unit’s Official Call for the Mass Meeting, Canvass, or Convention at which the Delegate is standing for election. Postmarks do not govern for forms submitted to a unit committee. Once credentialing of the prospective delegate has been completed by the local unit, the Unit Chair (or his/her designee) should send an email update to the prospective delegate, providing the preliminary acceptance or rejection of his/her filing prior to the unit’s delegate election process. However, in the absence of this feedback, the Delegate should confirm ultimate filing success with his/her Unit Chair prior to that unit committee’s Mass Meeting, Canvass, or Convention at which the Delegate is standing for election.

Units choosing not to pre-file Delegates and Alternates are also instructed to collect Delegate information using the attached Delegate Form for each individual at their mass meeting, canvass, or convention. **All forms submitted to a Unit must contain the Delegate’s signature**.

**To the Unit Chair or Permanent Chair and Permanent Secretary of the Unit Mass Meeting, Convention, or Party Canvass**: All Certifications and applicable fees received by the Unit, regardless of the date of the Unit Mass Meeting, Canvass, or Convention, must be submitted no later than **April 24, 2023, at 8:00 PM.** It is the responsibility of the Unit Chair to confirm receipt of the certifications and fees with the 53rd District Chair.

After the filing deadline of the certification, no change may be made, except a certified alternate delegate may be made a delegate.

Each unit will provide to the District Chair a completed digital copy of their certified delegates' Excel spreadsheet.

Certification packets from each Unit shall include the following:

a) A copy of the Unit Call of the Mass Meeting, Canvass, or Convention called for the purpose of selecting Delegates and Alternate Delegates to the 53rd House District Convention.

b) Unit check for Convention fees remitted by 53rd House Convention Delegates who filed with the Unit.

c) For each delegate who filed with the Unit, the original or a copy of 53rdHouse District Delegate application of elected Delegates or Alternates.

d) For each delegate who was disqualified by the Unit, provide documentation of the reason(s) for the disqualification.

e) Printed copy of the unit’s official Excel spreadsheet listing Delegates.

f) Completed Delegate Certification form attached to this Call.

**Certification packets should be hard-copy mailed or delivered as follows**:

**First Copy** to: Melvin Adams, 932 Ashland Ave, Bedford, VA 24553. va5chair@gamil.com

**Second Copy** to: Randy Hoilman, 143 Dairy Rd, Amherst VA 24521. n4skd2@centralva.net

**Third Copy**: Unit's permanent records

**CANDIDACY FILING REQUIREMENTS:**

Any person who desires to seek election at the 53rd House District Convention shall file the Declaration of Candidacy and pay a nonrefundable filing fee of $700.00, via a check made payable to the “Bedford County Republican Committee” fiscal agent for the 53rdHouse District Republican Committee. The Declaration of Candidacy form and payment must be hand delivered to or mailed to Melvin Adams, 938 Ashland Ave., Bedford, VA 24523 no later than **March 07, 2023, at 6:00 PM**. Postmarks will not govern. It is the responsibility of the candidate to confirm receipt of their Declaration with the 53rd House District Chairman Melvin Adams.

Should only one candidate properly file for the Republican nomination for the 53rd District of the House of Delegates, then such candidate shall be deemed elected, and the convention shall be canceled.

**BALLOTING:**

Balloting shall not begin before 10:30 AM ET or until all Convention Delegates in line by 10:00 AM ET have been registered.

**RESOLUTIONS:**

Resolutions shall not be considered at the 53rdHouse District Republican Convention.

**INFORMATION PROVIDED TO CANDIDATES:**

A list of delegates and alternates elected to represent a Unit shall be provided, once available, by the chair of each Unit Committee to each duly filed candidate for public office to be filled at the convention upon request of the candidate or the candidate’s designee. Lists of delegates shall be available within (a) 14 days of their election if 250 or fewer delegates are elected or (b) within 21 days if more than 250 delegates have been elected. The list shall be provided in an equitable manner to all requesting candidates and shall include all contact information provided by the delegates at the time of prefiling or election.

**INFORMATION PROVIDED TO DELEGATES:**

On or before April 30, the following information will be emailed to each Unit Chairman for subsequent distribution to each Delegate certified by that Unit:

1) Candidates for House of Delegates

2) Proposed Convention Rules

**PUBLICATION:**

This Call shall be posted on the website of the Republican Party of Virginia

(https://virginia.gop/events/category/official-call/).

All unit committees shall concurrently publish their calls on the Republican Party of Virginia  (https://virginia.gop/events/category/official-call/), unless the convention is canceled prior to the approval of such calls.

The Convention shall be conducted in accordance with the Plan of Organization of the Republican Party of Virginia and Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 12th Edition.

**CALL REVISIONS**:

The 53rdHouse District Republican Committee is authorized to revise the issued Call to make any such technical or conforming changes in the event such changes are necessary and shall promptly notify the Republican Party of Virginia.

**Authorized and paid for by the 53rdHouse District Committee of the Republican Party of Virginia**