

**BY-LAWS  
OF THE  
DEMOCRATS OF THE MORONGO BASIN**

**ARTICLE I – NAME, OBJECTIVE, PURPOSE OF THE BY-LAWS**

**SECTION I: NAME**

- A. The name of this organization is the Democrats of the Morongo Basin [DMB].

**SECTION II: OBJECTIVE**

- A. The purpose of the Democrats of the Morongo Basin is to support and elect Democratic candidates to local, regional, county, state and national offices; to promote Democratic values in the Morongo Basin; and to be a visible presence through local media, public events and educational opportunities.

**SECTION III: AFFILIATION**

- A. The DMB will maintain an official charter by the San Bernardino County Central Committee [SBCDCC].
- B. As a chartered and affiliated member we will comply with the by-laws of the SBCDCC and the California Democratic Party as they apply to fully chartered local affiliates.

**ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP AND DUES**

**SECTION I: MEMBERSHIP**

- A. Any individual shall be eligible for DMB membership if:
- a. The individual is a registered Democrat; or
  - b. The individual is ineligible to vote (due to minority, age, non-residency, or other legal impediment), but pledges to register as a Democrat when eligibility is attained; and
  - c. Supports the purpose of the DMB as stated in Article I, Section 2 above; and
  - d. The individual lives in the Morongo Basin area of California, or any area that is in the same Assembly, Senatorial or Congressional district as the Morongo Basin.
- B. “Member in good standing” shall mean:
- a. A member who has affirmatively applied for membership; and
  - b. The member has paid club dues or dues have been waived due to economic hardship; and
  - c. The status of each member shall be certified by a club officer.
  - d. Membership is effective as soon as the above requirements are met.
- C. DMB membership is open to every Democrat regardless of sex, age, color, creed, physical ability, gender identity, sexual orientation, income, or any other protected class.
- D. Active DMB members have one vote. A person must be present when a vote is taken. Votes by proxy and/or absentee are not allowed.
- E. It is the responsibility of the DMB member to keep his/her contact information updated with the Secretary. The membership roster is to be used for DMB business only. It will not be sold.

## **SECTION II: RESIGNATION & REMOVAL OF A MEMBER**

- A. A member may resign from DMB membership by notifying the President or Secretary. The resignation is effective immediately upon receipt. The DMB will not offer refunds to resigned members.
- B. The DMB may remove a member who registers as a member of another party, publicly expresses a preference for another party, advocates for that party with others, makes a financial contribution to another party or a candidate of another party, or states openly that people should vote for other than Democratic candidates or who actively works against the goals and objectives of the DMB.
- C. A member may also be removed who speaks publicly against the work of the DMB, hampers the work of the DMB or fails to pay membership dues.
- D. A member may be removed by 2/3rds vote of the Executive Committee if the Committee determines that the continuing membership of this member would be a detriment to the DMB. Notice shall be mailed to **the member by registered mail**. The DMB Secretary will keep the notice and mail receipt.

## **SECTION III: DUES**

- A. Membership Dues are set by the Executive Board and are due by July 1st of each year. New members may join at a 50% rate after February 1st. They will be expected to renew at the full rate July 1st of the same year. The DMB will waive dues and offer hardship memberships as appropriate at the discretion of the President, Secretary and Treasurer.

## **ARTICLE III – OFFICERS**

### **SECTION I: OFFICERS**

- A. The officers of this DMB shall be a President, First-Vice President, Second-Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and 2 at large members. The immediate Past President may serve as an advisor without vote.

### **SECTION II: DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES**

#### **A. Duties of the President**

- 1. The President is the presiding officer and official voice of the DMB.
- 2. The President will ensure that the decisions of the Executive Board and the General Membership meetings are followed and are consistent with the DMB Bylaws.
- 3. The President appoints Standing Committee Chairs. These appointments are approved by vote of the Executive Board and affirmed at the next General Membership meeting.
- 4. The President may appoint Ad Hoc committees as needed; the Nominating Committee in November, the Endorsement Panel after the filing deadline for each election, a Scholarship committee; a Finance Committee to conduct an annual audit; and a Sergeant at Arms. All appointments are approved by vote of the Executive Board and the General Membership meeting.
- 5. The President will bring to the Executive Board any seeming conflict of interest of an officer of the DMB if the officer has not been forthcoming with the details of

the conflict.

6. The President will make certain the signs indicating the location of the General Membership meeting are in place an hour before the meeting begins.

**B. Duties of the First Vice President:**

1. The First VP shall assist the President in the performance of duties.
2. In the absence of the President, or a vacancy in that office, the First VP assumes all powers and duties of the President.
3. The First VP is the Chair of the Nominating Committee.
4. The First VP may chair other committees as needed.
5. The first VP may offer campaign development help to endorsed candidates if needed.

**C. Duties of the Second Vice President**

1. The Second Vice President may preside at meetings in the absence of both the President and the First Vice President.
2. The Second Vice-President may chair other committees as needed.

**D. Duties of the Secretary**

1. The Secretary will record and maintain minutes of the Executive Board and General Membership meetings.
2. The Secretary will take charge of all documents when requested.
3. The Secretary will compose, read and report correspondence as requested.
4. The Secretary will maintain the membership roster. The roster is used for DMB business only.

**E. Duties of the Treasurer**

1. The Treasurer is in charge of all funds that belong to the DMB.
2. The Treasurer will maintain bank accounts as needed by the DMB. Two other DMB officers will be signatories on all accounts. Two Signatures are needed on all Checks. The President will appoint the signatories on all DMB accounts.
3. The Treasurer will pay DMB bills promptly.
4. The Treasurer will make monthly reports to the Executive Board and the General Membership that include bank balances, income and expenses.
5. The DMB books will be reviewed annually by a Finance Committee appointed by the President.
6. The Treasurer will file legally required financial reports to the FPPC and other agencies.

**F. Duties of the Members-at-Large**

1. Members-at-Large represent the General Membership on the Board.
2. They serve as needed by the President and the DMB.

**G. Duties of the Immediate Past President**

1. This person may serve the Board in an advisory capacity
2. The office comes with no specific duties.

**H. Conditions of Serving as an Officer**

1. Elected Officers of the DMB will not participate in any vote that personally affects a family member or themselves.
2. Any officer with a conflict must recuse her or himself from any vote or meeting where the issue is being addressed.
3. The President will pursue any questionable issue where a conflict exists if the officer has not been forthcoming with the information.

### **SECTION III: ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

- A. The Nominating Committee will present the slate of nominees to the General Meeting in November. Only members in good standing may be nominated to hold office. Notice of January Elections must be announced via email, (or) regular mail [by special request] (and) posted on the DMB's website thirty (30) days prior to the January General Member Meeting.
- B. The President will appoint members to the Nominating Committee at the October General Meeting of the DMB.
- C. The First Vice president is the chair of the Nominating Committee.
- D. The Nominating Committee will prepare a slate of officers. This slate is presented at the November General Meeting.
- E. Nominations from the floor are welcome at both the November and December meetings.
- F. The January election will be by secret ballot unless there is a motion to elect the Nominating Committee slate by acclamation. A simple majority is required. A member must be present at the meeting to vote.
- G. Officers serve a two-year term that begins February 1<sup>st</sup> immediately following the January election. The election takes place in odd years.
- H. One office may be shared by 2 members if elected by the General Membership to do so. Each person elected to the shared office will have one vote at Board meetings.

### **SECTION IV: VACANCIES**

- A. A vacancy in any office will be filled by appointment of the President with the approval of the Executive Board and the General Meeting.

### **SECTION V: REMOVAL OF OFFICERS**

- A. An Officer of the DMB may be removed from office for misconduct, neglect of duty, or three consecutive unexcused absences from Executive Board or General Membership meetings, or actively working against the goals and objectives of the DMB.
- B. The Executive Board will establish a policy for removal of officers. That policy will be approved by the Board and the General Membership.

## **ARTICLE VI – EXECUTIVE BOARD**

### **SECTION I: EXECUTIVE BOARD**

- A. The Executive Board consisting of our elected Offices and the Chairs of the Standing Committee.
- B. The Executive Board holds the powers and duties of the DMB when DMB is not in session.
- C. The Executive Board will set the Agenda for the General Membership meetings.
- D. A person who serves the Board with more than one position has only one vote.
- E. When two Board members share one position, each person has one vote on the Board.
- F. The immediate Past President serves at the pleasure of the Board with no vote.

### **SECTION II: EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS**

- A. The Executive Board will meet monthly at the publicly stated time and place.

- B. Meetings are open to all members however only members of the Board are allowed a vote.

### **SECTION III: EXECUTIVE BOARD QUORUM**

- A. A simple majority of members of the Executive Committee is required to constitute a quorum for transaction of DMB business. A member holding multiple positions counts as only a single member for purposes of determining quorum.

## **ARTICLE V – STANDING COMMITTEE**

### **SECTION I: REGULAR STANDING COMMITTEES**

#### **A. Candidate Development – Local**

1. This committee gathers information on local offices that are scheduled for a vote in the upcoming election.
2. The work of this committee is to recruit and support Democratic candidates for open offices.
3. Our goal is to have a Democrat run for each open office.

#### **B. Candidate Development – Regional**

1. This committee gathers information on regions and state offices that are scheduled for a vote in the upcoming election.
2. The work of this committee is to recruit and support Democratic candidates for open offices.
3. Our goal is to have a Democrat run for each open office.

#### **C. Community Outreach**

1. Responsible for voter education, registration drives, precinct organization, general membership and membership in Chambers of Commerce, etc., public relations and communications on behalf of the DMB including but not limited to social media, press releases, letter campaigns, online feedback, opposition response and publicity events.

#### **D. Political Research & Strategy**

1. Gathers and analyzes information that assists the DMB in meeting its political objectives; makes recommendations for DMB political strategy.

#### **E. Party Liaison**

1. Maintains communications with county, state, and national party; ensures DMB compliance with party requirements; oversees delegate selection and voting.

#### **F. Fundraising**

1. This committee is responsible for developing and implementing a regular program of activities aimed at raising money for the DMB. The money will go into the general treasury to help support our work.

#### **G. Scholarship Committee**

1. This committee raises money to fund yearly scholarship awards to student(s) attending a high school and/or college in the Morongo Basin.
2. The committee decides on an essay theme relevant to Democratic values and submits it, with submission guidelines, to appropriate school staff by deadline.
3. The committee promotes the program to media and campus outlets.
4. The committee evaluates submissions and selects awardee(s).

#### **H. Social Media Committee**

1. The committee promotes the club through its website, Facebook page, Twitter and other social media.

### **SECTION II: STANDING COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

- A. Standing Committee members may be recruited by the Committee Chair.
- B. Any DMB Member is eligible to serve on a committee.
- C. A member may serve on more than one Committee.

### **SECTION III: STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

- A. Committees will meet as needed.
- B. Regular reports of the work of the committee will be given at General Membership meetings.

## **ARTICLE VI – GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS**

### **SECTION I: PLACE & TIME OF MEETINGS**

- A. The DMB will hold monthly meetings
- B. The time and place of the meetings will be made known to the whole membership
- C. The Standing Rules may set a regular place and time for the meetings.

### **SECTION II: SPECIAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS**

- A. Special General Membership meetings may be called by the Executive Board
- B. Special General Membership meetings may also be called by any ten members
  1. When ten members sign a request for a meeting, stating in the request the purpose of the meeting, the President and the Executive Board will call the meeting.
- C. Notice of a Special meeting must be sent to the entire membership at least 7 days before the meeting.
- D. Notice may be sent by email or snail mail if requested.
- E. Notice of the meeting will be sent to local radio and newspaper outlets.

### **SECTION III: QUORUM FOR GENERAL MEETING**

- A. The members present at a duly noticed meeting shall constitute a quorum.

### **SECTION IV: PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES & VOTING**

- A. The DMB may adopt standing rules by majority vote at a meeting.
- B. Standing Rules cannot override these bylaws
- C. Roberts' Rules of Order will settle issues not covered in these bylaws.

### **SECTION V: RESOLUTIONS PROCEDURE**

- A. Resolutions may be presented and seconded from the floor at any meeting by any member.
- B. A majority vote of the members present passes the resolution.
- C. Resolutions may be presented to the Executive Board first if time allows.

## **ARTICLE VII – ENDORSEMENTS**

### **SECTION I: ENDORSING CANDIDATES**

- A. The DMB may endorse Democratic candidates for partisan and non-partisan offices.
- B. The DMB may also endorse State Ballot Initiatives endorsed by the CADEMs
- C. The DMB may endorse local Ballot Measures approved by 60% of DMB members present at a regular or properly called special meeting.
- D. DMB members must receive notice in advance of any endorsement vote.

### **SECTION II: ENDORSEMENT PROCESS**

- A. Candidates request endorsement from the DMB by submitting to the Secretary a written request.
- B. The Endorsement Panel will meet with the Candidate and make a decision whether or not to recommend endorsement.
- C. Their decision is sent to the Executive Board for approval or denial.
- D. The Executive Board decision is then reported at the next General Membership Meeting.
- E. For an endorsement to be official the General Membership meeting must affirm it by a simple majority vote.

### **SECTION III: CADEM PRE-ENDORSEMENT CONFERENCES**

- A. Selection of Representatives to California Democratic Party (CDP) Pre-Endorsing Conferences.
  - 1. Club representatives shall be allocated as follows: one representative, resident in the Assembly District and duly registered as a member of the Democratic Party of California, for each full (not a fraction thereof) 20 members in good standing registered to vote in the Assembly District who were listed on the roster submitted to the San Bernardino County Democratic Party and to the appropriate Regional Director of the CDP no later than the date announced by the CDP in accordance with the CDP bylaws
  - 2. For purposes of this Section:
    - a. Only members in good standing as defined in Article II, Section I (b) above, who are registered Democrats, as of the date announced by the CDP in accordance with the CDP bylaws, shall be included on the roster;
    - b. The Club's representatives to any particular pre-endorsing conference be from the roster described above and that the overall list of representatives to all conferences adhere to the Equal Division Rule, to the extent possible.
  - 3. Said representatives shall be elected by a majority vote of the officers.

### **SECTION IV: SPEAKING IN THE NAME OF THE DMB**

- A. DMB officers may speak in the name of the DMB only if the Executive Board or General Membership have endorsed a particular position.

## **ARTICLE VIII – AMENDMENT OF THESE BY-LAWS**

### **SECTION I: AMENDMENTS**

- A. Any proposed amendment is to be submitted to the Executive Committee for their recommendation(s).

- B. Such recommendation(s) may be considered at any regular or special Executive Committee Meeting provided in advance that such a review or modification of the By-Laws is given Executive Committee members.
- C. If approved by the Executive Committee a notice of the recommended amendment shall be sent to all DMB members with a meeting notice in advance of the meeting at which the amendment is to be put to vote.
- D. If the Executive Committee fails to approve a proposed amendment the member who proposed the amendment shall be notified of this failure. The amendment may then be proposed from the floor at any Regular Member Meeting with the consent of a majority of those present.
- E. Amendment of the By-Laws requires a two-thirds vote of those members of the DMB present at any Regular Member Meeting.

## **SECTION II: EFFECTIVE DATE**

- A. These By-Laws or any amendments thereto shall go into effect and become effective immediately upon their adoption.

Bylaws Committee: Dianne Greenhouse, Marc Greenhouse, Gary Biggs, Paula Durrant

Amended and approved by the Executive Board at a Special Meeting on August 17, 2018

**Approved by General Membership meeting September 8, 2018**

**Amended by General Membership meeting March 9, 2019**

**Amended by General Membership meeting April 13, 2019**

**Amended by General Membership meeting December 12, 2020**

**Amended by General Membership meeting August 14, 2021**



**Standing Rules  
of the  
DEMOCRATS OF THE MORONGO BASIN**

- 1. *Have general meeting the second Saturday of the month and the executive board meeting the Sunday before the general meeting. (Adopted at Dec 10, 2016 general meeting.)***
- 2. *Guidelines for representing the Morongo Basin Democratic DMB in Public Places. (Adopted at Oct 14, 2017 general meeting.)***
  - a. All materials [written, printed, posted, or promotional] will be approved prior to use by the Executive Board of the DMB.*
  - b. Voter Registration tables will offer help with the registration form. Signs should be in both Spanish and English. All table volunteers must attend a DMB approved training session prior to working the table. We can legally state who we are but we cannot provide political materials supporting any cause.*
  - c. The information tables need to offer an opportunity to embrace our Democratic values without demeaning anyone. Remember the table is the public face of the DMB and the Democratic Party. Voter registration forms will be available but not filled out in compliance with the law.*
  - d. Only DMB endorsed candidates, positions and issues will be promoted in the name of the DMB at tables or other public places.*
  - e. The DMB will provide the tables with information that promotes our values and candidates. The materials include our values statements, business cards, US Constitutions, applications for DMB membership, etc.*
  - f. We will not malign anyone. We can speak about their voting records or stated positions on issues. We are stronger when we promote ourselves.*
  - g. We strive as a DMB to focus on positive values, actions and outcomes of the Democratic Party, including civility, inclusiveness and equality. Public DMB representatives will avoid sarcasm, demeaning statements, and verbal or physical assault.*



## **Our Democratic Values**

- Affordable Healthcare Including Mental Health Care for All
- Excellent Public Education
- Free or Affordable Higher Education
- Food Security for All Who Live in America
- Decent and Affordable Housing
- Fair Wages that Give a Full-Time Worker the Ability to Provide Adequate Food, Housing, Clothing and Recreation for Self and Family
- Welcome to Immigrants
- Sanctuary for Refugees
- A Path to Citizenship for DACA Designees
- Equal Opportunity for All
- Equal Treatment Under the Law for All
- Humane and Decent Treatment of All Individuals Detained by the Government Including refugees and Prisoners
- Preservation and Protection of Our Environment, Keeping Our Wild Spaces Wild
- Protecting the Fragile Desert Ecosystem
- Affirming that Water is a Valuable Resource That Belongs to Everyone
- Standing Against Commercial Use of Public Lands and Spaces
- Ensuring That Every Voter is Able to Cast a Ballot and Have That Ballot Counted
- We Look to Scientific Knowledge and Studies to Help Us Make Informed Decisions
- We Support a Woman's Right to Choose and Be In Charge of Her Own Body
- We Support Marriage Equality and the Rights of All to Marry
- Freedom Of Religion and Freedom From Religion
- A Clear Separation of Church and State
- Effective Common Sense Gun Legislation
- Humane Treatment of Food Animals
- Protection of Social Security