

Proposed Agenda for 2010 Whatcom County Democratic Convention & Legislative District sub-caucuses

42nd LD and Whatcom precincts of the 40th LD

- 9:30 am Registration begins
- 10:00 am Call to Order
Sign-in tables close upon completion of credentials report.
Pledge of Allegiance
Presentation of Democratic Candidates for office
- 11:00 am Credentials Report
Adoption of Agenda and Rules
Election of Permanent Chair
Appointment of Secretary, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Parliamentarian
Adoption of Platform and Resolutions
- 12:30 pm Lunch break – A sandwich bar will be available for \$5
- 1:00 pm Election of Delegates and Alternates to the State Convention by
Legislative District Sub-Caucus
- 2:00 pm Convention reconvenes to complete Platform agenda, if needed
Good of the Order
Adjournment

Proposed Rules for 2010 Whatcom County Democratic Convention & Legislative District sub-caucuses

1. The County Convention shall be held on Saturday, April 10, 2010, commencing at 10:00 am, at Shuksan Middle School, 2713 Alderwood Ave, Bellingham, WA.
2. Eligible Participation
 - (a) To vote at the County Convention and Legislative District Sub-Caucus an individual must be a resident, registered voter in Whatcom County and sign a registration sheet stating that he/she is a Democrat, and agrees to public display of her/his attendance at the meeting.
 - (b) Attendees will sign in by Legislative District.

- (c) Proxy voting shall not be allowed.
 - (d) A donation of **\$5** will be requested of participants to defray the cost of the Legislative District Caucus and County Convention. Payment of this fee shall NOT be a condition of participation or election.
 - (e) Individuals who are not qualified to register to vote because of residence or citizenship shall be allowed to participate in the platform discussion, but may not vote on resolutions or for the election of delegates or alternates, nor may they be elected as delegates or alternates.
 - (f) All possible efforts shall be made to insure maximum participation of ethnic minorities, women, youth, persons over 65 years of age, lesbians and gays, Labor, persons with a high school education or less, disabled, and persons of economic disadvantage.
3. The County Chair or the Chair's designee shall serve as the Temporary Chair of the convention.
 4. The Chair of the Credentials Committee shall present the report of the Credentials Committee which shall include the total number of eligible voters in attendance at the Caucus at the time the report is given.
 5. The Chair of the Rules Committee shall present the report of the Rules Committee.
 6. Any voting member of the Convention may nominate themselves or be nominated by another voting member for the position of Permanent Chair. Nominations, seconding speeches and speeches by the candidate on his or her own behalf shall not total more than three (3) minutes per nominee. A majority is required to elect. If no person has a majority, the candidate receiving the least votes is dropped and balloting shall be repeated using the remaining names. This procedure shall be repeated until a candidate receives a majority.
 7. The Permanent Chair shall appoint a Secretary, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Parliamentarian.
 8. At the discretion of the Chair, consideration of resolutions may commence without suspension of the rules.
 9. The motion "to table" shall be out of order at all times.
 10. Debate shall alternate pro and con, limited to three speakers for and three speakers against any motion, each speaker to speak no more than one minute.
 11. A quorum shall consist of 40% of the number eligible to vote as shown on the credentials report, as most recently amended.
 12. Platform Adoption
 - (a) Each section of the Platform as proposed by the Platform Committee shall be considered as the equivalent of a motion to adopt (needing no

second). The chair shall invite voting members who disagree with the substance of a item within a section to flag the item for debate and removal as not representing the sentiment of the majority. Removal of a plank will be by simple majority of those voting.

- (b) The Platform is designed to be short and readable. It is not comprehensive, but is an expression of the values and priorities of the Whatcom County Democrats. The Platform Committee has worked to incorporate those comments that were generated through the established process, including the Grassroots Strategy Sessions and comments delivered to the offices of the Whatcom County Democrats; therefore no Platform amendments will be approved or entertained during the Convention (other than deletions of a plank). The Platform Committee invites technical corrections of grammar and fact to be submitted to them in writing prior to final adoption, without being subject to a vote. All decisions of the Committee Chair on technical corrections will be final.
 - (c) Proposed additions to the Platform will be treated as resolutions and forwarded to the Issues and Resolutions committee for a first read at the next regular Membership meeting of the Whatcom County Democrats.
 - (d) As the Platform exists to incorporate the values and priorities of the majority of the Whatcom County Democrats, contested planks will require a two-thirds majority of eligible voters present to keep that item in the platform.
 - (e) Sections of the platform once passed shall constitute the platform as passed.
 - (f) Any sections of the platform that meet the criteria for consideration at the caucus that are not considered prior to adjournment shall be considered at the next regular Membership meeting of the Whatcom County Democrats. Any individual who signed in as a Democrat at the County Convention shall be allowed to vote at this membership meeting on pending Convention agenda items without having to pay a membership fee.
13. The Chair shall announce the allocation of State Convention delegates including the following information for each Legislative District Sub-Caucus:
- (a) The number of eligible voters.
 - (b) Allocation of State Convention delegates and alternates, which is:
40th LD Whatcom Precincts: 14 delegates, 7 alternates
42nd LD: 27 delegates, 13 alternates
14. The election of State Convention delegates and alternates by Legislative District Sub-Caucus:
- (a) The Legislative District Chair or the Chair's designee shall serve as the Temporary Chair of the sub-caucus. The eligible voters shall elect a

- permanent chair of the Sub-Caucus by the same procedure in Rule 8.
- (b) Each candidate for State Convention delegate or alternate must be a resident registered voter in the Legislative District.
 - (c) Each candidate for State Convention delegate or alternate shall be nominated individually. No second is required. A candidate who is not present must signify in advance, in writing individually that he/she will serve if elected and that he/she is a Democrat and is willing to be known as such. The letter of any absent candidate shall be read by the sub-caucus chair and shall constitute a nomination, no second required. All other nominations shall be made by signing the nomination list at the registration table. Each candidate shall have up to one minute (including the time spent by the sub-caucus chair reading an absent candidate's nomination letter) for speech on his/her behalf. Nomination of alternates shall occur after the election of delegates.
 - (d) Voting shall be by written ballot and a ballot to be counted must have all potential positions filled with no duplications. A plurality is required to elect. In case of a tie vote, the assignment of a delegate position shall be by lot.
 - (e) State Convention alternates shall be selected from the same set of ballots used for the election of delegates. The candidate for delegate receiving the most votes after all delegate slots are filled shall become alternate number one, and the alternate receiving the next most votes shall be alternate number two, and so forth.
 - (f) Each delegation elected shall be equally divided between women and men in both the delegate and alternate categories unless there are an insufficient number of nominees from one gender to fill available positions
15. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, shall prevail in other matters not specifically covered herein.