

May 15, 2025

Ms Tillman,

I have reviewed your appeal and have the following findings.

While Idaho Code 34-624 'Election of precinct committeemen' defines when a precinct committeeman election shall take place and the term of the position, there is no absolute guarantee that the precinct committeeman can retain their position regardless of their actions. The precinct committeeman may resign, change affiliation, move out of their precinct, or take other actions that cause them to lose their position as precinct committeeman.

The right of free association is guaranteed by both the US and Idaho Constitutions. The courts have found that the right to associate includes the right not to associate, which means an organization has a constitutional right to set the rules for membership provided those rules do not violate other rights. Idaho Code 34-505 specifies the authority of the state central committee and the county central committees to establish rules.

The Kootenai County Republican Central Committee (KCRCC) attendance records show you missed four consecutive meetings (five, including March 25th) and did not offer any excuse for your absence on or prior to your fourth absence. KCRCC Bylaws Article 5.6 excludes proxies from counting towards attendance: "Proxies cannot be used to establish a quorum." KCRCC Bylaws Article VI, Vacancies section 6.1(a) states:

A notification of vacancy shall be given by the chairman when any committee member resigns from their position; dies; moves their primary residence from their precinct; changes their party affiliation from Republican; ceases to be a qualified elector; or without excuse acceptable to the KCRCC, fails to attend four (4) consecutive regular meetings of the KCRCC.

To comply with this rule, the chairman is required to give a notice of vacancy if a member misses four consecutive meetings without an acceptable excuse. KCRCC Minutes from March 25th show that notice was given. The chairman also provided you with notice on March 28th via email and advised you of the process for being reinstated.

KCRCC draft Minutes from the April 22 meeting show that you were nominated to fill the vacancy. You will be considered for reinstatement at the May 27th meeting, where you will be given the opportunity to address the committee and "shall be voted on by written ballot." (KCRCC Bylaws 6.1)

In this matter, I find no violations of Idaho Code, Republican State Party Rules, or Kootenai County Republican Central Committee Bylaws. Since you are currently being considered by the KCRCC membership for reinstatement, your appeal is premature. Your appeal is denied.

Chair Dorothy Moon

Idaho Republican Party

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