

**Proposed amendment to District 23 Republican Committee Bylaws by Dennis Weiland
to be considered at November 9, 2017 Meeting**

Article IV, Section 7.A.2: [proposed additional language is in BLUE CAPS]

Disbursing funds only upon the order of the District Chairman, or in his or her absence, the Vice Chairman acting in his/her stead. All checks shall be signed by the Treasurer and approved by the District Chairman or a Vice-Chairman acting for the Chairman. The Treasurer shall not write checks to himself/herself without written approval by the District Chairman. **NO CHECK GREATER THAN \$1000.00 WILL BE WRITTEN WITHOUT APPROVAL OF 50% OF THE MEMBERSHIP WHEN POLLED BY E-MAIL. A QUORUM FOR A VALID VOTE WILL BE 80 MEMBERS;**

Rationale in support:

The budget for LD-23 is limited. Recently, large amounts of funds were spent by the Executive Committee. LD-23 members have then been asked to reduce or eliminate the debt with their dues or voluntary contributions. This is unfair since members had no voice in the payment. This has divided the membership. The problems of a divided membership are obvious.

Rationale in opposition:

The “large amounts of funds” referred to in the rationale in support are those in payment of legal fees arising from the attempt to prevent our duly-elected State Committeemen (SCs) from voting in the January 2017 State Statutory Meeting. As has been thoroughly explained to the membership, the District Executive Committee was defending the rights of our State Committeemen against what we believe was an inappropriate and unjustifiable action by the former Chairman of the Arizona Republican Party. The Executive Committee decided that the appropriate legitimate recourse to this action was to seek legal remedy. This decision was not taken lightly. We would have much preferred not having to seek legal action with the resulting financial burden, but it is our obligation to do the right thing for our District and in defense of our PCs and SCs. Unfortunately, legal action is a costly endeavor. All your elected officers have personally made substantial contributions toward payment of the legal bill, well in excess of the prorated “cost per SC.” Several other SCs and PCs have also made generous contributions towards payment of the legal expenses. Please note that all monies received by the District from PCs are voluntary contributions. We cannot legally mandate payment of dues or contributions for legal fees. Hence, all PCs do indeed have a “voice” in the payment.

Our current practice, as noted in our bylaws, requires the Treasurer and the Chairman (or designee) to approve **all** checks (regardless of the amount). Stewardship of District funds has been and will continue to be managed as a serious responsibility and is afforded great care and attention. Details about District finances are regularly provided to PCs. The proposed approval of expenditures by an e-mail poll of PCs is impractical and would have a detrimental effect on the efficient operation of the District. The typical “open rate” of e-mail communications from the District is historically no better than about 30%. Several e-mail communications have a lower “open rate.” Several PCs only open their e-mails well after they are sent; this would create a built-in delay in response from the required number of PCs. Overall, the Executive Committee unanimously opposes the proposed amendment and believes that it is not in the best interest of the District.