



2026

Marshall County Democratic Party County Convention Booklet

Midnight Garden

1501 S 17th Ave, Marshalltown, IA 50158

Commencing at 10 am, on Saturday, March 21, 2026

Official Registration will begin at 9 am and will close at 10:15 am

**PLEASE BRING THIS BOOKLET WITH YOU TO THE CONVENTION, EITHER
AS A PRINTED PERSONAL COPY OR AS AN ELECTRONIC COPY ON A
DEVICE OF YOUR CHOOSING.**

If you cannot print this, would like a printed copy provided for you, or would like a large print edition, please write to our email address (chair@marshallcountyiadems.org) or send a letter to Marshall County Democrats, PO Box 152, Marshalltown, 50158 with your request and where you would like the printed copy sent and we will do our best to accommodate you.

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Call to Convention

2026

MARSHALL COUNTY DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026

PLACE: Midnight Garden
1501 S 17th Ave, Marshalltown, IA 50158

9:00 AM TO 10:00 AM - DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE REGISTRATION
10:00 AM - CONVENTION CONVENES
10:15 AM - DEADLINE FOR ALTERNATE SEATING

Donations

DELEGATE FEES: \$10.00

ALTERNATE FEES: NONE for unseated Alternates wishing to attend.

The delegate fee is not mandatory. Donations, however, are always appreciated by any Democrat at any time. The Iowa Democratic Party Constitution states: "No delegate's right to fully participate or vote in any convention shall be dependent on the payment of a delegate fee."



Purpose

- Continue the process begun at the Caucuses, giving people the means to directly affect the political process
- Provide a forum for brief appearances of Democratic candidates for office
- Discuss and adopt a County Platform of legislative proposals
- Elect a County Affirmative Action Chairperson
- Elect Delegates and Alternates to the 4th District Convention in Fort Dodge on Saturday, May 2, 2026, and the State Convention in Des Moines on Saturday, June 13, 2026. *If you are elected as a District Delegate, you are automatically a State Delegate.*
- Elect Committee Members to each of the District Convention Committees
- Conduct other Party business as required

Participation and Proportional Representation

All public meetings at all levels of the Democratic Party in Iowa shall be open to all members of the Democratic Party regardless of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, economic status, or disability. In order that the Democratic Party at all levels be an open party, which includes rather than excludes people from participation, a program of effective affirmative action has been adopted by the Iowa Democratic Party. Discrimination on the basis of “status” in the conduct of Iowa Democratic Party affairs is prohibited.

All conventions of the Iowa Democratic Party shall assure that they include women, men, various age groups, and economic groups in reasonable relationship to the proportions to which these groups are found in the community they represent.

Arrangements Committee Report and General Logistical Information

The Arrangements Committee would like to thank the Midnight Garden for hosting us. Thank you for your courteous behavior while at the convention and your assistance in keeping the venue clean by picking up after yourself and others.

Logistical Information

- Location/Time/Donation
 - Location: Midnight Garden, 1501 S 17th Ave, , Marshalltown, IA 50158
 - Registration opens at 9 am and closes at 10:15 am. Doors also open at 9 am.
 - Convention will be called to order at 10 am, and is planned to end by 1 pm.
 - Seating with tables will be available for all attendees during the main business portions of the convention. Delegates will be free to sit wherever they would like during these sections of the convention. Some voting may require delegates to move around, and if that is the case, instructions will be provided for that activity.
 - Coat racks will be available when you enter, or you may put your coat on the back of your chair if you would prefer.
 - A donation of \$10 is suggested to help cover the Marshall County Democrat's expenses for the convention, including catering, room rental, etc. If you choose to support with your donation, please bring \$10 in cash (we'll try to make change available if necessary) or a check made out to *Marshall County Democrats*. We will have the ability to take credit cards via ActBlue at registration. Thank you in advance for your generous support in helping to make this event possible!
- Parking Location
 - Parking is located directly in front of the entrance. There is accessible parking available near the door with those spots marked. Please be considerate of those who are less able by utilizing parking farther away if you can. If you require additional assistance with parking arrangements, please fill out the Request for Accommodation Form in Appendix A.
 - There's space in front of the door for dropping off passengers, so feel free to utilize that space if needed.
- Food
 - Light refreshments will be available starting at 9 am when the doors open on tables inside the hall just past the registration area.

- After 11am, Midnight Garden will be serving lunch for additional cost.
- There is a refrigerator on-site that we can work with the Midnight Garden to use on the day of, so that would be available if you have food and/or medication that requires refrigeration while you are at the convention.
- Please let us know via the Request for Accommodation form in Appendix A if you need any other accommodations
- Rules regarding signs and tables
 - If you'd like to share a flyer, petition sign up, or something else with attendees at the convention, there will be an area of tables in the convention hall with space for that. Contact a member of the Arrangements committee on Convention Day if you need help displaying or sharing something in this area.
- ADA/Accessibility Plan
 - Midnight Garden is ADA compliant with respect to all facilities provided, including the main entrance, parking lots, restrooms, same level walkways and rooms, etc.
 - We have done our best to provide the following accommodations as a standard offering for all attendees:
 - Drop off location available in front of the building.
 - A small grass lawn is available out of the back of the Midnight Garden for attendees that require somewhere for their service animals to relieve themselves. Please ask an arrangements committee member for help if you would like to use that.
 - ADA compliant bathrooms
 - Refrigerator available for food or medications
 - Large Print (18-point font) Booklet available in a Large Print pdf version
 - If an attendee requires other accommodations not mentioned here, please submit the attached accommodation form in Appendix A when making your request.

2026 Arrangements Committees Members

Pat Peden
Bill Peden
Conny Schutte
Margot Hill
Suzanna Grills

Amelia Ohrt
Elizabeth Barr
Rebecca Rutishauser
Shelby Abrahams

Craig Harabedian, Chair

Nominees for District/State Committee on Committeess

Nomination for the District/State Committee on Committees (1 individual): TBD

Special thanks to volunteers who gave time on a Saturday morning to help set-up, serve food, and clean-up! Without their assistance, this convention would not be possible.

Credentials Committee Report

Registration Period for both Delegates and Alternates

The registration period for both delegates and alternates is from **one hour before the start** of the convention until **15 minutes after** the scheduled start of the convention. All delegates, alternates, and other attendees must register during the registration period.

Delegates unable to attend Convention: How to name an alternate

Delegates who are unable to attend the convention may arrange for a replacement by selecting an alternate that was elected at a precinct caucus or properly nominated themselves after caucus, and were certified by the Credentials Committee. The first consideration should be given to alternates in the same precinct as the delegate they are replacing. **The delegate assignment form in Appendix B must be completed and signed by both the delegate and the alternate.** Any alternate presenting a properly completed delegate assignment form to the Credentials Committee at Convention will be allowed to register at the convention as a delegate.

Seating of alternates if delegates do not attend and do not name an alternate

At the end of the registration period, if a delegate isn't present and fails to name an alternate in advance, certified alternates nominated at their precinct caucus or properly nominated after caucus will be seated as delegates. Overall order will be first registered, first seated, and the Credentials Committee shall seat alternates based on the following priority order:

- a. Duly elected alternates from the precinct caucuses of the same precinct as the delegate on a first come, first served basis.
- b. Duly elected alternates from the precinct caucuses and a geographically similar precinct as the delegate.
- c. Any alternate from the precinct level caucuses within the county.

The seating of alternates will commence immediately following the end of the registration period at 10:15 am. The Credentials Committee will maintain control of the alternate registration list and will facilitate the seating of alternates according to the priority outlined in this section.

Delegate Registration Procedure

Delegate registration will begin **one hour before the start** of the convention and continue until **15 minutes after** the scheduled start of the convention.

Credentials stations of the Registration Area will be located in the reception area leading into the Midnight Garden as you enter. A credentials committee member or another volunteer will

direct delegates to the correct table to receive their credentials and to be assigned their unique Delegate Credential.

Delegates should go to the Credentials Station for Delegate Check-in.

After picking up your packet, please mark on the sign in sheet so we have a record of your attendance. Finally, if you would like to participate in the suggested donation, please see the volunteer at the end of the registration area with the cash box to pay and provide your name so we can properly register your donation.

The Delegate packet will contain a delegate name badge with your name and indicator that you are a delegate, as well as a copy of the agenda/rules for reference. If your packet is missing anything, please speak to a member of the Credentials Committee in the Registration Area as soon as possible.

Any delegate challenges can be made to a member of the Credentials Committee. The committee shall consider the challenge, and the Credential Committee Chair shall make the committee's final decision known.

Alternate Registration Procedure

Alternate registration will begin **one hour before the start** of the convention and continue until **15 minutes after** the scheduled start of the convention.

The Registration Area will be located in the reception area leading into the Midnight Garden as you enter. A credentials committee member or another volunteer will direct alternates to the correct table to receive their alternate packets.

One registration table will be marked as alternate registration. Alternates should proceed to this table to sign in and receive their materials.

Following verification, alternates will be allowed to sign the Alternate Master List. This will be one factor in the order in which Alternates will be seated in open Delegate seats.

Alternates will receive an alternate name badge and a packet if seated. If your packet is missing anything, please speak to a member of the Credentials Committee in the Registration Area as soon as possible.

Upon completion of the Delegate registration, the Credentials Committee Chair will ask for a brief break in the convention business to inform the convention attendees that alternates will now be seated in open delegate seats.

A Credentials Committee Member will direct each alternate seated as a delegate to the correct registration table to receive the credentials for the delegate they are replacing. Alternates will need to initial on the sign in sheet as a delegate, and a member of the Credentials Committee will note who the alternate is replacing. Delegates will then be directed where to sit to participate in voting as a delegate.

Youth/Observers/Media/Other Attendees

Observers, youth, media and others need to sign in at the alternates table and fill in an Observer name badge. They will be directed where to sit by a member of the Credentials Committee.

Other Convention Procedure Notes

All attendees must wear their badges while at convention to help maintain order and ensure only properly credential delegates are participating in convention business.

If you are nominated as a district/state delegate or alternate, please make sure to visit the registration table and talk to a member of the credentials committee before leaving so you can fill out the delegate information form, if you have not already done so, and get important instructions on what to expect next.

If you have any questions about delegates/alternates for either county or district/state convention, feel free to ask a member of the credentials committee.

2026 Committee on Committees Members

Pat Peden
Bill Peden
Conny Schutte
Margot Hill
Suzanna Grills
Amelia Ohrt
Elizabeth Barr
Rebecca Rutishauser
Shelby Abrahams

Craig Harabedian Chair

Nominees for District/State Credentials Committee

Nomination from Credentials Committee for the District Credentials Committee (1 individual):
TBD

Agenda and General Timing

Marshall County Democratic Party Convention – 2026

Agenda Items – Including Target Time Goals

- 9 am Registration Begins and doors open (\$10 suggested donation fee helps cover the cost of the convention)
- 10 am Convention Called to Order – Announcements, Pledge of Allegiance, Introductions and Platform committee discussion begins. Candidates and dignitaries will be speaking intermittently throughout the convention as the schedules allows.
- 10:15 am Credentials Committee will close registration and call for alternates to meet at registration tables to be seated as delegates.
- 10:15 am Amendments (in writing) to the County Platform are due to the Convention Secretary.
- 10: 15 am Persons seeking to become a delegate to the District and State Conventions shall register with the Secretary to the County Convention by 10:15 am by turning in a nomination form and signing up as interested. One need not be a County Convention delegate to be elected but must be registered as a Democrat of Marshall County and be 18 years or older on November 3, 2026.
- 10:15 am Persons seeking to become the affirmative action committee chair person shall register with the credentials committee.
- 10:30 am The Chair of the Credentials Committee shall report the total number of Delegates as certified by the Credentials Committee. The Chair of the Rules Committee shall then report if quorum has been reached. The Rules Committee shall report the number of delegates to the District and State Conventions.
- 10:35 am Election of permanent convention chair and secretary.
Permanent chair nominates parliamentarian, sergeant-at-arms, and time keeper
Election of the permanent parliamentarian, sergeant-at-arms and time keeper
- 10:40 am Rules committee report and move to adopt the permanent rules
- 10:50 am The Convention as a whole shall elect interested delegates from Marshall County to serve on the District and State Convention.

- 11:00 am Election of District and State Convention alternates
- 11:10 am Election of District Convention Committee members
- 11:15 am Election of District Convention Committee alternates
- 11:20 am Election of affirmative action committee chair person
- 11:25 am Report of the Platform Committee
- 11:30 am Debate and ratification of the platform

- 12:00 pm Ratification of elections
- 12:10 pm Speeches, announcements and other business.
- 1:00 pm Target time for adjournment of the Convention is 1 pm but is subject to schedule changes.

Order of Business

1. Temporary Chair (usually the County Chair) shall convene the Convention within 15 (fifteen) minutes of the scheduled start time.
2. Temporary Chair shall appoint or nominate a Temporary Secretary, a Temporary Parliamentarian, a Temporary Time-Keeper, and a Temporary Sergeant-at-Arms (more than one of each position may be appointed).
3. Temporary Chair shall ask for a motion on Temporary Rules. Temporary Chair shall recognize Chair of the Rules and Nominations Committee, who will ask for a motion on the Temporary Rules. NOTE: The Iowa Democratic Party Constitution automatically amends and takes precedence over the Temporary and Permanent Rules.
4. Temporary Chair shall ask for a motion to make Delegates, as certified by the County Chair to the County Auditor, the temporary Delegates to the Convention.
5. Temporary Chair shall announce the Chairs of all Committees (Platform, Rules and Nominations, Credentials, and Arrangements).
6. If necessary, the Committees shall retire. The Temporary Chair will state where each Committee will meet.
7. Suggested time for announcements, introduction of special guests, candidates, and convention speakers.
8. Report of the Credentials Committee and adoption of the Credentials Committee Report by the Convention. **(It will be in order at any time for a Credentials Committee Chair to announce when quorum has been reached).**
9. Rules and Nominations Committee Chair shall nominate the Permanent Chair of the Convention. Nominations from the floor may be received. Proceed with the election of the Convention Chair. Convention Chair shall appoint or nominate Permanent Secretary, Parliamentarian, Time-Keeper and Sergeant-At-Arms. Election of Convention Officers can be offered as a slate to vote up or down.
10. The Chair of Rules and Nominations moves the adoption of the Rules and Nominations Committee report as the permanent rules of the Convention.
11. Nomination Cards for Delegates to District/State Conventions must be submitted to the Rules and Nominations table no later than fifteen (15) minutes after the adoption of the Rules and Nominations Committee report.
12. Report of the Arrangements Committee to the Convention.

13. The Chair of the Rules and Nominations Committee shall announce the numbers appointed to your County for the District Convention Committees for Credentials, Arrangements, Rules, and Platform. The Rules and Nominations Committee shall offer the nominations from the County Committees to serve on District Convention Committees
14. The Chair of the Rules and Nominations Committee announce the numbers of Delegates and Alternates apportioned to your County for the District Convention.
15. The Chair of the Rules and Nominations Committee shall explain the details of the process and election of Delegates/Alternates to the District Convention, which will be followed under the supervision of Members of the Rules and Nominations Committee.
16. The Convention Chair shall read the affirmative action statement of the National Democratic Party before conducting the election.
17. Youth Delegate Attendees (if there is a Youth Convention for your county) shall caucus separately for the purpose of electing District and State Convention Youth Delegates and Alternate Delegates.
18. The Convention will elect the Delegates/Alternates to District/State Convention, as well as the Convention Committee Members/Alternates.
19. The Convention ratifies the Delegates/Alternates and the Convention Committee Members/Alternates elected.
20. The Rules and Nominations Committee shall receive nominations for Affirmative Action Chair and then conduct the election.
21. Report of the Platform Committee. Platform Committee Chair moves adoption of the Platform as the basis to start debate. Remember to follow the rules on debate laid out by the Rules Committee. At the end of debate, Platform Committee Chair moves to approve Platform as amended.
22. Chair shall ask for a vote to ratify the elections
23. The Convention Chair will inquire as to further business to come before the Convention.
24. Adjournment.

Rules Committee Report

2026 Committee on Committees Members

Pat Peden
Bill Peden
Conny Schutte
Margot Hill
Suzanna Grills
Amelia Ohrt
Elizabeth Barr
Rebecca Rutishauser
Shelby Abrahams

Craig Harabedian, Chair

The Rules Committee offers the following rules and nominations for the 2026 Marshall County Democrats Convention.

Nominations for Positions at Convention

Temporary Convention Chair: Rebecca Rutishauser

Parliamentarian: Conny Schutte

Secretary: Monica Schneider

Sergeant-At-Arms: Jeff Kooser

Time-Keeper: Bill Peden

General Rules

Article I: Opening Activities

1. The Temporary Chair shall call the Convention to order at 10 am or as soon as practical when quorum has been reached.
2. Once a quorum is present the Convention may elect the Permanent Convention Chair.
3. Appointment or election of other convention officers shall follow.
4. The Time-Keeper will be appointed prior to the introduction of the first speaker and shall enforce time limits on speakers. Time limits will be strictly enforced for all speakers. Any delegate may call upon the Chair(s) to enforce the time limit if it is not being respected.

5. Declared Democratic candidates for offices within Marshall County, including state legislative candidates, shall be introduced and allowed to address the Convention for no more than five (5) minutes. Candidates for statewide office, and guest speakers invited by the Marshall County Central Committee, shall be introduced and allowed to address the Convention for no more than five (5) minutes. Candidates for federal office shall be introduced and allowed to address the Convention for no more than five (5) minutes. One (1) substitute or representative for a candidate may speak on behalf of a candidate if the candidate cannot be at convention in person.

Article II: Committee Reports

1. Arrangements
 - a. Shall provide a report on their activities
2. Credentials
 - a. Will report when quorum is reached to the entire Convention.
 - b. In the event of a challenge, the Credentials Committee shall include in their report the name of the delegate or alternate who believes they are entitled to participate in the Convention. The Credentials Committee shall report on each challenge in alphanumeric order by the precinct in which the challenged delegates or alternates resides.
 - c. Shall provide a report on their activities
3. Rules and Nominating
 - a. The nomination process shall be in accordance with the approved procedures by the Iowa Democratic Party Constitution and Bylaws and the supplementary recommendations of the Rules and Nomination Committee as adopted by the Convention.
 - b. Shall provide a report on their activities
4. Platform
 - a. The Platform Committee report shall include both a Statement of Principles/ Preamble, along with a Statement of Issues.
 - b. Amendments to the printed County Convention Platform shall be made in writing that is legible before 10:15 am and presented to the Secretary of the Convention by that time. Then new planks shall be considered by the Platform Committee and would be included in the presentation of the Platform, if accepted.
 - c. Presentation of the Platform shall be made by the Chairperson of the Platform Committee or his/her designee. Introduced amendments may be debated with each speaker allowed 1 minute each for or against the motion. To the extent practical, pro and con speakers will alternate up to a total of 6 minutes for each amendment. The Platform Chair is empowered to determine if motions are being made to delay or gum up the process and is empowered to act accordingly.

Article III: Registration

1. The Credentials Committee shall oversee registration at the County Convention, approve the alternate delegates with a properly signed delegate appointment form, fill delegate vacancies not previously assigned by the delegate (using the seating guide in the Credentials Committee report), and confirm the list of seated delegates at the convention by 10 am or as soon as practical.
2. **Seating of Alternates:** If a delegate is unable to attend the convention, an alternate may take their place.
 - a. A delegate may name their own alternate, from among duly elected alternates in writing on the designated form in Appendix B to the Credentials Committee.
 - b. If a delegate fails to name an alternate, the credentials committee shall seat an alternate based off the following priority order:
 - i. Duly elected alternates from the precinct caucuses of the same precinct as the delegate on a first come, first served basis.
 - ii. Duly elected alternates from the precinct caucuses of a geographically similar precinct as the delegate.
 - iii. Any alternate from the precinct level caucuses within the county,

Article IV: Special Orders of Business

1. If at any time a resolution is required for a special order of business not provided for in these rules, the Rules Committee shall evaluate the matter and report a resolution to the Convention for consideration.

Article V: Powers and Duties of the Chair(s)

1. Powers and Duties of the Permanent Chair
 - a. Expedite the business of the Convention in a fair and orderly manner
 - b. Appoint/Nominate a permanent Convention Secretary to record motions, seconds, and voting results concerning such motions. The Secretary shall perform any other duties as assigned by the Chair.
 - c. Appoint/Nominate a Parliamentarian for the Convention to assist the Chair in determining proper procedure under Robert's Rules of Order
 - d. Appoint/Nominate any delegate to assist with the duties of the Chair such as vote counters
 - e. Assign guests and alternates to a seating area separate from the voting delegates for ease of and accuracy of correct voting procedures.
 - f. Control the timing, agenda, and debate of the convention

Article VI: Voting

1. The Chair shall use a voice vote procedure when possible but may call for a division of the Convention by a standing vote if necessary.
2. Vote results shall be determined by a majority of those delegates present and voting
3. The Chair shall determine the results of any vote and declare the results to the Convention.
4. No secret, proxy, or absentee voting is permitted.
5. Voting Assistants shall be made available to those delegates who are unable to participate in a form of voting as much as practically possible.
6. For elections to positions with more than one person elected, paper ballots may be used. Each delegate shall be given paper ballots to fill out with their votes. Multiple rounds of voting may occur. See Article XII Section 3 for more information.

Article VII: Appeals

1. The Chair shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal by any seated delegate. Prior to debate, the Chair shall be entitled to briefly state the reason for their ruling. Appeals may then be debated for no more than four (4) minutes, to be equally divided between the delegate appealing and a delegate in favor of sustaining the ruling of the Chair. Upon completion of debate, the Convention shall decide by majority vote whether to sustain or overrule the decision of the Chair.
2. Appeals cannot be made during another appeal, to challenge decisions of recognition, during a ballot, or to question why an appeal that went through the entire process, including explanation by the chair, was denied.

Article VIII: Motion to Suspend the Rules

1. These Rules may be suspended for an announced specific purpose if approved by a 2/3 vote of delegates present and voting, assuming a quorum is present.

Article IX: Motions (not including amendments to Platform – See Article II, Section 4)

1. Any delegate may offer a non-procedural motion, resolution, or an amendment to a motion or resolution to the Convention from the floor orally, but it must be submitted in writing prior to voting on the non-procedural motion or resolution.
2. No motion, resolution, or amendment shall be considered by the Convention until it is seconded from the floor.

3. No motion, resolution or amendment will be considered if it disagrees with or is inconsistent with previously adopted motions or resolutions, unless the previously adopted motions or resolutions have been rescinded or reconsidered and rejected.
4. A motion to recess shall be allowed at any time, except when a question has been called or during a vote in progress. Motions to recess shall be decided by the Chair without debate.
5. A motion to recess shall be for a period of not more than fifteen (15) minutes, unless otherwise determined by the Chair, such as a one (1) hour break for a meal, if needed.
6. A motion to adjourn shall not be in order until the convention has completed all duties imposed by law or by the rules of the Democratic National Committee, the Iowa Democratic Party, or the Marshall County Democratic Party.

Article X: Debate

1. Initial debate on any questions, except as otherwise provided in the rules, shall be limited to ten (10) minutes, with proponents and opponents alternating in speeches not to exceed two (2) minutes each.
2. If desired at the end of the initial debate time, the Convention may extend, by a majority vote of the seated delegates, the debate for another ten (10) minute period.
3. Debate may be closed before the expiration of the allotted time with the approval of a majority of the delegates present.
4. On motions relating to debate time, the ruling of the Chair shall be final.

Article XI: Quorum

1. A **quorum** shall mean **forty percent (40%)** of the total delegates elected to the convention.
2. The Credentials Committee shall report to the Convention when a quorum (40% of elected delegates) is present, so that the business of the Convention may begin. No business may be conducted until quorum is achieved.

Article XII: Rules of Order

1. These rules shall be interpreted so as to be consistent with the Charter of the Democratic Party of the United States, the Constitution of the Iowa Democratic Party, the approved Delegate Selection Procedure, the report of the County Rules and Nominating Committee, and applicable state and federal laws.
2. Any point of order not covered by these rules shall be determined by reference to the most recent edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, a summary of which is provided in Appendix C of this booklet.

Delegate Selection Procedure

1. *Prior to the start of the election of delegates*, those wishing to be elected as a delegate or to any other elected position shall register by filling out a form and submitting it to a location in the County Convention as prescribed by the Convention Chair by 10:15 am. Any person including a person not a delegate to the County Convention may place their name on the register for consideration. A candidate for a district/state delegate position need not be a delegate or alternate to the county convention but must be 18 years old of age by Election Day, Tuesday, November 3, 2026; be registered as a Democrat within the county from which they are seeking election; and must support the purposes of the Iowa Democratic Party. Note that District Convention delegates are automatically State Convention delegates and must be willing to attend both or find an alternate to attend in their place.
2. The selection of delegates to District and State Conventions cannot commence until all of the following events have taken place:
 - a. The close of registration
 - b. The announcement of the final tally of delegates, including alternates seated as delegates, by the Credentials Committee, which will be used to verify quorum
 - c. The announcement of the approved delegate selection procedures is presented by the Rules and Nominations Committee
3. The following voting procedures for **electing District and State Convention delegates and alternates** shall be used at the County Convention:
 - a. A total of 10 delegates from Marshall County shall be elected at the District/State Convention.
 - b. All elections relating to the selection of district/state convention delegates/alternates will be supervised and monitored by the appropriate county rules committee chair or designee.
 - c. As a first action, the Convention Chair shall read the affirmative action statement of the National Democratic Party before conducting the election.

“All public meetings at all levels of the Democratic Party in Iowa shall be open to all members of the Democratic Party regardless of race, sex, age, color, creed, national origin, religion, ethnic identity, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, economic status, or disability. In order that the Democratic Party at all levels be an open party, which includes rather than excludes people from participation, a program of effective affirmative action has been adopted by the Iowa Democratic Party. Discrimination on the basis of “status” in the conduct of Iowa Democratic Party affairs is prohibited.”

- d.** The procedure to be used to elect district/state delegates is as follows:
- i.** All delegates and party members who desire to run for district/state delegate positions and who have signed up prior to the election of delegates shall inform the Convention Chair. These candidates for the delegate positions shall be tracked on a list.
 - ii.** Additional names may be submitted for nomination from the floor. Persons need not be present to be elected, but all candidates must meet the requirements laid out in Point #1 of the Delegate Selection Procedure. Anyone present who is nominated may accept or decline a nomination before voting begins.
 - iii.** Candidates for the delegate positions can be listed on a ballot and lettered or numbered, or may be voted with a voice vote from a displayed or named list depending on the preference of the Convention Chair.
 - iv.** Each delegate or alternate, who is an authorized member of the convention empowered to vote on the election of the candidate or candidates, shall do so by casting a ballot or voting in the voice vote, depending on which procedure is selected.
 - v.** In accordance with the National Party Charter, delegates will vote using a signed or identified ballot if ballots are selected. While nominees need not be present, all those who are voting must be present to vote.
 - vi.** The ballots, if used, shall be collected and counted under the authority of the Rules and Nominations Committee.
 - vii.** If many candidates are presented, multiple rounds of voting may be used to select or elect no more than a simple majority of the position(s) being sought by the candidates. If the numbers or positions to fill is fewer than five (5), each elector shall vote for the number of candidates equal to the number of positions to be filled. To be elected in the first round of voting, a delegate must receive at least 50% of the votes cast. When those elected have been tabulated, the name of those candidates meeting the "at least 50% of votes cast" criteria shall be read. Balloting shall continue until all delegate positions have been filled. The 2nd ballot then proceeds with no more than a simple majority of remaining seats to be filled, etc. Everyone must vote for the exact number to be elected on that round of voting or else all ballots are spoiled and must be voted again with the correct number of names voted.
 - viii.** Balloting or voice voting shall continue until all delegate positions have been filled.
- e.** If at any time the number of persons seeking to be a delegate is equal to or less than the number of delegate seats to be elected, then these procedures may be suspended, and all remaining delegate positions may be voted as a slate with one election.
- f.** The Convention Chair shall report the results of the delegate election to the Secretary of the Convention for proper reporting to the Convention and officials

at the Iowa Democratic Party. If ballots are used, all of those should be provided to the Rules and Nominations committee chair. These ballots shall be preserved until the conclusion of the Democratic National Convention.

- g. The Convention shall then proceed to elect its alternates. Any number of alternates can be elected. This may be done with one ballot.
 - h. **The contact information for all duly elected delegates and alternates shall be provided to the credentials chair of the convention no later than 30 minutes after the conclusion of the convention.** This includes the complete, legible names, addresses (including emails if identified), and phone numbers of anyone chosen as a seated delegate or alternate at the District and State Conventions.
4. The procedure for **election of District Convention committee members** shall be as follows:
- a. The number of members to be elected by each county convention to the District Convention committees has been apportioned in a manner using a proportional representation system based on the most recent presidential and gubernatorial results.
 - i. 1 total committee members for the District Platform Committee will come from Marshall County
 - ii. 1 total committee members for the District Committee on Committees will come from Marshall County.
 - iii. Committee members shall be elected by the convention at large.
 - b. At least three (3) days prior to the county convention, each of the county conventions committees shall nominate individuals to serve on the corresponding committee at the District Convention.
 - c. Additional nominations may be made from the floor.
 - d. When there are no further nominations, or upon an adoption of a motion to cease nominations, the convention chair shall, after giving any nominee the opportunity to decline the nomination, conduct an election to fill the allotted positions.
 - e. A simple majority vote of the delegates present and voting shall be required to elect District Convention committee members.
5. The Convention will also **elect an Affirmative Action Chair**. This person is also the chair of the County Affirmative Action Committee. The election for this position shall proceed as follows:
- a. Nominations and self-nominations for one (1) person to serve as the District Affirmative Action committee member will be taken from the floor.
 - b. When there are no further nominations, the Chair shall give any nominee the opportunity to accept or decline.
 - c. Once all nominees who have accepted or declined, the Chair shall proceed with the election of the County Affirmative Action Chair by voice vote, show of hands, or a single ballot vote, depending on which method the Chair selects.

6. The entire convention shall ratify the election of the entire slate of delegates and alternates to the district and state convention, as well as all candidates for committee representation. Ratification shall mean only that it is the sense of the convention that the procedures used by the various preference groups were in conformity with required procedures under the Constitution of the Iowa Democratic Party and under applicable convention procedures and rules. The standard policies concerning challenges and minority reports shall apply. Once ratified, the results shall be recorded by the Secretary.

7. **All nominees for committees, including the Affirmative Action Chair and the nominees to District committees, will need to provide their contact information to the credentials chair of the convention no later than 30 minutes after the conclusion of the convention.** This includes the complete names, addresses (including emails if identified), and phone numbers. This information will be provided to the Iowa State Democratic Party after the convention.

Platform Committee Report

2026 Platform Committee Members

Agriculture, Labor, & Environment

Sue Blaisdell
Bonnie Grimmus
Roberto Gonzalez
Eldon Schneider

Economy & Health Care

Jeff Kooser
Barbara Shibe
Kelli Newton

Education & Human Services

Mandy Fox
Teresa Walker
Keith Oleson
Diane Oleson

Gov't, Immigration, International Affairs

Roberto Gonzalez
Barbara Shibe

Diedre Taylor, Chair

Nominations for District Committee

Nominations from Platform Committee for the District Platform Committee (1 individuals):

Diedre Taylor

2026 MARSHALL COUNTY DEMOCRATIC PARTY PLATFORM

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

The legitimate function of government is to accomplish those social goals which we cannot achieve as individuals. We believe in and will continue to work for a truly representative government. We will work for the good of the people over greed and profit. We will be compassionate, progressive, responsible, and fair. We will strive to achieve peace, prosperity, and a national outlook of confidence and hope. We support America's historic role as a leader in the search for a just and peaceful world.

All Americans have a stake in local, national, and global economic systems. We believe that these systems should ultimately provide for basic human needs: nourishment, shelter, health, employment, and education. We must provide accessible, affordable, and quality education to all Iowans. We value education as an investment in Iowa's future.

We are stewards of our natural resources. We therefore expect our governing bodies develop policies and laws that will permanently protect our environment from wasteful and indiscriminate use. Clean air, healthful water, and diverse ecosystems, including our national parks, waterways, and native ecosystems, are part of our children's future and must be protected.

Whenever the rights of any of our citizens are threatened, the rights of all are endangered. We are obligated to preserve, protect, and secure basic constitutional and civil rights. We believe in a government which consistently and fairly serves and protects all people. We believe in a government that protects all individuals and assures equal opportunities for all. We value the safety of all those within our borders.

A strong economy is built by the labor of citizens and should be protected by responsible government policies. We believe it is the government's mandate to act in the best interest of its citizens and to ensure industry treats them equitably, fairly compensates them, and provides them with comprehensive health insurance. We believe a work force composed of happy and healthy citizens will expand the economy and foster innovation.

The spirit that animates America's oldest political party is alive throughout the world. We continue to stand with people everywhere who demand freedom, justice and opportunity. We are justly proud of our Democratic Party, its heritage, its accomplishments and its diversities. No part of that heritage is more valuable than our belief in and advocacy for the rights and worth of everyone.

Agriculture & Environment (AE)

Water, Air, and Soil Quality (WAS)

We support a substantial monitoring system to identify the sources of nitrate in the waterways of Iowa.

We support additional funding for aquifer evaluation.

We oppose large scale agribusiness, vertically integrated CAFOs, and call for a moratorium on further development.

We support an environmental impact study to be completed on vertically integrated CAFOs.

We support legislation that requires EVERYONE to be held accountable for adhering to regulations regarding water, air, and soil quality.

We support the development of responsible land use policies by the state and legislation that would actively engage local citizens in the planning process.

We support costs remediation of damages to be borne by the polluters.

Environmental Enhancement & Regulation (ER)

We support wildlife management professionals being the primary decision makers on wildlife population control, not politicians or bureaucrats.

We support increased funding for the many existing conservation programs, and expansion of conservation land.

We support the ability of conservation programs to purchase or be gifted land for expanded public access.

We oppose the sale of our national lands, as well as mineral and other underground rights, especially when their extraction will damage the resulting habitats.

We support tracking methane and other greenhouse gases and mitigating them after identifying the sources and means to mitigate them.

We support the monitoring and regulation of methane and other greenhouse gases.

We support the remediation of existing lead pollutants in water supplies and housing.

Environmentally Safe Energy (SE)

We support maximizing ENERGY EFFICIENCY throughout our energy policy rather than increasing the amount of energy available.

We support the research, development and use of bio-based fuels, wind, water, solar and geothermal energy, including applicable energy storage, for conservation and local job creation. It is now time to rethink regulation related to biofuels which, along with factory farming, has resulted in increased acreage of corn at the expense of food security and safe drinking water for the citizens of Iowa.

We support more information about the use of nuclear energy with research and demonstration of valid and safe ways to reuse or to dispose of nuclear waste.

We support regulation on coal combustion waste disposal.

We support regulation requiring utility companies to purchase excess power generated from renewable energy sources, both private and commercial, at reasonable rates.

We support measures to address climate change. **(Is this measurable?)**

Bottle Bill & Recycling (BB)

We support the development of a comprehensive statewide recycling program, both urban and rural, that includes recycling plastic bottles, paper, cardboard, rare metals, and applicable automotive and electronics parts.

Consumer Choice & Food Safety (FS)

We support the right of citizens to know what is in their food and where it comes from and demand honest labeling of country of origins of all foods.

We support the production and use of healthful, sustainable, and renewable products.

We support fair pricing aligned with the true cost of food production.

Agricultural Policy (AP)

We support a grain reserve and supply management restricted for US food shortages and natural disasters.

To have a just and sustainable agriculture system, we support a parity priced support system that reflects inflationary costs of farming including family living expenses.

We support diversified family farm non-confinement livestock operations, which include grazing and diverse rotated cropping systems.

We oppose dumping of underpriced U.S. grains on the world market that destroy family farmers and disrupt rural economies in other nations.

We support efforts to improve income opportunities for small farming operations, including income from sustainable energy production on site.

We support a prohibition of packer ownership of all types of livestock.

We support funding to promote local, small-scale and organic food production.

We oppose laws that would prevent neighbors from suing livestock owners that file manure and odor management plans but fail to follow them.

We support agricultural subsidy programs that are available to and support all producers of diverse crops, not just to producers of commodities.

We oppose the use of “forever chemicals” (fluorinated compounds) being used as herbicides and pesticides.

We oppose the use of neonicotinoid pesticides such as sulfoxaflor being used within a two-mile radius of any registered bee colony, truck garden, established wildlife and monarch habitat area.

We support banning the use of neonicotinoid pesticides.

We support increased funding for the existing conservation programs, and the expansion of conservation land.

Economy, Commerce & Labor (EC)

Worker's Rights & Safety (WR)

We support the right of workers to organize into unions and bargain collectively for wages and benefits.

We oppose all union-busting efforts from employers, lobbyists, and legislative bodies.

We support the worker's right to overtime wages and oppose efforts to limit its applicability.

We support legislation that would restore public sector employee bargaining rights.

We support legislation that would establish public sector employees' right to strike.

Pension & Insurance (PL)

We support the right of the worker to his/her pension benefits and believe that they should be made primary in the case of bankruptcy.

We support legislation that will preserve, diversify, and strengthen retirement systems for employees.

Economic Development (ED)

We support economic development that creates or aids local small businesses to create jobs in small towns and rural areas.

We support the focus of financial and technical assistance for small businesses with less than 100 employees.

We support promoting investment in Iowa lands by First Nations, Iowans, and other US citizens, as opposed to investments by corporations and international individuals and entities with no stake in our communities, institutions, and environment.

We support restructuring our economy to restore domestic production and manufacturing, strengthen the supply chain, and increase storage to limit reliance on foreign imports.

Living Wage (LW)

We expect the federal and state minimum wage to be increased to a living wage, adjusting annually with inflation.

Transportation Services (TS)

We support improving local public transportation.

We support more development of passenger and freight rail services.

We support increasing gas taxes or road use fees by registration to improve infrastructure.

Job Security (JS)

We support educational incentives for those who lose their jobs through downsizing.

We support increased funding for job training and educational grants.

We support funding childcare services for those receiving education or job training while unemployed, under-employed or low-income.

We support empowering Chapter 20 collective bargaining rights for AFSCME-

Securities Trading (ST)

We support the strengthening and enforcement of antitrust laws.

We support legislation that will ban federal and state legislators, government executives, and their staff from trading in the stock market.

Budget & Taxation (BT)

We oppose tax breaks for businesses that subsidize moving jobs to other countries.

We oppose disproportionate cuts to programs that support the poor and vulnerable.

We expect all corporations to pay at least 5% AMT (Alternate Minimum Tax).

We oppose increases to the sales tax to offset a decrease to income tax.

We support repealing the flat tax and reinstating a progressive income tax.

Education (ED)

Higher Education (HE)

We support robust allocations for Iowa's community colleges.

We support full funding of independent research at state universities.

We support funding for research in disability prevention and support.

We support a lower interest rate for student loans toward employment in non-profit sectors.

We support making post-secondary education more affordable and more accessible.

We support diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) programming in higher education.

We support allowing Community Colleges to develop bachelor's degree programs for specific areas of need that are not duplication of education programs offered in a nearby geographic area (such as nursing, cyber security, etc.).

Special Needs (SN)

We support full and adequate financing for IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act).

We believe that Iowa's AEAs (Area Education Agencies) provide essential services and cost saving programs to Iowa school districts and should be adequately funded.

We support the AEA's responsibilities in providing special and regular education services for people with disabilities.

We believe in equitable funding in the special education system.

We believe in access to mental health services within the education system.

We support that special education students should not be segregated in separate buildings/facilities from general education students unless indicated appropriate by evaluations Individual Education Plans (IEPs), and parental agreement.

School Funding (SF)

We support legislation that would adequately fund our pre-kindergarten through 12th grade public education system.

We oppose spending public money for private schools and support state monies going solely to state's public schools.

We support state oversight and accountability for homeschool and online education.

We support legislation that would increase graduation rates and college success of all students by the proper funding of state money.

We oppose earmarking education dollars for specific programs at the expense of education general fund state aid increases.

We support greater funding for vocational and work study programs.

We support the extension of the SAVE (Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements) sunset for an additional 20-year period and oppose the diversion of the resources for this program for any other uses by the Legislature and/or Executive Branch.

We support legislation that addresses the inequities of transportation per-pupil costs for school districts with higher than the state average per-pupil transportation costs.

If the legislature provides corporate tax relief from excess annual funding, we support the appropriation of equivalent or greater funding for school supplemental aid.

We support paying teachers and paraeducators a competitive wage that matches that of other professionals for similar levels of work demands, education, and training.

We support, if the voucher system continues, income guidelines are developed and used to determine who is eligible for a school voucher based on income.

We support if the voucher system continues, non-public schools must provide the state financial data to how the money vouchers was utilized in the same manner as public schools.

Tools for Learning (TL)

We support K-12 age-appropriate education that accurately reflects the world we live in.

We oppose legislation that seeks to censor specific topics or subjects such as passed (k-6 and proposed 7-12th grade) "Don't say gay." Efforts such as these increase mental health risks, creates a chilling effect on students and teachers, and in many cases have been overturned in courts as overly broad and violations of free speech.

We expect performing and non-performing arts to be a vigorous part of every K-12 program.

We support the continuing of physical education and other opportunities for vigorous physical exercise to be a part of every K-12 program.

We support full funding of early childhood programs including Head Start, and community-based or in-home early childhood programs.

We support the expansion of early childhood programs to include all three- and four-year-olds while increasing public funding.

We support all children be allowed to use both public and local libraries without interference from the Iowa legislature and the parents are the sole decision maker as to what books their and only their child can check out.

We support accurate US history being taught in all schools, and teaching of all our history, including white history that show the negative actions of white people.

Standards (ST)

We expect all Iowa schools, even non-public schools and home educators, to be accredited by the Iowa Department of Education; therefore, we support repealing Iowa Code 256.11 subsection 16.

We oppose all school districts allowing teachers and other staff members to carry guns while performing job duties.

We oppose the legislature prohibiting or mandating specific curriculum for public school grades pre-K through 12.

We support the requirement all students entering Iowa schools receive all vaccinations as required by their family doctor in grades Pre-K through 12.

We support access to and provision of mental/emotional health services be provided by licensed mental health professionals in the education system.

School Governance (SG)

We support the Iowa Department of Education and the State Board of Education in their role in approving standards and curriculum for public schools.

We support adequate funding for the Iowa Department of Education and the State Board of Education.

We support legislation governing the manner of election of school board members so that at least 2 sitting members will remain on any school board uncontested after an election is held.

Students' Rights (SR)

We support the application of just and equitable treatment of all students in Iowa's public schools regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, sexual orientation or gender identification.

We support the repeal of all laws targeting students based on their sexual preferences or gender identifications.

Government & Law (GL)

Campaigns & Elections (CE)

We support legislation which enshrines and enforces the separation of duties and checks and balances as outlined in our state and federal constitutions.

We support the right of every eligible US citizen to vote.

We support efforts to bolster election security including a paper trail for every ballot.

We support coding every ballot to allow voters to verify online that the ballot was counted.

We support campaign finance reform.

We oppose political campaigns accepting donations from corporations and foreign entities, like Israel and Russia, etc.

We support campaign finance disclosures being expanded and regularly reported publicly.

We support county level elected officials being non-partisan.

We support Iowa being the first in the nation to hold a presidential nominating contest.

Civil Rights (CR)

We oppose classifying corporations as "persons"; they should not have the same rights as individuals.

We support distinguishing the rights of corporations and individuals so that the rights of individuals take precedence over, and aren't diminished by, the rights of corporations.

We support equal treatment in employment and housing for all residents.

We support laws that make racial profiling illegal.

We support allowing an X to denote an individual's non-binary gender on ID cards.

Taxes & Social Security (TS)

We support additional funding for the IRS so that it can focus on identifying and prosecuting individuals and corporations for tax crimes.

We support revising the tax code to eliminate loopholes.

We support updating Social Security so that it maintains current benefits while keeping this vital program viable for future generations.

We support strengthening Social Security by removing the cap on income subject to Social Security taxes.

Government Services (GS)

We oppose the privatization of government services.

We support the creation of diverse panels made up of experts and laypersons to periodically review the rules and regulations of state agencies.

We support adequate funding for the enforcement of rules and regulations that protect the interests of the general public.

We support the issuance of identification cards to all citizens who cannot afford them. These cards will allow them to vote, be employed, and access other services available to them.

We oppose the banning of books from public spaces and are opposed to any retaliation directed at those who aid in their dissemination.

Reproductive Rights (RR)

We oppose all efforts by the government which restrict access to reproductive services, procedures, or age-appropriate education.

We support the right to make decisions about whether to choose adoption, end a pregnancy, or continue a pregnancy should be made by pregnant persons with the counsel of their family and their health care provider. Politicians should not be involved in anyone's personal medical decisions about their reproductive health or pregnancy.

We support protections to access all types of reproductive health care, including in vitro fertilization (IVF).

We support restoring the protections of Roe v. Wade in federal law for all women in every state.

We support making termination of non-viable or life-threatening pregnancies available to all.

Criminal Justice (CJ)

We support issuing life-in-prison without the possibility of parole instead of the death penalty.

We support automatically restoring voting rights to people who have served their sentences.

We support increasing treatment alternatives to incarceration.

We oppose the use of for-profit prisons.

We support mandating the use of police dash cameras and body cameras, and we support the recording being readily available to defendants and their representatives.

We support eliminating or reducing long sentences for nonviolent drug-related offenses with increased funding for drug courts, rehabilitation, and treatment services.

We support an increase in federal and state funding for our publicly funded and operated correctional facilities.

Drug Control (DC)

We support the legalization, regulation, and taxation of marijuana for recreational use.

We support recreational drugs following the same regulations as alcoholic beverages, unless a more stringent law is passed regarding recreational drugs.

We support the revenue earned from the taxation of recreational drugs being used to fund the regulation of, and rehabilitation from, drug use.

We support the immediate release of people who were incarcerated for nonviolent marijuana-related offenses upon its legalization.

We support the expungement of criminal records related to nonviolent marijuana-related offenses on a case-by-case basis.

Immigration & Refugees (IM)

We support cooperation with other countries in the establishment of a flexible, needs-based system for guest worker visas for workers in seasonal occupations.

We support a moratorium on detentions and deportation programs, except in the case of criminal conviction.

We support comprehensive immigration reform to protect human rights and liberty. We support providing legal services by a well-equipped staff and preserving family unity and support.

We support involving an immigrant's home country during the immigration process when the home country is willing to share such information and when cooperation does not put undue risk upon the immigrant.

We support increasing the availability of personnel to process immigration applications.

We support and encourage the resettlement of properly-vetted refugees in Iowa.

We support due process with increased funding for immigration courts.

We support increased funding and oversight of border security agencies.

We support DACA and support providing legal ways for DACA recipients to fulfill their educational goals.

Internet (IN)

We support the expansion of affordable, high-speed internet access to rural areas and communities across Iowa.

Consumer Protection (CP)

We support residents' private right of action, the ability to enforce their rights under a given statute.

Marriage (MA)

We oppose restrictions upon the right to marriage between consenting adults.

Military and Veterans (MV)

We oppose a draft, or the forced enlisting of individuals to fight in a war.

We support adequately funding medical and social services for Veterans and their families.

We support the armed services return to being self-sufficient and end the wasteful practice of contracting skilled jobs to private firms.

We support funding for the thousands of homeless veterans.

Eminent Domain (ED)

We oppose non-governmental entities using eminent domain for private profit.

Reasonable Gun Regulation (GR)

We support reinforcing the federal background check system by increasing funding, and mandating the system receive reports on individuals charged with domestic abuse, violent crimes, and those who have shown signs of danger toward themselves or others.

We support the restriction of assault weapons and high capacity clips to citizens who have not passed a background check, undergone rigorous training, and licensing requirements.

We support measures that would require all firearms to be stored unloaded and locked in a storage container or with a trigger lock when not in use.

We support legislation which lessens the risks to society while increasing accountability and legal responsibility of gun owners to ensure legal possession and use of owned firearms. Gun owners must assume responsibility for any damage or destruction done with weapons in their legal possession, whether the damage was done by them or not.

Health & Human Services (HH)

Universal Health Coverage (UH)

We maintain that affordable, quality health care is a human right and support Medicare for all.

Child Protection (CP)

We support a child's right to a safe, stable home, health care, education, food and prevention of mental, physical and sexual abuse.

Stem Cell Research (SC)

We support the funding of stem cell research.

Homeless Services (HS)

We support funding for housing, food, clothing, and heating (the essentials of life) for low-income and homeless people.

Standards of Quality (SQ)

We support healthcare that enables and motivates people to become and stay healthy.

We support continued funding for, and access to, public transportation, home health care, and safe extended care facilities for elders and persons with disabilities.

Health Care Costs (CC)

We support healthcare policy that emphasizes efficient, low cost administration, prescriptions, wellness care, prenatal care, mental health care, dental care, eye care, and long-term care.

We support adequate and sufficient state and federal funding for enforcement of current regulations and operating expenses of public health care facilities.

We support empowering the government to negotiate pharmaceutical pricing.

Independence (IN)

We support enabling people with disabilities to maintain their independence by providing them with support services and assistance.

We support income requirements to qualify for public services being adjusted with inflation.

Medicare & Medicaid (MC/MD)

We support the increase from the federal government to Iowa's Medicare reimbursement rate.

We support the reduction in costs of Medicare through computerized record keeping, negotiation with both medical and pharmaceutical providers, and by ending fraud and abuse. We oppose the privatization of Medicaid.

Mental Health (MH)

We support legislation that increases funding for, and expands accessibility to, and presence of, existing mental health programs, particularly in Iowa's rural areas, where access is minimal.

Sex Crimes & Domestic Violence (SC/DV)

We demand that all victims of sex crimes (including but not limited to sexual abuse, sexual assault, and rape) and domestic violence are entitled to supportive care and advocacy, especially as it pertains to medical and legal matters.

We support legislation that expands support for victims of sex crimes and domestic violence.

International Affairs (IA)

The Rule of Law (RL)

We support US and the International Criminal Court as the proper venue for prosecuting crimes against and by the United States; political considerations should not enter decisions or criminal prosecutions.

We expect that all individuals and corporations be held to the same standards of justice, regardless of wealth or status.

Humane Treatment (HT)

We support America's return to its treaty obligations under the Geneva Conventions and Convention against Torture, abroad and at home.

We oppose human and sex trafficking.

Foreign Allies (FA)

We support expediting refugee confirmations of all those who assisted the US military in the past two decades and are currently seeking asylum and safety in the US.

We support expediting citizenship applications for foreign allies who served in the US military.

Response to Terrorism (RT)

We oppose any pre-emptive attacks against sovereign nations.

We support diplomatic responses to terrorist attacks, not retaliatory responses. If diplomacy is impossible, then we support organizing with the world community to impose sanctions.

We oppose any president declaring war without Congress approval.

International Trade Policy (TP)

We oppose Fast Track trade negotiations.

We oppose the importations of products made by slave or child labor.

We support trade agreements that benefit all partners equitably and do not cause people to emigrate or devalue human resources.

Nuclear Policy (NP)

We support reinstating the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (Iran Nuclear Deal), renewing the New START Treaty, and ratifying the United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.

Acknowledgements

Thank you to all the delegates, alternates, observers, and all other attendees for your participation in the Marshall County Convention! Your support and grassroots activism make our county party a success.

A special thank you to the committee co-chairs and the committee members for donating their time and their efforts to make this a successful convention! We appreciate your dedication to late nights/long meetings, and arranging all the little details that are required for an event this size. Your efforts allow us to have a County Convention that we can all be proud of.

The leadership of the Marshall County Democrats looks forward to working with all of you to elect Democrats who will strive to achieve our goals and will work to uphold the ideals that make the Democratic Party strong.

Appendix A: Request for Accommodation Form

REQUEST FOR ACCOMMODATION FORM

Iowa Democrats strive to make all of our events and meetings accessible to all who wish to attend. Reasonable requests will be fulfilled as outlined in the Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended. To provide necessary accommodations please complete the form below and return it no later than Friday, March 20. Please send the completed form to:

Marshall County Democrats, PO Box 152, Marshalltown, 50158.

If you require assistance to complete this REQUEST FOR ACCOMMODATION FORM or if you prefer to make your request digitally, e-mail chair@marshallcountyiadems.org

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

County: _____ ZIP Code: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Requested Accommodation(s):

Check all that apply.

- I will have a service animal
- I will need to use a refrigerator/freezer.
- I will need to use a quiet room
- Large Print Program 18 point font
- I have a power wheelchair
- I have a push wheelchair
- Preferential seating (please describe below)
- Dietary
- None
- Other: (please describe below)

Appendix B: Alternate Designation Form

Instructions for completing the Alternate Designation Form

- A delegate may name their own alternate, from among duly elected alternates in writing on the designated form to the credentials committee.

ALTERNATE DESIGNATION FORM

Designed alternates must have this form completed and signed by the delegate they are to replace in order to receive their credentials at the 2026 Marshall County Convention.

I, _____, a delegate from _____ and
Print Name Precinct
_____ hereby authorize _____ to replace me
County Print Replacement Name
as a delegate to the _____ County Convention.
County Name

Delegate Signature _____
Delegate Phone _____
Delegate Address _____
Delegate City and Zip _____

Alternate Signature _____
Alternate Phone _____
Alternate Address _____
Alternate City and Zip _____

Appendix C: Robert's Rules of Order Summary

Robert's Rules

Robert's Rules of Order Motions Chart Based on Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (10th Edition)

Part 1, Main Motions. These motions are listed in order of preference. A motion can be introduced if it is higher on the chair than the pending motion. "S" stands for the section within Robert's Rules.

S:	Purpose:	You Say:	Interrupt?	2nd ?	Debate?	Amended?	Vote?
21	Close meeting	I move to adjourn	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
20	Take break	I move to recess for	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
19	Register complaint	I rise to a question of privilege	Yes	No	No	No	None
18	Make follow agenda	I call for the orders of the day	Yes	No	No	No	None
17	Lay aside temporarily	I move to lay the question on the table	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
16	Close debate	I move the previous questions	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
15	Limit or extend debate	I move that debate be limited to	No	Yes	No	Yes	2/3
14	Postpone to a certain time	I move to postpone the motion to	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
13	Refer to committee	I move to refer the motion to	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
12	Modify wording of motion	I move to amend the motion by	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
11	Kill main motion	I move that the motion be postponed indefinitely	No	Yes	Yes	No	Majority

10	Bring business before assembly (a main motion)	I move that (or to)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
23	Enforce rules	Point of order	Yes	No	No	No	None
24	Submit matter to the assembly	I appeal from the decision of the chair	Yes	Yes	Varies	No	Majority
25	Suspend rules	I move to suspend the rules	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
26	Avoid main motion altogether	I object to the consideration of the question	Yes	No	No	No	2/3
27	Divide motion	I move to divide the questions	No	Yes	No	Yes	Majority
29	Demand a rising vote	I move for a rising vote	Yes	No	No	No	None
33	Parliamentary law questions	Parliamentary inquiry	Yes	No	No	No	None
33	Request for information	Point of information	Yes	No	No	No	None

Part 2, Motions that bring a question again before the assembly. No order of precedence.
Introduce only when nothing else is pending.

S:	Purpose:	You Say:	Interrupt?	2nd ?	Debate?	Amend?	Vote?
34	Take matter from table	I move to take from the table	No	Yes	No	No	Majority
35	Cancel previous action	I move to rescind	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	2/3 or Majority with notice
37	Reconsider motion	I move to reconsider	No	Yes	Varies	No	Majority

Appendix D: Who's Who at the County Convention for Reference Committees

Arrangements Committee - responsible for arranging appropriate facilities and equipment for the conducting of the County Convention (ensuring compliance with the ADA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act), causing the Convention Booklet to be created and made available to Delegates, Alternates, and responding to Requests for Accommodation.

Credentials Committee - responsible for ensuring that delegates and alternates are eligible to participate, and for the seating of delegates and alternates. Members of this Committee staff the registration tables. They also report on any disputed delegate and/or alternate subject to a vote of the delegation, pursuant to Article X of the Iowa Democratic Party Constitution. The Credentials Committee also prepares the envelopes for registration and provides each delegate with a "credential", which identifies the delegate to the Rules Committee as a person eligible to vote during the Convention.

Rules and Nominations Committee – responsible for drafting such rules and regulations as are necessary to conduct the business of the Convention. Members of this committee also oversee elections on voting.

Platform Committee – reviews individual planks from the precinct caucuses and provides a Platform Committee Report for consideration by the convention delegation.

Convention Officers

Temporary Convention Chair— (appointed by the County Chair) The position of Temporary Convention Chair opens the convention and presides over the convention until a Permanent Chair is elected.

Appointee: Rebecca Rutishauser

Permanent Convention Chair— An effective Convention Chair moves the convention through the required processes smoothly, competently and has a basic awareness of parliamentary procedure. If the chair is an accredited delegate, they can vote on all motions and participate in preference group breakouts.

Nominees: Rebecca Rutishauser

Parliamentarian—The Parliamentarian serves as a technical counsel to the chair on parliamentary procedure. Normally the chair appoints the Parliamentarian in order to ensure they have a good working relationship. This person should understand the rules and procedures of the convention as well as Robert's Rules of Order.

Appointees or Nominees: Conny Schutte

Secretary— The Secretary has the responsibility to make an accurate record of the decisions reached. It may be helpful to electronically record the proceedings.

Appointees or Nominees: Monica Schneider

Sergeant-At-Arms— A Sergeant-At-Arms may assist the Chair in maintaining order in the convention hall, especially in large conventions. One or more Sergeant-At-Arms may be appointed by the County Chair or the Temporary Convention Chair, or may be nominated by the Rules and Nominations Committee.

Appointees or Nominees: Jeff Kooser

Time-Keeper—The Time-keeper has the responsibility to ensure proper allotment of time is being adhered to while sections of the platform are being debated and during any other convention action that have time requirements.

Appointees or Nominees: Bill Peden

Elected Positions with Nominations at Convention

District/State Convention Delegates —The County Convention delegation will elect Delegates to represent the county at the District and State Convention. **The same delegates elected to the District Convention are also delegates to the State Convention. Anyone can nominate themselves to be a delegate at District/State convention. You need not be a county convention delegate in order to go on to represent Marshall County at District/State Convention.**

District/State Convention Alternates —The County Convention delegation will elect Alternates to represent the county at the District and State Convention if a Delegate is unable to attend all or part of either convention. An Alternate who gets seated as a Delegate at the District Convention is still an Alternate to the State Convention.

District Convention Committee Members —The County Convention delegate will elect committee members to represent the county at the District Convention. The County Convention committees should put together a list of who they plan to nominate for these positions at least three (3) days prior to the County Convention.

County Affirmative Action Chair —This position shall promote the recruitment of new members into the County Democratic Party and encourage their full participation with particular concern toward those groups that have been historically under-represented within the Iowa Democratic Party

Additional Attendees

Youth Delegates —These delegates are older than 13 but will not be 18 by Election Day and should be provided special programming that could include: Youth Platform development, election of Youth Delegates to the District/State Convention, and other activities designed by the County Party.

Press & Observers —Press and observers are welcome to observe any proceedings of the County Convention as long as they do not disrupt or interfere with the Convention.

Appendix E: Timeline from County Convention to State Convention for Reference

MARCH-----

March 21 County Conventions

March 23 Deadline to submit information to the IDP. Delegates and Alternates to the District/State Conventions, District Convention Committee members, County Affirmative Action Chair

APRIL-----

April 3 Deadline for District Convention committees to nominate individuals for State committees.

April 3 Deadline for District Convention credentials challenges to be made

April 3 Deadline to distribute District Convention booklets

April 3 Deadline for State Chair to appoint Temporary State Convention Committee chairs

MAY-----

May 2 District Convention in Fort Dodge, IA

JUNE-----

June 13 State Convention in Des Moines, IA