

# Linn County Republican Party 2010 County Convention

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## Location

The Linn County Convention will be held on Saturday, March 6, 2010, at the Cedar Rapids Marriott, 1200 Collins Rd NE. Registration begins at 7:45 a.m. and lunch will be provided.

Cost: \$38.00 including lunch  
\$8.00 junior delegates

## Convention Agenda

7:45 a.m. Registration

8:30 a.m. Meeting called to order

Invocation

Pledge of Allegiance

Introduction of Legislators, Candidates and other dignitaries. (Candidates will be recognized and allowed to speak as they arrive during the day.)

Dismissal of Junior Delegates

Report of the Credentials Committee

Election of Convention Permanent Chair

Chair appoints convention officers

Report of the Rules Committee

Election of District Delegates and Alternates

Election of Members to District Standing Committees: Platform (2), Rules (1), Credentialing (1)

Platform Discussion

11:15 a.m. / Convention Recess

11:30 a.m. / Lunch

Continue Platform Discussion

Report from Junior Delegates

Other Business

Adjournment

## Proposed Convention Rules

1. County Convention Credentials: Qualification of delegates shall be the responsibility of the Credentials Committee. Challenges to credentials shall be decided by majority vote of the County Convention.
2. Proxies Prohibited: The use of proxies or proxy voting is hereby prohibited at the Linn County Republican Convention.
3. Quorum: Quorum shall be defined as thirty percent (30%) of the delegates seated for the convention (as announced in the Report of the Credentials Committee). If at any time quorum is lost the Platform as amended will be adopted and the convention will recess or adjourn.
4. Duties of Convention Permanent Chair:
  - a. Appoint a Secretary, Parliamentarian, Sergeant-at-Arms and such other offices as are necessary for the orderly conduct of the Convention.
  - b. Be responsible for seeing that an accurate written record is kept of all convention proceedings, including the list of persons present as reported by the Credentials Committee,
  - c. Safely transmit to the County Chairman no later than the fifth day after the date of the County Convention such record thereof,
  - d. Recognize federal, statewide and county elected officials and candidates, or their official representatives, to address the convention for not more than five (5) minutes. The Chair will interrupt Convention proceedings as he deems appropriate, when notified by the Sergeant-at Arms of the presence of said dignitaries who desire to address the Convention.
5. Delegate Entitlement :
  - a. County Convention: There shall be admitted to the Convention floor only delegates whose names are listed on the roll as defined by the Credentials Committee and adopted by the Convention. Past officers of the Linn County Republican Central Committee, other dignitaries and guests with permission of the Convention Chairman, properly accredited members of the media, party nominees and Republican candidates for local and statewide offices, Republican officeholders, and babies of nursing mothers who are delegates.

**March Central  
Committee Meeting  
Tuesday March 16, 7:00 p.m.  
Cedar Rapids Marriott  
1200 Collins Rd NE**

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## Proposed Convention Rules (continued)

### 6. Delegate Entitlement: (continued)

- a. **District and State Conventions:** The Nominations Committee shall submit names for consideration as delegates to the District Convention. There shall be an entitlement as stipulated by the Republican Party of Iowa (i.e. 128 delegates, 128 alternates for 2010). Nominations may be accepted from the floor in the event of open seats after the report of the Nominations Committee.
- b. **District Convention Committeepersons:** Nominations will be accepted from the floor for delegates to serve on the District Caucus Committees. Nominations need not be seconded and no nominating speeches may be given. The Convention shall elect the number of committeepersons as directed by the Republican Party of Iowa (for 2010—one (1) delegate to the District Rules Committee, one (1) delegate to the District Credentials Committee and two (2) delegates to the District Platform Committee). All nominees for District Committee positions must be delegates to the District Convention. In the event there are more nominees than positions open, nominees will be given two (2) minutes to address the convention and a vote will be taken by written ballot. The nominees receiving the highest votes will be selected.

### 7. Parliamentary Authority and Procedures:

The Linn County Convention shall be governed by *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised* as amended by these rules.

- Delegates addressing the Convention must be recognized by the Chair or the Chair's Designee. Each Speaker thus recognized shall state their name and precinct before beginning to speak.
- Five (5) or more delegates may call for recount of a vote by rising immediately after the results are announced and calling for a Division. The Chair, upon ascertaining there are at least five (5) delegates calling for division, will then call for a recount of the vote by the Sergeant-at Arms by asking delegates to stand for the count.
- The motions *Previous Question* and *Lay on the Table* shall be out of order during the Convention.
- On any item of business before the Convention, debate will be limited to three (3) speeches in favor and three (3) speeches opposed. Each speech shall be limited to ninety (90) seconds and no speaker may address the Convention more than once on any issue.

### 8. Platform-related rules for the Convention

- a. **Amendments to the platform:** Proposed amendments to the Platform, whether to add a new plank, modify an existing plank or delete a plank must be submitted to the chairman of Platform Committee in writing no later than 10:30 a.m. the day of the convention. Each amendment must be printed or typed on a single sheet of paper and signed by at least ten (10) delegates from at least five (5) precincts.
- b. The Platform Committee Chair shall preside over the platform debate. The Platform will be presented section by section, in the order printed. If amendments have been presented that day, the Platform Committee will assign them to appropriate sections for consideration.
- c. If a section has proposed amendments, the Platform Committee Chairman will present them, within their designated sections in no particular order.
- d. The Platform Committee Chair will call for a vote of the Convention on each section of the platform as printed in the report.
- e. When the platform is complete, the Platform Committee Chair shall yield the floor back to the Permanent County Convention Chair.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> District Convention

Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
10:00 a.m.  
Fairfield Middle School

404 West Filmore Ave  
Fairfield, IA

## GOP State Convention

Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
Location TBA

Register for District and State  
Conventions Today \$40.00

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## Proposed Linn County Platform (continued)

### Government (continued)

65. We support the Bill of Rights in its entirety. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment protecting our right to bear arms and the 10<sup>th</sup> amendment granting powers to the individual states are not obsolete.
66. We strongly believe in the Second Amendment which guarantees individuals the right to keep and bear arms without government intervention and support the repeal of current laws that infringe upon our Constitutional right to keep and bear arms. We support the right-to-carry laws and a *shall issue* permit system for concealed weapons in Iowa with national reciprocity among the states to all legal qualified permit holders.
67. We support term limits for elected officials.
68. We as Republicans believe that the media should allow candidates to campaign free of charge over the air waves.
69. The worth of an individual should be based on quality of character. It is not race, religion, national origin, etc. nor such criteria fulfilling a quota.
70. We support the use of secure ID for voting (check ID).
71. We strongly oppose judicial legislation and call upon judges at all levels to adhere strictly to the original intent of the United States Constitution and their respective state constitutions.
72. Where there are efficiencies to be realized through county consolidation. We believe the decision to consolidate be solely that of the counties involved.
73. We support a state parental notification law to protect parental rights and responsibility for their children.
74. We support a law to make English our official national language.
75. We support repealing the smoking ban. We believe this to be an issue of liberty.
76. We call for a full investigation of the organization formally known as ACORN and its allied organizations and full prosecution of any illegalities as discovered. And to cease government funding of such organization.
77. We call for an investigation of the cooking of data by the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and those who did.
78. We oppose taking of land by *eminent domain* for private use.
79. We call for an end to same day voter registration changes on primary voting days.

### Health and Human Services

80. We believe parents should be held accountable for payments of child support.
81. We oppose any law, ordinance or policy that recognizes or protects sexual orientation as a special class.
82. We support opening the purchasing of health care across state lines.

### Health and Human Services (continued)

83. We support healthcare that promotes preventive maintenance.
84. We believe the father of a child, born or unborn, has the same rights and responsibilities as the mother in all matters regarding the child.
85. We support the expansion of Health Savings Accounts to help the consumer to become price and quality sensitive regarding their healthcare.

### Law and Justice

86. We support reinstating the death penalty in the state of Iowa for heinous crimes.
87. We support tort reform. Specifically legislation to control or eliminate *Junk* lawsuits with reasonable caps on damages.
88. We support the concept of juries having the right to judge both law and guilt of the accused party.
89. We have no tolerance for judicial power that exceeds its authority.
90. In support of the 10<sup>th</sup> amendment we believe that all federal legislative bodies must cite the constitutional article that would support any bill before consideration.
91. We affirm that U.S. citizens should be entitled rights, privileges and protections of U.S. law and not subject to the limitations of precedent or penalty asserted by international legal bodies.

### Right to Life

92. We believe human life is a sacred gift from our Creator. We believe the unborn child has a fundamental right to life, which cannot be infringed. We therefore reaffirm our support for a Human Life Amendment to the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Iowa. We oppose using public funds for abortion or funding organizations that advocate it. We commend those who provide alternatives to abortion by meeting the needs of mothers and offering adoption services.
93. We oppose assisted suicides and killing of those who are unwanted. No human life should ever be diminished or arbitrarily taken.
94. We oppose partial birth abortions and the use of fetal tissue from abortions for commercial or experimental purposes.
95. We support *conscience clause* legislation so that no physician, pharmacist or other health care provider can be penalized for refusing to prescribe, dispense or participate in the procurement of abortion or anything contrary to the conscience of the health care provider.

### Republican Party

96. We affirm that no duly nominated Republican candidate in good standing shall be denied party support based on issue litmus testing.

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# Proposed Linn County Platform

## Preamble

*We, the Republicans of Linn County, Iowa, meeting in Convention March 6, 2010, share these common ideals and believe they provide the best framework for guiding this State and Nation into the future. And we encourage Local, State and Federal Republican candidates for public office and office holders read and review this platform to inform their decision making on issues of policy and administration before them.*

## Agriculture

1. Agricultural production meeting the demands of the market is preferable to subsidy driven production. Agricultural regulation should not be excessive.

## Defense, Homeland Security, Immigration and Foreign Policy

2. We support the proliferation of democratic principles around the world and continued existence of freely and fairly elected governments.
3. Stop nuclear proliferation – if necessary by force.
4. As a nation of immigrants we know and prize the diversity newcomers bring to our nation; we support and welcome those who legally join us. Those failing to follow proper immigration procedure should be returned to their homeland.
5. We call for military tribunals to try terrorist suspects and not to try them in our civilian courts.
6. Realizing the world is not always a friendly place we must maintain a strong defense, the integrity of our borders and protecting domestic security.
7. We urge the repeal of NAFTA and GATT.
8. We oppose the ratification of *United Nations Treaty on the Rights of the Child*.
9. Foreign citizens working as agents of terror organizations should be treated as enemy combatants. They are not citizens of our nation which they seek to destroy. They are not entitled to the rights of American citizens.
10. We believe in principle in the role of the United Nations but recognize the value of continued national sovereignty over domestic rights and actions abroad.
11. A strong intelligence community with proper oversight protecting citizens' rights is necessary to preserve our rights as well the safety and security of our nation.
12. We call for increased resources for human intelligence capabilities.
13. We call for the keeping open of GITMO for the detaining of terrorists.
14. We call for military tribunals to try terrorist suspects and not to try them in our civilian courts.
15. We support the men and women of the United States Armed Forces.
16. We support Israel's right to exist.
17. We support enforcing visa rules. Tracking visa holders and deporting anyone who overstays his/her visa or otherwise violates U.S. law.
18. We support *Don't Ask Don't Tell*.
19. We call for readdressing the anti-ballistic missile defense system and updating our nuclear strategic forces.

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## Economy Spending and Taxes

20. We support only the use of free market solutions presented to the economy of the USA. Not allowing government to own any part of previously private businesses.
21. We believe the *Federal Reserve Act* should be revised to focus on the price stability of the dollar and to audit the *Federal Reserve Bank*.
22. No person shall be coerced into selling the fruits of their labor through a 3<sup>rd</sup> party. We support every individual's *Right to Work*. We support every workers right to a secret ballot when choosing an agent to represent them. *Card Check* ballots in such elections should not be permitted to deny that right.
23. We support responsibly reducing regulations to encourage business growth.
24. Taxation and government debt are currently excessive. Taxes and debt should be reduced as much as possible to prevent resource diversion from the private sector and promote economic growth. Taxation should not be used as a command and control mechanism in our economy. We support flatter rules of taxation as less detrimental to free enterprise.
25. We support the principle of international tax competition as a means to lower corporate income tax.
26. We urge congress to make the *Bush Tax Cuts* permanent.
27. In an effort to support fiscal discipline and responsibility on all levels of government we strongly encourage a balanced budget to be both a principle of government and a law of the land.
28. We believe support of the arts should be an individual decision. Taxes should not be used to support the National Endowment for the Arts.
29. We oppose Congress' use of Social Security Trust funds for budget deficit use or for illegal aliens.
30. We believe federal income taxes paid should remain deductible on Iowa's state income tax.
31. We believe that Social Security benefits should not be taxed.
32. Resolve to not allow the Iowa budget to be more than 99% of revenues for a fiscal year. If the legislature passes a budget above this legal threshold, the governor and legislature will be subject to an automatic statewide recall.
33. We believe we can make Iowa a business friendly state and encourage job creation by reducing taxes and regulation.

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## Proposed Linn County Platform (continued)

### Economy Spending and Taxes (continued)

34. We call for Congress to balance the budget.
35. We believe in an end to the government subsidized entities of *Fannie Mae* and *Freddie Mac* and dissolve all government connections with the companies.
36. We call for the repeal of Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT).
37. We oppose the concept of *hate crimes*. We find it redundant and believe the criminalization of thought, no matter how offensive, is a threat to individual rights.
38. We believe that the *Free Market*, not the government, should set employee compensation.
39. International trade is important to our economy. We support and encourage fair, mutually-agreed upon trade with other friendly nations.
40. We support the repeal of the 16th Amendment.
41. We support the use of *E-Verify* for all new hires.
42. We only consider the budget balanced when the amount of debt does not increase.

### Education

43. We believe parents and local school boards should have the greatest say in education. We support removing the federal government from education and reducing the role of the Iowa Department of Education.
44. We call for the teaching of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the truth about the founding of this country to all our students from grammar school through college.
45. The primary criteria of where a child is open enrolled in an Iowa school should be that of a parent/guardian of that child. Should a child open enroll the tax dollars for that child should immediately go to the school attended.
46. Where there are efficiencies to be realized through school district consolidation. We believe the decision to consolidate be solely that of the districts involved.
47. We support performance based compensation for all public education professionals. We support programs that reward superior teachers and outline procedures to remove ineffective educators.
48. We demand that the Board of Regents and the state government end the practice of allowing some of our state universities to offer in-state tuition to illegal aliens.
49. Because homeschooling saves taxpayers a lot of money and gives children high quality education (as proven by test scores), we ask that the State of Iowa continue to allow freedom to homeschool and continue to support homeschool assistance programs that already exist.

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### Education (continued)

50. The purpose of our educational system is to teach the skills, techniques and basic knowledge necessary for critical thinking and the courage to do so.
51. We support the teaching of ethics, economics, history (Constitution), business classes in our school systems.
52. We believe college students should be able to attend college of their choice for a reasonable cost.
53. Federally funded student loans should only be issued to people attending an accredited school.
54. We believe the debt burden on accompanying post secondary education to be damaging to individual financial welfare. We wish to remedy the position of recent graduates by curtailing predatory lending strategies and offering greater support mechanisms for those wishing to pursue higher education funded via federal loans and other offered reasonable funding options.

### Energy, Natural Resources and Transportation

55. The *facts* supporting *Global Warming* have been called into serious question. Draconian regulations and restrictions should not be imposed upon us without full and honest evaluation of evidence cited in support of doing so.
56. We urge increased exploration and production of domestic oil off our coasts and on our land as well as extending use of natural gas and nuclear power to reduce our dependence on foreign sources of energy.
57. We believe regulatory and tort barriers to the construction of new refineries, power plants and nuclear facilities must be eased.
58. Energy distribution infrastructure should be modernized and expanded.

### Family Values

59. We support a vote on amendment to the Iowa Constitution stating that "to secure and preserve the benefits of marriage for our society and for future generations of children, marriage between *one man and one woman* is the only domestic legal union that shall be valid or recognized in this state."

### Government

60. Free and fair elections are vital to the health and stability of government. To that end we support all reasonable, fair and effective efforts to combat voter fraud.
61. We support the principle of limited government at all levels.
62. We support the principle of a balanced budget and reducing government spending.
63. We support compensating public employees in line with comparable work in the private sector.
64. We support the elimination of congressional earmarks.

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