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KOSSUTH County Constitution and By-laws

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SECRETARY OF STATE

Attached, hereto, is a copy of the Constitution and By-laws  
of the DEMOCRATIC Party ~~KOSSUTH~~ KOSSUTH County.  
This document was recieved of the Office of the Secretary of State  
on July 5th, 1988 by Don Arndorfen  
of Bancroft, Iowa.

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CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I

DELORES "DODDS" THILGES

COUNTY AUDITOR

The name of this organization is the Kossuth County Democratic Central Committee.

ARTICLE II

The purpose of this organization shall be to organize and perpetuate a representative, effective, and responsible party organization, advance the interests of the Democratic Party in Iowa and the nation, to sustain and advance the principles of social justice and democracy, and to uphold civil rights, civil liberties and constitutional government.

ARTICLE III

Section 1

The Kossuth County Democratic Party is an integral part of the Iowa Democratic Party. The Kossuth County Democratic Convention shall be held biannually in accordance with state law and by the call of the Chair of the Democratic Party of Iowa.

Section 2

The Constitution of the Democratic Party of Iowa and all pertinent sections of the Statutes of Iowa are made a part of this constitution. Nothing in this constitution shall abrogate the Constitution of the Iowa Democratic Party or the Code of Iowa.

Section 3

The Kossuth County Democratic Central Committee shall be the governing body of the Democratic Party in Kossuth County, Iowa, when the convention is in adjournment. However, action of the Central Committee shall be in accord with the expressed policies of the county convention and the provisions of this constitution.

ARTICLE IV

Section 1

The Kossuth County Central Committee, composed of precinct committeemen and women elected at Precinct Caucuses, shall meet and organize immediately following adjournment of the county convention, or 10 days prior to the county convention or no later than 10 days after the county convention. Members of the committee assembled shall forthwith elect a chair, a vice chair, a secretary, a treasurer, and such other officers as they may deem necessary, such as a finance chair. Such officers need not be selected from County Central Committee membership. The term of office of each officer shall begin immediately upon election and shall continue for two (2) years, and until a successor is elected and qualified. The officers elected shall be voting members of the Committee.

Section 2

Vacancies on the County Central Committee may be filled by a majority vote of the committee at a properly called meeting for which the notice of meeting shall state "that vacancies on the County Central Committee will be filled." When a vacancy exists at the time of the precinct caucuses which are called in odd numbered years, the caucus shall fill the vacancy. The Central Committee shall ratify the election of committee members at the first meeting following the odd year caucuses.

ARTICLE V

Section 1

The Kossuth County Central Committee shall meet at least once every three (3) months. The committee may, by vote of the majority of those committee members attending, direct the chair to call meetings at times and places selected by the committee. The Chair

may call special meetings as is deemed necessary. He or she shall cause notice of such meetings to be mailed to each member and officer of the committee meetings, to be mailed to each member and officer of the committee at least (5) days before the date set for each meeting. It is further provided that, upon receiving a petition signed by twenty-five (25) per cent of the members of the County Central Committee the Chair shall call a special meeting which must be held within ten (10) days of the receipt of such petition. He or she shall cause notice of such meeting to be mailed to each member and officer of the committee at least five (5) days before the date set for such meeting.

#### Section 2

The Kossuth County Central Committee meetings shall be open to the public. All votes shall be public except for those concerned with the hiring of staff and discussion of personalities or the character of an individual, if public discussion could cause injury to a person's character, and all proxies are prohibited. All motions shall be carried by a majority vote.

#### Section 3

Business of the Central Committee may be conducted in the absence of a quorum, provided notice of said meeting has been mailed in accordance with Section I of this Article.

#### Section 4

Meetings shall be chaired by the Central Committee Chair and in the Chair's absence by the Vice-Chair. The secretary will read the minutes of the previous meeting and the treasurer will issue a report.

### ARTICLE VI

#### Section 1

The County Chair is the head of the County Party and oversees all of the Democratic Party activities within the county. The County Chair is also a member of the District Central Committee and the Iowa Democratic Party's State Association of County Chair's. The role of County Chair should not be taken lightly as the Chair is the most contacted person in the Democratic Party.

#### Section 2

The County Vice-Chair assists the Chair in the administration of Party activities. The Vice-Chair must be ready, willing and able to assume the leadership of the County Party if the Chair is unable to execute his or her duties or complete his or her term of office. In the case that a member of the State Central Committee resigns, the County Chairs and Vice-Chairs vote on the nominees to fill the vacancy. The County Vice-Chair is also a member of the Iowa Democratic Party's State Association of County Chairs.

#### Section 3

The Secretary of the county party handles much of the administrative work of the committee including keeping complete minutes of all meetings, preparing meeting agendas, mailing meeting notices, maintaining a filing system for the County Party and assisting the Chair with other important duties.

#### Section 4

The Treasurer of the County Party is responsible for maintaining all of the organizations's financial records and reporting to the County Central Committee on the financial status of the County Party. The Treasurer also has the very important responsibility of preparing the Finance Disclosure Commission reports which must be filed each quarter.

#### Section 5

County Central Committee may elect other officers which are necessary, such as a Finance Chair, News or Press Chair whose duties would be the Party's Fundraiser's

activities and press releases. Also, a Concern's Committee to discuss and develop issues of use in forthcoming campaigns, and to keep records of such issues.

Section 6

It is the ultimate aim of the Kossuth County Democratic Party that memberships in all committees include men, women, various age groups, racial minority groups, and economically disadvantaged persons in proportion of these groups within Kossuth County.

ARTICLE VII

Section 1

Organizations subordinated to and affiliated with the County Central Committee may be recognized, provided by written consent of the Central Committee.

Section 2

The Young Democrats of Kossuth County shall exist as independent organization functioning under the auspices of the Kossuth County Democratic Party.

ARTICLE VIII

Subsequent to ratification, this constitution may be amended at any county convention by a majority vote of the accredited delegates. All proposed amendments must be in writing and submitted by an elected delegate to the county convention and delivered to the County Chair not less than (5) days prior to the county convention. It may also be amended by a 2/3 vote at a duly called Central Committee meeting, provided notice of intent to amend has been mailed with the notice of the meeting.