



National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials

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March 19, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Governors

FR: David Zappasodi, Chair-Nominating and Election Committee (N&E)

RE: **AMENDMENTS TO THE GUIDELINES FOR NATIONAL OFFICE CAMPIGNS**

The [Guidelines for National Office Campaigns](#) (Guidelines) were first adopted and approved by the Board of Governors in 1989 and last amended in 2010. The Nominating & Election Committee (N&E) recommends amendments to: (a) address issues that were raised during the last campaign period; (b) provide clarity to existing language; (c) provide guidance on issues that are not currently addressed; and (d) to respond to a request from a campaign manager.

Social Media

Social media is not currently addressed in the existing Guidelines. The N&E recommends adding new content to the National Election Campaign Guidelines to address this issue.

II. E. Exposure of Candidates by national NAHRO

4. Social Media— proposed new language:

Candidates may use their own social media accounts (e.g., Twitter and Facebook) while campaigning for a NAHRO office. Candidates may not tag NAHRO on any social media accounts, including, but not limited to Twitter and Facebook at the point when they have formally declared their candidacy. NAHRO will provide information on the NAHRO website to inform members how to access candidates' social media sites. NAHRO staff shall refrain from campaigning for or showing preference to any candidate via social media at the point when the individual has formally declared his/her candidacy. NAHRO reserves the right to publish, broadcast, tweet, retweet or "like" news or material from or by its members, whether they are candidates or not. However, NAHRO will not mention or disseminate any material relating to a candidate's campaign or campaign proposals unless specifically approved under policies determined by the Nominating and Election Committee.

Carl S. Richie, Jr., NCC, NAHRO Fellow, President; **Sunny Shaw**, PHM, CME, Senior Vice President; **Saeed Hajarizadeh**, Vice President-International Research and Global Exchange; **John T. Mahon**, PHM, Vice President-Housing; **Marsha J. Parham-Green**, CME, Vice President-Professional Development; **Andy Rodriguez**, Vice President-Member Services; **Henrietta Snipes**, NCC, Vice President-Commissioners; **Mark Thiele**, CS-PHM, CME, CMVO, NCC, Vice President-Community Revitalization and Development; **Adrianne Todman**, Chief Executive Officer

II F. Exposure of Candidates by Regions and Chapters/State Associations

Existing language:

If a Region, Chapter/State Association extends an invitation to a candidate for national president or senior vice president, it must also extend the same invitation to all other declared candidates for the same office. When candidates are invited to events, they shall be invited with equity in terms of role.

Proposed additional language:

If candidates are unable to attend events outside their region, their campaign representatives may distribute campaign literature and buttons or other paraphernalia on their behalf, provided all candidates for the same office were invited to the event.

V. C. Election Results

Existing language:

~~The tabulation of the election results shall include the number of ballots from each state that are cast for each candidate. This information will then be made available to the candidates or any other Associate upon request.~~

Proposed new language:

Results will be tabulated both nationally and for each state and will include: the total number of eligible voters, the number of votes cast for each candidate in each state for both paper and electronic ballots, and the total number of ballots cast. This information will be made available to the candidates and campaign managers, the members of the N&E and any other voter upon request.

Proposed additional language

If there is not more than one nominee for a position to be filled, the N&E shall certify to the Board of Governors at the annual meeting that such nominees have been duly elected to such positions.

(The NAHRO Constitution states: "The Nominating and Election Committee shall certify the results of the election and shall carry out any recount directed by the Board of Governors in response to a majority of the members present at the time of the announcement of the election results.")

III. Finances

A. Limitation on Expenditures

Background

The N&E received a request from a campaign to increase the spending limit by \$5,000. The current spending limit is \$15,000.

Spending limits previously approved by the Board as requested by the Election Committee:

1994: \$5,000

1999: \$8,000

2006: The NAHRO President appointed a special task force “to carefully examine and develop amendments to the Guidelines.” The task force recommended sweeping changes, among which was to increase the spending limit to **\$15,000**, because of the increase in the number of potential voters--from 8,800 to 19,000 (due to change in the association’s membership structure in 2002, which permitted each agency to designate a specified number of associates, who were entitled to cast one vote).

Existing language:

“Expenditures by candidates for national office (President and Senior Vice President) shall be limited to \$15,000 from cash and in-kind sources...”

Proposed language:

“Expenditures by candidates for national office (President and Senior Vice President) shall be limited to \$20,000 from cash and in-kind sources...”

Resolution: The N&E respectfully requests that the Board of Governors approve the above-mentioned amendments to the Guidelines for National Office Campaigns. These amendments shall become effective immediately.

Thank you for your consideration of the proposed amendments.

Respectfully
David Zappasodi
Chair-N&E