

# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF OKALOOSA COUNTY BOARD NONPARTISAN POLICY

Re-adopted August 19, 2008 for the 2008-09 League Year

The League of Women Voters shall not support or oppose any political party or candidate. The League maintains the community's respect because it is known to be a nonpartisan organization concerned with good government and responsible citizenship.

## I. A Board member **MUST** resign from the Board:

- (1) As soon as the Board member declares an intention to be a candidate for public office.
- (2) Before working actively for a political party, organization or candidate.

The resignation should be released to the news media and published in the *Voter*. A minimum of six months from the resignation must elapse before the member may again serve on the Board, and provided there is no further partisan political activity on the member's part. Final decisions regarding time and the situation will be left to the discretion of a committee composed of officers of the Board.

## II. A Board member **MAY**:

- (1) Serve on public commissions or committees either as a Board approved League representative or as an individual. If serving as a League representative, the member should adhere to League positions; if as an individual, may follow own dictates.
- (2) Attend political meetings other than obvious fund-raising events, particularly to hear, personally, candidates for office. They may attend political meetings on the basis of individual judgment, keeping in mind the nonpartisanship of the League.
- (3) Contribute to political parties and/or candidates. A Board member who contributes to political parties and/or candidates or who attends political meetings must do so without indicating an affiliation with the League.

## III. A Board member **MAY NOT**:

- (1) Give candidate coffees or other meetings for incumbents or candidates.
- (2) Indicate a candidate or party choice in any way (e.g.; car bumper stickers, candidate buttons, etc.).
- (3) Express publicly non-supportive views on League issues.

Note: Political activities of spouse, partners, or relatives of Board members are considered as separate and distinct from Board members.

## IV. A League member should contribute to the nonpartisan principles of the League of Women Voters:

- (1) Express partisan views as an individual, not as a League member.
- (2) Refrain from expressing personal partisan opinions or displaying advertisement concerning present or prospective elected officials or political parties at all League functions (except for candidate forums).
- (3) Not solicit League memberships while campaigning for a candidate.
- (4) Not use League meetings as occasions to advance an individual candidacy.
- (5) Not serve on certain League committees when he/she is running for political office or where there could be a possible conflict of interest.

## V. Non-members should observe the same nonpartisan restraints as members when attending League functions, except at candidate forums.

**ALL MEMBERS**, including Board members, should be registered to vote in the party of their choice, and members not on the Board are urged to participate actively in partisan politics.