

Joint Committee Meeting Procedures 2023

1. The House chair will convene proceedings. The gavel will be passed after voting on each vacant seat. A majority of members from each body of the joint committee shall constitute a quorum.
2. Consideration of candidates will proceed in numerical order of congressional district-based seats, starting with the 2nd district, followed by the 3rd, 8th, and the at large seat.
3. A candidate other than those recommended by the RCAC may be nominated if the candidate receives the support of two senators and three representatives on the Joint Committee, as required under Minnesota Statutes and the Joint Rules. Nominations will be taken prior to presentations by RCAC candidates.
4. Each nominated candidate shall be allowed to make a two-minute presentation before the committee. Presentations shall be made in alphabetical order by last name.
5. Once all the candidates for a seat have completed their presentations, nominees will be called to the table together to answer questions from members of the Joint Committee. Timing for the panel of nominees question-and-answer period is fifteen minutes.

After the allotted time has expired, the Joint Committee may allot an additional five minutes by majority vote of the whole committee one time for each set of nominees.
6. A candidate will be recommended to the Joint Convention upon receiving a majority of votes from both the Senate members present and the House members present. Voting for a seat shall be done by viva voce roll call and shall begin immediately after the conclusion of the question-and-answer period for that seat.
7. If there are more than two nominees for a vacancy and no candidate receives the votes necessary to be recommended to the Joint Convention, any nominee receiving zero votes and the candidate receiving the lowest vote total shall be eliminated. In the event that this process leaves only one candidate remaining, then only the nominee with the lowest vote total will be eliminated. If this would again result in only one candidate remaining, then no candidates are eliminated.
8. If only two nominees remain for a seat and neither receives the votes necessary for recommendation to the Joint Convention after one round of voting with only those two nominees on the ballot, then the co-chairs of the Joint Committee may call the remaining nominees forward for one additional five-minute question-and-answer period.
9. If after at least two rounds of voting, no candidate has been eliminated and no candidate has received the necessary votes to be recommended to the Joint Convention, the chair may declare an impasse, add the remaining candidates to a slate, and vote viva voce on the slate. If the slate of candidates receives the votes necessary for recommendation, the candidates on the slate are recommended to the Joint convention.
10. Proxy voting is prohibited.
11. The joint committee shall not meet past midnight.

Prepared by Senate Counsel and House Research
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