ARTICLE I   NAME
1.1.1 The name of this organization is the Green Party of Yolo County.

ARTICLE II   PURPOSE

Section 1   Bylaws
2.1.1 These bylaws shall govern the organization, operation and functions of that political organization known as the Green Party of Yolo County and the Green Party of Yolo County County Council.
2.1.2 The Council shall govern the Green Party of Yolo County according to these bylaws. In the event of an omission or ambiguity in these bylaws, the Green Party of Yolo County will look to the bylaws of the Green Party of California for guidance.
2.1.3 The Council is accountable to the membership of the Green Party of Yolo County and must enact all of the Green Party of Yolo County decisions reached in accordance with these bylaws.

Section 2   Mission
2.2.1 The mission of the Green Party of Yolo County shall be to: promote the 10-key values of the Green Party; increase the number of registered green voters and to increase the number of active Greens; interact with the State Green Party and inform the public about Green Party issues; Campaign for Green Party candidates; fulfill the legal responsibilities of the Green Party of Yolo County; and undertake any other activities that help build a strong Green Party presence in Yolo County.

ARTICLE III   GREEN PARTY of YOLO COUNTY MEMBERSHIP

Section 1   Membership in the Green Party of Yolo County
3.1.1 All Yolo County residents registered to vote with the Green Party are members of the Green Party of Yolo County as provided by the laws of the State of California and these bylaws.
3.1.2 Persons not eligible to be registered to vote in the State of California may participate in the functions of the Green Party of Yolo County so long as they meet all requirements of active membership.

Section 2   Active Membership
3.2.1 Active members of the Green Party of Yolo County shall be considered those who meet all of the following requirements:
   a) Promote the “10-key values of the Green Party”.
   b) Support the platform of the Green Party of California.
   c) Participate in the work of the Green Party of Yolo County
   d) Attend at least three County Council meetings per year.
   e) Be a registered Green voter (unless prohibited to do so by California law)

ARTICLE IV   STRUCTURE of the COUNTY COUNCIL

Section 1   County Council
4.1.1 The governing body of the Green Party of Yolo County shall be the County Council of the Green Party of Yolo County. The duly elected or appointed Council members shall serve as the only official representatives of the Green Party of Yolo County.
4.1.2 The County Council shall fill the role served by County Central Committees pursuant to Division 7 of the Election Code of the State of California.
4.1.3 The County Council shall hold County Council meetings at least once a month to organize the General Assembly meetings, fund raising efforts, media and publicity, and Green voter registration; these meetings being open to the public.

Section 2 County Council Membership
4.2.1 The County Council will consist of elected members, appointed members and appointed ex-officio members. All members will have the same rights. All County Council members will be members of the Green Party of Yolo County.
4.2.2 Seven County Council members will be elected at-large by registered Green Party voters in a countywide election held during the even-year California primary election.
4.2.3 The County Council of the Green Party of Yolo County may appoint additional members to the County Council using the consensus process. Appointments can be made only to achieve gender balance, to appoint ex officio members, or to bring the number of non-ex officio members up to seven. Appointments can be made at County Council meetings, but should be made at General Assembly meetings if possible.
4.2.4 The Green Party of Yolo County is strongly encouraged to appoint any current Green officeholder as an ex officio member.
4.2.5 If the number of non-ex officio members is below seven, the Green Party of Yolo Council will make every effort to appoint additional member(s). The Party shall strive for gender balance and diversity in making these appointments.
4.2.6 Members may serve at most two full or partial consecutive non ex-officio terms. Members may serve any number of non-consecutive terms. A term starts and ends with the first meeting after County Council election results are announced.
4.2.7 A County Council member may appoint a replacement during their temporary absence by notifying the Council.
4.2.8 A County Council member will resign from the Council if no longer a member of the Green Party of Yolo County.

Section 3 Vacancies
4.3.1 In the event of the appointment or election of an ineligible person, or whenever any member dies, resigns or automatically resigns, becomes incapacitated to act, or is recalled a vacancy exists that shall be filled by appointment by the council.
4.3.2 In making the appointment, the Council shall fill the vacancy at the next regularly scheduled quarterly General Assembly.
   a) At this meeting, nominations will be accepted for the voting members of the Council. Nominees must reside in Yolo County and be a registered member of the Green Party. Nominees are required to submit nomination papers with 10 signatures of registered Green Party residents of Yolo County. Each registered or active Green Party of Yolo County member present may vote for as many nominees at there are Council seats vacant.
   b) The elected Council members will appoint the nominee receiving a plurality of votes so long as the nominee furthers gender balance on the Council. The Council will notify the County Clerk and the Green Party of California Coordinating Committee of name, address, and phone number of its appointment(s) within five days.

Section 4 Recall
4.4.1 The following steps are necessary to enact the recall of a sitting council member:
   a) Three members of the Green Party of Yolo County must present a written statement to the council member specifying exactly how the member has failed to act in accordance with the 10-key values or with these bylaws. The statement must be presented at a council meeting, at least 15 days prior to the beginning of the next regularly scheduled and announced General Assembly.
   b) Both parties will meet with the Mediation Committee within 7 days of the submission of the written statement. Within 5 days the Mediation Committee will inform both parties of its recommendation.
c) If either Party is dissatisfied with the Mediation Committee's recommendation, the Council shall allot equal
time for both the council member targeted for recall and the party attempting the recall to present their
positions at the next General Assembly. If the General Assembly reaches consensus (4/5 majority fall back
vote), the Council shall remove the member.

Section 5  Officers
4.5.1 Chair: As its first order of business after the primary, the County Council will elect a Chair from among its
members.
   a) The Chair will act as a liaison between the Green Party of Yolo County and the Secretary of State, the
   County Clerk, and the Green Party of California Coordinating Committee.
   b) The Chair shall serve a term of one year. The chair may not serve more than one term consecutively,
   unless no alternative exists.
   c) The Chair may, along with the Treasurer, sign checks drawn on the Green Party of Yolo County bank
   account.
   d) Within five days of its first meeting, the Council will notify the County Clerk of the name, postal address,
   email address, and phone number of the elected Chair.

4.5.2 Treasurer: As its second order of business, the County Council shall elect a Treasurer from among the
registered members of the Green Party of Yolo County.
   a) The Treasurer is responsible for keeping accurate records of all funds at the County Council's disposal,
   including the origin of the funds, the balance on hand, money spent, upcoming spending plans, and future
   funding needs. These records will be available to any member of the Green Party of Yolo County.
   b) Once a month, the Treasurer shall provide the County Council with a report of all transactions during the
   proceeding month.
   c) The Treasurer will, along with the Chair, sign all checks drawn off the Green Party of Yolo County
   account.
   d) The Treasurer shall be responsible for fulfilling all the requirements of California State Fair Political
   e) The Treasurer shall file all required reports with the Treasurer of the Green Party of California.

4.5.3 Secretary: As its third order of business, the County Council shall elect a Secretary from among its members.
   a) The Secretary shall take written minutes of all County Council meetings. A “note-taker” shall be appointed
   at the Secretary's absence or at the Secretary's discretion. Minutes shall be distributed to members of the
   Green Party of Yolo County email list before the start of the next Council meeting.
   b) The Secretary will serve a term of one year. The Secretary may serve up to two consecutive terms.

Section 6  Monthly Council Meetings
4.6.1 Meetings shall be held at a regular time and place, and shall be publicized as widely as possible.
4.6.2 With the consent of the Council, all active members of the Green Party of Yolo County may participate in the
"consensus-seeking process" but only Council members may hold "unresolved concerns" and participate in any
vote, should one become necessary.
4.6.3 County Council Meeting Structure:
   a) Meetings shall be run through a facilitated consensus process.
   b) At the beginning of each meeting a Facilitator shall be chosen.
   c) The facilitator is responsible for calling on agenda items, recognizing speakers, calling for proposals,
   clarifying questions, concerns and affirmations, and consensus.
   d) The Secretary is responsible for taking minutes including proposals, decisions and the formation of
   committees; and reporting this information in the form of minutes.
   e) At the discretion of the facilitator, times may be assigned to agenda items and a Time Keeper chosen.
   f) The Time Keeper is responsible for keeping the meeting on schedule in order to maintain order and
   interest.
   g) The facilitator may also choose a Vibes Watcher whose job is to promote a positive atmosphere for the
   meeting.
4.6.4 An agenda will be established at the beginning of the meetings and may be expanded during the meeting as
needed and time allows.
4.6.5 A Quorum will exist for the purpose of both opening a meeting and making decisions when 1/2 of the County Council members are present.

4.6.6 Decisions will be made through a consensus process.
   a) Only Green Party members can block a consensus agreement.
   b) Consensus on a policy matter requires a quorum of County Council members be present.

Section 7 Duties and Authority

4.7.1 The County Council will be generally responsible for coordinating meetings, internal communications and other administrative tasks, including:
   a) Setting agendas for County Council meetings; planning and conducting General Assemblies; developing a yearly budget; coordinating fund raising activities; empowering Green Party members in the formation of Working Groups, empower committees approved by the General Assembly.
   b) Act as necessary (while adhering to the process and principles of the Green Party of California) to carry out the decisions of the General Assembly and make executive decision (but not set policy) between General Assemblies. Council actions between General Assemblies shall reflect decisions made at announced General Assemblies.
   c) May make statements and publish press articles, etc, in the name of the Green Party of Yolo County that are consistent with local Green Party policy.
   d) Conduct campaigns for the Green Party of Yolo County and its candidates for public office.
   e) Conduct such other business as the Green Party of Yolo County may require.
   f) The Council shall refer all disputes between locals to Mediation Committee. Should mediation fail, the Council may resolve the dispute. Either Party may appeal the decision to the General Assembly.

4.7.2 The Council shall ensure timely distribution of relevant information to all members of the Green Party of Yolo County. Whenever possible, the council will distribute information through the "locals". County Council will make available uncensored information that includes, but is not limited to:
   a) Upcoming events, including the next General Assembly meeting, and deadlines required by law,
   b) Upcoming issues requiring study, thought, and/or action by "locals";
   c) Updates on County Council projects in progress; and,
   d) Records or minutes of past meetings or significant discussions involving County Council members.

4.7.3 Information provided to non-members must reflect the decisions of Green Party of Yolo County.

Section 8 Proposals

4.8.1 The County Council may formulate proposals for the Green Party of Yolo County. The County Council, or a designated representative, will present its proposals to the Green Party of Yolo County at its regular quarterly General Assembly.

4.8.2 The County Council will receive proposals for action from both members and non-members. When possible, the County Council shall refer a proposal to the appropriate committee for further refinement. If there is no appropriate committee or the proposal is time urgent, the County Council may bring the proposal to the General Assembly itself or it may establish an Ad Hoc Committee.

4.8.3 Proposals will include cost estimates if costs will be incurred.

ARTICLE V LOCAL GROUPS of the GREEN PARTY of YOLO COUNTY

Section 1 Locals

5.1.1 A "Local" is a group of 3 or more registered Green Party of Yolo County members which has submitted a statement of purpose that supports the 10-key values to the Chair of the County Council, and have a public meeting at least once every other month.

5.1.2 Each local will be responsible to inform the Chair of the County Council of all decisions reached by the local and the results of any votes.
ARTICLE VI  STANDING COMMITTEES: THEIR FORMATION & FUNCTION

Section 1  Establishment of Committees
6.1.1 Upon reaching consensus (2/3 majority fall back), the General Assembly may establish or dissolve a standing committee. The General Assembly may not dissolve the Council.
6.1.2 Standing Committees shall include: rules, finance, media, platform, mediation & registration.
6.1.3 Ad Hoc Committees: Upon reaching consensus (2/3 majority fall back), either the General Assembly or the Council may establish or dissolve an Ad Hoc Committee.
6.1.4 Use of the "Green Party" name, or "The Green Party of Yolo County" will be subject to approval by the media committee.
6.1.5 Sub-Committees: Upon reaching consensus (2/3 majority vote fall back), a committee may establish or dissolve a sub-committee.

Section 2  Accountability
6.2.1 Any committee is an arm of the body which establishes it, and it is directly responsible to that body. An ad-hoc committee established by the Council in the absence of a General Assembly is responsible to the General Assembly.

Section 3  Chair and Statement of Purpose
6.3.1 As its first order of business, a newly established committee will choose a chair from among its members. The chair will have no decision taking authority and will only serve to act as a liaison between the committee and the Council.
6.3.2 As its second order of business, a newly established committee will adopt a statement of purpose, scope, and powers. The chair will forward this statement to the body that formed the committee for approval and to the Council. Once this statement of purpose has been accepted, the committee may proceed with additional business.

Section 4  Membership of Committees
6.4.1 Membership of committees of the Green Party of Yolo County will be on a voluntary basis. Committees, however, may control their own membership with respect to the number of members, the skills of members, and the performance of members, as may be required to meet the needs of the committee.

Section 5  Qualifications for Voting
6.5.1 Anyone may take part in a committee's consensus-seeking process. Only committee members, however, may vote or hold an unresolved concern causing a vote.

Section 6  Committee Meetings
6.6.1 All committee meetings shall be governed by these bylaws.

ARTICLE VII  STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE GREEN PARTY OF YOLO COUNTY

Section 1  Rules Committee
7.1.1 This committee shall develop the bylaws and rules governing the Green Party of Yolo County and the Council, consistent with the aims and policies of the Green Party of California. This committee will propose and consider proposals to amend bylaws and rules, and will develop special rules when requested by the General Assembly. This committee shall interpret the bylaws and rules when called upon to do so.
Section 2  The Finance Committee
7.2.1 The Finance Committee shall be responsible for developing an annual budget and a fund raising strategy. The Finance Committee is responsible for the monthly report to the state Coordinating Committee, and the FPPC.
7.2.2 The Treasurer of the Green Party of Yolo County shall sit on the Finance Committee.

Section 3  The Mediation Committee
7.3.1 At its first meeting at the even year primary election, the General Assembly shall elect a Mediation Committee of 5 registered Green Party of Yolo.

Section 4  The Steering Committee
7.4.1 The Steering Committee shall consist of the Council, and a representative from each local.
   a) Upon reaching consensus (4/5 majority fall back vote), the Steering Committee may create a seat held for an easily identifiable group working on Green Principles.
   b) Within 7 days of creating the seat, the chair will inform the group of the time and place of the next steering committee meeting and ask the group to send a representative to it. The group will choose its own representative and a term of representation of between 6 and 24 months.
   c) The Steering Committee may not appoint any members that would cause its membership to exceed 20.
   d) Upon reaching consensus (4/5 majority fall back), the Steering Committee may remove any seat it created.
7.4.2 Each Council member will act as liaison to a Standing Committee. If there are more Committees than Council members, the Local Representatives will act as liaisons to any remaining committees. A liaison will:
   a) Monitor the progress of the committee.
   b) Receive minutes and regular reports.
   c) Act as an advocate of the Committee when the Steering Committee drafts an agenda for General Assemblies.
   d) Insure the Steering Committee provides the committee with requested resources.
7.4.3 The Steering Committee shall:
   a) Establish agenda and select a facilitation team for General Assemblies.
   b) Refer matters to committees and monitor and assist their progress.
   c) Request regular reports from committees.
   d) Authorize and ratify specific expenditures.
   e) Adopt the county party platform approved by the Green Party of Yolo County.

Section 5  Advisory Boards
7.5.1 Upon reaching consensus (4/5 majority fall back vote), the Steering Committee may create non-voting advisory boards made up of community groups/interests.
7.5.2 It is not required that members of advisory boards be registered with the Green Party. They must, however, reside in Yolo County.

ARTICLE VIII  WORKING GROUPS

Section 1
8.1.1 The County Council may establish Working Groups.
8.1.2 A newly established Working Group will choose a Chair from among its members. The Chair will have no decision-making authority and will serve to act as a liaison between the committee and the County Council.
8.1.3 A newly established Working Group will adopt a statement of purpose. The Chair of the Working Group will forward this to the Chair of the County Council.
8.1.4 Membership in Working Groups will be on a voluntary basis. Working Groups, however, may control their own membership.
8.1.5 Anyone may take part in a Working Group’s consensus-seeking process. Only Working Group members may vote or hold an unresolved concern causing a vote.
ARTICLE IX   DELEGATE SELECTION TO THE GREEN PARTY OF CALIFORNIA PLENARY

Section 1   Delegate Selection

9.1.1 The Council will convene a meeting of the Green Party of Yolo County not less than 30 days and not more than 45 days before each meeting of the Green Party of California General Assembly.

9.1.2 Communicate the time and place of this meeting by advertising the meeting as widely as realistic and by sending a notice to all active members.

9.1.3 In order to be eligible to be a delegate, one must meet all of the following
   a) Be an active member in Yolo County.
   b) Have attended at least one statewide meeting within the preceding two years.
   c) Be familiar with the structure and principles of the Green Party of California.

9.1.4 At this meeting nominations for delegate(s) will be accepted from the pool of eligible members present. Each Green Party of Yolo County member present may vote for as many nominees as there are delegate seats available.

9.1.5 The Council will appoint the nominee(s) receiving plurality of votes. The Council will notify Green Party of California Coordinating Committee and the state Hosting Committee of the next Plenary or General Assembly meeting of its appointment(s) within five days.

9.1.6 The same procedure shall be used to select delegates to the Sacramento-Sierra regional meetings.

ARTICLE X   GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETINGS

Section 1   Regular Meetings

10.1.1 The Green Party of Yolo County, shall strive to hold as many General assemblies as possible per year These meetings shall be called General Assemblies of the Green Party of Yolo County. These meetings are for the purpose of conducting the general business of the Green Party of Yolo County as well as being an opportunity for Green Party members to get together for the purpose of discussing, voice opinions, and voting on issues of interest regarding the vision and direction that the Green Party of Yolo County will take in the year ahead.

10.1.2 The County Council shall convene all regular meetings of the General Assembly.

10.1.3 All meetings shall be wheelchair accessible and chemical fragrance-free.

10.1.4 If requested at least seven days before any General Assembly, the Council shall provide childcare for the duration of the meeting.

10.1.5 Date and location for the next General Assembly meeting will be determined before the close of each meeting.

10.1.6 Communicate the time and place of this meeting by advertising the meeting as widely as possible.

Section 2   Agenda

10.2.1 Establishing agenda for all regular General Assembly meetings and special meetings is the responsibility of the County Council.

10.2.2 The County Council has the task of collecting items, proposing and circulating a draft agenda to all active members at least 2 weeks in advance of a meeting.

10.2.3 The agenda package will include a draft of all proposals. A proposal, which has not been circulated to all active members, may only come to the floor after agreement by the General Assembly (fall back 2/3 vote).

10.2.4 Ratification of the proposed agenda and times will occur at the beginning of the meeting.

Section 3   Quorum

10.3.1 A Quorum will exist for the purpose of both opening a meeting and making decisions when 1% of the Green Party of Yolo County registered voters are present.

10.3.2 Each registered Green Party of Yolo County voter will sign in with the doorkeeper when s/he arrives, and be certified by comparison with the latest Green Party list from the County Clerk.
Section 4  Guests and Observers
10.4.1 Green Party of Yolo County meetings are public and open to observers.
10.4.2 Guests and Observers will register with the doorkeeper.
10.4.3 The General Assembly may choose to go into closed session with a 4/5 majority vote. Only active members may attend closed sessions.
10.4.4 With consensus (4/5 majority fall-back vote), the General Assembly may exercise its right to exclude an individual (and not others) who fail to honor the process and principles of the Green Party.

Section 5  Meeting Roles, Duties, and Responsibilities
10.5.1 The Green Party of Yolo County will use the Meeting Roles, Duties and Responsibilities outlined in the bylaws of the Green Party of California.

Section 6  Decision-Taking
10.6.1 The Green Party of Yolo County will follow the "consensus-seeking process" for reaching decisions as outlined in the bylaws of the Green Party of California.
10.6.2 Notwithstanding other provisions of these bylaws, once the General Assembly has ratified the agenda contract, requests for additional agenda time for an item must include a specific number of minutes and whether the time will be added to the length of the meeting or if it will come from some other item. The General Assembly must reach consensus (2/3 majority vote fall back) to contract for additional time.
10.6.3 When the closing option of voting is selected by the presenter of the proposal, the facilitation team will proceed in the following steps:
   a) The note taker will read the proposal and amendments.
   b) The scribe will record the vote of the General Assembly where all can see it by "yes", "no" and "stand-aside".
   c) If necessary, the facilitation team will call a roll and record each member with the help of the doorkeeper.
   d) Stand-asides are not counted in calculating the percentage vote, however if those who stand-aside represent a plurality of the vote, then the proposal fails.
   e) The roll call recorded vote will be included in the meeting minutes.
10.6.4 Anyone may take part in the Green Party or of Yolo County consensus-seeking process. Only members and active members, however, may vote or hold an unresolved concern to force a vote during a General Assembly.

ARTICLE XI  AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

Section 1  Amendments
11.1.1 Notwithstanding other provisions of these bylaws, these bylaws may be amended by a 2/3 majority vote by the General Assembly of the Green Party of Yolo County where a quorum is established.

ARTICLE XII  GENERAL POLICIES

Section 1  Non-Discrimination
12.1.1 The Green Party of Yolo County shall not discriminate against any person based on the basis of age, race, gender, sexual orientation, physical ability, religion, or income.
12.1.2 It is the responsibility of the Council to insure that this policy is carried out.