Under GPCA Bylaws 13-2, County Green Parties may sponsor amendments to the GPCA Bylaws. Before they are forwarded to the General Assembly or the Standing General Assembly, each proposed amendment must be submitted to the Bylaws Committee, for its review and recommendations to the sponsors, including to promote consistency in numbering, format, terminology and meaning with existing documents, and to minimize ambiguity and to promote clarity.

TITLE/SUBJECT: Bylaws Amendment: General Assembly

SPONSORS: The proposed amendment has been endorsed and sponsored by the Green Party of Butte County and the Green Party of Yolo County.

APPROVAL THRESHOLD: 2/3

BACKGROUND/PURPOSE: Since the Standing General Assembly (SGA) was implemented in late 2012, a number of inconsistencies have emerged that have made the GA and SGA, as decision-making bodies, often fail to work in concert. The proposed amendment will unify the delegations for both bodies, and make clear the the SGA is no longer a body separate from the GA (the GPCA’s primary decision-making body), but instead merely constitutes the online voting arm of the GA, with a unified and annual (July-June) delegation. Moreover, this proposal removes current restrictions on proposals County Organizations may put before the GA. In addition to promoting clarity by ensuring compliance with Bylaws 4-1 and 4-4, this proposal ensures that the organization of the GPCA as a state body is more consistent with two of the party’s 10 Key Values: decentralization and grassroots democracy.

PROPOSAL: That GPCA Bylaw Article 7 be amended in its entirety as follows:

That Article 7 be amended from its current text:

Article 7. General Assembly (as last amended 4/2/2018)

Section 7-1. Delegates

7-1.1 The General Assembly shall consist of Delegates from active County Organizations. Delegates shall be elected by the County Council, unless the County Organization specifies an alternate process in its bylaws. The process by which delegates are elected must be defined in the bylaws of each county and a copy be on file with the Coordinating Committee and the Bylaws Committee.

7-1.2 The total number of delegates and the number of delegates per county shall be the total of two sums:

7-1.2(a) Each active County Organization shall have at least one delegate seat, for a total of 58 if County Organizations are active in all of California's counties.

7-1.2(b) Each active County Organization shall have an additional number of delegates seats out of an additional 100 seats, equal to its percentage of registered Greens from within the county, compared to the total number of registered Greens in all counties, with a minimum of 1% required for one seat, times 100.

7-1.3 Delegates shall be familiar with the party's Governing Documents - the Bylaws, the Rules and Procedures and the Fiscal Policy. First time delegates shall participate in the delegate orientation session at each General Assembly. Other delegates are encouraged to do so.

7-1.4 Delegates assume the responsibility to be familiar with the agenda, read materials and where practicable, prepare clarifying questions in advance, and be prepared to participate in all General Assembly sessions. Where practicable, County Organizations are also encouraged to review agenda items and provide advance input to their delegates.

Section 7-2 Proposals

7-2.1 Authority

Committees and Working Groups may submit proposals within the scope of their Duties and Authority as defined in these bylaws. County Organizations may submit proposals to amend the Bylaws, Rules & Procedures and Fiscal Policy.

7-2.2 Format

Proposals shall include the name of the sponsoring committee, working group and/or County Organization; the presenter(s), title/subject, background/purpose, text of proposal, approval threshold, timeline, resources/budgetary implication, committee/working group/county decision, and references/attachments.

7-2.3 Approval Thresholds

The General Assembly shall seek consensus in its decision-making, utilizing the consensus-seeking process in 7-5 for in-person meetings. In the absence of consensus, the following proposals shall require 2/3 of all 'yes' and 'no' votes cast for passage.

7-2.3(a) Approval of the Annual Budget and mid-year budget amendments; Annual Strategic Plan;

7-2.3(b) Amendments to the Bylaws, the Rules & Procedures and the Fiscal Policy;

7-2.3(c) Amendments to the Platform;

7-2.3(d) Endorsement of or opposition to statewide ballot measures;

7-2.3(e) Recall of Coordinating Committee Members; Removal for Cause of County Councilmembers;

7-2.3(f) Recognition of County Organizations upon appeal of Coordinating Committee non-recognition.

All other proposals shall require 3/5 of all 'yes' and 'no' votes cast for passage. Abstentions are not counted in calculating the percentage vote, but are counted towards quorum. The minimum number of affirmative votes required for passage shall be the voting threshold times the decision making quorum.

7-2.4 Voting Systems

7-2.4(a) Multi-Seat Elections: Ranked Choice Voting

Each delegate shall be provided a ballot containing the names of the candidates in alphabetical order. The ballot shall also include a No Other Candidate option. The delegates shall vote by ranking the candidates along with the No Other Candidate option in order of preference. The ballots shall be tabulated utilizing a Ranked Choice Voting system with fractional transfers and a Droop threshold, 1/(n+1) (1/3 threshold with two open seats). No candidate shall be seated who does not cross the threshold before No Other Candidate. For the purpose of calculations, n = open seats shall be adjusted, when necessary, so that the value of n shall not be higher than the number of candidates qualified for the ballot.

7-2.4(b) Single Seat Election: Instant Runoff Voting

Each delegate shall be provided a ballot containing the names of the candidates in alphabetical order. The ballot shall also include a No Other Candidate option. The delegates shall vote by ranking the candidates along with the No Other Candidate option in order of preference. The ballots shall be tabulated utilizing a Ranked Choice Voting system and a majority threshold, 1/(n+1). No candidate shall be seated who does not cross the threshold before No Other Candidate.

Section 7-3. Elections and Confirmations

7-3. The following shall be conducted by Ranked Choice Voting:

7-3.1(a) Elections to fill multiple seats on the Coordinating Committee or the GPUS Delegation.

7-3.2 The following shall be conducted by Instant Run-Off voting with a majority threshold:

7-3.2(a) Confirmation of the Treasurer and of the Liaison to the Secretary of State

7-3.2(b) Elections to fill a single vacancy on the Coordinating Committee or the GPUS Delegation.

Section 7-4. Endorsements

General Assembly Delegates may rank the following choices and the result shall be calculated by instant run-off voting: 'Endorse' (that the GPCA should support the measure or candidate), 'Oppose' (that the GPCA should oppose the measure or candidate), 'No Position' (that the GPCA should not take any position on the measure or candidate) or 'Abstain' (that the delegate takes no position on what should be the GPCA position). A GPCA position to endorse or oppose shall require 2/3. Abstentions are counted to determine quorum, but not towards the approval/disapproval threshold. If quorum is not achieved, or if the 2/3 threshold is not reached for a 'Endorse', 'Oppose', the GPCA's position will be 'No Position', as would it be if the 2/3 threshold is reached for 'No Position.'

Section 7-5. Meetings

7-5.1 Draft Agenda

7-5.1(a) The Coordinating Committee shall establish a Draft Agenda for all General Assembly meetings, distribute it at least 42 days in advance to each County Organization and submit it for approval at the beginning of each General Assembly.

7-5.1(b) The Draft Agenda shall incorporate agenda items submitted by committees, working groups and County Organizations as provided for in these bylaws; shall distinguish among decision making items, reports and discussion items; shall distinguish among proposals, elections and confirmations; and shall include facilitators, times and the full text of each item as described in 7-2.2.

7-5.1(c) The Draft Agenda may contain a Consent Calendar consisting of proposals that have been judged by their sponsors to be sufficiently non-controversial as to be considered and approved without the normal consensus-seeking process of presentations, clarifying questions, and affirmations and concerns. When the Consent Calendar is heard, any proposal for which there are outstanding concerns without stand asides shall be removed without approval. The sponsor(s) of the proposal shall make an effort to address the outstanding concerns, after which the proposal may be brought back to the General Assembly at a later point for approval.

7-5.2 Delegate Registration

Delegates shall register at the beginning of each day of a General Assembly, identifying their county. Delegates who permanently leave the General Assembly before it is adjourned shall notify the facilitators (or other appropriate officials) and shall be removed from the delegate registration count for the purposes of calculating quorum.

7-5.3 Quorum

7-5.3(a) A quorum exists for the purpose of opening a General Assembly when 2/3 (rounding to the nearest whole number) of the regions containing active counties are represented.

7-5.3(b) A quorum exists for the purpose of decision-making when 80% of registered delegates are present and a minimum of 90% of the maximum number of delegates registered for that day are present, if delegates earlier present have left and unregistered.

7-5.3(c) Facilitators shall conduct a roll call to establish a quorum at the beginning of each session of the General Assembly.

7-5.4 Facilitation

7-5.4(a) The Coordinating Committee shall designate at least one facilitator and preferably two co-facilitators for all General Assembly sessions. Approval of facilitators shall be included as part of the approval of the Draft Agenda. Facilitators must be GPCA members.

7-5.4(b) Facilitators shall be chosen who can facilitate the General Assembly according to the consensus-seeking process in 7-5, who can provide non-directive leadership and process clarity, and who honor the agenda and promote good will. A facilitator shall not give her/his personal opinion unless clearly stepping out of her/his role as a facilitator. Facilitators should be familiar with the Ten Key Values and the GPCA's Purpose, Bylaws, and Rules and Procedures. The use of gender-stacking, where the order of the "stack" would alternate between one woman, one man, shall be considered as a first choice for use by the facilitators.

7-5.5 Consensus Seeking

Consensus shall be sought according to the following process:

7-5.5(a) Delegates shall be given priority in decision-making discussions. At the discretion of the facilitation team and time permitting, other GPCA members and guests may participate. Only delegates may hold outstanding concerns.

7-5.5(b) Presenters shall present their proposal, after which clarifying questions are taken from the delegates and responded to by the presenter(s).

7-5.5(c) Affirmations, concerns and proposed amendments follow from the delegates only. Presenters attempt to address concerns and may amend their proposal, in which case clarifying questions may again be made and responded to by the presenters. The proposal is then restated, including as amended, if amended by the presenters.

7-5.5(d) The facilitator(s) should ask if there are any more unresolved, outstanding concerns. If there are none, the proposal is considered approved by consensus.

7-5.5(e) If there remain outstanding concerns, the facilitators ask whether those holding outstanding concerns are willing to "stand aside" and have their concerns recorded in the minutes, along with the adopted proposal. If so, the proposal is considered approved by consensus, with the stand asides recorded.

7-5.5(f) If there is not consensus, the presenter(s) may request more time from the General Assembly, go to a vote or withdraw the proposal.

7-5.5(g) If the presenter(s) go to a vote, the facilitators shall conduct a roll call and record each delegate's vote as "yes", "no" or "abstain". Passage shall be according to the approval thresholds in 7-2.3.

7-5.5(h) If more time is added by the General Assembly, the presenters may attempt to address the remaining outstanding concerns, and may amend their proposal, in which case clarifying questions may be made and responded to. The proposal is then restated, including as amended, if amended. The process is then repeated to identify any outstanding concerns and whether those holding them are willing to stand aside. If there are no outstanding concerns, or if those holding them are willing to stand aside, the proposal is considered approved by consensus. If outstanding concerns remain, the presenters may go to a vote or withdraw their proposal.

7-5.6 Minutes

The Coordinating Committee has the responsibility to ensure that minutes are taken at each General Assembly. Minutes shall include the date, time, location and list of delegates in attendance, the subject/title, sponsor(s) and presenter(s) of all agenda items heard, the decisions-taken (including whether by consensus or by roll-call vote) and the text of all proposals, including amendments.

7-5.7 Points of order

7-5.7(a) Any delegate may signal the facilitator(s) by raising two hands on a Point of Clarification if they do not understand the process. The Point of Clarification shall be heard before moving on to other speakers.

7-5.7(b) Any delegate may signal the facilitator(s) by raising two hands on a Point of Information to provide a critical piece of information otherwise missing in the discussion. Delegates are expected to utilize this option sparingly and judiciously.

7-5.7(c) Any delegate may signal the facilitator(s) by raising two hands on a Point of Process, if they believe the process being followed violates GPCA Bylaws, Rules and Procedures, Fiscal Policy or other such procedures adopted by the General Assembly. Before moving on to other speakers, the Point of Process shall be heard and the facilitator(s) shall rule upon it.

7-5.8 Setting Next Meeting

The date and location for the General Assembly shall be determined by the close of each meeting. Should the General Assembly fail to make this determination, it shall become the responsibility of the Coordinating Committee to do so. The General Assembly may set more than one meeting date and location at a time.

Section 7-6. Standing General Assembly

7-6.1 Standing Delegates and Alternates

7-6.1(a) Delegates to the Standing General Assembly (SGA) shall be called Standing Delegates, shall be appointed by active County Organizations and shall serve for one year terms, with no term limits. Terms shall run concurrent with the GPCA's Fiscal Year.

7-6.1(b) Each active County Organization is entitled to as many Standing Delegates as it is entitled to General Assembly delegates under 7-1.2. The number of Standing Delegates per active County Organization shall be based upon the state of California's 154 Day Report of Registration in even-numbered years and its Odd-Numbered Year Report in odd-numbered years, and be calculated by the Coordinating Committee and published to the active County Organizations by the end of March, which shall form the basis for the number of delegates chosen by each active County Organization for the ensuing Fiscal Year.

7-6.2 Decision Items

The following decision items shall automatically be placed before the Standing General Assembly. Other decision items may be submitted to the Standing General Assembly by Standing Committees, Working Groups and/or active County Organizations as provided for in 7-2.1.

7-6.2(a) Endorsement/opposition of qualified statewide ballot measures;

7-6.2(b) Endorsements of statewide candidates (secret ballot);

7-6.2(c) General Assembly Minutes;

7-6.2(d) Election of the Coordinating Committee (secret ballot);

7-6.2(e) Election of the GPUS Delegation (secret ballot);

7-6.2(f) Removal for Cause petition for County Councilmembers (secret ballot);

7-6.2(g) Recall petition for Coordinating Committee and GPUS Delegation members (secret ballot).

7-6.3 Discussion and Voting Period

7-6.3(a) The discussion period for Proposals and Elections shall be six weeks, beginning on a Monday at 12:01 am and ending on a Sunday at 11:59pm. The discussion period for Coordinating Committee and GPUS Delegation elections shall begin on the first Monday of May.

7-6.3(b) The purpose of the discussion period is to provide an opportunity to utilize the consensus-seeking process in 7-5 within the context of utilizing electronic means, teleconferences and other methods of communication other than an in-person General Assembly.

7-6.3(c) Proposals may be amended at any time during the discussion period by the proposal's sponsor(s), except that the final amended version must be placed before the Standing General Assembly no later than on a Monday at 12:01 am preceding the end of the discussion period.

7-6.3(d) The voting period for Proposals and Elections shall commence immediately at the close of the discussion period, and shall be for one week beginning on a Monday at 12:01 am and ending on a Sunday at 11:59pm.

7-6.4 Quorum

A quorum has been reached when the number of votes cast is equal to a majority of delegate seats appointed under 7-1.2, together with a majority of all active County Organizations having cast at least one vote. In such cases, abstentions count as a vote cast.

to read as follows:

Article 7. General Assembly (as last amended 4/2/2018)

Section 7-1. Delegates

7-1.1 The General Assembly shall consist of Delegates from active County Organizations. ~~Delegates shall be elected by the County Council, unless the County Organization specifies an alternate process in its bylaws. The process by which delegates are elected must be defined in the bylaws of each county and a copy be on file with the Coordinating Committee and the Bylaws Committee.~~

7-1.2 The total number of delegates and the number of delegates per county shall be the total of two sums:

7-1.2(a) Each active County Organization shall have at least one delegate seat, for a total of 58 if County Organizations are active in all of California's counties.

7-1.2(b) Each active County Organization shall have an additional number of delegates seats out of an additional 100 seats, equal to its percentage of registered Greens from within the county, compared to the total number of registered Greens in all counties, with a minimum of 1% required for one seat, times 100. **Delegate counts for active County Organizations shall be be tallied annually based upon the most current Secretary of State Report of Registration, and shall be effective from July 1st to the following June 30th. Each active County Organization shall appoint delegates and an appropriate number of alternates to serve as General Assembly delegates for the ensuing Fiscal Year.**

7-1.3 Delegates shall be familiar with the party's Governing Documents - the Bylaws, the Rules and Procedures and the Fiscal Policy. First time delegates shall participate in the delegate orientation session at each General Assembly. Other delegates are encouraged to do so.

7-1.4 Delegates assume the responsibility to be familiar with the agenda, read materials and where practicable, prepare clarifying questions in advance, and be prepared to participate in all General Assembly sessions. Where practicable, County Organizations are also encouraged to review agenda items and provide advance input to their delegates.

Section 7-2 Proposals

7-2.1 Authority

**Proposals shall be submitted by County Organizations, Committees, and Working Groups. Committees, and Working Groups may submit proposals within the scope of their Duties and Authority as defined in these bylaws.** ~~County Organizations may submit proposals to amend the Bylaws, Rules & Procedures and Fiscal Policy.~~

7-2.2 Format

Proposals shall include the name of the sponsoring committee, working group and/or County Organization; the presenter(s), title/subject, background/purpose, text of proposal, approval threshold, timeline, resources/budgetary implication, committee/working group/county decision, and references/attachments.

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The General Assembly shall seek consensus in its decision-making, utilizing the consensus-seeking process in 7-5 for in-person meetings. In the absence of consensus, the following proposals shall require 2/3 of all 'yes' and 'no' votes cast for passage.

7-2.3(a) Approval of the Annual Budget and mid-year budget amendments; Annual Strategic Plan;

7-2.3(b) Amendments to the Bylaws, the Rules & Procedures and the Fiscal Policy;

7-2.3(c) Amendments to the Platform;

7-2.3(d) Endorsement of or opposition to statewide ballot measures;

7-2.3(e) Recall of Coordinating Committee Members; Removal for Cause of County Councilmembers;

7-2.3(f) Recognition of County Organizations upon appeal of Coordinating Committee non-recognition.

All other proposals shall require 3/5 of all 'yes' and 'no' votes cast for passage. Abstentions are not counted in calculating the percentage vote, but are counted towards quorum. The minimum number of affirmative votes required for passage shall be the voting threshold times the decision making quorum.

7-2.4 Voting Systems

7-2.4(a) Multi-Seat Elections: Ranked Choice Voting

Each delegate shall be provided a ballot containing the names of the candidates in alphabetical order. The ballot shall also include a No Other Candidate option. The delegates shall vote by ranking the candidates along with the No Other Candidate option in order of preference. The ballots shall be tabulated utilizing a Ranked Choice Voting system with fractional transfers and a Droop threshold, 1/(n+1) (1/3 threshold with two open seats). No candidate shall be seated who does not cross the threshold before No Other Candidate. For the purpose of calculations, n = open seats shall be adjusted, when necessary, so that the value of n shall not be higher than the number of candidates qualified for the ballot.

7-2.4(b) Single Seat Election: Instant Runoff Voting

Each delegate shall be provided a ballot containing the names of the candidates in alphabetical order. The ballot shall also include a No Other Candidate option. The delegates shall vote by ranking the candidates along with the No Other Candidate option in order of preference. The ballots shall be tabulated utilizing a Ranked Choice Voting system and a majority threshold, 1/(n+1). No candidate shall be seated who does not cross the threshold before No Other Candidate.

Section 7-3. Elections and Confirmations

7-3. The following shall be conducted by Ranked Choice Voting:

7-3.1(a) Elections to fill multiple seats on the Coordinating Committee or the GPUS Delegation.

7-3.2 The following shall be conducted by Instant Run-Off voting with a majority threshold:

7-3.2(a) Confirmation of the Treasurer and of the Liaison to the Secretary of State

7-3.2(b) Elections to fill a single vacancy on the Coordinating Committee or the GPUS Delegation.

Section 7-4. Endorsements

General Assembly Delegates may rank the following choices and the result shall be calculated by instant run-off voting: 'Endorse' (that the GPCA should support the measure or candidate), 'Oppose' (that the GPCA should oppose the measure or candidate), 'No Position' (that the GPCA should not take any position on the measure or candidate) or 'Abstain' (that the delegate takes no position on what should be the GPCA position). A GPCA position to endorse or oppose shall require 2/3. Abstentions are counted to determine quorum, but not towards the approval/disapproval threshold. If quorum is not achieved, or if the 2/3 threshold is not reached for a 'Endorse', 'Oppose', the GPCA's position will be 'No Position', as would it be if the 2/3 threshold is reached for 'No Position.'

Section 7-5. Meetings

7-5.1 Draft Agenda

7-5.1(a) The Coordinating Committee shall establish a Draft Agenda for all General Assembly meetings, distribute it at least 42 days in advance to each County Organization and submit it for approval at the beginning of each General Assembly.

7-5.1(b) The Draft Agenda shall incorporate agenda items submitted by committees, working groups and County Organizations as provided for in these bylaws; shall distinguish among decision making items, reports and discussion items; shall distinguish among proposals, elections and confirmations; and shall **when feasible** include facilitators, times and the full text of each item as described in 7-2.2.

7-5.1(c) The Draft Agenda may contain a Consent Calendar consisting of proposals that have been judged by their sponsors to be sufficiently non-controversial as to be considered and approved without the normal consensus-seeking process of presentations, clarifying questions, and affirmations and concerns. When the Consent Calendar is heard, any proposal for which there are outstanding concerns without stand asides shall be removed without approval. The sponsor(s) of the proposal shall make an effort to address the outstanding concerns, after which the proposal may be brought back to the General Assembly at a later point for approval.

7-5.2 Delegate Registration

Delegates shall register at the beginning of each day of a General Assembly, identifying their county. Delegates who permanently leave the General Assembly before it is adjourned shall notify the facilitators (or other appropriate officials) and shall be removed from the delegate registration count for the purposes of calculating quorum.

7-5.3 Quorum

7-5.3(a) A quorum exists for the purpose of opening a General Assembly when 2/3 (rounding to the nearest whole number) of ~~the regions containing~~ active counties are represented.

7-5.3(b) A quorum exists for the purpose of decision-making when ⅔ of active counties and a majority of registered delegates ~~80% of registered delegates are present and a minimum of 90% of the maximum number of delegates registered for that day~~ are present~~, if delegates earlier present have left and unregistered~~.

7-5.3(c) Facilitators shall conduct a roll call to establish a quorum at the beginning of each session of the General Assembly.

7-5.4 Facilitation

7-5.4(a) The Coordinating Committee shall designate at least one facilitator and preferably two co-facilitators for all General Assembly sessions. Approval of facilitators shall be included as part of the approval of the Draft Agenda. Facilitators must be GPCA members.

7-5.4(b) Facilitators shall be chosen who can facilitate the General Assembly according to the consensus-seeking process in 7-5, who can provide non-directive leadership and process clarity, and who honor the agenda and promote good will. A facilitator shall not give her/his personal opinion unless clearly stepping out of her/his role as a facilitator. Facilitators should be familiar with the Ten Key Values and the GPCA's Purpose, Bylaws, and Rules and Procedures. The use of gender-stacking, where the order of the "stack" would alternate between one woman, one man, shall be considered as a first choice for use by the facilitators.

7-5.5 Consensus Seeking

Consensus shall be sought according to the following process:

7-5.5(a) Delegates shall be given priority in decision-making discussions. At the discretion of the facilitation team and time permitting, other GPCA members and guests may participate. Only delegates may hold outstanding concerns.

7-5.5(b) Presenters shall present their proposal, after which clarifying questions are taken from the delegates and responded to by the presenter(s).

7-5.5(c) Affirmations, concerns and proposed amendments follow from the delegates only. Presenters attempt to address concerns and may amend their proposal, in which case clarifying questions may again be made and responded to by the presenters. The proposal is then restated, including as amended, if amended by the presenters.

7-5.5(d) The facilitator(s) should ask if there are any more unresolved, outstanding concerns. If there are none, the proposal is considered approved by consensus.

7-5.5(e) If there remain outstanding concerns, the facilitators ask whether those holding outstanding concerns are willing to "stand aside" and have their concerns recorded in the minutes, along with the adopted proposal. If so, the proposal is considered approved by consensus, with the stand asides recorded.

7-5.5(f) If there is not consensus, the presenter(s) may request more time from the General Assembly, go to a vote or withdraw the proposal.

7-5.5(g) If the presenter(s) go to a vote, the facilitators shall conduct a roll call and record each delegate's vote as "yes", "no" or "abstain". Passage shall be according to the approval thresholds in 7-2.3.

7-5.5(h) If more time is added by the General Assembly, the presenters may attempt to address the remaining outstanding concerns, and may amend their proposal, in which case clarifying questions may be made and responded to. The proposal is then restated, including as amended, if amended. The process is then repeated to identify any outstanding concerns and whether those holding them are willing to stand aside. If there are no outstanding concerns, or if those holding them are willing to stand aside, the proposal is considered approved by consensus. If outstanding concerns remain, the presenters may go to a vote or withdraw their proposal.

7-5.6 Minutes

The Coordinating Committee has the responsibility to ensure that minutes are taken at each General Assembly. Minutes shall include the date, time, location and list of delegates in attendance, the subject/title, sponsor(s) and presenter(s) of all agenda items heard, the decisions-taken (including whether by consensus or by roll-call vote) and the text of all proposals, including amendments.

7-5.7 Points of order

7-5.7(a) Any delegate may signal the facilitator(s) by raising two hands on a Point of Clarification if they do not understand the process. The Point of Clarification shall be heard before moving on to other speakers.

7-5.7(b) Any delegate may signal the facilitator(s) by raising two hands on a Point of Information to provide a critical piece of information otherwise missing in the discussion. Delegates are expected to utilize this option sparingly and judiciously.

7-5.7(c) Any delegate may signal the facilitator(s) by raising two hands on a Point of Process, if they believe the process being followed violates GPCA Bylaws, Rules and Procedures, Fiscal Policy or other such procedures adopted by the General Assembly. Before moving on to other speakers, the Point of Process shall be heard and the facilitator(s) shall rule upon it.

7-5.8 Setting Next Meeting

The date and location for the General Assembly shall be determined by the close of each meeting. Should the General Assembly fail to make this determination, it shall become the responsibility of the Coordinating Committee to do so. The General Assembly may set more than one meeting date and location at a time.

Section 7-6. **Online Voting** ~~Standing General Assembly~~

**General Assembly delegates, throughout their year of service, shall be called upon from time to time to vote on decision items as described in 7-2, 7-3, and 7-4 between in-person General Assemblies, and as such shall constitute the Standing General Assembly (SGA). Decision items shall be placed before the SGA by the Coordinating Committee, and such votes shall be administered by Voting Administrators, according to procedures as set forth in these Bylaws and the Information Technology Protocol.**

~~7-6.1 Standing Delegates and Alternates~~

~~7-6.1(a) Delegates to the Standing General Assembly (SGA) shall be called Standing Delegates, shall be appointed by active County Organizations and shall serve for one year terms, with no term limits. Terms shall run concurrent with the GPCA's Fiscal Year.~~

~~7-6.1(b) Each active County Organization is entitled to as many Standing Delegates as it is entitled to General Assembly delegates under 7-1.2. The number of Standing Delegates per active County Organization shall be based upon the state of California's 154 Day Report of Registration in even-numbered years and its Odd-Numbered Year Report in odd-numbered years, and be calculated by the Coordinating Committee and published to the active County Organizations by the end of March, which shall form the basis for the number of delegates chosen by each active County Organization for the ensuing Fiscal Year.~~

~~7-6.2 Decision Items~~

~~The following decision items shall automatically be placed before the Standing General Assembly. Other decision items may be submitted to the Standing General Assembly by Standing Committees, Working Groups and/or active County Organizations as provided for in 7-2.1.~~

~~7-6.2(a) Endorsement/opposition of qualified statewide ballot measures;~~

~~7-6.2(b) Endorsements of statewide candidates (secret ballot);~~

~~7-6.2(c) General Assembly Minutes;~~

~~7-6.2(d) Election of the Coordinating Committee (secret ballot);~~

~~7-6.2(e) Election of the GPUS Delegation (secret ballot);~~

~~7-6.2(f) Removal for Cause petition for County Councilmembers (secret ballot);~~

~~7-6.2(g) Recall petition for Coordinating Committee and GPUS Delegation members (secret ballot).~~

7-6.3 Discussion and Voting Period

7-6.3(a) The discussion period for Proposals and Elections shall be six weeks, beginning on a Monday at 12:01 am and ending on a Sunday at 11:59pm. The discussion period for Coordinating Committee and GPUS Delegation elections shall begin on the first Monday of May.

7-6.3(b) The purpose of the discussion period is to provide an opportunity to utilize the consensus-seeking process in 7-5 within the context of utilizing electronic means, teleconferences and other methods of communication other than an in-person General Assembly.

7-6.3(c) Proposals may be amended at any time during the discussion period by the proposal's sponsor(s), except that the final amended version must be placed before the Standing General Assembly no later than on a Monday at 12:01 am preceding the end of the discussion period.

7-6.3(d) The voting period for Proposals and Elections shall commence immediately at the close of the discussion period, and shall be for one week beginning on a Monday at 12:01 am and ending on a Sunday at 11:59pm.

7-6.4 Quorum

A quorum has been reached when the number of votes cast is equal to a majority of delegate seats appointed under 7-1.2, together with a majority of all active County Organizations having cast at least one vote. In such cases, abstentions count as a vote cast.