

**Side-by-Side Comparison of 2020 and 2026
Democratic Party of Jefferson Constitutions**

Article Number	2020 Original	2026 Revision
Article I: Name	Official name of the party	Now includes variations of the name, such as “County Party” and “JeffDems.”
Article II: Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support candidates for <i>partisan</i> office. • Responsible for membership and meetings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support candidates for <i>elected</i> office. • Promote WisDems. • Lays out new Responsibilities 3-6.
Article III: Membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defines member and includes 30-day waiting period after dues payment • Includes “associate members.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Defines member but eliminates 30-day waiting period. • Creates only one category of membership and allows for students and contiguous county residents to be members.
Article IV: Organization and Election of Officers	<p><i>Appears as Article 4 and 5 (Election of Officers first)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows for additional officers as the party “desires.” • Election of officers between 11/25 and 12/30. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows for two Vice Chairs and possible combination of other roles. • Allows for the Chair to determine if additional roles are needed. • Election of officers between 11/1 and 12/31. • Any member for at least one month is eligible to hold office, and new members are eligible to

**Side-by-Side Comparison of 2020 and 2026
Democratic Party of Jefferson Constitutions**

		<p>vote with dues paid 30 days prior to election.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires officers to be willing to share their names on public sites. • If contested election, secret ballot will be tallied by committee appointed by Chair. • An elected officer may be removed for cause by 2/3 vote of members present and voting.
<p>Article IV: Duties of Officers</p>	<p><i>Listed under Article V: Organization</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair can appoint committee chair people until task completed or Chair’s term expires. • Chair is presiding officer and administrative head. • Vice Chair serves in the absence of the Chair. • Secretary maintains records. • Lays out 5 responsibilities for Treasurer. • Limits Executive Committee or Board to elected officers and up 	<p><i>Listed under Section 2</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair can appoint committee chair people who serve until task completed or “upon request of the Chair.” • Distinguishes between elected and appointed members of the Board. • Absent cause for earlier replacement, all appointed members of the Board may serve until the next election of County Party officers, at which time all appointed members of the Board shall be subject to replacement or re-

**Side-by-Side Comparison of 2020 and 2026
Democratic Party of Jefferson Constitutions**

	<p>to three additional members.</p>	<p>appointment at the discretion of the Chair.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lays out 10 specific duties for the Chair. • Lays out 5 specific duties of the Vice Chair. • Lays out 5 specific duties for the Secretary. • Lays out 5 original responsibilities for Treasurer and additional 6 responsibilities that reflect current realities of role. • No limit on the size of the Executive Committee or Board. • Requires elected officers to keep and protect property and return it.
<p>Article V: Executive Committee or Board</p>	<p><i>Listed as Article V, Section 5</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outgoing Chair serves on Board for one term. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outgoing Chair serves on Board for two years. • Defines a quorum of 50% of Board and allows general members to reverse decisions by a majority vote. • Sections 4-7 are new and spell out how to handle matters needing timely action, vacancies, and

**Side-by-Side Comparison of 2020 and 2026
Democratic Party of Jefferson Constitutions**

		unexcused absences of Board members.
Article VI: Dues and Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 2 explains member dues are split between county and state parties. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 2 more accurately describes how dues are allocated between the county and state parties. Lays out new Section 4, concerning timing and process for a budget for the County Party.
Article VII: Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows for monthly meetings or not less than once per quarter. Written notice for special meetings at least 5 days prior to meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allows for monthly meetings unless Board determines otherwise. Written notice for special meetings at least 3 days prior to meeting. If no quorum at member meeting, business can be conducted if majority of Board present. In Section 5, lays out process if meetings not called quarterly. In Section 7, lays out process if elections not held by involving State Party Chair.
Article VIII: Endorsements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No endorsements of candidates in a primary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lays out endorsement process under “unusual circumstances” with State Party.

**Side-by-Side Comparison of 2020 and 2026
Democratic Party of Jefferson Constitutions**

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sections 2-4 lay out endorsement process for Assembly, State Senate and other candidates.
Article IX:	<p>Called, <i>“Combined County Parties”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lays out process to combine permanently with another county party. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deleted
Article IX: Amendments	<p><i>Called Article X</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lays out simple amendment process with 2/3 vote required for approval. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amendments require majority vote for approval. Requires 10 days’ written notice, quorum of 15 members or 10%, and submission to State Party Constitution Committee.
Article X: Constitutional Precedence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Constitution supersedes “prior motions or rules.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Constitution supersedes “prior motions or rules,” as well as “prior versions of this Constitution.” State Party Constitution prevails over County if there is a conflict.
Article XI: Interpretation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No applicable text 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lays out a process for determining how to interpret Constitution, if there is a dispute or doubt.