



BOARD OF DIRECTORS NONPARTISAN POLICY

The League of Women Voters is nonpartisan, neither supporting nor opposing any candidates or political parties at any level of government, but always working on vital issues of concern to members and the public.

While the League encourages informed, active participation in government and politics by its members, the Board of Directors of League of Women Voters Minneapolis believes that some basic limitations on political activity by members of the Board, while they are serving in this capacity, are necessary to protect the nonpartisanship of the League as an organization.

1. **Elected Office:** A Board member shall not run for, nor hold, any partisan elective office at any level of government while an active member of the Board.
2. **Political Party Office:** A Board member shall not serve in any official position in a political party at any level of government. Any League of Women Voters Minneapolis Board member may participate in party precinct caucuses. Board members in sensitive positions (e.g. President (current, past or elect), Secretary, Treasurer, Action Chair(s), and Voter Service Chair(s)) shall not seek delegate status in the political party caucus or convention process if it involves declaring support for a particular candidate.
3. **Political Campaigns:** A Board member shall not chair a political campaign or administer fundraising for a political campaign, chair a campaign event, be a spokesperson, or work in any other significant and visible way in the campaign of a candidate for a partisan office at any level of government. Board members shall not display yard signs for campaigns or candidates for any local level or citywide office.
4. **Campaign Contributions:** The President (current, past or elect), Secretary, Treasurer, or Voter Service Chair(s) and Action Chair(s) may not attend fundraising events or make contributions to campaigns or candidates for any local level or citywide

office. It is generally appropriate to make contributions to state and national political races. Any contributions by Board members to a political party or candidate should be below the amount at which the contributor's name is required by law to be reported.

5. Social and Other Media: League of Women Voters Minneapolis Board members and staff shall not publicly indicate political affiliations or candidate preferences for any elected office while speaking in the capacity of league membership or where the perception of that capacity exists.

Speaking and acting in an individual capacity means representing one's own views separate from those of the league and without claiming league affiliation either directly or indirectly by description.

Examples of described affiliation:

- Using a league identification signature box on emails
- Using league letterhead, logos or branding for personal communications
- Identifying board membership in personal histories on social media

Acceptable actions as a League of Women Voters Minneapolis board member:

- Campaign contributions up to legal limits made privately
- Attending campaign forums and other forms of voter education
- Conducting and participating in voter registration and education efforts for everyone

Not Acceptable actions:

- Wearing candidate t-shirt or button to league event or league identification to campaign event not sponsored by the league
- Submitting a personal statement referencing a league position and league membership together
- Publicly endorsing or financially contributing to a candidate

Board members shall not speak publicly or work against any League position.

Additional Clarification: Board members shall present questions about specific situations to the LWVMpls Executive Committee where the foregoing policies do not resolve the question.