

Excerpted from Rocky Mountain Chapter Political Handbook, 2008, pp. 3-4

(This follows national SC rules)

ENDORSEMENTS

All Sierra Club endorsements must be approved by a **2/3 vote of two separate entities**. In the Rocky Mountain Chapter, those entities are as follows:

Candidate Endorsements

Federal	Chapter ExComm	National Political Committee
	(Chapter Political Committee evaluates and recommends to ExComm)	
State	Chapter Political Committee	Chapter ExComm
City or County	Group ExComm	Chapter Admin Comm

Ballot Issue Positions

State	Chapter Political Committee	Chapter ExComm
City or County	Group Political Committee	Group ExComm

Usually, the entity closest to the race acts first. A 2/3 vote means 2/3 of the entire voting membership of each entity, except:

- When a vote is taken at a regular meeting of the entity and all members were notified that political matters would be considered at the meeting, the action may be approved by 2/3 of those present, as long as the “yes” vote is more than 50% of the number of members of the entity.

- Where an entity's rules allow it to take action by email or phone voting, the count may exclude: (1) any members with a conflict of interest, (2) members who cannot be contacted because of an absence or illness, and (3) members who fail to respond within a reasonable time after being contacted. See Compliance Guidelines , § 2-600.

One of the policies of the Sierra Club is that our endorsements are to be non-partisan. If we endorse only candidates from one party, we risk being marginalized and having the other party dismiss our positions. Endorsing candidates from both parties makes clear that our agenda is about protecting the earth, not about electing a party. State or national politics may at times be dominated by one party, and we need to be able to work with the party in power or we will be powerless.