

2023 WSWRA Membership Directory and Handbook

CONSTITUTION

Article I

Name

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Washington State Water Resources Association, herein referred to as the Association. This Association is engaged in activities authorized by RCW 87 . 76 . 010.

Article II

Purpose

Section 1. The purpose of this Association shall be: to promote responsible stewardship of the water resources of the State of Washington for the benefit of all citizens; to engage in educational and other activities which promote the efficient formation and operation of irrigation districts and irrigation companies; to support the development, control, conservation, preservation and utilization of water resources in a manner which will protect the environment, promote economic growth and add stability to irrigated agriculture and related business; to propose and advocate federal, state and local policies which serve the best interests of the Association and to oppose those of contrary nature; and to work with other water user groups in this and other states and with the National Water Resources Association in the pursuance of common goals.

Article III

Membership

Section 1. Membership in the Association may be held by irrigation districts, irrigation companies, individuals, business firms and other entities interested in assisting in the goals and objectives of the Association.

Section 2. Membership shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Directors of the Association, and current payment of dues or service charges shall be a condition of membership in good standing.

Section 3. Each member in good standing shall be entitled to hold office and to vote at any general membership meeting. For group memberships, each group shall appoint one member to represent their respective organization.

Section 4. Membership in the Association shall also include membership and representation in the National Water Resources Association.

Article IV

General Membership Meetings

Section 1. A general membership meeting shall be held at least once each year at such time and place as selected by the Board of Directors. Special meetings of the general membership shall be called by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. Notice of any general membership meeting shall be mailed to the members at least ten days prior to such meeting. Members present at the annual or special general membership meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Article V

Board of Directors

Section 1. The executive authority of the Association shall be vested in a Board of Directors which shall have the authority to prescribe the duties of all officers in the Association; to establish such committees it shall deem advisable; and to fix the period of their continuance and to prescribe their purposes and objectives. The President of the Association shall be empowered to appoint any member thereof to committees as established by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall consist of fifteen (15) members elected at the annual general membership meeting. The term of office shall be three years, provided that for the year following the first annual general membership meeting of this Association there shall be elected five Directors serving a one year term, five for two years, and five for three years; for subsequent years there shall be five positions elected for a three-year term. Eight (8) Directors shall be elected from Director Divisions, as specified in Section 3 of this Article, and seven (7) Directors shall be elected "at large". An "at large" Director may be any Association member in good standing.

Section 3. The State of Washington shall be divided into six (6) Director Divisions as follows:

- DIVISION 1 - Pend O'Reille, Spokane, Stevens, and Whitman Counties
- DIVISION 2 - Asotin, Columbia, Franklin, Garfield and Walla Walla Counties
- DIVISION 3 - Benton, Kittitas, Klickitat, and Yakima Counties
- DIVISION 4 - Chelan, Ferry, and Okanogan Counties
- DIVISION 5 - Adams, Douglas, Grant, and Lincoln Counties
- DIVISION 6 - All counties of the State of Washington

Association Directors from the Director Divisions shall include one each from Divisions 1 through 5 and three from Division 6. A Director elected from a Director Division shall be the irrigation district representative to the Association.

Section 4. The Association Director's term of office shall begin at the close of the annual general membership meeting at which he or she is elected.

Section 5. In case a vacancy shall occur on the Board of Directors, such vacancy shall be filled for the balance of the term by majority vote of the remaining members of the Board.

Section 6. At any Board of Directors meeting, the presence of eight (8) Directors shall constitute a quorum for purposes of transacting business; a majority of whom shall be sufficient to carry any proposition.

Article VI Officers

Section 1. The officers of this Association shall be a President, a Vice President and a National Director for the National Water Resources Association who shall serve for a term of one year following their election by majority vote of the Board of Directors at the first Board meeting following the annual general membership meeting. In case of a vacancy in any officer position such vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the presiding officer and approval of the Directors.

Section 2. All officers of the Association shall be elected from the Board of Directors.

Section 3. An Executive Secretary and Treasurer shall be appointed by the Board of Directors. The President of the Association shall be Chairman of the Board and shall also preside at all general membership meetings.

Article VII Membership Fees

Section 1. Membership fees or service charges in the Association and the schedule of payment thereof shall be established by the Board of Directors.

Article VIII Bylaws

Section 1. Bylaws not inconsistent with the provisions of this Constitution may be adopted by the Board of Directors; such bylaws may be amended only by a majority vote of the Directors, or at any general membership meeting.

Article IX Amendments

Section 1. This Constitution, or any part thereof, may be amended by a majority vote of the members present at a general membership meeting of the Association. Written notice of any proposed amendment shall be given to the membership at least thirty days prior to the date of the general membership meeting.