

LOUISIANA WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION

CONSTITUTION

Article 1 – Name and Location

The name of this organization shall be the LOUISIANA WATER ENVIRONMENT ASSOCIATION, hereinafter designated as the Association, and abbreviated “LWEA.” The geographic area shall comprise the State of Louisiana.

Article 2 – Objectives

The objectives of the Association shall be:

- 2.1 The advancement of fundamental and practical knowledge concerning the nature, collection, treatment, reclamation, and disposal of water-borne wastes;
- 2.2 The advancement of knowledge in the design, construction, operation and management of water-borne systems, treatment and reclamation works;
- 2.3 The study, promotion, and encouragement of improved sanitation of waterways;
- 2.4 The promotion of good public relations and the encouragement of sound legislation relating to the water pollution field;
- 2.5 The improvement in the professional status of personnel engaged in the design management, and operation of water pollution control systems;
- 2.6 The stimulation of interest in and the awareness of the conservation of our water resources;
- 2.7 The encouragement of a friendly exchange of information and experience among its members, and other interested persons, by an annual meeting of its members, affiliation with the Louisiana Conference on Water Supply, Sewerage and Industrial Wastes (hereinafter designated as the Louisiana Conference), and affiliation with the Water Environment Federation (hereinafter designated as the Federation) and participation in the activities of those organizations.

Article 3 – Membership

- 3.1 The membership of the Association shall consist of persons and groups of persons interested in any of the objectives of the Association (Article 2) and having such qualifications as are prescribed in the Bylaws for the various grades of membership.
- 3.2 The term “Active Member” as used in this Constitution shall include all persons having the rights and privileges of the Active Members as prescribed in the Bylaws.
- 3.3 The term “Professional Wastewater Operator (PWO) Member” as used in this Constitution shall include all persons having the rights and privileges of the Professional Wastewater Operator Members as prescribed by the Bylaws.

Article 4 – Officers

- 4.1 All officers shall be Active Members or PWO Members of the Association. . The officers of the Association shall be a President, President-Elect, a Vice-President or Vice-Presidents, one or more Delegates to serve on the House of Delegates of the Federation as provided for in the constitution of the Federation, a PWO Zone Council Representative, and a Secretary-Treasurer or a Secretary and a Treasurer.
- 4.2 These officers, together with the retiring President, shall constitute the Association’s Executive Committee. The President or Delegate (s) shall serve on the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Conference.

Article 5 – Election of Officers

- 5.1 The nominating committee shall consist of the three latest living past-presidents of the Association. In the event three past-presidents are not available to serve, the President shall appoint Active Members or PWO Members to fill any vacancies on the nominating committee. The nominating committee shall report to the membership at least 30 days before the annual meeting and shall recommend at least one name for each elective office about to become vacant and which is provided by the Executive Committee under Article 5 of the Bylaws. Following the report of the nominating committee to the membership at the annual meeting, the President shall call for any additional nominations from the floor at the time of the annual meeting. If more than one name is placed in nomination for any office, voting shall be by ballot. Election of officers except the PWO Representative, shall be by those members present at the annual meeting. The PWO Representative shall be elected by PWO Members at the annual meeting.

5.2 Upon completion of his term of office, or in event a vacancy exists in the office of President, there shall be automatic advancement from President-Elect to President.

5.3 In the case of vacancies in the offices of President-Elect, Vice-President, Director, Secretary, PWO Representative, or Treasurer (or Secretary-Treasurer), the nominating committee shall select nominees promptly for such offices and nominees may be voted on at any regular meeting of the Association or by ballot.

Article 6 – Terms of Officers

6.1 The terms of office of all officers except the Federation Delegate (s) shall be for approximately one year, which terms shall start immediately following the annual meeting of the Association following their election, and continue until successors qualify.

6.2 The term of the Federation Delegate or Delegates shall be three years as determined by the annual meeting of the Federation. The Delegate or Delegates shall not be eligible to succeed themselves in consecutive terms.

Article 7 – Amendments

Amendments to this Constitution may originate in the Executive Committee, or through it on written petition of ten Active Members. The Secretary shall provide notices and complete text of an amendment, on the instruction of the Executive Committee, to each member at least thirty days before it is to be voted upon. Amendments may be voted upon at meetings or by ballot. A two-thirds majority of votes cast is required for passage.

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