

ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN STATE ENGINEERS CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I. Name

The name of this Association shall be Association of Western State Engineers.

ARTICLE II. Representation

The states represented in this Association shall be: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

ARTICLE III. Membership

Section 1. The Association shall consist of Members, Honorary Members, and Associate Members.

Section 2. Members shall be the State Engineer or other official of each state named in Article II above having principal responsibility for the administration of the laws governing the appropriation, distribution or control of the water resources of each state.

Section 3. Honorary Members shall be all former Members, upon retirement from their respective offices as Members. They shall have the rights and privileges of a Member except the right to vote.

Section 4. Associate Members, not to exceed two in number from any one state, may be named to represent the states named in Article II above. They shall have the rights and privileges of a Member except the rights to vote or to be an officer in the Association. They shall be admitted to associate membership upon receipt by the Association's President and Secretary-Treasurer of a letter of designation from the Member of any state named in Article II above. Associate membership shall continue until the Member or his or her successor acts to replace the Associate Member.

ARTICLE IV. Purpose

Section 1. To formulate broad principles applicable to the member states for the development, use, control, and regulation of the waters thereof.

Section 2. To assist one another in the solution of individual problems through the exchange of ideas and experiences.

Section 3. To cooperate in preserving the states' inherent right to develop, use, control, and distribute the water thereof and to facilitate the discussion of interstate water problems.

Section 4. To enhance the beneficial and efficient use of water by encouraging the improvement of the laws relating thereto and by other proper means.

Section 5. To circulate among members such information as may be helpful in the discharge of their official duties.

Section 6. To provide advice and recommendations on applicable water issues by position or resolution to the Federal Government or other entities as may be deemed appropriate by the members.

ARTICLE V. Organization, Meetings and Procedure

Section 1. A President, Vice-President, and Second Vice-President shall be elected annually by a majority vote of the Members present at the annual meeting, including Members participating in the meeting by teleconference or videoconference. They shall serve through the 12 consecutive months next following their election and shall be ineligible to succeed themselves in their respective offices. The President shall chair all regular and special meetings of the Association unless he or she defers to the Vice-President or Second Vice-President. If the President resigns mid-term or is otherwise unable to fulfill his or her responsibilities, the Vice-President shall assume the responsibilities and authority of the President for the remainder of the term and shall call a special meeting to elect one Member to round out the Executive Committee until the next annual meeting. If the President and Vice-President both resign mid-term or are otherwise unable to fulfill their responsibilities, the Second Vice-President shall assume the responsibilities and authority of the President for the remainder of the term and shall call a special meeting to elect two Members to round out the Executive Committee until the next annual meeting.

Section 2. A Secretary-Treasurer shall be appointed by the Association at its annual meeting.. The Secretary-Treasurer shall transact the usual business entrusted to a Secretary-Treasurer including but not limited to preparing official meeting minutes, maintaining the Association's records, and managing the Association's funds.. The Secretary-Treasurer may be appointed for consecutive terms at the pleasure of the Association.. Should the Secretary-Treasurer resign between annual meetings of the Association, the President shall appoint an acting Secretary-Treasurer until the next meeting of the Association.

Section 3. There shall be an Executive Committee of four, consisting of the President, Vice-President, Second Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer who shall transact any necessary business arising between the various meetings of the Association. The Executive Committee shall have authority by unanimous action to audit, approve, and order paid any proper expense which may have to be incurred by the Association in the transaction of its business.

Section 4. The Association shall hold an annual meeting at a time and place selected at the preceding annual meeting provided that the time or place of such annual meeting may be changed by decision of the Executive Committee if necessary. Other meetings, including meetings by teleconference or videoconference, may be called by the President with the consent of a majority of the Executive Committee.

Section 5. A quorum shall consist of at least ten Members and shall be necessary to transact all business at regular or special meetings. Members participating by teleconference or videoconference shall be counted as present at the meeting for quorum. In the absence of a Member, he or she may designate a proxy from the state to exercise all rights and privileges of that Member at that meeting by notice to the President and Secretary-Treasurer. In the event that a quorum is not present at the annual meeting, all business shall not be considered to be official until distributed to all Members for review and concurrence within a set period of time

specified by the meeting chair. A negative response from any voting Member on any such business item shall invalidate the non-quorum action taken unless it is further considered at a subsequent meeting.

Section 6. There shall be a Nominations Committee consisting of three Members appointed by the President immediately upon the assembling of the annual meeting, whose duty shall be to nominate a President, Vice-President, and Second Vice-President.

Section 7. The President of the Association shall appoint such other committees as are necessary to carry out the objectives and conduct the business of the Association.

Section 8. Members may invite guests to attend regular or special meetings of the Association subject to prior approval from the President. Guests shall normally be limited to federal officials, representatives of other organizations, or subject matter experts, as appropriate to present relevant information to the membership or to engage in relevant dialogue with the membership. Spouses or companions of Members, Honorary Members, or Associate Members are welcome to attend field trips and social gatherings at the annual meeting.

Section 9. The Association may hold an annual workshop or special workshops for Members' staffs to exchange information on designated topics relevant to the Association purposes, at such times and places selected at the annual meeting or by the Executive Committee. Attendance at these workshops may include all categories of membership unless specified differently by the members.

ARTICLE VI. Finances

In order to defray the proper expenses of the Association, Members, Honorary Members, Associate Members, and others attending the Association's meetings, excepting support staff and the Secretary-Treasurer, shall pay the appropriate registration fees which shall aim to be sufficient to cover conference expenses and other annual expenses of the Association. . Those participating in meetings remotely may contribute as they choose. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be custodian of, and responsible for, the funds of the Association and shall disburse the same upon the approval of the Executive Committee. The Secretary-Treasurer shall, at each annual meeting, make a full and complete report of financial transactions. The President, with the approval of the Executive Committee, shall have the authority to set the registration fee to be collected from each individual attending the annual meeting.

ARTICLE VI. Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Members present at any annual meeting.

(Adopted October 30, 1928)
Amended November 15, 1930
Amended September 12, 1946
Amended September 11, 1947
Amended August 25, 1948
Amended September 28, 1955
Amended August 23, 1957
Amended September 10, 1958
Amended August 15, 1963

Amended December 2, 1966
Amended September 13, 1968
Amended September 18, 1969
Amended August 30, 1974
Amended September 20, 1977
Amended October 1, 1982
Amended September 30, 1983
Amended October 3, 1984
Amended October 19, 2011