

PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE LWVSC BYLAWS

The LWVSC Board recommends revisions to the LWVSC Bylaws as indicated below. Text being added or altered is in the righthand column in bold green font; text being deleted is indicated in the lefthand column with strike-through. The complete bylaws are available at https://my.lwv.org/sites/default/files/league_of_women_voters_of_south_carolina_bylaws_2019_final.pdf.

CURRENT TEXT

ARTICLE IV - LOCAL LEAGUES AND MEMBER-AT-LARGE (MAL) UNITS

Sec. 2. Member-at-large (MAL) Units.

- a. The state board may authorize the establishment of MAL Units in communities in which ~~the establishment of a recognized local League is not feasible~~. MAL Units shall operate within the limitations established by the LWVUS and within guidelines adopted by the state board.
- b. In the event of recurrent failure to adhere to the guidelines for MAL Units or to operate within the limitations established by the LWVUS or within state guidelines, the state board may withdraw approval of the MAL unit. All funds held by a MAL unit from which recognition has been withdrawn shall be paid to the state League.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

Sec. 5. The Treasurer. The treasurer shall perform such duties as customarily pertain to the office; arrange for an ~~annual~~ review of the books by a qualified person not on the state board; and, at the direction of the state board, maintain deposits in financial institutions authorized by the state board.

ARTICLE VI - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sec. 3. Executive Committee. The state board may appoint an executive committee consisting of ~~no fewer than 5 members of the board~~. The executive committee shall exercise such power and authority as may be delegated to it by the state

PROPOSED TEXT

ARTICLE IV - LOCAL LEAGUES AND MEMBER-AT-LARGE (MAL) UNITS

Sec. 2. Member-at-large (MAL) Units

- a. The state board may authorize the establishment of MAL Units in communities in which **no recognized local League currently exists**. MAL Units shall operate within the limitations established by LWVUS and within guidelines adopted by the state board.
- b. In the event of recurrent failure to adhere to the guidelines for MAL Units or to operate within the limitations established by the LWVUS or within **LWVSC** guidelines, the state board may withdraw approval of the MAL unit. All funds held by a MAL Unit from which recognition has been withdrawn shall be paid to the state League.

ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

Sec. 5. The Treasurer. The treasurer shall perform such duties as customarily pertain to the office; arrange for a **biennial** review of the books by a qualified person not on the state board; and, at the direction of the state board, maintain deposits in financial institutions authorized by the state board.

ARTICLE VI - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sec. 3. Executive Committee. The state board may appoint an executive committee consisting of **the officers of the board**. The executive committee shall exercise such power and authority as may be delegated to it by the state board at its

board at its discretion and shall report to the state board on all actions taken by it between regular meetings of the board. The president shall be ex officio chair.

Sec. 4. Meetings. At least 4 regular meetings shall be held annually at such time and place as the board may determine. The president may call special meetings and, upon the written request of 5 members of the board, shall call a special meeting. Notice of all regular meetings shall be given by mail at least two weeks before the meeting, and notice of all special meetings shall be so given at least six days before the meeting. During the convention or council meeting the president may call, or upon the request of 5 members shall call, a special meeting by giving written notice to each member of the board. More than 3 unexcused absences shall constitute a resignation.

Sec. 6. Board Communications. When an urgent decision must be made by the Board between regular meetings, the President may contact members of the Board using conference calls and/or email. ~~Conference calls may be used for discussion, but both the text of motions and the vote should be in writing, with email voters using the "reply all" mode.~~ Board members must be given full information about the issue to be decided and sufficient time to share opinions before the final decision is given. A quorum of the Board must respond or the votes are not valid. ~~The emergency decision must be confirmed by a vote at the next board meeting for inclusion in the minutes.~~

discretion and shall report to the state board on all actions taken by it between regular meetings of the board. The president shall be ex officio chair.

Sec. 4. Meetings. At least four regular meetings shall be held annually at such time and place as the board may determine. The president may call special meetings and, upon the written request of five members of the board, shall call a special meeting. **Meetings may be conducted via teleconferencing or video conferencing technology.** Notice of all regular meetings shall be given by mail **or email** at least two weeks before the meeting, and notice of all special meetings shall be so given at least six days before the meeting. During the convention or council meeting the president may call, or upon the request of five members shall call, a special meeting by giving written **or emailed** notice to each member of the board. More than three unexcused absences **from regularly scheduled state board meetings** shall constitute a resignation.

Sec. 6. Board Communications. When an urgent decision must be made by the state board between regular meetings, the president may **convene the** members of the board **via teleconferencing or videoconferencing technology.** Board members must be given full information about the issue to be decided and sufficient time to share opinions before the final decision is **made.** A quorum of the board must **participate or the decision cannot be made.**

ARTICLE VII - CONVENTION

Sec. 2. Composition. The convention shall consist of:

- a. delegates chosen by the members of each local League as follows: Each League shall be entitled to at least one delegate; when local League membership reaches 15 voting members, the local League shall be entitled to one additional delegate; thereafter one additional delegate shall be authorized for each additional ten voting members up to 105 and one additional delegate for each additional 25 or major fraction thereof. The official membership count shall be determined by state office records of voting members as of February 1 of the year in which convention is held.
- b. one delegate from each MAL Unit chosen by its members.
- c. the members of the state board.

ARTICLE VIII - COUNCIL

Sec. 4. Powers. The council shall give guidance to the state board on program and methods of work.

- a. In the event of an emergency, the council may change the program, only upon recommendation of the state board or a local League, using the following procedure: (1) at least six weeks before the council meeting any local League proposing a change shall submit it to the state board which shall decide whether to recommend it; (2) at least four weeks before the council meeting, the state board shall send to the president of local Leagues and the chair of MAL units all proposed changes; (3) any change proposed by a local League and not recommended by the state board shall first require a majority vote of the council for consideration; (4) a two-thirds vote shall be required to adopt any change.
- b. The council shall ~~adopt a budget and~~ shall transact such other business as may properly come before it.

ARTICLE VII - CONVENTION

Sec. 2. Composition. The convention shall consist of:

- a. delegates chosen **from within each local League membership** as follows: Each League shall be entitled to at least one delegate; when local League membership reaches 15 voting members, the local League shall be entitled to one additional delegate; thereafter one additional delegate shall be authorized for each additional ten voting members up to 105 and one additional delegate for each additional 25 or major fraction thereof. The official membership count shall be determined by state office records of voting members as of February 1 of the year in which convention is held.
- b. one delegate from each MAL Unit chosen by its members.
- c. the members of the state board.

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- b. **The council shall transact such other business as may properly come before it.**

ARTICLE IX - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Sec. 3. Report of Nominating Committee. The report of the nominating committee, containing its nominations for officers and directors and the chair and two members of the next nominating committee, shall be sent to the president of local Leagues and the chair of MAL Units at least four weeks before convention. The report of the nominating committee shall be presented to the convention at its first session. Nominations may be made from the floor provided the consent of the nominee has been obtained.

ARTICLE X - PRINCIPLES AND PROGRAM

- d. ~~Changes in the proposed program, because of altered conditions, may be recommended by local League boards and MAL units up to two weeks before the state board acts upon the proposed changes, allowing local League boards and MAL units to respond before the state board meeting.~~
- e. The convention shall adopt a program by a majority vote. Program recommendations submitted to the state board but not ~~proposed~~ by the board may be adopted by the convention only if they were submitted at least eight weeks before the convention and provided consideration is ordered by a majority vote and adoption is voted on a following day. A two-thirds vote is required to amend or adopt a state League position by concurrence on the floor of convention.

ARTICLE XI - NATIONAL CONVENTION AND COUNCIL

Sec. 1. National Convention. The state board shall elect delegates to the national convention in the number allowed LWVSC under the provisions of the bylaws of LWVUS.

ARTICLE IX - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Sec. 3. Report of Nominating Committee. The report of the nominating committee, containing its nominations for officers and directors and the chair and two members of the next nominating committee, **shall be sent to the state board at least six weeks before convention and** to the president of local Leagues and the chair of MAL Units at least four weeks before convention. The report of the nominating committee shall be presented to the convention at its first session. Nominations may be made from the floor provided the consent of the nominee has been obtained.

ARTICLE X - PRINCIPLES AND PROGRAM

- d. The convention shall adopt a program by a majority vote. Program recommendations submitted to the state board but not **recommended** by the state board may be adopted by the convention only if they were submitted **by a local League** at least eight weeks before the convention and provided consideration is ordered by a majority vote **at convention** and adoption is voted **by a two-thirds vote** on a following day. A two-thirds vote is required to amend or adopt a state League position by concurrence on the floor of convention.

ARTICLE XI - NATIONAL CONVENTION AND COUNCIL

Sec.1. National Convention. The state board shall **appoint** delegates to the national convention in the number allowed LWVSC under the provisions of the bylaws of LWVUS.

Sec. 2. National Council. The state board shall elect delegates to the national council in the number allowed LWVSC under the provisions of the bylaws of LWVUS.

ARTICLE XII - FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Sec. 3. Budget.

- a. The budget shall be prepared by a committee made up of one off-board member, one member of the state board, and an off board chair appointed by the state board. The treasurer shall be, ex officio, a member of the budget committee. The committee shall submit a proposed budget for state board approval at least six weeks before the convention or council.
- b. The state board shall send to the president of local Leagues and the chair of MAL units, at least four weeks before the convention or council, a proposed budget for the next fiscal year. A budget shall be adopted by a majority vote.

Sec. 2. National Council. The state board shall **appoint** delegates to the national council in the number allowed LWVSC under the provisions of the bylaws of LWVUS.

ARTICLE XII - FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Sec. 3. Budget.

- a. The **biennial** budget shall be prepared by a committee made up of one off-board member, one member of the state board, and an off-board chair appointed by the state board. The treasurer shall be, ex officio, a member of the budget committee. The committee shall submit a proposed budget for state board approval at least six weeks **before the convention**.
- b. The state board shall send to the president of local Leagues and the chair of MAL units, at least four weeks before the convention, a proposed budget for the next **two** fiscal years. A budget shall be adopted by a majority vote.

Non-Partisanship Policy for LWVSC

Board Members—In order to maintain the nonpartisan image of the League, a state board member must resign if she or he runs for a partisan political office elected by the general public, or accepts appointment to such an office. Public endorsement of any partisan candidate or party must be avoided by the president, voter services chair, and LWVSC authorized lobbyists. If there is any question about the political activity of any state board member, this should be brought before the state board for review and decision.

If a spouse or partner of a state board member runs for any partisan political office, this need not disqualify the state board member from a position of the board. This should be brought before the state board for review and decision.

Social Media: A Board member shall not indicate her/his political affiliations or candidate preferences at any level of government in the media, including on social networking sites or other public venues that also prominently identify her/him as a member of the LWVSC.

