

**By Laws**  
**ALABAMA SECTION**  
**AMERICAN WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION**  
Adopted November 8, 2001

**Article I. Name**

The name of this Section of the American Water Resources Association (AWRA) shall be the Alabama Section.

**Article II. Territory**

The Alabama Section shall include and be limited to the State of Alabama, except as provided in Article V Section 5.01

**Article III. Location**

The Headquarters of the Section shall be the address designated by the elected Secretary.

**Article IV. Objectives**

The objectives of this Section shall be:

Section 4.01 To provide a common forum in which professionals in water resources and related areas can meet, discuss, and exchange ideas pertaining to all aspects of water resources research and management.

Section 4.02 To encourage and/or assist in:

- (a) Promoting research and technological, social, economic, and legislative advances in all aspects of water and related resources planning, utilization, management, and development.
- (b) Collecting and disseminating information, knowledge, and data concerning all aspects of water and related resources through publications, symposia, and other media.
- (c) Relating the needs of management, educational institutions and governmental agencies for specialized services and guidance to qualified professionals and consultants in water and related resources and environmental problems.
- (d) To promote the rational and objective protection, development, utilization, and management of water resources.

- (e) To cooperate with Federal, State, and local agencies, private companies, and other local sections and chapters of organizations concerned with water resources.

Section 4.03 To encourage students in water resources at Alabama universities by offering scholarships and competitive events.

## **Article V. Membership**

Section 5.01 There shall be only one class of Section membership embracing all classes of AWRA membership, including student members, with equal rights and privileges for all. An eligible person residing temporarily outside the Section territory or residing in an area without an active Section may be a member of this Section.

Section 5.02 Eligibility requirements for Section membership shall be open to all interested parties. Membership in AWRA (National) shall be required for officers of the Section and is recommended for all Section members.

Section 5.03 Upon payment of Section dues such persons who qualify under Section 1 above shall acquire membership in the Section.

Section 5.04 Any individual who is interested in AWRA is entitled to attend the meetings of this Section. Only Alabama Section members may vote, serve on committees, or hold office in this Section.

Section 5.05 Membership in the Section will be terminated upon failure to pay Section dues, transfer to another Section, or resignation.

## **Article VI. Officers**

Section 6.01 The officers of the Alabama Section shall be a President, President-elect, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and a Membership Chairman. A combined office of Secretary—Treasurer may be filled in lieu of separate officers for each.

Section 6.02 The President shall preside at meetings, shall, in consultation with the Board of Directors, appoint all committees, and shall perform all other duties incident to the office. The President shall prepare, in collaboration with the Secretary, an annual report of the Section's activities to be presented to the annual meeting of the Section and to be forwarded by the Secretary to the President of AWRA (National).

Section 6.03 The President-elect shall perform the duties of the President when the latter is absent and other duties assigned by the President.

Section 6.04 The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the Section meetings, issue notices of meetings, and perform all duties incident to the office including publishing the newsletter.

Section 6.05 The Treasurer shall be responsible for all funds of the Section and may be responsible for dues of AWRA if agreed to between the Board of Directors and AWRA. The Treasurer's accounts may be audited at the close of each year. The Treasurer shall prepare an annual report and financial statement for presentation at the annual meeting. The treasurer is responsible for filing any required Federal and State tax returns to maintain the tax-exempt status of the Section.

Section 6.06 The officers of the Section shall serve for one year and may, with the exception of the President and President-elect succeed themselves, but shall not serve consecutively for more than two years. Elections shall be held no later than September of each year. Terms of office shall begin on October 1 following the election and terminate after one year or such later date as a successor is duly named and qualified.

Section 6.07 Section officers shall be selected from the membership of the Section and must reside within the Section territory.

Section 6.08 Section officers shall be nominated by the Nominating Committee. In addition, nominations may be made by written petition signed by not less than 10% of the Section members in good standing and delivered to the Section Secretary at least 60 days prior to the Section's annual meeting. Ballots listing the nominations shall be mailed to the Section membership at least 30 days prior to the Section's annual meeting. To be elected, a candidate must receive a plurality of the votes cast.

## **Article VII. Board of Directors**

Section 7.01 The board of Directors shall be the officers and the immediate past President.

Section 7.02 The Board of Directors shall manage the affairs of the Section, including administration, program development, and supervision of financial affairs. It shall meet at least three times annually and at the call of the President.

Section 7.03 If a vacancy develops in the Board of Directors, the remaining members of the Board are authorized to appoint an eligible Section member to fill the vacancy for the un-expired term.

Section 7.04 Members of the Board of Directors must reside within the Section territory.

## **Article VIII. Committees**

Section 8.01 The following committees shall be appointed, if needed, by the President in consultation with the Board of Directors. The duties of these committees shall be as indicated:

- (a) Auditing Committee - to audit the accounts of the Treasurer.
- (b) Membership Committee - to promote the AWRA and to recruit new members.
- (c) Nominating Committee - to nominate qualified candidates for the office of the Section in accordance with the provisions of Article VI.
- (d) Program Committee -to make arrangements for all meetings of the Section. The President-elect shall be chairman of the Program Committee.
- (e) Other standing and special committees, if needed.

Section 8.02 Special committees shall serve until their duties are accomplished, but may be dissolved upon a majority vote at any Section meeting. Members of standing committees shall serve until the end of the officers' year and shall be eligible for reappointment. The Board of Directors shall determine the committees to be appointed and recommend the scope of their functions.

Section 8.03 No committee shall expend funds of the Section unless authorized by the Board of Directors.

## **Article IX. Meetings**

Section 9.01 There shall be an annual meeting of the Section. The Secretary shall notify the Section's membership of the date and place (to be set by the Board of Directors) at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting. Special meetings shall be called by the President upon written petition of not less than 20 per cent of the Section members, or may be called when in the opinion of the President there is business which should be brought before the membership for action prior to the next annual meeting. At least 30 days advance notice shall be given of any special meeting.

Section 9.02 Any business which may properly come before the Section membership may be discussed and acted upon at the annual meeting. Only that business may be discussed or acted upon at a special meeting which has been announced by written notice sent by the Secretary or the President to the members at least 15 days prior to such special meeting.

Section 9.03 A quorum at any duly called Section meeting shall consist of the members present.

Section 9.04 The order of business and all parliamentary procedure at any meeting shall be in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, except where this conflicts with the By—laws of the Section or AWRA.

## **Article X. Dues and Funds**

Section 10.01 Annual dues shall be determined by the board of directors. Dues are payable on the first day of October to the Treasurer of the Section.

Section 10.02 The funds of the Section shall be the responsibility of the Section Treasurer. Funds shall be deposited to the credit of the Section in a bank approved by the Board of Directors. The account bank records shall be available for inspection by any Section officer.

Section 10.03 Dual signatory authority for the Section Account shall be granted to the President and Treasurer.

## **Article XI. Tax Exempt Status**

Section 11.01 The Section may apply and maintain the status of a tax-free organization as defined by the Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3).

Section 11.02 The Section may accept grants, donation and gifts to further the objectives of the Section.

## **Article XII. Dissolution**

Section 12.01 The Section may be dissolved by a two-thirds vote of all the members of the Section through mail balloting, or by the Board of Directors of AWRA for just cause or if the Section becomes inactive.

Section 12.02 If dissolution is favorably acted upon, all just debts shall be paid out of the funds of the Section, and any remaining Section funds and other assets, together with all chapter records and files, shall be transferred to AWRA.

## **Article XIII. Amendment**

Section 13.01 Amendments to the bylaws may be proposed by the board of directors or upon written petition of not less than 20 percent of section members.

Section 13.02 These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of responding members, provided that notice of the proposed amendment shall be given to each Section member by posting or mailing thirty days prior to the date of the actual vote.