

MRPEA Organizational Review Committee Recommendations

The following recommendations from the Organizational Review Committee were discussed and approved by the MRPEA Board of Directors April 11, pending adoption of any necessary Constitutional amendments by the membership at the Annual Meeting July 11.

Recommendations Requiring No Constitutional Changes

Treasurer

The Treasurer shall (1) be an elected officer, (2) serve on the Executive Committee, and (3) oversee financial records and make reports of financial transactions to the Board of Directors.

Justification

To adhere to the Constitution, all officers must be elected by the membership in the same manner. Moreover, every officer, including the Treasurer, should serve on a voluntary basis and be a retired or active member of the Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi (PERS), as well as a dues-paying member of MRPEA.

Districts

Reassign members in Warren and Yazoo counties from District 4 (Metro Jackson Area, the largest district) to District 5 (The Delta).

Justification

This lowers the number of members in District 4 and keeps Hinds, Madison, and Rankin counties (commonly referred to as Metro Jackson) together.

Recommendations Requiring Constitutional Changes

Life Directors

Amend the Constitution to prospectively define a new Life Member of the Board of Directors beginning August 1, 2016, as a past president who is a dues-paying member and who has served as vice president and president for a minimum combined period of four years and to provide that future Life Members of the Board of Directors shall serve in an advisory (non-voting) capacity. **Current Life Members of the Board of Directors will be grandfathered and may continue to serve in a voting capacity as long as they wish to serve.**

Justification

Provides a clear and objective basis for individuals to become Honorary Life Members of the Board of Directors.

Constitutional Change

ARTICLE V, BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS, Section 2., Board of Directors.
(e) ~~Those members of MRPEA who were original founders of the Association and members of the Association who have served with distinction on the Board of Directors for at least eight years~~ Past MRPEA presidents who have served as vice president and president for a minimum combined period of four years may ~~request to become~~ Honorary Life Members of the Board of Directors beginning August 1, 2016, and shall act solely in an advisory capacity. ~~The Board of Directors shall determine procedures and qualifications for those making a Life Member request.~~

Board Size

Amend the Constitution to reduce the number of elected multi-year board members from 15 to 10, with one board member from each district and two at-large members. This change will be implemented through attrition until the number is reduced from 15 to 10. The Nominating Committee will be charged by the President with the responsibility of ensuring over time that each of the eight districts has at least one board member.

Justification

Provides a more manageable number of board members and ensures that all districts have fair and equal representation. This change will reduce the total size of the MRPEA Board of Directors from 40 to 35, which would include four elected officers, 10 elected multi-year board members, the immediate past president, eight district directors, 10 life members of the Board, and two retiree representatives serving on the PERS Board of Trustees.

Constitutional Change

ARTICLE V, BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS, Section 2., Board of Directors. (b) There shall be ~~fifteen~~ 10 MRPEA elected Board Members with one board member from each district and two at-large members. Five shall be elected each year at the Annual Meeting upon their nomination by a committee appointed by the President. They shall serve three-year staggered terms.

Board Meetings

Amend the Constitution to provide that the Board of Directors will schedule meetings as deemed necessary.

Justification

This will give the Board of Directors the flexibility to decide whether to continue with the regular quarterly meetings or meet less often, possibly three times a year instead of four, if deemed appropriate.

Constitutional Change

ARTICLE IV, MEETINGS, Section 2., Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall hold ~~regular quarterly~~ scheduled meetings at a time and place designated by the President. Additional board meetings may be called by the President provided a notice of 10 days is given prior to the called meetings.