



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN  
VOTERS  
OF MESA COUNTY**

**BYLAWS**

**Article I  
NAME**

**Section 1. Name.** The name of this organization shall be the League of Women Voters of Mesa County. This local League is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States, hereinafter referred to in these bylaws as LWVUS, and the League of Women Voters of Colorado.

**Article II  
PURPOSE AND POLICY**

**Section 1. Purposes.** The purposes of the League of Women Voters of Mesa County are to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

**Section 2. Political Policy.** The League shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.

**Article III  
MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1. Eligibility.** Any person who subscribes to the purpose and policy of the League shall be eligible for membership.

**Section. 2. Types of Membership.** The membership of the League of Women Voters of Mesa County shall be composed of voting members and associate members.

a) Voting members shall be citizens at least 18 years of age. Voting members shall also be voting members of League of Women Voters of Colorado and League of Women Voters of United States.

b) Associate members shall be all other members. ie non-citizens, persons not yet 18 years of age

c) Those who have been members of the League for 50 years or more shall be honorary life members excused from the payment of dues.

**Article IV  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Section 1. Number, Manner of Selection, and Term of Office.** The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers of the League, six elected Directors, and not more than six appointed Directors. Three of the elected Directors shall be elected by the general membership at each Annual Meeting and shall serve for a term of two years, or until their successors have been elected and qualified. The elected members shall appoint such additional Directors, not exceeding six, as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the League. The terms of office of the appointed Directors shall be one year and shall expire at the conclusion of the next Annual Meeting.

**Section 2. Qualifications.** No person shall be elected or appointed or shall continue to serve as an officer or director of this organization unless she or he is a voting member of the League of Women Voters of Mesa County.

**Section 3. Vacancies.** Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors by reason of the resignation, death or disqualification of an officer or elected member may be filled until the next Annual Meeting, by majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors. Any member who is absent from three consecutive board meetings without valid reason shall be deemed to have resigned. The board retains the right to remove from office any board member who does not comply with League bylaws, policies, principles, and procedures.

**Section. 4. Powers and Duties.** The Board of Directors shall have full charge of the property and business of the organization, with full power and authority to manage and conduct same, subject to the instructions of the general membership. It shall plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the Program as adopted by the National Convention, the State Convention, and the Annual Meeting. The Board shall create and designate such special committees as it may deem necessary.

**Article V  
OFFICERS**

**Section 1. Enumeration and Election of Officers.** The Officers of the League of Women Voters of Mesa County shall be a President, a First Vice President, a Second Vice President, a Treasurer, and a Secretary. The President, First Vice President, Second Vice President and Secretary shall take office immediately upon election. The Treasurer

shall take office as of the first day of July of the year of election, this being the first day of the fiscal year. The President and the First Vice President shall each serve a term of one (1) year. The Second Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary shall each serve a term of two (2) years, with the Second Vice President and the Treasurer being elected in the even-numbered years and the Secretary on the odd-numbered years.

**Section 2. The President.** The President shall preside at all meetings of the organization and of the Board of Directors; may, in the absence or disability of the Treasurer, sign or endorse checks, drafts, and notes; shall be ex officio, a member of all committees except the Nominating Committee; shall have such usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office of the President and perform such other duties as may be designated by the Board.

**Section 3. The Vice Presidents.** The two Vice Presidents, in the order of their rank shall, in the event of absence, disability, resignation, or death of the President, possess all the powers and perform all the duties of that office, until such time as the Board of Directors shall select one of its members to perform such other duties as the President and Board may designate.

**Section 4. The Secretary.** The Secretary shall keep minutes of all business meetings of the League of Women Voters of Mesa County and all business meetings of the Board of Directors; shall notify all Officers and Directors of their election; shall sign, with the President, all contracts and other instruments when so authorized by the Board and shall perform such other functions as may be incident to the office.

**Section 5. The Treasurer.** The Treasurer shall collect and receive all moneys due; shall be the custodian of these moneys, shall deposit them in a bank designated by the Board of Directors, and shall disburse the same only upon order of the Board; shall present statements to the Board at their regular meetings and an annual report to the Annual Meeting.

## **Article VI FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION**

**Section 1. Fiscal Year.** The fiscal year of the League of Women Voters of Mesa County shall commence on the first day of July each year.

**Section 2. Dues.** Maximum annual dues shall be determined by a majority of those members present and voting at an Annual Meeting. Dues shall be payable on October first. Any member who fails to pay dues within two (2) months after they become payable shall be dropped from the membership roll. Where two (2) or more members reside in the same household, annual dues for each additional member above one (1) shall be approximately two-thirds (2/3 rds) of the current annual dues. Only one (1) copy of any League publication shall be delivered to each such household.

**Section 3. Budget.** A Budget for the ensuing year shall be submitted by the Board of Directors to the Annual Meeting for adoption. The budget shall include support for the work of the League as a whole.

**Section 4. Budget Committee.** A Budget Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at least two (2) months prior to the Annual Meeting to prepare a budget for the ensuing year. The proposed budget shall be sent to all members one month before the Annual Meeting. The Treasurer shall not be eligible to serve as chairman of the Budget Committee.

**Section 5. Annual Review.** The board is responsible for seeing that an annual review of the financial records is conducted.

**Section 6. Distribution of Funds on Dissolution.** In the event of the dissolution of the LWV of Mesa County all moneys and securities which may at the time be owned by or under the control of the LWV of Mesa County shall be paid to the LWV of Colorado after the state and national per member payments and other obligations have been met. All other property whatsoever nature, whether real, personal, or mixed which may at the time be owned or under the control of the LWV of Mesa County shall be disposed of to such person, organization, or corporation for such public, charitable or educational use and purposes as the board in its absolute discretion may designate.

## **Article VII MEETINGS**

**Section 1. Membership Meetings.** There shall be at least three (3) meetings of the membership each year. Time and place shall be set at the beginning of each year, the exact date to be determined by the Board of Directors. The Annual Meeting shall:

- a) Adopt a local Program for the ensuing year;

- b) Elect officers and directors and members of the Nominating Committee;
- c) Adopt an adequate budget; and
- d) Transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

**Section 3. Quorum.** One-fourth of the voting membership shall constitute a quorum at all business meetings of the League of Women Voters of Mesa County.

### **Article VIII NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

**Section 1. Nominating Committee.** The Nominating Committee shall consist of five (5) members, two of whom shall be members of the Board of Directors. The Chairman and two members, who shall not be members of the Board, shall be elected at the Annual Meeting. Nominations for these offices shall be made by the current Nominating Committee. The other members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors immediately following the Annual Meeting. Any vacancy on the Nominating Committee shall be filled by the Board of Directors. Suggestions for nominations for Officers and Directors may be sent to the Committee by any voting member.

**Section 2. Report of the Nominating Committee and Nominations from the Floor.** The report of the Nominating Committee of its nominations for Officers, Directors and members of the succeeding Nominating Committee shall be sent to all members one month before the date of the Annual Meeting. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be presented to the Annual Meeting. Immediately following the presentation of this report, nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member, provided the consent of the nominee shall have been secured in advance.

**Section 3. Election.** The election shall be by ballot, except that when there is but one nominee for each office, the secretary may be instructed to cast the ballot for every nominee. A majority vote by those members present and voting shall constitute an election. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.

### **Article IX PROGRAM**

**Section 1. Authorization.** The governmental principles adopted by the National Convention, and supported by the

League as a whole, constitute the authorization for the adoption of Program.

**Section 2. Program.** The Program of the League of Women Voters of Mesa County shall consist of:

- a) Action to protect the right to vote of every citizen;
- b) Local governmental issues chosen by the membership for concerted study and action.

**Section 3. Action by the Annual Meeting.** The Annual Meeting shall act upon the Program using the following procedures:

- a) The Board of Directors shall consider the recommendations submitted in writing by members for studies or programs two months prior to the Annual Meeting and shall formulate a Proposed Program. Any proposal for a new local study shall be in writing and shall justify the study, define the problem and suggest a course of action.

- b) The Proposed Program shall be sent to all members at least one month prior to the Annual Meeting.

- c) Adoption of subjects in the Proposed Program shall be by a majority of those members present and voting at the Annual Meeting.

- d) Program recommendations submitted to the Board of Directors by members two months prior to the Annual Meeting but not included in the Proposed Program recommended by the Board of Directors may be considered provided that:

- 1) Consideration of such item shall be ordered by a majority vote of the members present and voting; and

- 2) Adoption of such items shall receive a majority affirmative vote of the members present and voting.

- e) In the case of altered conditions, changes in the adopted program may be made if:

- 1) Information concerning the proposed changes has been sent to all members at least two weeks prior to a general membership meeting at which the change is discussed; and

- 2) Final action by the membership as taken at the succeeding meeting by a majority of those members present and voting.

**Section 4. Member Action.** Members may act in the name of the League only when authorized to do so by the appropriate board. They may act only in conformity with, and not contrary to, a position taken by the LWV of Mesa County, the LWV of Colorado and the LWVUS.

**Article X**  
**NATIONAL CONVENTION, STATE CONVENTION**  
**AND COUNCIL**

**Section 1. National Convention.** The Board of Directors, at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be submitted to the national office, shall select delegates to that Convention in the number allotted to the League of Women Voters of Mesa County under the provisions of the Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of the United States.

**Section 2. State Convention.** The Board of Directors, at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the state office, shall select delegates to that convention in the number allotted to the League of Women Voters of Mesa County under the provisions of the Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of Colorado.

**Section 3. State Council.** The Board of Directors, at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the state office, shall select delegates to that Council in the number allotted to the League of Women Voters of Mesa County under the provisions of the Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of Colorado.

**Article XI**  
**PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

**Section 1. Parliamentary Authority.** The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws.

**Article XII**  
**AMENDMENTS**

**Section. 1. Amendments.** These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting, provided that proposed amendments were submitted to the membership in writing at least one month in advance of the meeting.  
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