

Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws of the Association of California Water Agencies

Amendment 1: ARTICLE 3, Officers

Current Bylaw	Proposed Bylaw	Rationale
<p>Section 3.01. (c) Vice President. The vice president shall, in the absence of the president, assume all of the duties of that office and, if a vacancy occurs, succeed thereto for the unexpired term. The vice president shall sit as a member of the Executive Committee of the ACWA Joint Powers Insurance Authority and shall perform such other duties as assigned by the president.</p>	<p>Section 3.01. (c) Vice President. The vice president shall, in the absence of the president, assume all of the duties of that office and, if a vacancy occurs, succeed thereto for the unexpired term. The vice president shall sit as a member of the Executive Committee of the ACWA Joint Powers Insurance Authority and shall perform such other duties as assigned by the president. <u>The vice president shall be a non-voting, ex officio member of each committee, but shall not be an ex officio member of the Election Committee or the region boards.</u></p> <p><u>The vice president may be expelled from office with or without cause, upon the satisfaction of the following two events: (1) a two-thirds vote of the Board of Directors; and (2) a subsequent simple majority vote of the members of the Association during a meeting of the membership.</u></p>	<p>Amendment to add these provisions to the Vice President position, similar to Section 3.01(b) to provide procedural consistency to the two Board Officer positions.</p>

Note: Green text throughout this document reflects edits recommended by the Legal Affairs Committee (LAC) Workgroup in response to its review and analysis of the proposed amendments to the Bylaws, consistent with Section 9.09 of ACWA’s Bylaws. The ACWA Board included the LAC Workgroup’s recommended edits as part of its recommendation to the members.

Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws of the Association of California Water Agencies

Amendment 2: ARTICLE 4, Board of Directors

Current Bylaw	Proposed Bylaw	Rationale
<p>Section 4.07. Quorum. At any meeting of the Board of Directors, the attendance of 50 percent of the voting members of the Board of Directors, or their permitted alternates as specified in these bylaws, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business. The Board may hold a closed session for discussion of personnel matters or enforcement of violations of the code of conduct.</p>	<p>Section 4.07. Quorum. At any meeting of the Board of Directors, the attendance of 50 percent of the voting members of the Board of Directors, or their permitted alternates as specified in these bylaws, shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business. The Board may hold a closed session for discussion of personnel matters;; or enforcement of violations of the code of conduct; <u>pending or anticipated litigation or other legal matters, including, but not limited to, considering whether to file or join in an amicus brief; real property negotiations and discussions; and other confidential matters as determined by the Board to the extent permitted by applicable law.</u> <u>(See Board Policy 2.1.8.3.)</u></p>	<p>Amendment to clarify the scope of issues that can be addressed by the Board in closed session.</p>

Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws of the Association of California Water Agencies

Amendment 3, ARTICLE 3, Board of Directors

Current Bylaw	Proposed Bylaw	Rationale
<p>Section 4.12. Code of Conduct of Board Members.</p> <p>(a) Code of Conduct Purpose and Adoption. The Board of Directors shall establish, and update as appropriate, a code of conduct for its Directors that recognizes the Association’s commitment of integrity, respect, and fair representation to its members and the public they serve and establishes minimum ethical standards for the performance of the duties of office. The code shall be consistent with the procedural processes contained in this section. The code shall be distributed to all new Directors and shall be distributed annually to all members of the Association.</p>	<p>Section 4.12. Code of Conduct of Board Members.</p> <p>(a) Code of Conduct Purpose and Adoption. The Board of Directors shall establish, and update as appropriate, a code of conduct for its Directors that recognizes the Association’s commitment of integrity, respect, and fair representation to its members and the public they serve and establishes minimum ethical standards for the performance of the duties of office. The code shall be consistent with the procedural processes contained in this section. <u>(See Code of Conduct Policy, Board Policy Manual, Policy No. GO-2.1A).</u> The code shall be consistent with the procedural processes contained in <u>the Code of Conduct Policy (See sections 2.1.3A and 2.1.4A of Policy No. GO-2.1A of the Board Policy Manual.)</u> The code shall be distributed to all new Directors and shall be distributed annually to all members of the Association.</p>	<p>Amendment to reflect consistency with recently adopted Board Policy GO-2.1A Code of Code and to delete reference to the Legal Affairs Committee Chair in Section 4.12(b). Amendment reflects deletion to this text to be less prescriptive due to the details in Board Policy GO-2.1A.</p>

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Amendment 3 (cont'd), ARTICLE 3, Board of Directors

Current Bylaw	Proposed Bylaw	Rationale
<p>Section 4.12. Code of Conduct of Board Members.</p> <p>(b) Violations and Enforcement Process. A violation of the code of conduct may result in removal, public censure, or private reprimand of a Director, or such other action as contained in the code of conduct. However, removal and public censure shall be reserved only for serious violations. A Director may not be removed or publicly censured absent an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the voting members of the Board of Directors. A Director may be privately reprimanded for a violation of the code of conduct upon the majority vote of the quorum. Complaints of violation of the code of conduct may be filed with the president, or the vice-president if the allegations are made against the president. The president may refer a complaint of violation to the executive director/secretary for investigation. The executive director/secretary may retain a special investigator or special counsel to conduct or assist the investigation. A Director accused of a violation shall be provided a</p>	<p>Section 4.12. Code of Conduct of Board Members.</p> <p>(b) Violation and Enforcement Process. A violation of the code of conduct may result in removal, public censure, or private reprimand of a Director, or such other action as contained in the code of conduct. However, removal and public censure shall be reserved only for serious violations. A Director may not be removed or publicly censured absent an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the voting members of the Board of Directors. A Director may be privately reprimanded for a violation of the code of conduct upon the majority vote of the quorum. Complaints of violation of the code of conduct may be filed with the president, or the vice-president if the allegations are made against the president. The president may refer a complaint of violation to the executive director/secretary for investigation. The executive director/secretary may retain a special investigator or special counsel to conduct or assist the investigation. A Director accused of a violation shall be provided a</p>	<p>Amendment to reflect consistency with recently adopted Board Policy GO-2.1A Code of Code and to delete reference to the Legal Affairs Committee Chair in Section 4.12(b). Amendment reflects deletion to this text to be less prescriptive due to the details in Board Policy GO-2.1A.</p>

Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws of the Association of California Water Agencies

Amendment 4, Article 6, Executive Committee

Current Bylaw	Proposed Bylaw	Rationale
<p>Section 6.02 Powers.</p> <p>Personnel.</p> <p>(a) Subject to the budget adopted by the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee shall perform the following personnel actions: (1) recommend compensation for the executive director/secretary to the Board of Directors for approval; (2) perform annual reviews of the executive director/secretary and submit that review to the Board of Directors; (3) review and approve the classification and compensation plan and publicly posted salary schedule for Association employees submitted by the executive director/secretary, which shall be reviewable by the Board of Directors, in closed session, upon request of the Board of Directors;</p> <p>...</p>	<p>Section 6.02 Powers.</p> <p>Personnel.</p> <p>(a) Subject to the budget adopted by the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee shall perform the following personnel actions: (1) recommend compensation for the executive director/secretary to the Board of Directors for approval; (2) perform annual reviews of the executive director/secretary and submit that review to the Board of Directors; (3) review and approve the classification and compensation plan and publicly posted salary schedule for Association employees submitted by the executive director/secretary, which shall be reviewable <u>approved</u> by the Board of Directors, in closed session, upon request of the Board of <u>Directors</u>;</p> <p>...</p>	<p>Amendment to clarify that the ACWA Board is the approving authority for the public salary schedule, as required by CalPERS. The Executive Committee will review and make a recommendation to the Board.</p>

Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws of the Association of California Water Agencies

Amendment 5, ARTICLE 8, Special Council, Committees, and Task Forces

Current Bylaw	Proposed Bylaw	Rationale
<p>Section 8.01 Council of Past Presidents.</p> <p>There shall be a Council of Past Presidents composed of all past presidents of the Association who serve on the council until each is no longer able to or wishes to serve. The council shall provide a mechanism for past presidents to continue to make valuable contributions to the Association. With approval of the Board of Directors, the president and/or executive director/secretary may assign specific responsibilities to the council from time to time. Members of the Council of Past Presidents are invited to attend and participate in the Association’s Board meetings.</p>	<p>Section 8.01 Council of Past Presidents.</p> <p>There shall be a Council of Past Presidents composed of all past presidents of the Association who serve on the council until each is no longer able to or wishes to serve. The council shall provide a mechanism for past presidents to continue to make valuable contributions to the Association. With approval of the Board of Directors, the president and/or executive director/secretary may assign specific responsibilities to the council from time to time. Members of the Council of Past Presidents are invited to attend and participate in the Association’s Board <u>and Executive Committee meetings, including attending closed sessions. With the exception of the immediate past president, members of the Council of Past Presidents are non-voting.</u></p>	<p>Amendment to clarify that Past Presidents are non-voting representatives on ACWA’s Board and Executive Committee with the ability to participate in the full range of activities, including closed session.</p>

Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws of the Association of California Water Agencies

Amendment 6, ARTICLE 8, Special Council, Committees, and Task Forces

Current Bylaw	Proposed Bylaw	Rationale
<p>Section 8.02 Election Committee.</p> <p>(b) Qualification. In order to serve on the Election Committee, an individual must be an officer, employee, or member of the governing body of a member agency of the Association, or other representative duly designated by a member agency of the Association to represent that member at the time of the appointment. Where an individual ceases to meet these criteria during the election cycle, the individual may not continue to serve. When the disqualified member represented a Region Board, the affected Region Board shall select a replacement representative. When the disqualified member represented the President, the President shall select an alternate representative.</p>	<p>Section 8.02 Election Committee.</p> <p>Qualification. In order to serve on the Election Committee, an individual must be an officer, employee, or member of the governing body of a member agency of the Association, or other representative duly designated by a member agency of the Association to represent that member at the time of the appointment. <u>Past presidents, who are Honorary Life Members of the Association, may also serve on the Election Committee without meeting stated qualifications unless otherwise disqualified.</u> Where an individual ceases to meet these criteria during the election cycle, the individual may not continue to serve. When the disqualified member represented a Region Board, the affected Region Board shall select a replacement representative. When the disqualified member represented the President, the President shall select an alternate representative.</p>	<p>Amendment to allow unaffiliated Past Presidents to serve on the Election Committee without meeting the stated criteria since they are Honorary Life Members of the Association.</p>

Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws of the Association of California Water Agencies

Amendment 7, ARTICLE 9, Meetings of Members

Current Bylaw	Proposed Bylaw	Rationale
<p>Section 9.06 Voting. Each member of the Association in good standing at the time of the annual or special meeting shall be entitled to one vote that shall be cast by its authorized representative. Each member must designate its authorized representative prior to the annual or special meeting. It is the member’s responsibility to designate or update its authorized representative as needed. The Association may confirm with any member the identify of that member’s authorized representative for the purpose of casting ballots in any election of president and vice president. All questions, except amendments or revisions of these bylaws, shall be determined by a majority of the members present and voting. A roll call may be requested by any authorized representative.</p>	<p>Section 9.06 Voting. Each member of the Association in good standing at the time of the annual or special meeting shall be entitled to one vote that shall be cast by its authorized representative. Each member must designate its authorized representative prior to the annual or special meeting. It is the member’s responsibility to designate or update its authorized representative as needed. The Association may confirm with any member the identity of that member’s authorized representative for the purpose of casting ballots in any election of president and vice president, amendments to these Bylaws, or other Association business that requires a vote. All questions, except amendments or revisions of these bylaws, shall be determined by a majority of the members present and voting. A roll call may be requested by any authorized representative.</p>	<p>Amendment to expand this language to cover additional actions where an authorized representative will need to be confirmed for the purposes of casting a ballot (see newly added Section 9.15).</p>

Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws of the Association of California Water Agencies

Amendment 8, ARTICLE 9, Meetings of Members

Current Bylaw	Proposed Bylaw	Rationale
<p>Section 9.08 Quorums. The presence of the authorized representative of 50 members of the Association at any meeting of the members shall constitute a quorum for transacting business. Written ballots timely received from the authorized representative of 50 members shall constitute a quorum for elections of president and vice president.</p>	<p>Section 9.08 Quorums. The presence of the authorized representatives of at least 50 members of the Association at any meeting of the members shall constitute a quorum for transacting business. Written ballots timely received from the authorized representative of 50 members shall constitute a quorum for elections of president and vice president. <u>Actions taken by written ballot shall require the timely receipt of the written ballot from the authorized representatives of at least 50 members to constitute a quorum.</u></p>	<p>Amendment to clarify the written ballot quorum language to cover other actions besides the elections of president and vice president (see newly added Section 9.15)</p>

Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws of the Association of California Water Agencies

Amendment 9, ARTICLE 9, Meetings of Members

Current Bylaw	Proposed Bylaw	Rationale
<p>Section 9.11. Election of President and Vice President. Each member of the Association in good standing at the time a vote is cast is entitled to one vote for election of the president and vice president that shall be cast by its authorized representative by written ballot. The ballot and any related material may be sent by first class, registered, or certified mail or electronic transmission by the Corporation that meets the requirements of Corporations Code section 20, and responses may be returned to the Corporation by mail or electronic transmission. On any written ballot for the election of president or vice president, an authorized representative acting on behalf of the member may write in a qualified candidate for election.</p>	<p>Section 9.11. Election of President and Vice President. Each member of the Association in good standing at the time a vote is cast is entitled to one vote for election of the president and vice president that shall be cast by its authorized representative by written ballot. The ballot and any related material may be sent by first class, registered, or certified mail or electronic transmission by the Corporation that meets the requirements of Corporations Code section 20, and responses may be returned to the Corporation by mail or electronic transmission. On any written ballot for the election of president or vice president, an authorized representative acting on behalf of the member may write in a qualified candidate for election. <u>Nominating resolutions for write-in candidates must be received by the deadline for the return of ballots.</u></p>	<p>Amendment to clarify that write-in candidates for president or vice presidents must submit a nominating resolution by the election deadline since they did not go through the Election Committee review process.</p>

Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws of the Association of California Water Agencies

Amendment 10, ARTICLE 9, Meeting of Members

Current Bylaw	Proposed Bylaw	Rationale
	<p>Newly Added Section. <u>Section 9.15. Action by Written Ballot.</u> <u>To the extent permitted by applicable law and subject to all applicable requirements, any action that may be taken at a regular or special member meeting of the members may be approved by written ballot if a ballot is sent to each member entitled to vote on the matter. Ballots may be sent and returned by electronic transmission as permitted in the Corporations Code. Ballot format, solicitation and voting thresholds shall meet the requirements of the Corporations Code and be consistent with applicable provisions of these Bylaws.</u></p>	<p>Amendment to allow the flexibility to take action by written ballot beyond the currently approved process of electing the president and vice president by written ballot.</p>

Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws of the Association of California Water Agencies

Amendment 11, Article 11, Definitions

Current Bylaw	Proposed Bylaw	Rationale
<p>Section 11.04. Definitions. As used in these bylaws, the term “notice provided by electronic means” shall refer to notice given by fax or e-mail.</p>	<p>Section 11.04. Definitions. As used in the byBylaws, the terms <u>“electronic transmission” and</u> “notice provided by electronic means” shall refer to notice and <u>other communications</u> given by fax or email.</p>	<p>Amendment to add “electronic transmission,” to clarify the meaning of this term in Section 9.15 and to harmonize this term with currently accepted means of providing notice.</p>
	<p>Newly Added Section. <u>Section 11.05. Conflicts Between Bylaws and Other Association Policies. To the extent permitted by applicable law, these Bylaws shall govern in the event there is a conflict between these Bylaws and another Association policy, rule, or procedure.</u></p>	<p>Amendment to clarify that ACWA’s Bylaws govern in the event there is a conflict with another Association policy, rule, or procedure.</p>

Proposed Amendments to the Bylaws of the Association of California Water Agencies

Amendment 12, VARIOUS, References to ACWA

Current Bylaw	Proposed Bylaw	Rationale
Cleanup amendments:	Change the reference to ACWA to Association in the following Bylaws: Section 5.02 Officers (a) Section 7.01 Qualification. Section 7.05 Agriculture Committee Section 5.02 Officers (a): Delete reference to ACWA before Board of Directors.	Amendment to change references to ACWA to Association to provide consistency throughout the document.