

ARKANSAS ASSOCIATION OF DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I – NAME, OFFICES

The name of the Association shall be the Arkansas Association of Development Organizations. The Association may have such offices as may be determined from time to time by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE II – DEFINITION

“Development Organization” or “Organization” as used herein shall include the eight Planning and/or Economic Development Districts as duly created and operating under Act 118 of the Acts of Arkansas for 1969.

ARTICLE III – OBJECTIVES

Section 3.1 – The purpose of the Arkansas Association of Development Organizations is to promote the full development, purpose, and productivity of sub-state regions as politically viable resource agents within the State of Arkansas, to provide a system under which citizens and elected officials can effect a partnership for communications and education and the financing of locally developed plans and priorities to effectively manage human and physical resources, assist in balanced population distributions and assist in development of a balanced growth policy.

Section 3.2 – Information and experience are to be shared by and between the members who are to cooperate with one another and with other groups and organizations engaged in related projects or efforts compatible with the purposes of the Association.

Section 3.3 – Information on general, economic, social and governmental matters is to be developed and circulated. Wherever possible, the views of the members regarding subjects of concern to the organization are to be obtained.

Section 3.4 – The Association is to carry out promotional activities including public relations, public education, education of its members and the publishing of documents and materials designed to carry out such purposes.

Section 3.5 – Duplication of programs and activities carried out by other state organizations is to be avoided by the Association. Cooperation with all groups dedicated to Association goals and objectives is to be promoted. Priorities for cooperative and/or joint activities shall include:

1. Research
2. Technical Assistance
3. Information Dissemination
4. State Policy Coordination

Section 3.6 – Recognizing the need for State organization to provide a voice for sub-state areas in problem identification and development of educational and training programs, the Association is authorized to carry out activities necessary and proper to accomplish such objectives as well as those herein above set forth.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

Section 4.1

General Membership

Shall be available to the eight Planning and/or Economic Development Districts recognized by the State as a Regional Planning and/or Economic Development Organizations.

Section 4.2

Membership

Membership shall continue until withdrawn by written notice, or termination by action of a two-thirds majority of the Board of Directors acting at a duly held meeting pursuant to at least fifteen days written notice. Notice of such meeting shall contain the time and place and the reason(s) for proposed termination of membership. Such notice shall be given to the member whose membership is subject to possible termination. The member shall have the opportunity to appear and be heard at such a meeting.

Section 4.5

Voting and Participation

- A. A general member shall have full right to participate and vote on all matters considered by the association. Each general member shall have one vote.
- B. Membership in this Association is not transferable or assignable.
- C. Voting by proxy shall not be permitted.

ARTICLE V – DIRECTORS

Section 5.1 – The Board of Directors shall have supervision, control and direction of the affairs of the Association, shall determine its policy or changes therein within the limits of the by-laws, shall actively pursue its objectives and shall have discretion in the disbursements of its funds. The Board may adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its business as it shall deem advisable, and may in the execution of the powers granted, appoint such agents, as it may consider necessary. The Board shall fix the amount of annual dues for the membership body.

Section 5.2 – The Board of Directors shall consist of the Executive Director of each of the eight Planning and/or Economic Development Districts.

Section 5.3 – The term of office of each Director of the Association shall coincide with their term of service as the Executive Director of one of the eight member organizations.

ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS

Section 6.1 – The elected officers of the Association shall be a President, Vice-President, and a Secretary-Treasurer. They shall be elected by the Board of Directors following the annual meeting.

Section 6.2 – The President will be the chief administrative officer of the organization. He shall serve for one year or until his successor is elected and qualified. The President shall have responsibility for administering the policies established by the Association and by the Board of Directors. He shall have the authority to execute all documents in the name of the association and shall represent the association publicly where required unless contrary instruction is given by the Board of Directors.

Section 6.3 – The Vice-President shall act in the place of the President in the event the President is unable to act. He shall serve for one (1) year or until his successor is elected and qualified.

Section 6.4 – The Secretary-Treasurer shall serve for one (1) year or until his successor is elected and qualified. He shall give notices of and attend meetings of the Association and maintain a record of its proceedings, shall conduct such correspondence and maintain such other and further records as may be required for association business, shall keep an account of all monies received and expended for the use of the association and shall make such disbursements as are authorized by the Board. All sums received shall be deposited in a depository approved by the Directors. The Secretary-Treasurer shall make an annual financial report to the annual meeting and, more frequently whenever requested, by the Board of Directors. The books of the association shall be audited annually by an independent auditor, either separately or under audit authority of one of the member organizations.

Section 6.5 – The Board of Directors shall have the option of establishing additional offices to carry out the ongoing duties and functions of the association. Such positions, and the individuals who fill them, shall serve under such terms as established by the Directors.

Section 6.6 – Any person entrusted with the handling of funds or property of the Association shall, at the discretion of the Board of Directors, furnish a board-approved fidelity bond in a sum prescribed by the Board at the expense of the Association.

ARTICLE VII – MEETINGS

Section 7.1 – The annual meeting of the Association shall take place on such date and at such place as determined by the Directors. Notice of such meeting shall be mailed to the membership at least 10 calendar days prior to the date of such meeting.

Section 7.2 – Any member of the Board may, with appropriate cause and with appropriate notification, call a special meeting of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII – COMMITTEES

Section 8.1 – The Board of Directors may authorize the establishment of such committees, as it deems necessary. The President shall appoint members to such committees, subject to the approval of the directors.

ARTICLE IX – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The meetings of the Association, its Board of Directors and all committees shall be governed by “Robert’s Rules of Order, Revised”.

ARTICLE X – FISCAL YEAR

Fiscal year shall be set by the Board of Directors of the Association.

ARTICLE XI – AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended, repealed or altered in whole or in part, by a majority vote at any proper meeting of the Association; provided that a copy of proposed amendments to be considered at such meeting shall be mailed to the membership at least 20 days prior to the date of such meeting together with an indication that such amendments shall be proposed at the meeting.

These By-laws of the Arkansas Association of Development Organizations have been adopted by the Board of Director on this 22nd day of February 2002.

APPROVED:

President

ATTEST:

Secretary-Treasurer