

**BYLAWS
MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS
SOUTHEAST CHAPTER
ARTICLE I
NAME AND PURPOSES**

**SECTION 1.
NAME**

The name of this non-profit corporation is MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF REGISTERED LAND SURVEYORS SOUTHEAST CHAPTER d.b.a MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL SURVEYORS SOUTHEAST CHAPTER

**SECTION 2.
PURPOSE**

The purpose shall be to promote public faith and dependence in services rendered by members of this society, to promote the common good and welfare of its members in their activities in the profession of Surveying, to promote and maintain the highest standards of professional practices and ethics, to promote uniformity of practice, to discourage unethical practices and professional abuses, and to extend and supplement the aims and objectives of this Society. The organization shall receive and administer funds from its members or donors to carry out the foregoing purposes. The organization shall have authority to acquire, lease, or otherwise obtain land, buildings, equipment, or office space for administrative purposes.

No person shall be disqualified as a member by reason of race, color, religion, national origin, age, gender, political persuasion, or sexual orientation/preference. This organization shall be nonpartisan and nonsectarian and the scope of its activities shall normally be within the confines of the State of Michigan unless a germane issue of nationwide scope is involved, whereupon such activities may be extended at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE II
DEFINITIONS**

PARENT SOCIETY: Michigan Society of Professional Surveyors.

SOCIETY: Michigan Society of Professional Surveyors and its Affiliated Chapters.

CHAPTER: Michigan Society of Registered Land Surveyors Southeast Chapter d.b.a Michigan Society of Professional Surveyors Southeast Chapter.

**ARTICLE III
MEMBERSHIP**

**SECTION 1.
FULL MEMBERSHIP**

Full Membership in the Chapter shall be limited to Professional Surveyors in good standing with the State of Michigan, Department of Licensing and Regulation,

Board of Professional Surveyors, whose membership application is approved by a majority vote at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Chapter and who shall be a Member of the Parent Society.

**SECTION 2.
ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP**

Upon approval of the application for Associate Membership by a majority vote at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Chapter and being an Associate Member of the Parent Society, an Associate Membership shall be granted to those unlicensed individuals who are endeavoring to make the practice of Professional Surveying their chosen profession by fulfilling one or more of the following requirements:

- 1) College students entering the third year of study and working toward a baccalaureate degree.
- 2) Currently employed under the supervision of a Professional Surveyor.
- 3) Being approved to write Part I of the Michigan Professional Surveyor Examination.
- 4) A Licensed and/or Surveyor in any Province of Canada or any State of the United States other than Michigan

An Associate Member shall not be allowed to vote or to hold office, but shall otherwise have all of the rights of a Full Member. An Associate Member shall, upon receipt of a license to practice Professional Surveying in the State of Michigan, become a Full Member without further vote of the Board of Directors.

**SECTION 3.
LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

Life Membership shall be granted to a Full Member upon application and approval by a majority vote at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Chapter, provided the Member has achieved Life Membership from the Parent Society.

Any other Full Member not meeting the requirements set forth in the foregoing paragraph shall be eligible to apply for Life Membership. Life Membership shall be granted upon application and approval by a 2/3 majority vote at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Chapter. A Life Member is not required to pay dues, but shall enjoy all rights and privileges of Full Membership in the Chapter, including the right to vote and hold office. Life members shall be furnished with a Life Membership Certificate and such membership shall take effect on January 1st following admittance to such Life Membership.

If a Life Member allows their license to lapse, they will maintain all of the benefits of Life Membership except hold office.

SECTION 4. AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP

Affiliate Membership may be held by persons, who by their activities, abilities, and/or employment have a bona fide interest in Professional Surveying. Affiliate Membership shall be granted upon application and approval by a majority vote at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Chapter. An Affiliate Member must also hold an Affiliate Membership in the Parent Society. Such Member is not privileged to vote or hold office.

SECTION 5. HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Any Member of the Chapter may propose to the Board of Directors the name of any prospective Honorary Member to the Chapter who may or may not be a Professional Surveyor, but who shall be chosen by their contribution either to the professional interests of the Society or by acts of distinction to the government or its people. Such designation requires a majority vote at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Chapter, whereupon the Secretary shall notify such person of their attainment. Honorary Members shall not have any voting power, right to hold office, nor shall they be subject to any payment of dues, unless they are otherwise so entitled or required as a result of any other membership classification.

SECTION 6. STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

Student Membership shall be granted to any full-time college student enrolled in a course of study leading to a baccalaureate degree in Surveying, Surveying Engineering, Geomatics Engineering, or equivalent. Upon application, certification of full-time student status, recommendation by a Full Member and approval by a majority vote at a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Chapter. A Student Member shall have all of the rights of a Full Member except the right to vote or hold office.

A Student Member shall, upon receipt of a baccalaureate degree in Surveying, Surveying Engineering, Geomatics Engineering, or equivalent become an Associate Member without further vote of the Board of Directors. A Student Member must also hold a Student Membership in the Parent Society.

SECTION 7. MEMBERSHIP RULES

Each applicant for membership in the Chapter must subscribe to the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, professional codes of standard ethics, standard practices, and other governing policies, as adopted by the Chapter, before submission of an application to the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IV BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 1. POWERS

The purpose and lawful business of the Chapter shall be held and managed by a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall have vested in them the government of the Chapter and the control of its property. It shall adopt rules for the conduct of the business and the activities of the Chapter and shall have the power to fill vacancies on the Board of Directors. The rules contained in "Roberts Rules of Order", revised, shall govern the Chapter in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the Bylaws of the Chapter. The Board shall review all applications for membership in the Chapter and memberships shall not be granted without the approval of the majority of the Directors at a meeting of the Board of Directors. The Board shall meet at intervals as they deem necessary for the best interests of the Chapter.

SECTION 2. STRUCTURE AND ELECTIONS

- 1) The Board of Directors shall consist of the following:
 - a) The immediate past President of the Chapter as Past President.
 - b) At a minimum nine members elected at large from the membership. In annual elections, three shall be elected for three years and it is the intent of this provision that three members shall be eligible to change on the Board of Directors annually. When any Board of Directors vacancy results for any reason, such unexpired term shall be filled by appointment, by the Board of Directors. The members of the Board of Directors shall be elected by secret ballot in an election, which shall be held in November proceeding the calendar year in which they are to serve.
- 2) A nominating committee, appointed by the President, consisting of a chairman and two members shall interview and provide at least one prospective candidate for each of the elective directorships, secure their consent and present their names before the membership at the October or November Membership Meeting. Other nominations may be made from the floor for any elective directorship by a voting member with the nominations properly supported. The election shall be conducted in its entirety by the nominating committee, subject to the Board of Director's approval.
- 3) Electronic ballots bearing the names of the nominees, and space for write-ins shall be made available to all voting members by November 15. All voting members shall cast their votes prior to December 1 with such date that the vote is to be cast specified on the electronic response. An electronic report shall be prepared and delivered to the President or their designee after the specified voting deadline. In the

event that a voting member does not have access to online services or elects to not receive their ballot electronically, the voting member requesting a letter ballot must contact the President or their designee prior to October 31, a letter ballot bearing the names of the nominees and a space for write-ins, together with a return envelope shall be mailed to that voting member. Only letter ballots returned prior to Dec. 1 shall be canvassed and added to the tally of the verified electronic votes.

- 4) The Board of Directors shall hold a special meeting in December and therein elect a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer for the next year, each to serve a term of one year or until a successor is elected and qualified. Such officers shall assume their respective duties January 1st following the election. The Board of Directors shall also elect one of the Board Members or a Past Board Member of the Chapter as a Representative of the Chapter, who, under the provision of Article I of the Bylaws of the Parent Society, shall become a Director on the Board of Directors of the Parent Society. Such representative may or may not be an officer of the Chapter.

ARTICLE V OFFICERS

SECTION 1. STRUCTURE AND DUTIES

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Membership and of the Board of Directors, or may appoint a temporary chairperson at any such meeting or part of such meeting. The President shall be the principal officer of the Chapter and guide its functions. The President shall provide the Secretary with a copy of all official correspondence which the President may conduct for the permanent records of the Chapter; appoint all committees and instruct them in their duties. The committees shall function as instructed and make their report in writing to the Board of Directors from time to time as directed. Meetings of committees may be called at any time by the President.

The Vice-President shall assist and act for the President at the direction and in the absence of the President.

The Secretary shall be the custodian of the records and books of the Chapter except the accounts of the Treasurer. The Secretary shall conduct the official correspondence of the Chapter under the direction of the Board of Directors, maintain a file of all such correspondence, and perform other duties as the Board of Directors may direct.

The Treasurer shall be the custodian of all Chapter funds. The Treasurer shall keep books and accounts of the receipts and expenditures of the funds and render financial statements from time to time as directed by the Board of Directors.

The Past President shall be the previous President of the Chapter. The Past President shall assist and advise the Board of Directors as needed to provide continuity. The Past President shall serve till the current President assumes the role of Past President. In the event the Past President's term expires prior to this transition, they will serve as the tenth voting member of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 2. TERMINATION AND REMOVAL

The officers of the Chapter shall hold office until their successors are chosen and qualify. Any Member elected to the Board of Directors may be removed at any time, with or without cause, by the affirmative vote of a two thirds (2/3) majority at a meeting of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 3. BONDS

The Board of Directors may by resolution, require any and all of the officers to give bonds to the Chapter, with sufficient surety or sureties, conditioned for the faithful performance of the duties of their respective offices and to comply with such other conditions as may from time to time be required by the Board of Directors. Cost of such bonds shall be paid by the Chapter.

ARTICLE VI DUES, CHAPTER MEETINGS, QUORUMS

SECTION 1. DUES

The dues for Full, Associate, Affiliate, and Student, members shall be established and assessed annually by the Board of Directors and are payable January 1st of each year.

Any changes in the rate of dues shall be initiated by motion of the Board of Directors and passed by a two thirds (2/3) majority vote at a meeting of the Board of Directors no later than October 1st of the preceding year.

The fiscal year of the Corporation shall begin on the first day of January and end on the thirty first day of December of each year.

Honorary and Life Members shall not be subject to the payment of any dues assessed under the provisions of this Section.

SECTION 2. CHAPTER MEETINGS

- 1) Regular meetings of the Chapter shall be held not less frequently than quarterly.
- 2) Special meetings may be called by the President, or by a majority of the Board of Directors or by 10% of the Members of the Chapter entitled to vote.

**SECTION 3
QUORUM**

- 1) 10% of the Membership entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum at any regular or special meeting.
- 2) A simple majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at meetings of the Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE VII
GENERAL**

**SECTION 1.
TAX EXEMPT STATUS**

Notwithstanding merger, consolidation, reorganization, termination, involuntary or by operation of law, the following provisions shall apply to the activities and operations of the Chapter:

- 1) The Chapter shall not have or exercise any power or authority either expressly, by interpretation, or by operation of law, nor shall it directly or indirectly engage in any activity that would prevent the Chapter from qualifying (and continuing to qualify) as a corporation described in Section 501 (c); (6) of the Internal Revenue Code.

**SECTION 2.
PROFESSIONAL CODES**

The Chapter may, by proper debate and resolution, adopt a code or codes pertaining to professional standards, practices and any such subjects the Chapter may deem worthy. Such codes or parts thereof shall be prepared by committees assigned for such purpose and shall be presented in the form of a resolution to be voted upon. When any such resolution is adopted by a two thirds (2/3) majority vote of the membership present at a Chapter meeting, such shall be inserted in the minutes of the meeting and shall become a part of the governing policies of the Chapter. Each Member of the Chapter shall receive a copy of such resolution as adopted and a copy of the same shall be forwarded to the Secretary of the Parent Society. Such properly adopted resolutions shall be considered as governing policies in addition to these Bylaws.

ARTICLE VIII

**SECTION 1.
AUDIT**

The accounts and finances of the Chapter shall be audited annually by such auditors as may be selected by the Membership, or lacking same, by the Board of Directors and the last of such audits shall be submitted to the Membership at the next meeting following the audit.

ARTICLE IX

**SECTION 1.
AMENDMENTS**

The Bylaws may be amended at any regular or special Membership Meeting at which there is a quorum by a two thirds (2/3) vote of the Members present and voting, provided that a copy of the proposed amendments has been sent to the Members of the Chapter via e-mail or the commonly used communication method of the times. A hard copy of the bylaws will be mailed to a member address upon request. Said copy shall be sent at least 30 days prior to the date of the meeting at which the amendments are to be considered, finalized and voted upon.

Approved at the November 7th, 2024, Membership Meeting