

# North Carolina Local Government Information Systems Association BY-LAWS

## ARTICLE I. NAME

Section 1. **Name:** The name of this organization shall be the North Carolina Local Government Information Systems Association, henceforth referred to as NCLGISA in these by-laws.

## ARTICLE II. NATIONAL AFFLIATION

Section 1. **Chapter Definition:** A GMIS Chapter is a satellite organization of the International Government Management Information Sciences (GMIS) organization, established by the volunteer action of five (5) or more member agencies in good standing in the international organization who seek to help one another achieve common goals and to promote GMIS at a regional level. NCLGISA is a chapter of GMIS.

Section 2. **Qualification:** It is necessary that at least 5 qualified agencies become members of the international organization prior to the state chapter being recognized under the International GMIS. Individual and organization qualifications for membership are discussed in Article V Membership.

Section 3. **State Chapter Treasury:** Each year, unless specifically waived by either organization, the International GMIS organization shall provide a subsidy to each qualified State GMIS Chapter by transferring to the State Chapter Treasury a sum equal to 20% of International GMIS dues per participating member or the amount designated by the International GMIS organization. The subsidy shall be used for Chapter expenses in fostering the goals of the international organization.

## ARTICLE III. PURPOSE

Section 1. NCLGISA is an Information Technology organization consisting of local and state government agencies dedicated to cooperation, mutual assistance, professional development and sharing of experiences, committed to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas, information and techniques as they relate to government activities; formed for the benefit of participating government entities.

## ARTICLE IV. GOALS

Section 1. To foster a unified effort among local and state government entities to integrate and disseminate their respective research and design efforts in the area of information systems.

Section 2. To promote standard information systems which can be shared and/or transferred among all participants.

Section 3. Through cooperation, share systems applications and information to further cost effectiveness in members' organizations.

Section 4. To present a unified voice as a cooperative organization to suppliers of hardware, software and related information technologies, systems, and services.

Section 5. To provide a group of qualified professionals who are capable of advising, lending credence or assisting state representatives or other governmental agencies in matters concerning information technologies, policies and procedures, systems, and services.

Section 6. To foster the exchange of ideas among local and state government entities in the area of information systems.

Section 7. To work for the benefit of all governmental agencies and their information technology professionals, and to be representative of them should the need exist.

## **ARTICLE V. MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. The Active Membership shall be comprised of an employee of any local or regional governmental department. Members that have interest in participating in NCLGISA and in the mutual benefits of sharing systems, ideas, applications, techniques, and technologies.

- a. Counties (and all units, boards, commissions subordinate to the legislative body).
- b. Cities/Towns/Municipalities (and all units, boards, commissions subordinate to the legislative body).
- c. Regional Agencies such as Regional Libraries, Council of Governments, etc.

Section 2. An Associate Member shall be comprised of an employee of any State, Federal or Public Education entity. Members that have interest in participating in NCLGISA and in the mutual benefits of sharing systems, ideas, applications, techniques, and technologies.

- a. All branches of State government, including but not limited to:
  - The State Legislative Branch
  - The State Judicial Branch
  - Departments, Boards, Commissions, and Individuals
- b. Federal Agencies that have physical offices located within North Carolina.
- c. Public education entities:
  - State Universities
  - Community Colleges
  - Technical Colleges
  - Public School Districts
- d. Other local authorities, subject to application review by the Executive Board.

Section 3. Member Emeritus:

- a. Membership bestowed upon an individual who has distinguished himself/herself through service to NCLGISA and retired from a member organization.
- b. Recommendation for this membership may be received from a representative of any member organization.
- c. Nominations for Member Emeritus will be approved by the Executive Board.

d. A Member Emeritus has honorary status only and will be invited to attend conferences.

Section 4. Application for membership shall be submitted to the NCLGISA membership committee chairperson or designee indicating that the applicant meets the test of Article V, Section 1 or 2.

Section 5. Any member whose application has been approved by the NCLGISA membership committee chairperson or designee shall be designated as a member of NCLGISA in good standing.

Section 6. Termination of Membership: Membership in NCLGISA may be terminated for cause by Executive Board. Sufficient cause for such termination shall be violation of these By-Laws, code of ethics, agreements, rules and practices properly adopted by the organization(s). Termination shall be only by unanimous vote of Executive Board.

## **ARTICLE VI. FEES**

Section 1. Membership Fee: Local dues for the Agency Members, **if any**, shall be established by the NCLGISA Executive Board for the purpose of addressing any additional expenses for local operations.

Section 2. Conference Fees: Registration, sponsorship and exhibition fees will be established prior to each NCLGISA conference by the Executive Board.

Section 3. Purpose of Funds Collected:

- a. To cover costs of collecting and disseminating information contributed and desired by members.
- b. To cover reasonable organizational expenses in carrying out the mandates of the membership.
- c. To cover costs of publishing and distributing correspondence as required in the conduct of the organization.
- d. To cover all costs incurred to promote and provide educational conferences.
- e. To provide scholarships.

Section 4. Funds will not be used for the personal benefit of any member.

## **ARTICLE VII. OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

Section 1. The governing body of NCLGISA shall be an Executive Board comprised of Active Members

- a. The President, who shall be the immediate past President-Elect
- b. The Past President, who shall be the immediate past President
- c. The President-Elect, who shall be elected
- d. The Secretary, who shall be elected
- e. The Treasurer, who shall be elected
- f. Three Directors (Professional Development, Vendor Relations and Membership Committee Chairs), who shall be elected by said committee.

Section 2. The officers shall serve for a period of one year or until their duly qualified successors are appointed or elected.

Section 3. In the event of a vacancy in the Executive Board, the remaining members of the Executive Board shall assume the responsibility or appoint someone for the balance of the unexpired term.

Section 4. Election of Officers:

- a. Election of the President-Elect shall be conducted at the regular Fall Conference, and will hold office for 1 year. The President-Elect will automatically become President the following year. The President will automatically become the Past-President the following year.
- b. Election of the Secretary and Treasurer shall be conducted at the regular Fall Conference, and will hold office for 1 year.
- c. Officers elected will be: President-Elect, Secretary and Treasurer. The Secretary and Treasurer may be re-elected.

Section 5. Duties of Officers:

- a. Responsibilities of the President shall be, but not limited to:
  1. Schedule, organize and conduct all meetings.
  2. Serve as conference chair.
  3. Prepare and present annual budget to membership for approval.
  4. Serve as spokesperson for NCLGISA.
  5. Serve as the official contact for NCLGISA.
  6. Serve as the Nominating Committee chair.
  7. Appoint special committees as required.
- b. Responsibilities of the President-Elect shall be, but not limited to:
  1. Assume the responsibilities of the President in his absence.
  2. Serve as conference vice-chair.
  3. Serve on the Nominating Committee.
  4. Perform such functions as are assigned by the President.
- c. Responsibilities of the Past President shall be, but not limited to:
  1. Assume the responsibilities of the President in the absence of the President and President-Elect.
  2. Administer the Professional Recognition Award program.
  3. Serve on the Nominating Committee.
  4. Perform such functions as assigned by the President.
- d. Responsibilities of the Secretary shall be, but not limited to:
  1. Keep minutes of meetings
  2. Keep and maintain membership records.
  3. Receive and distribute contributed materials as required.
  4. To develop and maintain the NCLGISA website.
  5. Serve on the Nominating Committee.
  6. Perform such functions as assigned by the President.
- e. Responsibilities of the Treasurer shall be, but not limited to:
  1. Usual and customary duties of a Treasurer.
  2. Keep and maintain financial records.
  3. Provide financial records to Executive Board and Audit Committee as required.
  4. Receive and distribute contributed materials as required.
  5. Present financial statement to membership yearly.
  6. Make the annual written request for membership subsidy distribution to International GMIS Secretary (request must be made between July 1 and December 31).
  7. Serve on the Nominating Committee.

8. Perform such functions as assigned by the President.
- f. Responsibilities of the Directors shall be, but not limited to:
  1. Serve as chair of said committee.
  2. Perform duties assigned to committee.
  3. Serve on the Nominating Committee.
  4. Perform such functions as assigned by the President.

## **ARTICLE VIII. FISCAL PROCEDURE**

Section 1. Fiscal Year: The fiscal year shall be July 1 thru June 30.

Section 2. Funds: The Treasurer shall manage the funds of the organization within policies established by the Executive Board.

## **ARTICLE IX. STANDING COMMITTEES**

Section 1. Professional Development Committee:

- a. Responsibilities of this committee shall be:
  1. To plan and promote meaningful programs for all meetings and to make the necessary arrangements for each meeting.
  2. To develop and administer a CIO Certification program.
  3. To develop and administer the Professional Growth Program.
  4. To work with the Center for Public Technology to develop educational opportunities.
  5. Perform other functions as assigned by the President.
- b. The committee shall be comprised of volunteers from the active membership. The committee will elect a Chair to server on the Executive Board.

Section 2. Vendor Relations Committee:

- a. Responsibilities of this committee shall be:
  1. To develop and maintain vendor relations.
  2. To encourage vendor participation in conferences.
  3. Coordination of all vendor activities at conferences.
  4. Perform other functions as assigned by the President.
- b. The committee shall be comprised of volunteers from the active membership. The committee will elect a Chair to server on the Executive Board.

Section 3. Membership Committee:

- a. Responsibilities of this Committee shall be:
  1. To seek and encourage the membership of all eligible government entities which are in accord with the goals of the organization.
  2. To encourage members to carry on a continuing program of public relation for the organizations and its goals.
  3. To develop and maintain an inventory of users and user systems applications.
  4. Work with the Center for Public Technology to develop and maintain a biannual inventory of local government technology systems.
  5. Perform other functions as assigned by the President.
- b. The committee shall be comprised of volunteers from the active membership. The committee will elect a Chair to server on the Executive Board.

Section 4. Audit Committee:

- a. Responsibilities of the Committee shall be:
  1. To conduct an annual audit of the accounting records of this organization at the close of each fiscal year, and to present a report thereon to the incoming Executive Board.
  2. To conduct special audits of the NCLGISA accounts as may be required by the Executive Board.
  3. Perform other functions as assigned by the President.
- b. The President shall appoint the Audit Committee. Members of the Audit Committee shall not be representatives of any agency represented on the outgoing Executive Board. The Committee shall be a minimum of 3 people.

Section 5. Nominating Committee:

- a. Responsibilities of the Committee shall be:
  1. To present to the general membership a proposed slate of officers for consideration.
  2. Perform other functions as assigned by the President.
- b. The Executive Board shall serve as members of the Nominating Committee.

Section 6. Other committees may be appointed by the President to accomplish the general purposes or special projects of the organization.

## **ARTICLE X. CONFERENCES**

Section 1. Regular Conferences: No less than two regular conferences shall be held each membership year for the entire organization. A time and place for the next meeting, as determined by the NCLGISA Executive Board, shall be announced to the membership attending a regular meeting, and shall be included in information sent to all members.

Section 2. Special Meeting(s): The President, with the approval of the Executive Board, may call special meetings to meet the specific interest of special interest areas, such as law enforcement, legislative inquiry, etc.

Section 3. Quorum: A quorum for the conduct of business meetings shall consist of Active Members attending the conferences.

Section 4. Voting:

- a. Unless otherwise provided in these By-Laws, voting shall be based upon a simple majority of the votes cast.
- b. Only Active Members shall be eligible to vote as provided herein.
- c. No more than one vote will be cast by each eligible voter on all issues; proxy ballots will not be accepted.
- d. Secret balloting may be used at the discretion of the President or when requested by a member qualified to vote.

Section 5. Accounting for attendance fees:

- a. The Treasurer shall be responsible for collecting and distributing the fees and for submitting a financial report for audit.

Section 6. Nothing in these By-Laws shall prevent the NCLGISA Executive Board from inviting interested persons or organizations, including vendors, consultants, or service organizations, who are not members, to participate as observers at meetings, participate in meeting sessions, or in other appropriate capacities as the Executive Board may see fit.

## **ARTICLE XI. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

Section 1. Nothing herein shall constitute members as partners for any purpose. No member or officer of NCLGISA shall be liable for the acts or failures to act on the part of any other member, and no officer shall be liable for his acts or failures to act under By-Laws, excepting only acts or omissions to act arising out of his willful misfeasance.

## **ARTICLE XII. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

Section 1. All meeting of the duly constituted bodies of this organization shall be governed by the rules of order as prescribed in "Roberts Rules of Order Revised", provided the same are not superseded by these By-Laws and are applicable.

Section 2. Suspension of By-Laws: The By-Laws may be temporarily suspended by the affirmative vote of sixty-six and two-thirds percent (66-2/3%) of Active Members in attendance at any regular or special meeting of the organization.

Section 3. Interpretation of the By-Laws: The Executive Board shall be the authority for the interpretation of these By-Laws.

## **ARTICLE XIII. DISSOLUTION**

Section 1. The organization shall use its funds only to accomplish the purposes and goals specified in these By-Laws. On dissolution of NCLGISA, any funds remaining shall be distributed in the following manner and sequence.

- a. Outstanding accounts payable shall be paid in whatever sequence designated by the Executive Board.
- b. Restricted funds (e.g. Federal funds) shall be disseminated in accordance with procedures and restrictions accepted with the funds.
- c. Remaining funds shall be used to pay expenses related to the dissolution of the organization.
- d. Any remaining funds shall be equally distributed among all member organizations in good standing for the current fiscal year, up to an amount equal to the annual fee.
- e. Any remaining funds shall be equally distributed among all member organizations in good standing for the current and the immediate past fiscal year.

Section 2. Tangible Property: Any tangible properties of the organization shall be dispensed under the supervision of the Executive Board in whatever manner it deems equitable.

Section 3. Before distribution of funds and/or tangible properties, the President shall cause the Audit Committee to conduct a special audit of the accounts and other assets of the organization.

Section 4. The Executive Board shall conduct the dissolution process.

Section 5. The Executive Board shall submit a report of the dissolution process and distribution of funds and tangible properties to all members in good standing in the current and the immediate past fiscal year, to any other agency with legal interest in the funds and properties disposed.

## **ARTICLE XIV. AMENDMENTS**

### Section 1. Proposals

- a. Amendments to these By-Laws may be proposed by:
  1. The By-Laws Committee (see Article IX, Section 5).
  2. A request signed by five or more members in good standing.
  3. The unanimous mandate of Active Members in attendance at a regular or special meeting of the organization.
- b. Amendments shall be proposed in writing and submitted to the Executive Board.
- c. The Executive Board shall authorize the Secretary to submit proposed at least 30 days prior to the date on which the votes are to be cast.

### Section 2. Voting:

- a. The balloting on a proposed amendment to these By-Laws shall be conducted at the next meeting.
- b. An affirmative vote of sixty-six and two thirds (66-2/3%) of the Active Members casting ballots shall be required for the adoption of any amendment to these By-Laws.