

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE RICHMOND JOINT ENGINEERS' COUNCIL

CONSTITUTION Revised September 2012

ARTICLE I – NAME
Sec. 1. - The name of this organization shall be the Richmond Joint Engineers' Council.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

Sec. 1. - Promote Engineering Education and National Engineers' Week in the Richmond/ Petersburg (Tri-Cities) Metropolitan Areas of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Sec. 2. - Provide a forum for the discussion of issues and activities of common interest that may be brought before it by member societies, community groups, institutions, or persons.

Sec. 3. - Promote the dissemination of knowledge and information by means of meetings, newsletters, and publications relating to the art and science of engineering in general.

The RJEC is classified as a 501 © 6 organization and is exempt from federal income taxes. Section 501 © 6 of the Internal Revenue Code provides for the exemption of business leagues, including professional associations, and other non-profit organizations. A business league is an association of persons having some common business interest, the purpose of which is to promote such common interest and not to engage in a regular business of a kind ordinarily carried on for profit. No part of a business league's net earnings may inure to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual and it may not be organized to engage in an activity ordinarily carried on for profit.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

Sec. 1. - The membership of the Council shall consist of engineering, scientific, and technical societies, organizations, and associations in the Richmond/Petersburg Metropolitan Areas of Virginia. Invitations to join this Council may be extended to potential members engineering,

scientific, and technical societies by a vote of the quorum of all Council members in good standing.

Sec. 2. - A member society may be put on “inactive” status, or suspended, with loss of voting rights and membership privileges for non-payment of dues. The Council has established a one year grace period.

Sec. 3. - One delegate and one vote will represent each member society of the Council that is in good standing. Each delegate should have an alternate appointed to insure his society’s representation at each Council Meeting. Societies may have additional participants working to assist RJEC meet all of its goals and obligations, but each society will only have (1) official delegate. Additional participants will not be considered when determining a quorum.

The delegate should be a past or present member of the participating society’s executive committee or governing board and shall be appointed to the Council by the member society, ~~by June of each year~~ annually as their Board changes.

The alternate delegate shall be appointed by the respective society and may change as deemed necessary by the society.

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS

Sec. 1. – Council Officers shall be elected and installed by the Council at the last meeting of the retiring Council in May of each year. The first official meeting of the new fiscal year will be held in August.

Sec. 2. - The officers of the Council will be the Chair, Chair-Elect, Vice-Chair, Secretary/~~Newsletter Editor~~, Treasurer, and Historian. They are to serve for a term of one (1) year or until their successors are elected.

- . a) The Historian will be appointed by the Chair and will serve as an officer.
- . b) No more than one officer should be elected from the same member society within the same year.

- . c) During their term of office, the officers should represent the Council and as such □should not serve as delegates of their respective member societies.
- . d) Exception to c): In the case where a society has only one person willing to represent them on the council, that representative may serve in a dual capacity as an officer of □RJEC and as a delegate of their respective Society.

Sec. 3. - The Past Chair, not serving as a delegate of a member society, will be eligible to serve in an ex-officio and advisory capacity for one (1) year.

ARTICLE V – GOVERNING BODY

The Council shall be governed by a Board of Delegates, which shall consist of the designated representative from each of the Societies in good standing and the officers of the Council. Here after the Council shall be understood to mean the representative society delegates and the elected officers of the Council.

ARTICLE VI – FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Sec. 1. - The Council will not be liable for financial responsibility nor for the acts of the member societies nor shall it, in turn, take action that involves financial responsibilities for the member societies.

Sec. 2. - No member of the Council shall engage in or sign any agreement or contract without a majority vote of the Council. The Treasurer must be informed of any such agreements prior to signing or entering into the agreement to determine the financial impact of said agreement.

Sec. 3. - Every officer will be allowed to approve expenditures of up to \$100 for operation of the Council on an event-by-event basis. Receipts should be turned in to the Treasurer for refund of said expenditure.

ARTICLE VII – FINAL DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

Sec. 1. - If the Council is disbanded, any funds of the Council after

payment of debts will be disbursed proportionally among the societies in good standings (paid their dues) at the time of disbandment. Additionally, said societies must comply with Article II, Section 4 above.

ARTICLE VIII – ELECTION AND MEETINGS □ Sec. 1. - Officers of the Council shall be elected annually as provided in the Bylaws.

Sec. 2. - Meetings shall be held at the time and place approved by the Council. The Council shall furnish meeting notification to all members with a minimum advanced notice of five business days. Notification can be sent through any media accessible to members.

ARTICLE IX – BYLAWS

Sec. 1. - A simple majority vote of the representing Member Societies in good standing, at a duly constituted regular or special meeting shall have the power to pass, repeal, or modify any Bylaws. The privilege to vote may be via electronic means for the proposed changes. Such revisions shall become effective upon approval by the Council.

ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS/CHANGES

Sec. 1. - Amendments/changes to this Constitution may be proposed by any Council Officer or Delegate or by any officer of a member society that is in good standing of the Council. A proposed amendment/change shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the Council and signed by the Chairman/President, or designated Officer, of the Society proposing the amendment. The Chairperson of the Constitution and By-Laws committee may also propose amendments/changes.

Sec. 2. - Proposed amendments/changes to this Constitution shall be presented in writing to the Council membership one (1) month in advance of formal action. Written notice of the vote on the proposed amendment(s) shall be sent to all Council Officers and Delegates and Chairmen or Presidents of member societies in good standings at least 28 days before vote is to be taken.

Sec. 3. - To become effective, proposed amendments/changes to the Constitution must be affirmatively voted upon by two-thirds of the

Council Officers and Board of Delegates of Member Societies in good standing who are participating in the vote, with each society having one (1) vote, at a duly constituted regular or special meeting. The Secretary shall notify the Council Membership of all approved amendments/changes to the Constitution. The privilege to vote may be via electronic means for the proposed changes.