

**Bylaws of
THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
OF LINCOLN-LANCASTER COUNTY, NEBRASKA**

ARTICLE I

Section 1. NAME. The name of this corporation shall be the League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County, Nebraska Inc. This local league is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States and of the League of Women Voters of Nebraska.

ARTICLE II

Purpose and Policy

Section 1. PURPOSE. The purpose of the League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

Section 2. POLITICAL POLICY. The League shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.

ARTICLE III

Membership

Section 1. ELIGIBILITY. Any person who subscribes to the purpose and policy of the League shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2. TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP. The membership of the League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County shall be composed of voting members and associate members.

(a) **Voting Members:** citizens of at least 18 years of age residing within Lancaster County who join the League shall be voting members of the League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County, the League of Women Voters of Nebraska, and the League of Women Voters of the United States; those who have been members of the League of Women Voters for 50 years or more shall be honorary life members excused from the payment of dues.

(b) **Associate Members:** all others who join the League shall be associate members.

Section 3. USE OF MEMBERSHIP LIST. The use of the membership list is restricted to League activities only, except by written permission from the Board.

ARTICLE IV

Board of Directors

Section 1. NUMBERS, MANNER OF SELECTION AND TERM OF OFFICE. The Board of Directors shall consist of the Officers of the League, and up to eight but not less than four elected Directors. The Directors shall be elected by the general membership at each Annual Meeting and shall serve for a term of two years. The elected members shall appoint such additional Directors, not to exceed the number of elected Directors, as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the League. The terms of office of the appointed Directors shall be two years. Half of the Directors will be appointed each year to fill a two-year term.

Section 2. QUALIFICATIONS. All officers and directors of this corporation shall be voting members of the League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County.

Section 3. VACANCIES. Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors may be filled, until the next Annual Meeting, by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors. The absence of any member from three consecutive regular Board meetings shall warrant a review of intent to serve.

Section 4. POWERS AND DUTIES. The Board of Directors shall have full charge of the property and business of the corporation, with full power and authority to manage and conduct

same, subject to the instruction of the general membership. It shall plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the program as adopted by the National Convention, the State Annual Meeting, and the Lincoln-Lancaster Annual Meeting. The Board shall create and designate such special committees as it may deem necessary.

Section 5. MEETINGS. There shall be at least nine regular meetings of the Board of Directors annually. Each newly elected Board shall determine meeting dates and times. The President may call special meetings of the Board of Directors and shall call a special meeting upon the request of five members of the Board.

Section 6. QUORUM. A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

Section 7. E-MAIL VOTING. The Board may propose and vote on a motion concerning urgent matters via e-mail, provided that all e-mail discussion and votes are submitted to all Board members. Documentation and ratification are to occur at the next Board meeting.

ARTICLE V

Officers

Section 1. ENUMERATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS. The Officers of the League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County shall be a President, President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. The President and President-Elect shall be elected for terms of two years, and the Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected for terms of two years in alternating years by the general membership at an Annual Meeting. These officers shall take office upon election.

Section 2. THE PRESIDENT. The President shall preside at all meetings of the corporation and of the Board of Directors. The President may, in the absence or disability of the Treasurer, sign or endorse checks, drafts and notes; shall be, ex officio, a member of all committees except the Nominating Committee; shall have such usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office of the President and perform such other duties as may be designated by the Board.

Section 3. THE PRESIDENT-ELECT. The President-Elect shall, in the event of absence, disability, or death of the President, possess all the powers and perform all the duties of that office. In the event that the President-Elect is not able to serve in this capacity, the Board of Directors shall elect one of its members to fill the vacancy. The President-Elect shall perform such other duties as the President and Board may designate, and shall succeed to the Presidency.

Section 4. THE SECRETARY. The secretary shall keep minutes of all business meetings of the League and of all meetings of the Board of Directors. The secretary shall notify all Officers and Directors of the election; shall sign, with the President, all contracts and other instruments when so authorized by the Board and shall perform such other functions as may be incident to the office.

Section 5. THE TREASURER. The Treasurer shall collect and receive all moneys due. The Treasurer shall be the custodian of these moneys, shall deposit them in a bank designated by the Board of Directors, and shall disburse the same only upon order of the Board. The Treasurer shall present statements to the Board at its regular meetings and to the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE VI

Financial Administration

Section 1. FISCAL YEAR. The fiscal year of the League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County shall Commence on the first day of June in each year.

Section 2. DUES. Annual dues shall be set by the Board of Directors and shall be payable on the first day of April. Dues shall include an annual subscription service of selected League publications as determined by the Board of Directors. Any member who fails to pay dues by June 1 shall be dropped from the membership rolls.

Section 3. BUDGET. A proposed budget for the ensuing year shall be submitted to the membership by the Board of Directors at least fifteen (15) days prior to the Annual Meeting. The budget shall include support for the work of the League as a whole.

Section 4. BUDGET COMMITTEE. A Budget Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at least two months prior to the Annual Meeting to prepare a budget for the ensuing year. The Treasurer shall not be eligible to serve as chairperson of the Budget Committee.

Section 5. FINANCIAL REVIEW. The books of the League shall be examined and a report submitted to the Board of Directors within forty-five days following the end of the fiscal year.

Section 6. FINANCIAL REVIEW COMMITTEE. A Financial Review Committee of two or three members shall be appointed by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors to examine the financial records of the League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County at fiscal yearend. Officers and members of the Board of Directors shall not be eligible to serve on this committee.

Section 7. FAILURE TO MEET RECOGNITION STANDARDS. In the event of recurring failure of the League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County to meet recognition standards set by the League of Women Voters of the United States and recognition is withdrawn, all funds held by the League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County shall be paid to the League of Women Voters of Nebraska.

Section 8. DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS ON DISSOLUTION. In the event of dissolution, for any cause other than failure to meet recognition standards, of the League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County, all moneys and property of whatsoever nature, which may at the time be wholly or partially owned by or under the absolute control of the League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County, shall be disposed of to such person, organization, or corporation, for such public, charitable, or educational uses and purposes as may be designated by the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County.

ARTICLE VII

Meetings

Section 1. GENERAL MEETINGS. There shall be at least three meetings of the general membership each year. Time and place to be determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. ANNUAL MEETING. An Annual Meeting, which may be one of the three general meetings, shall be held between April 1 and May 15. The exact date shall be determined by the Board of Directors and the membership notified at least one month in advance. The Annual Meeting shall:

- (a) Adopt a local program for the ensuing year,
- (b) Elect Officers, Directors, Education Fund Trustees and members of the Nominating Committee,
- (c) Adopt an adequate budget, and
- (d) Transact such other business as may properly come before it.

Section 3. QUORUM. Ten percent of the membership shall constitute a quorum at all business meetings of the League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County.

ARTICLE VIII Nominations and Elections

Section 1. NOMINATING COMMITTEE. The Nominating Committee shall consist of five members, two of whom shall be members of the Board of Directors. The Chairperson and two members, who shall not be members of the Board, shall be elected at the Annual Meeting. Nomination for these offices shall, with the consent of the nominee, be made by the current Nominating Committee. The other members shall be appointed by the Board of Directors following the Annual Meeting. Nominations for Officers and Directors may be sent to this committee by any voting member. Any vacancy on the Nominating Committee shall be filled by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE AND NOMINATIONS FROM THE FLOOR.

(a) The report of the Nominating Committee of its nominations for Officers, Directors, Education Fund Trustees, and the members of the succeeding Nominating Committee shall be sent to all members fifteen (15) days before the date of the Annual Meeting. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be presented to the Annual Meeting. Immediately following the presentation of this report, nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member provided the consent of the nominee shall have been secured.

(b) The Education Fund Trustees shall be elected by ballot, based on the Education Fund Bylaws.

Section 3. ELECTIONS. The election shall be by ballot. If there is but one nominee for each office, the Secretary may be instructed to cast the ballot for the entire slate. A majority vote of those present and qualified to vote and voting shall constitute an election. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.

Section 4. DELEGATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTION. Delegates to National Convention in the number allotted to the League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County under the provisions of the Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of the United States shall be approved by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX Program

Section 1. AUTHORIZATION. The governmental principles adopted by the National Convention and supported by the League as a whole constitute the authorization for the adoption of Program.

Section 2. PROGRAM. The Program of the League of Women Voters of Lincoln-Lancaster County shall consist of:

- (a) Action to protect the right to vote of every citizen, and
- (b) Those local governmental issues chosen for concerted study and action.

Section 3. ACTION BY THE ANNUAL MEETING. The Annual Meeting shall act upon the Program using the following procedures:

- (a) The Board of Directors shall consider the recommendations sent in by the voting members two months prior to the Annual Meeting and shall formulate a Proposed Program.
- (b) The Proposed Program shall be sent to all members fifteen (15) days before the Annual Meeting.
- (c) A majority vote of voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting shall be required for adoption of subjects in the Proposed Program as presented to the Annual Meeting by the Board of Directors.
- (d) Recommendations for Program submitted by voting members two months prior to the Annual Meeting but not recommended by the Board of Directors may be approved by the Annual Meeting by majority vote.
- (e) Changes in the Program, in the case of altered conditions, may be made provided that:
 - (1) Information concerning the proposed changes has been sent to all members at least two weeks prior to a general membership meeting at which the change is to be discussed, and
 - (2) Final action by the membership is taken at a succeeding meeting.

Section 4. MEMBER ACTION. Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters only when authorized to do so by the appropriate Board of Directors.

ARTICLE X Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY. The rules contained in Roberts Rules of Order Revised shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws.

ARTICLE XI Amendments

Section 1. AMENDMENTS. These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members at the Annual Meeting, provided the amendments were submitted to the membership in writing at least fifteen (15) days in advance of the meeting.

Section 2. BYLAWS COMMITTEE. A Bylaws Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at least two months prior to the Annual Meeting. The Secretary of the Board shall serve as chairperson of this committee of three members which shall review the Bylaws.