

PROPOSAL 3 – Authorizing Electronic and Other Voting Methods

Adding a new Section 4 to Article IV of the Bylaws

ARTICLE IV VOTING ELIGIBILITY

Section 4: Electronic and Other Voting Methods

(a) Members in good standing are entitled to vote during the annual election of officers, on issues required by law or by this Constitution and Bylaws and on issues referred by the Board of Directors. Voting will be available to members by any one or more of the following methods: in person and/or by proxy, and/or by mail, and/or through any electronic means, approved by the Board of Directors, that is both reasonably secure as to limit failures, losses, or tampering and that does not require such a level of expertise or advanced hardware or software that it would create an unreasonable hardship for members to cast a vote.

(b) The voting methods in the Section may be used in addition to or in lieu of the proxy procedures provided for in Section 3 of this Article.

(c) Notice for proposals to be voted on shall published and made available to each Member at least thirty (30) days prior to the commencement of voting, together with a notice of when such voting is to be held.

Explanation

This Bylaw amendment will permit the use of electronic and other methods of voting. It will also help facilitate, when needed, membership voting between meetings.

Electronic voting is now used by most national and statewide organizations. Particularly in the COVID-19 environment where virtual meetings have become commonplace and organizations have had to adapt their meeting and voting formats.

Electronic voting system tends to maximize voter participation, by allowing members easier access to voting. The systems provide secure elections and help assure that all votes are counted.

The electronic vote eliminates errors in manual count, enables an accurate and quick publication of results, with receipt of vote for each vote cast. It also reduces organizational and implementation costs and significantly increases the efficiency of election management compared to traditional paper voting.