

Summary of NepRWA Bylaw Changes Proposed at 2021 Annual Meeting

Background

The NepRWA Board is proposing a substantial update to our bylaws and a modest refinement of the statement of purpose in our articles of organization. NepRWA's bylaws (both old and new) require that these changes be reviewed and approved by a vote of our Members at the Annual Meeting.

NepRWA's existing bylaws and statement of purpose were originally developed in 1967 and have undergone limited revisions since that time, in spite of the growth of the organization from its all-volunteer roots.

The goal of the proposed revisions is to modernize these key documents, resolve contradictory provisions, bring them into compliance with current legal requirements, and better reflect current management practices.

Summary of Revisions to Purposes

- NepRWA previously had two different statements of purpose, one in the article of organization and one in the bylaws. The proposal combines the two and eliminates the duplication.
- Protection of land for passive recreation (in addition to conservation) has been added.
- Lobbying language updated to current standards.

Summary of Bylaw Revisions

- The fundamental structure of the bylaws, wherein the Members elect the Board at the annual meeting, remains unchanged.
- Allowed for meetings by remote meeting technology.
- Updated quorum and meeting notification requirements.
- Updated descriptions of officer roles and added Executive Director as an officer.
- Formalized several committees.
- Updated board member liability provisions to modern standards.
- Numerous small revisions and reorganizations to make bylaws easier to follow and to more clearly reflect current best practices in organizational governance.

Acknowledgements

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