

Elections

The election of the officers, with the exception of the Executive Director, shall be by secret ballot held during the annual business meeting.

It shall be the responsibility of the Organizational Structure Committee Chairperson to organize and manage the election so long as this Chairperson is not running for any elected offices that year. In the event this conflict occurs, the Chairperson of the Finance/Membership Committee or designee shall have the responsibility.

Should a vacancy occur in any office of the Association, with the exception of the Executive Director, a special election shall be held within ninety (90) days after the vacancy.

Counting of ballots will be conducted at the annual business meeting. All ballots shall be secured during any hiatus during the counting. The election results will be announced prior to the conclusion of the annual business meeting.

Counting shall be conducted by the Organizational Structure Committee Chairperson or designee and two other active members of the Association.

Election Procedures:

This Election Procedure will be published in the Association's web page and/or official publication following the annual business meeting and will contain:

1. The duties and responsibilities for each elected office
2. Candidate eligibility
3. Procedures for running for office
4. Voter eligibility and responsibility
5. Duties of the Organizational Structure Committee

I. Duties and Responsibilities of Each Elected Office:

MAWLE officers are President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Executive Director. All are elected officers except Executive Director. The duties and responsibilities of each office are written in Article 5 of the Constitution.

II. Candidate Eligibility:

Candidate eligibility (minimum):

President:

- Active member – one (1) year. To be changed to two years as of June 1, 2006.
- Dues – current
- Has served in at least one Board and/or committee position for a minimum of one year.

Vice-President:

- Active member – one (1) year. To be changed to two years as of June 1, 2006.
- Dues – current
- Has served in at least one Board and/or committee position for a minimum of one year.

Secretary:

- Active member – one (1) year
- Dues – current

Treasurer:

- Active member – one (1) year
- Dues – current

III. Procedures to Run for Office:

Nominations may be taken from the floor during the general meeting which is held at least sixty (60) days prior to the annual business meeting. The exception to this will be for the first election.

Nominations may also be submitted in letter form. This letter must be submitted to the Chair of the Organizational Structure Committee and declare a member's intent to run for a specific office. The letter must be postmarked no later than sixty (60) days prior to the annual business meeting.

The Chair of the Organizational Structure Committee shall acknowledge receipt of letter of intent to run for office within ten (10) days by phone, mail, email or fax.

IV. Voter Eligibility and Responsibility:

The Organizational Structure Committee will insure that all nominations for office are posted on the Association web page, in the official publication of the Association or contained within an electronic mailing to all active members at least forty-five (45) days prior to the annual business meeting.

Ballots will be mailed out to eligible members at least thirty (30) days prior to the annual business meeting. The ballots will be counted at the annual business meeting.

Eligible members are those active members who are in good standing and whose dues are current in the election year.

The voting rights of members shall be exercised by the member personally and may not be exercised by alternates, by proxy or the like.

V. Duties of the Organizational Structure Committee:

The Committee will ensure timely notification of all current officer openings to the membership. Notification shall be given at least sixty (60) days prior to the annual business meeting. This will ensure that as many members as possible will seek the opportunity to be nominated to the opened position(s).

Elections will be conducted in an organized and businesslike manner.

Voting will be done by secret ballot. All ballots will be mailed out prior to the annual business meeting and collected by the Chairperson of the Organizational Structure Committee or designee.

Counting of the ballots shall be conducted by the Chairperson of the Organizational Structure Committee or designee and two other active members of the Association. All ballots shall be secured during any hiatus during the counting.

The election results will be announced prior to the conclusion of the annual business meeting. The election results will also be posted on the Association web page, enclosed in an electronic mailing or in an official publication of the Association within ten (10) days.

Objections, if any, must be presented immediately to the Organizational Structure Committee Chairperson or designee.

All ballots will be kept for a period of at least thirty (30) days.