

BYLAWS CHANGES TO BE VOTED ON AT FALL 2009 MEETING

At the spring 2009 business meeting, the membership discussed making the Access to State Government Information and Publications Committee into an ad-hoc committee. To do this, Bylaw 6, section 2, Subsection B needs to be repealed and the sections of the bylaws that follow it need to be renumbered.

Here is the text that is to be deleted:

BYLAW 6. COMMITTEES

SECTION 2. STANDING COMMITTEES

B. ACCESS TO STATE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION AND PUBLICATIONS (Formation date: April 1991)

Membership: At least two members of the organization plus the Government Information Consultant of the State Library of Ohio who shall serve as a consultant.

Charge: Seek and promote access to state of Ohio government information and publications.

BYLAWS CHANGES TO BE VOTED ON AT SPRING 2010 MEETING

(Presented at the Fall 2009 Business Meeting)

ISSUE 1: ONLINE BANKING RESOLUTION

Due to bank rules, one cannot become “super-user” with online access to an account without a resolution from the organization, so it is being proposed that this be done officially by the membership upon election of a new secretary/treasurer. To make this an official requirement of the organization, the following addition to the bylaws is being proposed:

BYLAW 4. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

SECTION 3. SECRETARY/TREASURER TRANSFER (NEW SECTION)

Immediately upon the election of a new secretary/treasurer, the GODORT membership shall pass the following resolution designating the new secretary/treasurer as online banking Super User:

RESOLVED that [SECRETARY/TREASURER’S NAME] of this organization, is designated as this organization's Super User for Online Banking with authority to grant to [himself/herself] and other individuals access to, and the right to perform transactions affecting, all of this organization's deposit, loan and other accounts, and that the certification of this resolution may be relied upon until written notice of any change therein, in satisfactory form, shall have been received by an appropriate officer.

If the language required by the bank changes, this section of the bylaws shall be updated.

ISSUE 2: SECRETARY OF STATE REGISTRATION

Due to Department of Homeland Security regulations, an organization cannot add or remove users from its bank account without being registered with the Secretary of State. If keeping this registration up-to-date is officially added to the secretary/treasurer’s duties, the board will not need to approve this action each time the registration needs to be updated. Therefore, the following addition to the bylaws is being proposed:

BYLAW 1. OFFICERS

SECTION 3. THE SECRETARY/TREASURER (NEW SUBSECTION)

G. The secretary/treasurer shall ensure that the organization's registration with the Ohio Secretary of State is current. If it has expired, he/she shall obtain the necessary paperwork from the Ohio Secretary of State, complete it, and pay the required fees. He or she shall use his or her business address as the address of the organization.

ISSUE 3: BANKING TRANSITION PROCEDURE

In the past, when a new secretary/treasurer was elected, the bank account was closed and a new one was opened. This was a hassle because the outgoing secretary/treasurer would need to wait until all the checks had cleared before closing the account and writing a check for the incoming secretary/treasurer to deposit into the new account. This also involved unnecessary expenses because each time a new account was opened, new checks needed to be ordered. Since a secretary/treasurer writes only about five checks a year, ordering a new box of checks and using only ten checks became wasteful.

In 2004, the account was moved to National City Bank, and the decision was made to change the name of the authorized user instead of closing the account. With online banking, this also has the advantage of a secretary/treasurer having access to all predecessors' banking records.

However, there were difficulties the first time this transition was made because two different bank branches handled the transition (one on the outgoing secretary/treasurer's city and one in the incoming secretary/treasurer's city). It took several months for the bank to update the account. The second time this transition was made, the incoming secretary/treasurer had to drive to the outgoing secretary/treasurer's city (a 2-hour drive) so the transition could be handled at one branch.

To prevent the necessity of extra travel and bank confusion, the following addition to the bylaws is being proposed:

BYLAW 1. OFFICERS

SECTION 3. THE SECRETARY/TREASURER (NEW SUBSECTION)

H. At the conclusion of the meeting at which a new secretary/treasurer is elected, the outgoing secretary/treasurer and the incoming secretary/treasurer shall go to the bank and update the organization's bank account. If the outgoing secretary/treasurer is unavailable, the State Documents Consultant shall go to the bank and authorize the update to the account.