

Bylaws of the Agricultural Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan

ARTICLE II MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1. Any active member of the State Bar of Michigan, upon request to the State Bar of Michigan and upon payment of dues for the current year, shall be enrolled as a member of this Section. Membership dues shall be established by the Council and shall be payable in advance each fiscal year beginning on the first day of October of each year. The Council may set lower annual membership dues for Law Students and Affiliate Members than it sets for the rest of the membership. Any member of the Section whose annual dues shall be more than six (6) months past due shall automatically cease to be a member of the Section.

SECTION 2. Members so enrolled as active members of the State Bar of Michigan and whose dues are so paid shall constitute the regular membership of this Section. All references in these Bylaws to “members” shall relate and be limited to active members so enrolled.

SECTION 2. ~~In addition, m~~Members of the Law Student Section of the State Bar of Michigan may, subject to any rules of the State Bar of Michigan, become student members of the Section upon payment to the State Bar of Michigan of annual dues, if any, in an amount established by the Council in accordance with Section 1 above. Student members shall have no voting rights and shall not be eligible to hold office in the Section; however, student members shall be encouraged to participate in the work and activities of the committees of this Section as determined by the Chairperson then in office and shall be entitled to all other privileges accorded to Section members by the Section.

SECTION 3. Members of the Legal Assistant Section of the State Bar of Michigan may, subject to any rules of the State Bar of Michigan, become affiliate members of the Section upon payment to the State Bar of Michigan of annual dues, if any, in an amount established by the Council in accordance with Section 1 above. Affiliate members shall have no voting rights and shall not be eligible to hold office in the Section; however, affiliate members shall be encouraged to participate in the work and activities of the committees of this Section as determined by the Chairperson then in office and shall be entitled to all other privileges accorded to Section members by the Section.

SECTION 34. Unless otherwise determined by the Council and reported to the State Bar of Michigan in writing, newly admitted members of the State Bar of Michigan shall upon application be considered members of the Section until the end of the first full fiscal year of the State Bar of Michigan following the year of their admission to practice and shall not be required to pay dues until after that time.

SECTION 45. An active member of the State Bar of Michigan who has attained the age of seventy (70) years does not have to pay annual dues provided, however, that application for membership in the Section shall be made annually in writing.

ARTICLE III ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

SECTION 1. The organizational meeting of the Section shall be held during the period of January 1–31, 2013 at a time and place to be determined by the Acting Chairperson hereafter appointed.

SECTION 2. The Board of Commissioners of the State Bar of Michigan hereby appoints Liza C. Moore (P72240) as Acting Chairperson of the proposed Section, to serve in this capacity until the Bylaws of the Section are approved and the Council and Officers of the Section are duly elected as hereinafter provided.

SECTION 3. All active members of the State Bar of Michigan who have applied for membership in the Section and have paid dues or have otherwise qualified under Article III by November 19, 2012 shall receive written notice of the time and place of the organizational meeting and shall be eligible to vote at the meeting.

SECTION 4. Voting at the organizational meeting shall be in person and not by proxy.

SECTION 5. At the organizational meeting, the members shall elect six (6) members to serve as the first Council, and shall elect the 4 officers of the Section. A majority of those present and voting at the organizational meeting shall be sufficient to elect the first Council. The terms of one-half of the six (6) members of the Council elected at the organizational meeting shall be for one (1) year and the terms of the other half shall be for two (2) years.

ARTICLE IV ELECTION OF COUNCIL

SECTION 1. The Council of the Section shall have There shall be a Council of the Section consisting of ten (10) members, and, in addition, the immediate past Chairperson of the Section who shall automatically remain as an ex-officio member of the Council after expiration of the term for which he or she is elected as a Council member, provided that he or she maintains membership in the Section. The immediate past Chairperson, when serving solely as an ex-officio member of the Council, shall not be included in determining whether a quorum is present at any meeting, and shall not have a right to vote on matters brought before the Council; consisting of

- (a) the officers, ex officio, elected pursuant to Article V and
- (b) six (6) members elected to two (2) year terms by the membership of the Section at the annual meeting.

SECTION 2. The council members shall be divided into three classes, as nearly equal in number as possible, as determined by the Council. The first class shall include Council members elected for a term of two (2) years at the 2014 annual meeting of the Section, who shall continue to serve until 2016 annual meeting. The second class shall include three (3) members elected at the 2015 annual meeting of the section to an initial term of two (2) years. The third class shall include four (4) members elected at the 2015 annual meeting of the section to an initial term of three (3) years. At each subsequent annual meeting, as the terms of each class of Council members expire, Council members shall be elected for terms of three (3) years. For purposes of determining the term of a Council member, the term “year” shall mean a term beginning at the close of the annual meeting of the Section and concluding at the close of the next succeeding annual meeting.

SECTION 23. No member of the Council who has served for more than ~~four~~ three (3) consecutive full ~~2-year~~ two (2) year or ~~three (3) year~~ terms shall be eligible for membership on the Council until at least one (1) year has elapsed.

SECTION 34. If any elected or ex officio member of the Council shall fail to attend three (3) successive meetings of the Council, the Council may declare the position vacant. If a position of the Council becomes vacant for any reason during the term of a member, including resignation or the inability to perform the duties of the position, the remaining members of the Council shall select a replacement, who shall succeed to the position and serve for the remaining part of the vacant term.

SECTION 45. Prior to the annual meeting, the Chairperson shall appoint a nominating committee to propose nominations for the ~~positions of Officers and~~ members of the Council for election at the annual meeting. Other nominations may be made by members present at the annual meeting.

SECTION 56. Election of the Council shall be by voice vote of the members of the Section present at the annual meeting, unless voting by written ballot is requested and approved by a majority vote of the members present at the annual meeting or the outcome of the election by voice vote is indeterminable in which case voting by written ballot shall be required. The members of the Section present at the annual meeting of the Section constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business, and the action of the majority of the quorum constitutes action of the Section.

ARTICLE IV ELECTION OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1. ~~The officers of the Section shall consist of the following, elected by the members at the annual meeting:~~

- (a) a Chairperson;
- (b) a Chairperson-Elect;
- (c) a Secretary, and
- (d) a Treasurer.

SECTION 2. ~~If any office becomes vacant during the period between annual meetings, the Council may select a replacement, who shall succeed to the full duties and responsibilities of the office.~~

SECTION 3. ~~Subject to the approval of the members at the annual meeting, it is anticipated that the Chairperson-Elect shall succeed to the office of Chairperson.~~

SECTION 4. ~~Elections of the Officers shall be by voice vote of the members of the Section present at the annual meeting, unless voting by written ballot is requested and approved by a majority vote of the members present at the annual meeting or the outcome of the election by voice vote is indeterminable in which case voting by written ballot shall be required. The members of the Section present at the annual meeting of the Section constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business, and the action of the majority of the quorum constitutes action of the Section.~~

SECTION 1. The officers of the Section shall be elected by the Council and shall consist of a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson, a

Treasurer and a Secretary, all of whom shall be members of the Council. No person shall serve in the same office for more than two consecutive years.

SECTION 2. The officers shall be elected at the first meeting of the Council to be held immediately following each annual meeting of the Section, thereafter to serve until the following annual meeting or until their successors have been elected or appointed.

ARTICLE VI DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION 2. ~~Chairperson-Elect~~ Vice Chairperson. ~~The Chairperson-Elect~~ Vice Chairperson shall:

SECTION 3. Secretary. The Secretary shall:

- (c) Preside at the meetings of the Council in the absence of the Chairperson and the ~~Chairperson-Elect~~ Vice Chairperson.

SECTION 4. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall:

- (d) Preside at the meetings of the Council in the absence of the Chairperson, the ~~Chairperson-Elect~~ Vice Chairperson, and the Secretary.

ARTICLE VII DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE COUNCIL

SECTION 1. The Council shall:

SECTION 3. Between scheduled meetings of Council, the Chairperson of the Section may, and on the request of any member of the Council, shall:

ARTICLE VIII COMMITTEES

SECTION 4. ~~Membership Committee.~~ The Membership Committee shall be responsible for promoting membership in the Section among members of the State Bar of Michigan.

SECTION 54. Program Committee. The Program Committee shall be responsible for the planning and presentations of educational programs.

SECTION 65. Publication Committee. The Publication Committee shall be responsible for the preparation and publication of newsletters to be distributed to the members.

ARTICLE ~~IX~~ MEETINGS

ARTICLE IX MISCELLANEOUS

SECTION 4. Any action of this Section must be approved by the Representative Assembly or the Board of Commissioners of the State Bar of Michigan before the same becomes effective as the action of the State Bar of Michigan. Reports or recommendations of this Section or its committees may be released, announced, or published only as provided in the Bylaws of the State Bar of Michigan, Article VIII and Article ~~IX~~ VIII.

ARTICLE XI AMENDMENTS