

AMFGLEO
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
JUNE 24, 2007

ARTICLE 1 - NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Association of Midwest Fish and Game Law Enforcement Officers.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the organization shall be:

1. To encourage and promote close cooperation between natural resource law enforcement agencies to further professionalize their law enforcement activity and image.
2. To strive for a more complete integration of natural resource law enforcement practices with other disciplines and facets of natural resource management.
3. To strive for and assist in obtaining increasingly higher educational and training opportunities for natural resource enforcement officers.
4. To seek more conformity in promulgation and enforcement of all laws and regulations affecting the natural resource through the member provinces and states in the Midwest and all agencies in the United States and Canada.
5. To recommend standards of ethics and conduct for acceptance and adoption by all officers within these agencies.
6. To provide a medium for the collection and dissemination of information between natural resource agencies relating to resource enforcement including, but not limited to, changes in legislation, illegal wildlife violations affecting the responsibilities of members and technological developments and expertise of value to the profession including the exchange of officers that possess such expertise or knowledge.
7. To strive for and support any program that will better the position of a natural resource enforcement officer and enhance the image of the profession in the public eye.
8. The purposes for which the Association is organized are exclusively charitable, religious, and educational within the meaning of section 501c(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.
9. In the event of dissolution, the residual assets of the organization will be turned over to one or more organizations which themselves are exempt as organizations described in Sections 501c(3) and 170c(2) of the Internal Revenue Code or to the Federal, State, or local government for exclusive public purpose.
10. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, this corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted under Section 501c(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law.

ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP

1. Requirements

Any agency whose primary responsibility is the enforcement of laws and regulations pertaining to the protection of natural resources in the United States or in Canada is eligible to apply for membership and will become members upon a majority vote for acceptance and payment of the annual dues.

2. Members Defined

All authorized law enforcement employees of a member agency will be considered as members of the Association; however, for the purposes of conducting business and voting, the Chief of Law Enforcement from each member agency shall appoint one person to act as the voting representative for that agency. In any voting question that arises within the Association, each member agency shall have one vote and that vote is to be cast by the member representative or his designee. Employees who have retired from a member agency or organization may be considered for associate membership upon approval of the membership. Such persons may hold the office of Executive Secretary but will have no voting rights.

3. Dues

The dues for membership shall be three hundred dollars (U.S.) per member agency, payable annually by June 1 to the Executive Secretary of the Association. Failure to pay these dues prior to the annual meeting automatically cancels membership in the Association and reinstatement shall require a majority vote of acceptance by the membership.

ARTICLE IV - EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS

1. President, First and Second Vice Presidents

The President, First Vice President and Second Vice President shall be elected each year at the annual meeting and serve until the following annual meeting. A candidate for these offices must be an authorized law enforcement officer in a member agency. Each such officer shall serve one term and may not succeed himself or herself in the same office, except as noted below. A list of candidates for these offices shall be compiled by the Nominating Committee and presented to the membership at the annual meeting and shall be elected by a majority vote of the member representatives.

2. Duties of the Above Officers

(a) The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association, appoint all committees and be responsible for the planning, programs and necessary arrangements for the taking of minutes at the Executive Board meeting and the annual meeting to be held during his term of office. The President shall be responsible for the initiation of any programs and the maintenance of routine business matters throughout the term of office.

(1) Annual Conference Host

The President may appoint a person from his agency as the conference host to plan and coordinate the annual meeting. The Executive Secretary is authorized to advance funds not to exceed \$3,000.00 (US)

to the conference host for pre-meeting expenses. This advance fund is to be maintained in a recognized FDIC or CDIC insured financial institution in the name of the Association and be accessible to the conference host and the President. The conference host will maintain a record of all funds received and expended in conjunction with the annual meeting. This record and any funds left in the account at the completion of the annual meeting shall be returned to the Executive Secretary as soon as all accounts have been paid.

- (b) The First Vice President shall be responsible for the preparation of the annual newsletter, shall assist the President in any other task assigned and shall serve as President pro-tem in the absence of the President. If for any reason the President is unable to serve out the full term of office, the First Vice President will automatically assume the Presidency. In this case and assuming that the annual meeting can still take place in the province or state of the former President, then the First Vice President shall preside at that meeting. He/she then may be re-elected for a full term and host the annual meeting in that year in his/her home state or province.
- (c) The Second Vice President shall assume the duties of the First Vice President in his/her absence or should the position of First Vice President become vacant for any reason and will be responsible for presenting a list of active and retired officers who have passed away during the previous year to the President who shall acknowledge their service at the annual conference meeting.

3. The Executive Secretary

The Executive Secretary shall be elected every three years starting in 1997 at the annual meeting by a majority of the member representatives present at the annual meeting. He or she must be a commissioned law enforcement officer in a member agency or a retired officer who has been active in the Association for at least 10 years prior to retirement. Candidates for the position shall be selected by the Nominating Committee and presented for a vote at the annual meeting. The Executive Secretary shall work under a contract negotiated with the Executive Board and subject to renewal on an annual basis.

4. Duties of the Executive Secretary

- a. To collect, deposit and disburse funds of the Association and to maintain a written/electronic record of all such transactions. This includes the mailing of dues notices prior to January 1 of each year and the collection of it. The funds of the Association shall be maintained in a recognized financial institution covered by the FDIC or CDIC and access to such funds shall be maintained in the name of the Audit Officer and the Executive Secretary so that the Association could access such funds should the Executive Secretary be unable to function. Unless special conditions dictate otherwise, all funds shall be maintained in interest bearing accounts.

- b. To make periodic mailing of information to the membership to keep them informed of activities of the Association or any other matters of benefit to their law enforcement activities as directed by the President.
 - c. To assure that necessary forms are filed with any governmental body in behalf of the Association when required.
 - d. To furnish an annual fiscal statement for the previous calendar year on the financial condition of the Association to the Audit Committee at the annual Conference meeting.
 - e. To complete any other duties that may arise at the request of the President.
 - f. To send a \$1,000.00 monetary donation on behalf of the Association to the immediate family of any resource or conservation enforcement officer of a member agency who is killed in the line of duty or who dies, within 24 hours, from a heart attack or stroke as described in the "Hometown Heroes Survivors Benefits Act of 2003". The check shall be tendered immediately upon notification of the death of the officer.
 - g. To maintain a library of all past records of the Association including the minutes of the annual meetings. These records shall be maintained in a safe place and passed on to his successor.
5. Audit Officer
The Audit Officer shall be elected to a three-year term of office starting in 1997. The Audit Officer shall serve on the Executive Board and be responsible for providing an annual audit of the Association financial condition at the annual meeting.
6. Past President
The Past President shall serve as the co-chair of the standing committees with the President, monitor committee activities and assignments during the year, and run the business meeting each year.
7. Executive Board Expenses
Actual travel expenses incurred by members of the Executive Board may be reimbursed for attending the annual conference meeting or any Executive Board meetings called by the President. Reimbursement of all such expenses shall first be approved by a majority vote of the Executive Board.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

1. The Annual Conference Meeting

The Association shall hold at least one annual conference meeting in each calendar year at a location to be selected by the President. The date and location of such annual meeting shall be transmitted to the membership at least six (6) months prior to the meeting date. Member agencies, wishing to serve as hosts for the annual meeting, should notify the Executive Secretary as to the year they desire to do so and the Executive Secretary shall maintain a list of such applications in the order that they were received.

2. Expense of the Annual Meeting

It is the intention of the Association that the expense of the annual meeting is, as far as possible, borne by the participants of the meeting in the form of a registration fee or similar fee. However, should the fees not be sufficient to meet the reasonable expenses of holding the meeting, then the balance left shall be paid from the Association treasury.

3. Special Meetings

The President is authorized to call other special meetings throughout the year to conduct business or training, including at least one mid-year meeting of the Executive Board if needed.

4. Gifts and Door Prizes

No solicitation shall be made in the name of the Association for merchandise, gifts or funds from non-members of the Association for any purpose. This, however, does not preclude the possibility of the Association conducting a drawing for prizes that were purchased or obtained by other means.

ARTICLE VI - COMMITTEES

1. Standing Committees

The Standing Committees shall consist of the Executive Board, and the Nominating, Awards, Special Investigations, Forensic/Research, Legislative, Resolution, and Audit committees.

2. Standing Committee Responsibilities

- a. The Executive Board shall consist of the President, both Vice Presidents, the immediate past President, the Audit Officer and the Executive Secretary. The Executive Board may meet between the annual conference meetings to conduct business. Association business conducted by the Executive Board, except amendments to the Constitution/By-laws, shall be valid until ratified by the membership at the next annual meeting. If a matter of Association business is deemed to be an emergency or of such importance that it cannot wait until a regular meeting, the President shall take a telephone vote of the member agencies and a majority vote shall be valid. Such actions shall be reported to the membership at the next annual meeting.
- b. The Nominating Committee shall seek candidates for the office of President, both Vice Presidents, Audit Officer and the Executive Secretary and present it to the membership at the annual meeting for voting. The Chairman of the Nominating Committee shall conduct the voting process after presentation of the candidates at the annual meeting.

- c. The Awards Committee will determine annually what recognition should be given to deserving persons who have made a significant contribution or have been of special service to the Association and to design and acquire a suitable physical award to be presented to such persons. The President shall announce and present the awards at the annual meeting.
- d. The Special Investigations Committee shall develop a multi-year comprehensive training plan to meet the needs of the Association investigators; be responsible for the acquiring of any new or beneficial training programs in natural resource enforcement and disseminating information on same to the membership; and be further responsible for acquiring speakers, programs, and presentations for any workshops or seminars sponsored by the Association on Special Investigations and to facilitate the training portion of such seminars or workshops.
- e. The Forensic and Research Committee shall: be responsible for the acquiring and dissemination to the membership of any new or beneficial forensic and research programs; handle the sale of the wildlife forensic field manual; suggest areas of enforcement where research and forensic programs are needed; present a forensic and research program at the annual conference meeting; and coordinate the forensic/research portion of any workshop or seminar sponsored by the Association and seek speakers and presentations for such workshops.
- f. The Legislation Committee shall: be responsible for tracking national legislation in both countries throughout the year that would affect natural resource law enforcement and to disseminate such information to the membership; suggest a position to be taken by the Association on such legislation; arrange for a presentation at the annual meeting on pertinent legislation that has been promulgated by each Association member in the past year; and foster programs and disseminate information between member agencies that will encourage states and provinces to promulgate legislation on the same subject that is compatible on a nationwide basis.
- g. The Resolution Committee shall: compile suggested material that requires resolution action on the part of the Association and author it in a presentable form; and offer and handle the resolution process of said resolutions at the annual meeting and to see that they are properly recorded. The Audit Committee shall conduct an annual audit on a calendar year basis of all moneys received, retained and expended by the Association and to report the finding of said audit to the membership at the annual meeting.

3. Special Ad Hoc Committees

The President may appoint such Special and Ad Hoc Committees, as he/she deems necessary for the benefit of the Association.

4. Committee Chair and Members

The President shall name the Chair of every committee and notify same within sixty (60) days of taking office and after consultation with each Chair, shall name the members of each committee. The Chair is responsible for the activity of each committee throughout the year and is further responsible for presenting a written report of its accomplishments at the annual meeting.

ARTICLE VII – EXPENDITURES

1. APPROVALS

Expenditures of Association funds for items other than meeting expenses, travel costs of the Executive Board and payments to the family of officer(s) killed in the line of duty shall require a written proposal outlining the project and providing a projected cost. Such proposals may be approved by the Executive Board subject to ratification by a majority of the member agencies by a phone poll taken by the President or by a vote an the annual meeting.

ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS

1. Submittal and Approval

Any changes or amendments to this Constitution and by-laws may be proposed by any member, but must be submitted in writing to the Executive Secretary by April 1 of the year of the annual meeting. The Executive Secretary shall then ensure that the proposal is received, in writing, by every member agency at least fourteen (14) days prior to the annual conference meeting. Proposed amendments may be amended on the floor for insertion in the Constitution and by-laws at the annual conference meeting by a majority of the member agencies present.

THE ABOVE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS WERE SUBMITTED AND APPROVED BY THE MEMBERSHIP AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN APPLETON, WISCONSIN ON JUNE 24, 2007.

Attest:

Randall Stark, WI
President

David A. Croonquist
Executive Secretary