

# CONSTITUTION

Southeast Section of The Ohio Water Environment Association

Amended April 12, 2007

## Article I - Name

### Section 1:

The name of the organization shall be the Southeast Section of the Ohio Water Environment Association, and shall be referenced as the Section, Southeast Section or SEOWEA.

## Article II - Objectives

### Section 1:

The objective of the Southeast Section shall be to advance the fundamental understanding of the water environment, to improve the membership knowledge of wastewater and industrial waste treatment, to foster good fellowship between the members of the Section, to encourage cooperation with officials of US EPA and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency as well as other regulatory agencies and professional organizations, and to stimulate public awareness for a watershed approach in pollution prevention and resource recovery including preservation, conservation and reuse of water resources.

### Section 2:

Upon dissolution of the Section, the Executive Committee shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all of the liabilities of the Section, dispose of all of the assets of the Section exclusively for the purposes of the Section in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated for education or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or future laws of the United States.

## Article III - Membership

### Section 1:

The Section shall nominally comprise the area within the boundaries of the following counties: Delaware, Franklin, Pickaway, Ross, Pike, Scioto, Lawrence, Jackson, Gallia, Vinton, Meigs, Athens, Hocking, Perry, Fairfield, Licking, Coshocton, Muskingum, Morgan, Washington, Monroe, Noble, Guernsey, Belmont, Tuscarawas, Harrison, Jefferson, and Carroll.

### Section 2:

Membership in the Section shall be classified as: Active, Section, Honorary Life, and Retired Members.

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**Section 3:**

An Active Member of the Southeast Section shall be anyone interested in the water environment and the objectives of the organization. An Active Member shall be entitled to receive notification of all Section meetings, attend all Section meetings, hold office in the Southeast Section and vote on all matters that come before the Section membership.

**Section 4:**

A Professional Wastewater Operation Division (PWOD) Member of the Ohio Association residing within the boundaries as described in Article III, Section 1; shall be an Active Member of the Section. A PWOD Member shall be actively employed in the operation and maintenance of wastewater collection, wastewater treatment, or wastewater laboratory facilities, or retired therefrom.

**Section 5:**

A Section Member shall be one who is interested in the wastewater treatment field and is not a member of the Ohio Association but wishes to be informed of meetings and events happening in the Section. A Section Member shall have the rights of an Active Member with the exception of holding office and voting. The application for this type of membership shall be accompanied by funds in the amount of the Section dues. Applications for Section Membership shall be made to the Section Treasurer.

**Section 6:**

The Director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency ex officio or designate shall have all rights and privileges of the Section Member.

**Section 7:**

An Honorary Life Member shall be an Active Member who has rendered valuable and outstanding service in advancing the objectives of this Section. There shall be no limit to the number of Honorary Life Members. An Honorary Life Member shall be chosen by approval of the Executive Committee, and shall pay no Section dues. A Life Member of the Ohio Water Environment Association, Water Environment Federation Life Member or Honorary Member who resides in the Section area as described in Article III, Section 1, shall automatically be designated an Honorary Life Member of the Section.

**Section 8:**

Memberships in the Ohio Association are automatically designated Active Members of the Section for residents within the designated counties (see Article III, Section 1). However, a person residing outside these boundaries may be a Section Member with the payment of dues and completion of an Application for Section Membership.

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**Section 9:**

A Retired Member shall be any person as defined as such in the Ohio Association Constitution. The Retired Member shall have all the rights and privileges of the Active

Member within the Section, except the right to hold a Section office.

## **Article IV - Dues**

### **Section 1:**

The Southeast Section Executive Committee shall establish annual membership dues payable each year as designated in the By-Laws.

## **Article V - Officers**

### **Section 1:**

The officers shall be eligible members of the Section and the Ohio Association. They shall be a President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and three Directors, each of whom shall perform the duties pertaining to the respective offices.

### **Section 2:**

The President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and the three Directors shall be elected by the Section membership at the regular meeting in May of each year. They shall take office commencing at the conclusion of the Ohio Association Annual Conference of the same year and shall serve in office until the conclusion of the Ohio Association Annual Conference of the following year.

### **Section 3:**

All officers, with the exception of the President, may be elected to two or more consecutive terms of office.

## **Article VI - Officer Responsibilities**

### **Section 1:**

The President shall serve as the chair at all regular meetings of the Section and of the Executive Committee. The President shall appoint the various Section committee Presidents as deemed necessary. The President shall attend the Executive Committee meetings of the Ohio Association if the Section Delegate is unable to attend. The President shall also serve as Nominating Committee President. The President shall make the Southeast Section Annual Report at the Ohio Association Annual Business Meeting at the Annual Conference.

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### **Section 2:**

The First Vice-President shall serve as Program Committee President, and in the absence of the President shall act in the capacity of President. The duties of Program Committee

President shall include the planning of regular Section meetings, contracting for food service and meeting space, scheduling of field trips and technical sessions, and coordinating preparation and mailing of their announcements.

**Section 3:**

The Second Vice-President shall serve as Membership Committee President as well as serve and assist the Awards Committee in presenting nominees for the various Ohio Association awards and for those of the Southeast Section. The Second Vice-President shall also assist the Treasurer and the Secretary at regular Section meetings and other activities.

**Section 4:**

Treasurer shall collect and disperse all funds and conduct the general fiscal business of the Southeast Section. The Treasurer may maintain the Southeast Section "Patron Program" to encourage financial support of Section meetings and other activities. The Treasurer shall report on the financial standing of the Section at all business meetings, and by June 1<sup>st</sup> submit annually all bookkeeping records along with a report to the Nominating Committee for the purpose of an audit.

**Section 5:**

The Secretary shall make record of all regular meetings of the Section and of the Executive Committee, and within two (2) weeks distribute the record of these meetings to all Section Committee Presidents and the Executive Committee, serve as Awards Committee President, and handle all correspondence pertaining to Section business. The Secretary shall keep a current roster of the Section Membership.

**Section 6:**

The Directors shall serve as Presidents of the following committees: Safety and Health Committee; Plant Operations Committee; and Watershed Committee. The President of the Section will designate which Director will serve on these committees, and will assign other duties as deemed necessary. Each Director shall be distinguishable as 1<sup>st</sup> Year Director, 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Director, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Director depending upon relative Executive Committee service. In addition, all of the Directors shall serve on the Public Education Committee with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Director as the President.

## **Article VII - Executive Committee**

**Section 1:**

The government of this Section shall be vested in an Executive Committee that shall consist of all elected officers and the Section Delegate.

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**Section 2:**

Decisions by the Executive Committee shall be made with the necessary quorum of its

membership except to adjourn meetings. Five members of this committee shall usually constitute a quorum, i.e., one member more than one half of the current Executive Committee membership.

**Section 3:**

Election of officers to the Executive Committee shall be made from nominations that are proposed by the Nominating Committee and from the Section membership. Nominees should be considered from various organizations and geographical areas to provide for broad representation.

**Section 4:**

The Section Delegate shall be appointed by the Executive Committee to serve for a period of two (2) years. The Delegate shall take office after the Ohio Association meeting in an even-numbered year. The Delegate shall be a past officer of the Section and act as a representative to the Ohio Association. No individual member shall be eligible for more than two (2) terms as Delegate.

The duties of the Southeast Section Delegate include:

- A. attendance at all of the Ohio Association and the Section Executive Committee meetings;
- B. providing oral and/or written reports to the Section Executive Committee on the business of the Ohio Association Executive Committee and WEF;
- C. reporting to the Section membership as requested by the President; and
- D. representing the majority opinion of the Section Executive Committee to the Ohio Association Executive Committee.

**Section 5:**

The Executive Committee shall fill any vacancy in office for the unexpired term. The Executive Committee shall remove any elected or appointed officer, the Section Delegate, or other Section representatives for just cause, as specified in the By-Laws.

## **Article VIII - Committees**

**Section 1:**

Standing committee Presidents shall be appointed and removed by the Section President as required to carry on the work of the Section and in conjunction with representation on the corresponding committee with the Ohio Association.

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**Section 2:**

Standing committees of the Section shall be the Committees on Awards, Collection Systems, Contact Hours, Government Affairs, Industrial Wastes, Laboratory Analysis, Membership, Nominating, Personnel Education, Plant Operations, Pretreatment, Program, Publications,

Public Education, Safety and Health and Watershed.

**Section 3:**

Ad Hoc or special committees may be formed by the Section President with a designated, specific task and on short-term basis.

**Article IX - Meetings**

**Section 1:**

The Section shall hold a minimum of five (5) regular Section meetings per year as specified in the By-Laws.

**Article X - Amendments**

**Section 1:**

Amendments to this constitution shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the Section by any member of the Section at least 60 days before consideration. Notice of the proposed amendment shall be mailed to the membership before consideration at the next regular meeting of the Section. An affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members present at the next regularly scheduled meeting shall be required to adopt any amendment. Amendments shall take effect immediately upon passage.

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DATE PASSED: 4/12/07

ATTEST:

*Mich A. From*  
SEOWEA Secretary

*William R. M. Cusley*  
SEOWEA President

DATE APPROVED

4/12/07