

CONSTITUTION

(review and updates Sept 2023)

ARTICLE I. Name

This Society shall be called the American Meteorological Society.

ARTICLE II. Mission

The mission of this Society is to advance the atmospheric and related sciences, technologies, applications, and services for the benefit of society.

The Society shall be a nonprofit organization, and none of its net income or net worth shall inure to the benefit of its members. Its membership and activities shall be international in scope.

ARTICLE III. Membership

1. The AMS membership shall be composed of individuals, corporations, and institutions interested in the advancement of the mission of the Society.
2. The membership of the Society shall consist of:
 - Honorary Members
 - Fellows
 - Members
 - Associate Members
 - Corporation and Institutional Members
 - Student Members

Only Honorary Members, Fellows, and Members are eligible to vote, to hold office, and to be members of the Council, with such further limitations as may be imposed by this Constitution and Bylaws.

3. The Council shall elect members to the grades of membership for which they are deemed qualified within the requirements specified in this Article. The Council may delegate the election to grades other than Honorary Member or Fellow to such constituent body or elected or appointed officer as it may deem appropriate.
4. Any person having demonstrable professional or scholarly expertise in the atmospheric or related sciences, technologies, applications, or services shall be eligible for election to Member of the Society, whether or not this expertise is a source of livelihood.
5. Honorary Members shall be persons of acknowledged preeminence in the atmospheric or related oceanic or hydrologic sciences, either through their own contributions to the sciences or their application or through furtherance of the advance of those sciences in some other way. They shall be exempt from all dues and assessments.

6. Those eligible for election to Fellow shall have made outstanding contributions to the atmospheric or related oceanic or hydrologic sciences or their application during a substantial period of years.
7. Corporations and other organizations desirous of supporting the atmospheric or related oceanic or hydrologic sciences or their application are eligible for election to Corporate and Institutional Member.
8. Those eligible for election to Student Member shall be graduate or undergraduate students enrolled at least half-time at an accredited institution of higher learning. Those graduate students who meet the criteria for Member under Article III, Paragraph 4 shall be elected Members of the Society.
9. Those eligible as candidates for election to Associate Member shall be persons interested in the advancement and mission of the Society who do not qualify or choose to apply under another category of membership.

ARTICLE IV. Dues

The dues of all members shall be set by the Council from time to time and shall become effective and payable on such notice to the members as the Bylaws may provide.

ARTICLE V. Elected Offices

1. The elected officers of the Society shall be:
 - A. A President, who shall be the immediate past President-Elect;
 - B. A President-Elect.
2. The term of office of the President and President-Elect shall be approximately one year pursuant to the terms of Article VI, paragraph 7.
3. If the office of President becomes vacant, the President-Elect shall assume the authorities and responsibilities of the President for the remainder of the unexpired term.
4. If the office of President-Elect becomes vacant, the office shall remain vacant until the next general election, at which time both a President and President-Elect shall be elected.
5. These officers, in addition to the duties specifically assigned to them by the Constitution and Bylaws, shall discharge any other duties incident to their respective offices.

ARTICLE VI. Nomination and Election of Officers and Councilors

1. The Council shall arrange for the nomination of candidates for each elected office and Council position to be filled.

Nominations also may be made by petition signed by at least 50 members who were eligible to vote on the preceding 1 May, provided the petition is received by the Secretary together with the written consent of the nominee not later than 1 July.

2. The election of elected Officers and Councilors by members eligible to vote shall be by ballot.

3. At least 120 days prior to the Annual Meeting, the Secretary shall ensure a ballot containing the names of the nominees for elected office and Councilor is sent to each member eligible to vote.
4. The Secretary shall ensure that only ballots received at least 60 days prior to the date of the next Annual Meeting will be counted.

Each member eligible to vote shall be entitled to one vote for President-Elect and one vote for each Council vacancy to be filled by election by the membership. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes cast for President-Elect and the appropriate number of candidates for Councilor in each group, if the ballot is so structured, receiving the highest number of votes cast shall be declared elected.

In the event of any tie vote between two or more candidates for any office, including that of President-Elect, the retiring Council shall choose between said candidates by ballot.

For the purpose of this Paragraph 4, the election of the President-Elect by the Councilors comprising the retiring Council may be taken by electronic ballot at the option of the Secretary.

5. In the event of a vacancy on the Council, which vacancy would extend beyond the next business meeting, the vacancy shall be filled by that person receiving the next highest number of votes, after those elected for a full term, in the election immediately following the vacancy.
6. Any elected Officer or Councilor may be removed from office for due cause by a vote of at least two-thirds of those Council members who are eligible to vote.
7. The term of office of the newly elected Officers and Councilors shall commence at the adjournment of the business portion of the following Annual Meeting and shall end when their successors take office.
8. The Council may adopt additional rules governing elections not inconsistent with the Constitution and Bylaws.
9. Any action required or permitted to be taken by the members by ballot may be taken by mail ballot or electronic ballot at the option of the Secretary.
10. The term "electronic ballot," as used in this Constitution, shall include a link, sent by electronic mail, to a ballot located on a website.
11. The terms "mail" and "mailed," as used in this Constitution, shall include electronic or postal mail, as the case may be.

ARTICLE VII. Council

1. The corporate powers of the Society shall be vested in the Council subject to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society. The Council shall be the principal governing body of the Society. It consists of the elected officers, the last two Past-Presidents, and 15 other voting members of the Society, each elected for a three-year term, with one-third retiring each year. Councilors are eligible for reelection but not to consecutive terms. The Executive Director, Secretary, Treasurer, and any other appointed officers as Council may designate shall be members of the Council ex officio and without the power to vote.

2. Five Councilors shall be elected each year for a term of three years. Four of said Councilors shall be elected by members eligible to vote in accordance with the procedure set forth in Article VI of the Constitution. One of said Councilors shall be elected by the Council of the Society by the majority roll call vote of the membership of the Council eligible to vote at quorate meeting or by ballot by an affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of the entire Council entitled to vote. In the case of a ballot vote, the Secretary shall ensure each member of the Council is sent a ballot, and that all ballots counted shall have been received not later than thirty (30) days after the notice of ballot was sent to the Councilor. For the purpose of this Paragraph 2, the election of a Councilor by the Councilors of the Society may, at the option of the Secretary, be conducted by electronic ballot.
3. The Council shall appoint, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, an Executive Director. The Council shall further appoint, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee and Executive Director, a Secretary and a Treasurer. Appointment in each case shall require an affirmative vote of a majority of those Council members eligible to vote. The appointment of the Executive Director, Secretary, and Treasurer may, at the option of the President, be conducted by electronic ballot or mail ballot. The Executive Director may be removed from office only by at least a two-thirds vote of those Council members eligible to vote. The Secretary or Treasurer may be removed by a vote of a majority of those Council members eligible to vote.
4. The Council may appoint other such officers as may be appropriate and remove such officers by a vote of a majority of those Council members eligible to vote.
5. The Council may make any interim appointments to vacancies not otherwise provided for in the Constitution or Bylaws.
6. If the Council, at its first meeting after a meeting of the members of the Society, determines that any resolution adopted by the members affects the fundamental rights of the membership, then such resolution shall be submitted immediately by ballot to all members eligible to vote, and the Secretary shall ensure all members eligible to vote are sent a ballot. Approval shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of those voting. The Secretary shall ensure all ballots counted shall have been received within 30 days of the date the notice of ballot was sent to the members.
7. Meetings of the Council shall be held at any place within or outside Massachusetts that has been designated, from time to time, by the President.
8. Councilors may participate in a meeting through use of virtual conference or similar communications technology so long as all Councilors participating in such meeting can hear each other at the same time. All such Councilors shall be deemed present at such a meeting.
9. Any action required or permitted to be taken by the Council may be taken without a meeting if all of the Councilors shall individually or collectively consent in writing, including electronic forms of writing, to that action. Such actions taken via written consent shall have the same effect as a unanimous vote of the Councilors at a meeting, and shall be filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the Council.

ARTICLE VIII. Constituent and Affiliated Bodies

1. Executive Committee
 - A. There shall be an Executive Committee that shall consist of:
 - a) The President, who shall be the Chair;
 - b) The President-Elect, who shall be the Vice-Chair;

- c) The two most immediate Past-Presidents;
- d) Two members of the Council, other than those named in the preceding paragraphs a), b), and c), who shall be elected by the Council, one each year for a term of two years; and
- e) The Executive Director, Secretary, and Treasurer, each ex officio and without the power to vote.

B. A majority of voting members of the Executive Committee, at least one of whom shall be the President or President-Elect, shall constitute a quorum. The affirmative vote of a majority, but not fewer than three members of the Executive Committee, shall be required for the resolution of any question.

C. The Executive Committee shall function as the executive arm of the Council within the policies established by the Council. The Committee shall meet as often as it deems necessary, and it is empowered to interpret and execute Council policies when the Council is not in session.

2. Other Constituent Bodies

A. Other constituent bodies, such as Commissions, Boards, and Committees of the Society are provided for in the Organizational Procedures.

B. The names, purposes, membership, terms of office of members, and terms of reference to all constituent bodies provided for by the Organizational Procedures or established by the Council shall be published. This publication shall be updated at least annually by the issue of amendments or by such other means as may be determined by the Council.

3. Affiliated Bodies

Local chapters or other affiliated bodies of the Society may be organized with the consent of the Council, and the Council shall promulgate rules governing their activities. These rules shall be set forth in the Organizational Procedures. The Council may withdraw its consent for good cause.

ARTICLE IX. Appointed Officers

1. The appointed officers shall be the Executive Director, the Secretary, the Treasurer, and any other such officers as Council determines appropriate. The appointment of the Executive Director, Secretary, and Treasurer may, at the option of the President, be conducted by electronic ballot or mail ballot.

2. The Executive Director:

A. Shall be appointed by the Council upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, by an affirmative vote of a majority of those Council members eligible to vote.;

B. Shall serve as Chief Executive Officer and be responsible for the administration of the Society's headquarters and all activities in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws; and

C. May be removed from office only by at least a two-thirds vote of those Council members eligible to vote.

3. The Secretary:

A. Shall be appointed by the Council upon recommendation of the Executive Committee and the Executive Director, by an affirmative vote of a majority of those Council members eligible to vote;

B. Shall have such powers and duties as are provided in the Constitution and Bylaws and be administratively responsible to the Executive Director; and

C. May be removed by a vote of a majority of those Council members eligible to vote.

4. The Treasurer:

- A. Shall be appointed by the Council upon recommendation of the Executive Committee and the Executive Director, by an affirmative vote of a majority of those Council members eligible to vote;
- B. Shall have such powers and duties as are provided in the Constitution and Bylaws and be administratively responsible to the Executive Director; and
- C. May be removed by a vote of a majority of those Council members eligible to vote.

5. Other appointed officers shall be appointed by the Council upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee and the Executive Director.

ARTICLE X. Meetings

1. There shall be an Annual Meeting, between 2 January and 31 March, of the members of the Society at a time and place designated by the Council, which shall include a scheduled business meeting. The Secretary shall ensure notice of the time and place of the Annual Meeting and scheduled business meeting is given to the membership not less than 60 days before the start date of the Annual Meeting. Other meetings of members may be held at a time and place designated by the Council, and the Secretary shall ensure notice of the time and place of the meeting is given to the membership not less than 30 days before the start date of the meeting.
2. The rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern all business meetings of the Society unless inconsistent with the Constitution, Bylaws, or any other standing rules of the Society.
3. A quorum for the transaction of business at an Annual Meeting shall be at least 50 members present who are eligible to vote. The affirmative vote of a majority of the members present who are eligible to vote shall be required for the resolution of any question.

The Council may make other rules for meetings not inconsistent with the Constitution or Bylaws. Business not set forth in the notice of the meeting shall not be transacted if five members eligible to vote object.

4. The fiscal year of the Society shall conform to the calendar year.

ARTICLE XI. Publications

The Society shall publish an official organ and such additional journals, papers, books, and the like as may be authorized by the Council.

ARTICLE XII. Codes of Ethics and Professional Conduct

To enhance the benefits of the meteorological and related professions to humanity and to uphold the dignity and honor of the profession, the Society shall adopt and maintain policies and procedures for codes of ethics and professional conduct for members, all inclusive, as well as others interacting with the Society. Only individuals and organizations who intend to abide by these codes should seek admission or continued membership in the Society or participate in Society meetings or activities; therefore, these codes will appear on the membership application form and will be published at least annually in the official organ of the Society.

ARTICLE XIII. Amendments to the Constitution

1. No part of the Constitution shall be amended or annulled except by ballot in the following manner: A proposed amendment shall be approved by the Council or submitted to the Secretary in a petition signed by at least 50 members who were eligible to vote on the preceding 1 May. The proposed amendment with

the supporting reasons shall, at the option of the Secretary, be published in the official organ of the Society or posted on the official website of the Society or both, in each instance at least 90 days before ballots with respect to the proposed amendment are sent to the members.

2. A proposed amendment accompanied by a ballot shall be mailed by the Secretary to each member eligible to vote at least 60 days prior to the date the ballots are to be counted. To be counted, the ballot must be received by the Secretary not later than 30 days after the ballot was sent to the member.
3. The adoption of a proposed amendment shall require the affirmative votes of at least two-thirds of all members voting.