

Summary of LWML Texas District Bylaws Revisions

These are the major changes that have been made in the proposed Bylaws. The page numbers listed beside each Article refer to the corresponding sections in the Proposed Bylaws Draft, so you can easily compare the Summary with the full text.

Page 3 ARTICLE I – NAME no major changes were made. Terminology was updated.

Page 3 ARTICLE II – OBJECT no major changes were made. Terminology was updated.

Page 3 ARTICLE III – STRUCTURE

In compliance with the LWML Bylaws, the content previously contained in the 2022 Bylaws, Article V – Organization, which outlined the structure of the district, has been relocated to Article III – Structure.

Page 4 ARTICLE IV – MEMBERS no major changes were made. Terminology was updated.

Page 4-5 ARTICLE V – CONVENTIONS AND REPRESENTATION

Because of time limitations and current hotel and convention contracting practices, LWML District Convention sites will be approved by the Executive Committee rather than the Board of Directors, and this approval will occur no later than two years in advance.

Pages 5-6 ARTICLE VI – ELECTED OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS

Since new officers assume their duties at the close of the convention and due to technology, time allotted to transfer materials was reduced, as the transition can be made more quickly.

For the sake of consistency, confidentiality, and compliance with the LWML Bylaws, responsibility for actions under Section 4 regarding the removal of an elected officer has been reassigned from the Board of Directors to the voting members of the Executive Committee. In addition, Standing Rule 26, specifying that the meeting shall be closed, has been inserted.

Page 6 ARTICLE VII – NOMINATIONS

To provide clarity within the bylaws, in the event of a vacancy on the Nominating Committee, any tie in selecting a replacement shall be resolved by a vote of the Executive Committee.

In accordance with the LWML Bylaws and established practice, language has been added specifying that Pastoral Counselors are not eligible for nomination from the floor (Article XII, Section 2).

Pages 6-8 ARTICLE VIII – DUTIES OF OFFICERS

To clarify the bylaws and align them with current practice, language has been added specifying that the President serves as an ex-officio voting member, the Vice President of Gospel Outreach is responsible for creating the mission grant payment schedule, and the Vice President of Organizational Resources serves as the credentials chairman for the district convention. In addition, the Financial Secretary transfers all funds received to the designated financial institution, with the Treasurer receiving a report of these transactions.

Page 8-9 ARTICLE IX – APPOINTED PERSONNEL

To reflect current practice, changes included encouraging zones in regional rotation to agree to host the convention and the responsibilities of the Convention Coordinator have been expanded accordingly.

Pages 9-10 ARTICLE X – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

With the revisions to Article V, Section 1, the Executive Committee is responsible for approving the site of the biennial convention. The Executive Committee will also approve the convention budget and any revisions to the convention guidelines.

Page 10 ARTICLE XI – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The chairmen of the Endowment, Mission Service, Structure, and Young Women Committees who currently have a vote are now designated as non-voting advisory members, as these positions are appointed. In accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, they retain the right to voice.

To align with current practice, the Board of Directors will approve any reallocation of district mission funds.

Pages 10-11 ARTICLE XII – PASTORAL COUNSELORS

For consistency with other elected positions, a Pastoral Counselor who retires during his term may continue to serve until the term's conclusion.

Standing Rule #24 has been added to grant the Pastoral Counselor voting privileges in the selection of mission grants.

To broaden the pool of eligible candidates for filling a vacancy in the Pastoral Counselor position, a retired pastor may serve in this role.

In alignment with Article VI, Section 4, a meeting to consider the removal of a Pastoral Counselor from office shall be closed.

Pages 11-12 ARTICLE XIII – FINANCES

To align with current practice, district convention registration fees will be set by the Executive Committee, based on estimates provided by the Convention Host Committee.

Pages 12-14 ARTICLE XIV – DEPARTMENTS AND STANDING COMMITTEES

All references to the District News Staff and editor have been reassigned to the Vice President of Communication to reflect current practice, as the district no longer maintains a District News Staff.

Standing Rule #24 has been added to grant both the District President and the assigned Pastoral Counselor voting privileges in the selection of mission grants.

Standing Rule #32 (Endowment Committee) has been inserted as Section 6.

Page 14 ARTICLE XV – SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Upon the recommendation of the LWML Structure Committee, 2022 Bylaws Sections 1–4 concerning the special committees—Tellers, Minutes Review, and Resolutions—have been relocated to the Convention Guidelines.

Page 14 ARTICLE XVI – OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

The official publication name has been changed from 'District News' to 'district newsletter' to comply with LWML guidelines that official LWML publications should not be the LCMS District's publication and 'District News Staff' has been replaced with 'Communication Department,' as these responsibilities are now carried out by the Vice President of Communication and the Communication Department.

Pages 14-15 ARTICLE XVII – MISSION GRANTS

Revised Section 2 to permit the Texas District LCMS President to appoint the representative to the Mission Grants Committee.

Assigned the routine handling of district mission grants to the Job Description of the Vice President of Gospel Outreach.

Page 15 ARTICLE XVIII – FISCAL YEAR No major changes were made. Terminology was updated.

Page 15 ARTICLE XIX – EMERGENCY ACTION No major changes were made. Terminology was updated.

Page 16 ARTICLE XX – PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY No major changes were made. Terminology was updated.

Page 16 ARTICLE XXI – AMENDMENTS No major changes were made. Terminology was updated.