

September 12, 1977
(1) Amended June 29, 1979
(2) Amended August 29, 1994
(3) Amended November 29, 2017
(4) Amended January 30, 2019

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS
OHIO ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL COUNCILS

Article I – Name

Section 1. The official name of the Association shall be the Ohio Association of Regional Councils, hereinafter called the "Association."

Article II – Purpose

Section 1. The purpose of the Association shall be:

- (a) To strengthen the capability of local officials to deal with common problems;
- (b) To assure local officials the key role in development of regional plans, policies and programs;
- (c) To develop a framework for state-local partnership and coordination
- (d) To coordinate and collaborate with state and local officials and allied interest groups to influence the development and administration of federal programs, and
- (e) To encourage and sponsor educational efforts that will lead to a greater understanding of the services rendered by Ohio planning agencies to all levels of government and the general public.
- (f) To provide a forum for collaboration, interregional efforts, and professional development for regional councils and their staff and members through meetings, events, trainings, and more.
- (g) To work with the appropriate legislators, Federal Highway (FHWA) and Ohio Department of Transportation officials to seek additional funding for all transportation programs.

Article III – Membership

Section 1. The eligible membership of the Association shall consist of Regional Councils serving more than one county and MPOs as designated under federal law. Regional Councils include, but are not limited to, MPOs, RTPOs (US Code, Title 23, Section 135m), Regional Planning Commissions (ORC 713.21), Councils of Government (ORC 167), Areawide Coordinating Agencies, and Local Development Districts as designated by the Federal Appalachian Regional Commission and Economic Development Districts as designated by the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration.

Section 2. Members shall be those organizations eligible for membership who are approved by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members at any regular or special meeting at which a quorum is present and only after each member of the Council has been notified of the proposed change at least forty-five (45) days prior to the meeting at which the vote is to take place and pay dues as provided under Article XI, Section 1.

Article IV - Representation

Section 1. The current Executive Director or designated alternate of each member organization shall represent that organization in all Association business.

Article V – Voting

Section 1. Each member organization, as defined in Article III, Section 1, shall have one vote.

Section 2. An alternate delegate of a member Council organization may be assigned to vote at all meetings of the Association in the absence of the delegate.

Article VI – Officers

Section 1. The officers of the Association shall consist of a President, a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President, and a Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 2. The terms of the officers shall be for a period of two years. All officers of the Association, except the secretary, shall be eligible for reelection for not more than one consecutive two-year term.

Section 3. The duties of the officers shall be:

- a) The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and shall, when so authorized, represent the Association at conferences and meetings where attendance is deemed necessary to further the purpose of the Association.
- b) In the absence of the President, the duties of the President shall be vested in the First Vice-President. In the absence of both the President and the First Vice-President, the duties of the President shall be vested in the Second Vice-President.
- c) The Secretary-Treasurer shall record the proceedings of all meetings, making said proceedings available to all members of the Association. The Secretary-Treasurer shall see that all funds due the Association are collected and deposited in the name of the Association in a bank as may be chosen by the Secretary-Treasurer and President. The Secretary-Treasurer shall have charge of the books of account of the Association and shall make available financial statements to all members prior to scheduled meetings.

Article VII - Nomination and Election

Section 1. The annual meeting shall be the last meeting of the calendar year. The officers shall be elected at a biennial annual meeting of the association.

Section 2. At least sixty days before the Annual Meeting, the President shall name a Nominating Committee of at least three (3) members. The Nominating Committee shall make its report to the Association members not less than fifteen (15) days prior to the Annual Meeting. Nominations may also be made from the floor. The Nominating Committee may submit any number of names for each office to be filled, which nominees shall have agreed to such submission of their names for office. The nominee receiving the vote of the majority of the member representatives present at the Annual Meeting, providing that at least a quorum is present, shall be declared elected.

Article VIII – Management

Section 1. The Association shall manage its affairs in accordance with this Constitution and Bylaws.

Article IX – Committees

Section 1. There shall be a standing Transportation Committee, Policy Committee and Water Quality Committee whose bylaws shall be approved by the Association.

Section 2. To achieve the purpose of the Association, the President may create such other committees as are deemed necessary with approval of the Association and name the Chairperson and members of said committees.

Article X – Meetings

Section 1. The Association shall meet regularly, one of the meetings to be the Annual Meeting. The dates of the meetings shall be announced for the coming year by the President following his/her election. Special meetings or teleconference meetings of the Association may be called by the President.

Section 2. A quorum must be present at any meeting of the Association or any of the Association's Committees in order to transact any business. One-third of those eligible to vote constitutes a quorum.

Section 3. All meetings of the Association shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order, newly revised.

Article XI – Finances

Section 1. Dues may be assessed each member organization as established by the Association.

Section 2. The Association may accept funds, grants, gifts, and services from the Federal government or its agencies, from the State of Ohio or its departments, agencies or instrumentalities or from any other governmental unit whether participating in the Association or not, and from private and civic sources.

Article XII – Vacancies

Section 1. Vacancies in the offices of President, First Vice President, Second Vice-President, or Secretary-Treasurer may be filled by the Association at any scheduled meeting.

Article XIII – Amendments

Section 1. The Association may amend, supplement, or supersede the Constitution and Bylaws by an affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3's) of the members at any regular or special meeting at which a quorum is present and only after each member Council has been notified of the proposed change at least forty-five (45) days prior to the date of the meeting at which a vote is to be taken on said change.

Article XIV - Effective Date

Section 1. The Association will be formed on the first day of the month following the adoption of resolutions of agreement from at least six (6) eligible member organizations as defined by Article III, Section 1 of this Constitution and Bylaws.