

1 As amended 12/2008, based on vote of the membership
2
3

4 BY-LAWS
5 OF
6 THE ASSOCIATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND RESOURCE ECONOMISTS
7

8
9 ARTICLE I – PURPOSE
10

11 The Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (hereafter referred to as "the
12 Association") is an international organization dedicated to the encouragement of
13 exchange of ideas, research, and other professional activities relating to environmental
14 and natural resource economics and management, including that of an interdisciplinary
15 nature. For these purposes it may issue publications, newsletters, organize meetings and
16 symposia or engage in other activities appropriate for the stimulation of work in its area
17 of interest, and promotion of the professional activities of its members. The Association
18 is dedicated to freedom of discussion and research, and undertakes to avoid partisan
19 positions with respect to any individual, group, political philosophy, or research method.
20

21
22 ARTICLE II – MEMBERSHIP
23

24 SECTION 1. QUALIFICATIONS - Anyone interested in environmental and
25 resource economics and management may become a member upon payment of at least
26 one year's dues. Nonpayment of dues or of any other financial obligation to the
27 organization shall constitute sufficient grounds for termination of membership without
28 further notice.
29

30 SECTION 2. SUSPENSION - Any member who makes use of his/her affiliation
31 with the Association in a manner considered improper by the Board of Directors may be
32 suspended by the Board after opportunity has been given the individual for a hearing
33 before the Board and may be expelled from the Association by a vote of the Board and a
34 majority of members voting at the next Business Meeting of the Association.
35

36 SECTION 3. DUES - Dues will be determined from time to time by the Board of
37 Directors of the Association. The Board is authorized but not required to establish
38 different levels of dues for different classes of members, distinguishing students from
39 non-student members, institutional from individual members, honorary members from
40 regular members or establishing any other classes of members that are appropriate for the
41 purposes of the Association. Dues shall be designed to defray those expenses of the
42 Association that cannot be met by other means such as gifts, grants, or sales of
43 publications.
44
45

1 ARTICLE III - THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2
3 SECTION 1. FUNCTIONS - The governing body of the Association will be a
4 Board of Directors, which will meet at least once each calendar year to transact all
5 business of the Association not delegated by it to subordinate committees or individuals,
6 to assign additional specific responsibilities to the officers and committees of the
7 Association, and to create, appoint, or abolish any committees, offices not specified in
8 these By-Laws, or agents as it may deem advisable. Officers and agents not otherwise
9 provided for in these By-Laws shall hold their offices for such terms and shall exercise
10 such powers and perform such duties as shall be determined from time to time by the
11 Board. The Board may also delegate to specified employees, officers, and other Board
12 members authority to expend funds and sign contracts. The Board will determine the
13 terms of sale of Association publications, deciding whether they will be supplied without
14 additional charge to dues-paying members, as well as registration fees for meetings and
15 symposia and any other charges levied by the Association.
16

17 SECTION 2. COMPOSITION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS - The Board of
18 Directors shall be composed of twelve voting members and several ex-officio members
19 without vote who may be appointed by the Board. The voting members shall consist of
20 the Association President, President-Elect, immediate past President, Vice-President,
21 Secretary, and Treasurer, and six other Board members elected by the Association
22 membership as specified in Article IV. The ex-officio members shall consist of the
23 editor(s) of any journal of the Association, and such other persons as the Board may
24 designate from time-to-time. This does not preclude selection of an editor(s) from among
25 the voting members of the Board, in which case he/she retains his/her vote.
26

27 SECTION 3. TERMS - As of January 1, 1985, the President and Vice-President
28 shall serve for terms of two calendar years each and cannot succeed themselves in the
29 same office. The President-Elect shall serve a one-year term, beginning in the sitting
30 President's second year, after which he/she succeeds to the Office of President. The
31 Secretary and Treasurer shall serve two calendar year terms each. The other voting
32 members of the Board shall serve three calendar year terms with two to be elected each
33 year, except that the initial slate shall be equally divided among those selected for one,
34 two and three year terms according to Article IV. The editor(s) and any other ex-officio
35 members shall be appointed by and for a period to be designated by the Board.
36

37 SECTION 4. QUALIFICATIONS - All members of the Board, both voting and
38 ex-officio, must be members in good standing of the Association during their term of
39 office.
40

41 SECTION 5. RESIGNATIONS - Any officer or other member of the Board may
42 resign at any time. Such resignations shall be made in writing, by electronic or regular
43 mail, and shall take effect at the time specified, or, if no time is specified, at the time of
44 its receipt by the Secretary, or in the event of a vacancy, by the President. The
45 acceptance of a resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

1 SECTION 6. VACANCIES - If any elected or appointive office other than that of
2 President becomes vacant by reason of death, resignation, or non-membership, the
3 remaining Board members in office, though less than a quorum by a majority vote, may
4 appoint any qualified member of the Association to fill such a vacancy, who shall hold
5 office for the unexpired term and until his/her successor shall duly take office. In the
6 event that there is a vacancy in the office of President, the Vice-President shall become
7 President.
8

9 SECTION 7. QUORUM - A majority of the voting members of the Board of
10 Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.
11

12 SECTION 8. ACTION WITHOUT MEETING - Any action required or permitted
13 to be taken at any meeting of the Board of Directors, or of any committee thereof, may be
14 taken without a meeting if consent in writing, setting forth the action so taken, shall be
15 signed on paper or electronically by all of the directors. At least two weeks must be
16 allowed for responses to come in.
17

18
19 ARTICLE IV – NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF VOTING
20 MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
21

22 SECTION 1. INITIAL SLATE - The initial slate of voting members of the Board
23 of Directors shall be chosen by majority vote of the members of the Board that has
24 formed the Association and shall serve until their terms expire and their successors have
25 assumed office.
26

27 SECTION 2. SECRETARY AND TREASURER - The Secretary and Treasurer
28 shall be elected by the other voting members of the Board of Directors except in the case
29 of the initial slate.
30

31 SECTION 3. NOMINATING COMMITTEE - The Vice-President will chair the
32 nominating committee, and by March 1 of each year will submit to the Board for majority
33 approval the names of two or three persons to serve with him/her on the committee. None
34 of these persons may be sitting Board members. The Nominating Committee shall
35 nominate two candidates for President-Elect and two candidates for each other office for
36 which a membership election is to be held that year. The Nominating Committee shall
37 deliver its slate of candidates to the Secretary by August 1 of each year. In addition, a
38 candidate can be nominated by petition by five percent of the members of the Association
39 who are then in good standing. In order to qualify, petitions containing the signatures and
40 addresses of the members must be received by the Secretary by August 1 of each year.
41

42 SECTION 4. CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS - Membership elections shall be
43 conducted annually by electronic ballot of all members of the Association with a deadline
44 for receipt of ballots not later than December 1 of each year. The elections shall be
45 decided by the highest number of votes cast for each office as determined by an Election
46 Committee with no members from those on the ballot that year appointed by the Board.

1 In the case of a tie vote, the other members of the new Board shall decide who among
2 those receiving the same vote shall hold the office.

3
4
5 ARTICLE V - FUNCTIONS OF THE OFFICERS
6

7 SECTION 1. PRESIDENT - The President has primary responsibility for the
8 welfare of the Association and is responsible for execution of the decisions of the Board
9 of Directors. He/she, or the President's designated representative, also presides at all
10 business meetings of the Association and the Board. The President or the President's
11 designated representative(s) shall assume responsibility for the planning and organization
12 of all meetings of the Association that take place during his/her two-year term.

13
14 SECTION 2. PRESIDENT-ELECT - The President-Elect will initiate plans for
15 Association meetings to be held during his/her upcoming Presidency.

16
17 SECTION 3. VICE-PRESIDENT - The Vice-President shall assume the duties of
18 the President when the latter is unavailable or unable to do so, and carry out other duties
19 as shall be assigned to him/her by the Board of Directors.

20
21 SECTION 4. TREASURER - The Treasurer shall have custody of the funds of the
22 Association, subject to the rules of the Board of Directors. He/she shall keep accurate
23 account of receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the Association. He/she
24 shall deposit all monies and other valuables in the name and to the credit of the
25 Association in such depositories as may be designated by the Board. The Treasurer shall
26 disburse, or cause to be disbursed, such Association Funds as may be ordered by the
27 Board or by employees, officers, or other Board members designated by the Board for
28 this purpose.

29
30 SECTION 5. SECRETARY - The main duty of the Secretary is to preserve the
31 continuity of the Association. The Secretary shall give, or cause to be given, notice of all
32 meetings of the Board of Directors of the Association, and in case of his absence, refusal,
33 or neglect to do so, any such notice may be given by any person thereunto directed by the
34 President, or by a majority of the elected Board of Directors, upon whose request the
35 meeting is called as provided in these By-Laws. He/she shall record all the proceedings
36 of the Board, and if so directed, other meetings of the Association in a manner to be
37 directed by the Board, and have responsibility for their storage and retention. He/she shall
38 also serve as manager of the activities of the Association's Executive Secretary.

39
40 SECTION 6. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE - The Treasurer and Secretary shall
41 serve as an Operations Committee of the Board of Directors. They will be designated
42 powers by the Board of Directors to assure the smooth functioning of the routine
43 administrative duties of the Association.

1 ARTICLE VI - LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

2
3 No member or officer shall be individually liable for the debts, contracts, and
4 other obligations of the Association, other than dues paid for membership. This provision
5 shall appear in all contracts entered into by and on behalf of the Association.
6

7
8 ARTICLE VII – MEETINGS

9
10 SECTION 1. ANNUAL MEETINGS - The Annual Meeting of the Association
11 shall be held at such time and place as the Board of Directors may designate. The Board
12 may arrange other meetings in addition to the Annual Meeting. Announcement of the
13 time and place of the annual meeting must be communicated to members at least 30 days
14 in advance.
15

16 SECTION 2. ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETINGS - A Business Meeting of the
17 Association shall be held during the Annual Meeting. During this Meeting, as part of the
18 Secretary's report, a summary of the actions of the Board shall be presented to the
19 membership. Reports shall be presented also by the President, Treasurer, editors, and
20 chairmen of the active committees.
21

22 SECTION 3. OTHER MEETINGS - The Secretary will normally call a meeting
23 or conference of the Board of Directors by communicating a notice at least 21 days in
24 advance of the event to each Board member. If in the judgment of the Secretary
25 circumstances require an earlier meeting, the Secretary may call a meeting or conference
26 by making telephone or electronic contact with each Board member at least seven days in
27 advance of the meeting. The President or a majority of the elected Members of the Board
28 may also call a meeting by presenting a signed written or electronic request to the
29 Secretary in time for him/her to follow either of these procedures.
30

31
32 ARTICLE VIII - CHANGES IN THE BY-LAWS

33
34 Changes in the By-Laws shall be proposed either by action of the Board of
35 Directors or by petition containing the signatures and addresses of 10 percent of the
36 Association members or by a majority of the Association members participating in any
37 Annual Business Meeting, and shall be adopted upon affirmative vote of two-thirds of
38 members voting, where the vote will be taken by mail ballot at the time of the annual
39 election. Ballots containing such proposed changes shall contain arguments pro and con
40 certified by the Secretary to represent both views adequately.
41