

BYLAWS  
League of Women Voters of Murfreesboro/Rutherford County

ARTICLE I

Section 1. Name. The name of this organization shall be the League of Women Voters of Murfreesboro/ Rutherford County. This local League is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States and of the League of Women Voters of Tennessee.

ARTICLE II

Section 1. Mission Statement . The League of Women Voters of Murfreesboro/ Rutherford County, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

ARTICLE III

Section 1. Eligibility. Any person who subscribes to the purposes and policies of the League shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2. Types of membership . The membership of the League of Women Voters of Murfreesboro/ Rutherford County shall be composed of voting members and associate members.

(a) Voting members shall be :

- (1) Citizens of voting age who pay membership dues.
- (2) Citizens who have been members of the League for 50 years. These members are designated honorary life members excused from paying dues.
- (3) Citizens who make a lump sum life membership payment to the League of Women Voters of the United States; such members are exempt from paying dues.

(b) Associate members shall be all other members.

ARTICLE IV

Board of Directors

Section 1. Number, Manner of Selection and Term of Office . The Board of Directors shall consist of officers of the League, six elected Directors, and not more than six appointed Directors. Three of the Directors shall be elected by the general membership at each Annual Meeting and shall serve for a term of two years, or until their successors have been elected and qualified. The elected members shall appoint additional Directors, not exceeding six, as they

deem necessary to carry on the work of the League. The term of office of the appointed Directors shall be one year and shall expire at the conclusion of the next Annual Meeting.

Section 2. Qualifications . No person shall be elected or appointed or shall continue to serve as an officer or director of this organization unless she/he is a voting member of the League of Women Voters of Murfreesboro/ Rutherford County.

Section 3. Vacancies. Any vacancy occurring in the Board of Directors by reason of the resignation, death, or disqualification of an officer or elected member may be filled, until the next Annual Meeting, by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Power and Duties . The Board of Directors shall have full charge of the property and business of the organization, with full power and authority to manage and conduct same, subject to the instructions of the general membership. It shall plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the Program as adopted by the National Convention, the State Convention, and the Annual Meeting. The Board shall create and designate such special committees as it may deem necessary.

Section 5. Meetings . There shall be at least nine regular meetings of the Board of Directors annually. The president may call special meetings upon the written request of five of the Board.

Section 6. Quorum . A majority of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum.

## ARTICLE V Officers

Section 1. Enumeration and Election of Officers. The Officers of the League of Women Voters of Murfreesboro/ Rutherford County shall be Co-Presidents, a Secretary, and a Treasurer who shall be elected for a term of two years by the general membership at an Annual Meeting and take office immediately. One Co-President and Secretary shall be elected in odd-numbered years. One Co-President and Treasurer shall be elected in even-numbered years. The outgoing Co-President will serve on the Board as Past President for one year.

Section 2. Co-Presidents . One of the Co-Presidents shall preside at all meetings of the organization and of the Board of Directors. One of them may, in the absence or disability of the Treasurer, sign or endorse checks, drafts, and notes. They shall be, ex officio, a member of all committees. They shall have such usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office of the Co-Presidents and perform such other duties as may be designated by the Board.

Section 3. The Secretary . The Secretary shall keep minutes of all business meetings of the League, including the Annual Meeting, and of all meetings of the Board of Directors. She/he shall notify all Officers, and Directors of their election. She/he shall sign, with one or both of the Co-Presidents, all contracts and other instruments when so authorized by the Board and shall perform such other functions as may be incident to her office.

1/7/2008

Section 4. The Treasurer . The Treasurer shall collect and receive all monies due. She /he shall be custodian of these monies, shall deposit them in a bank designated by the Board of Directors, and shall disburse the same only upon order of the Board. She/he shall present statements to the Board at its regular meetings and an Annual Report to the Annual Meeting.

## ARTICLE VI Financial Administration

Section 1. Fiscal Year . The fiscal year of the League of Women Voters of Murfreesboro/ Rutherford County shall commence on the first day of April of each year.

Section 2. Dues . Annual dues shall be payable April 1, the amount of dues recommended by the Board of Directors, and set by the membership at the Annual Meeting. Any member who has not paid the annual dues within three months after the due date shall be dropped from the membership rolls.

Section 3. Budget . A budget for the ensuing year shall be submitted by the Board of Directors to the Annual Meeting for action. The Budget shall include support for the work of the League as a whole.

Section 4. Budget Committee . A Budget Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors at least two months prior to the Annual Meeting to prepare a budget for the ensuing year. The proposed budget shall be sent to all members one month before the Annual Meeting. The Treasurer shall not be eligible to serve as chairman of the Budget Committee.

## ARTICLE VII Meetings

Section 1. Membership Meetings . There shall be at least four meetings of the membership each year. Time and place shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Annual Meeting . An Annual Meeting shall be held between March 1 and April 1 of each year, the exact date to be determined by the Board of Directors. The Annual Meeting shall:

- (a) adopt a local Program for the ensuing year,
- (b) elect Officers and Directors, Chairman of the Nominating Committee
- (c) adopt an adequate budget, and
- (d) transact such other business as may properly come before it.

Section 3. Quorum . One fourth of the members shall constitute a quorum at all meetings of the League of Women Voters of Murfreesboro/ Rutherford County.

## ARTICLE VIII Nominations and Elections

Section 1. Nominating Committee . The Nominating Committee shall consist of three members, two of whom shall be members of the Board of Directors. The Chairman, shall be elected at the Annual Meeting. Nomination for the Chairman shall be made by the current Nominating Committee. The two members shall be appointed by the Board of Directors immediately following the Annual Meeting. Any vacancy on the Nominating Committee shall be filled by the Board of Directors. Suggestions or nominations for Officers and Directors may be sent to this committee by any voting member.

Section 2. Report of the Nominating Committee and Nominations from the floor. The report of the Nominating Committee of its nominations of officers, directors and the Chairman of the succeeding Nominating Committee shall be sent to all members one month before the date of Annual Meeting. The report of the Nominating Committee shall be presented to the Annual Meeting. Immediately following the presentation of this report, nominations may be made from the floor by any voting member provided the consent of the nominee shall have been secured.

Section 3. Elections . The election shall be by ballot, provided that when there is but one nominee for each office, it shall be by voice vote. A majority of those qualified to vote and voting shall constitute an election. Absentee or proxy voting shall not be permitted.

#### ARTICLE IX Program

Section 1. Authorization. The governmental principles adopted by the National Convention, and supported by the League as a whole, constitute the authorization for the adoption of the Program.

Section 2. Program . The Program of the League of Women Voters of Murfreesboro/ Rutherford County shall consist of (a) action to implement the Principles of the League of Women Voters of the United States (b) action to implement principles of the League of Women Voters of Tennessee and (c) action on chosen local governmental issues selected for concerted study.

Section 3. Action by the Annual Meeting . The Annual Meeting shall act upon the Program using the following procedures:

- (a) The Board of Directors shall consider the recommendations sent in by voting members two months prior to the Annual Meeting and shall formulate a Proposed Program.
- (b) The Proposed Program shall be sent to all members one month prior to the Annual Meeting.
- (c) A majority vote of the voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting shall be required for adoption of subjects in the Proposed Program as presented to the Annual Meeting by the Board of Directors.
- (d) Recommendations for the Program submitted by voting members two months prior to the Annual Meeting but not recommended by the Board of Directors may be

1/7/2008

considered by the Annual Meeting provided that (1) The Annual Meeting shall order consideration by a majority vote and , (2) The Annual Meeting shall adopt by a two-thirds vote.

- (e) Changes in the Program, in the case of altered condition, may be made provided that: (1) information concerning the proposed changes has been sent to all members at least two weeks prior to a general membership meeting at which the change is to be discussed, and (2) Final action by the membership is taken at a succeeding meeting.

Section 4. Member Action . Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters only when authorized to do so by the proper Board of Directors.

ARTICLE X  
National Convention, State Convention and Council

Section 1. National Convention . The Board of Directors at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to a national office shall select delegates to that convention in the number allotted the League of Women Voters of Murfreesboro/ Rutherford County under the provision of the Bylaws of the League of Women Voters of the United States.

Section 2. State Convention . The Board of Directors at a meeting before the date on which the names of delegates must be sent to the state office, shall select delegates to that Convention in the number allotted the League of Women Voters of Murfreesboro/ Rutherford County under the provision of the Bylaws for the League of Women Voters of Tennessee.

Article XI  
Parliamentary Authority

Section 1. Parliamentary Authority . The rules contained in Roberts' Rules of Order Revised shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws.

ARTICLE XII  
Amendments

Section 1. Amendments . These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the voting members present and voting at the Annual Meeting, provided the amendments were submitted to the membership in writing at least one month in advance of the meeting.

Revised  
3/13/07  
3/10/05  
10/23/95

1/7/2008

**LWV Murfreesboro/Rutherford County  
Ballot-Proposed By-Laws Changes 3/10/05**

**Article V. Officers**

Section 1 Enumeration and Election of Officers.

Currently: Two co-presidents shall be elected in odd-numbered years. The secretary and treasurer shall be elected in even-numbered years.

Proposed Change: One co-president and Secretary shall be elected in odd-numbered years. One co-president and Treasurer shall be elected in even-numbered years.

Proposed addition to this section: The outgoing co-president will serve on the Board as Past President for one year.

Rationale: To have experienced leaders to assist new ones. To avoid having both co-presidents new the same year.

Vote: For \_\_\_\_\_ Against \_\_\_\_\_

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Section 2. Co-Presidents

Currently: They shall be, ex officio, a member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

Proposed change: They shall be, ex officio, a member of all committees.

Rational: to allow participation on the Nominating committee if needed.

Vote: For \_\_\_\_\_ Against \_\_\_\_\_

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**Article VII. Nominations and Elections**

Section 1. Nominating Committee

Currently: The Chairman, who shall not be a member of the Board, shall be elected at the Annual Meeting.

The two members of the Board of Directors shall be appointed by the Board of directors immediately following the Annual Meeting.

Proposed Change: The Chairman shall be elected at the Annual Meeting.

The two committee members shall be appointed by the Board of Directors immediately following the Annual Meeting.

Rationale: To allow Nominating Committee Chair to be a current Board member.

Vote: For \_\_\_\_\_ Against \_\_\_\_\_