

REGULAR SESSION 1947 LAWS, CHAPTER 193 (S.B. 22)

STATE ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON IRRIGATION DISTRICTS

(Pages 837-838)

An Act relating to irrigation districts; directing irrigation district directors jointly to prepare annual reports on irrigation district operations and authorizing the designation of the State Associate of Washington Irrigation Districts, as a co-ordinating agency in the execution of this act; permitting irrigation districts to reimburse the association for services so rendered; and authorizing the directors to attend inter-irrigation district meetings.

The legislature hereby declares that public necessity for the uniformity and coordination of irrigation district operative and development programs is essential to the agricultural welfare of the State of Washington, Now Therefore

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

Section 1. The Directors of the several irrigation districts in the State shall take such action as they deem necessary to effect coordination of their common programs for the economical and efficient operation of their districts and the reclamation of lands therein, and prepare reports annually for such operations.

Sec. 2. The Directors of such irrigation districts may designate a State Association of Washington Irrigations Districts as a co-ordinating agency in the execution of the duties imposed by this act, and reimburse the association from district expense funds in the annual district budgets for the costs of the services rendered, and the several districts may levy assessments against the lands therein for this purpose. Such reimbursement shall be paid only on vouchers approved by the Board of Directors of the contributing district in the manner provided for the approval of district vouchers generally, and submitted to the proper County Auditor for issuance of warrants thereon. The vouchers shall set forth the nature of the claim involved and shall be signed by the claimant in the manner required by law. The total of such voucher claims for any district in any calendar year shall not exceed two per cent (2%) of the total amount or its equivalent of the expense fund levy of the district for that year.

Sec. 3. The Board of Directors of the several districts may effect the state organization herein contemplated and take such further and other action in behalf of their respective districts as they deem necessary to carry out the intent of this act, including support of and attendance at such meetings as may be required to promote and perfect the organization and to effect its purposes.

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oed (Sec. 4. To avoid duplication of effort the association may, in the
(discretion of its officers, affiliate and cooperate with other reclamation
(organizations and agencies in the state engaged in the promotion of the
(reclamation of lands in the state.

Passed the Senate January 29, 1947

Passed the House March 5, 1947

Approved by the Governor March 12, 1947, with the exception of Section 4, which is vetoed.

CONSTITUTION
OF
ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON IRRIGATION DISTRICTS

ARTICLE 1

The name of this organization shall be the Association of Washington Irrigation Districts.

ARTICLE 2

The purpose of this association shall be to promote the interest of irrigation district farmers, and to improve the operation of the organized irrigation districts of the State of Washington.

ARTICLE 3

The officials of this association shall be a President, two Vice-Presidents, who shall serve for a term of one year, and ten Directors, who shall be elected to serve for a term of three years; provided that three of the first Directors shall serve for one year, three for two years, and four for three years; and a Secretary-Treasurer who shall be appointed by the Board of Directors. Officials for terms beginning in the ensuing year shall be elected at the annual membership meeting, ~~and the term of office shall begin on January 1 following their respective elections.~~ Vacancies in office shall be filled by the Board of Directors. Appointees shall hold office until their respective successors are elected at an annual membership meeting.

ARTICLE 4

To secure geographical representation on the Board of Directors, the State of Washington shall be divided into six director divisions, as defined in the by-laws of the association, and each of these divisions shall be represented on the Board of Directors by an eligible resident of the division, and four members of the board shall be elected at large. The President of this association shall be Chairman of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 5

The Directors of the association shall meet at the close of the annual membership meeting, organize as a board, select a Secretary-Treasurer, and make appointments to the advisory committee. ~~Seven of the Directors shall constitute a quorum.~~

ARTICLE 6

Any (dues paying) landowner, water user, or official in any organized irrigation district in the state, shall be a member and shall be entitled to hold office, and to vote at any membership meeting. A membership meeting shall be held at least once in each year at such time and place as the Directors shall decide, provided that at least ten days previous notice must be given of any membership meeting. Such notice may be given to the membership by mail or by newspaper publication.

ARTICLE 7

The executive authority of the association shall rest in the Board of

Directors, and the board shall have authority to prescribe the duties of all the officers of the association, and to name and appoint such committees as it shall deem advisable, fix the period of their continuance and prescribe their purposes and objects.

ARTICLE 8

Fees for membership in the association and the plan of the payment thereof shall be established by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 9

By-laws not inconsistent with the provisions of this constitution shall be adopted by the Board of Directors, and such by-laws may be amended by a majority vote of the Directors, or at any membership meeting.

ARTICLE 10

This constitution, or any part thereof, may be amended by a majority vote of members present at any membership meeting of the association.

ARTICLE 11

Temporary by-laws shall be adopted by the membership at the first meeting held to adopt the constitution and to elect the Board of Directors, for the said board until later acted upon by it.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE 1

In accordance with the constitution, the state shall be divided into six divisions as follows: Division No. 1 shall include Fand Orielle, Spokane, Stevens and Whitman Counties. Division No. 2 shall include Asotin, Columbia, Franklin, Garfield and Walla Walla Counties. Division No. 3 shall include Benton, Kittitas, Klickitat and Yakima Counties. Division No. 4 shall include Chelan, Ferry and Okanogan Counties. Division No. 5 shall include Adams, Douglas, Grant and Lincoln Counties. Division No. 6 shall include the remaining counties of the state.

ARTICLE 2

Any landowner, water user, or official in any organized irrigation district of the state attending the meeting at which the constitution and these by-laws shall be adopted shall be eligible to vote at said meeting.

ARTICLE 3

The first meeting of landowners and water users shall be called by the organization committee selected at the meeting April 6, 1946 at Ephrata, Washington, and notice thereof stating time and place of meeting shall be given by the committee by mailing same to the secretary of each organized irrigation district in the state.