

By-laws of The Benton County Historical Society

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ARTICLE I Name

Section I The name of this organization shall be the BENTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

ARTICLE II Objectives

Section 1 The objectives of the Benton County Historical Society shall be to promote the recounting, recording, publishing, and otherwise preserving and disseminating historical matter of said county.

Section II The Society shall issue a quarterly publication to be officially known as ***THE BENTON COUNTY PIONEER***.

Section III The members of the Society shall not be responsible for errors of fact or judgment which may appear in said publication, or other special publications, but will take steps to insure that all facts or data are historically accurate and whenever possible indicate the source of information published.

ARTICLE III Limitations

Section 1 The Benton County Historical Society shall always remain a non-profit organization.

ARTICLE IV Membership and Dues

Section I All persons or organizations interested in Benton County Arkansas history, and the preservation thereof, may become REGULAR Members of the Society upon paying the established dues, in advance, for one year.

Section II The Board of Directors of the Society may grant special categories of membership (SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP, CONTRIBUTING MEMBERSHIP, LIFE MEMBERSHIP, HONORARY MEMBERSHIP, etc.) to persons providing special services or remuneration to the Society.

Section III Membership Dues shall be established by the Board of Directors; said dues shall be on a calendar year basis and will entitle members to four issues of the above mentioned official publication.

ARTICLE V Meetings

Section I Commencing Calendar Year 1989, Regular Meetings of the membership shall be held on the Second Sunday of the months of February, April, July, and September. A Christmas party will be held in December. The place of the meetings shall be decided by the Board of Directors, or by the Members at a Regular Meeting.

Section II Special Meetings of the membership may be called by the Board of Directors or by six Regular Members.

Section III Meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President or three Board Members.

- Section IV A quorum shall consist of those Members present at any Regular or called Meeting of the Society., A quorum of the Board of Directors shall be five members present and voting.
- Section V Any legitimate motion shall require for its adoption a majority vote of the Members or Directors present, except for those motions mentioned in ARTICLE X. which shall require a two-thirds vote.

ARTICLE VI The Board of Directors

- Section 1 The Society shall be governed by a Board of Directors. Said Board shall be made up of at least nine voting Members, which shall be the President, Vice-President, Administrative Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer of the Society, Editor of the Pioneer, and at least three other Members, who shall be elected at a regular meeting. Each member shall serve for a period of two years, or until a successor is duly elected and installed.

ARTICLE VII Officers and Their Elections

- Section I Nominations for Officers of the Society mentioned above shall be made by a Nominating Committee of three members, in good standing, who shall be appointed by the President.
- Section II A vacancy occurring in any office shall be filled for the un-expired term by a person elected by majority vote of the Board of Directors. Should a vacancy occur in the office of the President, the Vice-President shall serve until the term expires, or a Special Election is held.

ARTICLE VIII Duties of Officers of the Society

- Section I The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and shall be a member ex-officio of all standing committees, except the nominating committee, and shall perform all other duties usually pertaining to the office. The President shall be Chairman of the Board of Directors.
- Section II The Vice-President shall serve as an aid to the President, shall perform the duties of the President in his absence or inability, and shall be in charge of arranging all programs and meetings.
- Section III The Administrative Secretary shall be in charge of the administrative office of the Society, including its files and collections, and files of the Society's publications, etc., which are held by that office. The Administrative Secretary shall answer official correspondence of the Society and perform such other duties as may be delegated to that office. Upon being relieved by a duly elected successor, the Administrative Secretary shall pass on to that successor: all files, collections, copies of correspondence, etc., belonging to, or pertaining to, the Society.
- Section IV The Recording Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings. A report of actions taken at Board of Directors Meetings will be provided to each

Board Member as soon as practicable after each meeting.

Section V The Treasurer shall receive all monies for the Society, shall keep an accurate record of its receipts and expenditures, and shall pay out funds for bills incurred by the Society. All non-recurring expenditures in excess of \$100.00 shall be approved by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall be able to present an up-to-date statement of accounts at any Regular Society Meeting, and shall upon request from the Board of Directors, supply all records for audit.

Section VI The Editor of the Benton County Pioneer shall be responsible for the timely editing, printing, mailing, and distribution of that publication on a quarterly basis in accordance with appropriate Postal Codes and the By-laws of the Society. As the Official publication of the Society, the Pioneer will print only those policy and procedural changes approved by the Board of Directors and/or membership of the Society. Upon being relieved by a duly elected successor, the Editor will pass all files, unpublished manuscripts, articles, photographs, and equipment belonging to the Society, or loaned to the Society for whatever purpose, to that successor. Historical materials published in the Pioneer are considered to belong to the Society collectively and not personal property of the Editor.

ARTICLE IX Committees

Section I There shall be such Standing Committees created by the Board of Directors as may be required to promote the objectives and interests of the Society.

Section II The Chairman of each Standing Committee shall be appointed by the President, subject to approval of the Board of Directors.

Section III The President shall appoint such Temporary Committees as are necessary to accomplish other temporary objectives of the Society.

ARTICLE X Amendments

Section I These By-laws, duly adopted, may be amended either partly or wholly, at any Regular or Called Meeting of the Society, by a two-thirds vote of the Members present and voting.

Section II In a bona fide emergency, or when actions must be taken prior to a Meeting of the Membership, the By-laws of the Society may be amended by unanimous vote of the Board of Directors and the Amendments provided to the Membership at the next meeting for their approval.

1. *Editor's Note:* The above revised By-laws were brought before the Society's Membership at the regularly scheduled meeting of September 11th, 1988 and were approved by unanimous vote of the members present and voting.

2. Misprinted date of Pioneer corrected 12/00.