

Bylaws

Article I - Governance

The rules contained in "Robert's Rules of Order" shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the By-Laws of this organization.

Article II - Purpose

Mission Statement

This organization will provide a cooperative environment of GIS professionals, users, and students to communicate and advance, as a unified group, the status and level of effectiveness of GIS use in the Rocky Mountain region. The Rocky Mountain region shall consist of the state of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming.

Goal: To facilitate the advance of GIS and provide a forum for cooperation and the exchange of ideas, resources, technology, and data.

Objectives:

Support and communicate technically sound standards, practices, and procedures for sharing geographic information among governmental agencies and the private sector. Provide forums through meetings, seminars, conferences, and the like for discussion and communication of mapping issues, knowledge, activities, and ideas.

Goal: Assist with and promote cooperative projects between different government agencies.

Objectives:

Establish support for GIS projects that require external funding sources or the establishment of cost-share and work-share agreements between governmental entities.

Goal: Encourage and facilitate the advancement of GIS through continued education of GIS professionals, governmental decision-makers, and other potential beneficiaries.

Objectives:

Inform members and external organizations about recognized benefits and costs of various GIS applications, projects, and programs.

Assist in the promotion of education, research, and outreach to promote the modernization of GIS technical skills, software, and hardware.

Goal: Promote awareness of GIS related issues, projects, and funding through the dissemination of information and increased communication.

Objectives:

Inform mapping users about: the status of federal and state mapping programs; the availability and effectiveness of data, software, and hardware; and the status of projects and GIS issues.

Share and disseminate information about mapping, spatial data technologies, and GIS.

List new and existing public and private revenue sources available for program implementation, improvements, and expansions.

Identify concerns and issues related to GIS and facilitate cooperative solutions and organizational consensus, when required.

Article III - Membership Types

There shall be two types of membership in the organization, which shall be as follows:

Voting Member - Voting Members shall have full voting and office holding privileges in the organization. Voting membership shall be open to any person interested in GIS activities.

Corporate Member - Corporate Members shall have full voting privileges in addition to advertisement and promotional space on the RM/URISA website.

Discipline and Expulsion of Members

The board may investigate the conduct and actions of any members of the organization alleged to be in violation of the purposes and goals of RM/URISA. A hearing shall be held in a n open membership meeting and the conclusion of such hearing the Board, by majority vote may censure or discipline the said member(s), or by the affirmative vote of two-thirds majority, may expel the subject member(s).

Article IV - Board Members and Committees

Board Members

The Board Members shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, two representatives to the board of GIS in the Rockies, and from one to four Members-at-Large positions, determined at the Board's discretion. A simple majority of the board shall pass any motion, except modifications to the By-Laws or Constitution, which will require a two-thirds majority vote. Each elected Board Member shall serve a one-year term of office. The Board Members shall be responsible to carry out the business of the organization subject to the direction of the voting membership.

President - The President shall be a voting member of the organization elected by a majority vote of the membership. The President will preside at all meetings of both the membership and Board Members. He/she shall be subject to the control of the Board Members, have general supervision, direction, and control of day-to-day business and affairs of the organization. The President shall vote only to break ties of the Board Members.

President-Elect - In the absence or disability of the President, the Vice-President shall perform all the duties of the President, and when so acting, shall have all the powers of and be subject to all the restrictions upon the President. The *President-Elect* shall have such other duties as may be from time to time prescribed by the President and the Board Members or these by-laws.

Secretary - The Secretary shall keep a book of minutes, which shall record the proceedings of all meetings of members and all meetings of the Board Members with full details thereof. He/she shall keep membership records of the organization and by virtue of this shall be the Chairperson of the Nominations and Elections Committee.

Treasurer - The Treasurer shall receive and keep account of all funds and monies of the organization, including assets, liabilities, receipts, disbursements, gains, losses, and surpluses. He/she shall have an independent audit of the account books annually and shall prepare such reports as are required by normal business practice.

Vacancies

A vacancy in any elective (except that of the President) shall be filled by a majority vote of the Board Members. The appointee shall serve the remaining portion of the normal term of that office. The Vice-President shall fill a vacancy in the office of President for the remaining portion of the term of office. Removal of Officers The Board Members may, by unanimous vote of the quorum, remove a Board Member for non-performance of duty, gross misconduct, or other serious actions not in conformance with the best ethical interests of the organization.

Committees

RM/URISA recognizes that working committees are essential and vital to accomplish the mission and goals of the organization. The Board Members shall establish standing and special committees to manage the organization and achieve the goals and objectives set by the organization. Members of any committee shall be any member of the organization in good standing and will be confirmed by the Board. Chairpersons of committees must be Board Members of RM/URISA.

Article V - Elections and Voting

Elections

Every year the voting members of the organization will elect the Board Members by ballot. Each voting member will cast, by ballot, one vote for each available Board Member seat.

Quorums

A quorum for a vote shall be ten (10) percent of the total voting membership by attendance or proxy vote.

Article VI - Chapters and Affiliations

RM/URISA recognizes that chapters and rules of affiliations may be necessary to better serve its members. The Board Members shall explore possibilities for the establishment of Chapters to accomplish the goals set forth in the By-Laws.

Article VII - Meetings

Procedures

The President shall act as the presiding officer of all meetings. In case of incapacity, the Vice-President shall preside. The usual parliamentary rules as specified by "Robert's Rules of Order" shall govern all deliberations. The order of business may be altered or suspended at any meeting by a majority vote of the Board Members present.

Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings shall be held, at the location of the Board Members' discretion. Non-voting membership are invited to attend unless otherwise directed by the Board.

Article VIII - Amendments to the By-Laws

Upon proposal to the Board Members, these By-Laws may be amended, repealed, or altered, in whole or in part, by a two-thirds majority vote by the Board Members. The general membership of all RM/URISA members must be notified no less than thirty days prior to a vote made on the amendment
