

# **BYLAWS OF THE TEXAS CHAPTER UNITED POSTMASTERS AND MANAGERS OF AMERICA**

## **Preamble**

The purpose for which this Chapter is organized as a part of the national organization, the United Postmasters and Managers of America (UPMA), shall be to provide a vehicle through which members may assist one another in matters connected with their employment in the United States Postal Service; to foster a favorable image of public service; to assure the users of the mails the best service possible improve the conditions under which individuals work, having concern for salaries, hours of employment, working environment, and related issues; to cooperate with other groups and levels of postal management in the achievement of common goals.

## **Article I – Name**

This organization shall be known as the Texas Chapter of the United Postmasters and Managers of America (UPMA).

## **Article II – Purpose**

The purpose of this organization shall be to affiliate with and become a part of the national UPMA organization.

## **Article III – Membership**

Any person as designated by the UPMA Governing Documents to be a member of the national Organization shall be considered a member in this Chapter but no member in arrears for dues shall be recognized or permitted any of the privileges at its conventions.

## **Article IV – Meetings**

The annual convention of the organization shall be held at the time and city as set by the “annual convention one year or more prior to that convention,” provided however, that the president may, with the approval of the majority of the executive board, and for good and sufficient reason change the time and/or place previously fixed. All chapter conventions must be completed prior to the start of the National Convention.

Special meetings may be called by the president, and shall be called on the request in writing by a majority of the executive committee or on demand in writing of ten (10) percent of the paid-up membership of this chapter.

The chapter secretary/treasurer shall mail notice of the meetings of the executive committee at least ten (10) days prior to the date specified for such meetings.

In any convention of this chapter, all members who are present and registered for the convention shall constitute a quorum.

Robert Rules of Order shall govern the deliberation of this chapter.

Texas UPMA Retired and Associate members shall be entitled to vote on floor votes for time and place selection of future State Conventions. They shall be entitled to one vote for each member registered and in attendance at the State Convention.

#### **Article V – Election of Officers**

The officers of this chapter shall be a president, executive vice president, a secretary/treasurer, the immediate past president who shall serve for a term of one year beginning November 1 of the year a newly elected president shall assume office, the president of the Texas UPMA retired, editor, who together with the 4 vice presidents, shall constitute the executive committee, and the governing body of the chapter.

The president, executive vice president, and 2 vice president(s) shall be elected at the annual convention to serve a term of 2 years. The term of office shall commence on November 1<sup>st</sup> and will end on October 31<sup>st</sup>. The officers shall be limited to 2 consecutive terms of office. The secretary/treasurer and the other 2 vice presidents shall be elected at the annual convention in a subsequent year to serve a term of 2 years. The term of office shall commence on November 1<sup>st</sup> and end on October 31<sup>st</sup>. The officers shall be limited to 2 consecutive terms of office. The secretary/treasurer may be elected to serve up to 6 consecutive terms of office. If no other eligible candidate seeks the position, the secretary/treasurer may be elected to serve additional terms.

The new executive committee shall hold an organizational meeting within 60 days of November 1<sup>st</sup> each year.

Additional or other nominations may be made from the floor, if seconded and approved, and shall be included with the list of recommendations made by the nominating committee for determining by ballot of those present and qualified to vote in said election. If there shall be more than two nominations for any office, balloting shall continue until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast. Except for the positions of President, Executive Vice President and Vice Presidents, which shall be limited to active EAS members; retired postmasters, retired EAS employees and Postmaster Reliefs who are members in good standing of the organization, shall be permitted to hold office in this chapter provided they are present at the meeting where the vote will be taken and that no other active EAS member seeks the office. Any active member who is an officer of this chapter, who during their term shall resign or be removed for any cause whatsoever, from the position that qualified them for active membership, shall immediately become ineligible to hold office and their office shall be declared vacant.

#### **Article VI – President**

The president shall preside at all meetings of the chapter, shall call special meetings when requested to do so as provided in Article IV. They shall also preside at the meetings of the executive committee and appoint all committees for the proper handlings of the business of this chapter and in general perform such duties as may pertain to the office. The President shall be bonded.

### **Article VII – Executive Vice President**

The executive vice president shall serve in the absence or disability of the president and work with the president as needed. This position will be a separately elected position and must be an active member. Should the office of the president be vacated, the executive vice president will serve the remaining term. The remaining term of the vacant position of the executive vice president shall be filled by the executive committee.

The executive vice president will serve as the Convention Chair and site selection coordinator for the chapter. Site Selection shall gather information and present 3, or more, potential sites for selection to be voted on by the membership at the State Convention.

### **Article VIII – District Vice Presidents**

One Vice President will be elected from each Postal District. The District Vice Presidents shall be responsible for the following duties:

One Vice President will serve as Membership Chair. It shall be his/her duty to promote membership for the organization, and ensure that the chapter always has a strong membership.

One Vice President will serve as Education Chair. It will be his/her duty to work with the President in aligning training that is deemed necessary and appropriate for the membership.

One Vice President will serve as Legislative Chair. It will be his/her duty to handle legislative activity within the chapter.

One Vice President will serve as the Political Action Committee (PAC) Chair. It will be his/her duty to handle any PAC activities within the chapter.

Positions will be determined between the Vice Presidents with presidential oversight/tiebreaker. Incumbent Vice Presidents have first choice of open chairs.

In the event of a vacancy in any vice president position, the vacancy shall be filled by the executive committee.

### **Article IX – Secretary/Treasurer**

The secretary/treasurer shall combine the office of secretary and treasurer, and shall perform all duties commonly incident to both offices. The secretary/treasurer shall be bonded as provided in Article XIV hereof and shall receive such compensation for their services as the executive committee provide. The secretary/treasurer shall keep all records, record the proceedings of all conventions and meetings of the executive committee, deposit, withdraw and have custody of the funds of the chapter and shall be responsible to keep an accurate and complete account of the receipts, vouchers and membership. In the event of a vacancy in the position of secretary/treasurer, the vacancy shall be filled by the executive committee.

### **Article X – Editor**

An editor may be appointed by the Chapter President with the approval of the executive committee. It shall be the editor's duty to publish the official newspaper of the LONESTAR LEADER. The editor shall receive compensation for their services as the executive committee may provide.

### **Article XI – Executive Committee**

The officers of this chapter shall be a president, executive vice president, 4 district vice presidents, a secretary/treasurer, the immediate past president who shall serve a term of one year beginning November 1<sup>st</sup> of the year a newly elected president assumes office, and the president of Postmasters Retired, shall constitute the executive committee and the governing body of the chapter. The editor will not be a voting member.

It shall be the duty of the executive committee to carry out the orders of the chapter as expressed in the convention, it shall have direct control of all business of the chapter and its affairs, it shall be the power of the executive committee to authorize necessary expenditures; to audit all accounts; approve the expenses of the executive officers and in general perform all the functions ordinarily attached to such committee.

The executive committee shall have power to remove any of its members for good and sufficient reason by two-thirds vote of the committee when in session.

In the event of a tie and discussion doesn't resolve the tie, the President shall cast the deciding vote.

### **Article XII – Sergeant-At-Arms**

At the opening of each convention, the president shall appoint a master sergeant-at-arms and the necessary assistant sergeants-at-arms, and it shall be their duty to maintain order and perform such other duties as designated by the president.

### **Article XIII – National Convention Roll Call Voting Procedure**

When preparing for roll call votes to be cast on elections, amendments, etc., at the National Convention the vote shall be taken by paper ballot at the annual Chapter Convention. The results of that paper ballot shall govern the procedure, by percentage, for how the Chapter's votes will be cast at the National Convention by the Chapter President. The results of the votes shall be recorded by the National Officer present at the convention, as well as in the official minutes of the Chapter convention. The National Officer and the Chapter President must send the results to the National Office within ten (10) days of the conclusion of the Chapter convention. On the issue of elections, the Chapter's official vote must be taken at the Chapter convention in the year that the election will take place at the National convention. **This procedure cannot be changed prior to October 31, 2018, in accordance with the National Bylaws Article XI, Section 1, paragraph 14.**

### **Article XIV – Bonds**

The secretary/treasurer and president shall be required to be bonded in the amount deemed sufficient by the executive committee, said bond to be executed by a surety company approved by the executive committee and the premium on such bond shall be paid by the chapter.

### **Article XV – Dues**

The annual dues of the members of this Chapter shall be the same as provided in the governing documents of the national organization.

The Texas UPMA Retired organization shall receive 50% of the retiree dues received from the National Office by the active chapter on a monthly basis.

#### **Article XVI – Official Publication**

There may be established an official publication of this Chapter to be published 6 times per year. The publication will be distributed to the membership and others. The official publication will be named Lonestar Leader. In addition, the Chapter may maintain a website for the dissemination of information. The executive committee, as the governing body of the Chapter, shall have editorial control over the official publication(s).

#### **Article XVII – Auxiliary/BRATS**

The Texas Chapter UPMA shall have an auxiliary group composed of spouses, relatives, and others interested in assisting the UPMA Chapter during state and national conventions to work in conjunction with the retirees. This group shall have at least two officers; President and Secretary/Treasurer. This group shall participate in fund raising activities which shall include membership drives, during conventions to fund their activities which include providing necessary meals to Chapter members and other activities that might be deemed necessary to support Chapter members.

A seed funding of \$500 will be provided by the TX UPMA Chapter to the auxiliary.

The TX Chapter UPMA shall have a youth group composed of adolescents under the age of 18 who are relatives of Chapter members. This group shall work in conjunction with retirees to design planned activities for the youth during state and national conventions. This group shall have at least two officers; President and Secretary/Treasurer. This group shall participate in retiree sponsored fund raising activities.

This group might adopt the name B.R.A.T.S. (to be determined by the group) which means **Bringing Real Atttributes To Society.**

#### **Article XVIII – Amendments**

All proposed amendment(s) must be submitted in writing to the Chapter president at least thirty (30) days prior to the opening of the annual Chapter convention. The proposed amendment(s) shall be published prior to the convention. These bylaws may be amended at any convention of the chapter by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting. Any proposed amendment(s) shall be read at one session of the convention and voted on at a subsequent session. These amendment(s) shall become effective immediately upon the adjournment of the convention unless otherwise specified in the amendment.

#### **Article XIX – Transition Document**

During the 2017 Chapter Convention during the election of officers, the President, Executive Vice-President and two Vice Presidents shall be elected to serve a term of two years. The Secretary-Treasurer and the other two Vice Presidents shall be elected for one year. The two vice presidential candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall serve the two-year terms and the next two candidates receiving the next higher number of votes shall serve for one year. In the event of a tie a drawing will determine the two-year term. The drawing shall be done by the president elect. During the 2018 Chapter Convention the Secretary-Treasurer and the two Vice President positions elected for one year in 2017, shall be elected to serve a full two-year term. All officers shall take office as provided for in Article V. This amendment shall terminate on October 31, 2018.