

CHAPTER BYLAWS

FLORIDA GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE I - NAME

This Chapter of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association (FGFOA) shall be known as the Southwest Florida Chapter.

ARTICLE II - RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Chapter shall, at all times, be subject to the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association.

ARTICLE III - PURPOSE

The purpose of the Chapter shall be to promote the improvement of government financial administration in Florida.

ARTICLE IV - CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. The Chapter membership shall consist of those eligible for membership in the Florida Government Finance Officers Association.

ARTICLE V - MEETINGS

Section 1. There shall be at least four (4) meetings of the Chapter each year.

Section 2. One meeting shall be considered the annual meeting for the election of officers and directors. This meeting should take place between thirty (30) and sixty (60) days prior to the FGFOA Annual Conference.

Section 3. The Secretary/Treasurer shall, prior to the annual meeting, mail or email written notices to all members of the Chapter indicating the time and place of such meeting and the names of the individuals nominated to serve as officers and directors.

Section 4. Six (6) members or ten percent (10%) of the membership entitled to vote; whichever is greater, of the Chapter who are present in person shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting.

ARTICLE VI - VOTING RIGHTS

Section 1. The voting rights of the Chapter shall be vested exclusively in active members, as defined by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association and each shall have one vote in determining all questions to be decided by the membership.

Section 2. Associate members, as defined by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association, shall not hold office or chair committees, although they may serve as members of committees.

ARTICLE VII - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. The officers of the Chapter shall be the President, President-Elect, and Secretary/Treasurer.

Section 2. Additional members may also be elected from the membership of the Chapter. The officers and additional members, known as directors, shall constitute the Board of Directors, which shall serve as the governing body. The Board of Directors shall consist of a maximum of seven (7) members. Members of the Board shall serve without compensation.

Section 3. Once a member has been elected by the membership to an officer position, that officer may, upon completion of the term for which he or she was elected, automatically serve successive terms in the next higher remaining officer positions.

Section 4. Officers elected at the annual meeting of the Chapter may assume their respective offices at the meeting immediately following the annual meeting and hold office for one year or until the election of their respective successors.

Section 5. The Board of Directors shall have the right and power to appoint a member to the unexpired term of any vacancy occurring on the Board of Directors of the Chapter.

Section 6. The Nominating Committee shall make nominations for officers and other members of the Board of Directors. Nominations may also be made from the floor.

Section 7. The Board of Directors shall have the power to fix the time and place for each annual meeting and every other meeting of the Chapter.

Section 8. The Board of Directors may meet at such times and places as it may elect.

Section 9. For the transaction of any business by the Board of Directors, at least fifty percent (50%) of the members of said Board should be present in person to constitute a quorum, and the majority vote of the Board members present will decide all issues. No proxy may be voted at any meeting of said Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII - DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Section 1. President: The President shall be the chief elected officer of the Chapter and may call meetings of the Board of Directors whenever it is deemed necessary. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Chapter. The President shall enforce the Bylaws of the Chapter and the Constitution and Bylaws established by the Florida Government Finance Officers Association. The President shall keep the Board of Directors of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association fully informed of the affairs of the Chapter. The President shall also consult with the Board of Directors of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association and the Board of Directors of the Chapter, whenever necessary, concerning the business of the Chapter and its activities.

Section 2. President-Elect: In the absence or inability of the President to act, the President-Elect shall exercise all powers and perform all of the duties of the President. The President-Elect shall develop a Chapter budget for the subsequent year for submission to the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Secretary/Treasurer: The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep all correspondence of the Chapter, minutes of all meetings of the Chapter and of the Board of Directors, and shall receive and deposit funds and pay out same as authorized by the Board of Directors. The Secretary/Treasurer shall be responsible for preparing all necessary financial reports. An annual report prepared by the Secretary/Treasurer covering fiscal matters and activities for the fiscal year, July 1 through June 30, will be submitted to the Secretary/Treasurer of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association by August 15th of the following year. In addition, at least annually, the Secretary/Treasurer shall transmit to the Secretary/Treasurer of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association: (1) copies of all notices sent to members of the Chapter; (2) a copy of the minutes of the annual meeting of the Chapter; and (3) a list of the Chapter's membership.

Section 4. Director: Each Director may assist in the decision making of the Board and, at the President's request, may serve as an individual liaison to one or more of the Chapter's standing committees.

ARTICLE IX - FISCAL MATTERS

Section 1. The incoming Board of Directors may adopt a proposed budget covering the Chapter operations for the subsequent fiscal year.

Section 2. Dues and fees for Chapter members may be set at the discretion of the Chapter Board of Directors.

Section 3. The Board of Directors may establish a fee to cover the costs of any program sponsored by the organization, along with any corresponding meal charges.

Section 4. The Chapter shall be fully and solely responsible for its own financial affairs.

ARTICLE X - COMMITTEES

Section 1. The President, with the concurrence of other members of the Board of Directors, may appoint such committees as are necessary for the efficient operation of the Chapter. The following committees are recommended:

- a) An Audit Committee of one member who is not an officer or director.
- b) A Nominating Committee consisting of the President and at least two other members, one of whom is not a director. The President may serve as the Chairman of this committee.
- c) A Membership Committee.
- d) A Program/Continuing Professional Education Committee.
- e) Other committees as deemed necessary by the President.

Section 2. Committee chairmen may be appointed by the President.

Section 3. Membership Committee.

- a) The Committee, if appointed, shall be responsible for promoting interest in the Chapter, conducting membership drives, and recommending applicants for membership.
- b) The Committee shall keep records of pertinent information concerning each current and terminated members of the Chapter.

Section 4. Program/Continuing Professional Education Committee.

- a) The Committee, if appointed, shall be responsible for recommending and preparing the Chapter programs, obtaining speakers for the programs, and maintaining a library of program topics and speakers.
- b) The Committee shall coordinate the reservation process for Chapter meetings.
- c) The Committee will work with the Career Development Committee of the Florida Government Finance Officers Association in developing continuing professional education seminars and promoting interest in such seminars offered by the Florida Government Finance Officers Association.

ARTICLE XI - AMENDMENTS TO THESE BYLAWS

Amendments to these Bylaws may be made by an affirmative vote of a majority of the general membership at the annual meeting, provided that notice of any such amendment shall be mailed or emailed to the Florida Government Finance Officers Association at least ninety (90) days prior to the meeting.