

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I. NAME

This Society shall be called the "Michigan Basin Geological Society."

ARTICLE II. OBJECTIVES

The object of this Society shall be to bring together, for discussions and field excursions, geologists, engineers, and scientists whose common interests lie in the Michigan Basin. The Michigan Basin Geological Society is a non-profit organization and all of its income shall be used for the necessary operating expenses, publications, field trips, seminars and other scientific operations of the Society.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Active Members

Active Membership in the Society shall be open to any person having a degree with a major relating to earth science. Persons lacking a degree, but possessing qualifications equivalent to a degree or other qualifications reviewed and accepted by the Executive Committee, may be admitted to active membership.

Section 2. Associate Members

Associate membership in the Society shall be open to any undergraduate student with a major relating to earth sciences or to any person whose interest and attainments in the earth sciences are such that they may be classified as a student of the earth sciences. Associate members shall enjoy all the privileges of membership in the Society except that they shall not hold office, nominate officers, cast ballots for officers, or cast ballots for constitutional amendments.

Section 3. Honorary Members

The Executive Committee, by majority vote, may elect as honorary members, persons who have contributed long and distinguished service to the geological profession and to the Michigan Basin Geological Society. Honorary members shall enjoy all the privileges of active membership, but shall not be required to pay dues. Sitting members of the board shall not grant themselves honorary memberships.

Section 4. Application for Membership

Applicants for active or associate membership shall submit a properly completed application form to the Secretary of the Society. Applications must be approved by majority vote of the Executive Committee.

Section 5. Non-payment of Dues

Any active or associate member who fails to pay their dues for the previous year, shall be notified by mail before November 1st of the impending loss of membership. Failure to correct such deficiency before December 31st shall result in the loss of membership. Reinstatement into the Society shall be through the application process.

Section 6. Resignation

Any active or associate member may resign from the Society by submitting a letter of resignation to the Secretary. Should such members desire to be reinstated in the Society at some future date, this may be accomplished by sending a request to the Secretary and by receiving the approval of the majority of the Executive Committee.

Section 7. Violations of the Code of Ethics

Any member, who, after due investigation, is found guilty of violating any of the standards of conduct prescribed in Article VIII of this constitution, may be admonished, allowed to resign, or dropped from membership. The procedure to be followed in such cases shall be that prescribed in the by-laws of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (Article XI, Section 5 through 8).

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS AND ELECTION PROCEDURE

Section 1. Officers

The elected officers of the Society shall consist of the President, Vice- President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Business Manager. These officers, together with the immediate Past-President, shall constitute the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall be the governing body of the Society and shall be empowered to conduct all business not specifically reserved for membership action in regular meetings. Meetings of the Executive Committee may be called at any time by the President or other elected officer in the President's absence. Three members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum. The Executive Committee shall keep a brief summary of meetings held, officers present and action taken.

Section 2. Term of Office

The term for the elected officers: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Business Manager shall be one (1) year. The Newsletter Editor, Publications Manager, Field Trip Director, Electronic Publications Manager, Webmaster and Historian shall be appointed officers. Such appointment shall be made by the incoming President, with the majority approval of the incoming Executive Committee, after July 1st. The Vice-President shall automatically succeed the President at the end of their respective terms. All officers, elected and appointed, shall take office on July 1st of each year. The President of the Society shall not serve two successive terms. Any officer unable to fulfill their term shall be replaced by the Executive Committee with a member of the Society appointed as a stand-in by default.

Section 3. Nominating Procedure

The Executive Committee shall appoint annually a Nominating Committee consisting of a chairman and a minimum of two active members of the Society. The Nominating Committee shall present the names of their nominees at the March meeting. Further nominations may be made from the floor at this time, provided that they are made and seconded by active members. Nominees must have indicated in advance of nomination their willingness to serve if elected.

Section 4. Election Procedure

An official mail ballot will be prepared by the Secretary, listing the candidates nominated for each office, and shall be mailed to all voting members at least two weeks before the April meeting. Officers will be elected from the active members of the Society by tabulating the returns from the official mail ballot. Ballots to be counted must be in the hands of the Chairman of the Nominating Committee the day before the May meeting. The ballots shall be opened and counted by the Chairman of the Nominating Committee in the presence of two active members who have been appointed as witnesses by the Chairman of the Nominating Committee. Candidates receiving a plurality of the votes cast will be declared elected, and the new Executive Committee will be introduced at the May meeting. In the event of a tie vote, the sitting officers present shall cast the deciding vote.

ARTICLE V. MEETINGS

Section 1. Monthly and Special Meetings

A minimum of four monthly meetings will be held each year. Meetings will be held whenever warranted from September 1st to June 1st. Special meetings may be called by the President or Vice-President during the summer months.

Section 2. Presiding Officer at Meetings

Meetings shall be called by the President or Vice-President or by an executive designated by either. In the event the designated officer is unable to attend a meeting, said meeting shall be presided over by any executive officer present.

ARTICLE VI. DUES

Section 1. Fiscal year

The fiscal year for the Society shall begin on July 1st and end on June 30th of the following calendar year.

Section 2. Dues schedule and billing

The annual dues for Active and Associate membership in the Society shall be determined annually by the Executive Committee. Any changes in membership dues will be published in the newsletter and be subject to comment from the Active membership. Dues shall be payable on September 1st.

ARTICLE VII. COMMITTEES

The Executive Committee may appoint such committees as it deems necessary to conduct the affairs of the Society. Such committees will serve on an annual basis.

ARTICLE VIII. ETHICS

The members of the Michigan Basin Geological Society subscribe to the principles of the Code of Ethics of the American Association of Petroleum Geologists.

ARTICLE IX. FINANCES

Single expenditures of more than \$100.00 must be approved in advance of commitment by a majority of the members at an Executive Committee meeting. The outgoing Treasurer shall, prior to July 1st, present a balance sheet of the accounts of the Society to the incoming Treasurer and incoming Business Manager. The incoming Treasurer shall present a summary of the finances of the Society at the first meeting in the fall.

ARTICLE X. AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Amendment Procedure

The constitution may be amended provided that:

1. Ten active members have signed the proposed amendment(s).
2. The membership of the Society has received from the Secretary, a copy of the proposed amendment(s) and a notice of the intent to discuss the proposed amendment(s) at a designated regular meeting. Such notice shall be given at least two weeks prior to the designated regular meeting.
3. The membership of the Society has been polled by a mailed ballot and a 2/3 majority of those ballots received within thirty (30) days have been in the affirmative.
4. Ballots have been opened and counted by the Secretary in the presence of two active members appointed by the President as witnesses.

Section 2. Proposal of Amendments

Amendments may be proposed by the following:

1. Resolution by the Executive Committee;
2. Resolution by a special constitutional committee appointed by the President;
3. A proposal signed by any 10 Active Members.

– revised May 2000