MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION
OF PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES

POLITICAL COUNCIL BYLAWS

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MAPE Political Council Bylaws

First adopted: Feb 14, 2020
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ARTICLE 1

Name

The name of the organization shall be the Political Council of the Minnesota Association of Professional Employees (MAPE), hereinafter the, "Political Council."

ARTICLE 2

Purpose

The statement of Purpose in the Political Council's Charter is incorporated herein by reference.

ARTICLE 3

Membership

The Political Council shall consist of five elected members and two appointed members. Elections shall be staggered with three members elected in odd-numbered years and two members elected in even-numbered years. MAPE's Statewide President is an ex-officio non- voting member of the council.

ARTICLE 4

Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary

Subdivision A. CHAIR: The Political Council will elect one of its members to serve as Chair by a majority vote of the assembled Political Council. If there are more than two candidates for Chair, the Political Council will utilize ranked choice voting. A tie vote in the election for Chair will be resolved by a coin toss. Except as provided in this section, the Chair will serve for two years and until their successor is elected. The Chair will next be elected at the July 2020 meeting of the Political Council. MAPE Political Council Chair elections will occur after the MAPE general elections in even years and prior to the next regularly scheduled executive team meeting thereafter.[1] Vacancies in the Chair will be

[1] Historical note: The Political Council first met in July 2019. At that time, the Political Council elected its first Chair. The MAPE Bylaws then in effect indicated that the Chair would serve a two-year term but also required that elections for Chair be held in even-numbered years. To resolve the conflict between those provisions, the first Political Council has adopted language in these Bylaws that reduces the length of the term of the first Chair to one- year (July 2019 to July 2020). In May 2022, the Political Council again updated this section to align the Chair election timeline with the updated timeline for MAPE General Elections. For the purposes of this section, the election year is the calendar year in which votes are cast.

filled by the Vice Chair.[2] Appointed members are not eligible to be elected Chair; however, the Vice Chair will serve as the Chair in the Chair's absence regardless of whether the Vice Chair is an appointed or elected member of the Political Council.

Subdivision B. VICE CHAIR: The Political Council will elect one of its members to serve as Vice Chair by a majority vote of the assembled Political Council using ranked choice voting. If there are more than two candidates for Vice Chair, the Political Council will utilize ranked choice voting. A tie vote in the election for Vice Chair will be resolved by a coin toss. Except as provide in this section, the Vice Chair will serve for two years and until their successor is elected. The Vice Chair will next be elected at the July 2020 meeting of the Political Council. MAPE Political Council Vice Chair elections will occur after the MAPE general elections in even years and prior to the next regularly scheduled executive team meeting thereafter.[3] A vacancy will be filled for the remainder of the current term by a special election of the Political Council, at a regularly scheduled meeting.

Subdivision C. SECRETARY: The Political Council will elect one of its members to serve as Secretary by a majority vote of the assembled Political Council using ranked choice voting. If there are more than two candidates for Secretary, the Political Council will utilize ranked choice voting. A tie vote in the election for Secretary will be resolved by a coin toss. Except as provide in this section, the Secretary will serve for two years and until their successor is elected. The Secretary will next be elected at the July 2020 meeting of the Political Council. MAPE Political Council Secretary elections will occur after the MAPE general elections in even years and prior to the next regularly scheduled executive team meeting thereafter.[4] A vacancy will be filled for the remainder of the current term by a special election of the Political Council, at a regularly scheduled meeting.

ARTICLE 5

Books and Finances

The Political Council's books and finances shall be wholly controlled by MAPE in accordance with the guidelines given by the statewide Treasurer and Finance Committee.

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[2] Historical note: while this vacancy formula for Chair is out of parity with the vacancy formulas for Vice Chair and Secretary, it was required by the MAPE Bylaws in effect when these Bylaws were adopted.

[3] Historical note: The Political Council first met in July 2019. At that time, the Political Council elected its first Vice- Chair. The MAPE Bylaws then in effect indicated that the Vice-Chair would serve a two-year term but also required that elections for Vice-Chair be held in even-numbered years. To resolve the conflict between those provisions, the first Political Council has adopted language in these Bylaws that reduces the length of the term of the first Vice- Chair to one-year (July 2019 to July 2020). In May 2022, the Political Council again updated this section to align the Vice Chair election timeline with the updated timeline for MAPE General Elections. For the purposes of this section, the election year is the calendar year in which votes are cast.

[4] In May 2022, the Political Council again updated this section to align the Secretary election timeline with the updated timeline for MAPE General Elections. For the purposes of this section, the election year is the calendar year in which votes are cast.

ARTICLE 6

Attendance

Subdivision A. While recognizing that it is impossible or impractical for any given member of the Political Council to participate in every single activity of the Political Council, members are nevertheless expected to reasonably participate in the activities of the MAPE's Political Council and the joint activities of the Political Council and MAPE's Organizing Council.

Subdivision B. Members are expected to attend regularly scheduled and special meetings of the Political Council. Pursuant to Article XIII, Section 2(1) of the MAPE Bylaws, the Political Council may ask the Judicial Committee to remove a member from the Political Council if:

1. The member has three (3) or more unexcused absences[5] from the regularly scheduled meetings of the Political Council in the last twelve (12) months;
2. The member is notified by any other member in writing at least fourteen (14) days before a regularly scheduled meeting of the Political Council that the Political Council will consider a motion for the member's removal at the next regularly scheduled meeting;
3. The written notice provided to the member indicates with specificity what reasons for removal will be alleged as part of the motion for removal;
4. The member to be removed is permitted to assert a written or verbal defense to the entire Political Council before any vote is taken on the motion for the member's removal; and,
5. Two-thirds of the entire Political Council then serving votes to approve the motion to remove the member.

Subdivision C. The Chair may cancel a regularly scheduled meeting by providing written notice to the members of the Political Council at least twenty-four (24) hours before the scheduled start time of the meeting; however, the Chair may not cancel a regularly scheduled meeting if the previous regularly scheduled meeting was also cancelled. In the event MAPE's offices are closed on the date and at the scheduled start time of a

[5] An absence is excused if: 1) more than twelve (12) hours before the start of a regularly scheduled meeting, the member sought and received the assent of the Chair or Vice Chair to be absent for any reason, 2) under the terms of the MAPE contract then in effect, the member would be allowed to be absent from their state job without sanction for the same reason the member is absent from the regularly scheduled meeting, 3) weather or environmental conditions render travel unsafe (the Chair or Vice Chair may require some objective evidence of said conditions—e.g., the local school district closed for all or part of the day), 4) the Chair cancelled the meeting, and/or 5) the meeting is a special meeting in which case any absence is excused.

regularly scheduled meeting the regularly scheduled meeting will be cancelled unless the Political Council had previously agreed upon an alternative meeting location.

ARTICLE 7

Meetings and Voting

Subdivision A. The Political Council will meet no less than quarterly. In January of every year, the Political Council will determine by majority vote: whether its meetings for the next twelve months will be conducted monthly or quarterly, to establish any desired protocols for meetings, and to schedule which meetings will be conducted electronically (by telephone or internet) and which meetings will be conducted in person.

Subdivision B. The Chair may also schedule special meetings if at least twenty-four (24) hours' notice of the special meeting is provided to all members in writing. Unless there is unanimous consent to meet in person, special meetings will be conducted electronically (by telephone or internet).

Subdivision C. If a member is absent from a meeting and the absence is excused, the member may request and the Chair shall allow the member up to twenty-four (24) hours after the meeting was adjourned to submit their votes on matters considered by the Political Council.

The Secretary shall record votes so submitted in the minutes. The Secretary may clarify that votes so submitted were submitted by an absent member pursuant to the Political Council's Bylaws.

Subdivision D. The Political Council will also conduct various activities and events related to its purpose; however, no vote may be taken on any business concerning the Political Council at any such activities or events.

ARTICLE 8

Quorum

The personal or electronic presence of a simple majority of the members of the Political Council then serving at a regularly scheduled meeting or a properly scheduled special meeting constitutes a quorum of the Political Council. A quorum must be established before any vote may be taken on any business concerning the Political Council.

ARTICLE 9

Records

The Political Council shall keep as records the minutes of all its meetings and a record of all actions taken. The Political Council shall keep a copy of the following records at MAPE's office:

1. the Political Council's Charter and all amendments to the Charter,
2. these Bylaws and all amendment to these Bylaws, and
3. the minutes and records described in this Article for the preceding six (6) years. Any member of MAPE has a right to review and copy the Records described in this Article. The minutes of the Political Council's minutes shall also be published on the MAPE website in accord with MAPE's guidelines for the publication of similar materials.

ARTICLE 10

Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Political Council then serving at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Political Council if all members then serving were first provided at least fourteen (14) days written notice that a motion to amend the Bylaws will be considered at the next regularly scheduled meeting. Any member may move to amend the Bylaws as provided in this Article.

ARTICLE 11

Cooperation with Organizing Council

Whenever possible and practical, the Political Council will coordinate strategies and joint activities with MAPE's Organizing Council.

Article 12

Supremacy Clause

MAPE's Constitution and/or MAPE's Bylaws are supreme and will govern in the event there is any conflict between these Bylaws and MAPE's Constitution or MAPE's Bylaws.[6]

Article 13

Recall and Removal

[6] Historical note: Limiting the initial terms of the Chair and Vice-Chair to one-year (July 2019 to July 2020) is a one- time action by the Political Council to permanently resolve conflicting language in MAPE's Bylaws that could not otherwise be resolved by MAPE's Delegate Assembly until months after the issue has become ripe. That action should remain a historical anomaly.

Subdivision A. RECALL. The Chair, Vice Chair, or Secretary may be recalled from that position by a unanimous vote of the remaining members of the Political Council then serving.

Subdivision B. REMOVAL. A member of the Political Council may be removed by the Judicial Committee pursuant to Article XIII of the MAPE Bylaws. A member may also be removed by the Judicial Committee pursuant to Article 6 of these Bylaws.