CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

of the

WILLIAMSON COUNTY AREA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

Adopted October 27, 2026

CONSTITUTION

Article I

Name

The name of this organization shall be Williamson County Area Beekeepers Association (WCABA or Association).

Article II

Purpose

The Williamson County Area Beekeepers Association is organized and operated exclusively for the promotion of agriculture within the meaning of Section 501(c)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code, including the betterment of beekeeping and agriculture practice, education of members and the public on honey bees and responsible beekeeping, and related programs and resources. The Association may provide ancillary member services, including group purchasing programs, that support and are incidental to these exempt purposes.

Article III

Membership

Any individual or family interested in becoming a member of this Association may become a member by paying the membership dues provided for in Section III-a of the By-Laws of this Association. WCABA Associate members defined in Section III-b of the By-Laws may attend any and all meetings but will have no vote in the business of the Association. The period of membership shall be from January 1 through December 31 each year.

Article IV

Officers

The officers and the governing body of this association shall be:

a. President

b. Vice-President

c. Membership Director

d. Program Director

e. Editorial Director

f. Secretary

g. Treasurer

h. Historian

i. Past President

j. Director at Large

k. Director at Large

Article V
Meetings

The Williamson County Area Beekeepers Association shall meet at a place and time to be designated by the majority vote of the Executive Board. There shall be no scheduled meeting in December due to the holiday season. A quorum at a meeting of the Williamson County Area Beekeepers Association shall consist of fifteen members present.

(revised September 25, 2018)

Article VI
Constitution Changes

This Constitution may be amended by a motion passed by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Association present, the amended changes presented at any regular meeting, and voted on at the following regular meeting. The Constitution may be amended after review by the Executive Board and by approval of two-thirds of the members attending the monthly regular meeting. The proposed changes will be sent out to the membership with the newsletter for review prior to membership vote at the next regular meeting. It shall be the policy of the board to review the Constitution and By-Laws each October of even numbered years unless the Board deems it necessary to make changes sooner.

Article VII
IRS Restrictions

No part of the net earnings of the Association shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its directors, officers, members, or other private persons, except that the Association shall be authorized to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments in furtherance of its exempt purposes.

No part of the activities of the Association shall consist of participating or intervening in any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to any candidate for public office.

BY-LAWS

Section I

Officers

a. The President, Vice-President, Membership Director, Program Director, Editorial Director, Secretary, Treasurer, and Historian shall be elected by a majority voting at the regular meeting in November of each year and shall take office at the January meeting. The Executive Board shall consist of the officers listed above, the past President, plus two Members at Large, not elected, but appointed by the Executive Board to serve as volunteers on the board.

b. The nominating committee shall consist of three members appointed by the President prior to, but no later than, the October membership meeting. The nominating committee shall select a slate of officers for the next year. The list of candidates shall be present and elected at the November meeting. Nominations from the floor may be accepted. The nominee selected by the committee or from the floor must be a member in good standing and willing to serve in the office. The names proposed by the nominating committee to the general membership will be posted in the newsletter prior to election.

c. All officers shall serve for one year or until their successors are elected or appointed.

d. In the case of death or resignation of an officer of the Association the Executive Board shall fill the vacancy by appointment for the remainder of the year. In the case of the office of President, the Vice-President will serve the remainder of the year, and a new Vice-President shall be appointed from either the membership at large or from the present officers.

e. Any officer being absent for three consecutive (regular or executive) meetings, without just cause, shall be replaced and a new officer appointed by the executive board to complete the remainder of the term.

f. Officers are encouraged, but not required, to be members of the Texas Beekeepers Association.

Section II

Duties of Officers

a. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and of the Executive Board. He or she shall have general supervision of the officers of the Association. The President will be the official spokesperson for the organization and sign all official correspondence. The President may call a meeting of the Executive Board at any time and place he or she selects, with a seven day notice. The President shall appoint all committees chairs. Committees may include but are not limited to educational seminars, scholarship, outreach, etc. The President may appoint or seek volunteers for equipment procurement, bee procurement, meeting snacks, honey bee queen advisor, etc.

b. The Vice-President, in the absence of the President shall preside and assume all the duties and privileges of the President. He or she will assist the President as needed.

c. The Membership Director shall collect all membership dues, turn them over to the Treasurer for deposit, and keep an attendance record of all meetings. Records of past members may be kept for a period of two years or as designated by the board.

d. The Program Director shall be responsible for a program at each monthly meeting.

e. Editorial Director shall be the Association reporter and editor of the Association's monthly newsletter.

f. The Secretary shall be responsible for recording and maintaining accurate minutes of all of the Association and Executive Board meetings. Meeting minutes shall be approved by the Executive Board, including the Directors at Large, and submitted to the Editorial Director for publication in the Association newsletter. He or she shall carry on the correspondence of the Association. The Secretary will keep a copy of the Constitution and By-Laws. The Constitution and By-Laws will be provided to any new member of the Executive Committee or membership. The Constitution and By-Laws will be posted on the website for view of the general public.

g. The Treasurer shall oversee the financial affairs of the Association, including deposits, payments, and maintenance of accounting records, and ensure that all reports and returns shall be filed in a timely manner with the IRS and any other regulatory agency. The Treasurer shall provide and/or publish in the newsletter financial reports to the membership and Executive Board at regular intervals or in a timely manner. He or she shall dispense the funds of the Association for the incidental expenses of the Association as directed by the Executive Board. The Treasurer and the President shall have electronic access to the Association's bank statement and shall review in a timely manner. The President or a quorum of the Executive Board may request an audit or review of the Association's financial record at any time.

h. The Historian shall keep records of past events, programs, newsletters, and any information that may be of interest to future members. In addition, the Historian will keep an after-action file on club events. These reports are to be a review of the event and suggestions on how to improve the event. The report is to be provided by the facilitator or committed chairman of the event. This file is to be made available for review by individuals planning future similar events. It will be the responsibility of the Historian to remind the facilitator or chairman to submit this report.

i. The Executive Board shall act as Directors of the Association. They shall have charge of expending the funds of the association, as provided under Section II Paragraph F.

j. Members at Large (two): Provide member perspective and assist in coordination or facilitation of projects as needed, and can approve meeting minutes as representatives of the general membership.

k. Any current member may attend the Executive Board meetings. Only Board members may vote on board business.

Section III

Dues

a. The Association shall collect an annual membership fee to be determined by a general vote at the November meeting. These dues are payable and due at the first meeting in January. Any member in arrears for dues greater than three months shall cease to be a member until the member has provided payment of current membership dues. Members paying their dues on or after October first shall be deemed to have paid for the following year.

b. Children of members and students interested in beekeeping may be an associate member and shall pay no dues until age 22.

Section IV

By-Law Changes

The By-Laws may be amended by a motion passed by a majority vote of the members of the association present, the amended changes presented at any regular meeting and voted on at the following regular meeting. The By-Laws may be amended after review by the Executive Board and by approval of a majority of the members attending the monthly regular meeting. The proposed changes will be sent out to the membership with the newsletter for review prior to membership vote at the next regular meeting. It shall be the policy of the Board to review the Constitution and By-Laws each October of even numbered years unless the Board deems it necessary to make changes sooner.

Section V

Dissolution of Assets

Upon the dissolution of the Association, assets remaining after payment of all liabilities shall be distributed for one or more purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code, or to one or more organizations exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or to a federal, state, or local government for a public purpose.