

# **BYLAWS OF MONTANA REGISTRY OF INTERPRETERS FOR THE DEAF**

## **Preamble**

### **Purposes:**

The Montana Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (MRID) shall be a nonprofit organization of interpreters and transliterators for persons who are d/Deaf or hard of hearing, the purposes of which shall be:

**TO PROVIDE** training and resources for the interpreters/translitterators who work in the general public and educational settings.

**TO EXCHANGE** ideas, opinions and experiences concerning interpreting.

**TO PROMOTE** the highest standards of communication methods between all consumers (hearing, Deaf, deaf and hard of hearing).

**TO ADHERE** to the Code of Professional Conduct as adopted by the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf. (RID)

### **Mission Statement**

*In order to empower the interpreters of Montana, it is the mission of Montana Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf to promote a professional community and to provide educational opportunities in a supportive environment.*

## **ARTICLE I MEMBERSHIP**

### **SECTION 1**

Applies to All persons possessing skill in the use of sign language and interpreting and/or who are interested in the welfare of D/deaf people and are not otherwise qualified as interpreters.

### **SECTION 2**

Voting privileges will be granted to members in good standing with the Montana Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf who also hold current membership with the National Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf on any level. (Dual members)

**ARTICLE II  
OFFICERS AND ELECTIONS**

**SECTION 1**

The Officers shall be President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and three (3) Committee Chairs.

**SECTION 2**

The Officers shall be elected by a prearranged slate distributed to the membership prior to the Annual Business Meeting. All proposed slates must be submitted to MRID Secretary, two weeks prior to the Annual Business Meeting of an election year. Dual members who cannot attend the Annual Meeting must notify the Board to receive an absentee ballot. The absentee ballot must be returned or postmarked one week prior to the date of the Annual Business Meeting. To maintain validation of absentee ballots, no new slates will be accepted after the deadline for return of absentee ballots. The newly elected Officers shall hold office for a term of two (2) years, except for the one (1) Board Member elected to Workshop Chair, who shall be in office for a term of three (3) years.

**ARTICLE III  
BOARD**

**SECTION 1**

The elected Officers and Committee Chairs shall constitute the MRID Board.

**ARTICLE IV  
DUES**

**SECTION 1**

The MRID Board shall determine dues for members pending approval from the MRID members. Membership dues are effective as of July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>, and all MRID dues expire on the same date regardless of the date a member joined. First time members' dues shall be prorated on a quarterly basis.

**ARTICLE V  
DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

**SECTION 1**

The President shall preside over all MRID meetings. The President shall appoint such additional committees as deemed necessary or as suggested by the membership or the Board.

**SECTION 2**

The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President whenever the President is absent or otherwise unable to perform them. The Vice President shall succeed the President upon a vacancy in that office, until the end of the term.

### **SECTION 3**

The Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings of the Organization and the Board. The Secretary shall be the custodian of all official papers and shall keep a current list of all members' names and addresses. The Secretary shall keep a list of MRID members who also hold current membership in the National RID for verification of voting privileges. The Secretary shall perform all duties incidental to the Office of Secretary.

### **SECTION 4**

The Treasurer shall have custody of, and be responsible for, all funds of the Organization. The Treasurer shall collect all dues from the membership, shall issue receipts and retain duplicate receipts for all monies received. The Treasurer shall disburse any funds only as approved by the Organization or the Board. The Treasurer shall make a report at each Annual Business Meeting and when requested to do so by the Board.

## **ARTICLE VI DUTIES OF THE BOARD**

### **SECTION 1**

The MRID Board shall have general control of the affairs of the Organization during their term. It shall strive to carry out the expressed will of the Organization as far as circumstances may render it wise and beneficial. It shall have power to appropriate any funds for the purpose of this Organization. It shall have power to fill any vacancies on the Board except that of President and Vice President. It shall have power to set the date and place of the Annual Business Meeting.

## **ARTICLE VII RESIGNATIONS AND TERMINATIONS**

### **SECTION 1**

Resignation of Officers shall be submitted in writing to the Board.

### **SECTION 2**

Officers of MRID will be terminated if dual membership is not maintained. Incoming officers will have three months to obtain dual membership. If dual membership expires for any reason, Officers will be granted a three-month period to remedy their membership status.

### **SECTION 3**

The MRID Board shall review written allegations of RID Code of Professional Conduct violations among members and upon consideration MRID membership may be revoked or suspended. If the MRID Board finds that a member's RID certification or membership has been revoked or suspended, said person's MRID membership will be in review.

### **SECTION 4**

Board members are responsible for attending all meetings. If two (2) consecutive meetings are missed, the board member's position may be revoked as deemed necessary by the Board. In such instances, the current MRID Board will choose a replacement for the remainder of the term.

## **ARTICLE VIII EXPENDITURES**

### **SECTION 1**

Expenditures shall be allowed as authorized during the Annual Business Meeting of this organization or as ordered by the Board, however, no expenditures shall be authorized in excess of funds on hand.

## **ARTICLE IX MEETINGS**

### **SECTION 1**

There shall be an Annual Business Meeting of this organization. Transaction of business shall be viable if two-thirds of the MRID Board is present.

### **SECTION 2**

A special meeting of this Organization may be called by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Board with fifteen (15) days notice to the membership

### **SECTION 3**

The Board shall meet quarterly at a place and time determined by the previous meeting. An emergency meeting of the Board may be called by the President with five (5) days notice to the remaining Board members.

## **ARTICLE X COMMITTEES**

### **SECTION 1**

The President and/or Board will appoint committees as is deemed necessary.

## **ARTICLE XI AMENDMENTS**

### **SECTION 1**

These Bylaws may be amended at any Annual Business Meeting or special meeting called by the Board, with a two-thirds (2/3) vote of dual members in attendance. Such proposed amendments must be submitted in writing and presented to the Board for approval by standard voting procedures.

**ARTICLE XII  
PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

**SECTION 1**

ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER, current edition, shall be the parliamentary authority governing all meetings of this Organization and Committees.

**ARTICLE XIII  
LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

**SECTION 1**

There shall be no personal liability of any member of the Organization for obligations regarding the Organization.

**SECTION 2**

There shall be no capital stock issued or authorized by the Organization.

**SECTION 3**

This Organization is not established, nor shall it be operated, for pecuniary gain or profit and does not contemplate the distribution of gains, profits, or dividends to its members. It is organized solely for non-profit purposes. The property, assets, net income, and profits of this Organization are irrevocably dedicated to the Organization for educational purposes. No part of said profits or net income of this Organization shall ever inure to the benefit of any Officer or member, or to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual. Upon the dissolution or expiration of this Organization, its final assets remaining after settlements of all debts and liabilities shall be distributed to a no-profit fund, foundation or Organization that is established and operated exclusively for educational purposes and which has established its tax-exempt status under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF we have here unto set our hands this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2008.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

Board:

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