

El Paso Lower Valley Retired Teachers Association

Bylaws

Mission Statement

El Paso Lower Valley Retired Teachers Association advocates for improved benefits for all education retirees and promotes the well-being of our members.

Article I - Name

The name of this organization shall be the **El Paso Lower Valley Retired Teachers Association** herein referred to as **EPLVRTA**.

Article II – Objectives

The purpose and objectives of the **EPLVRTA** shall be to:

1. To cooperate with the Texas Retired Teachers Association by promoting membership, legislation, programs, and projects.
2. To maintain and improve the social, educational, economic welfare and status of retired educators and school personnel in El Paso County.
3. To gather and disseminate information of value to members.
4. To provide an organizational framework through which retired educators and school personnel can continue a life of service to fellow members, their colleagues and the community.
5. To encourage active educators and school personnel to prepare for retirement and,
6. To familiarize retired and active educators and school personnel with the benefits of membership in the **El Paso Lower Valley Retired Teachers Association** and the **Texas Retired Teachers Association**.

Article III – Affiliation

EPLVRTA shall affiliate only with the **Texas Retired Teachers Association** and support its objectives and the policies established by the **TRTA** Board of Directors.

Article IV – Members

Section 1

Any retired school personnel or beneficiary who is an annuitant from a teacher retirement system may become a member of **EPLVRTA** upon payment of dues, either through a Local Unit or directly to **TRTA**.

Section 2

Any person who is interested in education and desires to promote the objectives of **EPLVRTA** may become an Associate Member of **EPLVRTA** upon payment of dues, either through a Local Unit or directly to **TRTA**. Associate Members shall have all the rights and privileges of membership except the right to vote and to hold office.

Section 3

Annual dues of both Active Members and Associate Members shall be thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) state dues and ten dollars (\$10.00) local unit dues.

Article V: EPLVRTA Meetings and Organization

EPLVRTA, as established by **TRTA**, shall follow and implement **TRTA** policies, programs and procedures and shall provide leadership to and communication with its members. **EPLVRTA** shall meet the following requirements:

1. **EPLVRTA** shall create policies and procedures to delineate initiatives and programs.
2. The Executive Committee shall prepare a budget for the fiscal year. It will be presented and voted upon at the September unit meeting.
3. An audit of **EPLVRTA** funds will be conducted prior to the end of the fiscal year and will be presented at the September unit meeting.

Article VI – EPLVRTA Officers and Liaisons

Section 1- Elected and Appointed

The elected officers shall be: President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Appointed liaisons shall be Editor/Technology, Historian, Parliamentarian, and Foundation.

Section 2 – Election of Officers

1. The term of office for all elected officers shall be for a period of two (2) years. At the end their term, the elected officers shall be eligible for re-nomination for one (1) additional term, with the exception of the treasurer. The treasurer may serve a total of four (4) consecutive terms.
2. Liaisons shall be appointed by the President.

Section 3 – Vacancy in Office

1. A vacancy occurring in the office of President shall be filled by the elected officers in the following order: First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
2. A vacancy occurring in any other office shall be filled by appointment of the President with approval of the Executive Board.

Section 4 – Duties of Officers

The duties of **EPLVRTA** officers are delineated in **TRTA** District Policies.

Article VII – Executive Board

Section 1 – Composition

The members of the **EPLVRTA** Executive Board shall consist of the officers, liaisons, committee chairs, the immediate Past President.

Section 2 – Duties

1. Transact the business of **EPLVRTA** local unit.
2. Approve a budget based on the recommendations of the President and the Treasurer for the new fiscal year beginning each July 1st.
3. Approve the goals and the programs of **EPLVRTA** local unit.
4. Approve the policies and procedures of **EPLVRTA** local unit.

Section 3 – Meetings

1. The Executive Board meets or contacts members as needed prior to scheduled events.
2. The President may call additional meeting of the Executive Board as deemed necessary.

Section 4 – Quorum

A quorum shall be 50% of the Board present.

Section 5 – Financial and Personal Liability

A member of the Executive Board shall not be liable to the **EPLVRTA** membership for monetary damages for an act taken or an omission in his or her official capacity as a Board member, except that this provision does not eliminate or limit the liability of a Board member for:

1. A breach of a Board member's duty of loyalty to **EPLVRTA** or its members.
2. An act of omission not in good faith or that involves intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law.
3. A transaction from which a Board member receives an improper benefit, whether or not the benefit results from an action taken within the scope of the Board member's office.
4. An act of omission for which the liability of a Board member is expressly provided by statute; or
5. An act related to an unlawful payment of a dividend.

Section 6

Any member of the **EPLVRTA** Executive Board may be removed from office for the inability to perform duties or for non-performance of duties as prescribed in **EPLVRTA** policies and an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Executive Board.

Article VIII – Committees

Section 1 – Standing Committees

The standing committees of **EPLVRTA** shall be: Bylaws, Community Volunteer Service, Health Care, Informative and Protective Services, Legislative, Member Benefits, Membership, Public Relations, Retirement Education, and Texas Retired Teachers Foundation.

Section 2 – Nomination Process

The new slate of officers shall be conducted by open nomination.

Section 3 – Special Committees

As the need arises, the President shall establish ad hoc or special committees.

Section 4 – Committee Duties

The duties of **EPLVRTA** Committees are delineated in **TRTA** district policies.

Article IX – Parliamentary Authority

The latest edition of *Robert Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall be the parliamentary authority governing all matters of procedure not otherwise provided in these bylaws or in the special rule of order that **TRTA** may adopt.

Article X – Amendment of Bylaws

Section 1

These bylaws may be amended by 2/3 vote of Active Members at a regular meeting, providing that the proposed amendments have been published in a newsletter or other publication source; or distributed in printed form at the previous regular meeting and read prior to voting on the amendment change or addition.

Section 2

The proposed bylaw changes have been released to **EPLVRTA** unit members by their president at least thirty (30) days in advance for review.

Article XI- Adoption and Effective Date

Section 1

The bylaws shall become effective immediately upon adoption.

Section 2

These bylaws shall be amended automatically to comply with **TRTA** bylaws.

