#### **BYLAWS**

#### **OF**

# NEW HAMPSHIRE LOCAL WELFARE ADMINISTRATOR'S ASSOCIATION

#### ARTICLE I

Name

The name of this Corporation, a New Hampshire non-profit corporation, shall be the New Hampshire Local Welfare Administrator's Association (the "Corporation").

#### ARTICLE II

#### Location

- Section 2.1. The principal office of the Corporation for the transaction of its business is located at the address as set forth in the Articles of Agreement.
- Section 2.2. The Corporation may also have offices at such other places, within or without the State of New Hampshire, where it is qualified to do business, as its business may require and as the Board of Directors may from time to time designate.

#### ARTICLE III

#### Powers and Purposes

- Section 3.1. <u>Purpose</u>. The Corporation's purposes are as stated in its Articles of Agreement.
- Section 3.2. <u>Powers</u>. The Corporation shall have all the powers necessary to carry out the foregoing purposes and all the powers of non-profit corporations organized under the laws of the State of New Hampshire.

#### Section 3.3. Limitations.

- (a) The Corporation shall not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, sex, financial status, religion, disabilities, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin (i) in the persons serviced, or in the manner of service; (ii) in the hiring, assignment, promotion, salary determination, or other conditions of staff employment; (iii) in the selection of its members; or (iv) in the membership of its Board of Directors.
- (b) The Corporation shall neither have nor exercise any power, nor shall it engage directly or indirectly in any activity that would invalidate its status as a corporation which is exempt from federal income taxation as an organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any successor provision.
- (c) The Corporation is not organized for pecuniary profit and shall not have any capital stock. No part of its net earnings or of its principal shall inure to the benefit of any Director, Officer, or member of the Corporation, or any other individual, partnership or

corporation, but reimbursement for expenditures or the payment of reasonable compensation for services rendered shall not be deemed to be a distribution of earnings or principal.

- (d) If the Corporation is determined to be a private foundation, (i) it will not engage in any act of self-dealing which would give rise to any liability for the tax imposed by Section 4941 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws; (ii) it will distribute its income for each taxable year at such time and in such manner as not to become subject to the tax on undistributed income imposed by Section 4942 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws; (iii) it will not retain any excess business holding which would give rise to any liability for the tax imposed by Section 4943 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws; (iv) it shall not make any investments in such manner as to subject it to tax under Section 4944 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws; and (v) it shall not make any taxable expenditures which would give rise to any liability for the tax imposed by Section 4945 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or corresponding provisions of any subsequent federal tax laws:
- (e) No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Corporation shall not participate or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign of any candidate for public office.
- Section 3.4. <u>Personal Views</u>. The Corporation is not responsible for the personal views expressed by any of its Directors, Officers, employees or other participants unless these views have been affirmed or ratified by the Board of Directors.

# ARTICLE IV

#### Members

- Section 4.1 <u>Members</u>. Individuals who are municipal welfare officials or formal designees of New Hampshire municipalities are eligible to be members of the Corporation. The Board of Directors shall determine the amount of dues for membership. A member is considered to be "in good standing" with the corporation if the member is current with payment of the member's annual dues. Members in good standing are eligible to serve as a Director, an Officer, or on a committee of the Corporation.
- Section 4.2 <u>Voting Rights</u>. Members in good standing may vote on any business considered general business at a meeting of the general membership. Members in good standing in attendance and present at the time of voting shall have one vote, however, members representing more than one municipality shall have one vote per municipality represented. Simple majority shall determine the outcome of the vote by a voice vote. Any member may ask for a division.

#### ARTICLE V

#### Directors

- Section 5.1. <u>Management by Directors</u>. The Board of Directors shall have all of the powers, rights, responsibilities and duties of directors under the laws of the State of New Hampshire. The Directors shall be responsible for the control and management of the affairs of the Corporation.
- Section 5.2. <u>Number</u>. There shall be a Board of Directors of the Corporation of not less than five (5) persons and not more than fourteen (14) persons (the "Board" or "Board of Directors"). At all times the Board shall include at least five (5) voting members who are not of the same immediate family or related by blood or marriage.
- Section 5.3. Qualification; Election; Term. The initial Board of Directors of the Corporation shall be elected by the Incorporators. Thereafter, the Directors of the Corporation shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Vice-Secretary, Treasurer, up to nine (9) members-at-large elected at the annual business meeting. Directors shall serve for a term of two (2) years or until their successors are elected and qualified. There are no term limits for Directors.
- Section 5.4. <u>Vacancies</u>. Any vacancies on the Board of Directors shall be filled by the Board of Directors. A Director elected to fill a vacancy shall be elected for the unexpired term of the member's predecessor in office.
- Section 5.5. Removal. The Corporation and the Board of Directors are committed to resolving any conflict between board members where possible. However, any Director may at any time be removed from office for any cause deemed sufficient by the Board of Directors by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Directors present and acting at a meeting of the Board of Directors. However, no such vote shall be taken until after a written petition for removal is filed with the Board of Directors and the person whose removal is sought receives notice of said petition by first class mail. Further, said person shall be given the opportunity to make an oral or written response to the Board of Directors within fourteen (14) days of the mailing of the notice. Any meeting called to include the vote on removal of such person shall not be held until after the fourteen (14) days provided for above have elapsed.
- Section 5.6. <u>Resignation</u>. Any Director may resign at any time by giving written notice to the President or the Secretary. Any such notice shall take effect as of the date of the receipt of such notice or at any later time specified in the notice.
- Section 5.7. <u>Compensation</u>. Directors shall not receive any stated salaries for their services.
- Section 5.8. <u>Payment for Goods and Services</u>. Payment for any services rendered or materials provided to the Corporation shall be made only upon authorization of the Board of Directors. Payment by means of check or other instrument of indebtedness requiring a signature shall be signed by the Treasurer, or such other agent authorized by the Board of Directors. Any

payment exceeding \$2,000.00, or such other amount as the Board of Directors shall set from time to time, shall be countersigned by a second Officer.

Section 5.9. <u>Execution of Contracts and Documents</u>. All contracts and evidence of debt may be executed only as directed by the Board of Directors. The President and the Treasurer or other agents authorized by the Board of Directors shall execute, in the name of the Corporation, all contracts or other instruments so authorized by the Board of Directors.

#### **ARTICLE VI**

### Meetings

- Section 6.1. <u>Annual Meeting</u>. The annual meeting of the membership shall take place at such time, date, or place as the Board of Directors shall determine. The purpose of the annual meeting shall be to elect Directors and the Officers of the Corporation and to transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting. Written notice of the annual meeting shall be sent to the membership at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.
- Section 6.2. <u>Regular and Special Meetings of the Membership</u>. Regular meetings of the members who are in good standing shall be held at a time and place agreed upon by the Board of Directors. Special meetings of the members may be called by the Board of Directors upon notice to the members. Other than elections of Directors, general business may be conducted, and issues voted upon, at any scheduled meeting.
- Section 6.3. Regular and Special Meetings of the Board of Directors. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at least six (6) times per year upon call of the President or designee. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called by the President, or by any five (5) directors, on three (3) days' notice. The business to be transacted at, and the purpose of, any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors shall be specified in the notice of the meeting, but no such specification is required in a waiver of notice of such meeting. Notice shall be given at least three (3) days in advance of the meeting.

#### Section 6.4. Alternate Forms of Meetings.

- (a) <u>Conference Calls</u>. The members of the Board of Directors, or any committee or subcommittee of the Board, may participate in a meeting of the Board or such committee by means of conference telephone or similar communications equipment. Participation by this means shall constitute presence by the person at the meeting.
- (b) <u>Action by Unanimous Consent.</u> Any action required or permitted to be taken at a meeting of the Directors may be taken without a meeting if consents in writing, setting forth the action so taken, shall be signed by all the Directors and filed with the Secretary with the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors.
- Section 6.5. <u>Record of Meetings</u>. The Secretary or designee shall keep a record of the meetings.

Section 6.6. Quorum; Vote Required - Directors. A simple majority of the Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at a meeting of Directors, and, unless otherwise provided for by law or these Bylaws, the act of the majority of the Directors present and voting at any meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the Board of Directors. If a quorum shall not be present at any meeting of the Directors, the Directors present at the meeting may adjourn the meeting from time to time, without notice other than an announcement at the meeting, until a quorum shall be present. At such adjourned meeting at which a quorum shall be present, any business may be transacted which might have been transacted at the meeting as originally notified.

Section 6.7 <u>Quorum; Vote Required - Members</u>. No quorum shall be required for any matter requiring the vote of the members. A simple majority vote of the members present for the vote is required for any matter requiring the vote of the members.

# ARTICLE VII

#### Notice

Section 7.1. <u>General</u>. Whenever under the provisions of law or these Bylaws, notice is required to be given to any Director or Officer, such notice must be given in writing, either by personal delivery, facsimile, courier, postal service, or electronic mail. Notice shall be deemed to be given when received.

Section 7.2. <u>Waiver</u>. Whenever any notice is required to be given by law or by these Bylaws, a waiver of notice signed by the person or persons entitled to such notice, whether before or after the time stated in these Bylaws, shall be deemed equivalent to the giving of such notice. Attendance at a meeting in person of a person entitled to notice shall constitute a waiver of notice of the meeting unless he or she attends solely for the purpose of objecting at the beginning of the meeting to the transaction of business on the grounds that the meeting was not lawfully called or convened.

# ARTICLE VIII Officers and Agents

- Section 8.1. <u>Officers</u>. The Officers of the Corporation shall include a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Vice-Secretary, and a Treasurer.
- Section 8.2. Other Officers and Agents. By the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Directors, the Directors may appoint such other Officers and agents as it shall deem necessary, who shall hold their offices for such terms and shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as shall be determined from time to time by the Board of Directors.
- Section 8.3. <u>Election; Term of Officers</u>. The initial Officers shall be elected by the Incorporators, and thereafter the Officers shall be elected pursuant to these Bylaws. The members of the Corporation shall elect the Officers at their annual business meeting. The Officers of the Corporation shall hold office for terms of two (2) years until the next annual meeting or until their successors are elected and qualified. There is a limit of three (3)

consecutive terms for any officer, but officers may be re-nominated/re-elected after being out of office for a minimum of one (1) term.

- Section 8.4. <u>The President</u>. The President shall be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Corporation, and shall perform such other duties and have such other powers as the Board of Directors may from time to time prescribe.
- Section 8.5. <u>Vice-President</u>. The Vice-President shall execute the responsibilities of the President in the event the President is unable to perform his or her duties as President, from time to time as necessary, and shall perform such other duties and have such other powers as the Board of Directors may from time to time prescribe.
- Section 8.6. <u>Secretary</u>. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings the Board of Directors, and shall perform all other duties usually incident to the office. The Secretary or designee shall issue notices of annual and special meetings of the Board of Directors.
- Section 8.7. <u>Vice-Secretary</u>. The Vice-Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors, and shall perform all other duties usually incident to the office, in the event the Secretary is unable to perform such duties, from time to time as necessary.
- Section 8.8. <u>Treasurer</u>. The Treasurer shall receive, keep records, and safely keep and disburse the funds of the Corporation, subject to the direction of the Board of Directors. The Treasurer, or in his or her absence another officer of the Corporation, shall deliver a report at each meeting of the Directors and shall deliver an annual report at the annual meeting. At their discretion, the Directors may require the Treasurer, or any other officer authorized by the Board of Directors to sign checks, to obtain a bond. The bond shall be in such sum and with such sureties as the Directors require. The Corporation shall pay the cost of the premiums for such bond.
- Section 8.9. <u>Removal</u>. Any Officer may be removed from office at any time, with or without cause, by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Directors present and acting at a meeting of the Board of Directors.
- Section 8.10. <u>Resignation</u>. Any Officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Board or the President. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified in the notice, or if no time is specified, then immediately.
- Section 8.11. <u>Vacancies</u>. Any vacancy occurring in any office of the Corporation shall be filled by the Directors. A person may hold more than one office, except for the office of President.

# ARTICLE IX

### Committees

Section 9.1. <u>Nomination Committee</u>. The Nomination Committee shall consist of at least two (2) Directors appointed by the Board of Directors. The proposed slate of Officers and

Directors shall be posted on the Corporation's website and presented to the general membership at least thirty days (30) prior to the annual business meeting.

- Section 9.2. <u>Training Committee</u>. The Training Committee shall consist of at least two (2) Directors appointed by the Board of Directors. The Committee shall explore topics, coordinate and develop agendas for training opportunities for regular meetings.
- Section 9. 3. <u>Legislative Affairs Committee</u>. The Legislative Affairs Committee shall consist of at least two (2) Directors appointed by the Board of Directors. The Committee shall monitor public policy under consideration, update the Corporation on pertinent legislation pending, and act as liaison to inform legislature of issues consistent with the purpose of the Corporation.
- Section 9. 4. <u>Financial Oversight Committee</u>. The Financial Oversight Committee shall consist of at least three (3) members, at least two (2) of which shall be Directors, appointed by the Board, but excluding the Treasurer as a member of the Committee. The Committee is responsible for oversight of the bi-annual audit and/or review, and performs such other duties customarily delegated to an audit committee. It reports to the full Board.
- Section 9.5. Other Committees. The Board of Directors may designate such other committees as they deem necessary for the efficient conduct of the business of the Corporation. The members of such committees shall include the President or designee, a Director, and such other individuals designated by the Board. Such committees may be discontinued when no longer necessary. Each such committee shall report to the Board of Directors. Committees shall not act on behalf of the Corporation without specific authorization from the Board.

#### ARTICLE X

#### Contributions and Depositories

- Section 10.1. <u>Voluntary Contributions</u>. The Corporation may accept gifts, grants, legacies and contributions from any source including persons, corporations, trusts, charities, and governments and governmental agencies in accordance with such policies adopted by the Board of Directors.
- Section 10.2. <u>Depositories</u>. The Board of Directors shall determine what depositories shall be used by the Corporation as long as such depositories are located within the State of New Hampshire and are authorized to transact business by the State of New Hampshire and are federally insured. All checks and orders for the payment of money from said depository shall be signed by such signatories as have been authorized and required in advance by the Board of Directors and the Bylaws.

#### ARTICLE XI

# Dissolution and Prohibited Activities

Section 11.1. <u>Disposition of Assets upon Dissolution</u>. The Corporation may be dissolved upon a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of all of the Members in good standing at a meeting of the Membership. Upon dissolution of the Corporation, the Board of Directors shall,

after paying or making provision for the payment of the Corporation's liabilities and obligations, distribute all of the Corporation's assets for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed by the Probate Court of Merrimack County, New Hampshire, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes. No Director, Officer, employee or person connected with the Corporation shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the Corporation's assets or property upon its dissolution.

- Section 11.2 <u>Sale of Corporate Assets</u>. Any sale of all or substantially all of the Corporation's assets which is not in furtherance of the Corporation's purposes shall require the affirmative two-thirds (2/3) vote of all of the Directors currently serving in office.
- Section 11.3 Prohibited Uses of Corporate Funds. No part of the net earnings of the Corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its Directors, Officers, members (if any), or other private persons, except that the Corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article III. No substantial part of the activities of the Corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the Corporation shall not participate in, intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Bylaws, the Corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
- Section 11.4. <u>Directors' and Officers' Liability.</u> Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Bylaws, no Director or Officer of the Corporation shall be personally liable to pay the liabilities of the Corporation.

# ARTICLE XII General

- Section 12.1. <u>Fiscal year</u>. The Corporation shall operate on a fiscal year ending June 30 of each year.
- Section 12.2. <u>Bi-Annual Audit and/or Review</u>. The Board of Directors shall authorize and fund a bi-annual audit and/or review of the Corporation's financial records.
- Section 12.3. <u>Provisions Relative to Directors and Officers</u>. In the absence of bad faith, no contract or transaction by this Corporation shall be void, voidable, or in any way affected by reason of the fact that the contract or transaction is (a) with one or more of its Directors or Officers, (b) with a corporation, organization or other concern in which a Director or Officer of

this Corporation is a Director, Officer, employee or in any way interested, or (c) one in which a Director or Officer of this Corporation is in any way interested. In the absence of bad faith, no Director or Officer of this Corporation shall be liable to this Corporation or creditor of this Corporation or to any person for any loss incurred by reason of such contract or transaction or be accountable for any gains or profits realized as a result of such contract or transaction so long as the transaction has been approved in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws. Pursuant to RSA 508:16 or any similar, succeeding statute, the Board of Directors and Officers shall not be liable for any bodily injury, personal injury or property damage if the claim for such damages arose from an act or acts committed in good faith and without willful or wanton negligence, in the course of an activity carried on to accomplish the purpose of the Corporation.

## **ARTICLE XIII** Indemnification

Each present and future Board member and Officer, whether or not then in office, shall be indemnified by the Corporation against expenses actually and reasonably incurred by or imposed upon him or her (including, but without being limited to, settlements, judgments, costs, and counsel fees) in connection with the defense of any administrative, civil or criminal action, suit or proceeding in which he or she is made a party by reason of being or having been a Board member or Officer of the Corporation, except in relation to matters as to which he or she shall be actually adjudged in such action, suit or proceeding to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of duty. Such indemnification shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which such Board member or officer may be entitled, under any other by-law, agreement, or as a matter of law or otherwise.

## ARTICLE XIV Conflict of Interest

The Board of Directors shall adopt a Conflict of Interest Policy.

# ARTICLE XV Amendments

These Bylaws may be amended or repealed or new Bylaws adopted by the Directors at any meeting by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the Directors of the Corporation present at a meeting of the Board, provided notice of the proposed change is given in the notice and not less than ten (10) days prior to such meeting. No amendment of the Bylaws may be made, or if made will be effective, if such amendment would effect the Corporation's qualification as a tax-exempt organization pursuant to section 501(c)(3) of the Code, as modified.

ADOPTED:  $\frac{6/34/3010}{4/18/3019}$