

FPEG SECTION:

## **OPERATING RULES AND PROCEDURES**

### **NAME**

The name shall be called “Florida Professional Engineers in Government, a practice section of the Florida Engineering Society,” hereinafter referred to as “the section” or “FPEG.”

### **OBJECTIVES**

#### **Objective A:**

*To promote the highest standard of professional engineering practice within governmental agencies.*

- Hold paramount the safety, health, and welfare of the public
- Perform services only in areas of your competence
- Issue public statements only in an objective and truthful manner
- Act for each employer as a faithful agent
- Avoid deceptive acts
- Conduct yourself honorably, responsibly, ethically, and lawfully so as to enhance the honor, reputation, and usefulness of the profession

#### **Objective B:**

*To promote, encourage, and facilitate the professional development, licensure, recognition, stature, and well-being of engineers practicing engineering within government positions.*

- Encourage continuing education opportunities tailored to the needs of government engineers
- Provide recommendations to FES, NSPE and FBPE for expansion of licensure disciplines needed by governmental entities
- Advise the FES and FBPE of licensure requirements and obligations that are detrimental to government engineers
- Encourage Governmental Agencies to provide financial support for licensure
- Expand opportunities for FPEG recognition of Government Engineers.

#### **Objective C:**

*To provide a forum for communications and to support matters of interest to Engineers at all levels in Government before other practice sections of the Society, NSPE, other Government organizations, and the public.*

- Grow and strengthen FPEG membership.
- Improve FPEG recognition (particularly among organizations outside of the Society).
- Strive to make FPEG the principal voice of Engineers in Government in Florida.

- Solicit FPEG membership for professional concerns and issues of common interest.
- Encourage FPEG members to pursue leadership positions in the Society, NSPE, and their communities.

**Objective D:**

*To effectively participate in the legislative and rule-making process on behalf of engineers in government with the assistance of the appropriate FES committee.*

- Encourage all members to be contributors to FEPAC.
- Remain vigilant in monitoring legislation based on its impact to our profession and the health, safety, and welfare of the public.
- Communicate with the FES Commission on Legislative and Government Affairs on legislation and rules that may effect government engineer; the manner in which we may perform our work; and the health, safety and welfare of the public.
- Educate political candidates on topics of interest to professional engineers.

**Objective E:**

*To actively promote professional engineers at all levels of government.*

- Encourage the placement of professional engineers in leadership positions of engineering-intensive government departments.
- Encourage the participation of professional engineers on advisory boards, policy reviews boards, agency boards, local planning boards, etc.
- Establish a long term program to identify professional engineers who are capable and interested in seeking public office or high level appointed public positions.

**Objective F:**

*Encourage community service activities.*

**ORGANIZATION**

FPEG is organized under the provisions of the Charter of the Florida Engineering Society. Nothing shall be construed herein as being in conflict with the Charter and Bylaws of the Society, and the applicable provisions of said Charter and Bylaws shall be followed in all activities of FPEG.

**MEMBERSHIP**

Membership in FPEG shall consist of members of the Florida Engineering Society in good standing who are:

- a. Employed by governmental agencies, or
- b. Employed in other areas of practice but wish to join with FPEG to promote its objectives.

Such members of the Florida Engineering Society in good standing shall, upon application, be admitted in the grade of membership appropriate to their grade of membership in the Florida Engineering Society.

Only those members who are eligible to hold office in the Florida Engineering Society shall be eligible to hold office in FPEG.

### **OFFICERS**

- a. There shall be as officers of FPEG, a chair; five vice chairs, one each from federal, state/regional, special district utilities, county and municipal government; a secretary/treasurer and an NSPE-PEG Governor.
- b. The terms of all elective officers shall be one year, except the NSPE-PEG Governor who shall be elected for a term of three years, and shall begin at the start of the administrative year for which they were elected.
- c. One of the vice chairs shall be designated chair-elect.
- d. The officers shall perform the duties usually assigned officers in like positions, subject to policies which may be adopted by the FPEG Administrative Committee and approved by the Board of Directors of FES.
- e. There shall be one Chapter Liaison Representative appointed annually from each chapter.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE**

Said officers, along with the most recent available past chair, shall constitute the administrative committee of FPEG. The administrative committee, when not meeting with the general membership, shall be the governing body of FPEG. Chapter Liaison Representatives present at meetings of the Administrative Committee shall have voting privileges. The Administrative Committee shall meet annually following the annual conference of FPEG and shall in addition hold at least one interim meeting at the time and place set by the chair. A quorum for a meeting of the Administrative Committee shall consist of a majority of the membership of the committee.

In general, actions taken by FPEG shall fall in one of two categories:

1. Action taken in the name of FPEG.
2. Action taken in the name of FES when directed by FES Board of Directors.

In both cases action taken shall be compatible with the established policies of the FES, or, in the absence of an FES policy statement, shall be in harmony with the policies of the National Society of Professional Engineers. In the event a contemplated action does not fall within the scope of established policies, it will be referred to the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee of FES for review and approval prior to implementation. The administrative and fiscal years of FPEG shall coincide with those of FES. The Administrative Committee shall prescribe rules and procedures for the expenditure of funds.

## **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

- a. Nominations for officers shall be made by a Nominating Committee consisting of the most recent available past chair and two additional members appointed by the current chair. The Nominating Committee shall submit to the secretary/treasurer at least sixty (60) days prior to the date of the annual conference, the name of one candidate for each office to be filled. A list of the nominations shall be sent to all individual members or published in the FES publication, allowing 30 days in which to file additional nominations. Additional nominations may be made by any five members in good standing.
- b. If there are no additional nominees, the list of nominees as submitted by the Nominating Committee shall be declared the new officers by acclamation. If there are additional nominees, letter ballots containing the names of the official nominees and the additional nominees shall then be sent by the secretary/treasurer to all qualified voters at least 30 days before the date of the annual conference.
- c. Each ballot shall be returned to the secretary/treasurer enclosed in an envelope endorsed with the member's signature. Only qualified ballots from members in good standing, returned to the secretary five or more days prior to the date of the annual conference, shall be canvassed, such date to be specified on the ballots. The qualified unopened ballots shall be delivered to the Tellers Committee. The chair shall appoint not less than two tellers who shall canvass all ballots, and the results shall be announced at the annual conference. The candidates having the largest number of qualified votes by letter ballot for each office shall be elected. The names of the elected officers together with vote tabulation and ballots shall be transmitted to the secretary/treasurer before the annual conference.

## **MEETINGS**

FPEG shall meet annually at the time and place established for the annual conference for FES. Additional meetings may be called by the Administrative Committee or by written request of five percent of the members in good standing, stating the purpose of such meeting.

## **DUES**

- a. Annual dues for section members may be established by the FPEG Administrative Committee, subject to approval of the FES Board of Directors.
- b. Section annual dues shall be part of the mandatory dues section of the FES dues statement and shall be payable on the first day of the fiscal year, established by the FES Board of Directors, for which they are due.
- c. A delinquent member whose annual dues are not paid within the first three-quarters of the current fiscal year shall be dropped from the membership rolls.
- d. A member shall be considered in good standing if their annual dues are paid within the first four months of the current fiscal year.

## **COMMITTEES**

The Administrative Committee shall form committees as are necessary to conduct the affairs of FPEG, make committee appointments and prescribe committee activities. Generally, committee members shall be appointed for two-year terms, approximately half being appointed each year.

## **AMENDMENTS**

- a. Amendments or revisions of the Operating Rules may be proposed by a majority vote of the Administrative Committee, or by a written petition signed by ten (10) members of FPEG and submitted to the Administrative Committee.
- b. Amendments or revisions submitted by petition shall be reviewed by the Administrative Committee within thirty (30) days after receipt. All proposed amendments or revisions and the recommendations of the Administrative Committee following review shall be mailed to all FPEG members or published in the *FES Journal* thirty (30) days prior to voting. Voting may be done by letter ballot or at the annual conference.
- c. Any such amendments or revisions to the Operating Rules shall become effective upon majority vote of ballots cast by letter ballot or majority vote of the members present and voting at the annual conference and after approval by the Board of Directors of FES.

Amended 8.7.08 by FPEG Membership