**Proposed By-Law changes**

**Article No. 4**

**Meetings**

*Section 1. Regular meeting of this Local shall be held on the second Tuesday of each of the following alternating between 9am and 7pm. January-Officer Swear in, March, May, August, October-Nominations, November-Elections. Twelve [12] members, exclusive of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum.*

Section 2. Special meetings may be called by a vote of a majority of the Executive Board to consider matters of a serious nature, or emergency, but no other business than that which the meeting is called shall be considered. Such notice shall be posted at least seven (7) days in advance.

Section 3. A special meeting shall be called by the President upon written request of twelve (12) members in good standing. The notice shall state the business to be considered at such meeting and no other business than that shall be ordered at such meeting. Such notice shall be posted at least seven (7) days in advance.

Section 4. IN case of extreme emergency, the president may change the time, the place or the time and place of regular or special meetings. In no event shall a meeting be held within eight (8) hours after the notice of same is posted.

Section 5. Every member in good standing shall have the right to attend any meeting and to participate in such meeting in accordance with the recognized rules as set forth in the manual of parliamentary procedure adopted by this local.

**Article No. 5**

**Officers and Elections**

Section 1. The elective officers of this Local shall be a President, Vice President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and a board of three (3) Trustees, one Vice President for each Battalion and one Vice President for support personnel, all except the trustees to be elected to serve for two (2) years or until their successors in the office are elected and qualifies.

Section 2. The offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and all Trustees will be elected at large. Battalion Vice President and Support Vice President will be elected by their respective members.

The office of Trustee, shall be for a period of three (3) years, with the exception of the first three Trustees elected after the adoption of this Constitution. One of the first Three (3) Trustees elected shall be for a term of one (1) year, one for a term of Two (2) years and one for a term of three (3) years, but each shall serve until his successor in office is elected and qualified.

Section 3. Before entering upon the duties of their respective offices the newly elected officers shall subscribe to the following affirmation:

I (Name), pledge myself to perform the duties of My office as required by the Constitution and by-laws of this Local; to bear true and faithful allegiance to the International Association of Firefighters, to deliver all books, papers and other property of the Local that may be in my possession at the end of my term to my successor in office and at times to so conduct myself as becomes a member of this Local.

Section 4. Each officer may be elected to succeed himself or to any other office.

Section 5. Any member in good standing is eligible to hold any office or vote in this Local Union provided that he/she must be a member in good standing 15 days prior to the nominations of said office and/or voting for said office.

No one above the rank of Captain may hold/run for office in this Local.

Section 6. Elective Officers shall be nominated Viva-Voce at two (2) consecutive meetings in October with elections to be held in November at two (2) consecutive days, and if a run off election is needed it will be conducted in December.

Section 7. Elective officers shall be installed and assume their regular duties at the first meeting in January.

Section 8. Notices shall be posted fifteen (15) days in advance of the date, time, and place at which nominations shall be made and the date, time, and place which elections shall be held.

Section 9. *Except for voting on any matter which requires a secret ballot or in person voting, electronic voting may be used and shall contain (1) sufficient encryption to ensure security and authenticity of the vote; (2) a mechanism to ensure each member votes only once on each vote;(3) maintaining the secrecy of a member’s vote; (4) password protection; and (5) the ability to calculate total votes. Electronic voting shall only be accessible to members of the Local, and an alternative way to vote shall be made available for members who chose not to use electronic voting*

There shall be no voting by proxy in the election of Local Officers. Subject to applicable laws, absentee ballots can be used with “out of town” and medical problems for justifiable absence. The candidate receiving a majority of the ballots cast, shall be declared elected. If no candidate receives a majority of the ballots cast (meaning a number greater than half the votes cast), a special run-off election may be held as prescribed in Section 8 of this Article.

Section 10. The President shall appoint a six (6) Member Election Committee, which shall be responsible for distributing and tabulating the ballots.

Section 11. Each candidate for office shall be entitled to appoint one observer, who shall be permitted to witness the manner of distribution and tabulating of all ballots.

Section 12. The ballots and all other records of of an election shall be preserved by the recording Secretary for one (1) year following such election.

Section 13. The office of the President shall be filled by the Vice President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, in thast order in case the President’s office is vacated. Should no one accept the office, then a special election shall be held for the remaining term.

Section 14. Vacancies in any office other than the president shall be filled by the President.

Section 15. No funds received by this local through initiation fees, dues, or assessments or otherwise, shall be contributed or applied to promote the candidacy of any person in elections of officers. This section does not prevent the expenditure from union funds for notices, factual statements of issues and other necessary expenses to conduct elections, so long as they do not involve promotion of any candidate.