

Recap of Changes to the Hidalgo County Library System Bylaws

Changes throughout the document

- Hidalgo County Library System is abbreviated to HCLS.
- Grammatical errors were corrected.

Article I

- Hyperlinks for HCLS and the County were added.
- We no longer reference Local Government Code Chapter 323 and now we specify Local Government Code Chapter 323.011.
- The definition of HCLS was slightly modified to specify libraries that have agreed to the Interlocal
- The definition of the HCLS board was modified and eliminates the lay rep at large.

Article II

- Hyperlinks for the County Court, the Texas Library Association, and the American Library Association were added.

Article III

- Eligibility was redefined so that accreditation is now only required for initial membership.
- Application now requires a signed letter by city administration and reference to the ordinance or resolution establishing the library within that letter.
- Probation was eliminated.
- The Termination section was rewritten to create a process for review and recommendation of termination to the county. HCLS is no longer able to terminate membership directly and instead recommends termination and leaves the decision to the County Court.

Article IV

- Board composition reflects the elimination of the at large lay member.
- Term limits for lay members were eliminated.
- Lay members no longer appoint alternates.
- The presentation process of the President to the County Court was slightly altered.

Article V

- The election section was rewritten but there were no substantial changes.

Article VI

- The accounting and presentation responsibilities of the President were slightly modified.
- Maintaining attendance records was added to the Secretary's responsibility.

Article VII

- The definition and responsibilities of the Budget Committee were changed to include pursuit of funding through the County, maintenance of the annual budget, annual budget report to the County, quarterly reports to the HCLS Board, and solicitation of funding for projects created by the Systems Committee and approved by the HCLS Board.
- The definition and responsibilities of the Systems Committee were changed to include the pursuit of opportunities to share resources on a consortium level and the creation of special projects and initiatives.

Article XI (New Article)

- Establishes broad regulations for Inter Library Loan and patrons traveling between libraries.
- Establishes that the library which owns an item sets the circulation policy unless unspecified and sets loan limits.
- Establishes that a patron is responsible to compensate the item's owning library for lost or damaged items and establishes that no items lost in transit will incur fees.
- Establishes protocol for materials originating from outside of the HCLS libraries.
- Establishes that patrons may check out materials at any HCLS library according to the library's circulation policy.

Establishment and Revision History

- Information is the same, the text was simply reformatted.