

Cross County Historical Society, Inc.

CONSTITUTION

Mission Statement

The purpose of this association shall be to bring together those people interested in history, especially the history of that geographic area designated Cross County. Understanding the history of our community is basic to our democratic way of life, gives us a better understanding of our state and nation, and promotes a better appreciation of our American heritage.

Article I

NAME

The name of the organization shall be the Cross County Historical Society, Inc

Article II

PURPOSE

The Society's major function and mission will be to discover and collect any materials which may help to establish or illustrate the history of the area; its exploration, settlement, development and activities in peace and in war; its progress in population, wealth education, arts, science, agriculture, manufactures, trade, and transportation. It will collect printed material such as histories, genealogies, biographies, descriptions, gazetteers, directories, newspapers, pamphlets, catalogs, circulars, handbills, programs, and posters; manuscript material such as letters, diaries, journals, memoranda, reminiscences, rosters, service records, account books, charts, surveys, and field books; and museum material such as pictures, photographs, paintings, portraits, scenes, aboriginal relics, and material objects illustrative of life, conditions, events, and activities of the past and present.

The Society will provide for the preservation of such material and for the accessibility, as far as may be feasible, to all who wish to examine or study it, to cooperate with officials in insuring the preservation and accessibility of the records and archives of the county and of its citizens, towns, villages, and institutions, and to undertake the preservation of historic buildings, monuments, and markers.

The Society will disseminate historical information and arouse interest in the past by publishing historical material in the newspapers or otherwise, by holding meetings with pageants, addresses, lectures, papers, and discussion; by marking historic buildings, sites and trails; and by using the media of radio, television, and internet to awaken public interest.

The Society will cooperate with the Arkansas State Historical Commission and other associations to collect and preserve materials of state-wide significance so that these materials can be made available to students and scholars.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Membership shall be of eight classes:

1. Individual Active Members: Any person interested in the purposes of the society shall be eligible.
2. Family Membership: Any family interested in the purposes of the society shall be eligible.
3. Institutional Members: any organization, board, school, or library interested in the history of Cross County shall be eligible.
4. Sustaining Members: A person, group, or firm offering support to the objectives of the society shall be eligible.
5. Patron Members
6. Benefactor
7. Advocate
8. Honorary Members: Honorary membership may be conferred upon any person whose activities have contributed to the objectives of the society. Honorary members, with one exception, shall be elected by three-fourths

vote of the members present at an annual meeting, upon nomination by the board of directors. The individual exception is the Cross County Historian, who by virtue of his or her appointment will be granted honorary membership.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS, BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AND THEIR DUTIES

Section 1. The officers shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, elected annually, and five Directors who shall initially be elected for one, two, and three year terms. Thereafter, all directors' terms shall be for three years.

Section 2. The President shall have executive supervision over the activities of the Society within the scope provided by these bylaws. He/She shall preside at all meetings, shall report annually on the activities of the Society, shall appoint members of committees and delegates not otherwise provided for.

Section 3. The Vice-President shall assume the duties of the President in the event of absence, incapacity, or resignation of the President.

Section 4. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the Society and of the board of Directors, maintain a list of members, and render the annual report.

Section 5. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the safe keeping of Society funds and for maintaining adequate financial records. He/She shall deposit all monies received with a reliable banking institution in the name of the Cross County Historical Society Inc. Monies shall be paid out by numbered checks signed by the Treasurer and the President or by online banking via the internet, with payment confirmation signed by the Treasurer and the President. The Treasurer will collect dues and shall render an annual report based on the Society's fiscal year.

Section 6. The Board of Directors shall have the power to conduct all affairs of the Society. It shall select candidates for office, pursuant to the Constitution. The Board of Directors shall decide questions of policy that for any reason cannot be

acted upon at a meeting of the Society and perform such other functions as designated in the bylaws or otherwise assigned to it.

At any meeting of the Board of Directors, five members shall constitute a Quorum.

ARTICLE V

ELECTION of OFFICERS and BOARD of DIRECTORS

Section 1. All officers and directors shall be elected by the plurality of votes cast by secret ballot at the annual meeting.

Section 2. Not less than two months prior to the annual meeting, the Secretary of the Society shall send to each member of the Board of Directors a blank upon which such members may nominate one person for each office open to election. Nominations shall be returned not less than one month before the annual meeting. A committee on nominations, appointed by the President shall select the candidates from a list of the nominees.

Section 3. Nominations may also be made by any member of the Society at any time prior the balloting at the annual meeting. Any nomination made after the deliberation of the committee on nominations shall be added to the slate of candidates upon affirmative vote of a majority of members present at the annual meeting. A candidate for election shall be an active member.

Section 4. Officers and Directors shall be installed at the close of the annual meeting at which they were elected and shall serve until their successors have been duly elected and installed. In the event of resignation, inactivity, or incapacity of any officer except the President, or any Director, the vacancy may be filled by a vote of the Board of Directors for the unexpired term of the office. In the event of resignation, inactivity, or incapacity of the President, or any Director, the vacancy may be filled by a meeting called for that purpose and subject to Article VI, Section 1.

Section 5. All board Members and Officers are to attend all meetings unless excused by the President. Any Board Member or Officer missing three unexcused consecutive meetings shall be considered inactive, shall resign, and be replaced.

ARTICLE VI ADMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended at any regular or special meeting by a two-thirds vote of those voting, provided notice was given at the previous meeting or it may be amended at a special meeting called for that purpose, with previous notice and a two-thirds vote. All proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing at least one month prior to the vote.

AMENDMENT ONE: An amendment to modify and clarify procedures for restriction of assets and their disposition in the event of dissolution.

Section 1. RESTRICTION- No part of the net earnings of the Society shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the Society shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposed set forth in Article 3 of the Society's Articles of Incorporation or Article II of the Society's Constitution. No substantial part of the activities of the Society shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and Society shall not participate in or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the Society shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from Federal income tax section 501(c)(3) of the Internal revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170 (c)(2) of the Internal Revenue code of 1954(or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law).

Section 2. DISSOLUTION- In the event of the dissolution of Society, the Treasurer, as directed by the Board of Directors shall, after paying or making provision for the payment of all liabilities of the Society, dispose of all the assets of the Society exclusively for the purposes of the Society in such manner, or to such organization

or organizations organized and operated exclusively for purposes identical to those of the Society and at the time qualified as an exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Society's Board of Directors shall determine. Those assets deeded to the Society for display in the museum, reference in the library, or any other mode of conduction the Society's stated purpose shall be returned to the owner, whose name and last known place of residence will be kept in an accession file available to public inspection at any time. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by the Quorum Court of the County of Cross; Wynne, Cross County, Arkansas, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine which are organized and operated exclusively for purposed similar to those of the Society.

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