

CONSTITUTION OF THE SAGINAW RIVER VALLEY RAILROAD, INC.

ORGANIZED APRIL, 1978

ARTICLE -I- NAME AND PURPOSE

Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the Saginaw River Valley Railroad, Inc. hereinafter referred to as the SRV.

Section 2. The purpose of the SRV shall be to engage in the hobby of model railroading as follows:

- A. By construction and operation of a modular railroad layout in H.O. scale.

Emphasis will be placed on realism in order to show the operation of actual railroads and to act as an authentic historical record of railroads of the past.

- B. By association with other model railroads and other interested railroads.

Such association will be promoted by a generally open door policy to visitors and through cooperation with local model railroaders, the NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION, and other organizations having interest in model railroading or railroading.

ARTICLE -II- MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Classes of Membership:

- A. REGULAR MEMBER. This class of membership is open to persons 14 (fourteen) years of age or older, who desire all membership privileges and responsibilities. Only regular members may hold offices, and vote. They are expected to participate in at least 30% (thirty percent) of club activities.
- B. FAMILY MEMBERSHIP. A regular members family (spouse and children), may participate in all club activities. The regular member's spouse and children are not considered regular members and may not hold office nor vote. The spouse and children may become a regular member when they have met the requirements.
- C. HONORARY MEMBER. Certain persons may be offered honorary membership in recognition for special service to the model railroad hobby or the SRV. They will be welcome to participate in club activities under general supervision, but may not hold office or vote. Such recognition will be substituted for sustaining member to persons who wish to make contributions to the club.
- D. INACTIVE MEMBER. Inactive membership is available to regular members who because of circumstances beyond their control, are unable to attend meetings or pay dues or otherwise maintain their membership. Inactive membership has no membership privileges, but allows a person to again become a regular member without initiation fee or acceptance

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procedure. The time period for this type of membership will be limited to 2 (two) years.

- E. SENIOR MEMBER. This class of membership is available to regular members of 5 (five) years or more standing, who because of illness or infirmity or advanced age or other legitimate reasons in the opinion of the membership, may request a senior membership status. It makes it possible for him to retain membership privileges although he may not be able to assume all regular member responsibilities. Also the senior will have his yearly dues reduced by \$5.00 (five dollars) a year at age 62 (sixty-two years).

Section 2. APPLICATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF MEMBERS:

- A. APPLICATION PROCEDURE. A person may apply for membership by filling out an application blank which can be obtained from the treasurer. The applicant shall be prepared to pay initiation and fees and dues as required upon acceptance as a member.
- B. ACCEPTANCE PROCEDURE. All applications for membership shall be acted upon at the earliest regular business meeting or special meeting. All classes for membership require the acceptance by the SRV membership, as expressed by a unanimous of a quorum of eligible voting members. (See Voting Quorum - Article V, Section 3) Dissenting voters shall specify their objections, which must be resolved before an applicant can be accepted or rejected. Race, creed, color, or sex are not valid reasons for rejection. Inability to reach a unanimous decision will require appointment of 2 (two) regular members to investigate the specified objection and report to the next regular or special meeting.

Section 3. PRIVILEGES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF ALL MEMBERS:

- A. RESPONSIBILITY TO SUPPORT SRV PURPOSES. All classes of membership require the support and the application of effort to fulfill the purposes of SRV as set forth in Article I, Section 2.
- B. RESPONSIBILITY TO FOLLOW RULES OF SRV. All members are required to follow the rules of SRV as set forth in the by-laws.
- C. RESPONSIBILITIES TO PAY DUES. All members remain in good standing if dues are paid. Dues are payable at the September or October meetings. Dues will be paid at that time for the entire year. If a member becomes more than 1 (one) month delinquent, he shall pay 1/2 the initiation fee as penalty. Members may be dropped from membership in SRV if dues become 6 (six) months delinquent. The Treasurer will notify members delinquent over 1 (one) month, encourage them to pay and inform them of the consequences of 6 (six) months delinquency. In extenuating circumstances, it would be in order to recommend inactive membership.

Section 4. PRIVILEGES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP:

- A. REGULAR MEMBER
 - 1. A regular member has the following responsibilities in addition to those noted in Section 3.
 - a. To participate in at least 30% (thirty percent) of the SRV activities.

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- b. To serve as an officer.
 - c. To attend at least 4 (four) regular and business meetings.
 - d. To pay annual dues by the end of the regular business meeting in October of each year.
- B. SENIOR MEMBER. A senior member has the same responsibilities and privileges as a regular member. It is realized that he may not be able to participate to the degree the regular members do.
- C. HONORARY MEMBER. Honorary membership does not have any responsibilities and no specific privileges although an honorary member will always be welcome and will be allowed to participate in club activities under the general supervision of regular members.
- D. INACTIVE MEMBER. Inactive membership does not have any privileges or responsibilities. When a regular member goes to inactive status, he must resign from any offices he may hold.

Section 5. INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP (LEAVE OF ABSENCE). A regular member in good standing may apply for inactive membership, (also previously known as leave of absence) if he is unable, through circumstances beyond his control, to attend meeting and/or pay dues. He shall be able to resume regular membership by notification of the Secretary and by payment of dues beginning at the time of notification. He will not be required to pay an initiation fee, any back dues, or be subject to the acceptance procedure. This will be for a 2 (two) year period of time only.

Application for inactive membership requires approval according to the membership acceptance procedure, Article II, Section 2 B. In general, inactive membership will be granted unless the applying member is not in good standing or has abused the privilege by too frequent application. Exception to the requirement of being in good standing may be made if extenuating circumstances have been discovered. A regular member must recommend that an exception be made.

ARTICLE III - TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Section -1- Considerations in termination:

- A. RESIGNATION. A regular member in good standing may resign by submitting his resignation to the secretary. It is preferred, however, that he apply for inactive membership so he may return to regular membership when he see fit.
- B. NON-PAYMENT OF DUES. When a member is 6 (six) months delinquent in dues, he will be dropped from membership. The treasurer shall inform him that he will be dropped, but should attempt to work out a plan to repay back dues or apply for inactive membership according to Article II, Section 5.
- C. ON COMPLAINT BY MEMBERSHIP. In general, there should be few reasons for expelling a member. If, however, a member's conduct is such that others are concerned, the situation should be brought to the attention of the Board of Directors, who will

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investigate and report to the next business meeting. It is desirable to try to somehow resolve differences, but if such cannot be done, dropping procedures can be taken. (Article III, Section 2).

Section 2. PROCEDURE FOR DROPPING MEMBERS. If a member is being considered for dropping on complaint of membership, he may only be dropped by a unanimous vote of a quorum of eligible voting members. (See Voting Quorum - Article V, Section 3). Dissenting voters shall specify their objections which must be resolved before a member can be dropped. Inability to reach a unanimous decision will require the appointment of 2 (two) regular members to investigate and report to the next meeting.

ARTICLE IV - MEETINGS

Section 1. TYPES OF MEETINGS:

A. GENERAL MEETINGS. General meetings shall be held monthly (except for July and August) on the second Sunday at 7:00 P.M. Such meetings shall further the purpose of the SRV by working, operation, discussion and other activities as the membership decides. General meetings are open to the public.

B. BUSINESS MEETINGS. All general meetings will also be business meetings with club business preceding all other activity. Other business meetings may be called by the Board of Directors. All regular members shall be informed of such meetings.

1- Roberts Rules of Order will serve as reference for procedures of business.

C. SPECIAL MEETINGS. Special meetings such as open houses, conventions, ect. will be held when the membership specifies.

ARTICLE V - VOTING

Section 1. ELIGIBLE VOTERS. Only regular members and senior members in good standing are eligible to vote.

Section 2. VOTING REQUIREMENTS.

A. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION. Amendments to the constitution shall require 2/3 majority vote of eligible voters. In cases where it is not possible to assemble a sufficient number, the secretary will poll the absent members by telephone or visit.

B. CHANGES IN THE BY-LAWS. By-laws may be changed by a simple majority of a quorum of eligible voters.

C. ELECTION OF OFFICERS. In the election of officers, a simple majority of a quorum of regular members shall determine the elected officers. The voting will take place at the regular June meeting. Terms of office are 2 (two) years commencing with the September 1997 meeting.

Section 3. VOTING QUORUM. 50% (fifty percent) of the eligible voting members shall constitute a voting quorum.

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ARTICLE VI - SRV MANAGEMENT

Section 1. BOARD OF DIRECTORS (OFFICERS) The Board of Directors of the SRV shall consist of the following:

- A. President
- B. Vice-president
- C. Secretary
- D. Treasurer
- E. Director of Operations
- F. 2 (Two) members at large

This Constitution of the Saginaw River Valley Railroad, Inc. was adopted at the April meeting of members on 4-13-97.

Certified by the duly elected and acting Secretary


Secretary