**CECO EMPLOYEES RECREATION ASSOCIATION INC.**

**LOCATED IN COAL CITY, ILLINOIS**

**Voted on and updated 9/17/23**

**BYLAWS**

The CECO Employees Recreation Association is a volunteer membership association duly incorporated on February 11, 1959, under the corporate laws of the State of Illinois, Corporation Certificate Number 11400, which was properly recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds of Will County on February 17, 1959 – Number 869504. Approved by the membership and incorporated into the bylaws on June 14, 2020.

**ARTICLE I – NAME**

The name of this association shall be CECO Employees Recreation Association, Inc., with official headquarters of the association in Coal City, Illinois.

**ARTICLE II – OBJECT**

To develop and maintain all possible recreational facilities such as; bathing, boating, fishing, hiking, hunting, trapping, camping, picnicking, etc., for the benefit of all members and their families.

**ARTICLE III – ORGANIZATION**

1. Administration
   * + - 1. The affairs of this association shall be conducted by a board of directors, consisting of a president, and a minimum of eight (8) other members.
         2. All officers of the association shall be members in good standing and shall receive no compensation from the association, except for reimbursement of wages lost due to having to testify or represent the organization in matters due to the welfare of the said organization, and the secretary/treasurer’s compensation which will be set by the board of directors.
         3. Any officer of the board of directors who severs their connection with the association shall automatically cease to hold office.
         4. The association shall hold at least two (2) membership meetings a year, one in the spring and one in the fall.
2. Board of Directors
   * + - 1. Five (5) directors shall constitute a quorum for a meeting of the board.
         2. Each year three (3) members of the board of directors shall be elected at the fall membership meeting for a term of three (3) years. Any unexpired term shall be filled by appointment within thirty (30) days after the vacancy occurs by the board of directors. At the next membership meeting of the association, an election shall be held to fill the unexpired term. They may succeed themselves in office.
         3. The board of directors shall be selected from those recommended by a nominating committee or nominated from the floor and elected by most votes of the present certificate holding members.
         4. Any board member being absent four (4) board meetings in one (1) year shall have their office or position declared vacant by the CECO President and shall be filled by appointment by the board of directors. Board shall meet 10 times per year.
3. Officers
   * + - 1. Officers shall be: President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer, who shall be elected by the board of directors annually. To be eligible for President a member must first have served one (1) year on the board of directors. The Secretary/Treasurer need not be a member of the board of directors. If not a member of the board, they do not have a voice or vote in board activities.
         2. The Secretary/Treasurer shall render full reports at all meeting.

**ARTICLE IV – MEMBERS**

1. Eligibility of Members
   * + - 1. No person shall be eligible for membership unless he or she is a citizen of the USA, of good moral character and an employee of ComEd or Nicor companies, spouse, children, sibling, step children or grandchildren of a certificate holding member, and is at least 18 years old.
         2. All applicants for membership shall submit an application for membership to the board of directors in the form and manner prescribed by the board of directors. All such applications shall be signed by a board member as consideration for approval and signed by the applicant who shall thereby pledge himself or herself and family, as appropriate, to abide by the bylaws, rules and regulations of the club.
         3. Memberships are not transferable and must be renewed annually by paying of dues on or before March 1 of each year.
         4. The certificate holding membership shall remain at 500.
         5. Prospective members may receive permission to see the facilities prior to joining the association, by permission of the board member appointed as the registrar of guests.
2. Rights of Members
   * + - 1. All certificate holding members shall have the right to vote. Membership gives club privileges, except that of voting, to the spouse and all members of one’s immediate family living in the member’s home.
3. Quorums
   * + - 1. Fifteen (15) certificate holding members in good standing will be a quorum for any membership meeting.
4. Termination of Membership
   * + - 1. Membership in the association and all interests in the funds of the association shall terminate upon the occurrence of any of the following: termination of membership in the association or expulsion by the board of directors.
5. Expulsion
   * + - 1. Any member whose activities are detrimental to the welfare of the association may be expelled by two thirds (2/3) vote of the board of directors, sitting in quorum, and after giving the member an opportunity to be heard in person.
6. Reinstatement of Members
   * + - 1. When a member’s dues have lapsed, they may be reinstated by payment of current annual dues, and all assessments incurred during their absence. Members may be reinstated by revocation of suspension by the board of directors.
7. Service Annuitants
   * + - 1. A certificate holding member retiring or who is 60 years of age or older, has two options for membership in the association.
         2. OPTION 1: The member may elect to remain a member as is.
         3. OPTION 2: After the member has been a member for at least three (3) years, the member may elect to surrender the original certificate and have the three hundred dollars ($300) refunded. A Service Annuitant Membership would then be issued and the member would no longer have pay CECO dues or any assessments, but would have full membership privileges except that of voting or holding office. The Service Annuitant would have to pay a registration fee of fifty dollars ($50) each year payable March 1, or the membership would be terminated. Upon death of the unmarried Service Annuitant the membership would automatically be cancelled. However, upon death of a married Service Annuitant the membership would pass to the surviving spouse. Upon the death of the spouse the membership would automatically be cancelled.
8. Associate Members
   * + - 1. The certificate holding member may elect to have two of their children, step children, grandchildren or siblings become associate members that are 18 years of age or older. An Associate Membership would be issued upon the payment of $500 initiation fee and current annual dues. The associate member would have club privileges except that of voting or holding office. The associate member is not a certificate holding member. An associate member retiring, who is 60 years of age or older or upon death may pass their membership one time, to the associate members spouse, child, stepchild, or sibling at the discretion of the board of directors.

The board of directors shall regulate the number of associate members.

**ARTICLE V – FEES, DUES & ASSESMENTS**

1. Initiation Fees: The initiation fee for all new members will be $500.
2. Dues
   * + - 1. Annual dues shall be **$275** payable by March 1 of each year.
         2. A $50 penalty will be added to dues unpaid after March 1. If the dues are not paid by April 1, the membership may be terminated at the discretion of the board of directors.
         3. Upon termination the membership, dues and assessments will not be apportioned or refunded.
3. Stock Purchase
   * + - 1. Each certificate holding member of CECO shall purchase on share of CECO stock in order to hold certificate membership in the association.
         2. The cost of each share of CECO stock shall be $300.
         3. All shares of CECO stock are non-transferable, and must remain in the immediate family, father, mother, child, step child, spouse, sibling or grandchild of the shareholder or sold back to the association. A share of CECO stock can be passed on to one of the immediate members of the family upon age 60 or death of the certificate holding member, giving this new member all privileges including that of voting and holding office. For example, a certificate holding member at age 60 or at their death, may pass the stock share to their spouse, father, mother, child, step child, sibling or grandchild. If the share is not passed on, it must be sold back to the association. In addition, the member can also take Option 2 listed in Article IV – Members under Service Annuitant 7(a), with the exception the $300 will not be refunded.
         4. Anyone who wishes to terminate their membership in the association may turn in the stock certificate for refund. The refund will be paid as soon as a new member has been initiated into the association or one (1) year from the date the certificate is returned, whichever is sooner.
4. Assessments
   * + - 1. Assessments may be levied with the approval of the certificate holding membership to carry on necessary affairs of the association.
         2. The CECO board of directors at the regular fall membership meeting shall submit to the membership their proposed budget for the following year. The membership then shall upon acceptance of the agreed to portions, or the entire budget, vote on the amount of assessment to implement this budget if assessments are necessary.

**ARTICLE VI – FUNDS**

1. Receipts
   * + - 1. The funds of the association shall consist of all monies, gifts and legacies to the association.
         2. All monies are to be receipted for by the secretary, recorded in the proper books and turned over to the treasurer for deposit in the approved bank.
2. Disbursement
   * + - 1. All withdrawals will be by check bearing the signature of two (2) approved officers. The approved officers shall be: president, vice president and treasurer.
         2. The secretary and treasurer, and any other officers, if necessary, shall be bonded at the expense of the association.
3. Audits
   * + - 1. A certified accountant shall audit the books and a report is to be read at the spring membership meeting.

**ARTICLE VII – MISCELLANEOUS**

1. Dissolution of the Association
   * + - 1. The association may be dissolved at any time upon a vote of three-quarters (375) of its certificate holding members in good standing, and thereupon the assets of the association shall be disbursed equally to the 500 certificate holding members by the direction of the board of directors.
2. Amendments
   * + - 1. That the bylaws may be amended after submitting the proposed bylaw change in writing along with thirty-five (35) signatures of certificate holding members that are eligible to vote to the board of directors at least 60 days prior to a spring or fall membership meeting. In turn, the proposed amendment change must be read at the closest semi-annual meeting. And at the second semi-annual meeting, or special meeting, again read and acted on. The membership will be notified by newsletter, before the second meeting, of the bylaw change to take place. These bylaw changes may then be amended by a three-quarter vote of the certificate holding members present and voting.
3. Special Meetings
   * + - 1. There must be at least three (3) days’ notice for all specially called meetings.
4. Committee
   * + - 1. Standing and special committees as necessary to carry on the affairs of the association will be appointed by the president and approved by the board of directors.
5. Honorary Members
   * + - 1. For consideration of past, present and future legal services, for which no remuneration has been made, and honorary membership in the association is bestowed on Robert P. Brumund, attorney.