

# **ORGANIZATIONAL ARTICLES**

## **CHEYENNE AREA LANDOWNER'S COALITION**

Revised August 2012

### **ARTICLE I            PREAMBLE**

Adoption of the Organizational Bylaws for an organization to be known as **Cheyenne Area Landowner's Coalition** (herein referred to as COALITION) constitutes the existence of a citizens' organization designed to protect and advocate for the rights and welfare of member citizens located in the Cheyenne, Wyoming area. The COALITION is affiliated with the Powder River Basin Resource Council, a nonprofit organization located in Sheridan, Wyoming, tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

### **ARTICLE II            MISSION/PURPOSE**

Mission - **The Cheyenne Area Landowner's Coalition** is an organization of citizens dedicated to protecting the lifestyle interests of landowners and the broader public who are impacted by mineral mining/extraction related processes; the COALITION is dedicated to protecting the property rights and lifestyle conditions of all COALITION members as well as protecting the public's interest in protection of water, air and land resources.

### **ARTICLE III            MAJOR FUNCTIONS/ORGANIZATIONAL OBJECTIVES**

- 3.1     To generate and disseminate information to COALITION members and the broader public with respect to the process and potential impacts of oil exploration and extraction in the Cheyenne area
- 3.2     To assist in the development of contracts on behalf of COALITION members to be negotiated between land-owners and oil interests with respect to surface rights and/or extraction and mineral rights
- 3.3     To develop and forward policy proposals which will guarantee fair and equitable treatment of Cheyenne area citizens impacted by oil/mining interests
- 3.4     To develop and promote policies at the County level designed to protect the interests of members whose properties lie within established/approved housing developments or are located within or adjacent to larger parcels of land
- 3.5     To develop and advocate for policies and procedures which will prevent degradation and/or contamination of the aquifer from which most Cheyenne area residents draw their life-sustaining water supply

## ARTICLE IV            **BYLAWS**

### 4.1     MEMBERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

Membership is open to any individual or family that satisfies the dues requirements as specified herein and completes the required membership information form.

### 4.2     OFFICERS

4.2.1 The following offices shall be established and COALITION members shall be elected to those positions according to procedures defined herein:

**President** – who will have general leadership and organizational responsibilities

**Vice-President** – who will serve as President in the absence of the elected President

**Secretary** – who will have responsibility for recording the actions of the COALITION and reporting same to the membership

**Treasurer** – who will have responsibility to collect monies as defined in the COALITION Bylaws and periodically report the financial status to the membership

4.2.2 **TERMS OF OFFICE** All officers will be elected by the COALITION membership except as otherwise provided herein and will serve for terms of one year. Elected officers will serve for no more than three (3) consecutive terms in that office unless additional terms are approved by the COALITION membership.

4.2.3 **DUTIES** The duties of the officers as defined in Section 4.2.1 may be modified by the Board of Directors (hereinafter referred to as BOARD) as needed.

4.2.4 **VACANCIES** Vacancies that occur will be filled by the BOARD for the remainder of that term only and replacements for those vacant positions will be selected by the COALITION membership at the next annual election.

4.3     **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**--A Board of Directors (BOARD) is established for the purpose of providing general direction and supervision of COALITION activities.

- 4.3.1 Composition – The BOARD shall be composed of the officers listed in Article 4.2.1 plus up to six (6) members serving At Large and elected by the membership of the COALITION.
- 4.3.2 TERMS OF OFFICE – The term of office for members of the BOARD will be consistent with their tenure in their respective offices. The three (3) at large representatives to the BOARD will be elected on an annual basis according to a schedule established by the BOARD.
- 4.3.3 DUTIES – The BOARD will provide general direction to the COALITION President and will identify and approve plans and activities which will be carried out or pursued by the COALITION.
- 4.3.4 VACANCIES – Vacancies on the BOARD will be filled according to the procedures outlined in Article 4.2.4.
- 4.4 SCHEDULE OF ELECTIONS – Elections for officers and At Large BOARD members will be conducted on an annual basis. All COALITION members present at the scheduled meeting will be eligible to cast a vote for officers and At Large BOARD candidates.
- 4.5 MEETINGS – Meetings of the COALITION shall be open to the public and will be scheduled by the President/BOARD ~~according to need~~ bi-monthly. Notification of such called meetings will be made to the membership via E-mail, Facebook and will be noticed to the media in advance of the scheduled meetings.
- 4.5.1 Minutes will be kept and updates from the meeting will be sent out following bi-monthly meetings to the COALITION email list.
- 4.5.2 The BOARD may call executive meetings with 24 hours notice to all BOARD members. Materials and correspondence from executive meetings will be kept internal and not made public.
- 4.6 MEMBERSHIP DUES – The annual assessment of dues for membership will be paid to Powder River Basin Resource Council in an amount specified by their Board of Directors. Powder River Basin Resource Council will assess an additional fee for membership in the COALITION, and the amount shall be reviewed and established annually by the COALITION BOARD.
- 4.7 QUORUM – A quorum, the number of members required to take action, will be the number of individuals present.
- 4.8 COMMITTEES – Committees may be established by the BOARD to perform certain tasks or to conduct research defined by the BOARD
- 4.9 RECOGNITION OF INTEREST GROUPS WITHIN THE COALITION--  
The COALITION recognizes four (4) groups of land-owner members who have interests in the work of the COALITION. Those groups are as follows:

- 4.9.1 Owners of land parcels who have full or partial mineral rights plus surface rights
  - 4.9.2 Owners of land parcels who have no mineral rights but, like those with mineral rights, have surface rights
  - 4.9.3 Owners of small land parcels located within established housing developments or whose properties lie outside of established housing developments
  - 4.9.4 Other interested land-owners who may not experience exploration in their neighborhoods but may be affected by unaddressed adverse impacts of exploration/extraction
- 4.10 COMMITMENT TO MEMBER INTERESTS – The COALITION is committed to the following services to its members:
- 4.10.1 To provide assistance in developing and negotiating contracts and agreements designed to protect land-owner properties for continuous and future use
  - 4.10.2 To provide land-owners assistance in protecting their properties against damage resulting from activities related to exploration/drilling/extraction and to assist the land-owner in seeking appropriate compensation for those damages
  - 4.10.3 To develop and present proposed policies and regulations for County and State consideration which, upon enactment, will prohibit gas and oil interests from actively exploring for or extracting minerals within housing developments or in close proximity to established domiciles
  - 4.10.4 To develop and present proposed policies and regulations that will, upon enactment, assure neighborhood roadways damaged by gas and oil related activities are maintained and repaired without cost to land-owners
  - 4.10.5 To develop and propose policies and regulations to be considered by County and/or State officials to protect residents from degradation or contamination of the aquifer from which domestic water supplies are drawn
  - 4.10.6 To advocate for protection of property owners' and their families' and the broader public's chosen lifestyles by proposing regulations which will control noise, traffic and visual distractions in their neighborhoods

4.10.7 To advocate for protection of property values by proposing regulations/policies which will assure that conditions which contribute to maintaining high property values are sustained

**ARTICLE V AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS** – These bylaws may be amended from time to time by a majority vote of the COALITION membership.

**ARTICLE VI ORGANIZATIONAL DISSOLUTIONMENT** – The COALITION may be dissolved by a majority vote of the COALITION membership. Such vote shall be introduced at any meeting by the BOARD and will be voted upon at the next subsequently scheduled meeting of the COALITION. Upon dissolution, all COALITION assets will be transferred to the COALITION's fiscal sponsor, the Powder River Basin Resource Council.

**ARTICLE VII INDEMNIFICATION** – The COALITION assumes no responsibility, financial or otherwise, for the determinations or decisions of its' members or officers, nor for the results of their efforts. The COALITION is strictly a volunteer organization, has no paid employees and assumes no liability for individual member circumstances.

**ARTICLE VIII RESOLUTION TO ADOPT REVISED ORGANIZATIONAL ARTICLES**

**Resolution:** Be it resolved that, by majority vote of those present, the Cheyenne Area Land-owner's Coalition's bylaws have been revised effective September 24th, 2020.