

Bill No:	CDB - 01
Title:	AME/WIM Bylaws
Reference:	The Doctrine and Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, Section VII. African Methodist Episcopal Women in Ministry (AME/WIM) pp. 443-459
Intent:	To make revisions to the AME/WIM by-laws. Need to add to the structure , duties and responsibilities of officers, Episcopal and local districts and election process
Rationale:	Provide guidelines for the operation of the Organization
Budgetary Impact	None



- 1 Current: Article III Members, Section 2 –Dues shall be paid annually. Upon payment of dues,
2 each member will receive a membership card. Payment of dues will entitle members to the
3 Connectional newsletter, to complimentary publications or reductions on the price of
4 publication, and to a discount on Connectional conference registration fees.
- 5
- 6 Amendment: Art. III Members, Section 2—Dues shall be paid annually **to the Connectional**
7 **Executive Board and the respective Episcopal District, Annual and local conferences, if**
8 **applicable. Each Episcopal District shall select an annual date in which dues are paid on the**
9 **Connectional and the Episcopal District level. Annual dues to the Annual Conference and the**
10 **Presiding Elder Districts shall be determined by the respective conferences.** Upon payment of
11 dues, each member will receive a membership card. Payment of dues will entitle members to
12 the **connectional newsletter.**

13

14 Current Article III Members, Section 5 Eligibility for office.

15

16 Amendment: **add the following at the end of section 5: In order to be eligible to hold office**
17 **the transferring member to another Episcopal District/Annual Conference must not only be an**
18 **itinerant minister in good standing, but also a member of AME/WIM in good standing for at**
19 **least two years in the previous Episcopal District or Annual Conference.**

20

21 Current: Article V Executive Board, Section 2 Election and Term of Office.No member shall
22 be nominated or elected at the Connectional level unless she is a full member in good and
23 regular standing for at least two (2) years immediately preceding the General Conference.
24 Officers elected to the Executive Board shall surrender any other offices held in AME/WIM. The
25 term of office shall be.....

26

27 Amendment: Article V, Executive Board, Section 2 Election and term of office -.No member
28 shall be nominated or elected at the Connectional level unless she is a full member in good and
29 regular standing for at least two (2) years immediately preceding the General Conference.
30 Officers elected to the Executive Board shall surrender any other offices held in AME/WIM. **Said**
31 **surrender of any office held must take place no later than September 15, following the**
32 **election at the General Conference. If an officer of the Executive Board is appointed or**
33 **elected to another office of AME/WIM on the Episcopal District, Annual Conference or**
34 **Presiding Elder level after they have been elected to the Board, they must surrender their**

35 **office on the Executive Board. Said surrender of office must take place no later than the seat**
36 **of the next Bishop’s Council meeting following said election to office.** The term of office shall
37 be.....

38

39 Current Article V, Section 8 Resignations. Any Board member may resign from office at any
40 time by delivering a resignation in writing to the president, and the acceptance of such
41 resignation, unless required by the terms thereof, shall not be necessary to make such
42 resignation effective.

43

44 Amendment, Article V, Section Resignations. Any Board member may resign from office at any
45 time by delivering a resignation in writing to the president, and the acceptance of such
46 resignation, unless required by the terms thereof, shall not be necessary to make such
47 resignation effective. **If the President tenders the resignation, said resignation should be**
48 **tendered to the First Vice-president and the Executive Board. A resignation of an officer can**
49 **be oral where an officer resigns at an Executive Board meeting and it is recorded by the**
50 **Secretary and a majority of the members of the Executive Board are present.**

51

52 Current: Article V, Section 9 Removals- Any Board member elected by members of AME/WIM
53 may be removed for cause by a majority vote of the entire Board, at any special meeting of the
54 Board called for that purpose, or without cause, by vote of the members. Any Board member
55 who misses three (3) consecutive meetings may be removed from the Executive Board.

56

57 Amendment: : Article V, Section 9 Removals- Any Board member elected by members of
58 AME/WIM may be removed for cause by a majority vote of the entire Board, at any special
59 meeting of the Board called for that purpose, or without cause, by vote of the membership. Any
60 Board member who misses three (3) consecutive meetings may be removed from the Executive
61 Board. **Removal for Cause may include but not be limited to a breach of a fiduciary duty as an**
62 **officer, abuse of power, conviction after trial of violation of any laws of the doctrine and**
63 **discipline of the AME Church and any felony convictions of any state.**

64

65 Current: Article V, Section 11- Quorum and Voting.....Nominations: The nomination of officers
66 shall be governed by the ad hoc Nominating Committee. Recommendations and nominations
67 for office to the Executive Board must be submitted no later than 60 days prior to the General
68 Conference. Recommendations and nominations will not be accepted at the seat of the General
69 Conference. Persons nominated to run for Executive Board office must be present at the time
70 and place of the election meeting. Persons nominated to office on any Connectional level must
71 be present at the time and place of the election.

72

73 Amendment: Article V, Section 11- Quorum and Voting.....Nominations: The nomination of
74 officers shall be governed by the ad hoc Nominating Committee. **For purposes of election of the**
75 **Executive Board, a nominating committee shall be appointed by the Chair of the Commission**
76 **on Women in Ministry and the Executive Board. The nominating committee shall consist of**
77 **three to five persons. Three persons shall be those persons who have been appointed**
78 **consultant/advisors to the Executive Board and the other two persons shall be from the**
79 **membership of AME/WIM who are committed to doing the work of the nominating**

80 **committee, and are in good and regular standing. Members of the nominating committee**
81 **shall be ineligible for nomination by the committee for any position to be filled. Said**
82 **nominating committee shall be appointed no later than the seat of the Bishop’s Council one**
83 **year prior to the General Conference.** Recommendations and nominations for office to the
84 Executive Board must be submitted no later than 60 days prior to the General Conference.
85 Recommendations and nominations will not be accepted at the seat of the General Conference.
86 Persons nominated to run for Executive Board office must be present at the time and place of
87 the election meeting. Persons nominated to office on any Connectional level must be present at
88 the time and place of the election.

89

90 Current: Article V, Section 12 President : Powers and Duties. The President shall answer to the
91 Chairperson of the Commission on Women in Ministry, the Commission itself, and to the
92 General Board.....

93

94 Amendment: Article V, Section 12 President : Powers and Duties. The President shall **work in**
95 **conjunction with the Executive Board and** answer to the Chairperson of the Commission on
96 Women in Ministry, the Commission itself, and to the General Board.....

97

98 Current: Article V, Section 20, Herstorlographer, Powers and Duties: The Herstorlographer shall
99 research, gather, record and make available herstorlogical and other information on AME/WIM and
100 on women in ministry.

101

102 Amendment: Article V, Section 20, Herstorlographer, Powers and Duties: The Herstorlographer
103 shall research, gather, record and make available herstorlogical and other information on
104 AME/WIM and on women in ministry. **The Herstorlographer shall also coordinate with the**
105 **Herstorlographers on the Episcopal District, Annual Conference and Presiding Elder District**
106 **levels to provide a comprehensive library on women in ministry and the status and role of**
107 **women in ministry in the African Methodist Episcopal Church.**

108

109 Article VI—ADVISORS AND CONSULTANTS, Section 1. Powers. The President with the consensus
110 of the Executive Board from time to time shall appoint consultants and/or advisors to
111 AME/WIM. Each such consultant or advisor shall hold office at the pleasure of the Board, and
112 shall have such authority and obligations as the Board may from time to time determine.

113

114 Amendment: Article VI—ADVISORS AND CONSULTANTS, Section 1. Powers. The President with
115 the consensus of the Executive Board **and Commission on Women in Ministry Chairperson,**
116 from time to time shall appoint consultants and/or advisors to AME/WIM. Each such consultant
117 or advisor shall hold office at the pleasure of the Board, and shall have such authority and
118 obligations as the Board may from time to time determine.

119

120 Current: Article VIII, ACCOUNTS AND INVESTMENTS

121

122 Amendment: Article VIII, ACCOUNTS AND INVESTMENTS—**add section three which will read:**
123 **Section 3. Expenditures. No officer of the Executive Board can authorize expenditures over**
124 **one thousand (\$1,000.00) dollars without the approval of the majority of the Executive Board.**

125

126 Current: Article XII—Episcopal District

127 Current: Article XII---Section 1, Paragraph 2 At the call of the President, the Executive Board in
128 each episcopal district shall meet to elect officers. The Executive “Board in each episcopal
129 district shall be composed of the following officers and the Annual Conference Coordinators:
130 Episcopal District President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Financial
131 Secretary, Treasurer and Worship Leader. The members of the Executive Board shall hold office
132 for four (4) years, and no officer shall serve in the same office for more than two (2) consecutive
133 terms.

134

135 Amendment: Article XII---Section 1, Paragraph 2 At the call of the President, the Executive
136 Board in each episcopal district shall meet to elect officers. The Executive “Board in each
137 episcopal district shall be composed of the following officers and the Annual Conference
138 Coordinators: Episcopal District President, First Vice President, Second Vice President,
139 Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Worship Leader **and Herstorlographer**. The members
140 of the Executive Board shall hold office for four (4) years, and no officer shall serve in the same
141 office for more than two (2) consecutive terms. **The term limits do not apply to the Annual**
142 **Conference Coordinators who are ex-officio members of the Executive Board.**

143

144 Current: Article XII, Episcopal District. Section 2. Episcopal District President

145

146 Amendment: Article XII, Episcopal District. Section 2 Episcopal District President.

147 **Insert at end of section 2—The Episcopal District President must attend at least one**

148 **AME/WIM connectional event each quadrennial.**

149

150 **Amendment: Article XII, Section 9 (need to add the office of Herstorlographer after the office**

151 **of Worship Leader in Section 8 and the other sections get bumped down one section. Section**

152 **9 Newly Created Offices becomes Section 9 Herstorlographer)**

153 **Section 10 Newly Created Offices**

154 **Section 11 Resignations**

155 **Section 12 Removal.**

156 **Section 13. Committees of the Executive Board.**

157 **Section 14. Committees of AME/WIM**

158 **Section 15. Standing Committees.**

159 **Section 16. Quorum & Voting**

160

161 **Insert Section 9. Herstorlographer. The Herstorlographer will collect information on**

162 **AME/WIM in the Episcopal District and compile a data bank and be a resource for the District.**

163 **The Herstoriographer shall coordinate with Herstoriographers on all connectional levels and**
164 **provide a comprehensive library on women in ministry and the status and role of women in**
165 **ministry in her Episcopal District. The Herstoriographer should make a presentation to the**
166 **Episcopal District AME/WIM at an Episcopal District Meeting at least once a quadrenium on**
167 **her findings.**

168

169 Current: Section 16. Quorum & Voting. No persons(s) shall be entitled to more than one vote
170 on an issue or matter in AME/WIM , and must be personally present to exercise such privilege.
171 No proxy or absentee voting shall be permitted. This applies to voting on all connectional levels.

172

173 Amendment: **Section 16.** Quorum & Voting. No persons(s) shall be entitled to more than one
174 vote on an issue or matter in AME/WIM , and must be personally present to exercise such
175 privilege. No proxy or absentee voting shall be permitted. This applies to voting on all
176 connectional levels.

177 **A quorum for the election of the Executive Board on the Episcopal District level shall**
178 **consists of a majority of the persons present at the time of the elections. Notice must be**
179 **provided to the membership of the District at least 60 days prior to the election. Such notice**
180 **must set forth the date, time and place where said elections shall be held. If said notice is not**
181 **provided in a timely manner, said election is invalid.**

182 **Nominations: The nomination of officers at a District Meeting shall be governed by an**
183 **ad hoc nominating committee. For purposes of Election of the Executive Board, a nominating**
184 **committee shall be appointed by the President with the Assistance of the Executive Board.**

185 **The nominating committee shall consist of three to five persons. The five persons on the**
186 **nominating committee shall be from each of the Annual Conferences in the Episcopal District.**
187 **The nominating committee shall be appointed no later than one year prior to the Election of**
188 **the Executive Board. Recommendations and nominations for office to the Executive Board**
189 **must be submitted no later than 45 days prior to the District Meeting. Recommendations and**
190 **nominations will not be accepted at the seat of the District Meeting. Persons nominated to**
191 **run for Executive Board office must be present at the time and place of the election meeting.**
192 **Persons nominated to office on any Connectional level must be present at the time and place**
193 **of the election.**

194

195 Current: ARTICLE XIII---ANNUAL CONFERENCE LEVEL

196 Amendment: Insert the following sections after section 7.

197 **Section 8. Herstorlographer. The Herstorlographer will collect information on AME/WIM in**
198 **the Annual Conference level and compile a data bank and be a resource for the Annual**
199 **Conference. The Herstorlographer shall coordinate with Herstorlographers on all connectional**
200 **levels and provide a comprehensive library on women in ministry and the status and role of**
201 **women in ministry in her Annual Conference. The Herstorlographer should make a**
202 **presentation to the Women in Ministry of her Conference at the Annual Conference at least**
203 **once a quadrenium on her findings.**

204

205 **Section 9. Newly Created Offices and vacancies. Newly created offices of the Board and**
206 **vacancies among the Board members for any reason may be filled by a vote of a majority of**

207 the Board members then in office, and the Board member(s) so elected shall serve until the
208 next annual meeting of AME/WIM.

209

210 **Section 10. Resignations.** Any Board member may resign from office at any time by delivering
211 a resignation in writing to the Annual Conference Coordinator, and the acceptance of such
212 resignation, unless required by the terms thereof, shall not be necessary to make such
213 resignation effective.

214

215 **Section 11. Removal.** Any Board member elected by members of AME/WIM may be removed
216 for cause by a majority vote of the entire Board, at any special meeting of the Board called for
217 that purpose, or without cause, by vote of the membership. A Board member who misses
218 three (3) consecutive Board meetings may be removed from the Board. . Removal for Cause
219 may include but not be limited to breach of a fiduciary duty as an officer, abuse of power,
220 conviction after trial of violation of any laws of the doctrine and discipline of the AME Church
221 and any felony convictions of any state.

222

223 **Section 12. Committees of the Executive Board.** The Board may, by resolution adopted by a
224 majority of the entire Board, establish and shall appoint an executive and other standing
225 committees. The Annual Conference Coordinator shall appoint the chairperson of each
226 committee. Each committee so appointed shall consist of three or more members, and shall
227 have all the authority of the Executive Board except in the following matters:

228 a. The filling of vacancies on the Board or on any committee.

- 229 **b. The amendment or repeal of the Bylaws or the adoption of new Bylaws.**
- 230 **c. The amendment or repeal of any resolution of the Board which by its terms shall**
- 231 **not be so amendable or repealable.**
- 232 **d. The fixing of compensation of Board members for serving on the Board or any**
- 233 **committee.**

234 **Special committees may be appointed by the Annual Conference Coordinator with the**
235 **consent of the Board and shall have only the powers specifically delegated to them by the**
236 **Board.**

237

238 **Section 13. Committees of AME/WIM. The Board or the members may create committees of**
239 **AME/WIM. Committees created by the Board shall be appointed by the Annual Conference**
240 **Coordinator with the consent of the Board. Committees created by the members shall be**
241 **elected by the members, unless the members authorize the Coordinator to appoint said**
242 **committees with the consent of the Board.**

243

244 **Section 14. Standing Committees. The standing committees shall be the standing committees**
245 **that are in Article VII, Section 3 of the AME/WIM Bylaws. The standing committee**
246 **chairpersons on the District level shall act as advisors and consultants to the Annual**
247 **Conference level standing committees.**

248

249 **Section 15. Quorum and Voting. No persons(s) shall be entitled to more than one vote on an**
250 **issue or matter in AME/WIM , and must be personally present to exercise such privilege. No**
251 **proxy or absentee voting shall be permitted. This applies to voting on all connectional levels.**

252 **A quorum for the election of the Executive Board on the Annual Conference level shall**
253 **consists of a majority of the persons present at the time of the elections. Notice must be**
254 **provided to the membership of the Annual Conference at least 60 Days prior to the election.**
255 **Such notice must set forth the date, time and place where said elections shall be held. If said**
256 **notice is not provided in a timely manner, said election is invalid.**

257 **Nominations: The nomination of officers at an Annual Conference meeting shall be**
258 **governed by an ad hoc nominating committee. For purposes of Election of the Executive**
259 **Board, a nominating committee shall be appointed by the Annual Conference Coordinator**
260 **with the assistance of the Executive Board. The nominating committee shall consist of three**
261 **to five persons. The members of the nominating committee should be members of the**
262 **Presiding Elder District(s) within the Annual Conference. Members of the nominating**
263 **committee shall be ineligible for nomination by the committee for any position to be filled.**
264 **The nominating committee shall be appointed no later than one year prior to the Election of**
265 **the Executive Board. Recommendations and nominations for office to the Executive Board**
266 **must be submitted no later than 45 days prior to the Annual Meeting. Recommendations and**
267 **nominations will not be accepted at the seat of the Annual Meeting. Persons nominated to**
268 **run for Executive Board office must be present at the time and place of the election meeting.**
269 **Persons nominated to office on any Connectional level must be present at the time and place**
270 **of the election.**

271

272 Current: ARTICLE XIV—PRESIDING ELDER DISTRICT LEVEL

273

274 Amendment: ARTICLE XIV—PRESIDING ELDER DISTRICT LEVEL

275 (INSERT THE FOLLOWING)

276 **Section 8. Herstorlographer. The Herstorlographer will collect information on AME/WIM in**
277 **the Presiding Elder District level and compile a data bank and be a resource for the District**
278 **and Annual Conference. The Herstorlographer shall coordinate with Herstorlographers on all**
279 **connectional levels and provide a comprehensive library on women in ministry and the status**
280 **and role of women in ministry in her Presiding Elder District. The Herstorlographer should**
281 **make a presentation to the Presiding Elder District AME/WIM at a District Meeting or**
282 **gathering, at least once a quadrennium on her findings.**

283

284 **Section 9. Newly Created Offices and vacancies. Newly created offices of the Board and**
285 **vacancies among the Board members for any reason may be filled by a vote of a majority of**
286 **the Board members then in office, and the Board member(s) so elected shall serve until the**
287 **next annual meeting of AME/WIM.**

288

289 **Section 10. Resignations. Any Board member may resign from office at any time by delivering**
290 **a resignation in writing to the Presiding Elder District Coordinator, and the acceptance of such**
291 **resignation, unless required by the terms thereof, shall not be necessary to make such**
292 **resignation effective.**

293

294 **Section 11. Removal. Any Board member elected by members of AME/WIM may be removed**
295 **for cause by a majority vote of the entire Board, at any special meeting of the Board called for**
296 **that purpose, or without cause, by vote of the membership. A Board member who misses**
297 **three (3) consecutive Board meetings may be removed from the Board. Removal for Cause**
298 **may include but not be limited to breach of a fiduciary duty as an officer, abuse of power,**
299 **conviction after trial of violation of any laws of the doctrine and discipline of the AME Church**
300 **and any felony convictions of any state.**

301

302 **Section 12. Committees of the Executive Board. The Board may, by resolution adopted by a**
303 **majority of the entire Board, establish and shall appoint an executive and other standing**
304 **committees. The Presiding Elder District Coordinator shall appoint the chairperson of each**
305 **committee. Each committee so appointed shall consist of three or more members, and shall**
306 **have all the authority of the Executive Board except in the following matters:**

- 307 a. **The filling of vacancies on the Board or on any committee.**
- 308 b. **The amendment or repeal of the Bylaws or the adoption of new Bylaws.**
- 309 c. **The amendment or repeal of any resolution of the Board which by its terms shall**
310 **not be so amendable or repealable.**
- 311 d. **The fixing of compensation of Board members for serving on the Board or any**
312 **committee.**

313 **Special committees may be appointed by the Presiding Elder District Coordinator with the**
314 **consent of the Board and shall have only the powers specifically delegated to them by the**
315 **Board.**

316

317 **Section 13. Committees of AME/WIM. The Board or the members may create committees of**
318 **AME/WIM. Committees created by the Board shall be appointed by the Presiding Elder**
319 **District Coordinator with the consent of the Board. Committees created by the members shall**
320 **be elected by the members, unless the members authorize the Presiding Elder District**
321 **Coordinator to appoint said committees with the consent of the Board.**

322

323 **Section 14. Standing Committees. The standing committees shall be the standing committees**
324 **that are in Article VII, Section 3 of the AME/WIM Bylaws. The standing committee**
325 **chairpersons on the Annual Conference level shall act as advisors and consultants to the**
326 **Presiding Elder District level standing committees.**

327

328 **Section 15. Quorum and Voting. No persons(s) shall be entitled to more than one vote on an**
329 **issue or matter in AME/WIM , and must be personally present to exercise such privilege. No**
330 **proxy or absentee voting shall be permitted. This applies to voting on all connectional levels.**

331 **A quorum for the election of the Executive Board on the Presiding Elder District level**
332 **shall consists of a majority of the persons present at the time of the elections. Notice must be**
333 **provided to the membership of the District at least 60 Days prior to the election. Such notice**
334 **must set forth the date, time and place where said elections shall be held. If said notice is not**
335 **provided in a timely manner, said election is invalid.**

336 **Nominations: The nomination of officers at a Presiding Elder District Meeting shall be**
337 **governed by an ad hoc nominating committee. For purposes of Election of the Executive**

338 **Board, a nominating committee shall be appointed by the Presiding Elder District Coordinator**
339 **with the assistance of the Executive Board. The nominating committee shall consist of three**
340 **to five persons. Said persons must be members of the Presiding Elder District in good and**
341 **regular standing. Members of the nominating Committee shall be ineligible for nomination by**
342 **the committee for nay position to be filled. The nominating committee shall be appointed no**
343 **later than one year prior to the election of the Executive Board. Recommendations and**
344 **nominations for office to the Executive Board must be submitted no later than 45 days prior**
345 **to the District Conference. Recommendations and nominations will not be accepted at the**
346 **seat of the District Meeting. Persons nominated to run for Executive Board office must be**
347 **present at the time and place of the election meeting. Persons nominated to office on any**
348 **Connectional level must be present at the time and place of the election.**

349

350 Current: ARTICLE XV—CAMPUS MINISTRIES

351

352 Legislation submitted by AME/WIM

353