

Understanding Voting Delegates



Association Business Meeting

In accordance with the by-laws, certain matters of the American Public Power Association (APPA) require the approval of the APPA membership. These matters include approval of the annual budget, approval of nominations to serve on the Board of Directors, and final approval of policy resolutions. Consideration and approval of these matters occurs annually at the Association Business Meeting held each June in conjunction with the APPA National Conference. They are decided by vote of the authorized voting delegates representing APPA members who are in attendance at the business meeting.

Each APPA utility member (including joint action agencies and state and regional associations) is eligible to designate one employee or governing board member to serve as the utility's voting delegate at the Association Business Meeting. This delegation must be made by the APPA member utility in writing and in advance of the meeting. The registration form for the National Conference will provide an opportunity to designate the utility member's voting delegate for the Association Business Meeting. A separate form designating the voting delegate also will be made available on site at the registration desk at the APPA National Conference. Authorized voting delegates for the business meeting will receive a colored ribbon that says Business Meeting Voting Delegate which must be worn at the Association Business Meeting in order to cast a vote. The Association Business Meeting is typically held on Tuesday afternoon during the National Conference. All authorized voting delegates are strongly encouraged to attend the meeting so that a quorum is achieved and the members' interests are widely represented.

Legislative and Resolutions (L&R) Committee

The L&R Committee meets twice a year – once at the Legislative Rally in March and once at the National Conference in June. This committee also conducts its business through pre-authorized voting delegates. **Each APPA member is eligible to designate one employee or governing board member to serve as its voting delegate on the L&R Committee.** A form to designate voting delegates to the L&R Committee is available in the member-protected area of APPA's website. Each designated delegate attending the Legislative Rally and/or the National Conference will receive a colored ribbon that says L&R Voting Delegate. This ribbon must be worn at the L&R Committee meeting in order to cast votes.

When a resolution has been adopted by the L&R Committee at the February meeting, it becomes APPA policy, with full force and effect, until it is given final consideration at the annual Association Business Meeting in June. This is to ensure that policy is established for APPA members and staff to use during the first half of the annual congressional session. Resolutions adopted at the March L&R Committee meeting are also reconsidered at the June L&R Committee meeting to determine whether they warrant modification based on legislative/regulatory developments that may have occurred between the two meetings, or for other factors. These resolutions, along with new resolutions considered and adopted at the June L&R Committee meeting, are then open for further discussion and a vote by the authorized **Business Meeting Voting Delegates** at the annual Association Business Meeting on the Tuesday following the L&R Committee meeting at the National Conference as described

It is important to note that your utility's voting delegate for the annual Association Business Meeting may be different than its voting delegate for the L&R Committee Meeting – or it may be the same person. That is up to each member to decide and so designate. For example, a member may want its director of government relations to participate in the L&R Committee process, but the CEO to participate in the annual Association Business Meeting because of that meeting's broader scope. Should the same person be designated as voting delegate for both meetings, that person will be issued two separate ribbons for identification purposes.

Every APPA member is encouraged to exercise fully their rights to be represented and have a voice in these important association activities. If you have any questions, please contact Steven Meved at smedved@publicpower.org, 202-467-2928; or Desmarie Waterhouse at dwaterhouse@publicpower.org, 202-467-2930.