

**Tennessee Society, S.A.R. Constitution and By-laws  
as last amended at the Annual Meeting of the  
Membership, January 22, 2005**

**CONSTITUTION**

**ARTICLE I - Name**

The name of this organization shall be the "Tennessee Society of the Sons of the American Revolution."

**ARTICLE II - Purposes and Objects**

The purposes and objects of this Society are declared to be those of the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution as set forth in the Constitution of that Society.

**ARTICLE III - Membership**

Membership is restricted to those eligible for membership in the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution as set forth in the Constitution of the Society.

**ARTICLE IV - Officers**

The officers of this Society shall be a President, a President-Elect, one Vice President from each of the three (3) Grand Divisions (Regions) of the State of Tennessee, a Vice President for Data Management, a Chancellor, a Secretary, a Registrar, a Treasurer, a Historian, a Chaplain and a Surgeon. Such officers shall serve without compensation in such capacities.

The offices of President and President-Elect shall be rotated through the three (3) Grand Divisions (Regions) in the sequence East-Middle-West, with the office of President-Elect being one step ahead of the office of President in the rotation (e.g. if the President is from East Tennessee, the President-Elect shall be from Middle Tennessee; if the President is from Middle Tennessee, the President-Elect shall be from West Tennessee; if the President is from West Tennessee, the President-Elect shall be from East Tennessee). In the event that the members of the Nominating Committee unanimously agree that there is no qualified and/or willing candidate from a Grand Division at the time for its turn in the rotation, the Nominating Committee may nominate a candidate from a different Grand Division for the offices of President or President-Elect provided no objection is raised by any chapter president from the affected Grand Division within 30 days after written notice from the Nominating Committee. This is the only procedure by which a candidate from outside of the affected Grand Division may be elected to the offices of President or President-Elect. In the event that this procedure is utilized, the offices of President and President-Elect shall continue to rotate through the three (3) Grand Divisions just as if a

member of the affected Grand Division had been elected.

The three Grand Divisions (Regions) cited above shall be as follows: East Tennessee shall be that portion of the State of Tennessee east of the Eastern boundary of the Central Time Zone. Middle Tennessee shall be that portion which is west of the Eastern boundary of the Central Time Zone but east of the Tennessee River as it flows north from Alabama to Kentucky, and West Tennessee shall be that portion west of the Tennessee River.

A member shall be presumed to be a resident of the Grand Division in which the headquarters of the Local Chapter in which he holds his primary membership is located.

There shall be a Board of Governors composed of the elected officers of this Society, Committee chairmen appointed by the President, the President of each Local Chapter and all living former State Presidents who continue as members in good standing of this Society. Members of the Board serve without compensation.

In the event of a vacancy in the offices of President or President-Elect, or disability of the person filling the office, the Board of Governors, at its next meeting, shall elect a successor from the same Grand Division (Region) as the officer whom he succeeds, who shall serve out the unexpired term and until his successor is duly elected and qualified.

In an emergency, the President, in consultation with select members of the Board of Governors, shall have the authority and power to temporarily designate a successor Acting President-Elect and/or Acting Vice President for any or all of the Grand Divisions (Regions) of Tennessee. Such designations and appointments shall be in effect only until the next Board of Governors meeting at which time the Board will elect a President-Elect and/or Vice President.

In the event of a vacancy in any of the offices of a Vice President in any or all of the Grand Divisions (Regions) of Tennessee, the Secretary, the Registrar, or the Treasurer, or the disability of the person filling the office, a successor shall be elected by the Board of Governors at its next meeting. A Vice President successor shall be from the same Grand Division (Region) as his predecessor. Successors elected shall serve out the unexpired term and until his successor is duly elected and qualified.

In the event of a vacancy in the offices of Historian, Chancellor, Chaplain, or Surgeon or disability of the person filling the office, the State President shall designate a successor to serve out the unexpired term until his successor is duly elected and qualified.

## **NON ELECTIVE OFFICE: EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

There may be an Executive Secretary, an employee of the State Society, who may or may not be eligible for membership in the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution as set forth in the Constitution of that Society. The Executive Secretary, if not a member of the Society, shall have no voting rights in any matter requiring a vote by the Board of Governors and/or membership.

The Board of Governors has ultimate authority, responsibility and control, including setting the salary of the Executive Secretary.

### ARTICLE V - Local Chapters

A charter for a local chapter may be granted by the Board of Governors to ten or more members of this Society residing in the State of Tennessee upon their written petition. Such chapter may adopt a Constitution and By-laws not inconsistent with those of this or the National Society.

### ARTICLE VI - Meetings

A meeting for the election of officers and transaction of business shall be held when practicable during the sixty days preceding the National Congress at a place and on a date set by the President of the Tennessee Society with the concurrence of the Board of Governors.

### ARTICLE VII - Election of Officers and Delegates

Nominations of the officers enumerated in Article IV shall be presented by a nominating committee appointed by the President of the Tennessee Society, and they may be supplemented by nominations from the floor of the meeting. The three most immediate living State Society former Presidents who are qualified and willing to serve shall be appointed to the committee. The committee chairman shall be the most immediate former State President who is qualified and willing to serve. The committee shall consist of at least one member from each of the Grand Divisions (Regions) of the State of Tennessee.

The term of officers and members of the Board of Governors shall be one year following their election or until a successor has been elected and qualified.

### ARTICLE VIII - Amendments

This Constitution may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the membership by vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present at the meeting. Unless expressly prohibited by the members, the Constitution may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Governors by a majority of the Board in office at the time the amendment is adopted.

## **BY-LAWS**

### **ARTICLE I - Application for membership**

Application for membership shall be on blank forms furnished by the Society, and each application shall be accompanied by the membership fee and dues for one year. The application shall be submitted in triplicate (either three originals or one original and two two-sided photocopies) with one set of supporting documents. (An original and the documentation are forwarded to national headquarters by the state society, a copy is retained by the state society and another copy is given to the Archives of the State of Tennessee.)

### **ARTICLE II - Examination by the Registrar**

Application for membership shall be sponsored by a member in good standing and co-sponsored by a member in good standing of the chapter shown on the application or a state officer, and shall then be submitted in triplicate on approved forms to the State Society; thereupon, the Registrar shall examine the application thus prepared for eligibility and, if approved, one copy shall be sent to national headquarters. Upon acceptance thereof by the National Society, notice shall forthwith be given by the State Society to the local chapter shown on the application and the applicant. If the Registrar should disapprove such an application, the applicant shall have the right to appeal his ruling to the Board of Governors of the State Society, and he shall be afforded a prompt and impartial hearing thereon.

### **ARTICLE III - Fees and Dues**

#### Section 1.

a. **MEMBERSHIP FEES.** The membership application fee, including that for a memorial membership, shall be the current application fee of the National Society plus a state application fee which shall be fixed from time to time by resolution of the Board of Governors. The Board of Governors may also set an amount to be returned to the local chapter shown on the application. Applications for membership must be accompanied by these application fees plus the national dues.

b. **ANNUAL DUES.** The annual state dues shall be the amount which is fixed from time to time by resolution of the Board of Governors. The amount of said dues to be allocated to the youth program, the local chapter dues and other activities of the State Society shall be fixed from time to time by resolution of the Board of Governors. The state dues shall be in addition to the National dues which are fixed by the National Society and collected by the State Society. No person shall be eligible for membership in the State Society unless he is also a member of the National Society, S.A.R.

New members joining after November 1 shall not be required to pay any dues to the State

Society or the local Chapter for the remaining current calendar year.

Section 2. The annual dues shall be payable to the Treasurer on or before the first day of January each year. On or before January 5<sup>th</sup> of each year, the Vice President for Data Management shall send each Chapter President a list of delinquent members. Nonpayment of dues before January 15<sup>th</sup> of the current year shall terminate active membership of such member in arrears. The Vice President for Data Management shall notify each Chapter President of terminated members not later than the winter Board of Governors meeting. Inactive members may be reinstated by paying the current year's dues.

Section 3. There is a non-refundable State Membership fee of \$10 to the Tennessee Society. Applicants shall submit the admission fee of the National Society (\$60 as of November 2003) unless it is waived as provided in By-law 19, Section 1 of the National Society. When the National admission fee is waived the applicant shall pay the cost of his membership certificate as required by the National By-law (\$5 as of August 1984).

Section 4. A fee of \$5.00 shall be charged for copies of membership applications on file at the State Society.

Section 5. Supplemental Applications shall be accompanied by a Tennessee Society fee of \$10 plus the National Society Supplemental Application fee (\$40 as of November 2003, making the total to accompany the application \$50).

#### ARTICLE IV - Meetings of the Board of Governors

The regular meeting of the Board of Governors shall be held during the Annual Meeting (the term "Annual Meeting" is used throughout these By-laws to refer to the meeting specified in Article VI of the Constitution of the Tennessee Society) at such time and place as may be determined by the President. Special meetings may be called by the President at any time and shall be called upon the request of three or more members of the Board of Governors, provided that not less than ten (10) days notice of the time, place and purpose of such meetings shall be given.

#### ARTICLE V - Quorum

One-third (1/3) of the number of members of the Board of Governors in office shall constitute a quorum of the Board of Governors. Fifteen members shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the membership of the Society. Voting by proxy is prohibited.

#### ARTICLE VI - Duties of Officers and Committees

President: Maintain general supervision over affairs of the State Society and more particularly:

1. Call and preside over all meetings of the State Society and Board of Governors establishing and Agenda which shall be published in advance and distributed by the Secretary.
2. Appoint committees and check their progress and activities every quarter.
3. Represent the Society at all outside functions where requested or he deems proper or of benefit to the Society.
4. Report to the National Trustee and local chapter Presidents on the activities of the State Society.
5. Supervise the activities of the other officers and check on their progress every quarter, offering suggestions and possible activities and programs to them.

President-Elect: Shall assist the State President, performing such duties as may be mutually agreed on. Shall preside over meetings of the State Society or Board of Governors in the absence of the President.

District/Region Vice President: Three Vice Presidents shall be designated Vice President East Tennessee, Vice President Middle Tennessee and Vice President West Tennessee, who shall assist the State President in activities in their district. They shall also:

1. Check on the activities of local chapters in their district every quarter and suggest programs and activities.
2. Serve on Membership and Extension Committee.
3. Report to the State President on their activities every quarter.

Treasurer: Have custody of the funds of the State Society and be responsible for the collection and transmittal of dues to the National Society and the local chapters. He shall also:

1. Send notice to each member of annual dues owed not later than October 1 of each year.
2. Before November 15 of each year, send to each chapter a list of their members who have paid their dues for the subsequent year.
3. Send a second dues notice to each unpaid member by December 1 of each year.
4. Send reports of all active and inactive members to the local Chapter Presidents, the District Vice-Presidents, state and local membership chairmen, and State President on completion of the dues period on December 31.

5. Transmit final dues allocated to the National Society by January 31.
6. Remit the chapter portion of the membership fees to the chapters semiannually by April and October.
7. Prepare and submit an annual financial statement and report at the Annual Meeting, and provide quarterly financial reports to the Board of Governors.
8. Work with the Finance Committee to prepare annual Operating and Youth Fund budgets and keep records of expenditures by line-items shown in each budget.
9. Invest surplus funds as directed by the Board of Governors.
10. Work with the State Secretary on the sending out of dues notices, the recording of payments, and sending status reports to the chapters and the Board of Governors.
11. Pay all bills and expenses incurred by the State Society and require receipts from all individuals/companies requesting payments from State funds.
12. Prepare and file an annual Form 990 with the Internal Revenue Service.

**Secretary:** Shall have charge of the records of the State Society, shall give notice of all meetings, and shall keep an accurate written record of the proceedings of such meetings.

**Registrar:** Shall examine all applications for membership and, if found acceptable, approve them before submission to National Headquarters for final approval and registration. He shall sign all applications and papers. A duplicate copy of each application shall be retained by the Registrar for the Archives of the State Society.

**Chancellor:** Should be an attorney-at-law and shall give opinions on legal matters affecting the Society when questions are referred to him or when they come to his attention.

**Chaplain:** Shall pronounce the invocation and benediction at state meetings and ceremonies and shall furnish the membership with spiritual guidance. He shall conduct any religious services relative to the state's functions.

**Surgeon:** Must be a physician and shall be responsible for medical services during State Society meetings.

**Historian:** Shall on a yearly basis, make recommendations to the Board of Governors for the collection, preservation and retention of historical, genealogical and archival material deemed essential to the purposes of the State Society. In addition, he shall organize and supervise the collection, preservation and retention of material relative to the history of the State Society. He shall collect and record information in reference to historical sites, grave sites of Revolutionary

War Soldiers and Patriots, and other kindred matters, and shall make a report at the Annual Meeting.

## NON-ELECTIVE OFFICE DUTIES

**Executive Secretary:** Shall receive and acknowledge all correspondence, channeling such correspondence to officers, committee chairmen or chapter presidents involved. Shall assist the President, President-Elect, Secretary, Registrar and Treasurer in the secretarial functions of their office. Shall not be responsible for those duties ascribed to the officers or committees and shall not be responsible for secretarial functions of other state officers or committee chairmen. For items of a routine nature, the Executive Secretary should request advice and counsel from the Secretary. For exceptional matters, the Executive Secretary should consult the Board of Governors through the President for instructions, advice, counsel and decisions. The Board of Governors has ultimate authority, responsibility and control, including setting the salary of the Executive Secretary.

## COMMITTEES

Membership and Extension: Made up of Membership Chairmen and three District Vice Presidents and shall be responsible for:

1. Stimulating increased membership
2. Creation of new chapters
3. Shall communicate with local Membership Chairmen quarterly and report to the State President quarterly.

Americanism: Shall develop various programs and projects intended to promote the ideals on which this country was founded. The committee shall:

1. Establish goals and programs in advance and submit these in writing to the local chairmen and chapter Presidents.
2. Shall check with local chairmen and report to the state President quarterly.
3. Shall report to the National Committee Chairmen quarterly.

Graves and Landmarks: Shall seek out and research Revolutionary landmarks and endeavor to get the most adjacent chapter to furnish and dedicate markers. Shall report to the National Committee Chairman, State President and local Chairman quarterly.

The Tennessee Society Swift/West/Rumbaugh Oration: Made up of State Chairman and local chapter chairmen and shall:

1. Submit rules, regulations and procedures of the Rumbaugh Oratorical Contest to the local chapter Presidents or local committee Chairmen. Authorized expenses are paid from the

TNSSAR Youth Fund.

2. Organize the State Contest.
3. Arrange for the participation of the winner of the State Contest in the National Contest.
4. Report to the National Committee Chairman, State President and local chairmen quarterly.

Nominations: Shall consist of the three most immediate living State Society former Presidents who are qualified and willing to serve, and the committee chairman shall be the most immediate former State President who is qualified and willing to serve. The committee shall consist of at least one member from each of the Grand Division (Regions) of the State of Tennessee. At least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting, submit a slate of officers for the coming year to the Secretary for publication.

D.A.R - C.A.R.: Shall act as liaison between the State Society S.A.R. and both the State Society D.A.R. and State Society C.A.R.

Medals and Awards: Shall follow National rules and regulations relative to the awarding of medals and awards. Annually, on or before July 1, each chapter and the Chairman of this Committee shall furnish to the Secretary, for a permanent record, a list of the names and the awards given during the preceding twelve months.

Resolutions: Shall request, prepare and present resolutions from the general membership that formally recognize significant contributions to the State Society of members and non-members alike. Said resolutions are presented at the Annual State Meeting and recorded in the permanent records of the society. This committee shall be the channel in which formal and solemn recognition is given to members of the society who have died during the previous year and therefore is charged to ensure that a copy of the resolution is presented to the next of kin by an appropriate SAR member.

Eagle Scout: Shall administer the Eagle Scout program.

Finance: Shall prepare an annual budget, advise on the expenditure of funds, and report the same to the Board of Governors.

By-laws: Shall prepare proposed amendments to the By-laws from time to time as directed by the Board of Governors.

Honorary Membership: Made up of the President, President-Elect, Treasurer, Secretary, and Registrar and responsible for administering the Honorary Membership program.

Life Membership Committee: Shall consist of three members appointed by the President in accordance with ARTICLE XI, and shall administer the Life Membership Fund.

Information Technology: Shall arrange for provision of Internet service for the TNSSAR and its Chapters and assist officers, committees and Chapters in creating and maintaining their Internet presence. The chairman will report all findings and status to the President of the Society and the Board of Governors. A TNSSAR Webmaster responsible for the continued maintenance of Internet web sites will be appointed by the committee with the approval of the Board of Governors.

Newsletter: Shall be responsible for preparing and distributing a quarterly newsletter to the membership of the State Society and shall be responsible for providing news coverage of State Society meetings and activities.

ROTC/JROTC: Shall assist and advise the chapters with regard to awarding the Silver ROTC medal at the college level and the Bronze ROTC Medal at the high school level. It shall also promote the JROTC contest by:

1. Submitting guidelines, rules, regulations and procedures for the NSSAR JROTC Essay Contest to the local chapters.
2. Submitting budget requests to the Finance Committee for authorization of expenses at the State level.
3. Organizing and conducting the State JROTC Contest.
4. Coordinating with the NSSAR Committee and reporting the State Contest results to the NSSAR.

Young Members: Composed of members under fifty (50) years of age; provides opportunities for growth as future leaders of the Society.

George and Stella Knight Essay Contest: This committee shall:

1. Submit rules, regulations and procedures of the George and Stella Knight Essay Contest to the local chapter Presidents or local committee chairman.
2. Conduct the judging of the essays which are submitted and advise the State President of the winner of the contest.
3. Forward the winning essay to the National Committee so that the State winner may compete in the national contest.

Friends of the S.A.R. Library: This committee shall communicate with the chapters regarding the

SAR Library, send all donations to the SAR Library to the National Committee and report to the Board of Governors quarterly regarding news pertaining to the SAR Library.

Past Presidents: Composed of all active Past State Presidents and chaired by the immediate Past President. By utilizing the skills, experience and abilities of its members, this committee shall provide the State Society with long term planning services and shall delve into matters that transcend the typical one year operating period.

Veterans: Responsible for encouraging chapters to conduct a Veterans' Program, including making visitations to veterans and engaging in such other activities as are directed by the Board of Governors. It shall monitor and review federal and state legislation and regulations relating to veterans and report the same to the chapters and the Board of Governors. It shall also identify in its report to the Board of Governors those chapters and individuals who qualify for medals and other awards for participating in Veterans activities.

Color Guard: Shall provide a Color/Honor Guard at Tennessee and National SAR functions, at Patriot Grave Markings and at appropriate parades, patriotic events and other public events, the funeral/memorial and graveside services of Compatriots, and at DAR or CAR functions. It shall also foster, encourage and support the Color Guards of Junior ROTC units.

Paul Revere: Responsible for distributing information concerning designated resolutions passed and projects adopted by the Board of Governors, which promote the programs and operations sponsored by the United States Government, its agencies and military, to combat terrorism both at home and abroad.

#### ARTICLE VII - Indebtedness

No indebtedness shall be incurred by this Society or Board of Governors in excess of the money actually in the treasury.

#### ARTICLE VIII - Duties of the Board of Governors

Section 1. The Board of Governors shall prepare and carry out plans for promoting the objects and growth of the Society, shall generally superintend its interest, and shall execute such other duties as may be committed to it by the Society.

Section 2. It shall have the authority to issue charters to local chapters and recall such charters.

Section 3. It shall have the authority to reimburse officers of the State Society for necessary expenses incurred by them on the business of the Society.

Section 4. It may authorize and direct return to members of the Society of a portion of the fees and dues paid in by such members, in cases of need or in appreciation of meritorious service to

the United States of America.

#### ARTICLE IX - Youth Activities Fund

A separate fund designated as the Youth Activities fund shall be established. There shall be deposited in this fund any portion of the annual dues which is allocated by the Board of Governors to this fund. Monies in this fund shall be used exclusively for the benefit of the youth activities designated from time to time by resolution of the Board of Governors, including, without limitation, the Oration Contest, the Eagle Scout Program, the Essay Contest and the Tennessee Society, Children of the American Revolution.

Any expenditure from the Youth Activities Fund shall be made upon recommendation of the appropriate TNSSAR committee(s) and approval by the Board of Governors.

#### ARTICLE X - Honorary Membership Fund

From time to time certain members may qualify for Honorary Membership status. The purpose of Honorary Membership is to enable such members, who would otherwise be unable to pay their dues and/or attend meetings because of age, health, financial status, or Reserve or National Guard personnel activated to EAD (Extended Active Duty) in connection with a declared State of National Emergency or Hostilities, or active duty military personnel deployed outside of CONUS (the Continental United States), to continue being members of the organization.

Prior to January 1 of each year, chapters may submit the names of eligible members to the Honorary Membership Committee for consideration. In selecting recipients, length and quality of service to the chapter, state society and/or national society as well as the individual's hardship/status shall be considered. The names of all nominees shall be maintained in the strictest confidence. Only those members who serve as chapter officers, the members of the Honorary Membership Committee and the Executive Secretary shall have access to the names of the nominees.

Monies used to maintain these honorary memberships will come from the general funds of the Society, subject to approval by the Finance Committee based on the reasonableness of the aggregate amount of Honorary Membership fees and the availability of funds. Upon approval, payment of the national dues of the honorary members will be made. In addition, the state society as well as the members' local chapters will maintain them on their membership rolls without expense to the honorary members.

Honorary memberships will be granted for only one year. Members having received honorary membership will be eligible for re-nomination in any year thereafter under the same conditions.

## ARTICLE XI - Life Membership Fund

A separate fund shall be established called the "Life Membership Fund" (hereinafter called "the Fund") generated by payments made by members accompanied by an application for enrollment which is in accordance with a published schedule of applicable amounts based on the age of the enrolling member and which has been approved by the Board of Governors. The Fund shall be administered by a committee of three members. On passage of this by-law, the President shall appoint one member for three years, one for two years, and one for one year. Thereafter the President shall appoint annually one member for a term of three years. In the event of a vacancy created by the death or resignation of a member, the President shall appoint a successor for the unexpired term of said member. Payment may be made in a lump sum or as four equal installments payable at the beginning of the first, second, third, and fourth years. In the event an installment plan is started but not completed, the member shall be credited with the number of full calendar years the money on deposit is projected to last, using the same calculation procedure used to develop the table of applicable amounts, and thereafter must resume annual dues payments to retain good standing. The Fund shall be opened for enrollment during the month of December of each year.

Payment may be deferred until the 15<sup>th</sup> of January following if desired for income tax purposes.

A member enrolling in the Fund shall pay the required deposit plus dues for the next calendar year. The committee shall invest the money deposited in the Fund in securities available to fiduciaries in the State of Tennessee.

Within 30 days of the beginning of each calendar year an amount equal to the National and State (includes chapter) dues of each enrolled member shall be transferred to the general fund of the Tennessee Society. The payment of the State, including the chapter dues, may be suspended if approved by vote of 2/3 of the members present at any regular or special meeting of the membership or, unless expressly prohibited by the members, by vote of a majority of the members of the Board in office. The Treasurer shall pay the National dues of the enrolled Members to the National Society, S.A.R. and unless suspended, their local chapter dues, from the funds so transferred. The Fund Committee shall review the schedule of required deposits annually and shall propose a revised schedule to the Board of Governors if deemed necessary.

Upon the death of an enrolled member his name shall be removed from the Fund's rolls and payment of dues for the deceased member shall cease.

Monies deposited in the Fund by deceased members shall be retained in the Fund until such time as the Fund Committee determines that the capital is sufficient to meet projected requirements with suitable reserve for contingencies (e.g. survival of enrolled members past their life expectancy).

Capital which the Fund Committee determines to be in excess of requirements shall be

transferred to other Funds of the Tennessee Society as directed by the Board of Governors.

In the event that this article should be repealed, payment of dues for the enrolled members shall continue as provided herein, until all enrolled members are deceased. Thereupon, all Monies remaining in the Fund shall be transferred to other Funds of the Tennessee Society as directed by the Board of Governors.

#### ARTICLE XII - Insignia

The insignia shall be those of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, and shall be worn only at such times and places as are authorized by the National Society.

#### ARTICLE XIII - Amendments

These By-laws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the membership by two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at the meeting. Unless expressly prohibited by the members, these By-laws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Governors by a majority of the members of the Board in office at the time the amendment is adopted.

#### ARTICLE XIV - Rules of order

All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

#### ARTICLE XV - Accounting - Fiscal Year

The State Society fiscal year for accounting and tax purposes shall be determined and fixed by the Board of Governors by properly adopted resolution.