

BYLAWS
OF
Vermont Retail Lumber Dealers Association, INC.

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BYLAWS
OF
VERMONT RETAIL LUMBER DEALERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

ARTICLE 1

Identification

Section 1.1 Name. The name of this corporation shall be Vermont Retail Lumber Dealers Association, Inc. and shall herein be referred to as “VRLDA” or “the association.” The association is incorporated under the laws of the State of Vermont.

Section 1.2 Nonprofit Status. This association is not intended as a profit-making corporation, nor is it founded with the expectation of making a profit. The association shall use its funds only for the purposes specified in these bylaws.

Section 1.3 Offices. The principal business office of the association shall be at 618 Depot Street, Manchester Center, VT 05255. Such office may be changed from time to time by the board of directors, and the association may also have offices at such other places as the association may require.

ARTICLE 2

Statement of Purposes

The purpose of the association is to engage in the following activities:

The Association is organized and shall at all times be operated exclusively for purposes consistent with Section 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) (the “Code”).

Within these restrictions, the Association is organized for the following specific purposes:

- a. To represent unite, train, and lead independent lumber and building material dealers doing business in Vermont;
- b. To provide a strong, unified voice for the lumber and building material industry at all levels of government;
- c. To provide educational training and development for the owners, managers and employees of its members;
- d. To serve as a clearinghouse of ideas for industry issues and to provide information that will assist member in the management of their firm;
- e. To assist members in reducing their cost of doing business through group programs;
- f. To promote a high standard of business ethics and industry stewardship;
- g. To promote a safe and profitable business environment; and
- h. To create an environment that will attract young people to its industry and help them develop strong leadership skills.

ARTICLE 3

Members

Section 3.1 Categories of Membership. There shall be two categories of membership: Retail Member and Associate Member. VRLDA will be primarily structured to serve retail members.

Section 3.2 Retail Member. Any organization with its principal place of business within the state of Vermont may become a member if:

- (i) it maintains a facility which is equipped to service the public or professional trades;
- (ii) its facility includes an office, storage yard or warehouse;
- (iii) its facility is kept open during business hours; and
- (iv) it carries an inventory of lumber and building materials or millwork to sell in small or large quantities to the general public (including the professional trades) and not exclusively or primarily for its own consumption.

Section 3.3 Associate Member. Any person or organization who or which actively supplies lumber or building materials or services to retail members may become an associate member of VRLDA. A person or organization eligible for membership both as a retail member and an associate member may not become an associate member until the requirements for retail membership have been satisfied. Associate members shall be entitled to vote, but are not eligible to become President or Vice President of the association.

Section 3.4 Election of Members. The Board of Directors will elect all members. All members must subscribe to the bylaws of VRLDA and each member shall pay annual

dues to the association in an amount determined by the board of directors. In the event a member's membership is terminated for any reason pursuant to Section 3.9 below, such member shall not be entitled to receive a pro-rated refund of dues paid to the association.

Section 3.5 Membership Rights. The association shall be controlled by members. No member shall hold more than one membership in the association. There is no limitation on the number of members in the association. Membership interests in the association are not transferable. All rights, privileges and interests of a member in the association shall cease upon termination of membership.

Section 3.6 Membership Book Report. The secretary of the association, in conjunction with NRLA staff, shall maintain a membership ~~book~~ report listing the name and address of each association member. The ~~book~~ report shall also contain the date upon which an applicant becomes a member of the association and the date the membership of any member ceases. The membership ~~book~~ report shall be kept in the principal place of business of the association.

Section 3.7 Non-liability of Members. No member by virtue of just being a member of the association shall be liable for the debts, liabilities or obligations of the association. No member shall be or be deemed to be a member for purposes of the Articles of Organization or these bylaws of the association or for purposes of Vermont Statutes Annotated, Title 11B or any other law, rule or regulation. Any action or vote required or permitted by Title 11B or any other law, rule, or regulation to be taken by members shall be taken by action or vote of the same percentage of the board of directors of the association.

Section 3.8 Termination of Membership. A member's membership interest in the association shall terminate on the occurrence of any of the following events:

- a. Upon receipt by a director of a member's written resignation of membership in the association;
- b. Upon the dissolution of the member;
- c. Upon the failure of a member to pay membership dues by the due date.

Termination of membership for non-payment of dues occurs automatically without notice being given by the association. Membership may be reinstated in full if delinquent dues are paid within thirty (30) days of the due date; or

- d. If, after being given an opportunity to be heard, the board of directors for the association finds that a member has engaged in conduct that violates the purposes for which the association was formed, or has breached the duty of good faith owed to the association to such a degree that the member's membership in the association should be terminated.

ARTICLE 4

Board of Directors

Section 4.1 Authority. The business and affairs of the association shall be controlled and governed by the board of directors, which shall have the right to exercise all powers of the association as permitted by law. Each director shall execute all duties through the use of the standard as to what in the Director's opinion is in the best interests of the association. In making all decisions a Director shall utilize such reasonable care and inquiry as a reasonably prudent person in a similar situation would employ.

Section 4.2 Composition. The board shall be composed of the Executive Committee of the association, the Immediate Past President, who shall be an ex-officio member of the Executive Committee, not less than four or more than six additional retail members, four associate members, and a representative from the Northeastern Young Lumber Execs (NYLE). Each and every director, shall have one vote on matters which require vote of the board of directors. A majority of all officers and directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the board.

Section 4.3 Terms of Office. Directors shall be approved by a majority of the nominating committee and elected annually at the annual meeting, by a majority vote of members present. Each firm or member of the Association is entitled to one vote. The term of each Retail Director shall be two years. A Retail Director's term may be renewed without limit if approved by the nominating committee and approved by the board. Associate Directors shall be limited to four consecutive two year terms. At the discretion of the board an Associate Director that has termed-out may be re-elected to the board after sitting out one two year term.

Section 4.4 Meetings. The board of directors shall hold an annual meeting each year and may elect the time and place for the annual and other meetings of the board and membership. Special meetings of the entire membership may be called by the board and notice of meetings shall be given to each member. Eight members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at the annual meeting or special meeting of the entire membership. Other meetings of the board of directors may be called by the president or by one-half of the directors then in office by delivering notice in writing, of

the date, time, place, and purpose of such meeting, to all directors at least two (2) days in advance of such meeting.

Section 4.5 Quorum and Voting. A majority of the board of directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the board. At any meeting of the board of directors at which a quorum is present, a majority of those present shall decide any matter, unless a different vote is specified by law, the Articles of Organization, or these Bylaws.

Section 4.6 Meetings by Telephone or Videoconference. One or more directors may participate in any annual, regular, or special meeting of the board by means of conference telephone, videoconference, or similar communications equipment by which all persons participating in the meeting are able to hear each other at the same time. Such participation shall constitute presence in person at such meeting.

Section 4.7 Action Without a Meeting. Any action required or permitted to be taken by the Board or any committee thereof may be taken without a meeting if all Directors of the Board or the committee consent in writing to the adoption of a resolution authorizing the action. Such consent may be written or electronic. If the consent is written, it must be signed by the director. If the consent is electronic it must be able to be reasonably determined to have been sent by the director. The resolution and the written consents thereto by the Directors of the Board or committee shall be filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the Board or committee.

Section 4.8 Committees. The board of directors may create such standing and special committees as it determines to be in the best interest of the association. The board of directors shall determine the duties, powers, and composition of such

committees, except that the board shall not delegate to such committees those powers which by law may not be delegated. Each such committee shall submit to the board of directors at such meetings as the board may designate, a report of the actions and recommendations of such committees for consideration and approval by the board of directors. Any committee may be terminated at any time by the board of directors.

Section 4.9 Compensation. Directors as such shall not receive any salaries for their services on the board, but the board may authorize reimbursement of actual expenses incurred on behalf of the association by officers or members.

Section 4.10 Vacancies. A vacancy or vacancies in the board of directors shall not interrupt the continuity of association business, and the continuing directors shall for this purpose be deemed to constitute the full board of directors. Any vacancy occurring in the board of directors shall be filled as soon as conveniently possible by a majority vote of the board of directors. A director elected by the board of directors to fill a vacancy shall be appointed for the unexpired term of his or her predecessor in office.

Section 4.11 Removal. Any director may be removed, with or without assignment of cause, by a vote of two-thirds of the entire board of directors at any meeting of the board of directors. No member of the board shall be removed from office unless the notice of the meeting at which removal is to be considered states such purpose and opportunity to be heard at such meeting is given to the director whose removal is sought.

ARTICLE 5

Executive Committee and Officers

Section 5.1 Officers. The officers of the corporation shall consist of a president, a vice president, a treasurer, and a secretary.

Section 5.2 Executive Committee. The officers shall comprise the executive committee of the association. Between meetings of the board of directors, the executive committee shall be empowered to act on the board's behalf.

Section 5.3 Election. The officers of the association shall be elected by the general membership at the annual meeting. Each officer shall hold office until a successor shall have been elected and qualified.

Section 5.4 Vacancies. A vacancy in any office because of death, resignation, disqualification, or otherwise may be filled by the board of directors for the unexpired portion of the term.

Section 5.5 Removal. Any officer may be removed, with or without assignment of cause, by a vote of one-half of the entire board of directors at any meeting of the board of directors. No officer shall be removed from office unless the notice of the meeting at which removal is to be considered states such purpose and opportunity to be heard at such meeting is given to the officer whose removal is sought.

Section 5.6 President. The president shall preside at all meetings of the board of directors and the executive committee, and shall be a member ex-officio, with the right to vote, of all committees except the nominating committee. The president, or other proper officer or agent of the association authorized by the board of directors, may sign any

deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts, or other instruments which the board of directors has authorized to be executed. The president shall perform all duties incident to the office of president and such other duties as may be prescribed by the board of directors from time to time. The normal term of office of the president shall be a two years.

Section 5.7 Vice President. The vice president shall assist the president to discharge his duties and during his absence shall, in the order of their election, discharge his duties in his stead. The vice president shall succeed the president when the president's term expires. The normal term of office of the vice president shall be two years.

Section 5.8 Treasurer. The treasurer, or other proper officer or agent of the association authorized by the board of directors, shall have charge and custody of and be responsible for all funds and securities of the association; receive and give receipt for moneys due and payable to the corporation from any source whatsoever, and deposit all such moneys in the name of the association in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories as shall be selected by the board of directors; and in general perform all of the duties incident to the office of treasurer and such others as may from time to time be assigned by the board of directors. The normal term of office of treasurer is two years. The treasurer's service shall not exceed three consecutive two-year terms.

Section 5.9 Secretary. The secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the board of directors in one or more books provided for that purpose; ensure that all notices are given in accordance with the provisions of these bylaws; be custodian of the corporate records; and in general perform all such duties as may from time to time be assigned by the board of directors. The normal term of office of the Secretary shall be two years.

ARTICLE 6

Finances

Section 6.1 Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the corporation shall begin on October 1 and end on the following September 30 or such other period as determined by the board of directors.

Section 6.2 Operating Budget. Each year, the Treasurer shall oversee the preparation of the association operating budget for the ensuing fiscal year. A draft of the proposed budget shall be circulated to the board of directors in September for comments. A final budget shall be presented to the board of directors and approved prior to the annual meeting. The budget may be amended by the board of directors when necessary.

ARTICLE 7

Association Transactions

Section 7.1 Contracts. The board of directors may authorize any officer or officers, agent or agents of the association in addition to the officers so authorized by these bylaws, to enter into any contract or execute and deliver any instrument in the name of and on behalf of the corporation, and such authority may be general or confined by specific instances.

Section 7.2 Indebtedness. All checks, drafts, or orders for the payment of money, notes, or other evidence of indebtedness issued in the name of the association, shall be signed by the president or treasurer.

Section 7.3 Deposits. All funds of the association shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the association in such banks, trust companies, or other depositories, as the board of directors shall select.

ARTICLE 8

Books and Records

The association shall keep at the principal office of the corporation correct and complete books and records of account; minutes of the proceedings of board of directors; and a register of the names and addresses of the directors of the corporation. All books and records of the corporation may be inspected by any director, or agent or attorney thereof, for any proper purpose at any reasonable time.

ARTICLE 9

Restrictions on Activities

Notwithstanding any other provisions of these bylaws, no director, officer, agent or any other representative of the association shall take any action or carry on any activity by or on behalf of the association not permitted to be taken by an organization exempt under section 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code, as it now exists or may hereafter be amended, or any corresponding section of any future tax code.

ARTICLE 10

Dissolution

In the event of dissolution of the association, the board of directors shall, after paying or making provisions for the payment of all of the liabilities of the association to the extent assets of the association permit, dispose of all the assets of the association exclusively for the purposes of the association as the board of directors shall determine, in such manner as required by section 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code (or corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue law) and in accordance with the statutes of the State of Vermont.

ARTICLE 11

Personal Liability

No officer or director of the association shall be personally liable to the association for monetary damages for or arising out of a breach of fiduciary duty as an officer or director notwithstanding any provision of law imposing such liability; provided, however, that the foregoing shall not eliminate or limit the liability of an officer or director to the extent that such liability is imposed by applicable law (i) for a breach of the director's duty of loyalty to the association, (ii) for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of the law, or (iii) for any transaction from which the officer or director derived an improper personal benefit.

ARTICLE 12

Indemnification

The association shall, to the extent legally permissible, indemnify each person who may serve or who has served at any time as an officer or director of the association against all expenses and liabilities, including, without limitation, counsel fees, judgments, fines, excise taxes, penalties and settlement payments, reasonably incurred by or imposed upon such person in connection with any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding in which he or she may become involved by reason of his or her service in such capacity; provided that no indemnification shall be provided for any such person with respect to any matter as to which he or she shall have been finally adjudicated in any proceeding to not have acted in good faith in the reasonable belief that such action was in the best interests of the association; and further provided that any compromise or settlement payment shall be approved by a majority vote of a quorum of directors who are not at the time parties to the proceeding.

The indemnification provided hereunder shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of persons entitled to indemnification hereunder. The right of indemnification under this Article shall be in addition to and not exclusive of all other rights to which any person may be entitled.

This Article constitutes a contract between the association and the indemnified officers and directors. No amendment or repeal of the provisions of this Article which adversely affects the right of an indemnified officer or director with respect to these acts or omissions which occurred at any time prior to such amendment or repeal.

ARTICLE 13

Amendments to Bylaws

These bylaws may be amended at any annual meeting of the association by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

(End of Bylaws)

Approved Feb. 23, 2006 – VRLDA, Inc. BOD

Amended August 12, 2015

Amended September 18, 2018