



LA CROSSE AREA
SOCIETY FOR HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CHAPTER BYLAWS

LA CROSSE AREA SHRM – CHAPTER #0288

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ARTICLE I – NAME AND AFFILIATION

Section 1.1: Name

The name of the Chapter is the La Crosse Area Society for Human Resource Management (herein referred to as the “Chapter”). To avoid potential confusion, the Chapter will refer to itself as LASHRM or La Crosse Area Society for Human Resource Management and not as SHRM or the Society for Human Resource Management.

Section 1.2: Affiliation

The Chapter is affiliated with the Society for Human Resource Management (herein referred to as “SHRM”) as a 100% Affiliated chapter. As a SHRM affiliated chapter, the Chapter is also a member of the Wisconsin SHRM State Council and abiding by State Council governance process.

Section 1.3: Separate Legal Existence of Chapter/Autonomy

Both parties are separate legal entities, and neither party nor its officers, agents or employees may hold themselves out as an agent of either organization. Neither party is an agency or instrumentality of the other party. Neither party shall contract in the name of the other organization or incur any financial or other obligations on behalf of the other, without the express written consent of the other organization. Neither party may hold itself out to the public as the other organization. The Chapter shall have autonomy with regard to all phases of its operation, subject to its governing instruments.

Section 1.4: Use of SHRM Domain, Logo and Brand

The Chapter agrees to follow SHRM Brand Standards Guides, as may be modified from time to time, and be consistent with SHRM in its use of any/all electronic, printed, oral, and all other types of media including but not limited to SHRM logos, resources, branding and branding requirements, affiliate of logo, and all others. The Chapter may use only the “Affiliate of SHRM” logo or the approved SHRM branded block template, in accordance with SHRM Brand Standards Guides. The Chapter shall not use the standard, standalone SHRM logo in any media, for any reason. The Chapter may not use the SHRM name, logos, trademarks, or copyrightable materials in any manner that deviates from the SHRM Guidelines without SHRM’s prior written permission. The Chapter may register a domain name that is either as it appears in the SHRM approved bylaws or the approved SHRM branded block template.

Section 1.5: Starting or affiliating with other groups

The Chapter is required to obtain written approval from SHRM’s CEO/President or designee before the Chapter legally affiliates through the governance process with other groups or starts other groups or subchapters while affiliated with SHRM. This includes the written approval of all governing documents associated with these organizations.

Section 1.5a: The Chapter may initiate, facilitate or engage in mutually beneficial business relationships that further the Chapter's business or mission objectives to the extent these business relationships are not in conflict with Section 1.5.

Section 1.6: Approved Service Area

The approved service area (zip code ranges) for the Chapter is listed in the Chapter Charter ("Affiliation Agreement") and subsequent addendums, as appropriate. The service areas reference where the Chapter is allowed to overtly solicit for i) members and ii) event activity. Chapters may only hold physical events within their approved service area unless the Chapter obtains written approval of SHRM's CEO/President or designee.

Section 1.7: Member Service Area

The Chapter is required to obtain written approval from SHRM's CEO/President or designee (which includes the written approval of all governing documents associated with these organizations) prior to the Chapter starting a new Chapter, sub-chapter, or adding a Member Service Area ("MSA") to an approved service area, while affiliated with SHRM.

Section 1.8: Approved Service Area Modifications

Should the Chapter wish to request a modification to the Approved Service Area, request consideration to become a Member Service Area ("MSA") or have another currently affiliated chapter become an MSA of the Chapter, the Chapter is required to obtain written approval from SHRM's CEO/President or designee.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSE

The purposes of the Chapter, as a non-profit organization are:

1. to provide a forum for the personal and professional development of members;
2. to provide an opportunity to develop leadership, managerial, business acumen, public speaking and group decision-making skills;
3. to provide an opportunity to interact and develop individuals to a new professional; and all individuals acting in a Human Resources related function or responsibility in the area; student chapters in the area; etc.;
4. to provide an arena for the development of trust relationships where common problems may be discussed and deliberated;
5. to provide an opportunity to focus on current human resource management issues of importance to members;
6. to grow dual membership: members who are both SHRM Chapter and SHRM members;
7. to provide a focus on state and national workplace public policy issues;
8. to provide valuable information gathering and dissemination channels;
9. to provide a pool of human resource professional leaders for succession as volunteer leaders of the Chapter, State Council and of SHRM;

10. to serve as an important vehicle for introducing human resource professionals to SHRM;
11. to serve as a source of new members for SHRM; and
12. to serve as part of the two-way channel of communications between SHRM and the individual members.

The Chapter supports the purposes of SHRM, which are to promote the use of sound and ethical human resource management practices in the profession and:

1. to be a recognized world leader in human resource management;
2. to provide high-quality, dynamic and responsive programs and service to our customers with interests in human resource management;
3. to be the voice of the profession on human resource management issues;
4. to facilitate the development and guide the direction of the human resource profession; and
5. to establish, monitor and update standards for the profession.

ARTICLE III – FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of the Chapter shall be the calendar year.

Article IV – MEMBERSHIP

Section 4.1: Qualifications for Membership

The qualifications for membership in the Chapter shall be as stated in Sections 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, and 4.7 of this Article. To achieve the mission of the Chapter there shall be no discrimination in individual memberships because of race, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, veteran's status, or any other legally protected classes under federal, state or local laws.

Section 4.2: Non-Transferability of Membership

Individual Membership in the Chapter is neither transferable nor assignable.

Section 4.3: Individual Membership

Membership in the Chapter is held in the individual's name, not an organization with which the member is affiliated.

Section 4.4: Professional Members

Individuals who are engaged in the profession of human resource management and who meet one of the following criteria:

- i. Possess at least three (3) years of exempt-level human resource management experience.
- ii. Hold an HR certification recognized by SHRM.
- iii. Are faculty members holding assistant, associate or full professorial rank in human resource management or any of its specialized functions at an accredited college or university and have at least three (3) years of experience at this level of teaching.
- iv. Are full-time consultants with at least three (3) years of experience as a practitioner in human resource management.
- v. Are full-time attorneys with at least three (3) years of experience in counseling and advising clients on matters relating to the human resource profession. Professional Members may vote and hold office in the Chapter.

Section 4.5: Life Members

Life Membership will be conferred on each Past President of the Chapter in good standing in appreciation of service and leadership to the Chapter. There shall be no annual dues or cost to attend meetings applicable to these classes of membership. Life Members may vote and hold office in the Chapter. Life Membership is subject to change as deemed necessary by the President and/or the Chapter Board.

Section 4.6: Student Members

Individuals may be granted student membership provided they meet the criteria as outlined below. Student Members may vote and serve on committees but may not hold office.

- Student is currently enrolled in a degree-seeking program. Student shall provide proof of enrollment in a college or university to qualify for student membership.
- Student's coursework, taken or planned, supports an interest in human resource management or a related degree program.
- Student membership will be limited to six (6) years from initial start date. A full-time student enrolled in a graduate degree program may apply for an additional two (2) years of student membership. A student member cannot have previously held professional membership. Upon graduation or academic withdrawal, student member must convert to professional membership during the next renewal cycle.

Section 4.7: Corporate Members

Membership obtained through a Corporate Membership package is subject to remain with the employer who purchased the membership on an annual basis. Should a member who is the recipient of a Corporate Company Membership exit their organization, the membership would end effective the date of the Corporate Administrator notifying the LASHRM board of their separation. The membership would be eligible for reassignment to another recipient within the organization. It is the responsibility of the Corporate Administrator to notify LASHRM of any changes requested to the Corporate Membership recipients. Each Corporate Membership bundle is eligible for up to six (6) individuals.

Section 4.8: Application for Membership

Application for membership shall be on the Chapter application form or via an online application. All applications shall be reviewed by the Membership Director and approved by the Board of Directors or their designee. New members shall be afforded full membership rights from the date of application approval by the Board of Directors or their designee.

Section 4.9: Voting

Each Professional, Corporate, Student, and Life Member of the Chapter shall have the right to cast one vote on each matter brought before a vote of the members. Votes shall be tallied by an Ad Hoc Committee appointed by the Board of Directors.

Section 4.10: Dues

Chapter annual membership dues shall be established for the next year by the Board of Directors prior to the communication of renewal notices. Annual chapter dues shall be waived for individuals who are members and are actively on the Board of Directors or are Life Members.

Section 4.11: Discipline & Termination of Membership

Any member may be removed from membership, with cause, upon an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the entire Board of Directors at a duly constituted Board of Directors meeting. Prior to the vote the member shall be entitled to respond to the allegations deemed to constitute cause for removal from membership. This applies to all members, chapter paid staff, as well as volunteer and elected leaders.

ARTICLE V – MEMBER MEETINGS

Section 5.1: Regular Meetings

Regular meetings of the members shall be held at a minimum of 8 times per year or as otherwise determined by the Board of Directors and may be held in person or virtually.

Section 5.2: Annual Meetings

The annual meeting of the members for electing Directors and Officers and conducting other appropriate business shall be held at such time as determined by the Board of Directors. Such meetings may be held in-person or virtually.

Section 5.3: Special Meetings

Special meetings of members shall be held on call of the President, the Board of Directors or by members having one-twentieth of the votes entitled to be cast at such meeting or via electronic voting methods for virtual meetings.

Section 5.4: Notice of Meetings

Notice of all special meetings shall be given to all members at least ten days prior to the meetings. Notice of regular meetings shall be given to all members at least seven days prior to the meeting. The notice provision may be waived in the case of an emergency with the concurrence of a simple majority of the board.

Section 5.5: Quorum

Members holding one-tenth of the votes entitled to be cast, represented in person, virtually, or by conference call, shall constitute a quorum. The vote of a majority of the members present at any meeting at which there is a quorum, either in person, virtually, or by conference call, shall be necessary for the adoption of any matter voted on by the members, except to the extent that applicable state law may require a greater number.

ARTICLE VI - BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 6.1: Power and Duties

The Board of Directors (also referred to as the "Board") shall manage and control the property, business and affairs of the Chapter and in general exercise all powers of the Chapter.

Section 6.2: Officers

The following shall be members of the Board of Directors and shall be Officers of the Chapter: President, President-Elect, Membership Director, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Section 6.3: Composition of the Board of Directors

Along with the Officers listed in Section 6.2 of this Article, the Board of Directors shall also include Core Leadership Area Directors and the Past President. These shall constitute the governing body of the Chapter. Additional Core Leadership Area Directors shall be nominated by the President and elected from among the eligible membership as members of the Board of Directors, should SHRM establish new Core Leadership Areas.

Section 6.4: Qualifications

All candidates for the Board of Directors must be Professional or Life Members of the Chapter in good standing at the time of nomination or appointment and for their complete term of office. Per SHRM Bylaws, the President must be a current member in good standing of SHRM throughout the duration of their term of office. The Membership Director must be a current member in good standing of SHRM throughout the duration of their term of office. If the Chapter has a designated Certification Director role, the person holding this role must be a current member in good standing of SHRM and SHRM certified. All board members and Officers shall abide by SHRM's Bylaws and Conflict of Interest Policies.

Section 6.5: Election - Term of Office

Officers and Directors shall be elected by the members at the annual meeting of the membership from the proposed slate of candidates provided by the Nominating Committee appointed by the Board of Directors at the beginning of each election year.

Each elected Officer and Director shall assume office on January 1 following their election and shall hold office for two years or until their successor is elected and takes office. Officers and Directors may not be elected to serve more than two (2) consecutive terms in the same position. The terms of President, President-Elect, and immediate Past President shall be one year.

Section 6.6: Vacancies

Any vacancy in the Board may be filled for the unexpired term by appointment of the President with the consent of the Board of Directors.

Section 6.7: Quorum

A simple majority (51%) of the total Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The act of a majority of the Board of Directors present at any meeting at which there is a quorum, either in person or virtually, shall be the act of the Governing Body, except to the extent that applicable state law may require a greater number. In addition, the Board may act by unanimous written email consent of all voting members.

Section 6.8: Board of Directors' Responsibilities

The Board of Directors shall transact all business of the Chapter except as prescribed otherwise in these Bylaws or other governing instruments of the Chapter. A Professional Member in good standing may request the President to place on the agenda of the next regular Board of Directors meeting any action for consideration by the Board of Directors. Board of Directors must meet, at a minimum, quarterly to review financial statements.

Section 6.9: Removal of any elected or appointed Chapter leaders (Director, Officer, Committee Chair, Committee Member, or other)

Any Chapter leader may be removed from office, with cause, upon an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the entire Board of Directors at a duly constituted Board of Directors meeting. Prior to the vote, the Chapter leader shall be entitled to a due process hearing upon request prior to any termination action being imposed. SHRM reserves the right to remove any elected or appointed Chapter Leader (Director, Officer, Committee Chair, Committee Member, or other) from office who has demonstrated actions that are inconsistent with the chapter bylaws, the chapter charter or operating guidelines.

The Secretary will provide attendance records of Board Members to the President for review on a monthly basis of absenteeism from regular calendar year Board meetings. The Board may request that individuals with excessive absenteeism, defined as missing 25% or more of regular, calendar year Board meetings, resign from the Board.

Section 6.10: Resignation

An Officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the President of the Chapter, who shall advise the Board of Directors of such resignation. The resignation will become effective at the time specified in the resignation letter. If no time is specified in the letter, then the resignation will become effective upon receipt of the letter by the Secretary of the Chapter. Acceptance of the resignation will not be necessary, unless otherwise specified in the letter.

Section 6.11: Maintain Coverage

The Chapter should seek to obtain and maintain a policy or policies of basic Directors & Officers (D&O) and Cyber Liability Insurance commensurate with assets and liabilities of the Chapter. Errors and Omissions (E&O) Insurance is strongly recommended. These policies provide the board members, officers, employees, members, volunteers, or agents of the Chapter with coverage for losses from wrongful or negligent acts, or to ensure the Chapter's performance of its obligations under this Agreement. In all insurance policies, SHRM should be identified as an additional insured.

ARTICLE VII - DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of each member of the Board of Directors shall be as outlined in the position descriptions maintained by the Secretary and distributed to the Chapter Board. The position descriptions are subject to change as deemed necessary by the President and/or the Chapter Board. The Chapter is strongly encouraged to have at least one Board of Directors Member ("Volunteer Leader") attend SHRM's Volunteer Leader Business Meeting each year.

Section 7.1: The President

The President shall preside at the meetings of the members and of the Board. They shall direct the Chapter and have charge and supervision of the affairs and business of the Chapter, subject to the ultimate management authority of the Board of Directors. They shall maintain liaison and be a current member in good standing of SHRM throughout the duration of their term of office.

Section 7.2: The President-Elect

The President-Elect, at the request of the President or in their absence or disability, may perform any of the duties of the President. They shall have such other powers and perform such other liaison duties as the Board or the President may determine.

Section 7.3: The Membership Director

The Membership Director shall serve as chair of the Membership Committee. They shall encourage Chapter and SHRM membership growth and shall maintain the official membership roster of the Chapter. They shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as the President may determine. The chapter requires the Membership Director to be a current member in good standing of SHRM during their entire term of office.

Section 7.4: The Treasurer

The Treasurer shall be responsible for the financial affairs of the Chapter, including all local, state, Federal, and other jurisdictional required filings. These responsibilities shall include financial reports to the Board and coordinating arrangements for the annual examination audit of the accounts as may be required by the Board. They shall be responsible for membership billing and receivables.

Section 7.5: Secretary

The Secretary shall be responsible for recording the minutes of all meetings of the Chapter, shall be responsible for making all members aware of such meetings, and shall be responsible for coordinating the activities related to the Chapter's newsletter.

Section 7.6: Core Leadership Area (CLA) Directors

Core Leadership Area Directors shall have such powers and perform such liaison duties as the Board or the President may determine. The responsibility includes awareness sessions and initiatives in the particular CLA as determined by the President and the Board. They shall have the authority to appoint sub-committees to plan and implement the activities associated with the CLA for the year. If there is a dedicated Certification CLA lead, this lead must be a SHRM member in good standing for the duration of their term of office and be SHRM certified.

Section 7.7: The Past President

The Past President shall serve as an advisor to the President, and fulfill such duties as requested by the President and/or Board of Directors. The chapter requires the Past President to be a current member in good standing of SHRM throughout the duration of their term of office.

ARTICLE VIII - COMMITTEES

Section 8.1: Committees

The establishment of both standing and ad-hoc committees shall be the right of the Board of Directors.

Section 8.2: Committee Organization

Committees in addition to the Nominating Committee are established by resolution of the Board of Directors.

Section 8.3: Committee Chairpersons

Appointment of Chairpersons to committees is the sole responsibility of the President. The Chairperson and the President will seek interested members to participate in committee activities. Special Committees or task forces may be organized by the President to meet particular Chapter needs.

Section 8.4: Committee Activity

Committees are established to provide the Chapter with special ongoing services, such as Membership, SHRM Foundation initiatives, Programs, Professional Development, Communications, Marketing/Public Relations, Workforce Readiness, Emerging HR Professionals, etc.

ARTICLE IX - ELECTRONIC VOTING

Electronic ballots can be used for the election of Directors provided the Chapter has had at least one in-person meeting that year unless there are extenuating circumstances where the Chapter cannot meet in person.

ARTICLE X - STATEMENT OF ETHICS

The Chapter adopts SHRM's Code of Ethical and Professional Standards in Human Resource Management for members of the Association in order to promote and maintain the highest standards among our members. Each member shall honor, respect, and support the purposes of this Chapter and of SHRM. Each Chapter Board Member and Officer shall attest that they abide by SHRM's Code of Ethics.

The Chapter shall not be represented as advocating or endorsing any issue unless approved by the Board of Directors. No member shall actively solicit business from any other member at regular meetings without the approval from the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE XI - PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

Meetings of the Chapter shall be governed by the rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order (newly revised) in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are consistent with the Law and the Bylaws of the Chapter.

ARTICLE XII - AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

The Bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of the members present at any meeting at which a quorum exists, and in which required notice has been met, provided that no such amendment shall be effective unless and until approved by the SHRM President/CEO or his/her designee as being in furtherance of the purposes of SHRM and not in conflict with SHRM bylaws. Any motion to amend the bylaws shall clearly state that it is not effective unless and until approved by the SHRM President/CEO or his/her designee.

ARTICLE XIII - CHAPTER DISSOLUTION

In the event of the Chapter's dissolution, the remaining monies in the Treasury, after Chapter expenses have been paid, will be contributed to an organization decided upon by the Board of Directors at the time of dissolution (e.g., the SHRM Foundation, a local student Chapter, the State Council, an HR degree program, or other such 501(c) organization in alignment with the purposes of the Chapter). Should a Chapter become an MSA of another chapter (host), the Chapter would be dissolved. In this situation, the dissolving Chapter funds shall be transferred to the host chapter (successor). Funds should be transferred within 180 days or as soon as reasonably practical.

ARTICLE XIV - WITHDRAWAL OF AFFILIATED CHAPTER STATUS

Affiliated Chapter status may be withdrawn by the President/CEO of SHRM or his/her designee as a representative of the SHRM Board of Directors upon finding that the activities of the Chapter are inconsistent with or contrary to the best interests of SHRM. Prior to withdrawal of such status, the Chapter shall have an opportunity to review a written statement of the reasons for such proposed withdrawal and an opportunity to provide the SHRM President/CEO or his/her designee with a written response to such a proposal within a thirty (30) day period. In addition, when the Chapter fails to maintain the required affiliation standards as set forth by the SHRM President/CEO or his/her designee, it is subject to immediate disaffiliation by SHRM. After withdrawal of Chapter status, the SHRM President/CEO or his/her designee may cause a new Chapter to be created, or may re-confer Chapter status upon such body.

ARTICLE XV – TERMS USED

As used in these Bylaws, feminine or neuter pronouns shall be substituted for those of the masculine form, and the plurals shall be substituted for the singular number in any place where the context may require such substitution or substitutions.

NOTE: These revised bylaws are not effective until approved and signed by SHRM CEO or designee.

Ratified by the Membership of Chapter and signed by:

Chapter President Signature: Taylor Forshee

Printed name: Taylor Forshee

Date: 10/20/2025

Chapter mailing address: P.O. Box 513

La Crosse, WI 54602

Chapter primary email address (if applicable): info@lashrm.org

President's email: president@lashrm.org

President's phone: (608) 620-9181

Approved by:

SHRM President/CEO or President/CEO Designee: 

Printed name: Michael P Aitken

Date: 11-22-25