

**PUNJAB IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE AUTHORITY**  
**Area Water Board (Elections) Regulations 2011**

No.MD/PIDA/2011/GT-57/1850. In exercise of the powers vested in it under Sections 14 and 17 of The Punjab Irrigation and Drainage Authority Act, 1997 and PIDA AWB Rules 2010, The Authority has resolved to make and promulgate the following Regulations:

**1. TITLE, EXTENT & COMMENCEMENT**

- (1) These Regulations shall be called the Area Water Boards (Elections) Regulations, 2011.
- (2) These shall come into force at once.
- (3) These shall extend to all the Area Water Boards established in the Punjab.

**2. Election Officers and Election Schedule**

- (1) Elections shall be conducted under these Regulations by the Senior Election Officer and Election Officers. The Chief Executive of the Area Water Board shall be Senior Election Officer and an Executive Engineer of Area Water Board shall be appointed by Chief Executive, Area Water Board as Election Officer for one or more territorial unit.

**3. Election of the Farmer Members of AWB.**

- (1) The Senior Election Officer shall, under the control and guidance of the Authority, conduct the election of the members of the AWB. He shall notify the detailed Election Schedule for the election of the said members in accordance with provisions of these Regulations. He shall also notify the place of election.
- (2) Along with the notification of the Election Schedule, the Senior Election Officer shall publish the Preliminary Voters List comprising all the Chairmen of Khal Panchayats established within the territorial unit specified in Rule 5 of the PIDA (Area Water Board) Rules 2010.

- (3) A person aggrieved by the order of the Senior Election Officer, under clause (2) above may make an objection in writing, within a period of 10 days of the publication of the Preliminary Voters List, in the office of the Senior Election Officer. The said Officer shall within 7 days thereafter, decide the matter and pass such orders as he deems appropriate and shall, publish the Final Voters List.
- (4) The nominations for the members shall be filed within next two days of the publication of Final Voters List. Any Person whose name appears on the Final Voters List may propose in writing, any Farmer eligible to become a Farmer Member as a candidate. The proposal shall be seconded by another voter and accepted by the candidate.
- (5) The Senior Election Officer shall, on the day next after the date fixed for filing of the nomination papers under clause (4) above, scrutinize the nomination papers of the candidates and publish a Preliminary List of Candidates and display it at his office.
- (6) A candidate may file an objection against the order of the Senior Election Officer under clause (5) above within **3** days of the publication of the Preliminary List of Candidates. The objection shall be filed in the office of the Senior Election Officer who, after such inquiry as he may deem fit, pass necessary orders on the next day.
- (7) The Senior Election Officer shall publish the List of Eligible Candidates on the next day and display it at his office and shall provide a copy to any voter on demand.
- (8) Any candidate may withdraw his candidature within two days of the publication of the List of Eligible Candidates. The withdrawal shall be in writing and signed by the candidate.
- (9) The Senior Election Officer shall, on the next day, publish the Final List of Candidates and display it at his office and provide a copy on demand to any candidate.
- (10) If there is only one eligible candidate for the position of a member in a territorial unit, such candidate shall be declared elected.  
If there are more than one eligible candidates in a territorial unit, the Senior Election Officer shall proceed to hold the election and direct the Election Officer to make all necessary arrangements for the conduct of election which shall be held within 7 days through secret ballot. The said Officer shall provide ballot papers, ballot box, stationery and other material necessary for the conduct of election. A candidate or his duly authorized agent shall be allowed to be present at the place of holding the election.

- (11) The Senior Election Officer may allot election symbols to the candidates if, in his opinion, it is necessary to do so.
- (12) The Election Officer shall issue a ballot paper to a voter whose name appears on the voters list, after satisfying himself about the identity of the said voter. The voters shall secretly mark the ballot papers and drop them into the ballot box provided for that purpose.
- (13) At the end of the time specified for the polling, ballot box will be sealed and waxed, which will then be opened in the presence of the candidates or their representatives. The Election Officer shall count the ballot papers. He shall cancel any ballot paper which is:-
  - (a) not properly marked; or
  - (b) marked for more than one candidates
  - (c) substantially damaged/mutilated; or
  - (d) bearing any mark of identification.
- (14) The Election Officer shall exclude the cancelled ballot papers and count the valid votes received by each candidate. A candidate, or his authorized agent, shall be allowed to be present at the time of counting the ballot papers.
- (15) A candidate who obtains the highest number of votes, shall be declared elected as Member AWB from that unit. In case two or more candidates get the highest and equal number of votes, the Election Officer shall decide the matter by drawing of lots. He shall announce the result at the end of counting and forward the same to the Senior Election Officer.
- (16) The Senior Election Officer shall, as soon as possible, notify the result of the election of the Member of AWB of a territorial unit and shall send a copy of the result to the Authority and also provide a copy to any candidate on demand.

#### **4. Election of Chairman**

- (1) The Senior Election Officer shall fix a date, time and place for holding the election for the office of Chairman and Vice Chairman.
- (2) The Senior Election Officer shall inform all the Farmer Members of the AWB accordingly.
- (3) The Senior Election Officer shall convene a meeting of the Farmer Members on the said date, time and place. At least six Farmers Members shall be present in the meeting.

- (4) The Senior Election Officer shall proceed to conduct the election and call for the nomination of the candidates for office of Chairman and Vice Chairman.
- (5) If there is consensus among the Farmers Members present in the meeting on the nomination of any particular Member of the AWB as Chairman or Vice Chairman, as the case may be, the Senior Election Officer shall obtain the written consent of the Members duly signed by them for this purpose.
- (6) If there is no consensus among the Members present in the meeting, the Senior Election Officer shall call for the nomination for the office of Chairman and the Vice Chairman, as the case may be.
- (7) The nomination shall be seconded by at least one Member present in the meeting.
- (8) If there are more than one nominations for the office of Chairman or Vice Chairman, as the case may be, the Senior Election Officer shall obtain the opinion of the Members by show of hand. He shall declare a candidate to be elected if five or more Members present in the meeting have casted their votes in favour of the said candidate
- (9) If no candidate is able to get the votes of five or more Members present in the meeting, the Senior Election Officer shall, immediately hold a second round of contest between the two candidates who have secured the highest number of votes in the first round.
  - Provided that if two candidates shall obtain five votes each, the Senior Election Officer shall decide the matter by drawing of lots.
  - Provided further that where because of the equality of votes of the candidate securing 2<sup>nd</sup> highest number of votes, one candidate shall be selected from them by drawing of lots and the said selected candidate shall be considered as the candidate obtaining the second highest number of votes and be eligible to contest for the second round.
- (10) The Senior Election Officer shall declare the result of the election at the end of second round and shall forward it to the Authority for notification. The candidates securing at least five votes in the second round shall be declared elected as Chairman of he AWB. Provided that in case two candidates secure five votes each the Senior Election Officer shall decide the matter by drawing of lots.

- (11) The Authority shall notify the member elected as Chairman of the AWB.

#### **5. Election of Vice Chairman**

- (1) The election of the Vice Chairman shall be held on the date and place fixed for the election of Chairman under Regulation 4.
- (2) The election of the Vice Chairman shall be conducted according to the procedure prescribed for the election of the Chairman under Regulation 4.
- (3) The provisions of Regulation 4 shall, mutatis mutandis, be applicable to the election of Vice Chairman.

#### **6 Election Disputes**

- (1) A candidate or a voter aggrieved by the decision of the Senior Election Officer under these Regulations may file an Election Petition before the Authority, or the officer authorized by the Authority or a committee constituted by the Authority, within seven days of the notification of the result, in such manner as may be provided from time to time.  
Provided that the Authority, or the officer authorized by the Authority, or a committee constituted by the Authority, may for valid reasons and after hearing all the parties concerned, entertain a petition after the said period
- (2) The Authority, the officer authorized by the Authority or committee constituted by it shall, after such inquiry as it deems necessary, give its decision on the Election Petition and pass such consequential orders which it may deem appropriate in that particular case. The Authority, the said officer or the committee shall record its decision along with reasons for the said case and furnish a copy of it to the petitioner and the respondent.
- (3) The Authority may, on its own motion or otherwise, call for the record of the election notified under these Regulations to satisfy itself as to the legality, regularity or reasonableness of any action or decision taken under these Regulations.
- (4) In case of any difficulty in the application of these Regulations, the Senior Election Officer may refer the matter to the Board of Management for its determination and disposal.

**Secretary PIDA**

**Even No. & Date**

A copy is forwarded to;

1. Chairman PIDA/ Minister for Irrigation & Power, Government of the Punjab, Lahore.
2. Chairman, Planning and Development Board, Punjab Lahore.
3. Secretary to Government of the Punjab, Finance Department, Lahore.
4. Secretary to Government of the Punjab Agriculture Department, Lahore.
5. Managing Director PIDA, Irrigation Secretariat premises, Old Anarkali, Lahore.
6. All Farmer Members PIDA.
7. General Manager (Transition Management) PIDA, Irrigation Secretariat premises, Old Anarkali, Lahore.
8. General Manager (Operation) PIDA, Irrigation Secretariat premises, Old Anarkali, Lahore.
9. General Manager (Finance) PIDA, Irrigation Secretariat premises, Old Anarkali, Lahore.
10. Chief Engineers, Irrigation:-
  - (i) Lahore
  - (ii) Faisalabad
  - (iii) Sargodha
  - (iv) Multan
  - (v) Bahawalpur
  - (vi) D.G.Khan
  - (vii) Drainage and Flood
  - (viii) Development
  - (ix) Research
  - (x) Planning & Review
11. Chief Executive Area Water Board/ Superintending Engineer, Irrigation LCC (East) Circle, Faisalabad.
12. Chief Executive Area Water Board/ Superintending Engineer, Irrigation LCC (West) Circle, Faisalabad.
13. Chief Executive Area Water Board/ Superintending Engineer, Irrigation LBDC Circle, Sahiwal.
14. Chief Executive Area Water Board/ Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Bahawalnagar Canal Circle, Bahawalnagar.
15. Chief Executive Area Water Board/ Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Derajat Canal Circle, D.G.Khan.
16. Head, Project Management Office (PMO), PISIP, Irrigation Deptt. Lahore.
17. Project Director, Project Management Unit (PMU), LBDCIP, Irrigation Deptt. Canal Bank, Mustafabad, Lahore.
18. Superintending Engineer, Drainage Circle, Faisalabad.
19. Chairman Area Water Board, LCC (West) Circle, Faisalabad.

**Secretary PIDA**

CC:

1. Secretary to Chief Minister, Punjab, Lahore.
2. Additional Secretary/Staff Officer to Chief Secretary, Govt. of the Punjab, Lahore
3. P.S to Senior Minister / Minister for Irrigation & Power, Punjab Lahore.
4. PS to Secretary Irrigation & Power Deptt. Lahore.