

CONSTITUTION OF THE FORT MCDOWELL YAVAPAI NATION

[Article VI – ELECTIONS AND VOTING](#)

Section 1. Election Ordinances.

The Tribal Council shall enact ordinances to prescribe elections, and to provide for the appointment of independent Election Board Officials as are necessary to impartially and fairly supervise elections conducted under this Constitution prior to the first regular scheduled election pursuant to this Constitution. The election ordinance shall include, among other things, tie-votes, voter qualifications, write-in ballots, absentee voting, secret ballots and the Election Board. Appointment to the Election Board shall be for a specified term as established by ordinance. Once appointed, the Tribal Council may only remove an Election Board official for good cause, as defined in the Election Ordinance.

Section 2. Elections.

- A. Regular Elections are the regularly scheduled elections for elected offices pursuant to this Constitution.
- B. Special Elections are any elections other than a Regular Election, including but not limited to: Article VI, Section 2(D); Article IX, Section 2; Article X; and Article XI.
- C. Elections for President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Council Members shall be held on the second Tuesday in January in even numbered years. The candidate with the most votes for that specific office, certified as elected by the Election Board, shall be installed into office the second Tuesday in February. All elected officers shall hold office until their successors have been elected and installed.
- D. The regular term of office shall be four-year terms for all elected officers. The first election under this Constitution shall be held in January 2000. The President, Treasurer, and one Council Member shall be elected for regular four-year terms and the terms of those offices will thereafter be four years. The Vice-President, Secretary, and one Council Member shall be elected for two-year terms, expiring in January 2002. The Council Member receiving the most votes in this election will serve the four-year term. The regular election for the Vice-President, one Council Member, and the Secretary will begin in January 2002 and the terms of office will thereafter be four years.

Section 3. Candidates for President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Council Members.

A candidate for President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Council Members shall be required to obtain signatures from qualified voters, the number of signatures required and the procedures to be established by ordinance for a candidate to be placed on the election ballot. The signatures shall be submitted to the Election Board for verification.

Section 4. Voter Qualification.

Any enrolled member of the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, who is at least 21 years of age on the date of the election and meets any other voting ordinance requirements, may vote in any tribal election.

Section 5. Absentee Voting.

The Tribal Council shall enact ordinances to provide uniform and standard forms for voting by absentee ballot so as to allow persons to vote who are otherwise qualified and who cannot be physically present at the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation on the date of any election.

Section 6. Secret Ballot.

All elections within the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation shall be conducted by secret written ballot.