



Ohio Revised Code

Section 6121.02 Creation and organization of Ohio water development authority.

Effective: October 3, 2023

Legislation: House Bill 33

There is hereby created the Ohio water development authority. Such authority is a body both corporate and politic in this state, and the carrying out of its purposes and the exercise by it of the powers conferred by this chapter shall be held to be, and are hereby determined to be, essential governmental functions and public purposes of the state, but the authority is not immune from liability by reason thereof. The authority is subject to all provisions of law generally applicable to state agencies that do not conflict with this chapter.

The authority shall consist of eight members as follows: five members appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the senate, no more than three of whom shall be members of the same political party, and the directors of natural resources, environmental protection, and development, who shall be members ex officio without compensation. The director of development may designate a person in the unclassified civil service to serve in the director's place as a member of the authority notwithstanding section 121.05 of the Revised Code. The appointive members shall be residents of the state, and shall have been qualified electors therein for a period of at least five years next preceding their appointment. Appointed members' terms of office shall be for eight years, commencing on the second day of July and ending on the first day of July. Each member shall hold office from the date of appointment until the end of the term for which the member was appointed. Any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of the term for which the member's predecessor was appointed shall hold office for the remainder of such term. Any appointed member shall continue in office subsequent to the expiration date of the member's term until the member's successor takes office, or until a period of sixty days has elapsed, whichever occurs first. A member of the authority is eligible for reappointment. Each appointed member of the authority, before entering upon the performance of the duties of the office, shall take an oath as provided by Section 7 of Article XV, Ohio Constitution. The governor may at any time remove any member of the authority for misfeasance, nonfeasance, or malfeasance in office.

The authority shall elect one of its appointed members as chairperson and another as vice-



chairperson, and shall appoint a secretary-treasurer who need not be a member of the authority. Four members of the authority shall constitute a quorum, and the affirmative vote of four members shall be necessary for any action taken by vote of the authority. No vacancy in the membership of the authority shall impair the rights of a quorum by such vote to exercise all the rights and perform all the duties of the authority.

Before the issuance of any water development revenue bonds under this chapter, each appointed member of the authority shall give a surety bond to the state in the penal sum of twenty-five thousand dollars and the secretary-treasurer shall give such a bond in the penal sum of fifty thousand dollars, each such surety bond to be conditioned upon the faithful performance of the duties of the office, to be executed by a surety company authorized to transact business in this state, and to be approved by the governor and filed in the office of the secretary of state. Each appointed member of the authority shall receive an annual salary of seven thousand five hundred dollars, payable in monthly installments, and is entitled to health care benefits comparable to those generally available to state officers and employees under section 124.82 of the Revised Code. If Section 20 of Article II, Ohio Constitution, prohibits the Ohio water development authority from paying all or a part of the cost of health care benefits on behalf of a member of the authority for the remainder of an existing term, the member may receive these benefits by paying their total cost from the member's own financial resources, including paying by means of deductions from the member's salary. Each member shall be reimbursed for actual expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of official duties. All expenses incurred in carrying out this chapter shall be payable solely from funds provided under this chapter, or appropriated for such purpose by the general assembly and no liability or obligation shall be incurred by the authority beyond the extent to which moneys have been provided under this chapter or such appropriations.