## **EXHIBIT A**

## **Bylaws**

[See Attached]

#### BYLAWS OF

## THE HOMESTEAD AT OWNSBY FARMS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

### ARTICLE I INTRODUCTION

The name of the corporation is The Homestead at Ownsby Farms Homeowners Association, Inc., a Texas non-profit corporation, hereinafter referred to as the "Association". The principal office of the Association shall be located in Dallas County, Texas, but meetings of Members and Directors may be held at such places within the State of Texas, as may be designated by the Board of Directors.

The Association is organized to be a nonprofit corporation.

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in these Bylaws, a number of provisions are modified by the Declarant's reservations in that certain Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for The Homestead at Ownsby Farms recorded or to be recorded in the Official Public Records of Collin County, Texas, including the number, qualification, appointment, removal, and replacement of Directors.

## ARTICLE II DEFINITIONS

Unless the context otherwise specifies or requires, the following words and phrases when used in these Bylaws shall have the meanings hereinafter specified:

- Section 2.1. Assessment, "Assessment" or "Assessments" shall mean assessment(s) levied by the Association under the terms and provisions of the Declaration.
- Section 2.2. Association. "Association" shall mean and refer to The Homestead at Ownsby Farms Homeowners Association, Inc., a Texas nonprofit corporation.
- Section 2.3. Association Property. "Association Property" shall mean all real or personal property now or hereafter owned by the Association, including without limitation, all easement estates, licenses, leasehold estates and other interests of any kind in and to real or personal property which are now are hereafter owned or held by the Association.
- "Association Restrictions" shall mean the Section 2.4. Association Restrictions. Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for The Homestead at Ownsby Farms as the same may be amended from time to time, together with the Certificate, Bylaws, and Association Rules and Regulations from time to time in effect.

- Section 2.5. Association Rules. "Association Rules" shall mean the rules and regulations adopted by the Board pursuant to the Declaration or these Bylaws, as the same may be amended from time to time.
  - Section 2.6. Board. "Board" shall mean the Board of Directors of the Association.
- Section 2.7. Bylaws. "Bylaws" shall mean the Bylaws of the Association which may be adopted by the Board and as the same may be amended from time to time.
- Section 2.8. Certificate. "Certificate" shall mean the Certificate of Formation of The Homestead at Ownsby Farms Homeowners Association, Inc., a Texas non-profit corporation, filed in the office of the Secretary of State of the State of Texas, as the same may from time to time be amended.
- Section 2.9. Declarant. "Declarant" shall mean CADG Ownsby Farms, LLC, a Texas limited liability company, and its duly authorized representatives or their successors or assigns; provided that any assignment of the rights of Declarant must be expressly set forth in writing and the mere conveyance of a portion of the Property without written assignment of the rights of Declarant shall not be sufficient to constitute an assignment of the rights of Declarant hereunder.
- Section 2.10. Declaration. "Declaration" shall mean the "Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for The Homestead at Ownsby Farms", recorded in the Official Public Records of Collin County Texas, as the same may be amended from time to time.
- <u>Section 2.11. Development</u>. "Development" shall mean and refer to the property subject to the terms and provisions of the Declaration.
- <u>Section 2.12. Manager</u>. "Manager" shall mean the person, firm, or corporation, if any, employed by the Association pursuant to the Declaration and delegated the duties, powers, or functions of the Association.
- Section 2.13. Member. "Member" or "Members" shall mean any person(s), entity or entities holding membership privileges in the Association as provided in the Declaration.
- Section 2.14. Mortgage. "Mortgage" or "Mortgages" shall mean any mortgage(s) or deed(s) of trust covering any portion of the Property given to secure the payment of a debt.
- <u>Section 2.15. Mortgagee</u>. "Mortgagee" or "Mortgagees" shall mean the holder or holders of any lien or liens upon any portion of the Property.
- Section 2.16. Owner. "Owner" or "Owners" shall mean the person(s), entity or entities, including Declarant, holding a fee simple interest in any Lot, but shall not include the Mortgagee of a Mortgage.

# ARTICLE III MEETING OF MEMBERS

Section 3.1. Annual Meetings. The first annual meeting of the Members shall be held on such date as selected by the Board of Directors which is on or before the earlier of (i) the date which is one hundred twenty (120) days after seventy-five percent (75%) of the Lots have been sold to non-Declarant Owners, or (ii) ten (10) years from the date on which the Declaration is recorded in the Official Public Records of Collin County, Texas, and each subsequent regular annual meeting of the Members shall be held in a month selected by the Board notwithstanding, the Board shall endeavor to keep the meeting date around the same time each year. If the day for the annual meeting of the Members is a Sunday, or legal holiday, the meeting will be held on the first day following which is not a Sunday, or legal holiday.

Section 3.2. Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Members may be called at any time by the President or by a majority vote of the Board of Directors, or upon written request of the Members who are entitled to vote fifty-one percent (51%) or more of the votes of the Association.

<u>Section 3.3. Place of Meetings</u>. Meetings of the Association may be held at the Development or at a suitable place convenient to the Members, as determined by the Board.

Section 3.4. Notice of Meetings. At the direction of the Board, written notice of meetings of the Association will be given to the Members at least ten (10) days but not more than forty-five (45) days prior to the meeting. Notices of meetings will state the date, time, and place the meeting is to be held. Notices will identify the type of meeting, and will state the particular purpose of the meeting. Notices may also set forth any other items of information deemed appropriate by the Board.

<u>Section 3.5. Voting Member List</u>. The Board will prepare and make available a list of the Association's voting Members in accordance with the Texas Business Organization Code.

Section 3.6. Quorum. A quorum is required for any action referred to in Section 8.3 of the Declaration and, unless otherwise provided, for any action for which a percentage vote at a meeting is required. A quorum shall be determined as set forth in this Section. The first time a meeting is called, whether regular or special, the presence at the meeting of Members, or of proxies, entitled to cast at least ten (10%) of all of the votes of the Association's Members, without regard to class, shall constitute a quorum. This quorum shall also be valid for the transition / organizational meeting held at the time Declarant transfers control of the Association to the Homeowners. For all other meetings the presence at the meeting of Members, or of proxies, entitled to cast at least twenty percent (20%) of all of the votes of the Association's Members, without regard to class, shall constitute a quorum. If a quorum is not present at the initial meeting, additional meetings may be called, subject to the notice requirement hereinabove set forth, and the required quorum at such subsequent meeting(s) shall be one-half (1/2) of the

quorum requirement for such prior meeting. The Association may call as many subsequent meetings as may be required to achieve a quorum (although the quorum requirement shall be reduced for each such meeting, in no event shall a quorum be less than one-tenth (1/10) of the votes of the Association). At such adjourned or subsequent meeting at which a quorum shall be present or represented, any business may be transacted which may have been transacted at the meeting as originally notified.

Section 3.7. Proxies. Votes may be cast in person or by written proxy. To be valid, each proxy must: (i) be signed and dated by a Member or his attorney-in-fact; (ii) identify the Lot to which the vote is appurtenant; (iii) name the person or title (such as "presiding officer") in favor of whom the proxy is granted, such person having agreed to exercise the proxy; (iv) identify the meeting for which the proxy is given; (v) not purport to be revocable without notice; and (vi) be delivered to the secretary, to the person presiding over the Association meeting for which the proxy is designated, or to a person or company designated by the Board. Unless the proxy specifies a shorter or longer time, it terminates eleven (11) months after the date of its execution. Perpetual or self-renewing proxies are permitted, provided they are revocable. To revoke a proxy, the granting Member must give actual notice of revocation to the person presiding over the Association meeting for which the proxy is designated. Unless revoked, any proxy designated for a meeting which is adjourned, recessed, or rescheduled is valid when the meeting reconvenes. A proxy may be delivered by fax. However, a proxy received by fax may not be counted to make or break a tie-vote unless: (a) the proxy has been acknowledged or sworn to by the Member, before and certified by an officer authorized to take acknowledgments and oaths; or (b) the Association also receives the original proxy within five (5) days after the

Section 3.8. Conduct of Meetings. The president, or any person designated by the Board, presides over meetings of the Association. The secretary keeps, or causes to be kept, the minutes of the meeting which should record all resolutions adopted and all transactions occurring at the meeting, as well as a record of any votes taken at the meeting. The person presiding over the meeting may appoint a parliamentarian. Votes should be tallied by persons other than the Board or a Candidate. The Board may assign a Homeowner to participate in the vote count for election or proxies notwithstanding, unless otherwise directed by the Board the Managing Agent will preside over tallies of votes and proxies. Order should be kept at all times during a Board meeting. Any misconduct by a Board Member or Homeowner should be addressed and appropriately handled. Any Member who disrupts a meeting or causes contention of any kind should be removed from the meeting.

Section 3.9. Order of Business. Unless the notice of meeting states otherwise or the assembly adopts a different agenda at the meeting, the order of business at meetings of the Association is as follows:

- Determine votes present by roll call or check-in procedure

- Announcement of quorum
- Proof of notice of meeting
- Approval of minutes of preceding meeting
- Reports of Officers (if any)
- Election of Directors (when required)
- Unfinished or old business
- New business

Section 3.10. Adjournment of Meeting. At any meeting of the Association, a majority of the Members present at that meeting, either in person or by proxy, may adjourn the meeting to another time and place.

Section 3.11. Action without Meeting. Subject to Board approval, any action which may be taken by a vote of the Members at a meeting of the Association may also be taken without a meeting by written consents. The Board may permit Members to vote by any method allowed by the Texas Business Organization Code, which may include hand delivery, United States Mail, facsimile, e-mail, or any combination of these. Written consents by Members representing at least a majority of votes in the Association, or such higher percentage as may be required by the Documents, constitutes approval by written consent. This Section may not be used to avoid the requirement of an annual meeting and does not apply to the election of Directors.

Section 3.12. Telephone Meetings. Members of the Association may participate in and hold meetings of the Association by means of conference telephone or similar communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other. Participation in the meeting constitutes presence in person at the meeting, except where a person participates in the meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business on the ground that the meeting is not lawfully called or convened.

## ARTICLE IV **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

## Section 4.1. Authority; Number of Directors.

The affairs of the Association shall be governed by a Board of Directors. The (a) number of Directors shall be fixed by the Board of Directors from time to time. The initial Directors shall be three (3) in number and shall be those Directors named in the Certificate. The initial Directors shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified. Except as is provided in the Declaration and in Sections 4.1(b) and 4.1(c) below, during the Declarant control period, Declarant shall have the absolute right to appoint and remove members of the Board of Directors.

- The initial Board shall be those individuals set forth in the Certificate of Formation for the Association. During the period of Declarant control, the Declarant has the sole right to appoint and remove all Directors to the Board, provided that prior to the date which is the earlier of (i) one hundred-twenty (120) days after seventy-five (75%) of the Lots have been sold to non-Declarant Owners, or (ii) ten (10) years from the date on which the Declaration is recorded, at least 1/3 of the directors serving on the Board shall be person(s) elected by a majority vote of Class A Members at a meeting of the members at which quorum is present. Each Director, other than Directors appointed by Declarant, shall be a Member and resident, or in the case of corporate or partnership ownership of a Lot, a duly authorized agent or representative of the corporate or partnership Owner. The corporate, or partnership Owner shall be designated as the Director in all correspondence or other documentation setting forth the names of the Directors. The Board of Directors shall consist of three (3) persons appointed by Declarant who need not be Members of the Association. The Declarant may increase the Board to five (5) Members at any time during the Declarant Control Period without consent or joinder of the Board or Members required. On and after the 75% Transition Date, the Board of Directors shall include two (2) persons appointed by Declarant and one (1) person elected by a majority vote of Class A Members ("Non-Declarant Director") or in the event of a five (5) person Board, two (2) ("Non-Declarant Directors") at such meeting at which quorum is present, which Non-Declarant Member(s) shall serve for a period which is the shorter of one (1) year, or until the next annual meeting of the Members at which the Non-Declarant Member (or replacement thereof) shall be elected. The Non-Declarant Director shall be elected at the first annual meeting (or special meeting called for such purpose by the President of the Association) of Members held on or after the 75% Transition Date. On and after the date on which the last Lot is sold to a non-Declarant Owner (the "Declarant Turnover Date"), the Board of Directors shall be increased to five (5) members unless a five person Board already exists. The President of the Association will thereupon call a meeting of the Members of the Association where the Members will elect three (3) Directors for a two (2) year term, and two (2) Directors for a one (1) year term. Upon expiration of the term of a Director elected by the Members pursuant to this Section 4.1(b), his or her successor will be elected to serve a term equal to that of the retiring member. A Director takes office upon the adjournment of the meeting or balloting at which s/he is elected or appointed notwithstanding the absence by death, ineligibility, resignation, or removal, will hold office until his successor is elected or appointed.
- Each Director, other than Directors appointed by Declarant, shall be a Member and resident, or in the case of corporate or partnership ownership of a Lot, a duly authorized agent or representative of the corporate or partnership Owner. The corporate, or partnership Owner shall be designated as the Director in all correspondence or other documentation setting forth the names of the Directors.

- Section 4.2. Compensation. The Directors shall serve without compensation for such service.
- Section 4.3. Nominations to Board of Directors. Members may be nominated for election to the Board of Directors in either of the following ways:
- A Member who is not a Director and who desires to run for election to that position shall be deemed to have been nominated for election upon his filing with the Board of Directors a written petition of nomination; or
- A Director who is eligible to be re-elected shall be deemed to have been nominated for re-election to the position s/he holds by signifying his intention to seek reelection in a writing addressed to the Board of Directors.
- Section 4.4. Removal of Directors for Cause. If a Director breaches such Director's duties hereunder, becomes a constant source of contention, or violates the terms of the Declaration, the Certificate, the Association Rules or these Bylaws, such Director may be removed by the Declarant during the Declarant Control Period. After the Declarant Control Period a Director may be removed by a majority vote of the Board. No Director shall have any voting rights nor may such Director participate in any meeting of the Board of Directors at any time that such Director is delinquent in the payment of any Assessments or other charges owed to the Association. Any Director that is ninety (90) days delinquent in the payment of Assessments or other charges more than three (3) consecutive times shall be removed as a Director.
- Section 4.5. Vacancies on Board of Directors. At such time as Declarant's right to appoint and remove Directors has expired or been terminated, if the office of any elected Director shall become vacant by reason of death, resignation, retirement, disqualification, removal from office or otherwise, the remaining Directors, at a special meeting duly called for this purpose, shall choose a successor who shall fill the unexpired term of the directorship being vacated. If there is a deadlock in the voting for a successor by the remaining Directors, the one Director with the longest continuous term on the Board shall select the successor. At the expiration of the term of his position on the Board of Directors, the successor Director shall be re-elected or his successor shall be elected in accordance with these Bylaws.
- Section 4.6. Removal of Directors by Members. Subject to the right of Declarant to nominate and appoint Directors as set forth in Section 4.1 of these Bylaws, an elected Director may be removed, with or without cause, by a majority vote of the Members present at any special meeting of the Members of which notice has been properly given as provided in these Bylaws: provided the same notice of this special meeting has also been given to the entire Board of Directors, including the individual Director whose removal is to be considered at such special meeting.

Section 4.7. Consent in Writing. Any action by the Board of Directors, including any action involving a vote on a fine, damage assessment, appeal from a denial or architectural control approval, or suspension of a right of a particular Member before the Member has an opportunity to attend a meeting of the Board of Directors to present the Member's position on the issue, may be taken without a meeting if all of the Directors shall unanimously consent in writing to the action. Such written consent shall be filed in the Minute Book. Any action taken by such written consent shall have the same force and effect as a unanimous vote of the Directors.

# ARTICLE V MEETINGS OF DIRECTORS

- <u>Section 5.1. Regular Meetings</u>. Regular meetings of the Board shall be held annually during the Declarant Control Period and thereafter, at least semi- annually or at such other frequency as determined by the Board, without notice, at such place and hour as may be fixed from time to time by resolution of the Board.
- <u>Section 5.2. Special Meetings</u>. Special meetings of the Board shall be held when called by the President of the Association, or by any two Directors, after not less than three (3) days' notice to each Director.
- Section 5.3. Quorum. A majority of the number of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. Every act or decision done or made by a majority of the Directors present at a duly held meeting at which a quorum is present shall be regarded as the act of the Board of Directors.
- Section 5.4. Telephone Meetings. Members of the Board or any committee of the Association may participate in and hold meetings of the Board or committee by means of conference telephone or similar communications equipment by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can hear each other. Participation in such meeting constitutes presence in person at the meeting, except where a person participates in the meeting for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business on the ground that the meeting is not lawfully called or convened.
- Section 5.6. Action without a Meeting. Any action required or permitted to be taken by the Board at a meeting may be taken without a meeting, if all Directors individually or collectively consent in writing to such action. The written consent must be filed with the minutes of Board meetings. Action by written consent has the same force and effect as a unanimous vote.

## ARTICLE VI POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE BOARD

Section 6.1. Powers. The Board shall have power and duty to undertake any of the following actions, in addition to those actions to which the Association is authorized to take in

accordance with the Declaration. During the Declarant Control Period Declarant may limit the duties of the Board:

- adopt and publish the Association Rules, including regulations governing the use of the Association Property and facilities, and the personal conduct of the Members and their guests thereon, and to establish penalties for the infraction thereof;
- suspend the voting rights of a Member and right of a Member to use of the Association Property during any period in which such Member shall be in default in the payment of any Assessment levied by the Association, or after notice and hearing, for any period during which an infraction of the Association Rules by such Member exists;
- exercise for the Association all powers, duties and authority vested in or related to the Association and not reserved to the membership by other provisions of the Association Restrictions;
- to enter into any contract or agreement including with a municipal agency or (d) utility company to provide electric utility service to all or any portion of the Property. All contracts must consist of not less than a thirty (30) day termination clause wherein the Board may negotiate termination of a contract;
- declare the office of a member of the Board to be vacant in the event such member shall be absent from three (3) consecutive regular meetings of the Board;
  - employ such employees as they deem necessary, and to prescribe their duties; (f)
  - (g) as more fully provided in the Declaration, to:
  - fix the amount of the Assessments against each Lot in advance of each (1)annual assessment period and any other assessments provided by the Declaration; and
  - foreclose the lien against any property for which Assessments are not paid within thirty (30) days after due date or to bring an action at law against the Owner personally obligated to pay the same;
- issue, or to cause an appropriate officer or agent to issue, upon demand by any person, a certificate setting forth whether or not any Assessment has been paid and to levy a reasonable charge for the issuance of these certificates (it being understood that if a certificate states that an Assessment has been paid, such certificate shall be conclusive evidence of such payment);
- procure and maintain adequate liability and hazard insurance on property owned by the Association:

- (i). cause all officers or employees having fiscal responsibilities to be bonded, as it may deem appropriate; and
- exercise such other and further powers or duties as provided in the Declaration or (k) by law.

## Section 6.2. Duties. It shall be the duty of the Board to:

- (a) cause to be kept a complete record of all its acts and corporate affairs and to present a statement thereof to the Members at the annual meeting of the Members, or at any special meeting when such statement is requested in writing by Members who are entitled to cast fifty-one percent (51%) of all outstanding votes; and
- supervise all officers, agents and employees of the Association, and to see that their duties are properly performed.

### ARTICLE VII OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

- Section 7.1. Enumeration of Offices. The officers of the Association shall be at minimum a President, Vice-President, and Secretary who shall at all times be members of the Board. The Board, may by resolution, amend this Section 7.1 when it is deemed in the best interest of the Association to do so.
- Section 7.2. Election of Officers. The election of officers shall take place at the first meeting of the Board following each annual meeting of the Members.
- Section 7.3. Term. The officers of the Association shall be elected annually by the Board and each shall hold office for the term of his / her appointment unless s/he resigns sooner, or shall be removed or otherwise disqualified to serve.
- Section 7.4. Special Appointments. The Board may elect such other officers as the affairs of the Association may require, each of whom shall hold office for such period, have such authority, and perform such duties as the Board may, from time to time, determine. Written permission from the Declarant to appoint Officers shall be required during the Declarant Control Period.
- Section 7.5. Resignation and Removal. Any officer may be removed from office with or without cause by the Declarant and thereafter, by the Board. Any officer may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Board, the President, or the Secretary. Such resignation shall take effect on the date of receipt of such notice or at any later time specified therein, and unless otherwise specified therein, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

Section 7.6. Vacancies. A vacancy in any office may be filled through appointment by the Board. The officer appointed to such vacancy shall serve for the remainder of the term of the officer he replaces.

Section 7.7. Multiple Offices. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be held by the same person. No person shall simultaneously hold more than one of any of the other offices except in the case of special offices created pursuant to Section 7.4.

### Section 7.8. Duties. The duties of the officers are as follows:

- President. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board; shall see that orders and resolutions of the Board are carried out; shall sign all leases, mortgages, deeds and other written instruments and shall co-sign all checks and promissory notes.
- Vice President. The Vice President or Vice Presidents (including without limitation, Executive Vice Presidents and Senior Vice Presidents), if any, shall generally assist the President and shall have such powers and perform such duties and services as shall from time to time be prescribed or delegated to him by the President or the Board or in the absence of a President for any reason the Vice President shall perform the duties of the President until such time the President is able to resume duties or new offices are assigned.
- Secretary. The Secretary shall record the votes and keep the minutes of all meetings and proceedings of the Board and of the Members; serve notice of meetings of the Board and of the Members; keep appropriate current records showing the Members of the Association together with their addresses; and shall perform such other duties as required by the Board.
- Assistant Secretaries. Each Assistant Secretary shall generally assist the Secretary and shall have such powers and perform such duties and services as shall from time to time be prescribed or delegated to him or her by the Secretary, the President, the Board or any committee established by the Board.
- Treasurer. If the Association is self-managed, the Treasurer shall be responsible for deposits in appropriate bank accounts of all monies of the Association and shall be responsible for disbursement of such funds as directed by resolution of the Board. When a managing agent is employed by the Association the Treasurer shall have the responsibility to view deposits and disbursements of funds by way of monthly financials and bank statements provided by the Managing Agent; shall sign promissory notes of the Association; cause to be kept proper books of account in appropriate form such that they could be audited by a public accountant whenever ordered by the Board or the membership; and shall aid in the prepare an annual budget and a statement of income and expenditures to be presented to the membership at its regular meeting, and deliver a copy of each to the Members.

# ARTICLE VIII OTHER COMMITTEES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board may, by resolution adopted by affirmative vote of a majority of the number of Directors fixed by these Bylaws, designate two or more Directors (with such alternates, if any, as may be deemed desirable) to constitute another committee or committees for any purpose; provided, that any such other committee or committees shall have and may exercise only the power of recommending action to the Board of Directors and of carrying out and implementing any instructions or any policies, plans, programs and rules theretofore approved, authorized and adopted by the Board. Notwithstanding the foregoing or anything to the contrary contained herein, the Architectural Control Committee (as defined in the Declaration) shall be established by Declarant and comprised of members appointed by Declarant during the Declarant Period (as defined in the Declaration) in accordance with Section 8.1 of the Declaration, as amended from time to time.

## ARTICLE IX BOOKS AND RECORDS

The books, records and papers of the Association shall at all times, during reasonable business hours, be subject to inspection by any Member. The Association Restrictions shall be available for inspection by any Member at the principal office of the Association, where copies may be purchased at reasonable cost. Inspection of books and records shall be subject to the Records Production, Copying, and Retention Policy. In the event of a discrepancy in the policy and any Texas State Property Code Regulation, the higher standard shall prevail.

# ARTICLE X ASSESSMENTS

As more fully provided in the Declaration, each Member is obligated to pay to the Association Assessments which are secured by a continuing lien upon the property against which the Assessments are made. Assessments shall be due and payable in accordance with the Declaration.

### ARTICLE XI CORPORATE SEAL

The Association may, but shall have no obligation to, have a seal in a form adopted by the Board.

### ARTICLE XII DECLARANT PROVISIONS

Section 12.1. Conflict. The provisions of this Article control over any provision to the contrary elsewhere in these Bylaws.

Section 12.2. Board of Directors. As provided in Section 4.1 of these Bylaws, Declarant is entitled to appoint and remove all members of the Board of Directors until the Transition Date and thereafter, the majority of the Board of Directors until the Declarant no longer owns any portion of the Property (as defined in the Declaration). Until Declarant's right to appoint members of the Board of Directors terminates, the Directors appointed by Declarant need not be Owners or residents and may not be removed by the Owners. In addition, Declarant has the right to fill vacancies in any directorship vacated by a Declarant appointee.

# ARTICLE XIII AMENDMENTS

Section 13.1. These Bylaws may be amended, (i) on or before the Declarant Turnover Date, by the Declarant without consent or joinder of the Board or Members and thereafter, a majority vote or written consent of a majority of the Directors on the Board of Directors of the Association, and approval of Declarant so long as Declarant owns at least one (1) lot or (ii) at a regular or special meeting of the Members called for this purpose and, by a vote of at least sixty-seven percent (67%) of the total number of votes of the Members of the Association present at a duly called meeting of the Members at which quorum is present.

Section 13.2. In the case of any conflict between the Certificate and these Bylaws, the Certificate shall control; and in the case of any conflict between the Declaration and these Bylaws, the Declaration shall control.

# ARTICLE XIV INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

THE ASSOCIATION SHALL INDEMNIFY EVERY DIRECTOR AND OFFICER OF THE ASSOCIATION AGAINST, AND REIMBURSE AND ADVANCE TO EVERY DIRECTOR AND OFFICER FOR, ALL LIABILITIES, COSTS AND EXPENSES' INCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH DIRECTORSHIP OR OFFICE AND ANY ACTIONS TAKEN OR OMITTED IN SUCH CAPACITY TO THE GREATEST EXTENT PERMITTED UNDER THE TEXAS BUSINESS ORGANIZATION CODE AND ALL OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS AT THE TIME OF SUCH INDEMNIFICATION, REIMBURSEMENT OR ADVANCE PAYMENT; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, NO DIRECTOR OR OFFICER SHALL BE INDEMNIFIED FOR: (A) A BREACH OF DUTY OF LOYALTY TO THE ASSOCIATION OR ITS MEMBERS; (B) AN ACT OR OMISSION NOT IN GOOD FAITH OR THAT INVOLVES INTENTIONAL MISCONDUCT OR A KNOWING VIOLATION OF

THE LAW; (C) A TRANSACTION FROM WHICH SUCH DIRECTOR OR OFFICER RECEIVED AN IMPROPER BENEFIT, WHETHER OR NOT THE BENEFIT RESULTED FROM AN ACTION TAKEN WITHIN THE SCOPE OF DIRECTORSHIP OR OFFICE; OR (D) AN ACT OR OMISSION FOR WHICH THE LIABILITY OF SUCH DIRECTOR OR OFFICER IS EXPRESSLY PROVIDED FOR BY STATUTE.

## ARTICLE XV MISCELLANEOUS

The fiscal year of the Association shall begin on the first day of January and end on the 31st day of December of every year.

I, the undersigned, being the Secretary of THE HOMESTEAD AT OWNSBY FARMS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC. does hereby certify that the foregoing are the Bylaws of said non-profit corporation, as adopted by the Association's Board of Directors pursuant to a Unanimous Consent of Directors in Lieu of Organizational Meeting of the Corporation dated to be effective as of May 9, 2017.

Printed Name: Michael Beaty

Title: Secretary

#### Attachments

Schedule 1 - Records Production, Copying, and Retention Policy

Schedule 2 - Alternative Payment Plan Policy

Schedule 3 – Collection Policy

Schedule 4 – Notice and Fining Policy

Schedule 5 – E-mail Registration Policy

## FOR BYLAWS OF THE HOMESTEAD AT OWNSBY FARMS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION INC.

## Records Production, Copying, and Retention Policy

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors (the "Board") of The Homestead at Ownsby Farms Homeowners Association Inc. (the "Association") wishes to adopt reasonable guidelines to establish Records Production, Copying, and Retention Policy for the Association; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to adopt these reasonable guidelines in compliance with Section 209.005 of the Texas Property Code ("Section 209.005") regarding Owner access to Association documents and records ("Records"); and

WHEREAS, the Board intends to file these guidelines with the Bylaws for The Homestead at Ownsby Farms in the real property records of each county in which the subdivision is located, in compliance with Section 209.005 of the Texas Property Code; and

WHEREAS, this policy may be amended at any time and from time to time by the Declarant during the Declarant Control Period and thereafter by the Board of Directors by Resolution to comport with industry standards, to amend or revise provisions of the policy as may be deemed necessary and in the best interest of the Association. Any amendment or revision shall be mailed to each homeowner and a copy placed on the Association's website if applicable; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that the following guidelines for Records Production and Copying are established by the Board:

- Association Records shall be reasonably available to every owner. An owner may also provide access to Records to any other person (such as an attorney, CPA or agent) they designate in writing as their proxy for this purpose. To ensure a written proxy is actually from the owner, the owner must include a copy of his/her photo ID or have the proxy notarized.
- 2. An owner, or their proxy as described in section 1, must submit a written request for access to or copies of Records. The letter must:
  - a. be sent by certified mail to the Association's address as reflected in its most recent Management Certificate filed in the County public records; and
  - b. contain sufficient detail to identify the specific Records being requested; and
  - c. indicate whether the owner or proxy would like to inspect the Records before possibly obtaining copies or if the specified Records should be forwarded. If forwarded, the letter must indicate the format, delivery method and address:
    - i. format: electronic files, compact disk or paper copies
    - ii. delivery method: email, certified mail or pick-up
- 3. Within ten (10) business days of receipt of the request specified in section 2 above, the Association shall provide:
  - a. the requested Records, if copies were requested and any required advance payment

had been made; or

- b. a written notice that the Records are available and offer dates and times when the Records may be inspected by the owner or their proxy during normal business hours at the office of the Association; or
- c. a written notice that the requested Records are available for delivery once a payment of the cost to produce the records is made and stating the cost thereof; or
- a written notice that a request for delivery does not contain sufficient information to specify the Records desired, the format, the delivery method and the delivery address;
- e. a written notice that the requested Records cannot be produced within ten (10) business days but will be available within fifteen (15) additional business days from the date of the notice and payment of the cost to produce the records is made and stating the cost thereof.
- 4. The following Association Records are <u>not</u> available for inspection by owners or their proxies:
  - a. the financial records associated with an individual owner; and
  - b. deed restriction violation details for an individual owner; and
  - personal information, including contact information other than an address for an individual owner; and
  - d. attorney files and records in the possession of the attorney; and
  - e. attorney-client privileged information in the possession of the Association.

The information in a, b and c above will be released if the Association receives express written approval from the owner whose records are the subject of the request for inspection.

- 5. Association Records may be maintained in paper format or in an electronic format. If a request is made to inspect Records and certain Records are maintained in electronic format, the owner or their proxy will be given access to equipment to view the electronic records. Association shall not be required to transfer such electronic records to paper format unless the owner or their proxy agrees to pay the cost of producing such copies.
- 6. If an owner or their proxy inspecting Records requests copies of certain Records during the inspection, Association shall provide them promptly, if possible, but no later than ten (10) business days after the inspection or payment of costs, whichever is later.
- 7. The owner is responsible for all costs associated with a request under this Policy, including but not limited to copies, postage, supplies, labor, overhead and third party fees (such as archive document retrieval fees from off-site storage locations) as listed below: (Please go to the Attorney General web-site for current charges) <a href="https://texasattorneygeneral.gov/og/charges-for-public-information">https://texasattorneygeneral.gov/og/charges-for-public-information</a>
- 8. Any costs associated with a Records request must be paid in advance of delivery by the owner or their proxy. An owner who makes a request for Records and subsequently declines to accept delivery will be liable for payment of all costs under this Policy.

- On a case-by-case basis, in the absolute discretion of the Association, and with concurrence of the owner, the Association may agree to invoice the cost of the Records request to the owner's account. Owner agrees to pay the total amount invoiced within thirty (30) days after the date a statement is mailed to the Owner. Any unpaid balance will accrue interest as an assessment as allowed under the Declarations.
- 10. On a case-by-case basis where an owner request for Records is deemed to be minimal, the Association or its managing agent reserves the right to waive notice under section 2 and/or fees under section 4.
- 11. All costs associated with fulfilling the request under this Policy will be paid by the Association's Managing Agent. All fees paid to the Association under this Policy will be reimbursed to the Association's Managing Agent or paid directly to the Association's Managing Agent.
- 1. Standard paper copy. The charge for standard paper copies reproduced by means of an office machine copier or a computer printer is \$.10 per page or part of a page. Each side that has recorded information is considered a page.
- 2. <u>Nonstandard copy.</u> The charges in this subsection are to cover the materials onto which Information is copied and do not reflect any additional charges, including labor, that may be associated with a particular request. The charges for nonstandard copies are:
  - (A) Diskette-\$1.00;
  - (B) Data cartridge—actual cost;
  - (C) Rewritable CD (CD-RW)--\$1.00;
  - (D) Non-rewritable CD (CD-R)--\$1.00;
  - (E) Digital video disc (DVD)--\$3.00;
  - (F) JAZ drive, Thumb Drive, or other external hard drive --actual cost;
  - (G) Other electronic media--actual cost;
  - (H) All other mediums for copying data not provided herein -- actual cost:
  - (I) Oversize paper copy or specialty paper (e.g.: 11 inches by 17 inches, greenbar, bluebar)--\$.50 per page;
- 3. <u>Labor charge for programming.</u> If a particular request requires the services of a programmer

in order to execute an existing program or to create a new program so that requested information may be accessed and copied, the Association may charge a reasonable fee for the location of the Property for the programmer's time.

## 4. <u>Labor charge for locating, compiling, manipulating data, and reproducing public information.</u>

- (A) The charge for labor costs incurred in processing a request for public information is \$15 an hour. The labor charge includes the actual time to locate, compile, manipulate data, and reproduce the requested information.
- (B) A labor charge shall not be billed in connection with complying with requests that are for 50 or fewer pages of paper records.
- 5. Labor charge for third parties. A labor charge shall not be recovered for any time spent by an attorney, legal assistant, or any other person who reviews the requested information to determine whether the Association will raise any exceptions to disclosure of the requested information under applicable law.
- <u>Miscellaneous supplies.</u> The actual cost of miscellaneous supplies, such as labels, boxes, and other supplies used to produce the requested information, may be added to the total charge for public information.
- 7. Postal and shipping charges. The Association may add any related postal or shipping expenses which are necessary to transmit the reproduced information to the requesting party.
- 8. Payment. The Association that accepts payment by credit card for copies of public information and that is charged a "transaction fee" by the credit card company may recover that fee. The Association may require advance payment of the charges in this Policy. The Association will provide an invoice to the Owner within 30 days after delivering the requested information. In the event the invoiced amount is less than the pre-paid amount, the Association will refund the excess amount to the Owner within 30 days after the invoice is sent to the Owner. If the actual cost invoiced is greater than the pre-paid amount, the Owner will pay such excess within 30 days of receipt of the invoice. In the event such excess is not paid by the owner timely, the Association may add such unpaid amounts to the Owner's assessment account.
- Savings Clause. This Policy is subject to periodic reevaluation and update. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, the Association will not in any event be entitled to receive or collect the charges in this Policy in amounts greater than the maximum allowed by applicable law. In the event the Association receives amounts charged which are in excess of the maximum charges permitted by law, the excess amount will be returned to the Owner.

### RECORDS RETENTION

The Record Retention Policy of The Homestead at Ownsby Farms Homeowners Association ensures that necessary records and documents are adequately protected and maintained and that records that are no longer needed or are of no value are discarded at the proper time.

- 1. Policy. This Policy represents the Association's policy regarding the retention and disposal of records and the retention and disposal of electronic documents.
- Administration. The Record Retention Schedule herein is approved as the initial maintenance, retention and disposal schedule for physical records of the Association and the retention and disposal of electronic documents. The Board or Secretary of the Association ("Administrator") is the officer in charge of the administration of this Policy and the implementation of processes and procedures to ensure that the Record Retention Schedule is followed. The Administrator is also authorized to: make modifications to the Record Retention Schedule from time to time to ensure that it is in compliance with local, state and federal laws and includes the appropriate document and record categories for the Corporation; monitor local, state and federal laws affecting record retention; annually review the record retention and disposal program; and monitor compliance with this Policy.
- Suspension of Record Disposal In Event of Litigation or Claims. In the event the Association is served with any subpoena or request for documents or any employee becomes aware of a governmental investigation or audit concerning the Association or the commencement of any litigation against or concerning the Association, such employee shall inform the Administrator and any further disposal of documents shall be suspended until such time as the Administrator, with the advice of counsel, determines otherwise. The Administrator will take such steps as is necessary to promptly inform all staff of any suspension in the further disposal of documents.
- 4. Applicability. This Policy applies to all physical records generated in the course of the Association's operation, including both original documents and reproductions. It also applies to the electronic documents described above.

### **Record Retention Schedule**

The Record Retention Schedule is organized as follows:

## SECTION TOPIC

- A. Accounting and Finance
- B. Contracts
- C. Corporate Records
- D. Electronic Documents
- E. Payroll Documents
- F. Personnel Records
- G. Property Records
- H. Tax Records

The following are the Association's retention periods. These apply to both physical and electronic documents. If no physical copy of an electronic document is retained, the means to 'read' the electronic document must also be retained. If a record does not fall within the following categories, Board approval must be obtained to dispose of such record.

#### A. ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE

## **Record Type**

Accounts Payable & Accounts Receivable ledgers and schedules

7 years

Annual Audit Reports and Financial Statements

7 years

Annual Audit Records, including work papers and other documents that relate to the audit

7 years after completion of audit

Bank Statements and Canceled Checks Employee Expense Reports

7 years

General Ledgers

7 years

Notes Receivable ledgers and schedules Investment Records

Permanent

#### **B. CONTRACTS**

#### Record Type

Retention Period

Contracts and Related Correspondence (including any proposal that resulted in the contract and all other supportive documentation)

4 years after expiration or

termination

#### C. ASSOCIATION RECORDS

#### Record Type

Retention Period

Corporate Records (unless otherwise specifically addressed in this Policy - Governing Documents,

addressed in this Policy - Governing Documents,
Dedicatory Instruments, minute books, signed minutes of

Permanent

the Board and all committees, corporate seals, annual

corporate reports)
Licenses and Permits

Permanent

Account records of current owners

5 years

#### D. ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS

- 1. Electronic Mail: Not all email needs to be retained, depending on the subject matter.
  - All e-mail—from internal or external sources—is to be deleted after 12 months.
  - Staff will strive to keep all but an insignificant minority of their e-mail related to business issues.

- The Corporation's business-related email should be downloaded to a service center or user directory on the server, when determined by the Board.
- Staff will not store or transfer the Corporation's related e-mail on non-work-related computers except as necessary or appropriate for the Corporation's purposes.
- Staff will take care not to send confidential/proprietary information to outside sources.
- 2. Electronic Documents: Retention depends on the subject matter and follows D.1 above

## SCHEDULE (

## E. PAYROLL DOCUMENTS

Record Type	Retention Period
Employee Deduction Authorizations	4 years after termination
Payroll Deductions	Termination + 7 years
W-2 and W-4 Forms	Termination + 7 years
Garnishments, Assignments, Attachments	Termination + 7 years
Payroll Registers (gross and net)	7 years
Time Cards/Sheets	2 years
Unclaimed Wage Records	6 years

## F. PERSONNEL RECORDS

Record Tyne Period	Retention
EEO- I /EEO-2 - Employer Information Reports	
Employee Earnings Records	2 years after superseded or filing (whichever is longer)
Employee Handbooks	Separation + 7 years
Employee Personnel Records (including individual attendance records, application forms, job or status change records, performance evaluations, termination papers,	1 copy kept permanently
withholding information, garnishments, test results, training and qualification records)	6 years after separation
Employment Contracts — Individual	
Employment Records - Correspondence with Employment Agencies and Advertisements for Job Openings	7 years after separation
Employment Records - All Non-Hired Applicants	3 years from date of hiring
(including all applications and resumes - whether solicited or unsolicited, results of post-offer, pre-employment physicals, results of background investigations, if any, related correspondence)	2-4 years (4 years if file contains any correspondence which might be construed as an offer)
Job Descriptions	
Record Retention Policy	3 years after

Record Type Retention Period

Personnel Count Records 3 years

3 years after hiring, or 1 year Forms 1-9 G. PROPERTY after separation if later RECORDS

Record Type Retention Period

Correspondence, Property Deeds, Assessments, Licenses, Permanent Rights of Way

Property Insurance Policies Permanent

## H. TAX RECORDS

Record Type	Retention Period
Tax-Exemption Documents	
and Related Correspondence	Permanent
IRS Rulings	Permanent
Tax Bills, Receipts, Statements	7 years
Tax Returns - Income, Franchise, Property	Permanent
Tax Workpaper Packages - Originals	7 years
Annual Information Returns - Federal and State	Permanent
IRS or other Government Audit Records	Permanent
All other Tax Records	7 years

Records Production, Copying, and Retention Policy

## FOR **BYLAWS OF** THE HOMESTEAD AT OWNSBY FARMS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION INC.

## Alternative Payment Schedule Guidelines for Certain Assessments

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors (the "Board") of The Homestead at Ownsby Farms Homeowners Association Inc. (the "Association") wishes to adopt reasonable guidelines to establish an alternative payment schedule by which an owner may make partial payments to the Association for delinquent regular or special assessments or any other amount owed to the Association; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to adopt these reasonable guidelines in compliance with Section 209,0062 of the Texas Property Code; and

WHEREAS, the Board intends to file these guidelines with the Bylaws for The Homestead at Ownsby Farms in the real property records of each county in which the subdivision is located, in compliance with Section 209,0062 of the Texas Property Code; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that the following guidelines are established by the Board:

- 1. Upon the request of a delinquent owner, the Association shall enter into an alternative payment schedule with such owner, subject to the following guidelines:
  - a. An Alternative Payment Schedule is only available to owners who have delinquent regular assessments, special assessments or any other amount owed to the Association.
  - b. An Alternative Payment Schedule will not be made available in the following cases: (1) to owners who have failed to honor the terms of a previous Alternative Payment Schedule during the two years following the owner's default of such previous Alternative Payment Schedule; (2) to owners who have failed to request an Alternative Payment Schedule prior to the 30 day deadline to cure the delinquency as set forth in the Association's letter sent pursuant to Tex. Prop. Code § 209.0064(b); and/or (3) to owners who have entered into an Alternative Payment Schedule within the previous 12 months. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board has discretion to allow any owner to enter into an Alternative Payment Schedule.
  - c. During the course of an Alternative Payment Schedule, additional monetary penalties shall not be charged against an owner so long as the owner timely performs all obligations under the Alternative Payment Schedule and does not However, the Association or its Managing Agent may charge reasonable costs for administering the Alternative Payment Schedule ("Administrative Costs") and, if interest is allowed under the Declaration, then interest will continue to accrue during the term of the Alternative Payment Schedule. The Association may provide an estimate of the amount

Alternative Payment Schedule Policy

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of interest that will accrue during the term of the Alternative Payment Schedule. Fees or Administrative Costs owed to the Managing Agent may not be waived or reduced by the Board of Directors without the prior written consent of the Agent.

- d. The total of all proposed payments in an Alternative Payment Schedule must equal the sum of the current delinquent balance, the estimated interest, and any Administrative Costs; and may include any assessments that will accrue during the term of the Payment Plan.
- c. All payments under an Alternative Payment Schedule shall be due and tendered to the Association by the dates specified in the Alternative Payment Schedule, and shall be made by cashier's checks or money orders.
- f. The minimum term for an Alternative Payment Schedule is 3 months from the date of the owner's request for an Alternative Payment Schedule. The Association is not required to allow an Alternative Payment Schedule for any amount that extends more than 18 months from the date of the owner's request for an Alternative Payment Plan.
- g. Any owner may submit to the Board a request for an Alternative Payment Schedule that does not meet the foregoing guidelines, along with any other information he/she believes the Board should consider along with such request (e.g. evidence of financial hardship). The Board, in its sole discretion, may approve or disapprove such a request for a non-conforming Alternative Payment Schedule. An owner who is not eligible for an Alternative Payment Schedule may still request an Alternative Payment Schedule, and the Board, in its sole discretion, may accept or reject such a request.

#### h. Default

- 1. The following shall result in an immediate default of an Alternative Payment Schedule:
  - i. The owner's failure to timely tender and deliver any payment when due under the Alternative Payment Schedule;
  - ii. The owner's failure to tender any payment in the full amount and form (e.g., cashier's check or money order) as specified in the Alternative Payment Schedule; or
  - iii. The owner's failure to timely comply with any other requirement or obligation set forth in the Alternative Payment Plan.
- Any owner who defaults under an Alternative Payment Schedule shall remain in default until his/her entire account balance is brought current.

Alternative Payment Schedule Policy

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- 3. The Association is not required to provide notice of any default.
- 4. Owners are not entitled to any opportunity to cure a default.
- 5. While an owner is in default under an Alternative Payment Schedule, the owner's payments need not be applied to the owner's debt in the order of priority set forth in Tex. Prop. Code § 209.0063(a). But, in applying a payment made while the owner is in default, a fine assessed by the Association may not be given priority over any other amount owed to the Association.
- 6. The failure by the Association to exercise any rights or options shall not constitute a waiver thereof or the waiver of the right to exercise such right or option in the future.
- i. All other terms of an Alternative Payment Schedule are at the discretion of the Board.
- j. This Alternative Payment Plan Policy may be amended at any time and from time to time by the Declarant during the Declarant Control Period and thereafter by the Board of Directors. Any amendment or recension to any portion of this policy will require a copy be mailed to each homeowner and a copy posted to the Association's website, if applicable.

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## FOR BYLAWS OF THE HOMESTEAD AT OWNSBY FARMS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Policies and Procedures for the collection of Assessments and other charges of the Association

The Homestead at Ownsby Farms Homeowners Association, Inc. (the "Association") has adopted the following policies and procedures for the collection of assessments and other charges of the Association. The policies and procedures detailed herein will be implemented on behalf of the Board of Directors by its Managing Agent (the "Management Company") as agent for the Association unless otherwise stated.

Obligation to Pay Assessments. Membership in the Association is mandatory pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Declaration. A property owner is legally obligated to pay the Assessments to the Association even if the Association's facilities or amenities are not used by the property owner. The property owner may not withhold assessment payments even if the association is not providing maintenance or other services mandated by the Association's governing documents.

<u>Due Dates.</u> Assessments are due on the 1st day of January of each calendar year and are delinquent if not paid by 31<sup>st</sup> day of January. Should the Board choose a different pay schedule or due date the delinquency date will be set forth based on the schedule or due date.

Invoices. The association may, but shall not be required to, invoice a property owner as a condition to an owner's obligation to pay assessment or other charges of the Association. As a matter of course, assessments are invoiced by statements. Non-receipt of an invoice (statement) shall in no way relieve the property owner of the obligation to pay the amount due by the due date. Property owners who do not receive their invoice (statement) are responsible for contacting the Management Company prior to the due date to request a replacement. Property owners are responsible for notifying the Management Company of their mailing address at the time of acquiring property ownership and any subsequent mailing address change thereafter.

Written Notice of Delinquency. Subsequent to an Owner becoming delinquent, and prior to referring the account to the Association's legal counsel for collection, the Association will send written notice of the delinquency to the Owner via certified mail (the "Delinquency Notice or sometimes known as 30 Day Demand Letter"). The Delinquency Notice shall: (I) detail each delinquent amount and the total amount owed; (ii) describe the options the Owner has to avoid having the account referred to the Association's legal counsel, including the availability of a payment plan, and (iii) provide the Owner a period of at least thirty (30) days to cure the delinquency before further collection action is taken.

### Late Payment Charges and Collection Fees.

Late Charges. In the event any assessment, or any portion thereof, is not paid in full by the Delinquency Date, late charges in an amount up to \$25.00 shall be assessed against the Owner's account each month and every month until the assessment is paid in full. Such late charge, as and when levied, is secured by the Assessment Lieu described in the Declaration, and will be subject to recovery in the manner provided herein for assessments. The Board may, in its sole discretion, waive the

collection of any late charge; provided, however, that the waiver of any late charge shall not constitute a waiver of the Board's right to collect any or late charges or any other charges in the future.

Collection Fees. In the event any assessment, or any portion thereof, is not paid in full by the Delinquency Date, collection fees shall be assessed against the Owner's account each month and every month until the assessment is paid in full. Collection fees are charges by the managing agent for the collection of delinquent accounts and may not be waived by the Board without the consent of the managing agent. Such collection fee, as and when levied, is secured by the Assessment Lien described in the Declaration, and will be subject to recovery in the manner provided herein for assessments. Managing Agent may and probably will have additional fees related to collection efforts performed on a delinquent account which may include but, are not limited to demand letter fees and payment plan set up and monitoring fees. These fees shall be assessed against the Owner's account. Such collection fees, as and when levied, is secured by the Assessment Lien described in the Declaration, and will be subject to recovery in the manner provided herein for assessments. Payment of collection fees may be subject to further guidelines or restrictions as they may be set forth in the management contract between the Association and Managing Agent.

Return Payment Charges. A non-negotiable fee equal to the amount of charge levied by the Bank to the Association will be assessed to the property owner for any payment processed that is not honored by a bank or financial institution for any reason including but not limited to insufficient funds notwithstanding, the minimum such charge shall be \$25.00. Such return payment charge shall be due and payable immediately upon demand. Any applicable late payment charges, which would have been assessed if the payment had not been made, may also be applied to the property owner's account. The payment of the outstanding account balance may be required to be paid with a money order or cashier's check. Personal checks will not be accepted to satisfy an outstanding account balance when an insufficient fund check makes up a portion of the balance.

## Referral of Delinquent Accounts to Lien Services or Collection Agencies

Collection Agencies. In the event an account has not been paid in full following thirty (30) days from the date Delinquency Notice was mailed to the Owner, the Association's agent may refer the account to a collection agency for collection, including reporting delinquent account to any credit bureau or other agency providing credit histories to authorized entities. All costs incurred by the Association for using the services of a collection agency, or administering the referral and handling of the account to a collection agency, are deemed costs of collection of the Association. Such costs of collection, when incurred by the Association and added to an Owner's account, are secured by the Assessment Lien described in the Declaration, and will be subject to recovery in the manner provided herein for assessments.

## Referral of Delinquent Accounts to Attorneys

Remedies and Legal Actions. If an Owner fails to cure the delinquency within the thirty (30) day period stated in the Delinquency Notice, the Association may, at its discretion and when it chooses, refer the delinquency to legal counsel for the Association. Any attorney's fees and related charges incurred by virtue of legal action taken will become part of the Owner's assessment obligation and may be collected as such as provided herein. Upon direction of the Board or the Association's agent, legal counsel for

the Association may pursue any and all available legal remedies with regard to the delinquencies referred to it including, but not limited to, the following:

Notice Letter. The initial correspondence to a delinquent Owner from the Attorney.

Notice of Lien. If an Owner fails to cure the delinquency indicated in the Notice Letter, upon being requested to do so by the Board and/or Management, counsel may prepare and record in the Official Public Records of Collin County, a written notice of assessment lien (referred to as the "Notice of Lien") against the Lot. A copy of the Notice of Lien will be sent to the Owner, together with an additional demand for payment in full of all amounts then outstanding.

Foreclosure. In the event that the Owner fails to cure the delinquency, the Board may direct legal counsel to pursue foreclosure of the lien. In any foreclosure proceedings, the Owner shall be required to pay the costs and expenses of such proceedings, including reasonable attorney's fees.

Expedited Foreclosure Pursuant to Rules 735 & 736 of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure. The Board may decide to foreclose its lien by exercising its power of sale granted by the Declaration. In such event, counsel may commence expedited foreclosure lawsuit under Rules 735 and 736 of the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure ("Expedited Foreclosure"). Upon receipt from the Court of an order authorizing foreclosure of the Lot, counsel may post the Lot at the Collin County Courthouse for a foreclosure sale. The Association shall have the power to bid on the Owner's Lot and improvements at foreclosure and to acquire, hold, lease, mortgage, convey or otherwise deal with the same. The Association may institute, a personal judgment suit against the former Owner for any deficiency resulting from the Association's foreclosure of its assessment lien.

Judicial Foreclosure. The Association may file suit for judicial foreclosure ("Judicial Foreclosure") of the assessment lien, which suit may also seek a personal money judgment. Upon receipt from the Court of an order foreclosing the Association's assessment lien against the Lot, the sheriff or constable may post the Lot for sheriff's sale. The Association shall have the power to bid on the Owner's Lot and improvements at foreclosure and to acquire, hold, lease, mortgage, convey or otherwise deal with the same.

<u>Lienholder Notification.</u> In pursuing Expedited Foreclosure or Judicial Foreclosure, the Association shall provide the 61-day notice letter to inferior lienholders pursuant to Section 209.0091 of the Texas Property Code.

<u>Lawsuit for Money Judgment</u>. The Association may file suit for a money judgment in any court of competent jurisdiction.

Bankruptcy, Upon notification of a petition in bankruptcy, the Association may refer the account to legal counsel.

Rights Not Exclusive. All rights and remedies provided in this Policy and herein above are cumulative and not exclusive of any other rights or remedies that may be available to the Association, whether provided by law, equity, and the Association's governing documents or otherwise. In order to expedite the resolution of a delinquent account, the Board may, at any time, compromise or waive the payment of interest, late charges, handling charges, collection costs other than collection fees, unless approved by the managing agent, legal fees or any other application charge.

Use of Regular Mail / Certified Mail. In the event the Association shall send a delinquency notice or demand notice to a property owner by regular mail, certified or certified, return receipt requested, the association will use the property address unless the owner has contacted the Association or its Managing Agent and has provided updated mailing address information. Once the notice(s) have been placed in a U.S. mail receptacle or given to a U.S. postal representative, the notice will be considered to have been duly delivered. It is the sole responsibility of the owner to provide and maintain up to date mailing address information with the Association and/or its Managing Agent.

Waivers. The Association may grant a waiver of any provision herein upon petition in writing by a property owner showing a personal hardship. Such relief granted a property owner shall be appropriately documented in the files with the person representing the Association granting the relief and the conditions of the relief. In addition, the Association is hereby authorized to extend the time for the filing of lawsuits and liens, or to otherwise modify the procedures contained herein, as the Association shall determine appropriate under the circumstances. The Association reserves the right to consider each petition or make its determination regarding referral to an attorney or a third party collection service on a case by case basis. Costs owed to the Managing Agent for their efforts in the processing, handling and collections of an account cannot be waived by the Association without the written consent of the Managing Agent.

Effective Date and Enforcement. The foregoing collection procedure has been adopted by the association and is effective as of the date recorded.

Nothing specified in this document shall require the Association to take specific actions. The foregoing collection procedures have been adopted by the Association and are effective as of the date recorded. Nothing specified in this document shall require the Association to take specific actions. The foregoing collection procedures is a directive by the Board of the Association to the Management Company and is intended to be a guide to collection of Assessments owed to the Association. The Board of the Association may at any time revise the foregoing collection procedure and may at any time direct the Management Company to proceed differently with collection of an individual account based on circumstances applicable to that account and advice and guidance from the Management Company or the Association's attorney. Failure by the Management Company or the Board of the Association to follow the foregoing collection procedure shall not in any way affect the property owner's obligation to pay all Assessments when due, along with all applicable late payment charges and costs of collection. To obtain any information regarding this collection procedure or to obtain the most up-to-date collection procedure, a property owner should contact the Management Company. In the event that any provision herein shall be determined by a court with jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable in any respect, such determination shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision, and this Policy shall be enforced as if such provision did not exist. Furthermore, in the event that any provision of this Policy is deemed by a court with jurisdiction to be ambiguous or in contradiction with any law, this Policy and any such provision shall be interpreted in a manner that complies with an interpretation that is consistent with the law. In the event any provision of this Policy conflicts with the Declaration, the Declaration controls.

Ownership Records. All collection notices and communications will be directed to those persons shown by the records of the Association as being the Owner or a Lot for which assessments are due and will be sent to the most recent address of such Owner solely as reflected by the records of the Association. Any notice or communication directed to a person at an address, in both cases reflected by the records of the Association as being the Owner and address for a given Lot, will be valid and effective for all purposes pursuant to the Declaration and this Policy until such time as there is actual receipt by the Association of written notification from the Owner of any change in the identity or status of such Owner or its address or both.

Notification of Owner's Representative. Where the interests of an Owner in a Lot have been handled by a representative or agent of such Owner or where an Owner has otherwise acted so as to put the Association on notice that its interest in a Lot have been and are being handled by a representative or agent, any notice or communication from the Association pursuant to this Policy will be deemed full and effective for all purposes if given to such Representative or agent.

In the event that any provision herein shall be determined by a court with jurisdiction to be invalid or unenforceable in any respect, such determination shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision, and this Policy shall be enforced as if such provision did not exist. Furthermore, in the event that any provision of this Policy is deemed by a court with jurisdiction to be ambiguous or in contradiction with any law, this Policy and any such provision shall be interpreted in a manner that complies with an interpretation that is consistent with the law. In the event any provision of this Policy conflicts with the Declaration, the Declaration controls.

<sup>[1]</sup> A Statement of Account and / or a definquency notice will not be sent in cases whereby the Management Company has received notice of a property award benkruptcy filed in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, a Notice of Foreeloune on the owner's property or when an active payment plan is in place and being part as agreed

<sup>[2]</sup> The Management Company will continue to post assessments and applicable late payment puratives to the account. The attention of the service may, however, have order charges not reflected on the account or may have entered into payment arrangements not reflected on the account. The Management Company will adjust the account as instructed by the attention of engine.

## FOR BYLAWS OF THE HOMESTEAD AT OWNSBY FAMRS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

## NOTICE AND FINING POLICY

The Board of Directors (the "Board") of The Homestead at Ownsby Farms Homeowners Association, Inc. wishes to adopt reasonable guidelines to establish a Notice and Fining Policy; and

Whereas, the Board intends to file this policy with the Bylaws for The Homestead at Ownsby Farms, Collin, County, Texas, in the real property records of each county in which the subdivision is located; and

Now Therefore, it is Resolved, that the following Notice and Fining Policy is established by the Board:

The following Notice and Fining Policy shall supplement the enforcement rules found in the Declaration or Bylaws and any amendment thereto for the enforcement of the Association's Governing Documents (to include the CC&R's, Amendments, By-Laws, and Rules & Regulations).

This policy shall supplement the provisions set forth in the Declaration and is subject to amendment by the Declarant or Board at any time and from time to time at their sole discretion. Should there be a conflict between the Declaration and this Notice and Fining Policy, the higher standard shall prevail. The amending of this policy shall not require the consent or joinder of the Members nor shall an amendment of the Bylaws be required. The Board may, by Resolution, amend this Notice and Fining Policy at any time and from time to time as deemed necessary and appropriate, notwithstanding, any amendment shall be posted to the HOA's website, if applicable, and a copy shall be mailed to each Owner via regular U.S. mail.

Violation Notice (Warning): Homeowners will be notified when a violation occurs. A 1. minimum of one (1) notice of not less than ten (10) days each will be required except in the case of emergencies where it can reasonably be assumed that the safety, health, welfare and protection of the Owner, a neighbor or neighborhood, or the community in part or as a whole is at risk or recurring violations within a six (6) month period. Violations which present hazards for residents, are damaging property, creating an ongoing nuisance or can be considered an emergency requiring immediate correction shall be subject to self-help actions by the Association as described in the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (the "CCR's") should Owner fail to cure the violation. Self Help actions considered an emergency requiring immediate attention will be addressed within seventy-two (72) hours or less by the Association. A notice in the case of an emergency may be delivered by hand, electronic mail, or U.S. mail. Any costs for initiating Self Help to cure a violation including the costs of postage and handling shall be assessed to the Owner's account. \*\*The Association may, but is not obligated, to provide more than one (1) initial notice of violation. Should additional violation

notices be sent, each notice shall allow a period of not more than ten (10) days in which to correct the violation. \*\*

2. Notice of Assessment of Fine (Hearing Notice): If after the initial notice (or subsequent notices if given) the violation continues, the Owner will be notified that a fine will be levied against his/her account, This notice shall be mailed certified and regular U.S. mail and shall be the initial "Fine Warning" notice which shall include the amount of the fine to be levied and shall contain verbiage pursuant to Chapter 209.006 and 209.007 of the Texas Property Code as amended from time to time regarding an Owner's right to request a hearing before a committee (or the Board in the absence of a committee).

Notice must describe the violation or property damage that is the basis for the fine for such violation, and state any amount due the Association from the Owner and Owner shall be given a reasonable time to cure the violation. Owner shall have thirty (30) days to request a hearing in writing from the date of notice. If the Owner does not request a hearing within that time frame the fines shall commence. Upon levying of a fine to an Owner's account a Notice of Fine shall be sent to the Owner by Certified and Regular U.S. mail and shall follow the outline as shown in the Fine Schedule below. If a hearing is requested the Association or its Managing Agent shall set the hearing within thirty (30) days of receipt of the written request and the Owner shall be notified in writing of the hearing date, time and place not less than ten (10) days prior to the date of the hearing. The Board or Owner may request a postponement, and if requested, a postponement shall be granted for a period of not more than ten (10) days. Additional postponements may be granted by agreement of the parties. If the Hearing is to be held before a Committee appointed by the Board, the Owner shall have the right to appeal to the Board of Directors should the Owner disagree with the Committee's decision. Notice of an Appeal Hearing before the Board of Directors must be submitted by the Owner in writing. An Owner is liable to the Association for certain charges, including reimbursement of attorney's fees which may be incurred by the Association.

- 3. "Damage Assessment": Violations that result in property damage or cause the Association to incur cleanup or other costs will result in a "Special Individual Assessment" on the homeowner's account. Non-payment of this type of assessment may result in additional fees, and collection actions as allowed by law. Any attorney fees or other costs incurred by the Association will be assessed to the Owner's account. Notices for Special Individual Assessment shall follow the same protocol for Fine Warning Notices sent in Section 2 above unless the Declaration requires a different notification process. If conflicts on notification exist, the Declaration shall prevail. The Association shall deliver to the Owner a statement of account identifying the Special Individual Assessment due which Owner shall pay upon receipt of statement. Failure to pay any Special Individual Assessment by an Owner shall be subject to collection the same as any other Assessment.
- 4. Suit and Board Discretion: Failure to comply with the Documents will be grounds for an action to recover damages or for injunctive relief to cause any such violation to be remedied, or both. Prior to commencing legal proceeding, the Association will give the defaulting party reasonable notice and an opportunity to cure the violation. The Board

may use its sole discretion in determining whether to pursue a violation of the Documents, provided the Board does not act in an arbitrary or capricious manner.

## **FINE SCHEDULE**

The costs of curing or abating a violation are at the expense of the Owner or other person responsible for the violation. At the Board's sole discretion, a fine may be levied against a renter or lessee other than the Owner however, should the renter or lessee fail to pay the fine within the time allotted, the Owner shall be responsible for the fine which shall be added to the Owner's account.

First, Second, and Third fines shall require a notice to the Owner advising a fine is being levied and the number of days the Owner has to cure the violation. The fine notice shall contain the minimum verbiage as required by the Texas State Property Code or the Declaration and Bylaws and must advise the Owner of his/her right to request a hearing pursuant to Section 209.006 and 209.007 of the Texas Property Code. Additionally, notices prior to levying a fine shall notify Owners serving in active military of their rights under Chapter 209 of the Texas Property Code wherein active military personnel may have special rights of relief related to enforcement actions under federal law, including Service members Civil Relief Act (50 U.S.C. app. Section 501 et seq.), if the Owner is serving on active military duty. Fine Notices shall be mailed certified and regular U.S. mail.

The table below is intended to establish a base fining structure. The Board shall have the right to instruct or adopt a different fining structure so long as the fines imposed do not exceed the maximum fine limit of \$750.00 set forth in the Declaration per violation occurrence. Fines for some violations such as recurring violations or serious violations which endanger persons or property may have a different fine structure. Fines may be assessed based on the severity of a violation or for continual or recurring violations within a six month period. Fines may be levied in lump sum or increments at the sole discretion of the Board. Each day the violation continues to exist shall constitute a separate violation.

An Owner who continually violates the Association's Declaration, Rules and Regulations or Bylaws, or who damages Association property may be assessed greater fines which may include a one-time fine up to the maximum fine amount at the sole discretion of the Board so long as the fine amounts levied are commensurate to the violation or the history of recurring violations recorded against an Owner.

Ist Fine: First fine for a violation not cured by the Owner after the initial fine warning notice has been given shall not be less than \$50.00, then;

2<sup>nd</sup> Fine: After a minimum of not less than five (5) or more than ten (10) days the Board, its Managing Agent, or any person designated by the Board or Managing Agent shall inspect the Owner's property for compliance. If the violation remains, a letter shall be sent to the violating Owner advising that a second fine in the amount of \$75.00 shall be assessed to the Owner's account, then;

3<sup>rd</sup> Fine: After a minimum of not less than five (5) or more than ten (10) additional

days, the Board, its Managing Agent, or any person designated by the Board or Managing Agent shall inspect the Owner's property for compliance. If the violation remains, a letter shall be sent to the violating Owner advising that a third fine in the amount of \$100.00 shall be assessed to the Owner's account.

4th & After:

If compliance is not met after the end of a minimum of five (5) days from the date the third fine letter is sent, the Owner will receive one (1) final notice advising that fines shall escalate at the rate of \$50.00 for every week in which the violation remains until the maximum fine amount is reached at which time the violation process shall start over and shall be treated as a recurring violation subject to additional fines as outlined in this section so long as the violation remains. Each day the violation continues to exist shall constitute a separate violation.

4. The maximum fine amount is based on a per violation occurrence and can be assessed each time a violation occurs whether or not it is the same or similar kind or whether it is a recurring violation. Recurring violations or violations that cause damage or harm may be treated as those considered to be of greater severity by the Board or its Managing Agent.

If at any time the Owner submits a written request for a hearing, all fines shall be suspended until after the hearing. If the Association has a Managing Agent, notice shall be served through the Managing Agent who shall set the hearing date, time, and place and shall notify the Owner via U.S. mail. The Board may appoint a Hearing Committee who shall oversee the first hearing and who shall render a decision based upon the facts and/or testimonies provided. The Hearing Committee shall render their findings and subsequent results from the hearing in writing no more than ten (10) days from the date of the hearing and the Managing Agent shall notify the Owner via U.S. mail of the decision.

The Association or its Managing Agent shall immediately proceed and comply with any instructions and/or findings. If the Hearing Committee rules in favor of the Association, all fines or other violation actions suspended pending the hearing outcome may resume unless the Hearing Committee instructs otherwise. If the Hearing Committee rules in favor of the Owner, all violation actions shall cease and no further fines shall be assessed unless and until the Hearing Committee provides instruction. The Hearing Committee must note in their findings and provide direction to the Managing Agent as to whether any fine(s) previously assessed to the Owners account will be upheld or waived. If the hearing is held by a committee appointed by the Board, the Owner shall have the right to appeal the decision of the committee to the Board of Directors and the decision of the Board of Directors shall be final. If the hearing is held by the Board of Directors is final.

Note:

All fines are subject to collections and will be collected in the same manner as are the association dues.

#### FOR

#### BYLAWS OF

#### THE HOMESTEAD AT OWNSBY FARMS

## HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC. EMAIL REGISTRATION POLICY

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors (the "Board") of The Homestead at Ownsby Farms Homeowners Association, Inc. (the "Association") wishes to adopt reasonable guidelines to establish an E-mail Policy by which an owner may register his e-mail address to facilitate proper notice of annual and special meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Board wishes to adopt this E-mail Registration Policy in compliance with Section 209.0051(e) of the Texas Property Code; and

WHEREAS, the Board intends to file these guidelines with the Bylaws for The Homestead at Ownsby Farms, Collin County, Texas in the real property records of each county in which the subdivision is located; and

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that the following guidelines are established by the Board:

Terms used but not defined in this policy will have the meaning subscribed to such terms in that certain Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for The Homestead at Ownsby Farms Homeowners Association recorded or to be recorded in the Official Public Records of Collin County, Texas, as the same may be amended from time to time.

<u>Purpose.</u> The purpose of this Email Registration Policy is to facilitate proper notice of annual and special meetings of members of the Association pursuant to Section 209.0051(e) of the Texas Property Code.

Email Registration. Should the owner wish to receive any and all email notifications of annual and special meetings of members of the Association, it is the owner's sole responsibility to register his/her email address with the Association and to continue to keep the registered email address updated and current with the Association. In order to register an email address, the owner must provide their name, address, phone number and email address through the method provided on the Association's website, if any,

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and/or to the official contact information provided by the Association for the community manager.

Failure to Register. An owner may not receive email notification or communication of annual or special meetings of members of the Association should the owner fail to register his/her email address with the Association and/or properly and timely maintain an accurate email address with the Association. Correspondence to the Association and/or Association manager from an email address or by any method other than the method described in Paragraph No. 2 above will not be considered sufficient to register such email address with the Association.

Amendment. The Association may, from time to time, modify, amend, or supplement this Policy or any other rules regarding email registration. A copy of any amendment or recension of this policy will be mailed to all homeowners and a copy placed on the Association's website, if applicable.



Filed and Recorded Official Public Records Stacey Kemp, County Clerk Collin County, TEXAS 05/01/2018 09:26:13 AM \$530.00 SCAPELA 20180501000524180

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