

## §7.18

(5) A member of the State committee; or

(6) County executive director or any other county office employee.

(b) *Community committee membership.* A member of the community committee may not be at the same time:

(1) A member of a county committee;

(2) The secretary to the county committee;

(3) A member of the State committee; or

(4) County executive director or regular county office employee.

(c) *Delegate to conventions.* A delegate to the local administrative area or county convention may not be a member of the State committee.

### §7.18 Terms of office of county and community members.

The term of office of county and community committee members and alternates to such office shall begin on a date fixed by the Deputy Administrator, which shall be after their election and not later than the first day in the next January. Before any such county committee members or alternate county committee members may take office, such person shall sign an oath of office pledge that they will faithfully, fairly, and honestly perform to the best of their ability all of the duties devolving on them as committee members. A term of office shall continue until a successor is elected and qualified as provided in §§7.8 and 7.9 of this part.

### §7.19 Terms of office of delegates to the conventions.

The terms of office of delegates and alternates to the local administrative area and county conventions shall begin immediately upon their election and shall continue until their respective successors have elected and qualified.

### §7.20 State committee duties.

The State committee, subject to the general direction and supervision of the Deputy Administrator, shall be generally responsible for carrying out in the State the agricultural conservation program, the production adjustment and price support programs, the acreage allotment and marketing

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quota programs, the wool and mohair incentive payment program, and any other program or function assigned by the Secretary or a designee of the Secretary.

### §7.21 County committee duties.

(a) The county committee, subject to the general direction and supervision of the State committee, and acting through community committee members and other personnel, shall be generally responsible for carrying out in the county the agricultural conservation program, the production adjustment and price support programs, the acreage allotment and marketing quota programs, the wool and mohair incentive payment program, and any other program or function assigned by the Secretary or a designee of the Secretary.

(b) The county committee shall:

(1) Enter into leasing agreements for such office space as needed in accordance with official instructions.

(2) Employ the county executive director, subject to standards and qualifications furnished by the State committee, to serve at the pleasure of the county committee, except that incumbent directors shall not be removed other than in accordance with the provisions of §7.28 of this part until all members of the county committee have been in office for at least 90 days. There shall be no employment discrimination due to race, religion, color, sex, age, or national origin. The county executive director may not be removed for advocating or carrying out the Department's policy on equal opportunity and civil rights, including the equal employment policy. In the event it is claimed that dismissal is for such reasons, the dismissal shall not become effective until the State committee and the Deputy Administrator have determined that dismissal was not because of such reasons;

(3) Direct the activities of the local committees elected in the county;

(4) Pursuant to official instructions, review, approve, and certify forms, reports, and documents requiring such action in accordance with such instructions;

(5) Recommend to the State committee needed changes in boundaries of

community and local administrative areas;

(6) Make available to farmers and the public, information concerning the objectives and operations of the programs administered through the county committee;

(7) Make available to agencies of the Federal Government and others information with respect to the county committee activities in accordance with official instructions issued;

(8) Give public notice of the designation and boundaries of each community within the county not less than 50 days prior to the election of community committee members and delegates;

(9) Direct the giving of notices in accordance with applicable regulations and official instructions;

(10) Recommend to the State committee desirable changes in or additions to existing programs;

(11) Conduct such hearings and investigations as the State committee may request; and

(12) Perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the State committee.

**§ 7.22 Community committee duties.**

(a) The community committee shall be subject to the general direction and supervision of the county committee.

(b) The community committee shall:

(1) Serve as an advisor and consultant to the county committee;

(2) Periodically meet with the county committee and State committee to be informed on farm program issues;

(3) Communicate with producers on issues or concerns regarding farm programs;

(4) Report to the county committee, the State committee, and other interested persons on changes to, or modification of, farm programs recommended by producers;

(5) Perform such other functions as are required by law or as the Secretary or a designee of the Secretary may specify.

**§ 7.23 Chairperson of the county committee duties.**

The chairperson of the county committee or the person acting as the chairperson shall preside at meetings of the county committee, certify such

documents as may require the chairperson's certification, and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the State committee.

**§ 7.24 Chairperson of the community committee duties.**

The chairperson of the community committee or the person acting as the chairperson shall preside at meetings of the community committee, and perform such other duties as may be assigned by the county committee.

**§ 7.25 County executive director duties.**

(a) The county executive director shall execute the policies established by the county committee and be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the county office.

(b) The county executive director shall:

(1) In accordance with standards and qualifications furnished by the State committee, employ the personnel of the county office to serve at the pleasure of the county executive director. There shall be no employment discrimination due to race, religion, color, sex, age, or national origin. An employee may not be removed under this paragraph for advocating or carrying out the Department's policy on equal opportunity and civil rights, including the equal employment policy. In the event it is claimed that the dismissal is for such reason, the dismissal shall not become effective until the State committee and the Deputy Administrator have determined that dismissal was not because of such reason;

(2) Receive, dispose of, and account for all funds, negotiable instruments, or property coming into the custody of the county committee;

(3) Serve as counselor to the local administrative area and county convention chairperson on election procedures; and

(4) Supervise, under the direction of the county committee, the activities of the community committees elected in the county.