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Board shall request County Agricultural Extension Agents in that district to recommend one or more eligible growers to be included on the ballot. Ballots, accompanied by the names of all such candidates, with spaces to indicate voters' choices and spaces for write-in candidates, together with voting instructions, shall be mailed to all growers who are on record with the Board. The person receiving the highest number of votes shall be the member nominee for that district, and the person receiving the second highest number of votes shall be the alternate member. The Board shall recommend one candidate in case of a tie vote.

(f) Nominations received in the foregoing manner by the Board for all handler and grower member and alternate member positions shall be certified and sent to the Secretary at least 60 days prior to the beginning of each two-year term of office, together with all necessary data and other information deemed by the Board to be pertinent or requested by the Secretary. If nominations are not made within the time and manner specified in this subpart, the Secretary may, without regard to nominations, select the Board members and alternates on the basis of the representation provided for in this subpart.

(g) The members of the Board shall nominate the public member and alternate public member at the first meeting following the selection of members for a new term of office.

(h) The Board with the approval of the Secretary shall issue rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this section or to change the procedures in this section in the event they are no longer practical.

[51 FR 29547, Aug. 19, 1986, as amended at 61 FR 17559, Apr. 22, 1996]

§ 982.33 Selection and term of office.

(a) *Selection.* Members and their respective alternates shall be selected by the Secretary from nominees submitted by the Board or from among other qualified persons.

(b) *Term of office.* The term of office of Board members and their alternates shall be for two years beginning on July 1 and ending on June 30, but they shall serve until their respective suc-

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cessors are selected and have qualified: *Provided,* That beginning with the 1996-97 marketing year, no member shall serve more than three consecutive two-year terms as member and no alternate member shall serve more than three consecutive two-year terms as alternate unless specifically exempted by the Secretary. Nomination elections for all Board grower and handler member and alternate positions shall be held every two years.

(c) The members on the Board shall continue to serve until the new members and alternates have been selected and have qualified.

[51 FR 29547, Aug. 19, 1986, as amended at 61 FR 17559, Apr. 22, 1996]

§ 982.34 Qualification.

(a) Any person prior to selection as a member or an alternate member of the Board shall qualify by filing with the Secretary a written acceptance of willingness to serve on the Board.

(b) Each grower member and alternate shall be, at the time of selection and during the term of office, a grower or an officer, employee, or agent of a grower in the district for which nominated.

(c) Each handler member and alternate shall be, at the time of selection and during the term of office, a handler or an officer, employee, or agent of a handler.

(d) Any member or alternate member who at the time of selection was a member (or employed by or an agent of a member) of the group which nominated that person shall, upon ceasing to be such, become disqualified to serve further and that position shall be deemed vacant. In the event any grower member or alternate member of the Board handles hazelnuts produced by other growers or becomes an employee or agent of a handler, that person shall be disqualified to continue to serve on the Board in that capacity.

(e) No person nominated to serve as a public member or alternate member shall have a financial interest in any hazelnut growing or handling operation.

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(f) The Board, with the approval of the Secretary, may issue rules and regulations covering matters of qualifications for members or alternate members.

[51 FR 29547, Aug. 19, 1986]

§ 982.35 Vacancy.

To fill any vacancy occasioned by the death, removal, resignation, or disqualification of any member or alternate of the Board, a successor for his unexpired term shall be nominated and selected in the manner provided in §§ 982.32 and 982.33, so far as applicable, unless selection is deemed unnecessary by the Secretary.

§ 982.36 Alternates.

An alternate for a member of the Board shall act in the place of the member during such member's absence or, upon the member's death, removal, resignation, or disqualification, until a successor for that member's term has been selected and has qualified.

[51 FR 29548, Aug. 19, 1986]

§ 982.37 Procedure.

(a) Seven members of the Board shall constitute a quorum at an assembled meeting of the Board, and any action of the Board shall require the concurring vote of at least six members. At any assembled meeting, all votes shall be cast in person.

(b) The Board may vote by mail, telephone, telegraph, or other means of communication: *Provided*, That any votes (except mail votes) so cast shall be confirmed at the next regularly scheduled meeting. When any proposition is submitted for voting by any such method, its adoption shall require 10 concurring votes.

(c) The members of the Board and their alternates shall serve without compensation, but members and alternates acting as members shall be allowed their necessary expenses: *Provided*, That the Board may request the attendance of one or more alternates not acting as members at any meeting of the Board, and such alternates may be allowed their necessary expenses.

[26 FR 6185, Aug. 1, 1959. Redesignated at 26 FR 12751, Dec. 30, 1961, as amended at 51 FR 29548, Aug. 19, 1986; 61 FR 17559, Apr. 22, 1996]

§ 982.38 Powers.

The Board shall have the following powers:

(a) To administer the provisions of this subpart in accordance with its terms;

(b) To make rules and regulations to effectuate the terms and provisions of this subpart;

(c) To receive, investigate, and report to the Secretary complaints of violations of this subpart;

(d) To recommend to the Secretary amendments to this subpart.

§ 982.39 Duties.

The Board shall have among others the following duties:

(a) To select from among its members such officers and adopt rules or bylaws for the conduct of its meetings as it deems advisable;

(b) To act as intermediary between the Secretary and any handler or grower;

(c) To keep minute books and records which will clearly reflect all of its acts and transactions, and such books and records shall be available for examination by the Secretary at any time;

(d) To furnish to the Secretary such available information as he may request;

(e) To appoint such employees as it deems necessary and determine the salaries, define the duties and fix the bonds of such employees;

(f) To cause the books of the Board to be audited by one or more public accountants approved by the Board at least once for each marketing year and at such other times as the Board deems necessary or as the Secretary may request, and to file with the Secretary reports of all audits made;

(g) To investigate the growing, shipping and marketing conditions with respect to hazelnuts, and assemble data in connection therewith;

(h) To give the Secretary the same notice of the meetings of the Board as is given to its members; and

(i) To furnish to the Secretary a report of the proceedings of each meeting of the Board held for the purpose of