

## § 2200.7

(e) *Minutes.* The Secretary shall keep minutes of each Board meeting and of action taken without a meeting, a draft of which is to be distributed to each member of the Board as soon as practicable after each meeting or action. To the extent practicable, the minutes of a Board meeting shall be corrected and approved at the next meeting of the Board.

(f) *Use of conference call communications equipment.* Any member may participate in a meeting of the Board through the use of conference call, telephone or similar communications equipment, by means of which all persons participating in the meeting can simultaneously speak to and hear each other. Any member so participating in a meeting shall be deemed present for all purposes. Actions taken by the Board at meetings conducted through the use of such equipment, including the votes of each member, shall be recorded in the usual manner in the minutes of the meetings of the Board.

(g) *Actions between meetings.* When, in the judgment of the Chair, circumstances occur making it desirable for the Board to consider action when it is not feasible to call a meeting, the relevant information and recommendations for action may be transmitted to the members by the Secretary and the voting members may communicate their votes to the Chair in writing (including an action signed in counterpart by each Board member), electronically, or orally (including telephone communication). Any action taken under this paragraph has the same effect as an action taken at a meeting. Any such action shall be recorded in the minutes.

(h) *Officers and staff of the Board.* The Board shall appoint a Secretary and may appoint such other officers and staff as it deems appropriate, including an Executive Director and a Legal Counsel. An individual may hold more than one officer or staff position.

(i) *Delegations of authority.* The Board may delegate authority, subject to such terms and conditions as the Board deems appropriate, to officers and staff to take certain actions not required by the Act to be taken by the Board. All delegations shall be made pursuant to resolutions of the Board and recorded in writing, whether in the minutes of a

## 7 CFR Ch. XX (1-1-08 Edition)

meeting or otherwise. Any action taken pursuant to such delegated authority has the effect of an action taken by the Board.

### § 2200.7 Officer and staff responsibilities.

(a) *Executive Director.* The Executive Director advises and assists the Board in carrying out its responsibilities under the Act, provides general direction with respect to the administration of the Board's actions, directs the activities of the staff, and performs such other duties as the Board may require.

(b) *Legal Counsel.* The Legal Counsel provides legal advice relating to the responsibilities of the Board and performs such other duties as the Board may require.

(c) *Secretary.* The Secretary sends notice of all meetings, prepares minutes of all meetings, maintains a complete record of all votes and actions taken by the Board, has custody of all records of the Board, has authority to publish documents in the FEDERAL REGISTER upon approval of the Board and performs such other duties as the Board may require.

(d) *Other.* The responsibilities of any other officer or staff shall be defined by the Board at the time of appointment of such position.

### § 2200.8 Ex parte communications.

Communication with the Board shall be conducted through the staff of the Board. Oral or written communication, not on the public record, between the Board, or any member of the Board, and any party or parties interested in any matter pending before the Board concerning the substance of that matter is prohibited.

### § 2200.9 Amendments.

The Board's rules may be adopted or amended, or new rules may be adopted, only by the affirmative vote of not less than three members of the Board. Authority to adopt or amend these rules may not be delegated.

### § 2200.10 Restrictions on lobbying.

(a) No funds received through a Loan guaranteed under this Program in this chapter may be expended by the recipient of a Federal contract, grant, loan,