



National Association of Farmer Elected Committees

Representing Farm Service Agency County Committee Members since 1965

Dear NAFEC Members:

Since 1965 NAFEC has been advocating for the COC elected system of government for the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and its Forerunners (AAA, ASC, ASCS, etc.). A strong and effective NAFEC is critical in keeping the elected COC system in place. Over the past few years many of the NAFEC state associations disbanded. NAFEC previously updated their Bylaws to accommodate State Director appointments in cases where the state associations were no longer organized. Additionally, NAFEC has been operating with four national officers and five elected area directors, plus an At Large director making up the executive committee. However, some of the language in our Constitution and Bylaws needs to be updated to correspond with our current organizational structure. Language has also been revised to be gender neutral.

I have attached with this cover letter the updates to our Constitution and Bylaws approved by the NAFEC Executive Committee and State Directors for presentation to membership. Membership will vote on these changes at the annual meeting of NAFEC to be held in conjunction with the NASCOE convention on the afternoon of Friday August 2, 2023 at the Texas A&M Hotel and Conference Center located at 177 Joe Routt Blvd., College Station. As a member of NAFEC you are entitled to be at this meeting and vote on these proposed changes.

If you have any questions or concerns prior to this meeting please feel free to reach out to me at (937) 423-8507 or any of our NAFEC executive committee members.

Sincerely,

Jim Zumbrink
NAFEC President



NAFEC Notification to Members Regarding Requested Changes to the Constitution and By Laws

Constitution:

Original Language:

Article IV- Government

Section 1- The governing body of the Association shall be vested in a Board of Directors composed of the President or his alternate from each State. These directors shall be responsible for the general management of the organization as stated in the By-Laws. In the absence of a state organization, a director shall be appointed by the Executive Committee

Section 2 The Executive arm of the Association shall be an Executive committee composed of one duly elected member from each of the areas as described below in Exhibit 1 to NAFEC's Constitution and By-Laws, plus five Constitutional offices of the Association.

Section 3- The offices of this Association shall be a President, Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Vice President of Membership, and a Secretary-Treasurer to be elected and serve as provided by the By-Laws.

Requested Update Highlighted:

ARTICLE IV – Government

Section 1- The governing body of the Association shall be vested in a Board of Directors composed of the President or his/her alternate from each State. These directors shall be responsible for the general management of the organization as stated in the By-Laws. **In the absence of a state organization, one state voting director and one alternate state voting director may be appointed by the Executive Committee**

Section 2 The Executive arm of the Association shall be an Executive committee composed of one duly elected member from each of the areas as described below in Exhibit 1 **and one At Large Director who will represent any area that has been vacated, or any regular area director that is not present to vote, according to NAFEC's Constitution and By-Laws, plus four Constitutional offices of the Association.**

Section 3- The offices of this Association shall be a President, **Executive Vice President, Vice President, and a Secretary-Treasurer** to be elected and serve as provided by the By-Laws.



By-Laws:

Original Language:

Article II- Election of Officers

Section 1 Directors shall be the affiliated State President for a term of one year, taking office on January 1 and serving through December 31. (a) The President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Vice President of Membership, and Secretary-Treasurer shall be members Ex-Officio of the Board of Directors with full voting rights.

Section 3 The President, Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Vice President of Membership and Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected by the Delegates present and voting at the annual membership meeting of the Association. Nominations and seconds shall be made by any delegate in good standing from the floor. The President, Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Vice President of Membership and Secretary-Treasurer will take office following their election at the national convention of the year for which elected and shall serve until the next convention.

ARTICLE III – OFFICERS

Section 2 The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President during his absence and at such times as the President may deem necessary and shall succeed to the Office of the President should it become vacant.

Section 3 The 2nd Vice President shall perform the duties of the President in the event both President and Vice President are absent and shall succeed to the Office of 1st Vice President should such become vacant. A special duty of the 2nd Vice President shall be that of Public Relations Officer.

Section 4 The Vice President of Membership shall be responsible for the coordination of membership solicitation and recruitment at the national level. This officer will assist in membership solicitation and recruitment at the individual state, district and county level, as time permits.

Section 5 The Secretary-Treasurer shall in effect serve as business manager of the Association. He shall (1) conduct the official correspondence of the Association, (2) keep accurate records of the regular and special business meetings, (3) prepare and have custody of the minutes of all meetings, (4) preside at meetings in the absence of the President and both Vice Presidents, (5) collect dues from all Members States, (6) collect and distribute all monies subject to prior approval of the Executive Committee, (7) deposit all funds in a depository in the city of his residence or as otherwise designated by the Executive Committee, (8) be bonded by an accredited bonding firm, and perform such additional duties as may be assigned by the Board, Executive Committee or President.

Section 6 The President shall give an annual report to the Association.



Section 7 All disbursements of the Association shall be by check signed by the Treasurer. All disbursements shall have prior approval of the Executive Committee item by item. The rate of reimbursement of expenses only of members of the Executive Committee and Officers incurred in the discharge of their official duties will be determined by the Board of Directors. The rate of reimbursement of expenses of the Board of Directors incurred in the discharge of their official duties will be determined by the delegates of at the annual convention.

Article IV- Meetings

Section 3 Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at least annually. A quorum shall consist of not less than one-half of the membership of the Board of Directors.

Requested Update Highlighted:

ARTICLE II – Election of Officers and Directors

Section 1 Directors shall be the affiliated State President or in the absence of a state association the appointed state director, taking office upon appointment and serving until resignation, or when replaced by the executive committee. (a) The President, Executive Vice President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer shall be members Ex-Officio of the Board of Directors with full voting rights.

Section 3 The Officers of the Association; President, Executive Vice President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected by the Delegates present and voting at the annual membership meeting of the Association. Nominations and seconds shall be made by any delegate in good standing from the floor. The elected officers will take office following their election at the national convention of the year for which elected and shall serve until the next convention.

Article III- Officers

Section 2 The Executive Vice President shall perform the duties of the President during his/her absence and at such times as the President may deem necessary and shall succeed to the Office of the President should it become vacant.

Section 3 The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President in the event both President and Executive Vice President are absent and shall succeed to the Office of Executive Vice President should such become vacant. A special duty of the Vice President shall be that of Public Relations Officer.

Deleted Section 4 regarding Vice President of Membership and moved 5 and succeeding sections up one. (Section 4 removed, Section 5, 6 and 7 became Section 4,5 and 6 with update.)

Section 4 The Secretary-Treasurer shall in effect serve as business manager of the Association. He/She shall (1) conduct the official correspondence of the Association, (2) keep accurate records of the regular and special business meetings, (3) prepare and have custody of the minutes of all meetings, (4) preside at meetings in the absence of the President and both Vice



Presidents, (5) collect dues from all Members States, (6) collect and distribute all monies subject to prior approval of the Executive Committee, (7) deposit all funds in a depository in the city of his/her residence or as otherwise designated by the Executive Committee, (8) be bonded by an accredited bonding firm, and perform such additional duties as may be assigned by the Board, Executive Committee or President.

Section 5 The President shall give an annual report to the Association.

Section 6 All disbursements of the Association shall be by check signed by the Treasurer. All disbursements shall have prior approval of the Executive Committee item by item. The rate of reimbursement of expenses only of members of the Executive Committee and Officers incurred in the discharge of their official duties will be determined by the Board of Directors. The rate of reimbursement of expenses of the Board of Directors incurred in the discharge of their official duties will be determined by the delegates of at the annual convention

Article IV- Meetings

Section 3 Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at least annually. A quorum shall consist of not less than one-half of the Executive Committee and the board members in attendance at the prior announced meeting in accordance with these bylaws.