

## **Governing Board**

### **Board Policy Development**

The Board governs using written policies. Written policies ensure legal compliance, establish Board processes, articulate Cooperative ends, delegate authority, and define operating limits. Board policies also provide the basis for monitoring progress toward Cooperative ends.

#### Policy Development

Anyone may propose new policies, changes to existing policies, or deletion of existing policies. Staff suggestions should be processed through the Director. Suggestions from all others should be made to the Board Chairman or the Director.

The Director is responsible for: (1) providing relevant policy information and data to the Board, (2) notifying those who will implement or be affected by or required to implement a proposed policy and obtaining their advice and suggestions, and (3) having policy recommendations drafted into written form for Board deliberation. The Director shall seek the counsel of the Board Attorney when appropriate.

#### Policy Adoption and Dissemination

Policies or policy revisions will not be adopted at the Board meeting at which they are first introduced, except when: (1) appropriate for a consent agenda because no Board discussion is required, or (2) necessary or prudent in order to meet emergency or special conditions or to be legally compliant. Further Board consideration will be given at a subsequent meeting(s) and after opportunity for community input. The adoption of a policy will serve to supersede all previously adopted policies on the same topic.

The Board policies are available for public inspection in the Cooperative's main office during regular office hours. Copy requests should be made pursuant to Board policy 2:250, *Access to Cooperative Public Records*.

#### Board Policy Review and Monitoring

The Board will periodically review its policies for relevancy, monitor its policies for effectiveness, and consider whether any modifications are required.

#### Director Implementation

The Board will support any reasonable interpretation of Board policy made by the Director. If reasonable minds differ, the Board will review the applicable policy and consider the need for further clarification.

In the absence of Board policy, the Director is authorized to take appropriate action.

#### Suspension of Policies

The Board, by a majority vote of members present at any meeting, may temporarily suspend a Board policy except those provisions that are controlled by law or contract. The failure to suspend with a specific motion does not invalidate the Board action.

LEGAL REF.: 105 ILCS 5/10-20.5.

CROSS REF.: 2:250 (Access to Cooperative Public Records), 3:40 (Director)

ADOPTED: December 10, 2014