

## ARTICLE IV. TRUSTEES

### SECTION 3. NOMINATIONS, ELECTION, AND TENURE.

Trustees shall be elected by secret ballot as provided herein at the Annual Meeting of the members. In the election of trustees, a voice vote may be permitted if there is no competition for a position or positions to be filled.

The area served by the Cooperative shall from time to time be divided by resolution of the Board into seven (7) trustee positions. The Board is charged with dividing the service area of the Cooperative into districts which shall as nearly as practicable afford equal representation of each member of the Cooperative upon the Board. One trustee shall be elected to each of the seven (7) designated trustee positions.

(a) The terms of trustees elected shall be for three years and until a successor shall have been elected and qualified. The rotation is Districts 2 and 7, Districts 3 and 5, and Districts 1, 4, and 6.

(b) Nominating Committee. A nominating committee consisting of three members from each district from which a trustee is to be elected shall be appointed by the Board, not less than 60 nor more than 120 days before the annual meeting. Each committee shall meet not less than 45 days before the annual meeting and select one nominee for trustee from their district.

The nomination shall be posted at the principal office of the Cooperative immediately following the committee meeting. No member of the Board may serve on such a committee.

(c) Nominations by Petition. Any fifty (50) members, in good standing with the Cooperative, residing in a district from which a trustee is to be elected may make nominations by petition for a trustee from that district, provided such nominating petition is filed in the principal office of the Cooperative not less than 20 days prior to the annual meeting. No member may nominate more than one candidate for a trustee position.

(d) The Secretary shall mail with the notice of the meeting or separately, but at least seven (7) days before the date of the meeting, a statement of the number of trustees to be elected and the names and addresses of the candidates, specifying separately the nominations made by the committee on nominations and also the nominations made by petition, if any.