

votes are tabulated by an independent party.

(c) When an institution receives a ballot by mail or at a meeting, the vote of such stockholder shall be final. When proxy voting is permitted, a stockholder voting by proxy may revoke the proxy prior to balloting at the stockholders meeting.

§ 611.340 Security in the election of directors.

(a) Each System institution shall adopt policies and procedures that assure the security of all records and materials related to the election of board members including, but not limited to, ballots, proxy ballots, and other related materials.

(b) Bank and association procedures shall assure that ballots and proxy ballots are provided only to stockholders who are eligible to vote.

(c) Ballots and proxy ballots shall be physically safeguarded before the time of distribution or mailing to voting stockholders and after the time of receipt by the banks and associations until disposal. Ballots, proxy ballots, and election records shall be retained until the end of the term of office of the director and promptly destroyed thereafter.

(d) The election procedures of each institution shall provide for the establishment of a tellers committee or other designated group of persons which shall be responsible for validating ballots and proxies and tabulating election results. An institution and its officers, directors and employees shall make no public announcement of the results of an election before the tellers committee or other designated persons have validated the results of the election.

Subpart D—Rules for Compensation of Board Members

§ 611.400 Compensation of bank board members.

(a) Farm Credit System banks are authorized to pay fair and reasonable compensation to directors for services performed in an official capacity at a rate not to exceed the level established in section 4.21 of the Farm Credit Act of 1971, as amended, unless the FCA de-

termines that such a level adversely affects the safety and soundness of the institution.

(b) The bank director compensation level established in section 4.21 of the Act shall be adjusted to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for all urban consumers, as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, in the following manner: Current year's maximum compensation = Prior year's maximum compensation adjusted by the prior year's annual average percent change in the CPI for all urban consumers. Adjustments will be made to the bank director statutory compensation limit beginning from October 28, 1992 (the date of enactment of the Farm Credit Banks and Associations Safety and Soundness Act of 1992). Additionally, each year the FCA will distribute a booklet to all FCS banks that communicates the CPI adjusted bank director statutory compensation limit.

(c) A waiver of the compensation limitation prescribed by section 4.21 of the Act may be granted under exceptional circumstances as approved on a case-by-case basis by the FCA. However, the FCA shall not grant a waiver that allows a bank to pay any director in excess of 30 percent more than the statutory maximum compensation as determined in accordance with paragraph (b) of this section. A waiver approval shall precede any payments by the bank to its director(s) that exceed the maximum limitation determined in paragraph (b) of this section. A bank seeking a waiver shall provide the FCA Chairman with a written request that:

(1) Describes and explains the exceptional circumstance(s) that the bank believes necessitates a waiver of section 4.21 of the Act;

(2) States the amount and the terms and conditions (if any) of the proposed compensation level for each director that would exceed the statutory maximum determined in accordance with paragraph (b) of this section; and

(3) Justifies the compensation level of each director that would exceed the statutory limitation based on the extraordinary time and service devoted to bank business.

The FCA shall respond to written requests within 60 days of receipt of the

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preceding information and the receipt of any other additional information requested by the FCA.

(d) Each bank board shall adopt a written policy regarding compensation of bank directors. The policy shall address, at a minimum, the following areas:

(1) The activities or functions for which attendance is necessary and appropriate and may be compensated, except that a Farm Credit System bank shall not compensate any director for rendering services on behalf of any other Farm Credit System institution or a cooperative of which the director is a member, or for performing other assignments of a non-official nature;

(2) The methodology for determining each director's rate of compensation; and

(3) The exceptional circumstances under which the board would seek a waiver of the statutory limitation on bank director compensation for any of its directors and any limitations or conditions the board wishes to place on the availability of such waivers.

(e) Directors may also be reimbursed for reasonable travel, subsistence, and other related expenses in accordance with the policy adopted pursuant to §618.8270 of this chapter.

[59 FR 37411, July 22, 1994]

Subpart E—Transfer of Authorities

SOURCE: 53 FR 50393, Dec. 15, 1988, unless otherwise noted.

§611.500 General.

Each Farm Credit Bank or Agricultural Credit Bank is authorized, in accordance with section 7.6 of the Act, to transfer certain authorities to Federal land bank associations. The regulations in this subpart set forth the procedures and voting and approval requirements applicable to such transfers.

§611.501 Procedures.

(a) The boards of directors of a bank and an association which seek to transfer authorities may adopt appropriate resolutions approving such transfer and providing for the submission of

such a proposal to their respective stockholders for a vote.

(b) The resolutions accompanied by the following information shall be submitted to the Farm Credit Administration for review and approval:

(1) Any proposed amendments to the charters of the institutions;

(2) A copy of the transfer plan as required under §611.520 of this part;

(3) An information statement that complies with the requirements of §611.515;

(4) The proposed bylaws of the bank and the association, as applicable; and

(5) Any additional information the boards of directors wish to submit in support of the request or that the Farm Credit Administration requests.

§611.505 Farm Credit Administration review.

(a) Upon receipt of the board of directors resolution and the accompanying documents, the Farm Credit Administration shall review the request and either deny or give its preliminary approval to the request.

(b) If the request is denied, written notice stating the reasons for the denial shall be transmitted to the chief executive officer of the bank and the association who shall promptly notify their respective boards of directors.

(c) Upon approval of the proposed transfer of authorities by the stockholders as provided in §611.510, the secretary of the bank and the secretary of the association shall forward to the Farm Credit Administration a certified record of the results of the stockholder votes.

(d) Each institution shall notify its stockholders not later than 30 days after the stockholder vote of the final results of the vote. If no petition for reconsideration is filed with the Farm Credit Administration in accordance with §611.525, the transfer shall be effective on the date specified in the transfer plan, or at such later date as may be required by the Farm Credit Administration to grant final approval. Notice of final approval shall be transmitted to the institutions involved.

(e) The effective date of a transfer shall be a date which is not less than 50