

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation



Adopted Fifteenth Annual Convention
Asheville, N. C.

February 14, 1951

ARTICLE I—NAME AND OBJECT

Section 1.—Name: The name of this association shall be "The North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation."

Section 2.—Object: The object of the Federation shall be to effectively organize, advance, and improve, in every way possible, the agricultural interests of the great commonwealth of North Carolina; economically, educationally, and socially, through the united efforts of the County Farm Bureaus of the State.

ARTICLE II—MEMBERSHIP

Section 1.—Application for membership: County or Community Farm Bureaus applying for membership in this Federation shall be considered members of the State Federation when they pay for each member to the State Association dues for State and National membership and agree to abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation now existing, or subsequently enacted or adopted, and any and all amendments or amending thereto.

Section 2.—Election to membership: Application for membership shall be acted upon by the Executive Committee of the Federation at the first meeting of said committee. A majority vote of the committee present shall be necessary to elect.

Section 3.—Withdrawals: Any member may withdraw from the Federation by submitting to the secretary a written resignation accompanied by a remittance in full for all dues to date.

ARTICLE III—REPRESENTATION

Section 1.—The State of North Carolina shall be divided into seven districts for the year of 1951, namely:

District 1.—Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Edgecombe, Gates Halifax Hertford Nash, Northampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans, and Wilson.

District 2.—Beaufort, Carteret, Craven, Greene, Hyde, Jones, Lenoir, Martin, Pamlico, Pitt, Tyrrell, and Washington.

District 3.—Bladen, Brunswick, Columbus, Duplin, Johnston, New Hanover, Onslow, Pender, Sampson, and Wayne.

District 4.—Cumberland, Durham, Franklin, Granville, Harnett, Hoke, Lee, Moore, Person, Robeson, Scotland, Vance, Wake and Warren.

District 5.—Alamance, Caswell, Chatham, Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Guilford, Iredell, Orange, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, and Stokes.

District 6.—Anson, Cabarrus, Catawba, Cleveland, Gaston, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Polk, Richmond, Rutherford, Stanly, and Union.

District 7.—Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Surry, Swain, Transylvania, Watauga, Wilkes, Yadkin, and Yancey.

Each district shall be entitled to one official representative on the Board of Directors of the Federation for each two thousand or major fraction of members in said district. These directors shall be elected at the annual meeting of the state convention and shall serve for one year or until their successors are named.

In addition, the Associated Women shall elect three of its Board members to be recommended to the Nominating Committee of the Farm Bureau and the Nominating Committee will submit their names for election with the other directors as recommended by the District Caucuses.

Section 2.—In the absence of the regularly authorized official representative from any district at a meeting of the Board of Directors, an alternate may act provided he presents proper credentials from his district signed by the regular director.

Section 3.—Each County Farm Bureau shall be entitled to one official delegate to the State Convention and one additional for each two hundred paid-up individual members or major fraction thereafter in excess of 200 members.

ARTICLE IV—FINANCES

Section 1.—The annual dues of each individual Farm Bureau Member shall be a minimum of \$4.00 and shall be collected by the County or Community Farm Bureau in which the membership is held. The fiscal year of the Farm Bureau shall begin January 1st and membership dues shall be payable at that time. The dues as collected shall be distributed in the following manner: \$1.50 for each membership shall be retained by the County and/or Community where the membership is held. The balance, \$2.50, shall be transmitted by the County or Community Farm Bureau Federation to the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation where 75c shall be sent to the American Farm Bureau Federation each year as membership dues and subscription to The Nation's Agriculture; 50c shall apply toward annual subscription to the North Carolina Farm Bureau News; and \$1.25 shall be retained by the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation for administrative expense.

Section 1-A.—The annual dues of each Associated Farm Bureau Member shall be a minimum of \$5.00 and shall be collected by the County or Community Farm Bureau in which the membership is held. The dues as collected shall be distributed in the following manner: 33 1/3% of each membership collected shall be retained by the county or community where the membership is held. The balance, 66 2/3%, shall be transmitted by the County or Community Farm Bureau Federation to the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation, where 75c shall be sent to the American Farm Bureau Federation each year as membership dues and subscription to The Nation's Agriculture; 50c shall apply toward annual subscription to the North Carolina Farm Bureau News and the balance shall be retained by the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation for administrative expense.

Section 2.—In all cases when the annual dues are not paid within ninety days after same dues are due and payable, as provided for in Article IV, Sections 1, and 1-A, delinquent members in this Federation shall be thereby suspended, until such time as membership shall be restored through payment of dues.

ARTICLE V—OFFICERS

Section 1.—Election of Officers: The voting delegates shall elect by ballot at each annual meeting, from the membership of the Farm Bureau in good standing, who are actively engaged in farming, a president, executive vice-president and secretary (combination), vice-president, and a Board of Directors. (The president shall not be elected to serve more than two consecutive terms in succession.) In case of a vacancy in the position of Executive Vice-President and Secretary, between annual meetings of the Federation, the Board of Directors shall fill the vacancy until the next annual meeting of the Federation.

Section 2.—President: The president shall preside at all meetings of the Federation; he shall be chairman ex-officio of all regular and special meetings and shall perform such duties as are usual for such an officer.

Section 3.—Executive Vice-President and Secretary: It shall be his duties to keep thoroughly posted on all the affairs of the Federation and furnish the members of the Federation all information regarding matters of interest to them. By and with the advice of the Board of Directors, he shall initiate and supervise activities of the Federation, arrange for offices, office supplies, employ all office and field assistants, heads of departments, and other help. He shall keep a complete and accurate record of all proceedings of the Federation. He shall have possession of all records, attend to the proper publication of all reports, conduct the correspondence, and perform such other duties as are usual for such an officer, or as may be required of him by the president or executive committee, under whose supervision he shall be at all times.

Section 4.—Vice-President: The Vice-President shall perform the duties of the president in the event of his disability or absence from meetings, and shall serve as Chairman of the Resolutions Committee at State Meeting.

Section 5.—Treasurer: The Treasurer shall be elected by the Board of Directors and shall receive all money paid to the Federation and place same with depositories designated by the Executive Committee and shall disburse money only upon written orders signed by the Secretary or by the President. He or she shall carefully account for all transactions and make full report of same at the annual meeting, or at any time upon the demand of the President.

The books of the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation shall be audited at the end of the fiscal year by a Certified Public Accountant and report given to the Board of Directors.

Section 6—Board of Directors.

A. Personnel of the Board: The Board of Directors shall consist of one or more official representatives (duly authorized as hereinbefore provided) and in accordance with Article III of the Constitution and By-Laws.

B. Compensation of the Board: All directors of the Federation shall serve without pay, except when ordered out on special work by the Executive Committee or the Secretary if funds are available, in which case they may be allowed not to exceed \$3.00 per day and necessary expenses, and shall be reimbursed for actual expenses incurred when attending the regular and special meetings called for the purpose of transacting the necessary business of the Federation.

C. Duties of the Board: The Board of Directors shall have supervision over all the affairs of this association and shall actively prosecute its object. It may adopt such rules and regulations for the conduct of its business as shall be deemed advisable.

The Board of Directors shall appoint a budget committee of not less than 3 members or more than 5, whose duty it shall be to plan the budget for the fiscal year and report to the Board of Directors for their approval.

There shall be four regular meetings of the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Farm Bureau at definite and specified dates, once each quarter year. The Board of Directors shall have the responsibility of selecting and fixing dates for these regular meetings.

The Board of Directors shall see that the President, Vice-President, Executive Vice-President and Secretary, the Treasurer, and other officials or employees holding responsible positions be placed under suitable bond. They shall set the salary of the Executive Vice-President and Secretary.

D. Quorum: Not less than a majority of the Board shall constitute a quorum.

Section 7.—Executive Committee:

A. Personnel—The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice-President, and five Board members elected by the Board of Directors.

B. Duties—The duties of the Executive Committee shall be to act for the Board of Directors in any case where it is not practical to call the entire Board of Directors together for immediate action and their action is to be approved by the Board of Directors. In case of a vacancy on the Executive Committee, a new member shall be appointed by the Board of Directors for the unexpired term.

C. Meetings of the Executive Committee: The Executive Committee shall meet when called to meet by the President or Executive Vice-President and Secretary, or by a majority of the committee itself.

D. Quorum: A majority of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VI—COMMITTEES

Section 1.—The President shall annually appoint such standing special or sub-committees as may be authorized by the Board of Directors.

Section 2.—These committees shall meet when called by the President or Executive Vice-President and Secretary. Reports of all committee meetings shall be filed with the Secretary and a copy shall be furnished the Secretary and each member of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VII—MEETINGS

Section 1.—Annual Meetings: The annual meeting of the North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation shall be held at such place and at such time as may be fixed by the Board of Directors. Notice of the time and place of each annual meeting shall be mailed to each County Farm Bureau at least twenty (20) days in advance thereof.

Section 2.—Special Meetings: Special meetings may be called by the President, or a majority vote of the Board of Directors. Reasonable notice of all special meetings shall be sent by the Secretary to each Director of the Federation in advance of such meetings. In case of special meetings, such notices shall state the object of the meeting, and the subject to be considered.

Section 3.—Quorum: At all meetings of this Federation, not less than a majority of the voting delegates present shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VIII—COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

The North Carolina Farm Bureau Federation shall not engage in business for profit, but it may promote and establish such activities as may seem necessary and advisable to the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX—AMENDMENTS

This Constitution and By-Laws may be amended or added to at any regular meeting of the Federation upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the voting delegates present when notice of said amendments has been given.