

**BY-LAWS OF
THE CHEROKEE COUNTY FARM BUREAU ASSOCIATION**

ARTICLE I

NAME AND LOCATION

Section 1. The name of this association shall be THE CHEROKEE COUNTY FARM BUREAU ASSOCIATION and its headquarters shall be in Columbus, County of Cherokee, State of Kansas.

**ARTICLE II
OBJECTS AND PURPOSES**

It shall be the general object and purpose of this association;

Section 1. To promote the development of the most profitable and permanent system of agriculture; the most wholesome and satisfactory living conditions; the highest ideals in home and community life and a general interest in the business of farming and in rural life; and to encourage active citizenship responsibility in local, state, national, and international affairs.

Section 2. To affiliate with or become a member of the Kansas Farm Bureau, Inc., and the American Farm Bureau Federation. Subscribe to, become a member of, sponsor or cooperate with any other association, educational institution, or any department, bureau, board, division, or agency of the United States government, or state government, or any agency or a political subdivision thereof, whose objects are all together, or in part, similar to those of this association.

Section 3. To conduct research and inquiry into the field of agriculture, industry, commerce, marketing and transportation, and into economic conditions; to disseminate information in respect thereto; to make public from time to time the results of its investigations and to provide for the publication of its reports.

Section 4. To study proposed and pending matters of Federal and State legislation and particularly affecting agriculture products. And in addition to all of the foregoing to do any or all of the things and exercise all of the privileges and powers mentioned in the articles of Incorporation.

ARTICLE III

Section 1. Qualifications- Voting Members. Only persons or families engaged in the production of agricultural products, including the lessees tenants of lands used for the production of such products and any lessors and landowners who receive as rent part of

the crops raised on the leased premises, and other farm land owners having a direct financial interest in the agricultural products produced on such land, shall be eligible for voting membership in this association. Any such person or family may make application to become a member of this association and if accepted shall, upon the payment of the membership dues, hereinafter specified, be entitled to the rights and privileges of membership. Voting membership shall be either on an individual basis or on a family basis. Both husband and wife shall have voting privileges, but each shall cast his or her vote individually. The term "family" as used herein shall mean husband and wife, or either of them, and their minor children residing in their household. A family shall be considered as one member. Minor children shall not have the right to hold office or vote unless they are individually active members and pay dues as such.

Section 2. Associate Cooperative associations which are organized under Articles 15 and 16 of Chapter 17G. S. 1949 and bona fide employees thereof or corporations or associations which are subsidiaries of or affiliated with this association and bona fide employees thereof and other persons interested in the particular business and objects of this association and desiring to aid in the furtherance of such business or objects, but not qualified for active membership, shall upon payment of the annual dues provided in Article IV of these by-laws be eligible for membership as non-voting associates. **Individuals not engaged in the production of agricultural products, as defined in Article III, Section 1 of these bylaws, shall also be non-voting associates.** Such non-voting associates shall not be entitled to vote or to hold elective office.

Section 3. Any person may, regardless of county of residency, and subject to the provisions of Article III, Section 1, at the discretion of the board, be admitted to membership in this association as a voting member.

Section 4. Transfer of Membership. Each member shall be entitled to a Certificate of Membership signed by the Secretary of this association. Membership shall not be transferable by assignment or sale or by transfer to heirs or assigns.

Section 5. The Board of Directors of this association may reject any application for membership or may cancel any such membership, provided that two-thirds of the elected members of the Board of Directors shall vote in favor of the rejection of such application or cancellation of such membership.

ARTICLE IV

DUES

Section 1. Dues for all classifications of membership in the Cherokee County Farm Bureau Association shall be collected annually. Payment of dues of \$72 will enroll each member in the Cherokee County Farm Bureau Association. The County dues rate

represents the summation of membership dues accessed by each of these county, state, and national organizations. Dues rates for the state and national associations are set by a vote of electors to each association respectively. Each year, the Cherokee County Board of directors shall review the current dues rate structure (the summation of county, state, and national dues) and recommend changes to the county portion of the dues rate if necessary. Any increase in dues for the county association's portion of the annual dues must be approved by vote of members at the annual county meeting or a special meeting of the members called by the board of directors.

The current dues rate is publicly available by contacting the Cherokee County Farm Bureau Office, 200 E Pine St, Columbus, KS 66725. 620-429-2678.

ARTICLE V

MEETING OF THE MEMBERS

Section 1. An annual meeting of the members shall be held ~~each year the date and place to be selected by the Board of Directors no later than the month of November each year.~~ The Board of Directors shall have a right to call a special meeting of the members at any time and ten percent of the members may file a petition stating the specific business to be brought before the association and demand a special meeting at any time and upon the filing of such petition the Board of Directors shall call such special meeting.

Section 2. Notice. Notice of meetings, together with a statement of the purposes thereof, shall be mailed to each member at least ten days prior to the meeting, or notice may be given by publication in a newspaper of general circulation published at the principal place of business of the association.

Section 3. Quorum. Those present holding voting membership in this association shall constitute a quorum at all regular and special meetings.

Section 4. No person shall be allowed to vote by proxy or mail.

ARTICLE VI

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Number and Authority. The business and property of this association shall be managed and controlled by a Board of Directors consisting of _____ active members. At the annual meeting of the members in October, 1951, one-half or the approximation thereof said directors shall be elected for a term of one (1) year and the remaining one half or approximation thereof shall be elected for terms of two (2) years each and until

their successors are elected and qualified. No director shall be permitted to succeed her/himself more than twice without a lapse on an interval of at least one year between terms. (In addition to the foregoing number of directors there shall be elected by the members at the Annual Meeting a director-at-large who shall be a woman holding voting membership in this association. The election of such person as director-at-large shall likewise constitute his/her election as chairman of the County Farm Bureau Women. He/she shall serve as such director-at-large and Chairman of the County Farm Bureau Women for a term of 1 year and may succeed herself more than once.

Section 2. Adoption of the By-Laws and Election of Temporary Directors and Officers. The incorporators shall, in the first instance, adopt the by-laws of this association, and immediately after the adoption of such by-laws, shall elect a Temporary Board of Directors consisting of 10 Active members who shall hold office only until the annual meeting of the members in October, 1951, and until their successors are elected and qualified. Such temporary Board of Directors shall perform all the duties imposed upon directors by these by-laws and it shall also be their duty to elect a temporary President, Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer who shall hold their respective offices only until the annual meeting of the members in October 1951, and until their successors are elected and qualified.

Section 3. Qualifications. The members of the Board of Directors must be voting members of this association in good standing. No director or officer may be a regularly paid or salaried employee of this association, other than its Secretary-Treasurer, or a paid or salaried employee or agent in regular and continuing employment of or working on a commission for the Kansas Farm Bureau Inc., or the Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company, Inc. When a member of the Board of Directors shall cease to be eligible for such an office a vacancy shall immediately occur.

Section 4. Directors of the Cherokee County Farm Bureau shall be elected at large. The Board of Directors shall consist of 11 directors as follows:

Director #1	Director #6
Director #2	Director #7
Director #3	Director #8
Director #4	Director #9
Director #5	Director #10
Women's Committee Chair	

At the annual meeting in 2018, odd-numbered directors shall be elected for a term of one (1) year. Thereafter, all directors, except women's director-at-large, shall be elected for a term of two (2) years, and odd-numbered directors shall be elected in odd-numbered years and even-numbered directors in even-numbered year. The nominating committee shall present a slate of persons to be elected as directors. The names of the persons thus

nominated, along with the names of such other persons as may be nominated from the floor, shall be voted upon by the members of the association at the annual meeting for the election of directors.

Section 5. Eligibility of Officers and Board of Directors. A person holding a partisan elective or appointive or salaried office in the County, State, or National Government shall not become an officer or member of the Board of Directors of this association while holding such office. Any officer or member of the Board of Directors of this association who shall become a candidate for a partisan elective office in the County, State, or National Government shall be considered as having resigned from said position in this association and shall be automatically dropped from his position.

Section 6. The Board of Directors shall meet as soon as practicable after the annual meeting of the County Farm Bureau Association for election of officers of the association and for the transaction of any other business. Such boards shall meet in regular session as often as may be necessary to conduct the business of this association. The regular meetings of such board shall be held on such dates and at such time and place as may be fixed by the Board of Directors.

Special Meetings. Special meetings may be called by the President at any time and shall be called by him upon request in writing signed by not less than one-third of the entire number of members of the Board of Directors. Notice of meeting shall be given in such manner as the board may from time to time determine. Attendance at any meeting shall constitute waiver or notice thereof.

Section 7. Quorum. A majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business of this association. A minority of the members of the board present at any meeting may, in the absence of a quorum, adjourn to a later date.

Section 8. Failure to Attend meetings. Continued failure on the part of a member of the Board of Directors to attend ~~one-third of~~ either ~~the~~ regular or special meetings of the board may, at the discretion of the board, be determined sufficient cause to remove any such member from office and declare a vacancy, but such action shall be by the vote of not less than two-thirds of the entire number of the duly elected members of the Board of Directors.

Section 9. Vacancy. In case of any vacancy in the Board of Directors of Officers through death, resignation disqualification, or otherwise, the remaining members of the Board of Directors, through less than a quorum, may elect by majority vote a successor, having the qualifications herein prescribed for directors, to hold office for the unexpired portion of the term of office of the director or officer whose place shall be vacant.

Section 10. Duties of the Board of Directors. (a) The Board of Directors shall have all of the powers and duties regular and customary to Boards of Directors of corporations, including the supervision and direction of the financial and business affairs of this association and the preparation of an annual budget for provision for adequate reserve to insure financial stability of the organization. (b) Recognizing that membership is fundamental to the success of this association, the board shall strive constantly to secure and maintain a membership which shall include all agricultural producers in the county. (c) They shall annually review the activities of the past year and outline a general program of the County Farm Bureau to be carried out during the ensuing year.

ARTICLE VII

VOTING DELEGATES

Section 1. The members of this association shall, at the annual meeting, elect from the membership as many voting delegate as the association shall be entitled by virtue of the by-laws, rules, and regulations of the Kansas Farm Bureau, Inc., to have represent it at any annual or special meeting of the members of the Kansas Farm Bureau Inc. The woman serving as the Chairman of the County Farm Bureau Women and director-at-large shall by virtue of her office, always be elected as one of the voting delegates. Those nominees receiving the highest number of votes for the remaining number of positions to be filled, together with the County Farm Bureau Woman Chairman, shall be considered the official delegates of this association in all official meetings of the Kansas Farm Bureau, Inc. The members shall likewise elect an alternate for each official voting delegate. The Board of Directors shall have the right to fill any vacancy in the position of official voting delegate or alternate. The official delegates so elected, including the County Farm Bureau Woman Chairman, shall serve for a term of one (1) year or until their successors are elected and qualified.

ARTICLE VIII

OFFICERS, POWERS, AND DUTIES

Section 1. Officers. The officers of this association shall consist of a President, Vice-President, and a Secretary and a Treasurer, which offices may be combined and designated as Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 2. Election of President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer. Following the Annual Meeting of the members, the Board of Directors shall meet as soon as practicable to elect said officers. The board of Directors shall elect from their number a President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer of the association. Said officers shall hold their respective offices for a term of one year, or until their successors are elected and qualified.)

Section 3. The President Shall:

- a. Preside over all meetings of members and directors
- b. Subject to the advice of directors, direct the affairs of the County Farm Bureau
- c. Call the directors together whenever necessary
- d. Sign, as President, all contracts, notes, and other instruments when so directed by the Board of Directors.
- e. Discharge such other duties as may be required by these by-laws or by the Board of Directors

Section 5. The Vice-President. It shall be the duty of the Vice-President, that if at any time the President shall be unable to act, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of President as listed under duties of President. Should the Vice-President also be unable to perform these duties the board shall appoint a director to do so.

Section 6. The Secretary-Treasurer and/or County Coordinator Shall

- a. Keep a record of the proceedings of the meetings of the Board of Directors, of the Executive Committee, and of the members.
- b. Keep a proper membership record, showing the name of each member of the county Farm Bureau, township, and address.
- c. Receive, deposit and pay out, under the direction of the Board of Directors funds necessary and consistent with the business of the association and account for all receipts, disbursements and balance on hand.
- d. Furnish bond in such form and in such amount as the Board of Directors may require. The premium of such bond to be paid for by the association.
- e. Attest all contracts, notes, papers, and documents as approved by the Board of Directors.
- f. Discharge such other duties as pertain to this office or may be prescribed by the Board of Directors.

Section 7. Township leaders. I shall be the duty of the township leaders, elected, as provided by Section 4, of Article VI of these by-laws, to assist in planning programs and coordinating the work of this association in each of their respective townships , all under the direction of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE IX COMMITTEES

Section 1. Executive Committee. The Board of Directors shall appoint an executive committee consisting of the President, Vice-President, and one other member on the board. The executive committee shall have such tenure and may exercise during the intervals between meetings of the board such duties and powers as may from time to time be prescribed by the Board of Directors subject to the general direction, approval, and

control of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Policy Committee. The Board shall appoint from among the voting members a policy committee consisting of ____ members.

The Policy Committee shall have such tenure and shall perform such duties as may be prescribed by the Board of Directors including the duty of studying, investigating, and reporting on all legislative matters affecting agriculture or the transportation or marketing of agricultural products as well as taxation of the property and effects of this association and its members.

Section 3. Membership Committee. The Board shall appoint annually a Membership Committee consisting of ____ members whose duty is shall be to strive to maintain membership in this association at the highest possible level.

Section 4. Other Committees. The President shall appoint annually, with the approval of the Board of Directors, such other standing or special committees, including a Marketing committee, as may be determined necessary or advisable.

ARTICLE X BY-LAWS

Section 1. The members shall have authority by a majority vote to adopt, amend, or repeal the by-laws of the association whenever determined necessary or expedient, provided, notice in writing of the proposed changes have been given to members at least ten days previous to the time of the meeting, and such members shall also have the power to delegate to the Board of Directors the right to adopt, amend, or repeal any of the by-laws of the association. When said power is delegated to the Board of Directors it shall be exercised on an affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of all the directors.

ARTICLE XI MISCELLANEOUS

Section 1. Members not liable for debts. The private property of the members, officers, and directors of this association shall not be liable for the debts of the association.

Section 2. Rights of Membership in Property Equal. The members of this association shall have equal rights in the property of the association.

Section 3. Audit. There shall be an annual audit of the financial affairs of the association.

Section 4. Seal. This association may have a seal which shall bear thereon the words: "The Cherokee County Farm Bureau Association."

Section 5. Checks, etc. All checks, drafts, and orders for payment of money shall be signed in the name of the corporation and shall be countersigned by such officers or agents as the Board of Directors shall, from time to time, designate for that purpose.

Section 6. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of this corporation shall commence on the 1st day of July and end on the 30th day of June of each year.

Section 7. Order of Business at Meetings of Members. The order of business at meeting of members shall be as follows: (a) Call to Order (b) Reading and disposal of unapproved minutes (c) Reports of officers and committees (d) Unfinished Business (e) New Business (f) Election of directors (g) Election of voting delegates (h) Adjournment.

AMENDMENTS

ARTICLE IV

DUES

Section 1. The annual dues for active membership in this association for either a family or single individual, as well as associates, shall be \$12.50 payable in advance. Out of the aforesaid membership dues there shall be paid to the Kansas Farm Bureau Inc., the annual dues fixed by its voting delegates for each paid-up member of this association. Effective July 1, 1967. Voted by voting members January 30, 1967. 21 voted--18 Yes votes for the above amendment, 3 No votes.

ARTICLE IV

DUES

Section 1. The annual dues for active membership in this association for either a family or single individual, as well as for non-voting associates, shall be \$ 15.00 payable in advance. Out of the aforesaid membership dues there shall be paid to the Kansas Farm Bureau Inc., the annual dues fixed by its voting delegates for each paid-up member of this association. Effective July 1, 1970. Voted by voting members April 20, 1970. 21 voted--13 Yes votes for the above amendment, 8 No votes.

The amending of Article V, Sec. 1 and Article XI, Sec. 6 as shown in By-laws were voted by Cherokee County Farm Bureau Membership at their annual meeting on October 1, 1973.

“The annual meeting of the members shall be held during the month of October or November of each year, the date and place to be selected by the Board of Directors.”

The amending of Article IV, Sec. 1 as shown in By-laws were voted by Cherokee County Farm Bureau voting members April 6, 1972. 22 voting members present and 22 voted Yes, 0 voted No. Motion carried unanimously. The amendment is as follows:

Section 1. The annual dues for active membership in this association for either a family or single individual, as well as for non-voting associates, shall be \$ 25.00 payable in advance. Out of the aforesaid membership dues there shall be paid to the Kansas Farm Bureau Inc., the annual dues fixed by its voting delegates for each paid-up member of this association.

The amending of Article IV, Sec. I as shown in the By-laws were voted by Cherokee County Farm Bureau voting members March 11, 1982. 16 voting members present, 11 voted Yes, 0 voted No, and 5 abstained. Motion carried. The amendment is as follows:

Section 1. The annual dues for active membership in this association for either a family or single individual, as well as for non-voting associates, shall be \$ 35.00 payable in advance. Out of the aforesaid membership dues there shall be paid to the Kansas Farm Bureau Inc., the annual dues fixed by its voting delegates for each paid-up member of this association.

Section 4, of Article VI, as shown in the By-laws were changed at a special meeting held September 25th, 1992, at the Farm Bureau office, Columbus, KS. The change was voted by voting members, 11 Voting members present, 11 Voted Yes, 0 Voted No. Motion carried. The change shall read as follows:

Cherokee County shall be divided into four regular districts by the intersection of HWY. 96 and 69-7 , designated as NE, NW, SE, & SW. The Board of Directors shall consist of 10 directors. Two directors from each district, to be elected on even/odd years. Two directors at large consisting of one from the NE & SE designated as east side, and one from the NW & SW designated as the west side. East Side director at large shall be elected on even years, west side director at large shall be elected on odd years. This shall take effect at the 1992 annual meeting. Nominating committee shall present a slate of persons to be elected as directors from each district and director at large. The names of the persons thus nominated shall be voted upon by the members of the association at the annual meeting for the election of directors along with the names of such other persons as may be nominated from the district at the annual meeting, and from all the persons thus nominated the members shall elect such number of directors as shall have been apportioned to the district.

Section 1, of Article VI, as shown in the By-laws were changed at the Annual Meeting of the Members on August 29, 2000 at the Columbus Unified High School. The change was announced by President, Warren Scott, there was no discussion on the floor. Doug Jones motioned that the proposed by law change be accepted. Kenny Griffitt 2nd. Motion carried.

The change shall read as follows:

...No director shall be permitted to succeed her/himself more than twice without a lapse on an interval of at least one year between terms.

Section 1, of Article IV by-laws were changed at a special meeting of the members on May 2, 2011. Jeff Clark made the motion to accept the following change. Motion was 2nd by Kyle Rennie. Motion carried.

The change shall read as follows:

The annual dues for voting membership in the county association for either a family or single individual, as well as for associate membership, shall be \$17.00, as of October 1,

2011, payable in advance. Membership dues for Kansas Farm Bureau, Inc. and American Farm Bureau Federation shall be automatically added to the Cherokee County Farm Bureau Association dues.

At a special meeting of the members on May 29th, 2018 the following changes were made:

Article IV Section 1 changed to read as follows:

The annual dues for voting membership in the county association for either a family or single individual, as well as for associate membership, shall be \$31, as of October 1, 2018, payable in advance. Membership dues for Kansas Farm Bureau and American Farm Bureau Federation shall be automatically added to the Cherokee County Farm Bureau Association dues.

Article III Section 3 changed to read as follows:

Any person may, regardless of county of residency, and subject to the provisions of Article III Section 1, at the discretion of the board, be admitted to membership in this association as a voting member.

Article VI Section 4

Directors of the Cherokee County Farm Bureau shall be elected at large. The Board of Directors shall consist of 11 directors as follows:

Director #1	Director #6
Director #2	Director #7
Director #3	Director #8
Director #4	Director #9
Director #5	Director #10
Women's Committee Chair	

At the annual meeting in 2018, odd-numbered directors shall be elected for a term of one (1) year. Thereafter, all directors, except women's director-at-large, shall be elected for a term of two (2) years, and odd-numbered directors shall be elected in odd-numbered years and even-numbered directors in even-numbered year. The nominating committee shall present a slate of persons to be elected as directors. The names of the persons thus nominated, along with the names of such other persons as may be nominated from the floor, shall be voted upon by the members of the association at the annual meeting for the election of directors.

Article IV. Section 1.

~~The annual dues for voting membership in the county association for either a family or single individual, as well as for associate membership, shall be \$31, as of October 1, 2018, payable in advance. Membership dues for The Kansas Farm Bureau and American Farm Bureau Federation shall be automatically added to the Cherokee County Farm Bureau Association dues.~~

Replaced by:

Article IV. Section 1.

Dues for all classifications of membership in the Cherokee County Farm Bureau Association shall be collected annually. Payment of dues of \$60 will enroll each member in the Cherokee County Farm Bureau Association. The County dues rate represents the summation of membership dues accessed by each of these county, state, and national organizations. Dues rates for the state and national associations are set by a vote of electors to each association respectively. Each year, the Cherokee County Board of directors shall review the current dues rate structure (the summation of county, state, and national dues) and recommend changes to the county portion of the dues rate if necessary. Any increase in dues for the county association's portion of the annual dues must be approved by vote of members at the annual county meeting or a special meeting of the members called by the board of directors.

The current dues rate is publicly available by contacting the Cherokee County Farm Bureau Office, 200 E Pine St, Columbus, KS 66725. 620-429-2678.

2025

Article IV. Section 1.

Dues for all classifications of membership in the Cherokee County Farm Bureau Association shall be collected annually. Payment of dues of ~~\$60~~ \$72 will enroll each member in the Cherokee County Farm Bureau Association. The County dues rate represents the summation of membership dues accessed by each of these county, state, and national organizations. Dues rates for the state and national associations are set by a vote of electors to each association respectively. Each year, the Cherokee County Board of directors shall review the current dues rate structure (the summation of county, state, and national dues) and recommend changes to the county portion of the dues rate if necessary. Any increase in dues for the county association's portion of the annual dues must be approved by vote of members at the annual county meeting or a special meeting of the members called by the board of directors.

The current dues rate is publicly available by contacting the Cherokee County Farm Bureau Office, 200 E Pine St, Columbus, KS 66725. 620-429-2678.

Article III, Section 2:

Non-Voting Associates. Cooperative associations which are organized under Articles 15 and 16 of Chapter 17G. S. 1949 and bona fide employees thereof or corporations or associations which are subsidiaries of or affiliated with this association and bona fide employees thereof and other persons interested in the particular business and objects of this association and desiring to aid in the furtherance of such business or objects, but not qualified for active membership, shall upon payment of the annual dues provided in Article IV of these by-laws be eligible for membership as non-voting associates. Individuals not engaged in the production of agricultural products, as defined in Article III, Section 1 of these bylaws, shall also be non-voting associates. Such non-voting associates shall not be entitled to vote or to hold elective office.

Article V, Section 1:

An annual meeting of the members shall be held ~~each year the date and place to be selected by the Board of Directors~~ no later than the month of November each year. The Board of Directors shall have a right to call a special meeting of the members at any time and ten percent of the members may file a petition stating the specific business to be brought before the association and demand a special meeting at any time and upon the filing of such petition the Board of Directors shall call such special meeting.

Article VI, Section 6:

The Board of Directors shall meet as soon as practicable after the annual meeting of the County Farm Bureau Association for election of officers of the association and for the transaction of any other business. Such boards shall meet in regular session as often as may be necessary to conduct the business of this association. The regular meetings of such board shall be held on such dates and at such time and place as may be fixed by the Board of Directors.

Article VI, Section 8:

Failure to Attend meetings. Continued failure on the part of a member of the Board of Directors to attend one-third of either the regular or special meetings of the board may, at the discretion of the board, be determined sufficient cause to remove any such member from office and declare a vacancy, but such action shall be by the vote of not less than two-thirds of the entire number of the duly elected members of the Board of Directors.