

Fair Board Membership; Sub. for HB 2145

Sub. for HB 2145 amends law regarding county fair association boards to establish membership of the Butler County Fair Board. The bill also moves similar provisions regarding membership of the Cloud County Fair Board into the county fair association board election statute from law regarding counties and county officers.

Continuing law establishes county fair boards of directors and their membership requirements; membership term lengths of three years; frequency of elections; and required officers of the board, including a president, vice president, treasurer, secretary, and other officers as deemed required by the board. Continuing law states that the board shall represent each township of the county.

Butler County Fair Board

The bill establishes Butler County Fair Board membership to consist of 15 appointed members. The terms of expiring fair board members or other vacancies will be filled by appointment at an annual meeting in December by the presiding county commissioners. One member will be appointed from each county commissioner district if possible, and no more than five members will be appointed from the county at large. Any person of legal voting age and residing in the county will be eligible for board membership.

Cloud County Fair Board

The bill moves provisions regarding the membership of the Cloud County Fair Board into the county fair association election statute. These provisions state this fair board consists of 12 appointed members. The terms of expiring fair board members or other vacancies are filled by appointment at an annual meeting in December by the presiding county commissioners. One member shall be appointed from each county commissioner district if possible, and one member shall be appointed from the county at large. Any person of legal voting age and residing in the county is eligible for board membership.

Board Membership Terms

The bill specifies a board member's term in Butler and Cloud counties will be three years beginning January 1 and ending on December 31. Members of both boards will be eligible to serve unlimited consecutive terms, and vacancies will be filled by appointment by the remaining members of such board for the unexpired term of office. The bill requires the Butler County and Cloud County fair boards to each elect a president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer from among their members.

Continuing law requires a third of the members' terms to expire annually so that in the first election of a new board, a third of members' terms are chosen for one year, a third for two years, and a third for three years. Continuing law also requires a personal notification of the annual election to be sent to every member of the board, and a notification be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county at least ten days prior to an annual election day.