# AMENDED AND RESTATED BY-LAWS



Oklahoma State Union of The Farmers Educational and Cooperative Union of America, Inc.

#### AMENDED AND RESTATED

#### **BY-LAWS**

#### THE OKLAHOMA STATE UNION

#### OF THE

#### FARMERS EDUCATIONAL AND CO-OPERATIVE

UNION OF AMERICA, INC.

#### ARTICLE I

# TITLE, OBJECTS, LOCATION, SEAL

#### Section 1: TITLE

The STATE UNION shall be known as THE OKLAHOMA STATE UNION OF THE FARMERS EDUCATIONAL AND CO-OPERATIVE UNION OF AMERICA, INC. (hereinafter called the "STATE UNION") which shall at all times be operated and conducted as a non-profit corporation, organized under the laws of the State of Oklahoma, Title 18, O. S. § 851-862.

#### Section 2: OBJECTS

The objects of the STATE UNION shall be to fulfill the purposes set forth in the Articles of Incorporation to wit:

THE OKLAHOMA STATE UNION OF THE FARMERS EDUCATIONAL AND CO-OPERATIVE UNION OF AMERICA, INC. generally known as the Oklahoma Farmers Union and hereinafter referred to as the STATE UNION (having a Charter issued to the Indiahoma State Union on the 23rd Day of March, 1906, and a Charter issued to it as successor to the Indiahoma State Union on the 11th Day of October, 1920, by the National Union), adopts the said foregoing purposes as its own. Because of the change in conditions in the intervening years, it is considered desirable and therefore included herein the following statement of principle and purpose:

- 1. To adopt programs calculated to promote better conditions for persons in agricultural pursuits;
- 2. To operate, aid in the organization and maintenance of a non-profit commodity and service co-operative for members thereof;
- 3. To distribute and disseminate information to farm families and especially to its members for carrying out a program of education in cooperation and cooperative philosophy generally and engage in such activities in carrying out its declared purposes and, if possible and practical in a way that will entitle it, operating for its members, to exemption from the payment of income taxes as such organization, and;
- 4. To publish periodicals one of which shall be identified as the "Farm News & Views." The Farmers Union is especially designed to promote the general welfare of family-type farmers and as set forth in the Articles of Incorporation of the National Union and the specific and general purposes herein before enumerated and as here-in after provided in these By-Laws, and as further set forth in its action program adapted annually by its State Convention.

The STATE UNION is not operated for pecuniary profits as such, but is operated for the savings it can make for its members and benefits to its members of an educational and fraternal nature. It is not its purpose to accumulate large assets for the direct benefit of members as such.

#### Section 3: PLACE OF BUSINESS

Business may be conducted at any place convenient to such members or officers as may be participating. The official address of the STATE UNION shall be:

THE OKLAHOMA STATE UNION OF THE FARMERS EDUCATIONAL AND CO-OPERATIVE UNION OF AMERICA, INC. 4400 Will Rogers Parkway, PO Box 24000 Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73124

#### Section 4: CORPORATE SEAL

The Corporate Seal of the STATE UNION shall be in the charge of the Secretary and shall be inscribed with the STATE UNION'S official name.

#### ARTICLE II

#### MEMBERSHIPS AND MEETINGS

#### Section 1: ELIGIBILITY

Membership in THE OKLAHOMA STATE UNION OF THE FARMERS EDUCATIONAL AND CO-OPERATIVE UNION OF AMERICA, INC. shall be limited and qualified and no person may acquire membership except as hereinafter provided.

# Section 2: REGULAR MEMBER

Any person, without regard to sex, race, creed, color, national origin or handicap status, sixteen (16) years of age or over, and of a good moral character and habits, believing in a Supreme Being, bearing allegiance to the Government of the United States of America, and who derives an appreciable portion of his or her income from engaging in agricultural pursuits, the production of agricultural. horticultural, livestock, poultry, or forestry products or from employment of this THE OKLAHOMA STATE UNION OF THE FARMERS STATE UNION. EDUCATIONAL AND CO-OPERATIVE UNION OF AMERICA, INC. or any division or subdivision thereof, or any business enterprise subsidiary or affiliate of this STATE UNION in which the STATE UNION owns at least fifty percent of the authorized and outstanding capital stock or equivalent interest; from employment by any co-operative affiliated with this corporation or any of its divisions or subdivisions and engaged in marketing agriculture, horticulture, livestock, poultry or forestry products or in providing the producers thereof of said products, but who is not engaged in an occupation, enterprise, business or activity inconsistent with injurious to the interests or the welfare of family-type farming, may apply for and be admitted to "Regular" membership in the STATE UNION upon the affirmative action of the Board of Directors of this organization or a division hereof to which a Farmers Union charter has been lawfully issued as hereinafter provided and remains un-revolked or unsuspended, and upon payment of the prescribed membership fees or dues so long thereafter as said membership fees or dues shall not be delinquent shall be entitled to vote and to all other privileges of membership, subject to the limitation and conditions hereinafter set forth in the By-laws.

#### Section 3: ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Any person, without regard to sex, race, creed, color, national origin or handicap status, sixteen (16) years of age or over, and of a good moral character and habits, believing in a Supreme Being, bearing allegiance to the Government of the United States of America may apply for, and be admitted to "Associate" membership upon the affirmative action of the Board of Directors of this STATE UNION or a division to which a STATE UNION charter has been lawfully issued as hereinafter provided and remains un-revoked or unsuspended and upon the payment of the prescribed dues shall be entitled to all privileges of membership except the right to vote or hold office in this STATE UNION subject to the limitations and conditions hereinafter set forth in these By-Laws.

#### Section 4: SPOUSE AND CHILDREN

Any spouse of a "Regular" dues paying member and his or her unmarried children sixteen (16) years of age or over and who have not reached their twenty-first (21<sup>st</sup>) birthday shall be a "Regular" member of this STATE UNION without payment of additional membership dues or fees and shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges of the dues paying member of her or his family in good standing, except members desiring to participate in the financial benefits of the STATE UNION shall pay dues.

#### Section 5: HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

Any person eligible to become a "Regular" or "Associate" member of this STATE UNION may become an "Honorary" member by action of the Board of Directors.

# ARTICLE III

#### **DUES**

#### Section 1

The annual dues of each member shall be a minimum thirty-five dollars (\$35.00). The dues shall be divided in the following proportions: to the County Union, six dollars (\$6.00), to the Local Union, three dollars (\$3.00) and National Union shall receive six dollars (\$6.00) for 2013, seven dollars (\$7.00) for 2014 and eight dollars (\$8.00) for 2015 and thereafter per member. Annual dues will be distributed by the State Office to the counties and/or locals properly constituted with the election of officers and to the National Union. The balance of the money will be kept at the state to be appropriated for programs, expenses, etc.

#### Section 2

In counties having no County Union, the county dues shall be used for organizational purposes by the STATE UNION.

#### Section 3

Provision is hereby made for non-voting membership. All non-voting members shall participate in the financial, educational and social benefits. The Local Secretary shall keep a separate record of voting and non-voting members. Section 4

All money belonging to the National Union, STATE UNION and County Union shall be sent by the Local Secretary or Agent to the State Treasurer, and such moneys distributed by the State Treasurer.

#### Section 5

The first priority of county and/or local dues money is for the County or Local meeting. The remaining money must promote agriculture, youth, or Farmers Union. All checks written for the expenditures of county and/or local money should be signed by both the county and/or local secretary or president and subject to audit by the STATE UNION.

#### Section 6

Once a county has accumulated a balance equaling the previous 2 years' receipts from the STATE UNION that county will be required to spend the amount sent them each calendar year, or the next year's payments will be suspended.

#### ARTICLE IV

#### STATE UNION — HOW COMPOSED

#### Section 1

The STATE UNION shall be composed of its officers and delegates from County and Local Unions; each County Union to be entitled to one delegate and each Local Union to be entitled to one delegate for every fifty (50) paid-up regular members of the Local represented, or fraction thereof, PROVIDED that only one vote can be cast by a delegate who attends – a Local Union must have at least fifteen (15) regular members to be entitled to a delegate. The membership of the STATE UNION, for the purposes of calculating the number of county and local delegates allowable at the State Convention and for determining the eligibility of members to be convention delegates, will be those dues paid members of record on December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year immediately preceding the State Convention. To be eligible for election as a delegate or alternate to the STATE UNION Convention, a person must have been a member of the STATE UNION for at least the entire fiscal year proceeding the year of the Convention.

The local secretary will report their slate of delegates to the county president no later than fifteen (15) days prior to the opening session of the State Convention. If a local has not elected its maximum number of delegates, then the county president may appoint those delegates subject to approval by the county board. These delegates will be appointed from within the county membership.

A delegate list will be furnished by each county president listing names of all delegates, including alternates voting at the State Convention and must be received in the office of the State Secretary seven (7) days prior to the opening session of the Convention.

#### Section 2

In order to be seated at a convention, each delegate must be properly certified by the Local or County Union. Credential forms to be used will be supplied by the STATE UNION and must be signed by the President and Secretary of the Local or County Union.

#### Section 3

Management of the STATE UNION shall be by the President under the supervision of the Board of Directors.

#### ARTICLE V

#### COUNTY AND LOCAL UNIONS

#### Section 1

No Local Union shall be organized with less than five (5) dues paying members and no charter issued until fifteen (15) members have paid their dues. To be considered an active local, a meeting must be held annually to conduct business and elect officers. When inactive, the local funds will be transferred to the county.

#### Section 2

A County Union may be formed in any county having one or more locals. To retain charter and receive county funds, the County Union must be active and hold at least one annual meeting. When the County Union is inactive, the County funds will be sent to the STATE UNION.

#### Section 3

If the office of Secretary, Treasurer, or Secretary/Treasurer of a Local or County Union becomes vacant by removal or otherwise, or a successor is elected or appointed, all of the books, files and records of such officer, as such, shall immediately be turned over to his successor or to a designated officer or committee of such Union, or, if the Union is no longer active, turned over to the Secretary of the STATE UNION or to the President of the STATE UNION. The State President shall appoint an auditing committee of three to five members, unless there is already an auditing committee that can serve in such a capacity.

#### Section 4

The Officers of the County and Local Union shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary/Treasurer and three (3) or more Board Members.

#### Section 5

Officers shall be elected for one (1) or three (3) year terms. The length of the term shall be the same for all officers. The Board of Directors shall be elected for either a one or three-year term. Directors shall have the same length of term, although terms may be staggered. A member who has a conflict of interest may not hold an office.

#### Section 6

The management of a County or Local Union shall be by the County or Local President under the supervision of his/her respective Board of Directors.

#### Section 7

A financial statement of the County and/or Local will be made available to all members at each annual meeting.

#### **ARTICLE VI**

#### **CHARTERS**

#### Section1

A Charter is the authority under which a Union works. The State President shall issue all County and Local Union Charters. In case the Charter is lost or destroyed, the President of the STATE UNION shall have the power to issue a duplicate Charter; provided satisfactory evidence is furnished showing that the same had been lost or destroyed and provided further that the names of the officers are supplied. The President of the STATE UNION, with the approval of the

Board of Directors, shall have the power to revoke or suspend the Charter of County or Local Unions. Such suspension shall prevent the suspended Union from operating as a Chartered Local or County Union and shall be in effect until the next annual meeting of the STATE UNION at which time the County or Local Union, whose Charter has been suspended or revoked, shall have an opportunity to appear before the meeting and appeal the decision of the President suspending or revoking their Charter. In case of such appeal, the Convention by a majority vote may overrule the action of the President and reinstate said Charter.

#### Section 2

In case the Charter of a County or Local Union has been suspended or revoked, the STATE UNION shall take steps to protect the rights of the members of the suspended Union and shall take charge of all books and finances of the Union, pending the action of the State Convention.

#### **ARTICLE VII**

#### ANNUAL MEETING

#### Section 1

The Annual Meeting of the STATE UNION shall be held during the month of January, February or March at a place designated by the State Board of Directors. The Notice of the Annual Meeting, including the day, hour and place, shall be provided to members by printing said Notice in the "Farm News & Views," or by other means determined by the board of directors not less than seven (7) days nor more than thirty days preceding the meeting.

#### Section 2: SPECIAL MEETINGS

A special meeting of the members of the STATE UNION may be called upon resolution of the Board of Directors or upon petition of at least five thousand (5,000) members filed with the Secretary. The purpose of every special membership meeting shall be stated in the Notice thereof, and no business shall be transacted except as specified in the Notice thereof, and no business shall be transacted except as specified in the Notice. Notice of such meeting, including the day, hour, place, and purpose, shall be provided to members by printing said Notice in the "Farm News & Views," or by other means determined by the Board of Directors, not less than seven (7) days nor more than thirty (30) days preceding the meeting.

# Section 3: QUORUM

A quorum for any regular or special meeting will consist of at least a simple majority of all the delegates elected and in attendance.

#### Section 4

When special rules are not adopted, Robert's Rule of Order will apply.

#### ARTICLE VIII

# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

# Section 1: TERM

Control of this STATE UNION shall be vested in a Board of seven (7) Directors. The seven (7) Directors shall be elected for terms of three (3) years or until their successors are chosen and qualified. There shall be elected three (3) Directors for a 3-year term, two (2) Directors for a 2-year term, and two (2) Directors for a 1-year term. Provided, upon the adoption of these By-Laws, the presently elected Directors shall continue for the balance of their term.

Control of this STATE UNION shall be vested in a Board of seven (7) Directors. The seven (7) Directors shall be elected for terms of three (3) years or until their successors are chosen and qualified. The Board of Directors shall be divided into three (3) classes. Each class shall consist, as nearly as possible, of one-third of the whole number of the Board of Directors. Except as otherwise provided herein, the term of office of those Directors whose term is expiring as of the 2011 Annual Meeting of the members of the Corporation shall be considered Directors in the first class, the term of office of those Directors whose term expires as of the 2012 Annual Meeting of members of the Corporation shall be considered Directors in the second class, and the term of office of those Directors of the Corporation whose term expires as of the 2013 Annual Meeting of the members of the Corporation shall be considered Directors in the third class. Except as otherwise provided herein, at each annual election the successor to the class of Directors whose terms have expired in that year shall be elected to hold office for a term of three (3) vears.

Notwithstanding the above, the Board of Directors shall at all times be comprised of a majority of Directors who are independent. To be considered independent for purposes of this Article VIII, the Director and his/her "Family Member(s)" (defined as a spouse, parent, children and siblings, whether by blood, marriage or adoption, or anyone residing in such person's home) may not, other than in the capacity as a member of the Board of Directors of the Company or committee of the Board, accept any consulting, advisory other compensatory fee from the Company, be an affiliated person of the Company or subsidiary thereof since the first day of the year in which the "Director" files for office. A "Director" shall not be an "insurance producer or agent" (defined as a person required to be licensed under the laws of Oklahoma to sell, solicit, or negotiate insurance) for AFRMIC, its subsidiaries or affiliates while serving as a Director and shall not have been an "insurance producer or Agent" for AFRMIC, its subsidiaries or affiliates at any time during the two (2) years prior to the date of his or her election as a Director of the Corporation,

# Section 2: POWERS

The Board of Directors, subject to restrictions of law, or these By-Laws, shall exercise all of the powers of the STATE UNION and perform all acts which said Board may deem in the best interest of the STATE UNION and its members. The STATE UNION has the powers to perform all acts which said Board may deem in the best interest of the STATE UNION and its members. The powers of the Board of Directors shall include, without limiting in any other way, other powers which said Board should have in accordance with the laws of the State of Oklahoma and the By-Laws of the STATE UNION the power to sell, lease, mortgage, or otherwise dispose of property of this Corporation and to perform all acts which said Board may deem in the best interests of its members. Any decision of the Board regarding the business of the STATE UNION shall be binding upon the Officers of the STATE UNION. In the event an interpretation of these By-Laws or a part hereof is necessary, the Board's decision regarding same shall be binding.

#### Section 3: VACANCIES

When vacancies occur in the Board of Directors, the remaining members of the Board shall fill the vacancy by a qualified eligible member and each person so elected shall serve for the unexpired term created by the vacancy.

# Section 4: ELIGIBILITY

All candidates for Board members shall have been regular members of the STATE UNION the preceding five (5) years and have been actively engaged in production agriculture during this time, AND RECEIVED an appreciable portion of

 their income from producing agriculture OR BE INVOLVED IN COOPERATIVE WORK WITH THE STATE UNION not have a conflict of interest and meet the eligibility requirements to serve on the Board of Directors of the American Farmers & Ranchers Mutual Insurance Company. For purposes of this provision, any activity or business endeavor that permits the person to favor business benefits in a similar organization, not in the best interest of, or in competition with the STATE UNION and its activities, shall constitute a conflict of interest.

A candidate for a particular office must file in writing with the State Secretary not earlier than one hundred and twenty (120) calendar days and not later than ninety (90) calendar days prior to the next Convention. In case of there being no candidate for a position, the Board of Directors shall re-open the filing period.

The time limit rules will be suspended in the case of the death of a candidate. In case a candidate, having filed, dies after the filing period is closed, but before the convention convenes, the Board shall then re-open the filing period for the position affected.

#### Section 5: MEETINGS

The Board of Directors shall meet at least four (4) times per year. A meeting of the Directors may also be called at any time by the President or a majority of the then existing Board of Directors. Unless waived by attendance or in writing, seven (7) days notice of all meetings (except the meeting immediately following the Annual Meeting) shall be given by mail, telegram, or telephone. A quorum for all Directors' meetings shall be a majority of Directors.

Any action which might be taken at a meeting of the Board of Directors may be taken without a meeting if a record or memorandum thereof is made in writing and is signed by all of the members of the Board.

#### Section 6

Each Director shall receive for services rendered seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) per day, plus traveling expenses for regular meetings. A written report of all expenses of Officers and Directors, beginning with 1996, will be made available to the delegates at each Annual Meeting.

#### Section 7

The Directors shall see that all Officers and employees having custody of or handling of the funds, securities, or property of the STATE UNION shall be bonded at the expense of the STATE UNION.

#### Section 8

The Board of Directors shall control the policy of the Oklahoma paper, "Farm News & Views," appoint an auditor to audit the books annually, budget the finances of the STATE UNION, provide for hearings in case of controversy on membership, charters, and decide the question.

#### Section 9

Officers or Board members filing for any other position within the STATE UNION must resign their present position, to be effective the day of the election at the State Convention and notify in writing (limited to letter, fax or email) the Secretary no later than one hundred and twenty (120) calendar days before the opening day of the State Convention. The filing period for the position being vacated shall be the period described in Section 4 above.

The election shall be for the unexpired term of the position unless the position was scheduled for election at the next state Convention. Notification of the vacant position will be by letter to each County and Local Union and other means as determined by the Board of Directors. Such notification must be mailed, sent, or posted within ten (10) days of the Officer or Board member notifying the Secretary.

#### Section 10

The Board of Directors shall be elected by statewide vote with each of four defined districts having a minimum of one (1) Director each. No district may have more than two (2) Directors. The districts are indicated by map. Incumbents will be designated as either District or At-Large Directors according to the following designations:

DIRECTOR Terry Peach	DISTRICT
Joe Ed Kinder	2
Jim Shelton	3
Bob Holley	4
Roy Perryman At	Large
Justin Cowan At	Large
Mike HumbleAt	Large

The Board of Directors shall be elected by statewide vote with (a) one (1) independent Director elected from each of four (4) districts defined in the map below ("District Directors"),, and (b) three (3) Directors, who are not required to be independent, elected as At-Large Directors. Each district shall have a minimum of one (1) Director. No district may have more than two (2) Directors. Only individuals who are independent shall be elected as a District Director. At-Large Directors may be, but are not required to be, independent.



ARTICLE IX

# OFFICERS OF THE STATE UNION

# Section 1

The Officers of the STATE UNION shall be: President, Vice President,

Secretary and Treasurer. The Treasurer shall be appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors. Assistant Secretaries and Assistant Treasurers may also be appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors. The Chaplain and Doorkeeper shall be appointed by the President and approved by the Board of Directors. The Chaplain and Doorkeeper must be members of the STATE UNION

#### Section 2: HOW ELECTED

The President, Vice President, and Secretary of the STATE UNION shall be elected by the voting delegates at their Annual Meeting to serve staggered terms. Such officers elected at the 1994 State Convention shall serve terms as follows: President three (3) years, Vice President two (2) years, Secretary one (1) year. Officers elected thereafter shall serve three year terms.

#### Section 3: ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for an elective position, all candidates for STATE OFFICE shall have been regular members of the STATE UNION the preceding five (5) years and have been actively engaged in production agriculture during this time, AND receive an appreciable portion of their income from production agriculture, OR BE INVOLVED IN CO-OPERATIVE WORK WITH THE STATE UNION and not have a conflict of interest. For purposes of this provision, any activity or business endeavor that permits the person to favor business benefits in a similar organization, not in the best interest of, or in competition with the STATE UNION and its activities, shall constitute a conflict of interest.

A candidate for a particular office must file in writing with the State Secretary not earlier than one hundred and twenty (120) calendar days and not later than ninety (90) calendar days prior to the next convention. In case of there being no candidate for a position, the Board of Directors shall reopen the filing period.

#### (a) PRESIDENT

The President shall be elected at the State Convention and shall hold office for a term of three (3) years and until a successor is elected and qualified. The President shall preside at State Conventions, shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors, may vote in case of a tie vote and perform such other duties as may be required by the Board of Directors. The President shall receive for services rendered a salary, the amount of which shall be determined and authorized by the Board of Directors and be reimbursed for necessary expenses when away from home on the business of the STATE UNION.

#### (b) VICE PRESIDENT

Except as provided in Article IX, Section 2; the Vice President shall be elected at the State Convention and shall hold office for a term of three (3) years and until a successor is elected and qualified. The Vice President shall succeed to the office of President and serve for the unexpired term should the President's office become vacant for any reason, and shall have the power and authority to perform the duties and to exercise the powers of the President in the absence of or disability of the President. The Vice President shall have such other duties as are assigned from time to time by the President or Board of Directors and may advise the Board but cannot vote except while acting in the absence of the President where there is a tie vote.

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# (c) SECRETARY

Except as provided in Article IX, Section 2; the Secretary shall be elected at the State Convention and shall hold office for a term of three (3) years and until a successor is elected and qualified. The Secretary shall attend all sessions of the Board of Directors and meetings of the members and record all votes and minutes in a book to be kept for that purpose, together with the seal and charter, and shall have authority to affix the seal. The Secretary shall give, or cause to be given, notice of all meetings of the members and/or Board of Directors; the Secretary shall attest all deeds and contracts executed by the STATE UNION, and shall have such other duties as may be determined by the Board of Directors. The Secretary shall receive for services rendered a salary, the amount of which shall be determined and authorized by the Board of Directors and shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses when away from home on the business of the STATE UNION.

# (d) TREASURER

The Treasurer shall have general custody of the corporate funds and securities and shall keep, or cause to be kept, full and accurate accounts of receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the STATE UNION, and shall cause to be deposited all monies and other valuable effects in the name and credit of the STATE UNION. The Treasurer shall render to the Directors at regular meetings of the Board, or whenever they may require it, a proper account and statement showing the financial condition of the STATE UNION and shall be bonded in the amount and manner determined by the Board of Directors. The Treasurer shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses when away from home on the business of the STATE UNION.

# (e) ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND ASSISTANT TREASURER

Any Assistant Secretary or Assistant Treasurer that may be appointed shall perform such duties and be under such supervision as may be prescribed by the President.

#### Section 4: VACANCIES

If a vacancy occurs in the office of President, the Vice President shall succeed to the office of President and serve for the unexpired term. If the Vice President is unable to serve as President or a vacancy occurs in the office of Vice President, the Board of Directors may, at its discretion, elect a person or persons from among its number to fill such vacancies, and the person so elected shall serve for the unexpired term. In the event a vacancy occurs in the office of Secretary or the Secretary is unable to serve for any reason, the Board of Directors may elect a person from the membership who may not be a Director, to fill such vacancy and serve the balance of the unexpired term. Any Board Member so elected to fill an officer vacancy for the unexpired term will not be required to resign from the Board of Directors until the next Annual Meeting.

# Section 5: REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

The Board of Directors, may by a vote of five (5) or more Directors, remove any Officer, elected or appointed, for incompetency, dishonesty, negligence of duties, or immoral conduct after the Officer accused has had an opportunity to be heard in person or through counsel.

#### Section 6: COMMITTEES

The President may appoint, at the President's discretion, one or more committees, or at the direction of the Board of Directors, shall appoint one or more committees as is necessary for the best interest of the STATE UNION, and shall appoint a chairperson for such committees with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors. The Policy and Credential Committees and special appointments shall be made by the President and approved by the Board of Directors.

Section 7

The Officers and Board Members of the STATE UNION are elected delegates to the National Convention.

Additional delegates and alternates to the maximum number allowable based on State Membership are elected from the floor. There shall be a limit of one (1) per family.

At least one (1) alternate for every two (2) delegates shall be elected to attend the National Convention.

A member Spouses of elected delegates to National Convention will be elected to act in the absence of alternate delegates will be eligible as a delegate every 3<sup>rd</sup> year. In the event of a full slate of delegates is not nominated for the National Convention, the Board is given the authority to waive the 3rd year eligibility rule. This three (3) year rule will not apply to the spouse serving as alternate delegate.

To be eligible for election as a delegate or alternate to the National Farmers Union Convention, a person must have been a member of the STATE UNION for at least the last two (2) years and must have been a delegate to and present at the State Convention.

Employees of STATE UNION are excluded from being delegates to the National Convention. Elected Officers and Board Members are not considered employees for the purpose of this amendment.

#### ARTICLE X

#### INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM

#### Section 1

The right of the Initiative and Referendum, the Recall, and the Imperative Mandate shall not be denied the members of the Union.

#### Section 2

Five thousand (5,000) of the members may petition the President to submit to a referendum vote any measure, or ask the recall of any office, and upon receipt of such petition shall submit within thirty (30) days the same to a referendum vote of the delegates of the previous Convention by first class mail addressed to said delegates' last known address.

The referendum ballot must be submitted to the delegates, considered, and returned not later than sixty (60) days from the date on which the ballots were sent out by the Referendum Committee. The Referendum Committee shall count the votes of the referendum and notify the Board of Directors at the next meeting. The results of the referendum shall be published in the Oklahoma paper, "Farm News & Views."

# **ARTICLE XI**

#### **EXECUTION OF CONTRACTS**

Except as otherwise required by statute, the Certificate of Incorporation, or these By-Laws, any contracts or other instruments may be executed and delivered in the name and on behalf of the STATE UNION by such Officer or Officers (including any Assistant Officer) of the STATE UNION as the Board may from time to time direct. Such authority may be general or confined to specific instances as the Board may determine. Unless authorized by the Board or expressly permitted by these By-Laws, an Officer or agent or employee shall not have any power or authority to bind the STATE UNION by any contract or engagement or to pledge its credit or to render it pecuniarily liable for any purpose or to any amount.

#### **ARTICLE XII**

#### INSPECTION OF BOOKS

The Directors shall determine from time to time whether and, if allowed, when and under what conditions and regulation the accounts (except such as may be required by statute to be open to inspection), or any of them, shall be open to the inspection of the members and the members' rights in this respect are and shall be restricted and limited accordingly.

# **ARTICLE XIII**

#### LOANS

The Directors may, from time to time, authorize by resolution of the Officers to effect loans and advances from a Corporation or a bank, trust company or other institution or from any firm, corporation or individual, and for such loans and advances, may make, execute and deliver promissory notes, bonds or other certificates or evidence of indebtedness of the STATE UNION but no Officer(s) shall mortgage, pledge, hypothecate or transfer any securities or other property of the Organization, except when authorized by the Board.

#### ARTICLE XIV

#### CHECKS, DRAFTS, ETC.

All checks, drafts, bills of exchange or other orders for the payment of money out of the funds of the STATE UNION and all notes or other evidences of indebtedness of the STATE UNION shall be signed in the name and on behalf of the STATE UNION by such persons and in such manner as shall from time to time be authorized by the Board.

#### ARTICLE XV

#### **DEPOSITS**

All funds of the STATE UNION not otherwise employed shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the Organization in such banks, trust companies or other depositories as the Board may from time to time designate or as may be designated by an Officer(s) of the STATE UNION to whom such power of the designation may from time to time be delegated by the Board. For the purpose of deposit and for the purpose of collection for the account of the checks, drafts and orders for the payment of money which are payable to the order of the STATE UNION may be endorsed, assigned and delivered by any Officer or agent of the STATE UNION or in such other manner as the Board may determine by resolution.

#### ARTICLE XVI

#### GENERAL AND SPECIAL BANK ACCOUNTS

The Board may, from time to time, authorize the opening and keeping of general bank accounts with such banks, trust companies or other depositories as the Board may designate or as may be designated by any Officer(s) of the STATE

UNION to whom such power of designation may from time to time be delegated by the Board. The Board may make such special rules and regulations with respect to such bank accounts, not inconsistent with the provisions of these By-Laws, as it may deem expedient.

# **ARTICLE XVII**

#### INDEMNIFICATION

#### Section 1

The STATE UNION shall have power to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than action by or in the right of the STATE UNION) by reason of the fact that the person is or was a Director or Officer of the STATE UNION or is or was serving at the request of the STATE UNION as a Director or Officer of another corporation or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorney's fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by the individual in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if the person acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the STATE UNION and with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful. The termination of any action, suit or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction, or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent shall not, of itself, create a presumption the person did not act in good faith and in a manner which this person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interest of the STATE UNION and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe that his or her conduct was unlawful.

# Section 2

The STATE UNION shall have the power to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action or suit by or in the right of the STATE UNION to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that this person is or was a Director or Officer of the STATE UNION or is or was serving at the request of the STATE UNION as a director or officer of another corporation, or other enterprise against expenses (including attorney's fees) actually and reasonably incurred by the individual in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit if the person acted in good faith and in a manner he or she believed to be in or not opposed to the best interest of the STATE UNION and except that no indemnification shall be made in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of this person's duty to the STATE UNION unless and only to the extent that the District Court or the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all the circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnify for such expenses which the District Court or such other court shall deem proper.

#### Section 3

Expenses incurred in defending a civil or criminal action suit or proceeding may be paid by the STATE UNION in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding as authorized by the Board of Directors in the specific case upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the Director or Officer to repay such amount unless it shall ultimately be determined that the individual is entitled to be indemnified by the STATE UNION as authorized in this section.

#### Section 4

The STATE UNION shall have power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a Director or Officer of the STATE UNION or is or was serving at the request of the Corporation as director or officer of another corporation or other enterprise against any liability asserted against this person and incurred by this person in any such capacity, or arising out of this person's status as such, whether or not the STATE UNION would have the power to indemnify this person against such liability under the provisions of this section.

#### Section 5

Determination of the right to such indemnification and the amount thereof may be made pursuant to procedure set forth from time to time in these By-Laws or by any of the following procedures: (a) order of the court or administrative body or agency having jurisdiction of the action, suit or proceeding; (b) resolution adopted by a majority of a quorum of the Board of Directors of the STATE UNION without counting in such majority or quorum any Directors who have incurred expenses in connection with such action, suit or proceeding; (c) if there is no quorum of Directors who have not incurred expenses in connection with such action, suit or proceeding, then by resolution adopted by a majority of a committee of members or Directors who have not incurred such expenses, appointed by the Board of Directors; (d) resolution adopted by a majority or a quorum of the members entitled to vote at any meeting. Any such determination that a payment by way of indemnity should be made shall be binding upon the STATE UNION.

#### ARTICLE XVIII

#### AMENDMENT TO BY-LAWS

Amendments to these By-Laws may be proposed by resolution from the County Union, Local Union, or the Board of Directors, and filed with the Secretary not less than ninety (90) days preceding any special or annual meeting, which proposals are to be published or included in a mailed notice at least thirty (30) days prior to the meeting.

The President shall appoint a By-Laws Committee, with the approval of the Board of Directors, for the purpose of consideration of proposed changes and to make recommendations with regard to the proposed changes to the delegates at the Annual Meeting. Proposed amendments shall be presented to the Annual Meeting by the Chairperson of the By-Laws Committee and may be adopted and these By-Laws amended by a two-thirds favorable vote of the delegates voting at the Annual Meeting.

County and Local Unions may adopt such By-Laws as do not conflict with By-Laws of the National and STATE UNION.

# ARTICLE XX PROMOTIONAL FEE

The Mutual Insurance Company shall pay up to one percent (1%) of its annual premium to the State Union to support programs that further the purpose and promotes the Mutual Insurance Company, with the exact amount being set at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

#### ARTICLE XXI

#### **APPROVAL**

The foregoing By-Laws, after having been read article by article, were adopted and certified by the members of THE OKLAHOMA STATE UNION OF THE FARMERS EDUCATIONAL AND CO-OPERATIVE UNION OF AMERICA, INC. at their first meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1982.

The By-Laws, as amended and restated herein, are the true and complete By-Laws of THE OKLAHOMA STATE UNION OF THE FARMERS EDUCATIONAL AND CO-OPERATIVE UNION OF AMERICA, INC., as amended by its members through February 23, 2013.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Corporation has caused this certificate to be signed by its President and attested by its Secretary, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2014.

OKLAHOMA STATE UNION OF THE FARMERS EDUCATIONAL AND CO-OPERATIVE UNION OF AMERICA, INC., an Oklahoma nonprofit organization

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Terry Détrfck, President

ATTEST:

OKLAHOMA STATE UNION OF THE FARMERS EDUCATIONAL AND CO-OPERATIVE UNION OF AMERICA, INC., an Oklahoma nonprefit-organization

By:

Paul Jackson, Secretary