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shall be determined by the State committee after considering recommendations by the county committee.

(b) *Exceptions to general rule.* (1) A local administrative area may have more than one community committee if the county had more than three community committees on December 23, 1985.

(2) In counties with less than 150 producers, the county committee may reduce the number of communities to one.

(3) The Deputy Administrator may include more than one county or parts of different counties in a community if it is determined that there is an insufficient number of producers in an area to establish a slate of candidates for a community committee and hold an election.

(4) In counties which had less than three communities on December 23, 1985, the county committee may establish one community for the county.

(5) In any county where there is only one community, the community committee shall be the county committee.

(c) The county committee shall give public notice of the community boundaries in advance of the election.

§7.7 Calling of elections.

(a) Each election of community committee members shall be held on a date, or within a specified period of time, determined by the Deputy Administrator. Such date or period of time shall fall within a period beginning on or after July 1 and ending not later than December 30 each year. Each such election shall be held in accordance with instructions issued by the Deputy Administrator which shall be available for examination in each county office.

(b) If the number of eligible voters voting in any election of community committee members is so small that the State committee determines that the result of the election does not represent the views of a substantial number of eligible voters, the State committee shall declare the election void and call a new election. If it is determined by the State committee that the election for any position on a community committee has not been held substantially in accordance with official instructions, the State committee shall declare such election void and call a new election.

§7.8 Conduct of community committee elections.

(a) The county committee serving at the time shall be responsible for the conduct of community committee elections in accordance with instructions issued by the Deputy Administrator.

(b) Elections shall not be associated with, or held in conjunction with, any other election or referendum conducted for any other purpose.

(c) The county committee shall give advance public notice of how, when, and where eligible voters may vote; when and where the votes will be counted; and the right to witness the vote counting.

(d) All nominees shall be notified in writing of the outcome of the election by the county executive director.

§7.9 Election of community committee members, delegates to local administrative area and county conventions, and county committee members.

(a) Where there are three local administrative areas as provided in §7.6 of this part there shall be an election of community committee members and alternates for a term of three years, or until such person's successor is elected and qualified, in one of the local administrative areas so that the term of office of the community committee members and alternates within one of the local administrative areas will expire each year.

(b) Except as provided in paragraph (d) of this section, the eligible voters in a community shall elect every three years a community committee composed of three members and shall elect first and second alternates to serve as acting members of the community committee in the order elected in case of the temporary absence of a member, or to become a member of the community committee in the order elected in case of the resignation, disqualification, removal, or death of a member. An acting member of the community committee shall have the same duties and the same authority as a regular member of such committee. The election shall be conducted by mail ballot