

other program or function assigned by the Secretary or a designee of the Secretary.

(b) The county committee shall:

(1) Enter into leasing agreements for such office space as needed in accordance with official instructions.

(2) Employ the county executive director, subject to standards and qualifications furnished by the State committee, to serve at the pleasure of the county committee, except that incumbent directors shall not be removed other than in accordance with the provisions of § 7.28 of this part until all members of the county committee have been in office for at least 90 days. There shall be no employment discrimination due to race, religion, color, sex, age, or national origin. The county executive director may not be removed for advocating or carrying out the Department's policy on equal opportunity and civil rights, including the equal employment policy. In the event it is claimed that dismissal is for such reasons, the dismissal shall not become effective until the State committee and the Deputy Administrator have determined that dismissal was not because of such reasons;

(3) Direct the activities of the local committees elected in the county;

(4) Pursuant to official instructions, review, approve, and certify forms, reports, and documents requiring such action in accordance with such instructions;

(5) Recommend to the State committee needed changes in boundaries of community and local administrative areas;

(6) Make available to farmers and the public, information concerning the objectives and operations of the programs administered through the county committee;

(7) Make available to agencies of the Federal Government and others information with respect to the county committee activities in accordance with official instructions issued;

(8) Give public notice of the designation and boundaries of each community within the county not less than 50 days prior to the election of community committee members and delegates;

(9) Direct the giving of notices in accordance with applicable regulations and official instructions;

(10) Recommend to the State committee desirable changes in or additions to existing programs;

(11) Conduct such hearings and investigations as the State committee may request; and

(12) Perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the State committee.

**§ 7.22 Community committee duties.**

(a) The community committee shall be subject to the general direction and supervision of the county committee.

(b) The community committee shall:

(1) Serve as an advisor and consultant to the county committee;

(2) Periodically meet with the county committee and State committee to be informed on farm program issues;

(3) Communicate with producers on issues or concerns regarding farm programs;

(4) Report to the county committee, the State committee, and other interested persons on changes to, or modification of, farm programs recommended by producers;

(5) Perform such other functions as are required by law or as the Secretary or a designee of the Secretary may specify.

**§ 7.23 Chairperson of the county committee duties.**

The chairperson of the county committee or the person acting as the chairperson shall preside at meetings of the county committee, certify such documents as may require the chairperson's certification, and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the State committee.

**§ 7.24 Chairperson of the community committee duties.**

The chairperson of the community committee or the person acting as the chairperson shall preside at meetings of the community committee, and perform such other duties as may be assigned by the county committee.