

## Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

## § 916.33

event both a member of the committee and his alternate are unable to attend a committee meeting, the member or the committee members present may designate any other alternate to serve in such member's place and stead provided such action is necessary to secure a quorum.

[23 FR 4616, June 25, 1958. Redesignated at 26 FR 12751, Dec. 30, 1961, as amended at 31 FR 8176, June 10, 1966]

### § 916.30 Powers.

The committee shall have the following powers:

- (a) To administer the provisions of this part in accordance with its terms;
- (b) To receive, investigate, and report to the Secretary complaints of violations of the provisions of this part;
- (c) To make and adopt rules and regulations to effectuate the terms and provisions of this part; and
- (d) To recommend to the Secretary amendments to this part.

### § 916.31 Duties.

The committee shall have, among others, the following duties:

- (a) To select a chairman and such other officers as may be necessary, and to define the duties of such officers;
- (b) To appoint such employees, agents, and representatives as it may deem necessary, and to determine compensation and to define the duties of each;
- (c) To submit to the Secretary as soon as practicable after the beginning of each fiscal period a budget for such fiscal period, including a report in explanation of the items appearing therein and a recommendation as to the rate of assessment for such period;
- (d) To keep minutes, books, and records which will reflect all of the acts and transactions of the committee and which shall be subject to examination by the Secretary;
- (e) To prepare periodic statements of the financial operations of the committee and to make copies of each such statement available to growers and handlers for examination at the office of the committee;
- (f) To cause its books to be audited by a competent public accountant at least once each fiscal year and at such times as the Secretary may request;

(g) To act as intermediary between the Secretary and any grower or handler;

(h) To investigate and assemble data on the growing, handling, and marketing conditions with respect to nectarines;

(i) To submit to the Secretary the same notice of meetings of the committee as is given to its members;

(j) To submit to the Secretary such available information as he may request;

(k) To investigate compliance with the Provisions of this part;

(l) With the approval of the Secretary, to redefine the districts into which the production area is divided and to reapportion the representation of any district on the committee: *Provided*, That any such changes shall reflect, insofar as practicable, shifts in nectarine production within the districts and the production area.

### § 916.32 Procedure.

(a) Nine members of the committee, or alternates acting for members, shall constitute a quorum and any action of the committee shall require the concurring vote of the majority of those present: *Provided*, That actions of the committee with respect to expenses and assessments, or recommendations for regulations pursuant to §§ 916.50 to 916.55, shall require at least nine concurring votes.

(b) The committee may vote by telephone, telegraph, or other means of communication, such as facsimile, and any votes so cast shall be confirmed promptly in writing: *Provided*, That if an assembled meeting is held, all votes shall be cast in person. A video-conference shall be considered an assembled meeting and all votes shall be considered as cast in person.

[71 FR 41351, July 21, 2006]

### § 916.33 Expenses and compensation.

The members of the committee, and alternates when acting as members, shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses necessarily incurred by them in the performance of their duties under this part: *Provided*, That the committee at its discretion may request the attendance of one or more alternates at any