

**CONSTITUTION  
OF THE  
AUSTIN COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION**

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**ARTICLE I**

NAME: The name of this organization shall be the Austin County Fair Association as specified in Charter Number 49325, amended in November, 1927 and revised in January 1988, March 2000, January 2004, November 2005, August 2012, June 2014 and February 2018.

**ARTICLE II**

**SECTION I**

PURPOSE: The purpose for which this association is formed is the encouragement of Agriculture, Home Economics, and Horticulture by the maintenance of public fairs and exhibitions of livestock and agriculture related products, which promote organized youth activities, education, scholarship, sportsmanship, and ethics.

**SECTION II**

The board of directors and/or executive board shall reserve the right to refuse exhibition and/or participation in the Austin County Fair or related activities.

Any action deemed to be disruptive, detrimental, or otherwise not in accordance to the purpose and rules of the association as outlined in Article II, Section I; may be considered as grounds for recourse and/or forfeiture of all rights and privileges to exhibit and/or participate in the Austin County Fair or related activities.

**ARTICLE III**

LOCATION: The place of business of the Association shall be the city of Bellville, Austin County, Texas, which shall be its principal office.

**ARTICLE IV**

DIRECTOR: Any citizen of Austin County, anyone who resides within the boundaries of a school district in Austin County or employed by Austin County as an AgriLife Agent or a school system in Austin county as a FFA or FCCLA Advisor who is 21 years of age and is interested in furthering the purpose of this Association as outlined in Article II of the Constitution may be eligible to serve as a director.

## **ARTICLE V**

### **SECTION I**

**GOVERNING BODY:** The Government of the Austin County Fair Association, including the direction of its work, activities and the control of its properties, shall be vested by the board of directors.

### **SECTION II**

The executive board shall consist of the President, three Vice Presidents, Secretary/Treasurer and the immediate past President.

### **SECTION III**

The purpose of this executive board shall be to act on emergency measures when it is not practical to have a meeting of the full Board of Directors.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **SECTION I**

**OFFICERS:** The officers of the Austin County Fair Association shall be President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer.

### **SECTION II**

**TERM OF OFFICE:** Officers shall be elected annually from and by the board of directors. The President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President will have term limits. Term limits will be set at three years. After three years, that officer will have to run for a higher office or resign as an officer for one calendar year. No immediate family member shall serve on the executive board together (immediate family member defined as husband, wife, mother, father, son, daughter, and/or siblings).

### **SECTION III**

**DUTIES OF OFFICERS:** President – It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Association, to appoint all necessary committees, to call special meetings, and to perform such other duties as pertain to the office.

Vice President – It shall be the duty of the Vice Presidents, in order of 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup>, to perform the duties of the President in case of his absence or disability.

Secretary-Treasurer – It shall be the duty of the secretary-treasurer to keep accurate minutes of all meetings of the Association, attend to all correspondence, receive and keep properly filed all important communications and

reports, distribute all literature to the members, make a regular report to the Board of Directors. The secretary-treasurer will also receive, hold, and disburse all the funds belonging to the Association. He or she shall make a full report at each board meeting and at any other time upon request of the President. The outgoing secretary-treasurer shall within one month after the closing of the annual meeting turn over to the elected secretary-treasurer all money, books, and papers of the association in his or her custody. Money paid out by the secretary-treasurer must be authorized by a majority vote of the board of directors. Expenditures included in the annual budget are considered authorized upon approval of the budget by the board.

#### **SECTION IV**

Facility Administrator – It shall be the duty of the Facility Administrator to assist the secretary-treasurer with the duties listed in Article VI Section III. The Facility Administrator shall oversee the daily operations of the Austin County Fair Facilities. The Facility Administrator is not a board member, and their salary shall be set by the board of directors.

### **ARTICLE VII**

#### **Section I**

The Board of Directors of the Austin County Fair Association shall be composed of forty-four (44) elected members who reside within the boundaries of a school district in Austin County. These directors may be elected individually by the existing Board of Directors at the annual meeting. The board has the right to elect two (2) AgriLife Agents, one (1) FFA Advisor/FCCLA Advisor from each of the school districts in the county, and (1) member of the Austin County Extension Education Association. They (the board) shall be the voting body.

#### **SECTION II**

TERM OF OFFICE: The membership of the Board shall be elected for a term of three years.

#### **Section III**

All FFA Advisors/FCCLA Advisors and AgriLife Agents acting within our county shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Board of Directors.

### **ARTICLE VIII**

#### **SECTION I**

MEETINGS: The Austin County Fair Association Board of Directors shall meet every fourth Tuesday of each month except December. The President may call special meetings or change the regular meeting date if the need arises. The change must be made

one week prior to the newly scheduled meeting. Ten directors present (20%) at any regular meeting is considered a quorum.

## **SECTION II**

**ANNUAL MEETING:** The annual meeting shall be held on the fourth Tuesday of each January.

## **SECTION III**

**ATTENDANCE:** Each elected board member is required to attend four (4) scheduled board meetings from February 1<sup>st</sup> through January 31<sup>st</sup> to maintain directorship. The Executive Board has the right to grant excused absences from regular scheduled board meetings. Any director not excused by the Executive Board shall be removed as a director of the Austin County Fair Association. If a director is elected to fill a vacancy any time after the Annual Meeting in January, then the four (4) meeting requirement shall begin the following year.

## **ARTICLE IX**

**AMENDMENTS:** This constitution may be amended or altered by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors at any regular meeting of the Board. Amendments must be presented one month prior to voting.

## **ARTICLE X**

**HONORARY DIRECTORS:** Honorary directorships can be bestowed by the board, but honorary directors shall not retain voting privileges.

## **ARTICLE XI**

**CODE OF CONDUCT:** Directors are expected to be on duty all {five days} of the fair as well as other special events held throughout the year. Board members are expected to conduct themselves professionally at all Association meetings and activities. Board members are to be in good standing with the fair association. Any complaints or concerns should be reported using the proper chain-of-command and not expressed at random.

Board members must refrain from discussion of confidential proceedings of the Board outside of the meeting.

Any Board member who violates the code of conduct outlined in these guidelines will be sanctioned. Sanctions will be decided upon according to each individual situation and will range from written warning to dismissal from the Board of Directors. Should a violation occur, sanctions will be decided upon by the Executive Committee, which will have the authority to enact.