

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

4 FOR

5 HOUSE BILL NO. 3919

By: Pfeiffer

6  
7  
8 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

9 An Act relating to counties and county officers;  
10 amending 2 O.S. 2021, Section 15-68, which relates to  
11 the board of directors for county free fair  
12 association; allowing board of county commissioners  
13 to vote to have a five-member board; providing manner  
14 in which five-member board shall be elected; and  
15 providing an effective date.

16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

17 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 2 O.S. 2021, Section 15-68, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 Section 15-68. A. There is hereby constituted a board of  
20 directors for the free fair association.

21 B. 1. The board of directors shall be composed of nine (9)  
22 members, unless the board of county commissioners determines by vote  
23 to form a five-member board of directors under subsection I of this  
24 section, who shall be by written ballot elected for a term of three

1 (3) years. Three members shall be elected annually, one from each  
2 county commissioner's district of the counties, at a public meeting  
3 or convention of the qualified electors of each commissioner's  
4 district in the counties.

5 2. A qualified elector shall be a registered voter of the  
6 county and may only vote for the board members from the district in  
7 which the elector resides. The county commissioner holding the  
8 election may request proof of residency and a voter registration  
9 card of the county to qualify electors.

10 3. The board of county commissioners shall include in the  
11 publication notice of the election the requirements to be a  
12 qualified voter. Notice of the election shall be given by  
13 publication in a newspaper published in each of the counties for ten  
14 (10) days before the election. Notice of the filing period for the  
15 election shall be given in a newspaper published in the county,  
16 published one time at least ten (10) days before the filing period  
17 for the election.

18 C. The board of county commissioners shall, by resolution, set  
19 forth the following conditions concerning the election:

20 1. The filing period shall consist of five (5) consecutive  
21 business days and commence in January;

22 2. The date and time the filing period will commence and end;

23 3. The date, time and place of the election;

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1 4. Only registered voters of the county are eligible to file as  
2 a candidate;

3 5. Any person so filing must reside in the commissioner's  
4 district or city they seek to represent;

5 6. Prospective candidates must file with the county clerk; and

6 7. The board of county commissioners shall prescribe a form to  
7 be used by prospective candidates filing for the position of  
8 director of the fair association board.

9 D. 1. The date of the election for the fair association board  
10 of directors shall be no later than three (3) weeks from the date of  
11 the final day of the filing period. If there is only one candidate  
12 for any of the commissioners' districts, the commissioners may  
13 cancel the election with notice being given by publication and  
14 posting at least ten (10) days prior to the election date previously  
15 established and the candidate shall be deemed to be elected.

16 2. In the event there is no candidate for the election to the  
17 fair association board of directors, the county commissioners shall  
18 appoint a director for each position for which no candidates have  
19 filed by the close of the filing period. The appointment or  
20 appointments will be announced no later than two (2) weeks from the  
21 closing of the filing period.

22 3. When a director is unable to fulfill the term to which the  
23 director has been elected to serve, for any reason, the board of  
24 county commissioners shall appoint the successor.

1 E. For a nine-member board:

2 1. At the annual election there shall be elected one (1) person  
3 from each commissioner's district who is a qualified elector of the  
4 district. Each shall serve as a director of the association for a  
5 term of three (3) years, and until a successor is elected or  
6 appointed and qualified.

7 2. The commissioner or commissioner's designee shall preside at  
8 the meeting and have the authority to appoint a secretary of the  
9 meeting. The commissioner and secretary shall certify to the county  
10 clerk of each of the counties the names of the directors elected,  
11 and the county clerk shall keep a record thereof and shall issue to  
12 each person elected a certificate of election.

13 F. When a tie vote occurs in the election of a fair association  
14 board of directors, the commissioner or commissioner's designee  
15 shall select the candidate by lot pursuant to the procedures set  
16 forth in Section 8-105 of Title 26 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

17 G. 1. The directors so elected shall meet at the next  
18 regularly scheduled monthly meeting immediately following the  
19 elections at the regular meeting place of the counties for the  
20 purpose of organization, and shall elect a president, a vice-  
21 president, a secretary and a treasurer; provided, that the secretary  
22 need not be a member of the board of directors.

23 2. The treasurer shall furnish a surety bond executed with a  
24 qualified surety company doing business in this state, in such

1 amount as the directors of the board may determine to be necessary  
2 to indemnify against any loss which may arise by reason of failure  
3 to perform the necessary duties of the office or other misconduct in  
4 office for which the director shall be held liable.

5 H. Meetings of the directors may be called by the president of  
6 the board or fixed by the board at any time convenient. However,  
7 the first election held under this section shall be on the first  
8 Saturday of June, and the board so elected at the election shall  
9 meet for organization purposes on the second Saturday of June of  
10 such year.

11 I. Upon a vote of the board of county commissioners, the board  
12 of directors for the free fair association shall be composed of five  
13 (5) members, who shall be by written ballot elected for a term of  
14 three (3) years. A five-member board of directors shall function  
15 the same as a nine-member board and be subject to all of the  
16 requirements of a nine-member board except as described in this  
17 subsection or otherwise indicated in this section. The members  
18 shall be elected at a public meeting or convention of the qualified  
19 electors of each commissioner's district in the counties as follows:

20 1. One member from each county commissioner's district shall be  
21 elected by the respective qualified electors of each commissioner's  
22 district; and

23 2. Two members shall be elected as members at large by all of  
24 the qualified electors of the county.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2026.

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