

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

HOUSE BILL 3919

By: Pfeiffer

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to counties and county officers;
amending 2 O.S. 2021, Section 15-68, which relates to
the board of directors for the county free fair
association; allowing the board of county
commissioners to choose between a five-member or
nine-member board; providing schedule for election of
members; and providing an effective date.

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

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

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

B. 1. The board of directors shall be composed of either five
(5) members or nine (9) members as determined by the board of county
commissioners, who shall be by written ballot elected for a term of
three (3) years. ~~Three~~ For nine-member boards, three members shall
be elected annually, one from each county commissioner's district of
the counties, at a public meeting or convention of the qualified
electors of each commissioner's district in the counties. For five-

1 member boards, two members shall be elected annually beginning in
2 2029, two members in 2030, and one member in 2031, and subsequently
3 thereafter. Beginning in 2030 and every election thereafter, each
4 county commissioner district shall be represented by at least one
5 member on the board, with the two remaining members from the county
6 at large.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 2. The treasurer shall furnish a surety bond executed with a
2 qualified surety company doing business in this state, in such
3 amount as the directors of the board may determine to be necessary
4 to indemnify against any loss which may arise by reason of failure
5 to perform the necessary duties of the office or other misconduct in
6 office for which the director shall be held liable.

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

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

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