



CONSTITUTION

Of The Putnam County Agricultural Society

Article I – Name

Section 1 - This organization shall be known as The Putnam County Agricultural Society.

Article II – Object

Section 1 – The object of the Society shall be to promote agriculture, horticulture, better livestock, domestic science, mechanical and industrial interests and general community betterment.

Article III – Membership

Section 1 – Any resident of Putnam County of legal voting age may become a member of the Society by purchasing a membership ticket.

Section 2 – A certificate of membership shall be issued to each qualified person who pays the required fee. Said certificate shall be filled out and reserved. All receipts shall be numbered consecutively.

Section 3 – No person shall pay for or secure more than one membership certificate, and that for himself or herself. No membership certificate shall be issued to corporations, organizations, partnerships or firms.

Section 4 – A list of members shall be kept in the office of the Secretary, and open to public inspection at all times.

Section 5 – Membership certificate may be purchased from December 1 until noon on the First Day of the Fair.

Section 6 - The Society membership year shall be from December 1 until November 30 of the current year.

Section 7 – The annual membership meeting shall be held on the second Tuesday of November of each year.

Article IV – Board of Directors

Section 1 – The Board of Directors shall consist of twenty (20) members, one member from each township of the county and one member from each of the five (5) districts-at-large of the county and shall be elected for a term of three (3) years and so arranged that the terms of one third (1/3) of the directors shall expire annually. District one (1) is to consist of Monroe, Perry, and Monterey Townships. District two (2) is to consist of Liberty, Ottawa, and Pleasant Townships. District three (3) is to consist of Van Buren, Blanchard, and Riley Townships. District four (4) is to consist of Greensburg, Palmer, and Union Townships. District five (5) is to consist of

Jennings, Jackson, and Sugar Creek Townships. Terms of Directors-at-Large will be elected for three years.

Section 2 – In the event that a township has a vacancy and no one from that township declares their candidacy for the office of Director for that township, the Board of Directors may apply from any township, within that District-at-Large, a member to serve for said township for one year. Said appointee may run for the remainder of the term and a term thereafter unless a member from said township declares their candidacy. In the event no appointee can be found within that District-at-Large, then the appointee may come from any township within the County.

Section 3 – The term of office of the retiring Directors shall expire and that of the Directors elect shall begin at the regularly scheduled meeting in December.

Section 4 – Any member of the Board failing to meet with said Board for three consecutive meetings duly called without satisfactory excuse to the Board, thereby vacates their office, which vacancy shall be filled as in other cases of vacancy.

Section 5 – Members of the Agricultural Society must declare their candidacy for the office of director of the Board of Directors of the Society by filing with the secretary of the Society, a petition signed by ten or more members of the Agriculture Society who are residents of the county, at least seven days before the annual election is held. Only regularly nominated candidates, who must have met the filing requirements will be eligible for election as a director. Blank petitions shall be furnished by the Agricultural Society and shall be obtained from the secretary of the Society.

Section 6 – The president of the Society shall appoint three judges and two clerks who are members of the Society, but not candidates for election to conduct the elections of directors and declare the result thereof. Candidates may witness their count either personally or by proxy. The judges of election shall have the membership roll and verify the rights of all person to vote before issuing allots. The other copy shall be mailed to the Ohio Department of Agriculture within ten days after said election. The casting of votes for directors by proxy is not permitted.

Section 7 – The following oath (or affirmation) shall be used by competent authority in inducting newly



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elected directors into office: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State of Ohio laws of Ohio and the rules and regulations of the Department of Agriculture of Ohio, pertaining to Agricultural Societies and to the best of my ability perform the duties of Director of the Putnam County Agricultural Society, so help me God."

Section 8 – The Board of Directors shall prepare an itemized statement of receipts and expenditures for the year. Said statement is to be signed and sworn by the secretary and treasurer and approved by the majority of the Board of Directors. A summary of same shall be published in a newspaper which has general circulation in the county not later than January 10.

Section 9 – The annual election of Directors of the Society's shall be by ballot, at the Secretary's office or other designated place on the fairgrounds on the sixth day of the fair unless the sixth day falls on Sunday, then it shall be held on the fifth day of the fair each year.

Section 10 – Each director must represent the Putnam County Agriculture Society at a district OFMA meeting or other board approved meeting each term.

Article V – Organization

Section 1 – The Board of Directors shall at a regular scheduled meeting, in August of each year, elect a president, a vice-president, and treasurer and such other officers as it may deem proper to serve one year and until their successors are elected and qualified.

Section 2 – All officers shall be elected from the membership of Board except secretary and treasurer, who may or may not be members of the Board of Directors. The election of officers shall be by ballot.

Section 3 – Nominations for president, vice-president, and treasurer will be accepted at the July meeting. Nominations will be taken from the floor at the August meeting. Nominations must be accepted by the nominee.

Article VI – Amendments

Section 1 – The Constitution of the By-Laws of the society shall not be amended except by a majority of votes of the membership of the society. Amendments to the Constitution of By-Laws may be proposed by:

- a.) A majority of the Board of Directors at a scheduled meeting voting in favor or placing an amendment on the ballot; or
- b.) Filing a petition with the secretary of the Society at least 14 days prior to the annual meeting of the membership of the Society. Said petition must set forth the proposed amendment and be signed by not less than 25 members of the Society. Said amendments shall be published in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the county no less than three but not more than ten days before it is to be voted on. When more than one amendment shall be submitted at the same time, they shall be submitted as to enable the members to vote on each amendment separately.
- c.) To be elected to a PCAS director's position, any person interested must; have been a member of the PCAS for two years and have attended at least two meetings before they apply for a board position.

Article VIII – Purpose Clause

Section 1 – The Putnam County Agricultural Society is organized exclusively for charitable exclusively for charitable, religious, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify exempt organizations described under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Article IX – Dissolution Clause

Section 1 – Upon the dissolution of the Putnam County Agricultural Society, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not disposed of shall be disposed of by a court of competent jurisdiction in Putnam County, Ohio, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization(s), as said court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purpose.