

## **Cooperative Boards**

### **Board Attorney**

The Operational and Governing Boards may retain legal services with one or more attorneys or law firms to be the Board Attorney(s). The Board Attorney represents the Operational and Governing Boards in their capacity as the governing bodies for the Cooperative. The Board Attorney serves on a retainer or other fee arrangement as determined in advance. The Board Attorney will provide services as described in the agreement for legal services or as memorialized by an engagement letter. The Cooperative will only pay for legal services that are provided in accordance with the agreement for legal services or are otherwise authorized by this policy or a majority of the Operational and Governing Boards.

The Executive Director, his or her designee, and Governing and Operational Board Chairpersons, are each authorized to confer with and/or seek the legal advice of the Board Attorney. The Operational and Governing Boards may also authorize a specific Board member to confer with the Board Attorney on their behalf.

The Executive Director may authorize the Board Attorney to represent the Cooperative in any legal matter until the Operational and Governing Boards have an opportunity to be informed of and/or consider the matter.

The Operational and Governing Boards retain the right to consult with or employ other attorneys and to terminate the service of any attorney.

LEGAL REF.: Rule 1.7 (Conflict of Interest: Current Clients) and Rule 1.13 (Organization as Client) of the Ill. Rules of Professional Conduct adopted by the Ill. Supreme Court.

CROSS REF.: 4:60 (Purchases and Contracts)

Adopted: 3/13/2000

Revised: 12/14/2015

Revised: 9/21/2020