

## §915.27

a successor for the unexpired term of such member or alternate member of the committee shall be nominated and selected in the manner specified in §§915.22 and 915.23. If the names of nominees to fill any such vacancy are not made available to the Secretary within fifteen days after such vacancy occurs, the Secretary may fill such vacancy without regard to nominations, which selection shall be made on the basis of representation provided for in §915.20.

### §915.27 Alternate members.

An alternate member of the committee, during the absence or at the request of the member for whom he is an alternate, shall act in the place and stead of such member. In the event of the death, removal, resignation, or disqualification of a member, his alternate shall act for him until a successor for such member is selected and has qualified. In the event both a member and his alternate are unable to attend a committee meeting, the chairman may designate any alternate who is present and who is not serving for any member to serve in such absent member's place and stead: *Provided*, That only grower alternate members may be so designated to serve for grower members and only handler alternate members may be so designated to serve only for handler members.

[19 FR 3439, June 11, 1954. Redesignated at 26 FR 12751, Dec. 30, 1961, and amended at 35 FR 16627, Oct. 27, 1970]

### §915.28 Powers.

The committee shall have the following powers:

- (a) To administer the provisions of this part in accordance with its terms;
- (b) To receive, investigate, and report to the Secretary complaints of violations of the provisions of this part;
- (c) To make and adopt rules and regulations to effectuate the terms and provisions of this part; and
- (d) To recommend to the Secretary amendments to this part.

### §915.29 Duties.

The committee shall have, among others, the following duties:

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(a) To select a chairman and such other officers as may be necessary, and to define the duties of such officers;

(b) To appoint such employees, agents, and representatives as it may deem necessary, and to determine the compensation and to define the duties of each;

(c) To submit to the Secretary as soon as practicable after the beginning of each fiscal year a budget for such fiscal year, including a report in explanation of the items appearing therein and a recommendation as to the rate of assessment for such fiscal year;

(d) To keep minutes, books, and records which will reflect all of the acts and transactions of the committee and which shall be subject to examination by the Secretary;

(e) To prepare periodic statements of the financial operations of the committee and to make copies of each such statement available to growers and handlers for examination at the office of the committee;

(f) To cause its books to be audited by a certified public accountant at least once each fiscal year, and at such other times as the Secretary may request;

(g) To act as intermediary between the Secretary and any grower or handler;

(h) To investigate growing and maturity conditions of avocados, and to assemble data in connection therewith;

(i) To engage in such research relating to the determination of maturity and grade standards for avocados as may be approved by the Secretary;

(j) To submit to the Secretary such available information as he may request;

(k) To notify, as provided in this part, producers and handlers of all meetings of the committee to consider recommendations for regulation;

(l) To give the Secretary the same notice of meetings of the committee as is given to its members;

(m) To consult with such representatives of growers or groups of growers as may be deemed necessary and to pay the travel expenses incurred by such representatives in attending committee meetings at the request of the