

## § 927.34

(b) *Mail voting.* The Control Committee may provide for members voting by mail, telecopier or other electronic means, telephone, or telegraph, upon due notice to all members. Promptly after voting by telephone or telegraph, each member thus voting shall confirm in writing, the vote so cast.

[15 FR 6071, Sept. 9, 1950. Redesignated at 26 FR 12751, Dec. 30, 1961, and amended at 51 FR 30627, Aug. 28, 1986; 62 FR 61002, Nov. 14, 1997]

## § 927.34 Rights of the Secretary.

The members and alternates for members of the Control Committee and any agent or employee appointed or employed by the Control Committee shall be subject to removal or suspension by the Secretary at any time. Each and every regulation, decision, determination, or other act of the Control Committee shall be subject to the continuing right of the Secretary to disapprove of the same at any time, and, upon such disapproval, shall be deemed null and void, except as to acts done in reliance thereon or in compliance therewith prior to such disapproval by the Secretary.

## § 927.35 Funds and other property.

(a) All funds received by the Control Committee pursuant to any of the provisions of this subpart shall be used solely for the purposes specified in this subpart, and the Secretary may require the Control Committee and its members to account for all receipts and disbursements.

(b) Upon the death, resignation, removal, disqualification, or expiration of the term of office of any member or employee of the Control Committee, all books, records, funds, and other property in his possession belonging to the Control Committee shall be delivered to his successor in office or to the Control Committee, and such assignments and other instruments shall be executed as may be necessary to vest in such successor or in the Control Committee full title to all the books, records, funds, and other property in the possession or under the control of such member or employee pursuant to this subpart.

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## § 927.36 Public advisors.

The Control Committee may appoint such public advisors as it deems appropriate and determine the compensation and defines the duties of such advisors.

[51 FR 30627, Aug. 28, 1986]

## EXPENSES AND ASSESSMENTS

## § 927.40 Expenses.

The Control Committee is authorized to incur such expenses as the Secretary finds may be necessary to carry out its functions under this subpart. The funds to cover such expenses shall be acquired by the levying of assessments as provided in § 927.41.

## § 927.41 Assessments.

(a) Assessments will be levied only upon handlers who first handle pears. Each handler shall pay assessments on all pears handled by such handler as the pro rata share of the expenses which the Secretary finds are reasonable and likely to be incurred by the Control Committee during a fiscal period. The payment of assessments for the maintenance and functioning of the Control Committee may be required under this part throughout the period such assessments are payable irrespective of whether particular provisions thereof are suspended or become inoperative.

(b) Based upon a recommendation of the Control Committee or other available data, the Secretary shall fix the rate of assessment that handlers shall pay on all pears handled during each fiscal period, and may also fix supplemental rates of assessment on individual varieties or subvarieties to secure sufficient funds to provide for projects authorized under § 927.47. At any time during the fiscal period when it is determined on the basis of a committee recommendation or other information that a different rate is necessary for all pears or for any varieties or subvarieties, the Secretary may modify a rate of assessment and such new rate shall apply to any or all varieties or subvarieties that are shipped during the fiscal period.

(c) The Control Committee may impose a late payment charge on any

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handler who fails to pay any assessment within the time prescribed by the committee. In the event the handler thereafter fails to pay the amount outstanding, including the late payment charge, within the prescribed time, the Control Committee may impose an additional charge in the form of interest on such outstanding amount. The amount of such late payment charge and rate of interest, shall be prescribed by the Control Committee, with the approval of the Secretary.

(d) In order to provide funds to carry out the functions of the Control Committee prior to commencement of shipments in any season, handlers may make advance payments of assessments, which advance payments shall be credited to such handlers and the assessments of such handlers shall be adjusted so that such assessments are based upon the quantity of each variety of pears handled by such handlers during such season. Further, payment discounts may be authorized by the Control Committee upon the approval of the Secretary to handlers making such advance assessment payments.

[51 FR 30627, Aug. 28, 1986, as amended at 61 FR 17554, Apr. 22, 1996]

### § 927.42 Accounting.

(a) If, at the end of a fiscal period, the assessments collected are in excess of expenses incurred, the committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may carryover such excess into subsequent fiscal periods as a reserve: *Provided*, That funds already in the reserve do not exceed approximately one fiscal period's expenses. Such reserve may be used (1) to cover any expense authorized under this part and (2) to cover necessary expenses of liquidation in the event of termination of this part. Any such excess not retained in a reserve or applied to any outstanding obligation of the person from whom it was collected shall be refunded proportionately to the persons from whom it was collected. Upon termination of this part, any funds not required to defray the necessary expenses of liquidation shall be disposed of in such manner as the Secretary may determine to be appropriate: *Provided*, That to the extent practical, such funds shall be returned

pro rata to the persons from whom such funds were collected.

(b) All funds received by the committee pursuant to the provisions of this part shall be used solely for the purpose specified in this part and shall be accounted for in the manner provided in this part. The Secretary may at any time require the committee and its members to account for all receipts and disbursements.

[27 FR 93, Jan. 5, 1962]

### § 927.43 Use of funds.

From the funds acquired pursuant to § 927.41 the Control Committee shall pay the salaries of its employees, if any, and pay the expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of the duties of the Control Committee.

### § 927.44 Collection of unpaid assessments.

The Control Committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may institute and maintain, in its own name or in the names of its members, legal proceedings against any handler assessed for the collection of such handler's pro rata share of the aforesaid expenses.

### § 927.45 Contributions.

The Control Committee may accept voluntary contributions but these shall only be used to pay expenses incurred pursuant to section 927.47. Furthermore, such contributions shall be free from any encumbrances by the donor and the Control Committee shall retain complete control of their use.

[61 FR 17555, Apr. 22, 1996]

## RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

### § 927.47 Research and development.

The Control Committee, with the approval of the Secretary, may establish or provide for the establishment of production research, or marketing research and development projects designed to assist, improve, or promote the marketing, distribution, and consumption of pears. Such projects may provide for any form of marketing promotion, including paid advertising. The expense of such projects shall be paid from funds collected pursuant to §§ 927.41 and 927.45. Expenditures for a