

To: SWAFS Board of Directors

From: Linda Johnson and Christina P. Coucke-Garza

Date: July 18, 2013

RE: Proposed Changes to the SWAFS Constitution and By-laws, Article Four

In accordance with the SWAFS Constitution and By-laws, Article Five, the following proposed changes are submitted:

ARTICLE FOUR

COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee shall consist of a Chair and other members appointed by the President at the fall meeting. The Nominating Committee shall be responsible for seeking, screening, and selecting qualified candidates for offices that become vacant due to expiration of tenure; mailing ballots to all voting members or coordinating electronic balloting; supervising the election process; informing the membership and all candidates of the results of the election; and forwarding to the new officers and the Board of Directors a statement of their functions and duties. In addition, the Nominating Committee shall seek and accept all nominations for awards and forward them to the appropriate committee or Board of Directors for their selection process. The specific function of the Nominating Committee shall be as follows:

To forward to eligible members an announcement as to the offices to become vacant at the fall business meeting and the request for qualified individuals interested in filling these offices.

To mail an official ballot or coordinate electronic balloting. The ballot shall include the slate of candidates for each office and a short resume of each candidate. Each eligible voting member shall have not less than 630 days prior to the fall business meeting to vote. The committee shall receive completed ballots or an electronic ballot report not less than 30 days prior to the fall business meeting. The slate should consist of a minimum of two and not exceed a maximum of four qualified candidates for each office. A voting member shall have the right to cast a ballot for one (1) qualified write-in candidate for each office in a specific election.

Discussion:

This change is needed to reduce the minimum voting time from 60 days to 30 days. Now that the elections are held electronically, 30 days is sufficient. If an election needs to be longer for any reason, this is still possible, but without the requirement that every voting period be open for 60 days.