**2017 AREA X FFA 0FFICER ELECTION PROCESS**

**CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY - ARTICLE V – STUDENT OFFICERS**

Section B: The elected student officers of the association shall be selected and nominated by each of the district associations. In compliance to policies and procedures of the association, each of these student officers will be given the opportunity to demonstrate FFA, agricultural education, parliamentary procedure and agricultural industry knowledge via a written or online exam, present their qualifications to an evaluation committee and appear before the delegates convened at the annual convention to deliver a campaign speech.

**POLICY ADOPTED**

1. Qualified candidates will complete and submit the on-line Area Officer application according to the instructions posted on-line. The date deadlines will be posted on the Area X website on or before January 1 of each year.

2. The applications will be reviewed by the advisor elections committee to determine degree and membership eligibility. The candidates and their advisor(s) will be notified via email of their candidate status prior to May 1.

3. All eligible candidates will be required to complete Phase I of the election process in conjunction with the *Area X Scholarship Review meeting*. This meeting is typically held on a Saturday *during the month of April* and prior to the annual Area X Convention.

Phase I will consist of the following components:

1. A written exam similar to the Senior Area FFA Knowledge LDE Quiz will be completed electronically. Candidates will have 1 hour to complete the exam.

2. A writing exercise addressing a relevant “hot topic” similar to those being utilized in the State FFA Officer election process. The essay will be completed electronically and scored independently by a panel of 3 adult judges. Candidates will have 1 hour to complete the essay.

3. A six-minute personal interview with the evaluation committee (the six *(seven)* current Area officers and six *(seven)* Ag teachers – one per District) utilizing competencies and rubrics similar to the State officer election process.

Scoring for Phase I:

1. The exam is weighted 85% of the 20% allocated for the agricultural industry knowledge.

2. The essay is weighted 15% of the 20% allocated for the agricultural industry knowledge.

3. The personal interview is weighted at 80%.

4. The cumulative scores will be tabulated for each candidate and ranked by District.

5. The top two candidates from each District will be designated as candidate finalists and will advance to the Area X Convention to complete Phase II of the election process.

4. The 12 *(14)* candidate finalists (2 per District) will complete Phase II on the day proceeding the Area X Convention.

Phase II will consist of the following components:

1. A 10 minute Personal Interview with the evaluation committee utilizing competencies and rubrics similar to the State officer election process.

2. A 10 minute Round Robin Stakeholder Conversation interview with the evaluation committee utilizing competencies and rubrics similar to the State officer election process.

Scoring for Phase II:

1. The raw interview scores will be tabulated and combined with the raw interview scores from Phase I to obtain a cumulative interview score. The cumulative score will be weighted at 30%.

5. The 12 *(14)* officer candidates will deliver a campaign speech not to exceed three minutes to the delegate body and will each be asked a thought question which has no time limit. The preliminary election will occur early in the first session of the Area Convention.

6. Each District will vote separately to select one Area Officer per District. In the Preliminary Election, the voting delegates will vote for one candidate. The vote totals will be weighted 50% and the test/essay score (20%) and interview score (30%) will be combined to determine the seven Area Officers. There is an implied nomination in this process.

7. The six *(seven)* Area Officers will be announced during the first session of the Area Convention and will deliver a one minute run-off speech at the conclusion of the announcement, followed by an immediate vote.

8. In the final election, the voting delegates will vote for two candidates. The vote totals will be weighted 50% and the test/essay score (20%) and interview score (30%) will be combined to determine the officer rankings according to Article V, Section F of the Area VII Constitution (Section F: The candidate earning the highest point total in the final round of voting shall be declared student officer president of the association, and the candidate receiving the second highest score total in the final runoff election shall be declared the first vice-president. The remaining officers shall be called vice-presidents, and shall assume the stations of the various other offices for ceremonial purposes at the annual convention and other meetings throughout the year.)

9. The announcement of the new Area President and First Vice President and installation of officers will occur at the conclusion of the afternoon convention session.