

Coordinating Committee Code of Ethics

The Coordinating Committee (hereinafter referred to as Co-Co) believes it to be appropriate and useful to adopt a Code of Ethics to clarify any uncertainty that may exist now or in the future. This Code of Ethics will address two issues:

- The authority of Co-Co or of individual Co-Co members, and
- General rules applicable to Co-Co's conduct of cooperative business

Authority: Co-Co recognizes its authority as being limited to overseeing the affairs of the cooperative in a manner deemed beneficial to the cooperative as a whole and to carry out other duties as provided by the bylaws and policies. Co-Co members recognize that the authority of Co-Co supersedes the authority of any individual officer or coordinating staff member.

Limits to Authority: Each Co-Co member recognizes that, except when Co-Co is in formal meeting, their authority is equal only to the rights and authority of any individual Co-Co member and that no individual may take action on behalf of the cooperative alone unless explicitly delegated that authority by action of Co-Co.

Disagreement: Co-Co agrees that while an individual Co-Co member may disagree with a policy or action adopted by the majority of Co-Co, they should support said policy or action as being the considered judgment of Co-Co. Such an individual Co-Co member shall have the right and duty to present further consideration in a manner consistent with Co-Co's practices and that Co-Co shall have the duty of reconsidering its actions appropriately.

Accountability: All Co-Co members will strive for transparency, equity and accountability in all their dealings and interactions with each other and the membership at large. All Co-Co members shall disclose any conflicts of interest and will refrain from voting on any issues related to that conflict; a conflict of interest is described as a situation in which financial or other personal considerations have the potential to compromise or bias professional judgment and objectivity. All Co-Co members recognize that it is important to avoid the appearance of impropriety.

Professional Conduct: Co-Co and each individual Co-Co member agree that all Co-Co members shall use the utmost of professional judgment and discretion in discussing disputed policies or issues. At all times, Co-Co members shall recognize that they are a representative of the cooperative and shall conduct themselves in a professional manner that fosters confidence and reflects positively on the cooperative. All Co-Co members will respect the rights of other Co-Co members to communicate their ideas free from interruption and without intimidation.