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Board member terms shall run from January 1 of the first year of the term to December 31 of the third year of the term, except that, for purposes of the term beginning on January 1, 1999, the terms of the six directors shall expire on December 31, 2000, the terms of another six directors on December 31, 2001, and the terms of the remaining six directors on December 31, 2002. Directors may be reappointed for subsequent terms pursuant to the initial nomination and appointment process described in paragraph (c) of this section. If a Board member vacates his or her seat prior to the completion of his or her term, the Administrator will notify the Wireline Competition Bureau of such vacancy, and a successor will be chosen pursuant to the nomination and appointment process described in paragraph (c) of this section.

(e) All meetings of the Administrator's Board of Directors shall be open to the public and held in Washington, D.C.

(f) Each member of the Administrator's Board of Directors shall be entitled to receive reimbursement for expenses directly incurred as a result of his or her participation on the Administrator's Board of Directors.

[63 FR 70573, Dec. 21, 1998, as amended at 67 FR 13226, Mar. 21, 2002]

§ 54.704 The Administrator's Chief Executive Officer.

(a) *Chief Executive Officer's functions.*

(1) The Chief Executive Officer shall have management responsibility for the administration of the federal universal service support mechanisms.

(2) The Chief Executive Officer shall have management responsibility for all employees of the Universal Service Administrative Company. The Chief Executive Officer may delegate such responsibility to heads of the divisions established in § 54.701(g).

(3) The Chief Executive Officer shall serve on the Administrator's Board of Directors as set forth in § 54.703(b) and on the Committees of the Board established under § 54.705.

(b) *Selection process for the Chief Executive Officer.* (1) The members of the Board of Directors of the Administrator shall nominate by consensus a Chief Executive Officer. The Board of

Directors shall submit the name of its nominee for Chief Executive Officer, along with relevant professional and biographical information about the nominee, to the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission.

(2) The Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission shall review the nomination submitted by the Administrator's Board of Directors. Subject to the Chairman's approval, the nominee shall be appointed as the Administrator's Chief Executive Officer.

(3) If the Board of Directors does not reach consensus on a nominee or fails to submit a nomination for the Chief Executive Officer, the Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission shall select a Chief Executive Officer.

[63 FR 70574, Dec. 21, 1998]

§ 54.705 Committees of the Administrator's Board of Directors.

(a) *Schools and Libraries Committee—*

(1) *Committee functions.* The Schools and Libraries Committee shall oversee the administration of the schools and libraries support mechanism by the Schools and Libraries Division. The Schools and Libraries Committee shall have the authority to make decisions concerning:

(i) How the Administrator projects demand for the schools and libraries support mechanism;

(ii) Development of applications and associated instructions as needed for the schools and libraries support mechanism;

(iii) Administration of the application process, including activities to ensure compliance with Federal Communications Commission rules and regulations;

(iv) Performance of outreach and education functions;

(v) Review of bills for services that are submitted by schools and libraries;

(vi)–(viii) [Reserved]

(ix) The classification of schools and libraries as urban or rural and the use of the discount matrix established in § 54.505(c) of this chapter to set the discount rate to be applied to services purchased by eligible schools and libraries;

(x) Performance of audits of beneficiaries under the schools and libraries support mechanism; and

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(xi) Development and implementation of other functions unique to the schools and libraries support mechanism.

(2) *Committee composition.* The Schools and Libraries Committee shall consist of the following members of the Administrator's Board of Directors:

- (i) Three school representatives;
- (ii) One library representative;
- (iii) One service provider representative;
- (iv) One at-large representative elected by the Administrator's Board of Directors; and
- (v) The Administrator's Chief Executive Officer.

(b) *Rural Health Care Committee—(1) Committee functions.* The Rural Health Care Committee shall oversee the administration of the rural health care support mechanism by the Rural Health Care Division. The Rural Health Care Committee shall have authority to make decisions concerning:

- (i) How the Administrator projects demand for the rural health care support mechanism;
- (ii) Development of applications and associated instructions as needed for the rural health care support mechanism;
- (iii) Administration of the application process, including activities to ensure compliance with Federal Communications Commission rules and regulations;
- (iv) Calculation of support levels under § 54.609;
- (v) Performance of outreach and education functions;
- (vi) Review of bills for services that are submitted by rural health care providers;
- (vii) Monitoring demand for the purpose of determining when the \$400 million cap has been reached;
- (viii) Performance of audits of beneficiaries under the rural health care support mechanism; and
- (ix) Development and implementation of other functions unique to the rural health care support mechanism.

(2) *Committee composition.* The Rural Health Care Committee shall consist of the following members of the Administrator's Board of Directors:

- (i) Two rural health care representatives;

(ii) One service provider representative;

(iii) Two at-large representatives elected by the Administrator's Board of Directors;

(iv) One State telecommunications regulator, one state consumer advocate; and

(v) The Administrator's Chief Executive Officer.

(c) *High Cost and Low Income Committee—(1) Committee functions.* The High Cost and Low Income Committee shall oversee the administration of the high cost and low income support mechanisms, the interstate access universal service support mechanism for price cap carriers described in subpart J of this part, and the interstate common line support mechanism for rate-of-return carriers described in subpart K of this part by the High Cost and Low Income Division. The High Cost and Low Income Committee shall have the authority to make decisions concerning:

- (i) How the Administrator projects demand for the high cost, low income, interstate access universal service, and interstate common line support mechanisms;
- (ii) Development of applications and associated instructions as needed for the high cost, low income, interstate access universal service, and interstate common line support mechanisms;
- (iii) Administration of the application process, including activities to ensure compliance with Federal Communications Commission rules and regulations;
- (iv) Performance of audits of beneficiaries under the high cost, low income, interstate access universal service and interstate common line support mechanisms; and
- (v) Development and implementation of other functions unique to the high cost, low income, interstate access universal service and interstate common line support mechanisms.

(d) *Binding Authority of Committees of the Board.* (1) Any action taken by the Committees of the Board established in paragraphs (a) through (c) of this section shall be binding on the Board of Directors of the Administrator, unless such action is presented for review to the Board by the Administrator's Chief

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Executive Officer and the Board disapproves of such action by a two-thirds vote of a quorum of directors, as defined in the Administrator's by-laws.

(2) The budgets prepared by each Committee shall be subject to Board review as part of the Administrator's combined budget. The Board shall not modify the budgets prepared by the Committees of the Board unless such modification is approved by a two-thirds vote of a quorum of the Board, as defined in the Administrator's by-laws.

[63 FR 70574, Dec. 21, 1998, as amended at 65 FR 38690, June 21, 2000; 65 FR 57739, Sept. 26, 2000; 66 FR 59728, Nov. 30, 2001; 79 FR 49204, Aug. 19, 2014]

§ 54.706 Contributions.

(a) Entities that provide interstate telecommunications to the public, or to such classes of users as to be effectively available to the public, for a fee will be considered telecommunications carriers providing interstate telecommunications services and must contribute to the universal service support mechanisms. Certain other providers of interstate telecommunications, such as payphone providers that are aggregators, providers of interstate telecommunications for a fee on a non-common carrier basis, and interconnected VoIP providers, also must contribute to the universal service support mechanisms. Interstate telecommunications include, but are not limited to:

- (1) Cellular telephone and paging services;
- (2) Mobile radio services;
- (3) Operator services;
- (4) Personal communications services (PCS);
- (5) Access to interexchange service;
- (6) Special access service;
- (7) WATS;
- (8) Toll-free service;
- (9) 900 service;
- (10) Message telephone service (MTS);
- (11) Private line service;
- (12) Telex;
- (13) Telegraph;
- (14) Video services;
- (15) Satellite service;
- (16) Resale of interstate services;
- (17) Payphone services; and
- (18) Interconnected VoIP services.

(19) Prepaid calling card providers.

(b) Except as provided in paragraph (c) of this section, every entity required to contribute to the federal universal service support mechanisms under paragraph (a) of this section shall contribute on the basis of its projected collected interstate and international end-user telecommunications revenues, net of projected contributions.

(c) Any entity required to contribute to the federal universal service support mechanisms whose projected collected interstate end-user telecommunications revenues comprise less than 12 percent of its combined projected collected interstate and international end-user telecommunications revenues shall contribute based only on such entity's projected collected interstate end-user telecommunications revenues, net of projected contributions. For purposes of this paragraph, an "entity" shall refer to the entity that is subject to the universal service reporting requirements in § 54.711 and shall include all of that entity's affiliated providers of interstate and international telecommunications and telecommunications services.

(d) Entities providing open video systems (OVS), cable leased access, or direct broadcast satellite (DBS) services are not required to contribute on the basis of revenues derived from those services. The following entities will not be required to contribute to universal service: non-profit health care providers; broadcasters; systems integrators that derive less than five percent of their systems integration revenues from the resale of telecommunications. Prepaid calling card providers are not required to contribute on the basis of revenues derived from prepaid calling cards sold by, to, or pursuant to contract with the Department of Defense (DoD) or a DoD entity.

(e) Any entity required to contribute to the federal universal service support mechanisms shall retain, for at least five years from the date of the contribution, all records that may be required to demonstrate to auditors that the contributions made were in compliance with the Commission's universal service rules. These records shall include without limitation the following: