

501.404 Director conflict of interest.

1. A conflict of interest transaction is a transaction with the cooperative in which a director has a direct or indirect interest. A director shall be deemed to have a conflict of interest in a matter concerning a transaction between the cooperative and another entity, if the director owns a twenty-five percent or greater ownership interest in the other entity. A conflict of interest transaction is not voidable by the cooperative solely because of the director's interest in the transaction if any one of the following is true:

a. The material facts of the transaction and the director's interest were disclosed or known to the board or a board committee and the board or committee authorized, approved, or ratified the transaction. For purposes of this paragraph, a conflict of interest transaction is authorized, approved, or ratified if it receives the affirmative vote of a majority of the directors on the board or on the committee who have no direct or indirect interest in the transaction, but a transaction may not be authorized, approved, or ratified under this section by a single director. If a majority of the directors who have no direct or indirect interest in the transaction vote to authorize, approve, or ratify the transaction, a quorum is present for the purpose of taking action under this paragraph. The presence of, or a vote cast by, a director with a direct or indirect interest in the transaction does not affect the validity of any action taken under this paragraph, if the transaction is otherwise authorized, approved, or ratified as provided in this paragraph.

b. The material facts of the transaction and the director's interest were disclosed or known to the members entitled to vote and they authorized, approved, or ratified the transaction. For purposes of this paragraph, a conflict of interest transaction is authorized, approved, or ratified if it receives a majority of the votes entitled to be counted under this paragraph. Voting interests owned by or voted under the control of a director who has a direct or indirect interest in the transaction, and voting interests owned by or voted under the control of an entity described in subsection 2, paragraph "a", shall not be counted in a vote of members to determine whether to authorize, approve, or ratify a conflict of interest transaction under this paragraph. The vote of those voting interests, however, is counted in determining whether the transaction is approved under other sections of this chapter. A majority of the votes, whether or not the members are present, that are entitled to be counted in a vote on the transaction under this paragraph constitutes a quorum for the purpose of taking action under this paragraph.

c. The transaction was fair to the cooperative.

2. For purposes of this section, a director of the cooperative has an indirect interest in a transaction if either:

a. Another entity in which the director has a material financial interest is a party to the transaction.

b. Another entity of which the director is a director, officer, or trustee is a party to the transaction and the transaction is or should be considered by the board.