

COUNCIL. THE MEMBERS SERVE WITHOUT COMPENSATION.

(O) THE BOARD SHALL MEET AS FREQUENTLY AS REQUIRED TO PERFORM ITS DUTIES BUT NO LESS THAN ONCE A MONTH.

(P) THE BOARD SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING DUTIES, POWERS AND AUTHORITY:

(1) TO RECEIVE AND INVESTIGATE COMPLAINTS AND INITIATE ITS OWN INVESTIGATION OF DECEPTIVE OR UNFAIR TRADE PRACTICES AGAINST CONSUMERS.

(2) TO REPORT TO APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES HAVING JURISDICTION OVER CONSUMER PROTECTION MATTERS ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING VIOLATION OF ANY CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW.

(3) TO PRESENT THE INTEREST OF CONSUMERS BEFORE ADMINISTRATIVE AND REGULATORY AGENCIES AND LEGISLATIVE BODIES.

(4) TO ASSIST, ADVISE AND COOPERATE WITH THE BETTER BUSINESS BUREAUS OF THE TRI-COUNTY AREA AND LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCIES AND OFFICIALS TO PROTECT AND PROMOTE THE INTEREST OF THE CONSUMER PUBLIC.

(5) TO ASSIST, DEVELOP AND CONDUCT PROGRAMS OF CONSUMER EDUCATION AND INFORMATION THROUGH PUBLIC HEARINGS, MEETINGS, PUBLICATIONS OR OTHER MATERIALS PREPARED FOR DISTRIBUTION TO THE CONSUMER PUBLIC OF THE TRI-COUNTY AREA.

(6) TO UNDERTAKE ACTIVITIES TO ENCOURAGE LOCAL BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY TO MAINTAIN HIGH STANDARDS OF HONESTY, FAIR BUSINESS PRACTICES AND PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITY IN THE PRODUCTION, PROMOTION AND SALE OF CONSUMER GOODS AND SERVICES AND IN THE EXTENSION OF CREDIT.

(7) TO EXERCISE AND PERFORM SUCH OTHER FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSES OR PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE WHICH MAY BE DEEMED NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE TO PROTECT AND PROMOTE THE WELFARE OF COUNTY CONSUMERS.

(8) TO RENDER ANNUAL REPORTS AS TO THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS FILED, THE NATURE THEREOF AND THE DISPOSITION THEREOF AND THE OTHER RELEVANT ACTIVITIES OF THE BOARD UNDERTAKEN DURING THE PREVIOUS YEAR TO THE TRI-COUNTY COUNCIL.

(Q) ANY CONSUMER SUBJECTED TO AN UNLAWFUL UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE TRADE PRACTICE MAY FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE BOARD IN WRITING STATING THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE