TO: County Presidents & Secretaries

FROM: Fargo Office

DATE: July 30, 2023

RE: Suggested Agenda for August, 2023

1. Call to Order
2. Reading of Minutes
3. Financial Report – Motion to “receive & file” the report
4. Issues Discussion – As we move toward our annual meeting this fall, it’s important to focus on policy development and how our stated policy is the backbone of our organization. Almost everything we do in Farm Bureau, either in this state or others, is based on improving the lives of our members through engagement in public policy. What our members set as policy at the local, state, and national level directs the organization. When our members become engaged in grassroots activities within their counties, or at the Statehouse, or even in Washington, DC, they, and the Farm Bureau staff are directed by what the membership collectively has placed in our policy. The local nature of our policy development process gives our entire organizational structure credibility. Politicians know the Farm Bureau network is different than every other special interest group because they know our beliefs are truly driven by the direction chosen by farmers and ranchers, large or small, from all across our membership base. Member engagement is the key to quality policy, and county board members should be actively engaged in policy development: Plan to attend your county PD meeting, your District Resolutions Meeting, and our NDFB Annual Meeting in November.
5. Report from NDFB Staff
6. Committee Reports – Please consider including non-board members on your committees.

(a) Resolutions, Membership, YF&R, Publicity, P&E

For YF&R, Districts 4, 8 and 9 term off. P&E, Districts 3, 4, and 6 term off. Counties in those districts should start asking for interested candidates and have them contact Joey Bailey 701-318-2252 for more information.

1. Annual Meeting Planning - It is the responsibility of every county Farm Bureau President to personally invite the State Representatives and Senators (who represent their county), to their county FB annual meeting. This is done through a personal phone call, and not a card or letter.
2. As a reminder we are asking counties to list up-to **FIVE** alternates on the Accrediting Certificate form. If not listed, we cannot seat them on the delegate floor at State Annual Meeting. Actual attendee names will need to be secured with Darlene by **November 13th, 2023.**
3. Old Business
4. New Business
5. Please submit Membership Reward Program Materials to the Fargo Office by December 1st, 2023. Step 1 may be turned in at any time before December 1st.
6. Respond to “Action Alert” requests on NDFB website and/or sent from NDFB Public Policy Staff.
7. Please assist in renewing unpaid Farm Bureau members in any way possible.
8. Form a nominating committee to fill vacant board seats.
9. 2023-24 YF&R Raffle tickets are here. Please promote YF&R raffle and sell tickets throughout your county. Contact Amy for tickets. Only 1,500 will be sold!
10. County Annual Meeting: date, time & place – Schedule speakers, FB promotional items. Invite District YF&R Rep., District P&E Rep. & State Board Directors.
11. Plan policy development meetings.
12. **Discuss what to donate for the Live Auction at the State Annual Meeting.**
13. Deadline for county Farm Bureaus to submit resolutions to NDFB Bismarck office is one week prior to district resolutions meeting.
14. County Farm Bureaus are encouraged to start planning their policy development process. County resolutions need to be submitted to the Bismarck office one week before their district resolution meeting is held. District resolution meeting schedule can be found at <https://www.ndfb.org/events/>

**Upcoming Events**

July 31 County Farm Bureau grant applications due

Aug 5 District 7, 8, & 9 YFR Trail Ride and Social – Buffalo Gap Ranch

Sept 1 Photo Contest Deadline

Nov 17, 18 NDFB State Annual Meeting – Fargo

Jan 19-24 AFBF Convention – Salt Lake City, UT

Feb 2, 3 NDFB Farm and Ranch Conference - Fargo

Fall Route 1000 classes are being scheduled. Information about the classes can be found here: <https://www.ndfb.org/events/tag/?tag=tag_events_route_1000>