

June 2020



Farm Service Agency **Electronic News Service**

BULLETIN

GovDelivery

Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)

- [Eligibility for Nominations for the 2020 County Committee Elections](#)
- [Coronavirus Food Assistance Program \(CFAP\)](#)
- [Reminder to FSA Direct and Guaranteed Borrowers with Real Estate Security](#)

Natrona and Converse County FSA Updates

Natrona/Converse County FSA Office

5880 Enterprise Drive, Suite 100
Casper, WY 82609 Phone: 307-261-5436 Fax: 855-415-3428

County Executive Director:
Deena R. McDaniels

Farm Loan Manager:
Dixie Mount

Program Technician:
Wanda K. McLean

County Committee:
Kem C. Nicolaysen, Chairman
Josh Moore, Vice Chairman
Lee Moore, Member
Heather Harlan, Member
William Kossert, Member

Next County Committee Meeting: July 28, 2020 Time:1:00pm

Eligibility for Nominations for the 2020 County Committee Elections

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA and allow grassroots input and local administration of federal farm programs.

Committees are comprised of locally elected agricultural producers responsible for the fair and equitable administration of FSA farm programs in their counties. Committee members are accountable to the Secretary of Agriculture. If elected, members become part of a local decision making and farm program delivery process.

A county committee is composed of three to 11 elected members from local administrative areas (LAA). Each member serves a three-year term. To be eligible for nomination and hold office as a committee member or alternate, a person must fulfill each of the following requirements: (1) be a producer with an interest in farming or ranching operations, (2) participate or cooperate in any FSA program provided for by law, (3) be a U.S. citizen, (4) be of legal voting age, (5) meet the basic eligibility requirements, and (6) reside in the county or multi-county jurisdiction in which they will be serving.

All nomination forms for the 2020 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA service center by Aug. 1, 2020. For more information on FSA county committee elections and appointments, refer to the FSA fact sheet:

Eligibility to Vote and Hold Office as a COC Member available online at: www.fsa.usda.gov/elections.

Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP)

The Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP) is a new program that came out of the CARES Act funding to assist agricultural producers that have suffered or are expected to suffer price losses due to the COVID-19 virus. There are program payments for livestock and for commodities.

FSA will accept applications through August 28, 2020. Through CFAP, USDA is making available \$16 billion in financial assistance to producers of agricultural commodities who have suffered a five-percent-or-greater price decline due to COVID-19 and face additional significant marketing costs as a result of lower demand, surplus production, and disruptions to shipping patterns and the orderly marketing of commodities.

This is NOT a first apply, first pay program. The National Office has assured us that every eligible producer will receive a payment.

In order to do this, producers will receive 80 percent of their maximum total payment upon approval of the application. The remaining portion of the payment, not to exceed the payment limit, will be paid at a later date nationwide, as funds remain available.

Who is Eligible: An eligible applicant is any individual or entity with ownership risk of identified commodities as of January 15, 2020 and/or April 16- May 14, 2020 and were subject to price risk. **Price risk is defined as any production, sales, and/or inventory that is not subject to an agreed-upon price in the future through a forward contract, agreement, or similar binding document.** The applicant and/or entity members must either be a US citizen, resident alien, or foreign person that meets the foreign person rules; and meets all eligibility requirements. Eligible commodities are malting barley, canola, corn, upland cotton, millet, oats, sorghum, soybeans, sunflowers, Durum wheat, Hard Red Spring Wheat, and wool.

Eligible livestock include feeder cattle less than 600 pounds, feeder cattle over 600 pounds, slaughter cattle-fed cattle, slaughter cattle- mature cattle, all other cattle, pigs less than 120 pounds, hogs over 120 pounds, and all sheep less than 2 years old. To clarify, feeder cattle are cattle that either weigh less than 600 pounds or more than 600 pounds and less than 1400 pounds on January 15, 2020 and intended for slaughter. Slaughter cattle-fed cattle are cattle weight 1400 pounds and are intended for slaughter. Slaughter cattle-mature cattle means any culled cattle used for breeding purposes, but which were removed from breeding inventory and are intended for slaughter. All other cattle mean commercially raised or maintained cattle not meeting the definition of another category of cattle.

In short:

- you must have owned the livestock on January 15, 2020.
- Did you sell any livestock between January 15 and April 15, 2020?
- What is your highest number of livestock in inventory between April 16 and May 14, 2020?

Please contact our office for an appointment. We are handling a very heavy workload at this time so please leave a message or contact the national help desk at 877-508-8364. All forms and information about the program can be found at ***farmers.gov/cfap***.

Reminder to FSA Direct and Guaranteed Borrowers with Real Estate Security

Farm Service Agency would like to remind farm loan borrowers who have pledged real estate as security for their loans, of key items for maintaining loan collateral. It is required that borrowers must obtain prior consent, or approval, by either FSA, for direct loans, or by a guaranteed lender, for any transaction affecting real estate security. Examples of these transactions include, but are not limited to:

- Leases of any kind;
- Easements of any kind;
- Subordinations;
- Partial releases, and
- Sales

Failure to meet or follow the requirements set forth in the loan agreement, promissory note, and other security instruments could lead to nonmonetary default which could jeopardize your current and future loans.

It is critical that borrowers keep an open line of communication with their FSA loan staff or guaranteed lender when it comes to changes in their operation. For more information on borrower responsibilities, read [Your FSA Farm Loan Compass](#).

Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact [Deena R. McDaniels](#) at [307-261-5436](#) extension 2 or Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (Toll-free Customer Service), (800) 877-8339 (Local or Federal relay), (866) 377-8642 (Relay voice users).