



SIERRA COUNTY FSA NEWS

**JULY
2009**

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY (FSA)**



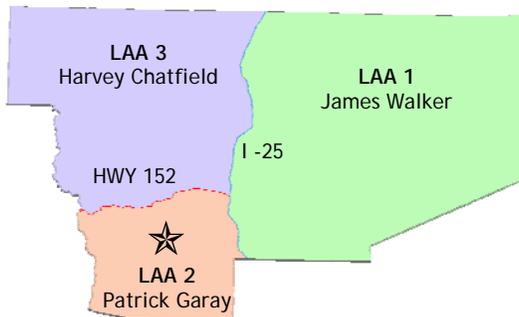
County Committee Elections

We are now accepting nominations for the FSA County Committee. The nomination period continues through August 3, 2009. County committees are an important link between the farm community and the U.S. Department of Agriculture and give landowners, farmers and ranchers a better chance of having their opinions and ideas heard. They help deliver farm programs at the local level and work to make FSA agricultural programs serve the needs of local producers.

To be eligible to serve on a FSA county committee, a person must participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA, be eligible to vote in a county committee election and reside in the local administrative area in which the person is a candidate.

Producers may nominate themselves or others, and organizations representing minorities and women may also nominate candidates. To become a candidate, an eligible individual must sign the nomination form, FSA-669A. Nomination forms for the 2009 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on Aug. 3, 2009.

The Sierra County Committee is composed of three elected members from local administrative areas (LAA), each member serving a 3 year term. One seat is up for election each year. This year is LAA #2 currently being represented by Mr. Patrick Garay. LAA #2 is all Ag producers residing in Sierra County south of the Hillsboro Highway (Hwy 90) and west of I-25. (see illustration)



Information/Outreach Meeting

You are invited to attend an informative meeting to be held at the Truth or Consequences FSA conference room located at 2101 Broadway on Thursday, July 23, 2009 from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM. Rural Development (RD), Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), and Farm Service Agency will be present giving information on their respective programs. Persons with disabilities who require accommodations to attend or participate in this meeting should contact Leah Walsh, Farm Loan Manager at (575)522-8775 ext. 110 by July 20, 2009.

NAP Coverage Deadlines

September 1 is the deadline to purchase 2009 NAP Coverage for **Onions**

September 30 is the deadline to purchase 2009 NAP Coverage for **Barley, Oats, Triticale, and Wheat**

County Committee Election Calendar

June 15, 2006: Nomination period began. Nomination forms (FSA-669A) and other valuable information about FSA county committee elections are available online at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections>.

August 3, 2006: Last day to file nomination forms at the USDA Service Center.

November 6, 2006: Ballots mailed to eligible voters.

December 7, 2006: Last day to return voted ballots to the USDA Service Center.

January 1, 2007: Elected committee members take office.

County Committee:

Patrick Garay, Chairman
Harvey Chatfield, Vice-Chairman
James Walker, Member
Dolores Ortega, COC Advisor

Office Staff:

Eduardo Rey Flores, County Executive Director
Jordanna L. Gurule, Program Technician

County Meetings:

April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14,
August 11, September 8, October 13,
November 10, December 8

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday
8:00 am - 4:30 pm
2101 S. Broadway, T or C, NM 87901
Phone #: (505) 894-2563 Fax #: (505) 894-2165
Phone: (505) 894-2563

Direct & Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) Deadline

The deadline to signup for the 2009 Direct and Counter-Cyclical Payment (DCP) Program is **August 14, 2009**. The **August 14, 2009** deadline is mandatory for all participants. Late-filed applications will not be accepted.

The DCP Program provides payments to eligible producers on farms enrolled through the 2012 crop year. There are two types of payments, direct and counter-cyclical. The direct payments are guaranteed by the program and the counter-cyclical payments are based on market conditions after the crop has been harvested. Advance direct payments of 22% may be requested at the time of enrollment.

All owners and operators who will share in the DCP payments on the farm must sign the CCC-509 by **August 14, 2009** of the contract period.

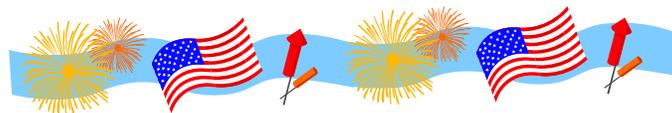
If you have any questions about the program or would like to set up an appointment to enroll in the program please give our office a call.

Crop Certification Deadline

A report of acreage must be filed to verify the existence of the crop and record the number of acres covered by the application. Producers are required to file FSA-578, Acreage Certification, by **July 15, 2009**. Prevented planted acreage is required to be submitted no later than 15 calendar days after the planting date for the applicable crop. Failed acreage shall be filed before the disposition of the crop. Filing an accurate and timely acreage report for all crops and land uses, including failed acreage, can prevent loss of benefits for FSA programs. If you have any questions please call this office at (575) 894-2563.

Holidays

This office will be closed July 4, 2009 in observance of Independence Day. Happy Holidays!!



The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited basis apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communications of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact the USDA's target center at (202)720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call (202)720-5964 (voice or TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Special accommodations will be made, upon request, for individuals with disabilities, vision impairment or hearing impairment. If special accommodations are required, please call the Farm Service Agency county office staff, and we will be happy to make any arrangements that are necessary.