



County Committee Elections

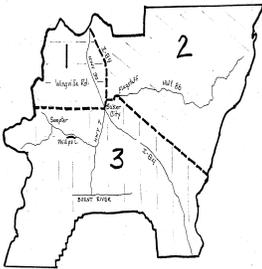
An Overview for Candidates and Voters

Baker County

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Hours
Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.



United States
Department of Agriculture

It's county committee election time, and this special publication is your guide to the 2010 election.

Since this only happens once a year, here is an election refresher. For election purposes, counties are divided into *local administrative areas*, or LAAs. Each LAA contributes one producer to serve a three-year term on the Farm Service Agency county committee.

Baker County is divided into 3 LAAs.

Each year, an election is held in an LAA to replace the committee member whose three-year term is expiring. In counties with three LAAs, one seat is up for election. In combined counties in some years, two seats may be up for election.

The three steps in the election process are: the call for nominations, the election and installing the new committee members.

Baker County Committee Elections LAA #1		
County	LAA	Town
Baker	1	Baker City
Baker	1	Haines

Election Timetable

- June 15 Nomination period begins.
- Aug. 2 Deadline to submit nomination forms.
- Nov. 5 Ballots are mailed to eligible voters.
- Dec. 6 Deadline to return completed ballots to FSA county office.
- Jan. 1, 2010 New committee members and alternates are installed.

Nominations Open June 15

Nominations for candidates to run for the Farm Service Agency county committee election representing producers in a Local

Administrative Area will be accepted from June 15 through Aug. 2, 2010. Producers who are residents in the LAA holding the election and who participate or cooperate in an FSA program *and* are of *legal voting age* may be nominated to serve on the county committee.

Individuals may nominate themselves or others as candidates. Also, organizations representing socially disadvantaged minorities and women farmers or ranchers may also nominate candidates.

A nomination form, FSA-669A, is included in this newsletter. Additional forms and details may be picked up at the county office or downloaded from the FSA Web site. Simply go to <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

Eligible voters can nominate as many candidates as they wish.

To be valid, the nomination form must be signed by the person being nominated, indicating agreement to serve if elected, and returned to the FSA county office by the close of business on Aug. 2, or postmarked by midnight Aug. 2.

Election

The county committee election is held by mail. Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters beginning Nov. 5, and must be returned to the FSA county office by the close of business on Dec. 6, or postmarked by midnight Dec. 6, 2010.

Potential CRP Signup

There is a high probability that there will be a Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) signup period before the end of September 30, 2010. FSA encourage producers to pay attention to future news releases, newsletters and post card notices.

Disaster Signup Approved

An excess amount of rain and runoff has caused producers in Baker County to suffer from the effects of flooding. Farms and ranches that experienced disaster conditions may be eligible for cost-share assistance under the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP).

A producer qualifying for ECP assistance may receive cost shares up to 75 percent of the cost of installing eligible practices and measures. Limited resource producers may receive up to 90 percent cost share.

Approved practices and measures include:

- EC1 Removing Debris From Farmland
- EC2 Grading, Shaping, Releveling, or Similar Measures
- EC3 Restoring Permanent Fences
- EC4 Restoring Conservation Structures and Other Installations

Producers who have experienced damages from the excess rains and runoff requiring outside assistance are encouraged to contact the Baker County FSA office. Requests for assistance will be accepted at FSA County Office from June 28 to July 27. Contact Trent or Joey @ 523-7121 x2 to set up an appointment to be eligible for cost shares, practices shall not be started until a request has first been filed at the FSA County Office and an onsite inspection of the problem area has been made by COC or its representative. COC will review the inspection findings when considering the request for cost shares.

Loss of Crops

If you suffer crop losses due to prevented planting or low yields due to damaging weather, report those losses to the office within 15 days of the date the disaster event occurred or the loss is noticeable. This is a requirement under certain FSA programs. Any questions please contact Dyann or Trent.

LOAN DEFICIENCY PAYMENTS (LDP'S)

All producers of wheat and feed grains are eligible for LDPs regardless of participation in the Direct & Counter Cyclical Program. The LDP rate is the difference between the terminal price and the county loan rate, taking into consideration differentials for transportation cost. Payment rates change daily.

You must have beneficial interest in the crop when you apply for an LDP. If you will be delivering the crop directly from the field to the buyer, you must **complete a CCC-633ez page 1 PRIOR to harvesting**. This also applies to commodities that are delivered directly from the field to the feedlot for immediate feeding. Your LDP payment rate will be the rate in effect the date of delivery or feeding.

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

Do you have waterways on your property that could be improved with a vegetative cover? Are there eroded areas close to water sources like rivers and streams? Would you like to improve the area to prevent runoff from reaching the waterways, improve wildlife habitat and remove noxious weeds? The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) provides incentives and annual rental payments to install buffers and riparian areas to assist landowners with those concerns. CREP will reimburse you for retiring cropland or pastureland, surrounding streams, ponds and rivers, from agricultural production.

FSA-669A (03-08-06)	U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency
<h2 style="margin: 0;">NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION</h2>	

1. NAME OF NOMINEE <i>(Type or print Nominee's Full Name)</i>	TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE
2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE	
3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION <i>I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.</i>	5. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE <i>(MM-DD-YYYY)</i>
	6A. COUNTY
	6B. LAA NO.
4A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE	7. STATE
4B. DATE <i>(MM-DD-YYYY)</i>	DATE OF ELECTION IS 1st MONDAY OF DECEMBER OF EACH CALENDAR YEAR

8. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE

VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES: The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.

ETHNICITY <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino	RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable) <input type="checkbox"/> America Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	GENDER <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
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INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM

- Complete the form as follows:
- ITEM 1** Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be:
 - A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election.
 - B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member.
 - C. Willing to serve if elected.
 - ITEM 2** Enter the nominee's current address.
 - ITEM 3** The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the settling of tied votes.
 - ITEM 4** The nominee must sign and date.
 - ITEM 8** Completing this item is voluntary.

ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 3.

NOTE: *The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a) and the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, as amended. The authority for requesting the following information is 7 CFR Part 7. The information will be used to obtain nominees for County FSA Committee.*

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 5 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.

Who Can Vote

Agricultural producers of legal voting age can vote if they participate or cooperate in any FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the farming operations on an entire farm can also vote.

No one can be denied the right to vote because of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation or marital or family status.

If you are unsure of your eligibility, contact the staff at the county office.

- Not have been:
 - Removed or disqualified from the office of county committee member, alternate or employee
 - Removed for cause from any public office or have been convicted of fraud, larceny, embezzlement or any other felony
 - Dishonorably discharged from any branch of the armed services.

For more information about county committee elections, contact the county office staff.

Who Can Hold Office

To hold office as a county committee member, a person must meet the basic eligibility criteria.

- Participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA
- Be eligible to vote in a county committee election
- Reside in the LAA in which the person is a candidate

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its program and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.