

**SECRETARY'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ON
BEGINNING FARMERS AND RANCHERS
November 2005 – November 2007**

- Javannah Hill-Moore of Ridgeland, Miss. Hill-Moore is an employee with USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) specializing in communications and outreach.
- Ray Ellenberger of Belleville, Wis. Ellenberger oversees FSA agricultural lending in Wisconsin and is a member of several groups involved in assisting beginning farmers.
- Marian Beethe of Tecumseh, Neb. Beethe heads a beginning farmer program for the Nebraska Department of Agriculture.
- Jeffrey Ward of Windsor Heights, Iowa. Ward is the Executive Director of the Iowa Agricultural Development Authority and the President of the National Council of State Agricultural Finance Programs.
- Terry Barta of Smith Center, Kan. Barta is employed by Smith County State Bank and Trust Company and provides agricultural lending and farm management services for the institution's trust division.
- Todd Lang of Strasburg, N.D. Lang is president of Strasburg State Bank .
- Traci Bruckner of Osmond, Neb. Bruckner assists in directing policy at the Center for Rural Affairs and also is involved in farming.
- Catherine Twohig of Montevideo, Minn. Twohig is director of the Farm Beginnings Program at the Land Stewardship Project.
- Ray Mobley of Tallahassee, Fla. Mobley is an extension veterinarian at Florida A&M University.
- Mary Peabody of Burlington, Vt. Peabody is an Associate Professor at the University of Vermont Extension and is the Director of the Women's Agricultural Network.
- Janie Hipp of Fayetteville, Ark. Hipp is an Associate Professor of Agricultural Law at the University of Arkansas.

- Richard Cates, Jr. of Spring Green, Wis. Cates directs a school for beginning dairy farmers at the University of Wisconsin.
- John Hays of Alexandria, Va. Hays is employed by the Farm Credit Council, an organization designed to enhance the competitive environment of the Farm Credit System. His focus is policy analysis and development.
- Omar Garza of Santa Elena, Texas. Garza is employed by the University of Texas Pan American. He assists Hispanic agricultural producers obtain access to USDA programs.
- Linda Prentiss of Camp Nelson, Calif. Prentiss owns and operates a cattle ranch.
- Trenton McKnight of Throckmorton, Texas. McKnight is a rancher and banker.
- Marion Bowlan of Manheim, Pa. Bowlan is the Executive Director of Pennsylvania Farm Link, a nonprofit organization dedicated to creating farming opportunities for the next generation. She also owns and operates a farm.
- Maria Moreira of Lancaster, Mass. Moreira is a dairy farmer and cheese maker. She has mentored beginning farmers for 21 years.
- Timothy Harlow of Mylo, N.D. Harlow is an outreach liaison for the National Tribal Development Association, an organization that promotes economic opportunities for American Indians. He also operates a fruit and vegetable farm.
- Lisa Koester of Wadesville, Ind. Koester is part owner of Koester Bros. Farms, Inc., and is a member of the American Farm Bureau Young Farmer and Rancher Committee.