



Farm Service Agency

NEWSLETTER

Fremont County

508 N Broadway Ave, Riverton, WY 82501

June 2019

Farm Service Agency

307-856-7524 phone

855-415-3439 fax

www.fsa.usda.gov

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday

8:00 am – 4:30 pm

Farm Loan Staff

Brian Harrell, FLM

Mercedes Jauregui, FLO

Carol Zogata, PT

FSA Staff

Annie Bryce, CED

Lauren Evans, PT

County Committee

Will O'Neal

Jim Hellyer

Stan Horton

Monthly Message From Your Local County Office

We know summer is a busy time for everyone, but we would like to remind you to come in to the office to complete your annual crop report. Crop reports are required to participate in most programs including but not limited to crop insurance policies and Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) or Price Loss Coverage (PLC). The deadline for reporting spring seeded crops is **July 15th**.

Another important date coming up is the County Committee (COC) election nomination deadline, **August 1st**. The Lander and Dubois Local Administrative Area (LAA3) is up for election this year. The COC election is a three-year term. Members can serve three consecutive three-year terms if elected to do so. Attached is a nomination form, but you can also pick one up in the office. James Hellyer is the incumbent and he is finishing up his first term.

Beginning Farmer Loans

FSA assists beginning farmers to finance agricultural enterprises. Under these designated farm loan programs, FSA can provide financing to eligible applicants through either direct or guaranteed loans. FSA defines a beginning farmer as a person who:

- Has operated a farm for not more than 10 years
- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm
- Agrees to participate in a loan assessment, borrower training and financial management program sponsored by FSA
- Does not own a farm in excess of 30 percent of the county's average size farm.

Additional program information, loan applications, and other materials are available at your local USDA Service Center. You may also visit www.fsa.usda.gov.

****DEADLINES****

July 15th

August 1st

Ongoing

Crop Reporting

COC Election Nomination Deadline

LIP, ELAP, NAP Notify County Office Immediately of Livestock or Crop Losses

If you are not receiving our newsletters and updates electronically, now is the time to sign up. The paper newsletters will soon be gone so it is vitally important that you sign up for GovDelivery. Contact this office to find out how you can subscribe to [GovDelivery](http://www.fsa.usda.gov) or subscribe online at: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/subscribe>. This may soon be our only option of advertising our programs.

Administrative Policy Reminders

Firearms and Dangerous Weapons Forbidden In Federal Facilities

USDA Service Centers and Farm Service Agency Offices are Off Limits for Firearms

This is an important reminder to all customers and patrons of USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices and USDA Service Centers statewide that **firearms are forbidden (even with a permit/license) in Federal Buildings**. A Federal Building by definition is any building owned, leased or rented by the Federal Government, where Federal employees are regularly present for the purpose of performing their official duties.

The items prohibited in Federal facilities include any item prohibited by any applicable Federal, State, local, and tribal law and/or ordinance, as well as firearms, dangerous weapons, explosives, or other destructive devices (including their individual parts or components) designed, redesigned, used, intended for use, or readily converted to cause injury, death, or property damage. Possession of firearms and dangerous weapons in Federal facilities as outlined above is a crime punishable by fines and imprisonment.

Civil Rights/Discrimination Complaint Process

As a participant or applicant for programs or activities operated or sponsored by USDA you have the right to be treated fairly. If you believe you have been discriminated against because of your race, color, national origin, gender, age, religion, disability, or marital or familial status, you may file a discrimination complaint. The complaint should be filed with the USDA Office of Civil Rights within 180 days of the date you became aware of the alleged discrimination. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326W, 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, employer and lender. A complaint must be filed within 180 calendar days from the date the complainant knew, or should have known, of the alleged discrimination.

Nondiscrimination Statement

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs 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 a 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, employer and lender.

Controlled Substance

Program participants convicted under federal or state law of any planting, cultivating, growing, producing, harvesting or storing a controlled substance are ineligible for program payments and benefits. If convicted of one of these offenses, the program participant shall be ineligible during that crop year and the four succeeding crop years for price support loans, loan deficiency payments, market loan gains, storage payments, farm facility loans, Non-insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program payments or disaster payments.

Program participants convicted of any federal or state offense consisting of the distribution (trafficking) of a controlled substance, at the discretion of the court, may be determined ineligible for any or all program payments and benefits:

- for up to 5 years after the first conviction
- for up to 10 years after the second conviction
- permanently for a third or subsequent conviction

Program participants convicted of federal or state offense for the possession of a controlled substance shall be ineligible, at the discretion of the court, for any or all program benefits, as follows:

- up to 1 year upon the first conviction
- up to 5 years after a second or subsequent conviction

Foreign Buyers Notification

The Agricultural Foreign Investment Disclosure Act (AFIDA) requires all foreign owners of U.S. agricultural land to report their holdings to the Secretary of Agriculture. Foreign persons who have purchased or sold agricultural land in the county are required to report the transaction to FSA within 90 days of the closing. Failure to submit the AFIDA form could result in civil penalties of up to 25 percent of the fair market value of the property. County government offices, realtors, attorneys and others involved in real estate transactions are reminded to notify foreign investors of these reporting requirements.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Farm Service Agency

NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION

1. NAME OF NOMINEE (Type or Print Nominee's Full Name)		TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE	
		4. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE RECEIVED	
2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE		5. COUNTY	
		6. LAA	
		7. STATE	
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>		8. NOMINATOR'S CERTIFICATION: <i>If this nomination is by other than self, the following eligible voter or representative of a community based organization hereby nominates the above-named person to be a candidate in the next County FSA Committee election for the county.</i>	
☐ I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.			
☐ I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.			
3A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE	3B. DATE	8A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR	8B. DATE
☐ Check here if nominee is a write-in candidate.			
9. 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		RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable)	
☐ Hispanic or Latino		☐ American Indian or Alaska Native	
☐ Not Hispanic or Latino		☐ Black or African-American	
		☐ Asian	
		☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	
		☐ White	
		☐ Male	
		☐ Female	
INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM			
Complete the form as follows: Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be:			
ITEM 1			
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.			
ITEMS 3A & 3B			
The nominee must sign and date.			
ITEMS 3A & 8B			
The nominator must sign and date. (If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required)			
ITEM 9			
Completing this item is voluntary.			
ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 1, 2019.			
NOTE: The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - et. amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is 7 CFR Part 7 and the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-79). The information will be used to obtain nominees for election to the County FSA Committee. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and non-governmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in the System of Records Notice for County Personnel Records, USDA-FSA-6. Providing the nominee name, address, signature/date and nominator signature/date (when applicable) information is voluntary, but necessary for processing the form. Failure to furnish the nominee name, address, signature/date and nominator signature/date (when applicable) information will result in a determination of ineligibility for nomination for election to the 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 10 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. The provision of appropriate criminal and civil fraud, privacy, and other statutes may be applicable to the information provided. RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.			

This form is available electronically.

FSA-669A
(04-09-19)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Farm Service AgencyForm Approved - OMB No. 0560-0229
OMB Expiration Date: 01/31/2021

NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION

This form allows individuals to nominate themselves or any other person as a candidate. If additional forms are needed, this one may be copied or may be obtained at the County FSA Office or obtained electronically at <http://www.sc.egov.usda.gov>. Each form submitted must be:

- A. Limited to one nominee.
- B. Signed and dated by the nominee in Item 3. Nominee must sign if willing to have his/her name placed on the ballot and agrees to serve if elected.

Note: Name shown on ballot will appear exactly the same as in Agency records.

- C. Delivered to the County FSA Office or postmarked no later than August 1, 2019.
- D. Signed and dated as a write-in candidate if elected as a member and willing to serve on the COC.

The County FSA Committee is responsible for reviewing each form to determine the eligibility of nominees. A person who is nominated on this form and is found ineligible will be so notified and have an opportunity to file a challenge.

Persons nominated should actively participate in the operation of a farm or ranch and be well qualified for committee work. A producer is eligible to be a County FSA committee member if the producer resides in the Local Administrative Area (LAA) in which the election is to be held and is eligible to vote.

This is a non-salary public service position. A small stipend is provided to offset expenses.

Federal regulations may prohibit County FSA Committee members from holding certain positions in some farm, commodity, and political organizations if such positions pose a conflict of interest with FSA duties. The positions include functional offices such as president, vice president, secretary, or treasurer, and positions on boards or executive committees. Conflict of interest restrictions also apply to employees, operators, managers, and majority owners of tobacco warehouses. Questions concerning eligibility should be directed to the County FSA Office.

The duties of County FSA Committee members include:

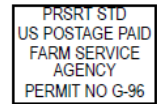
- A. Administering farm program activities conducted by the County FSA Office.
- B. Informing farmers of the purpose and provisions of the FSA programs.
- C. Keeping the State FSA Committee informed of LAA conditions.
- D. Monitoring changes in farm programs.
- E. Participating in county meetings as necessary.
- F. Performing other duties as assigned by the State FSA Committee.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. In any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-3333. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at <http://www.usda.gov/farmers> or at any USDA office. For more information on complaint options, please call USDA's Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights at (866) 632-9892. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by (1) mail, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax, (202) 680-7442; or (3) email, programpolicies@usda.gov. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Fremont County FSA Office
508 N Broadway Ave
Riverton, WY 82501



Nominations Open for the 2019 County Committee Elections

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Farm Service Agency (FSA) encourages all farmers, ranchers, and FSA program participants to take part in the Fremont County Committee election nomination process.

FSA's 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. One-third of the seats on these committees are open for election each year.

County Committees may have an appointed advisor to further represent the local interests of underserved farmers and ranchers. Underserved producers are beginning, women and other minority farmers and ranchers and landowners and/or operators who have limited resources.

All nomination forms for the 2019 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA service center by **August 1, 2019**. 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: fsa.usda.gov/elections.

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).