

KFB Annual Meeting agenda

Friday, November 9

KFB state headquarters

**7am Breakfast
Registration**

8am General Session: Chad Hymas

9:15am Concurrent workshops

- *Lights, Camera, Ag Advocacy Action!* by Kelly Lenz, Farm Director, WIBW Radio/Kansas Agriculture Network
- *Ani-men and Ani-women: How the Changing Face of Animals Will Change the Face of Agriculture* by Wes Jamison, PhD; Research Fellow, Univ. of Florida College of Journalism and Communications
- *The Challenges of Healthcare in Rural Kansas* by Rep. Jeff Colyer, 48th District
- *Best of the Best* by Jane Eckert, Eckert AgriMarketing
- *Bio-Energy Update*, by Mark Nelson, KFB Director of Commodities
- *Today's Consumers: Why Don't They Understand?* by Betty Wolanyk, Director, Education and Research, AFBF Foundation for Agriculture

10:30am Concurrent workshops

- *Cutting Edge Technology in Ag Education* by Brad Stefanoni, Director of Partnerships, Southeast Kansas Education Service Center and Ron Betzen, KFB District Administrator
- *Ani-men and Ani-women: How the Changing Face of Animals Will Change the Face of Agriculture* by Wes Jamison, PhD; Research Fellow, Univ. of Florida College of Journalism and Communications
- *Kansas Transportation Plan and Impacts for Agriculture* by Deb Miller, Secretary of Transportation, KDOT
- *Intensive Groundwater Use Control Areas (IGUCA): The What, Where, and Why of IGUCAs* by Steve Swaffar and Kent Askren, KFB

- *Emergency Animal Disease Preparedness* by George Teagarden, Livestock Commissioner, Ks. Animal Health Dept.
- *Educating About Agriculture Now Includes Addressing Misconceptions* by Betty Wolanyk, Director, Education and Research, AFBF Foundation for Agriculture

11:40am Lunch

1pm General Session: Steve Baccus, KFB President
Keynote: Don Macke, nationally recognized rural development leader

2:45pm Concurrent workshops

- *Keys to Success Panel*
- *Wind Development: One Rancher's Experience* by Pete Ferrell
- *Providing the Farm Experience: AgriTourism That Pays Off* by Jane Eckert, Eckert AgriMarketing
- *Intensive Groundwater Use Control Areas (IGUCA): The What, Where, and Why of IGUCAs* by Steve Swaffar and Kent Askren, KFB
- *Making the Beef Verification Solution Program Work for Your Operation* by Kelly Muir, BVS Program Coordinator
- *New Motor Carrier Regulations for Farmers and Ranchers* by Mike Hoeme, Director, Transportation Division, Kansas Corporation Commission

K-State Student Union

6:30pm Recognition and awards banquet and ceremony

9pm District caucuses

Saturday, November 10

KFB state headquarters

7am Coffee and juice available

8:10am Business session

Noon Voting Delegate lunch

1pm Business session resumes

Kansas Farm Bureau

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Nov. 9-10 in Manhattan

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Farm Leader Letter is a publication of Kansas Farm Bureau. It is received in the homes of nearly 40,000 farmers and ranchers who are dedicated to agriculture and rural Kansas.

Kansas Farm Bureau represents grassroots agriculture. Established in 1919, this non-profit advocacy organization supports farm families who earn their living in a changing industry.

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Farm Leader Letter

A publication of Kansas Farm Bureau®

KFB's 89th Annual Meeting: Nov. 9-10

On Nov. 9 and 10, nearly 1,000 Farm Bureau members from across Kansas will trek to Manhattan and tackle the business of setting policy – for the 89th year in a row.

The meeting's theme, *Building On Our Roots*, sets the stage as members build the roadmap for Farm Bureau's public policy staff to take to Topeka and Washington, D.C. The annual meeting includes many opportunities for education and fellowship, but for most members, the policy debate is one they look forward to all year. That's because Farm Bureau's policy process starts with you, the member, and doesn't end until the closing gavel of Saturday's business session.



This year, more than 400 voting delegates will elect KFB's vice president, state board members from the odd-numbered districts and members of the state women's committee from even-numbered districts. During Saturday's business session, the delegates will take up the Resolutions Committee's report and spend the better part of the day hashing out policy that impacts their livelihood of farming and ranching.

If you're not a voting delegate, don't worry; you can bring up issues of concern at Friday's open discussion of resolutions. If you've got something on your mind, that's your chance.

Also on the agenda, county FB presidents and vice presidents will participate in a day-

long leadership training Thurs., Nov. 8 with workshops focusing on the skills needed to successfully lead a county FB.

The convention will begin Fri., Nov. 9 with workshops that will bring attendees up-to-speed on the latest information in agriculture and prepare them for the delegate session. Nationally known speaker Chad Hymas will kick off the day. KFB President Steve Baccus and Don Macke, rural development leader, will headline the general session. Look inside for a preview of the meeting's schedule.

For more information, contact KFB Member Relations at (785) 587-6122. All attendees will register through their county FB coordinator.

Front-burner policy issues

A few issues delegates will tackle at the KFB annual meeting include:

- **Water:** Clarifying KFB support for implementation of Intensive Groundwater Use Control Areas as an alternative to mandatory water right retirement.
- **Highspeed Internet:** Promote increased access to highspeed Internet in rural Kansas.
- **Carbon credits market:** Develop a credit trading market.
- **Animal identification:** Remove "voluntary" from policy.


KANSAS FARM BUREAU®
The Voice of Agriculture®

At the Statehouse: water and landowner protection

KFB's Governmental Relations staff have been busy during the interim period at the Statehouse pushing for the best interests of its members.

On Oct. 12, KFB's national GR director, Terry Holdren, testified to a special judiciary committee regarding the Oil and Gas Surface Owner Notice and Compensation Act. The legislation would require surface landowners receive adequate notice prior to any activity on their land from oil and gas producers. It also states if the activity negatively impacts growing crops, water conservation measures or future production, surface owners would be compensated.

On Oct. 22, Steve Swaffar, KFB's director

Funding available for land damaged by tornados

The USDA recently announced its providing \$2 million in Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) funds to assist eligible agricultural producers in Kansas to repair land damaged by tornados this spring.

ECP provides producers additional resources to remove debris from farmland, restore fences and conservation structures, provide water for livestock in drought situations and grade and shape farmland damaged by a natural disaster. Eligible producers receive cost-share assistance of up to 75 percent of the cost of the approved practice as determined by FSA county committees.

Producers should check with their local FSA offices regarding ECP sign-up periods, which are set by FSA county committees. Conservation problems existing prior to the applicable disaster are ineligible for ECP assistance.

More information about ECP is available in the program fact sheet posted online at www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/ecp1206.pdf or visit your local USDA Service Center.

of natural resources, provided testimony to an interim legislative committee on energy, natural resources and environment. The testimony addressed the ongoing issue of Intensive Groundwater Use Control Areas (IGUCA) and the state's implementation and expansion of IGUCAs to curtail water use within certain boundaries.

The testimony raised the following questions: Are there situations when the use of an IGUCA is preferable to strict implementation of the Water Appropriations Act? Who should be eligible to serve as a hearing officer in the IGUCA proceedings? Who should be allowed to be a party to IGUCA proceedings?

KFB sets fall priority issues for Congress; send an e-mail

Kansas Farm Bureau has identified three major priorities for Congressional action this fall:

- Opposing amendment of the Clean Water Act
- Supporting passage of the Broadband bill
- Supporting approval of trade agreements with Peru, Columbia and Panama

In a letter to Kansas Senator Pat Roberts this month, KFB President Steve Baccus, a grain farmer from Ottawa County, encouraged support of the Peru Trade Promotion Agreement (TPA).

"The U.S.-Peru TPA is an important step in expanding opportunities and accessing a \$705 million opportunity for increased agricultural exports," Baccus wrote.

To take action and contact Congress, go to KFB's CapWiz Legislative Action Center at www.kfb.org.

CapWiz™
Legislative Action Center

Farm flashes

Grain commodity commissions

Grain growers in central Kansas who plan to campaign for a seat on one of the state's five grain commodity commissions - corn, grain sorghum, soybeans, wheat and sunflowers - should be gathering petition signatures now to meet the Nov. 30 filing deadline. The 2008 election will cover districts four, five and six, or the central third of Kansas. Candidates must gather 20 signatures from eligible voters to be included on the 2008 ballot. Candidate registration packets are available from the Kansas Dept. of Agriculture or any of the grain commodity commissions.

Ag charter school in Harvey Co.

Walton Elementary school, in Harvey Co., has been designated an ag/tech charter school. It is only the second one like it in the country. The Walton Rural Life Center provides students an opportunity to learn about food production. As part of the curriculum, students will have opportunities to take field trips and see what Kansas crops like corn, soybeans and wheat are all about. Harvey Co. FB and KFB's *Foundation for Agriculture* provided funding for the school.

Water resources office in Parsons

The Kansas Dept. of Agriculture recently opened a division of water resources satellite office in Parsons for water-right holders in southeast Kansas. Initially the office will be staffed with one environmental scientist, so appointments are strongly encouraged by calling (620) 421-2697.

Deadlines for YF&R competitions

Application deadlines for KFB's YF&R Discussion Meet, Excellence in Ag, and Achievement Award competition is Nov. 1. For more information, go to www.kfb.org/yfr/contests.htm.

KFB Foundation opportunities

School is in full swing across the Sunflower State and KFB's Foundation for Agriculture is again offering its *Excellence in Teaching Grant* program. Teachers can submit their applications and receive a grant anytime during the school year. Deadline for applications for the 2007-2008 school year has been extended to June 30. The amount of this year's grant has been doubled to \$400 to enable teachers to develop a greater variety of agricultural lessons and projects. More information can be found at www.kfb.org/foundationforagriculture/teachinggrant.htm. Members will soon receive a planned-giving package from the foundation. With your help, the foundation provides hundreds of thousands of dollars for programs designed to improve agriculture and the quality of life in rural Kansas. If you are interested in learning more, please contact John Shostak at (785) 587-6608.

New YF&R committee members

Incoming YF&R state committee members from odd-numbered districts are: Scott and Jill Doyle, Jackson Co., 1st District; Dale and Jodi Helwig, Cherokee Co., 3rd District; Dan and Kim Schmidt, Marshall Co., 5th District; Derek Sawyer, McPherson Co., 7th District; and Casey and Denise Finlay, Hamilton Co., 9th District.

Keeping the family farming

A two-session conference titled "Keeping the Family Farming" to help farm families deal with transitions and change will be held in Junction City at the Courtyard by Marriott Hotel Dec. 7-8, with a second session Jan. 25-26,; and in Hays at the Holiday Inn Dec. 14-15 with a second session Feb. 1-2. For more information call (785) 532-1504, email rllewely@ksu.edu or visit www.agmanager.info/events/Transitions/2007/Default.asp.



Kansas wind energy

A number of landowners around our state have been approached by wind energy representatives who are proposing to develop commercial-scale wind projects. These large wind developers are looking for landowners to sign a lease or easement agreement granting these companies access to their land.

In a case like this, the landowner would sign an agreement granting the developer the right to use their land for wind development, and in return, the landowner would receive compensation from the developer. Typically, the developer would own the turbines that are placed upon the land and would do all of the work of developing the project.

Wind leases and easements are often written to cover extremely long periods of time - 20 to 60 years is typical, and in some cases as long as 150 years. Because of the long-term ramifications of wind leases and easements, and because they are often complicated documents full of technical and legal terms, it is important for landowners to seek assistance in assessing any offer made to them.

We recommend that any landowner considering signing a lease or easement consult a lawyer. In the next issue of the *FLL*, we will continue to explore this issue. For more information, please contact Mike Irvin, Director of the KFB Legal Foundation at (785) 587-6621.

New KFB documentary

Despite the trends, small, rural communities - the ones most Kansans call home - have the ability to find innovative and meaningful ways to heal themselves. A new KFB TV documentary, *Rural Kansas: Hope Endures*, will tackle that notion head-on and make a compelling case that the small, rural communities can reinvent themselves. Preview it at www.kfb.org.

Rural Kansas: Hope Endures airs on: KPTS-TV (Channel 8, Wichita) *Thur., Nov. 1 at 7 p.m. CST*

Smoky Hills Public TV
KOD-TV (Channel 9, Bunker Hill)
KDCK-TV (Channel 21, Dodge City)
KSWK-TV (Channel 8, Lakin)
Thur., Nov. 1 at 7 p.m. CST

RFD-TV
DIRECTV (Channel 379)
Dish Network (Channel 9409)
Wed., Nov. 14 at 5:30 p.m. CST

KTWU-TV (Channel 11, Topeka)
Thur., Nov. 29 at 7 p.m. CST

Cox Cable
Kansas Now 22 (Channel 22)
Sat. Nov. 10 at 8 a.m. CST

Thanking you, on the air

KFB has launched a new, statewide radio campaign entitled *Have You Thanked a Farmer?!*. This campaign connects Kansans to our state's agriculture and rural heritage and highlights FB's role in advocating for those who make it a way of life.

The new radio spots will begin airing immediately and cover energy, fast food, water, hunger and life in Kansas. They will air on several stations across Kansas nearly every day during the next 12 months.

