

Policies Approved at Annual Meeting

Jefferson County Farm Bureau voting members were presented the following policies at the annual meeting. Each of these policy measures will be passed on to the WFBF Policy Development Committee for potential consideration at the state delegate floor. Below you will find each of the state resolutions approved by our county voting members.

1. DNR Stewardship Program should be changed to allow for permanent conservation of agricultural land used for agricultural purposes.
2. We support the agricultural cleanup program with funds not to be allocated to other purposes. Total funds should be capped at a sufficiently large amount and fees only levied to keep the fund full.
3. Water rights are a very important part of Wisconsin agriculture. We need to be sure that the water laws of this state protect its agriculture interests, thus allowing proper drainage and means of discharge maintained. Urbanization should not be able to concrete, or blacktop where it would interfere with the natural flow of water. We need to encourage state and counties to maintain and support the historic drainage concept.
4. Under the new state wetland legislation, mitigation of wetlands is allowed giving farmers more options as they work

to upgrade their farm drainage systems. However under federal law and the farm bill, farmers may be in violation of the swamp buster provisions and in turn could have to forfeit federal farm payments.

Therefore, be it resolved, that Farm Bureau will work to make the new Farm Bill portion of swamp buster more compatible to Wisconsin law, allowing mitigation without being in violation and causing forfeiture of funds.

5. We support legislative reform of the Public Service Commission (PSC) to make it more responsive to consumers, including code specifically mandating that the PSC is responsible for the health and safety of consumers as it relates to the industries they regulate.
6. We support requiring each wind turbine to comply with current electrical codes, especially the National Electrical Safety Code and the IEEE 519 to avoid having wind turbines cause TV and radio reception problems as well as health problems for people and animals.
7. Invasive Species: We oppose the FSA penalizing farmers for denying reenrollment in the CRP program because of standing reed canary grass.
8. Technical Colleges: Because the technical college system is funded by the local property tax, the local area should pro-

vide the training that is needed for the businesses common to the area (i.e. agriculture, electrical).

9. Safety: We encourage law enforcement officials to force bicyclists to obey appropriate traffic laws and ticket accordingly.
10. Wisconsin's agricultural products have a positive economic impact for Wisconsin's farmers and agri-businesses. Preference for State funded grants or loans shall be given to, but not limited to, any "agribusiness" within an Agricultural Enterprise Area.
11. Reinstate PACE.
12. We support lowering the "stray voltage" action threshold to 10 mV peak to peak measured without a 500 ohm resistor, using equipment that can measure transients and other high frequency events.
13. We support lessening the requirement for county UW-Extension agents to have a four year bachelor degree instead of a master's degree.
14. We support Farm to School Programs to promote buying local foods and education of food promotion, nutrition and the environment.
15. We support funding of USDA ACEP Agricultural Conservation Easement Program for protection of agricultural lands and wetlands.

Young Farmer and Agriculturist (YFA) Contest Results

Discussion Meet

The Discussion Meet gives young members a chance to demonstrate their speaking skills on agricultural-related topics. Each Wisconsin Farm Bureau district holds their own Discussion Meet. The District 1 YFA Discussion Meet was held on August 19 at Williams Farm in Waukesha County. Those present toured Williams' Farm and enjoyed watching the discussion meet and a delicious cook out.

Thank you to Lindsay Knoebel for being the time keeper for the evening. There were five participants, and three were chosen to compete at the YFA Conference on December 5-7. Those who competed in the contest were Becky Assmann (Ozaukee County), Ryan Brueggemann (Waukesha County), Amanda Carlson (Waukesha County),



Amanda Carlson, Waukesha County

Amanda Carlson grew up on a registered Holstein dairy farm in south eastern Minnesota. After graduating college with a bachelor's degree in agricultural marketing communications, she worked full-time on her family's farm before interning with Minnesota Farm Bureau Federa-



Emily Watson, Walworth County

Emily Watson lives in Elkhorn. She was an active 4-H member and showed Brown Swiss cattle growing up. After joining her FFA chapter in high school she dedicated herself to the program and its events. From 2012-2013 she was a Wisconsin FFA Officer. In September she was selected as the 2015 Walworth County



Ryan Brueggemann, Waukesha County

Ryan Brueggemann farms in partnership with his brother Glenn, on a rented farm. They have 100 cows and farm 500 acres. Ryan is a graduate of UW-Madison's Farm & Industry Short Course and is a current member of the Wisconsin Farm Bureau Foundation's Leadership Institute. In his free time Ryan enjoys snowmobiling and motor-