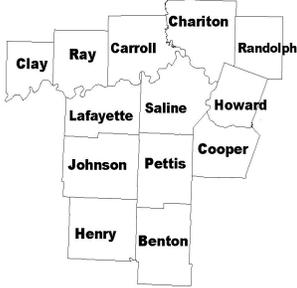




Missouri District 4
June 2011



Special County Committee Election Edition

County Committees are a critical component of the operations of FSA. They direct the delivery of FSA farm programs at the local level and work within national guidelines to help programs fit the needs of their communities. Committee members provide general oversight, review and act on appeals from program participants, keep the state FSA committee informed of issues in their county, and provide a link between the Agency and local producers.

County Committee Nominations

From June 15 through August 1, 2011, FSA offices are accepting nominations for candidates from the Local Administrative Areas (LAA) holding this year's election. USDA and FSA are committed to increasing the participation of all farmers including women, minorities and beginning farmers. You may nominate yourself or someone else as a candidate.

Candidates must:

- Be of legal voting age and have an interest in a farm or ranch.
- Live or farm in the LAA holding the election.
- Participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA.

Review the table below to see which area in your county is up for election this year. Nomination forms may be obtained at your FSA office, or on page 3 of this newsletter.

County	LAA	Townships
Benton	1	Tom, Alexander, Fristoe, Union
Carroll	3	Ridge, Rockford, Carrollton, Combs, DeWitt, Eugene
Chariton	3	Clark, Musselport, Keytesville, Bowling Green, Chariton
Clay	5	Kearney, Platte, Chouteau, Liberty
Cooper	1	Palestine, Clarks Fork, Prairie Home, North Moniteau, South Moniteau
Henry	2	Walker, Davis, Clinton, Deepwater, Bear Creek
Howard	1	Prairie, Burton, Bonne Femme
Johnson	1	Jackson, Columbus, Hazel Hill, Simpson, Grover
Lafayette	2	Sni-A-Bar, Washington, Freedom
Pettis	3	Cedar, Bowling Green, Sedalia, Smithton, Lake Creek
Randolph	1	Chariton, Jackson, Salt River, Clifton, Salt Springs
Ray	2	Polk, Fishing River, Northern Half Richmond
Saline	1	Arrow Rock, Cambridge, Clay, Salt Fork

In this issue:

- County Committee Overview
- Nomination process
- Townships up for election this year
- Nomination form

Don't forget:

- Crop reporting deadlines:
 - June 30 for small grains
 - July 31 for all other land uses
- Late-file DCP & ACRE through September 30
- 2009 SURE sign-up ends July 29
- Certify ACRE production by September 1

www.fsa.usda.gov/mo

FSA-669A
(03-31-11)U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Farm Service Agency**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, 2011.
- 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.

A candidate has the option to request that all voted ballots for an individual county committee election be returned to the respective State Office in lieu of being returned to the county office. This request must be in writing and submitted to the local County Executive Director prior to the announced end of the nomination period.

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

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all of 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, political beliefs, genetic information, 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, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

FSA-669A
(03-31-11)

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> <input type="checkbox"/> I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee. <input type="checkbox"/> I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.		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 afore-named person to be a candidate in the next County FSA Committee election for the county.</i>	
3A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE	3B. DATE	8A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR	8B. DATE
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if nominee is a write-in candidate.		<i>(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required).</i>	

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)	GENDER
<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino	<input type="checkbox"/> American 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	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female

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.
- ITEMS 3A & 3B** The nominee must sign and date.
- ITEMS 8A & 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, 2011.

NOTE: The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - as amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub. L. 110-246). 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 nongovernmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for County Personnel Records, USDA/FSA-6. Providing the requested information is voluntary. However, failure to furnish the requested 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 provisions 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.**

Missouri District 4
17066 Highway 87
Boonville, MO 65233-9640



PRESORTED STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
COLUMBIA, MO
PERMIT #230

Official Business

Are you the next County Committee member?

Is your area up for election this year? Review the table on the front page to see if your township is participating in this year's election. If so, be sure to nominate an eligible candidate of your choice to serve on FSA's county committee. You can even nominate yourself.

Then, be sure to vote this fall. Participating in the County Committee election process ensures all producers are fairly represented.

Nominate and vote! 2011 election timeline

June 15	Nomination period begins.
August 1	Nomination period ends.
November 4	Ballots mailed to eligible voters.
December 5	Last day to return voted ballots to your FSA office.
January 2, 2012	Elected committee members take office.



"I encourage producers to get more active in county committee elections. It helps me stay better informed to what is available for the local farmers."

John Mehrens Jr.
Benton County
Committee Chair

"I enjoy being involved in important issues that help to support our local farmers. Farmers should get involved to have a voice in national agriculture programs."

Dianne Sites
Cooper County Committee Chair



"The office is our local contact to the federal programs and they can be overwhelming. It (the county committee) is a wonderful way to really get involved with the county office. It's every farmer's responsibility, it's part of your business. Take your turn!"

Jim Stewart
Chariton County Committee
Vice-Chair



USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer and lender. To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Stop 9410, Washington, DC 20250-9410, or call toll-free at (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD) or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-relay).