

# Washington County Farm Bureau News Fall 2018



**County Annual Meeting**  
**Wednesday, October 17**  
**1925 Barn, 89 County Route 41**  
**Hudson Falls, NY**  
**6 p.m. – 9 p.m.**

**Speaker**  
**New York Farm Bureau President**  
**David Fisher**  
**Cost \$10 per person, payable**  
**at the door.**

The Washington County Farm Bureau Board of Directors decided to switch things up this year, extending social time to give members a chance to visit with one another. We will follow our social time with an update from New York Farm Bureau President David Fisher and a very brief meeting. We promise to be done by 9 p.m. at the latest!

To keep things moving, we will not be having a formal sit-down dinner in favor of a wide variety of hors d'oeuvres. We will also have local wine, beer and ice cream for dessert.

**RSVP to:**  
New York Farm Bureau  
Eastern Regional Office  
1-866-995-7300 or [eny@nyfb.org](mailto:eny@nyfb.org).

## 2019 Proposed By-Law Changes

Washington County Farm Bureau by-laws were originally established in January 1963 and last amended in 1991. Periodically we review these by-laws and make adjustments. New York Farm Bureau has adopted new language at the state level and Washington County Farm Bureau is proposing several of the same changes at the county level.

Below you will find the proposed by-law additions and changes that will be voted on.

**Supporting Members:** Persons not directly associated with farming or agriculture may make application to become a supporting member and if accepted shall upon acceptance be entitled only to a limited set of benefits as annually established by the board of directors. Supporting members shall not have the right to vote or hold office.

**Agricultural Alliance Members:** Agriculturally-related associations, both incorporated and unincorporated, and agriculturally-related cooperatives interested in the preservation, advancement and profitability of agriculture may make application to become an agricultural alliance member and, if accepted, shall upon execution of a membership agreement be entitled to all the rights and

privileges of an agricultural alliance membership. Agricultural alliance members shall not have the right to vote or hold office.

**Student Members:** Youth who are interested in agriculture, are in the age range of 16-21 years, and are enrolled in a bona fide educational program may apply for a student membership. Student members shall not have the right to vote or hold office.

**Notice of Meetings** Notice of meetings of the board shall be deemed to be duly given if notice thereof has been either mailed or sent electronically to each director, at the email address they have supplied for such purpose, at least ten days prior to such meeting. Directors may waive such notice either before or after such meeting. Such waiver can be written or electronic.

**Electronic Participation** The board, any committee of the board, and any committee of the corporation may participate in the meeting by means of conference, telephone, electronic video screen, or similar communications equipment allowing persons participating in the meeting to hear each other at the same time and participate without limitation in all matters before the board. Participation in the meeting by such means shall constitute presence in person at such meeting.

**Action without Meeting:** Any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of the

board, any committee of the board, or any committee of the corporation may be taken without a meeting if all persons entitled to vote at such meeting consent thereto. Such consent may be written or electronic, and such consent is filed with the minutes documenting such action.

**Conflicts of Interest:** The board of directors of this corporation shall maintain and abide by a conflict of interest policy, which fully complies with both state and federal law. Such conflict of interest policy shall be reviewed at least annually by the board of directors.

**Disqualification.** The holder of a federal, state or county public office which carries with it salaried compensation to the holder thereof, shall not be eligible as a candidate and shall not be qualified as an officer or director of this corporation, or voting delegate at meetings of New York Farm Bureau, Inc., except that an officer or director of this corporation or voting delegate having filed a petition for political office, as set forth above, shall be granted leave of absence until after the election for which they are a candidate.

## 2019 Proposed Resolutions

*Agricultural Issues/Department of Agriculture and Markets/General*

- We support the use of e-WICcards at farmers markets, farm stands, CSAs and other farm retail outlets. ➡

## State Young Farmers and Ranchers Summer Tour

*Past YF&R Chair Allison Akins*

New York Farm Bureau's Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee recently visited Washington and Saratoga counties. They toured Tiashoke Farm in Buskirk, learning about the Ziehm family's recent sustainability projects, and then enjoyed a chicken bbq with local young farmers. They also went to McMahon of Saratoga Thoroughbreds, where Joe and Anne McMahon gave the committee a tour of the horse farm, showcasing a breeding stallion and explaining the long history of horses in Saratoga County. From there the committee went to Ellms Family Farm in Ballston Spa and received a trolley tour of the farm from Chip Ellms. The Ellms family has worked hard to expand their agritourism attractions to showcase many facets of New York agriculture becoming a popular fall family outing. Overall, the committee was impressed with the diversity of agricultural businesses in Washington and Saratoga counties. Thank you to our member farms for hosting the committee.



159 Wolf Road

Albany, NY 12205

### Washington County Farm Bureau Board of Directors *Need to dial 518 first.*

Patricia Lockwood, President .....	275-6054
Mary Menard, VP & Secretary .....	222-5600
Carie Telgen, Treasurer .....	802-989-1028
<b>Directors:</b>	
Brandon Trinkle .....	796-5341
Jay Skellie .....	854-7883
Travis Rea .....	573-6335
Tom Borden .....	692-2370
Brian Ziehm .....	859-4741
Mike Bittel .....	368-1477
Tricia Stewart .....	423-8913
Betty Getty, ProEd Chair .....	747-3647
Quade Kirk, YFR Chair .....	315-335-8648
Dean Casey, NYFB State Director .....	796-4874
Kim Trombly, NYFB Field Advisor .....	935-8569
Scott Keyes, Director of Insurance Relations & Membership Marketing .....	431-5615
NYFB Eastern Regional Office .....	866-995-7300

### *Resolutions (cont'd)*

- We support CSAs being eligible for state assistance for equipment costs associated with electronic benefit transfer (EBT) technology.

#### *Environmental Issues/Department of Environmental Conservation*

- We support New York State DEC having a streamlined permitting process for farmers to complete work in water bodies.

#### *General Issues/Land Use Planning*

- We support a restriction in the NYS Building Codes that would prohibit new housing construction within a farmer's application exclusion zone (100 feet) that crosses over onto any adjacent

properties where set-backs are not applicable, present or inadequate.

### **National**

*Farm Policy/Farm Program/National Conservation and Environmental Policy*

- We support a third party, as well as NRCS staff, being able to complete geologic reviews for conservation practices.

*If you have any additional proposed resolutions and/or reaffirmations you would like to make, please either contact a county board member ahead of the meeting or bring them up for discussion at the annual meeting. Thank you.*