



Secretary of Agriculture-designate Jim Reese addressed Farm Bureau leaders during the 69th OFB Annual Meeting on November 19 in Oklahoma City.

Governor-elect Fallin names Jim Reese Secretary of Agriculture

Oklahoma Governor-elect Mary Fallin announced Nov. 15 that former State Executive Director for the Oklahoma Farm Service Agency Jim Reese will serve as secretary of agriculture in Fallin's administration and cabinet.

"Jim has spent his life representing Oklahoma's agriculture interests and its rural communities," said Fallin. "No one has gathered more expertise or worked harder for Oklahoma's farmers and ranchers than he has. I'm proud to have him aboard my team and confident that he will be a strong and effective voice for our agricultural community."

Reese is an experienced legislator and businessman with extensive professional ties to the agricultural community. He served in the Oklahoma Legislature from 1987 to 2001 before serving
(See Jim Reese named Secretary of Agriculture, page 4)

Delegates elect board members

Delegates attending the 69th Oklahoma Farm Bureau Annual Meeting in Oklahoma City elected a new member and re-elected two members of the state board of directors.

Rodd Moesel of Canadian County, Charles Sloan of Sequoyah County and Phyllis Holcomb of Creek County won three-year terms on the state board during district caucuses Nov. 20.

Moesel, who lives in Yukon, will represent Farm Bureau members in district three. Delegates elected the first-time board member to the seat vacated by Canadian County's Donna VonTungeln, a longtime Farm Bureau and agricultural leader.

Sloan of Vian, district six, and Holcomb of Kellyville, district nine, were both re-elected to the state board of directors.



Delegates elected Rodd Moesel, left, Charles Sloan, center, and Phyllis Holcomb to the OFB Board of Directors.

Farm Bureau votes to support direct farm payments

Voting delegates to the 69th Oklahoma Farm Bureau Annual Meeting said they want the federal government to continue direct assistance payments in the next farm bill. The meeting was held Nov. 19-21 at the Cox Convention Center in Oklahoma City.

"Our top priority is the continuation of direct payments and revenue assurance programs," said OFB President Mike Spradling. "The payments provide producers flexibility to grow various crops while providing income support."

The resolution stated: "We support a program or policy tool, like direct payments, that continues to provide a fixed share of the federal budget allocation for agriculture, is a green box policy, and is considered as
(See Delegates, page 2)



Voting delegates to the 69th Oklahoma Farm Bureau Annual Meeting set organizational policy for 2011.

MEMBER BENEFITS

- **QualSight** – Offers members 40 to 50 percent off the national retail price for LASIK eye surgery. 877-507-4448
- **Lenscrafters** – Offers members a 15 percent discount at all Oklahoma locations on frames and lens, non-prescription sunglasses, coatings and tints, contact lens and eye exams. 800-522-LENS

OFB will highlight a few benefits in each issue of *Perspective* as a reminder of the savings available to OFB members. Find a complete list of savings online at www.okfarmbureau.org.



FBW – The OFB Women's Committee has a new chairwoman and two new committee members following district caucuses Nov. 19. Two members also were re-elected to the committee. From left, are Sharlene Lambring, District 3; Margaret Kinder, District 4; Kitty Beavers, chairwoman; Beverly Delmedico, District 6; and Lena Henson, District 9.

OFB CALENDAR

FBW Rally

December 3-4 • Tulsa, OK
Contact: Marcia Irvin, 405-523-2405

State YF&R Committee Meeting

December 10-11 • Oklahoma City, OK
Contact: Marcia Irvin, 405-523-2405

AFBF Annual Meeting

January 9-12, 2011 • Atlanta, GA
Contact: Marcia Irvin, 405-523-2405



YF&R – OFB's Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee elected officers during the annual meeting Nov. 20. From left, are LaSheil and Brian Knowles, LeFlore County, vice chairmen; Nicole and Adam Martens, Major County, chairmen; and Amber Fuhrmann, Comanche County, secretary.

Oklahoma Farm Bureau Online



Monitor the latest Farm Bureau and agricultural news and information online at www.okfarmbureau.org.

Currently online:

- **Photo Galleries** – Visit Oklahoma Farm Bureau's website for photos of Farm Bureau events and activities throughout the year. Located in the "News" section of the site, the photos are presented in slideshow format.

- **OFB Calendar** – As 2010 comes to a close, OFB will begin to focus on 2011 and all of the events and activities the new year will bring. Visit the OFB Calendar online to stay informed of the organization's schedule for the coming year.

www.okfarmbureau.org



Delegates vote.....

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part of a revenue assurance program."

There is concern direct payments may be eliminated since the administration is considering reducing the agriculture department's budget.

Delegates also passed resolutions strengthening private property rights in regard to high power transmission lines crossing an individual's property, mineral rights on oil and gas leases and no trespassing laws.

Leaders also voted to support a resolution holding the EPA accountable for efforts to overregulate agriculture and other businesses.

A resolution supporting consolidation of all agriculture groups' efforts to promote animal agriculture received strong support.

"This was a great example of grassroots policy development," Spradling said. "The fingerprints of our members are all over the policy book, starting with county meetings and ending at the annual American Farm Bureau Federation convention in January."



OFB Farm Family of the Year
Jackson County's T.J., Diane,
Jordan, Jason, Kory & Derek Beach



YF&R Achievement Award
Brian, LaSheil, Sarah & Weston Knowles



YF&R Discussion Meet
Marty Williams



YF&R Excellence in Agriculture
Jeff & Sarah Weeks

For complete convention
coverage, including
news releases and a photo
gallery, visit OFB online
at www.okfarmbureau.org.



**OFB Distinguished Service
to Agriculture**
Wallace & Doris Lee Howard



**OFB Distinguished Service
to Oklahoma Farm Bureau**
Jim Hadwiger

OFB AWARDS & RECOGNITION

During the 69th OFB Annual Meeting, the organization honored counties and individuals across the state for their hard work and commitment to Farm Bureau programs. Following is a complete list of awards presented during the convention:

John I. Taylor Award: Adair County

Lewis H. Munn Award: Garvin County

Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award: Wallace & Doris Lee Howard

Distinguished Service to Oklahoma Farm Bureau Award: Jim Hadwiger

OFB Farm Family of the Year Award: T.J. & Diane Beach, Jackson County

Secretary of the Year Award: Anne Burgess, Grant County

Commitment to Excellence: Rex Kraft, Blaine County

Golden Eagle Award: John Pierce and Tony Morris, Nowata County

Pacesetter County: Love County

Quota Counties: Jefferson, Love, Latimer, Muskogee

County Achievement: Beckham, Creek, Grant, Kay, Kiowa, Latimer, Nowata, Okmulgee, Ottawa, Payne, Woodward, Love

Presidential Awards:
Four Stars: Caddo, Pontotoc, Stephens, Tulsa
Five Stars: Garfield, LeFlore, Major, Sequoyah
Six Stars: Adair, Comanche, Garvin, Muskogee, Seminole

CHAMPION Awards:

Overall CHAMPION: Linda Pesterfield, Garvin County

Local Issues: Frances Gardner, Washington County

State Issues: Debbie Black, Seminole County

National Issues: Jim Freudenberger, Logan County

2010 Journalist of the Year:

Rural Journalist of the Year: Jeff Schulz, Garvin County News Star

YF&R Awards:

Achievement Award: LaSheil Knowles, LeFlore County

Excellence in Agriculture: Jeff & Sarah Weeks, Pottawatomie County

Discussion Meet: Marty Williams, Noble County

Charles L. Roff Award: Major County YF&R

Outstanding YF&R County Event: Payne County YF&R

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Jim Reese named Secretary of Agriculture...

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as the State Executive Director for the Oklahoma Farm Service Agency. Reese has also served as a policy advisor to House Speaker Chris Benge since 2008. He has owned and operated Jim Reese Farms since May 1978.

Reese graduated from Oklahoma State University before earning an associate degree in drafting and design from Northern Oklahoma College. He also attended the USDA Supervisory Academy at Texas A&M.



For his service to the state of Oklahoma, Reese has received the Oklahoma Farm Bureau

Meritorious Service Award, the Oklahoma Farmer's Union Outstanding Service Award and received recognition or awards from the Oklahoma Institute of Child Advocacy, the National Federation of Independent Business, Kay Electric, the Oklahoma School Administrators and the Oklahoma State Troopers. He is a former board member at Leadership Oklahoma and chairman of the board at Nardin First United Methodist Church.

For more transition news from Governor-elect Mary Fallin, visit www.governorelectmaryfallin.org.

Top County Farm Bureaus



JOHN I. TAYLOR – OFB President
Mike Spradling, right, presents Adair County President Dennis Kester with OFB's top county award – the John I. Taylor Award – during the OFB Annual Meeting Nov. 20.



LEWIS H. MUNN – OFB President
Mike Spradling, right, presents Garvin County President Dale Schauer with OFB's Farm Bureau builder award – the Lewis H. Munn Award – during the OFB Annual Meeting Nov. 20.