

PERSPECTIVE

December 18, 2020

OKFB reaches 2020 membership quota

Oklahoma Farm Bureau is proud to announce that the organization has reached its membership quota goal set for 2020.

OKFB's membership is dedicated to promoting the organization's mission – supporting the agriculture community to improve the lives of Oklahomans.

“Thanks to the efforts of our members, leaders and staff across the Farm Bureau family, our organization was able to reach its goal for membership growth in 2020,” said Thad Doye, OKFB executive director. “I’m proud to see so many Oklahomans interested in supporting the mission of Farm Bureau, and I look forward to continuing our hard work for agriculture and rural Oklahoma in 2021.”

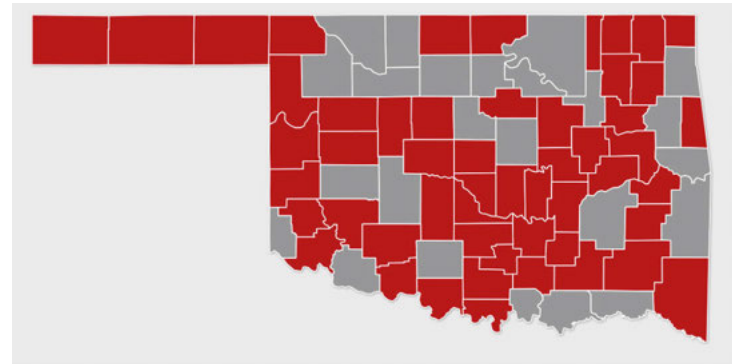
The quota number is determined by taking the final membership number of the previous year and adding one to the number.

Fifty-four counties also met or exceeded their membership quotas including Adair, Atoka, Beaver, Beckham, Blaine, Canadian, Carter, Cimarron, Cleveland, Coal, Comanche, Cotton, Craig, Creek, Custer, Delaware, Dewey, Ellis, Garvin, Grady, Grant, Greer, Harper, Haskell, Hughes, Jackson, Jefferson, Johnston, Kay, Kingfisher, Kiowa, Latimer, Love, McClain, McCurtain, McIntosh, Mayes, Murray, Muskogee, Nowata, Okfuskee, Oklahoma, Okmulgee, Ottawa, Payne, Pontotoc, Pottawatomie, Pushmataha, Roger Mills, Rogers, Seminole, Texas, Wagoner and Washington.

Quota counties are typically honored at OKFB's annual meeting in November, but OKFB opted to conduct a virtual

business meeting this year to protect members' health and safety. Each county will receive a plaque in recognition of the accomplishment. Find all of OKFB's award winners at okfarmbureau.org/awards2020.

Learn more about all the benefits of being a Farm Bureau member at okfarmbureau.org/join.



54 COUNTIES SAW MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

Join OKFB for 2021 AFBF virtual convention

Oklahoma Farm Bureau members are invited to join the 2021 American Farm Bureau Federation Virtual Convention held Jan. 10-13, 2021.

Members will have the chance to listen to keynote speakers including Mike Rowe, Rorke Denver and Beth Ford, attend workshops focused on what farmers and ranchers need to know in 2021, watch Young Farmers and Ranchers competitions, and hear AFBF President Zippy Duvall's annual address.

For the first time ever, all registration costs will be waived to ensure all Farm

Bureau members can experience the convention from the safety of their homes. If you have never had the chance to attend in person, 2020 is the perfect opportunity to learn what it is all about.

In addition to the speaking and competition events, members can access the AFBF Foundation silent auction, virtual agricultural tours, workshops, retiring board highlights and a virtual agriculture showcase.

For more information about the virtual convention and full list of events, visit annualconvention.fb.org. To

register for the event, go to registration.experientevent.com/ShowAFB211.

**STRONGER
TOGETHER**
AMERICAN FARM BUREAU®
VIRTUAL  **CONVENTION**
★ JAN 10-13 2021 ★

Biden nominates Vilsack for Secretary of Agriculture

President-elect Joe Biden has nominated Tom Vilsack to serve as U.S. Secretary of Agriculture.

A former governor of Iowa and current leader of the U.S. Dairy Export Council, Vilsack previously led the USDA for eight years under the Obama administration.

“Tom Vilsack understands that the agriculture sector is far more complex than most people understand,” AFBF President Zippy Duvall said in a statement. “He believes in a ‘big tent’ philosophy that supports all types of production and understands the importance of respecting farmers and ranchers as partners worthy of support in the race to achieve sustainability goals.”

Vilsack will lead the department’s 29 agencies and nearly 100,000 employees, who oversee agriculture, food, rural development, nutrition, natural resources and other issues.

“Tom Vilsack earned a reputation for rising above partisanship to serve farmers and ranchers and I’m confident he’ll continue to do so,” Duvall said.

To read the full release from AFBF, visit fb.org.



Oklahoma agriculture never stops

As we reach winter, Oklahoma producers continue to rise each morning to check crops and ensure livestock are warm, fed and have access to fresh water, no matter the weather conditions.

With the recent arrival of several inches of snow to a large portion of the Sooner state, we at Oklahoma Farm Bureau continue to thank our many members that help ensure Americans have access to a continuous and safe food supply chain, no matter the season.



Newest OKFB WLC committee members prepare to represent districts

The two newly elected members of the Oklahoma Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee recently visited the OKFB home office to further learn about the organization and how they can best represent the women in their district.

Robin Bryant, District One, and Kelly Blair, District Six, will work alongside other WLC members from across the state to help educate all Oklahomans about agriculture. In addition, the program helps to promote the importance of family and health, safety and crime prevention, state and national agricultural issues, voter awareness and citizenship, Agriculture in the Classroom, the Country Women's Council and much more.



OKFB Executive Director Thad Doye addressed the new members of the OKFB WLC committee to share with them the importance of the WLC to the organization.



Robin Bryant, District One, will represent the OKFB women of Alfalfa, Blaine, Canadian, Cimarron, Custer, Dewey, Ellis, Harper, Major, Roger Mills, Texas, Woods, and Woodward counties.



From District Six, Kelly Blair will represent OKFB women from Adair, Cherokee, Craig, Delaware, Mayes, McIntosh, Muskogee, Nowata, Ottawa, Rogers, Sequoyah and Wagoner counties.

AFBF congratulates new House Agriculture Committee chair and ranking member

The House Democratic Caucus approved Representative David Scott (D-Ga.) to serve as the chairman of the House Agriculture Committee. Representative Glenn "GT" Thompson (R-Pa.) will serve as the ranking member of the Agriculture Committee after being selected by the Republican Steering Committee.

The following statement may be attributed to American Farm Bureau President Zippy Duvall:

"We at the American Farm Bureau Federation congratulate Representative Scott on his selection to be the next chair of the House Agriculture Committee. For almost two decades Congressman Scott has worked on behalf of farmers and ranchers. His legislative experience, a childhood working on his grandparents' farm, and being the first African American chosen to lead the committee all give him a unique perspective needed to tackle the challenges facing rural America.

"We congratulate Representative Thompson on his selection as the ranking member of the House Agriculture Committee. Congressman Thompson's rural American roots and his bipartisan spirit have been a driving force in addressing the needs of America's farmers and ranchers.

"We have the opportunity to work together to address the pressing needs of rural America during the 117th Congress. We must strengthen the farm bill and find a fair solution to the farm labor shortage. We look forward to creating partnerships that build on the strides we've made in climate-smart practices. And, it's essential we finally bridge the digital divide that has kept rural America from accessing the full potential of the nation's broadband.

"All this can be done when we focus on a common goal. Farm Bureau stands ready to work with Agriculture Committee leadership in addressing the important issues facing America's farmers and ranchers."

Current county Women's Leadership Committees

Adair, Alfalfa, Atoka, Beaver, Caddo, Canadian, Cherokee, Choctaw, Coal, Comanche, Cotton, Craig, Creek, Custer, Delaware, Ellis, Garfield, Garvin, Grant, Grady, Harper, Kay, Kingfisher, Kiowa, LeFlore, Lincoln, Logan, Major, Muskogee, Noble, Nowata, Okfuskee, Oklahoma, Okmulgee, Ottawa, Payne, Pontotoc, Rogers, Seminole, Sequoyah, Stephens, Texas, Tillman, Tulsa, Washington, Washita, and Woods counties.

Women interested in joining a county Women's Leadership Committee may contact one of the counties listed above. If your county is not listed, or for more information, please contact Marcia Irvin at (405) 523-2300.

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