

# PERSPECTIVE

November 18, 2022



Congressman and U.S. Senator-elect Markwayne Mullin shared his rural upbringing and agricultural roots with Farm Bureau members Friday, Nov. 11 during the OKFB Annual Meeting in Norman.



Comedian Leslie Norris Townsend kicked off the Saturday evening awards banquet with the help of Farm Bureau members.



Voting delegates discussed and voted upon policy proposals during Saturday's business sessions.

## OKFB hosts successful 81st annual meeting

Oklahoma Farm Bureau members from around the state convened in Norman Nov. 11-13 for the organization's 81st annual meeting where they elected new leaders, set organizational policy for the coming year, recognized outstanding members with awards and learned from several speakers and presenters.

"When you get Farm Bureau folks together, they just love the chance to fellowship with one another and share stories from their activities in their parts of the state," said Rodd Moesel, OKFB president. "It has been a trying year with drought and commodity pricing swings, but everybody loves the time together and the chance to fellowship with each other."

### Members set 2023 grassroots policy

OKFB voting delegates considered more than 80 proposed policy

resolutions during two business sessions on Saturday, Nov. 12. The resolutions were first drafted by members in county Farm Bureaus and advanced through the state resolutions committee in October.

Delegates evaluated several issues, including ad valorem taxes, rural fire support, school vouchers, marijuana regulations, political campaign funding and more. The policies approved by members during the annual meeting will guide OKFB's efforts at the state Capitol over the next year.

### Speakers and presenters featured

OKFB members heard from Senator-elect Markwayne Mullin, Oklahoma State Superintendent-elect Ryan Walters, Oklahoma State Treasurer-elect Todd Russ and American Farm Bureau Federation Executive Vice President Joby Young during the three-day event.

Convention attendees had the opportunity to attend several leadership development sessions, including presentations on micro-volunteering, financial practices, strategic planning, new county board member training and a panel discussion with several current county Farm Bureau presidents.

Members also were able to earn a continuing education credit through a session on using drones in agriculture presented by Loren Sizelove.

LeAnn Hart left Farm Bureau members with an inspiring message and musical selection at the worship service and breakfast on Sunday morning.

Members also enjoyed a festive Derby night Friday evening where they placed bets on pre-recorded horse races to benefit OKFB's foundations and danced into the evening with music from Oklahoma musician Kyle Rainer.

# OKFB members elect new and returning leaders at the 2022 OKFB Annual Meeting

Oklahoma Farm Bureau members elected and re-elected several leaders during the organization's annual meeting Nov. 11-13 in Norman.

Roger Moore of Mayes County was elected to serve as the new OKFB district six director, filling the seat of retiring board member James Fuser. Moore will represent Adair, Cherokee, Craig, Delaware, Mayes, McIntosh, Muskogee, Nowata, Ottawa, Rogers, Sequoyah and Wagoner Counties.

Moore and his wife, Renita, own a cattle, row crop and hay operation near Pryor. He has served on the Mayes County Farm Bureau board for 20 years.

"I've been involved with Farm Bureau my whole life," Moore said. "In 1974 our family was selected as district farm family when I was 14 years old. That made a big impression on me. I think Farm Bureau is a very good organization, and when given the opportunity, I thought I'd take the opportunity to serve the organization that has meant so much to my family over the years."

David VonTungeln of Canadian County was re-elected to serve a three-year term as district three director. VonTungeln represents Blaine, Caddo, Canadian, Grady, Kingfisher, Logan and

Oklahoma Counties.

Jim Meek of Okmulgee County was re-elected to a three-year term as district nine director. Meek represents Creek, Lincoln, Okfuskee, Okmulgee, Osage, Pawnee, Payne, Tulsa and Washington Counties.

The OKFB Women's Leadership Committee re-elected Mignon Bolay of Noble County to serve a two-year term as chair. Karen Dodson of Caddo County, Kelly Blair of Cherokee County and Cindy Schoenecke of Lincoln County were re-elected to serve three-year terms as representatives for districts three, six and nine, respectively. Cyndi Mackey of LeFlore County was elected to a two-year term representing District Five. Arlene LeMaster of LeFlore County will serve as an ex-officio member on the committee for two years.

The OKFB Young Farmers and



Re-elected Oklahoma Farm Bureau state board members David VonTungeln, district three (left) and Jim Meek, district nine (center) are pictured with newly elected board member Roger Moore, district six (right).

Ranchers Committee chose newly elected at-large member Alisen Anderson and her husband, Jared, to serve a year-long term as YF&R committee chair. The committee also elected Katie Richards to serve as the representative for district one, Jacob and Cassidy Beck for district three, Dillon Johnson for district six, Tim Taylor for district nine and Megan Hankins for the Collegiate Farm Bureau representative.

## Calvert recognized with OKFB Golden Eagle Award

Jake Calvert of Cleveland County was honored with Oklahoma Farm Bureau's Golden Eagle Award on Saturday, Nov. 12 at the organization's 81st annual meeting in Norman.

The Golden Eagle award is presented to the individual or county who has worked to recruit the most new members throughout the year. These memberships were not based on insurance services, but instead joined as stand-alone members of the federation.

"Membership is not a hard thing to promote when you believe in the program you're promoting," Calvert said. "To me, especially being from what you might call a more urban county, involving the farmers and ranchers in this county that might not otherwise know that they have the representation and the voice in Farm Bureau – it makes it easy."

For his efforts, Calvert was rewarded with a jacket and trophy.



OKFB President Rodd Moesel (left) presents Cleveland County Farm Bureau Member Jake Calvert with the 2022 Golden Eagle Award for recruiting the most new members to join Oklahoma Farm Bureau during the past year.



## See all our convention coverage online

With so many convention highlights to cover, we couldn't fit them all into one issue of *Perspective*. Visit us online at [okfarmbureau.org](http://okfarmbureau.org), or check us out on Facebook or Twitter for more photos and stories from our 2022 convention.

Check out all our award winners at [okfb.news/awards22](http://okfb.news/awards22)





OKFB President Rodd Moesel (left) presents Payne County Farm Bureau President Nancy German with the 2022 Oklahoma Farm Bureau John I. Taylor Award on Saturday, Nov. 12 at the 2022 Oklahoma Farm Bureau Annual meeting in Norman, OK.

## Payne County named top county Farm Bureau

**P**ayne County Farm Bureau was presented with the 2022 Oklahoma Farm Bureau John I. Taylor Award on Saturday, Nov. 12 during the organization's 81st annual meeting in Norman.

Named after OKFB's first president, the award serves as the organization's highest county honor, recognizing the county Farm Bureau with the most effective programs and activities during the past year.

Payne County was honored for excelling in the program areas of public policy, service to members, public relations, membership, Women's Leadership Committee and Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee.

"This award puts into perspective all of the hard work that we have done over the past year," said Nancy German, Payne County Farm Bureau president. "It is not about us as a board – it is what we can do to share agriculture in the community."

Payne County Farm Bureau was active throughout 2022, hosting a youth cattle clinic, sponsoring the bucket calf show at the Payne County Fair, offering a youth firearm safety program, collecting coats and Christmas gifts for Payne County residents, hosting a tractor driving contest and more.



OKFB President Rodd Moesel (left) presents Okmulgee County Farm Bureau President Jim Meek with the 2022 OKFB Lewis H. Munn award on Saturday, Nov. 12 at the 2022 Oklahoma Farm Bureau Annual meeting in Norman, OK.

## Okmulgee County wins Lewis H. Munn award

**O**kmulgee County Farm Bureau was honored with Oklahoma Farm Bureau's Lewis H. Munn Award on Saturday, Nov. 12 during the organization's 81st annual meeting in Norman.

Also known as the Farm Bureau Builders Award, the award is presented each year to the county that conducts the strongest program in a chosen area. This year, the program area was member recruitment.

Okmulgee County Farm Bureau hosted the first-ever Okmulgee County Agriculture Tour in late September. During the tour, participants of all ages visited the operations of three Okmulgee County Farm Bureau member families as well as a local meat processing facility.

"This award is very special to our county," said Jim Meek, Okmulgee County Farm Bureau president. "It represents the work of our hard-working members. We are proud that we are able to promote agriculture, Farm Bureau, Okmulgee County and eastern Oklahoma to make it better."

The Lewis H. Munn award is named after the second president of Oklahoma Farm Bureau, whose philosophy centered on building strong county programs.

## Inhofe honored with OKFB distinguished service award

**S**en. Jim Inhofe was recognized with the Distinguished Service to Oklahoma Farm Bureau Award on Saturday, Nov. 12 during the OKFB annual meeting in Norman.

The award honors individuals who have made outstanding contributions to agriculture and Farm Bureau.

Inhofe earned the award for his dedication to agriculture and rural Oklahoma throughout his nearly three decades in the U.S. Senate and more than

50 years in public office.

"Sen. Jim Inhofe has been a steadfast partner to Farm Bureau members and a strong supporter of agriculture during his time in public office," said Rodd Moesel, OKFB president. "He will leave enormous shoes to fill when he retires from the U.S. Senate at the end of the year, and OKFB members sincerely thank him for his tireless work to protect and preserve agriculture and our rural way of life."



**PUBLISHED BY  
OKLAHOMA FARM BUREAU**

**Postmaster:**

Send address corrections to:

*Perspective*  
P.O. Box 53332,  
Oklahoma City, OK 73152-3332

**STAFF DIRECTORY**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Thad Doye  
(405) 523-2438

**VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATIONS AND  
PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Dustin Mielke  
(405) 530-2640

**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MEDIA RELATIONS  
AND ADVOCACY COMMUNICATIONS**

Rachel Havens  
(405) 523-2346

**COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST**

Rebekah Nash  
(405) 523-2457

Oklahoma Farm Bureau  
2501 N. Stiles  
Oklahoma City, OK 73105-3126

Non-Profit  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 131  
Okla. City, OK.

## County Farm Bureaus recognized for excellence with presidential star awards

County Farm Bureaus were recognized for their efforts to further agriculture and rural Oklahoma with presidential star awards.

The awards recognize county Farm Bureaus that have excelled in program areas such as membership, public policy, local affairs, service to members, Women's Leadership Committee and Young Farmers and Ranchers.

A star is given to a county for each program area in which it excelled, with a maximum of six stars possible.

The Six-Star Presidential Award was presented to Cherokee, Comanche, Creek, Kay, Mayes, Okmulgee, Ottawa, Payne, Rogers and Woodward County Farm Bureaus.

Garfield, Grant, Jackson, Kingfisher, LeFlore, Major, Noble, Okfuskee, Texas and Washita County Farm Bureaus each received the Five-Star awards.

Four-Star Presidential Awards were presented to Alfalfa, Caddo, Custer,

Kiowa, Lincoln, Love, McIntosh, Muskogee, Nowata, Oklahoma, Pontotoc, Pottawatomie, Seminole, Sequoyah, Washington and Woods County Farm Bureaus.

Choctaw, Cleveland, Greer, Haskell, Latimer, Logan, Pawnee, Stevens and Tulsa County Farm Bureaus each earned three-star awards.

OKFB also recognized 46 county Farm Bureaus for reaching their membership quotas for the 2022 membership year: Alfalfa, Atoka, Beaver, Beckham, Blaine, Caddo, Carter, Cherokee, Cleveland, Coal, Craig, Custer, Delaware, Dewey, Ellis, Garfield, Grady, Harper, Haskell, Hughes, Jackson, Jefferson, Kay, Kiowa, Latimer, Love, McClain, McCurtain, McIntosh, Murray, Muskogee, Nowata, Okfuskee, Okmulgee, Osage, Payne, Pottawatomie, Pushmataha, Roger Mills, Rogers, Seminole, Sequoyah, Texas, Tillman, Wagoner and Woods County Farm Bureaus.

## Tickets still available for Evening of Impact event Dec. 2

OKFB will host its second-annual Evening of Impact fundraiser to benefit the OKFB Ag PAC Friday, Dec. 2 at the Petroleum Club in Oklahoma City.

The event will start with a reception at 6 p.m. followed by dinner at 7 p.m. Tickets for the event are \$250 per person with proceeds benefiting the Ag PAC\* for future elections.

To RSVP and arrange payment, call Steve Thompson at (405) 523-2300.

Overnight accommodations are available at the Skirvin Hilton hotel in downtown Oklahoma City. Book a room online at [okfb.news/skirvin](http://okfb.news/skirvin) or call 1-800-HILTONS and mention Oklahoma Farm Bureau to receive a discounted room rate.

*\*Contributions or gifts to the Oklahoma Farm Bureau Ag PAC are not tax deductible as charitable contributions.*