

# PERSPECTIVE

November 4, 2022



## Join us in Norman Nov. 11-13!

For the 2022 Oklahoma Farm Bureau Annual Meeting

See the full schedule online at  
[okfb.news/Meeting22](https://okfb.news/Meeting22)

### Leadership development sessions for county Farm Bureau members on tap at OKFB annual meeting

**O**klahoma Farm Bureau is excited to host leadership development sessions for all Farm Bureau members at OKFB's annual meeting Nov. 11-13 at the Embassy Suites and Convention Center in Norman.

Four sessions and a luncheon will be offered Friday morning, Nov. 11 for county Farm Bureau leaders to brush up on their skills and abilities that will help them serve the grassroots organization.

#### **New county board member training**

The session starting at 10 a.m. will highlight the roles and responsibilities of the organization's county leaders while developing their leadership skills. Members will learn how to prepare for meetings, maintain records of the organization, serve all Farm Bureau members and much more.

#### **Micro-volunteering training**

This session will feature ways for county leaders to delegate tasks to encourage participation by local Farm Bureau members. Starting at 10 a.m., leaders will learn the importance of getting more Farm Bureau members involved in the organization.

#### **Financial training**

Understanding the financial side of the grassroots organization is vital to the longevity and success of a county Farm Bureau. Join us for this session starting at 10:50 a.m. to gain a better understanding of the financial reports county Farm Bureaus use.

#### **Strategic planning training**

Planning is a vitally important step for local leaders. Farm Bureau members will have the opportunity to learn the best practices for putting a strategic plan together starting at 10:50 a.m.

#### **Panel and luncheon**

Gather your county Farm Bureau members for the panel discussion during lunch at 11:30 a.m. for even more ideas to build your county organization. Featuring county presidents and board members, real-life examples will be provided for attendees to take back to their counties. Lunch will be provided for attendees.

For more information, contact OKFB Director of Field Services Justin Whitmore at (405) 523-2300.

### OKFB annual meeting: meet the speakers

**O**klahoma Farm Bureau is excited to announce the speakers who will address members during the OKFB annual meeting Nov. 11-13 at the Norman Embassy Suites and Convention Center.

**Joby Young, AFBF Executive VP**  
Friday General Session at 1:30 p.m.

Young joined AFBF in July, where he serves as chief of staff – managing across departments and working closely with state Farm Bureaus to achieve organizational goals.

**Congressman Markwayne Mullin**  
Friday General Session at 1:30 p.m.

Congressman Markwayne Mullin is currently serving his fifth term in office for Oklahoma's Second Congressional District, and is also running for the U.S. Senate in the Nov. 8 general election.

**LeAnn Hart**  
Sunday Worship service at 8:45 a.m.

Hart is an Oklahoma-based inspirational speaker, singer, songwriter and worship leader. She grew up on a dairy farm while rodeoing. Today, she and her husband are bucking bull stock contractors.

Read more about convention online at [okfb.news/Meeting22](https://okfb.news/Meeting22).



Gov. Kevin Stitt speaks to attendees of the gubernatorial forum hosted by OKFB and OCA in Lawton on Wednesday, Oct. 26.



Gov. Kevin Stitt visits with Comanche County Farm Bureau members after the gubernatorial forum in Lawton.

## Stitt shares top agricultural priorities during gubernatorial forum in Lawton

**M**ore than 150 people attended the gubernatorial candidate forum on agriculture hosted by Oklahoma Farm Bureau and the Oklahoma Cattlemen's Association on Wednesday, Oct. 26 in Lawton.

The forum featured incumbent candidate Gov. Kevin Stitt and was moderated by Ron Hays of the Radio Oklahoma Agriculture Network. Democratic candidate Joy Hofmeister was invited but did not attend.

Attendees had the opportunity to hear Gov. Stitt's position on a number of top agriculture and rural issues, including drought, medical marijuana, agricultural education, Oklahoma State University Extension and more.

During the forum, Stitt emphasized the priority he will place on rural Oklahoma if re-elected to serve another term as Oklahoma's governor.

"I will protect our rural communities and our rural way of life," he said.

He discussed the importance of quality infrastructure in

rural Oklahoma, including his plans to expand rural broadband access, add shoulders to the state's two-lane highways and increase business opportunities in rural areas.

Stitt was firm when asked about the longevity of the agricultural sales tax exemption farmers and ranchers use on a daily basis.

"We wouldn't do anything that would mess with our farming exemptions," he said.

He also spoke on his education priorities and his efforts to preserve and protect Oklahoma's rural schools.

"Rural schools are the fabric of our state," Stitt said.

Stitt said priorities for his second term in office would be education, healthcare, infrastructure and the economy.

Stitt is up for re-election on Tuesday, Nov. 8. He is endorsed and supported by the OKFB Ag PAC.

To see a full list of candidates endorsed and supported by the OKFB Ag PAC as well as additional voter resources, visit OKFB's online voter guide at [okfb.news/vote22](http://okfb.news/vote22).

## OKFB state resolutions committee reviews grassroots policy proposals for 2023

**M**ore than 40 Farm Bureau members from around the state met in Oklahoma City for the Oklahoma Farm Bureau state resolutions committee meetings Oct. 18-19.

Throughout the two days, members analyzed and discussed county-submitted policy resolutions to help guide the work of OKFB's advocacy efforts in the coming years.

The committee reviewed nearly 300 submitted resolutions addressing top-of-mind issues for farmers and ranchers in the state, including the expansion of rural broadband, funding for rural and volunteer fire departments, medical marijuana and more.

Farm Bureau members felt strongly

on speeding up ad valorem tax disputes, improving land management practices, increasing transparency in political campaign sponsors and easing the renewal process for commercial driver's licenses.

The committee also passed proposals supporting online continuing education units for pesticide applicators and opposing the use of environmental, social and governance scores for government program participation.

The policy proposals that advanced through the state committee will be available for consideration by the full delegate body during the Saturday session of OKFB's annual meeting on Nov. 11-13.



## Ag PAC donation ribbons available for purchase at OKFB convention

**F**arm Bureau members attending the 2022 OKFB Annual Meeting will have the opportunity to support the OKFB Ag PAC through the purchase of ribbons for their convention name badges. OKFB public policy staff will have a table set up near the convention registration area beginning at 9 a.m. Friday through Sunday until the close of registration each day.

Members will receive a silver ribbon with a \$25 donation to the Ag PAC, a gold ribbon with a \$100 donation or an OKFB Ag PAC lapel pin and a ticket to the Dec. 2 Evening of Impact fundraising dinner with a \$250 donation.

The Ag PAC is a grassroots committee formed of OKFB members from around the state that financially supports and endorses candidates seeking public office in Oklahoma who understand agriculture and the importance of rural Oklahoma. Input gathered from county Farm Bureau representatives directs the OKFB Ag PAC board's decisions.

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

## OKFB's Bushels for Books awards accurate ag books to 13 teachers

**T**hirteen Oklahoma teachers were recently selected to receive a basket of accurate agriculture books as part of Oklahoma Farm Bureau's Bushels for Books program.

The program is a collaboration between the OKFB Foundation for Agriculture and the OKFB Women's Leadership Committee. Pre-K through eighth-grade teachers across the state submitted applications to receive a basket of books for their classrooms, and the winners were selected by the WLC state board.

"As the world becomes more urban, it is important for people to know what it takes to produce the food, fuel and fiber

we rely on every day," said Mignon Bolay, OKFB WLC chair. "We hope these books help students learn how their food gets from the farm to the grocery store, and ultimately to their plates."

Each basket included books selected from the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture's accurate agriculture book database.

"It is vitally important that our young people understand where their food comes from," said David VonTungeln, OKFB Foundation for Agriculture president. "These accurate agriculture books provide a glimpse into the everyday lives of our nation's family farmers and ranchers."

### 2022 Bushels for Books Award Recipients

- **Tim Moss** – Vici Public Schools in Vici
- **Danette Funkhouser** – Navajo Public Schools in Altus
- **Connie Goodwin** – Fort Cobb-Broxtown Elementary in Fort Cobb
- **Jodi Scott** – Oklahoma Christian Academy in Edmond
- **Nellie Garone** – Ravia School in Ravia
- **Sandra Crow** – Flower Mound Public Schools in Lawton
- **Ronna Dunigan** – Shady Point Public Schools in Shady Point
- **Whitney Crase** – Poteau Public Schools in Poteau
- **Susana Jackman** – Oklahoma School for the Blind in Muskogee
- **Stephanie Heinrich** – Deer Creek-Lamont Elementary in Deer Creek
- **Donna Slater** – Byng Elementary in Ada
- **Susan Moffat** – Lexington Public Schools in Lexington
- **Jennifer Crosthwait** – Skyline Elementary in Stillwater

## OSU: Producers should consider tax implications when making business decisions during drought

**A**s Oklahoma's severe drought continues, many farmers and ranchers are faced with tough business decisions, especially when it comes to selling off livestock earlier than anticipated.

With the withering forage growth and high cost of purchasing and transporting supplemental feed and forage, livestock sale barns around the state and country have seen exponential growth this year in sales numbers as producers are forced to sell some – if not all – of their herd.

Oklahoma State University Assistant Professor and Agriculture and Food Policy specialist Amy Hagerman advises producers to consider potential tax implications of these and other weather-related business decisions.

"As producers make a myriad of

decisions on their operation in response to the drought, it is important to think about the long term as well as the short term," Hagerman said. "Now is a good time to think about where you want to take your operation in the future. This includes making near-term investments in the operation like a pond clean-out or digging a new pond, but it also includes long-term decisions like how many head to carry forward and what type of genetics to bring in for replacements."

Hagerman said these decisions can have tax implications beyond the 2023 filing season and encourages producers to visit with their tax professionals early.

OKFB has posted a tax resource to its website for producers written by OSU Extension's J.C. Hobbs. Find it online at [okfb.news/DroughtTax22](http://okfb.news/DroughtTax22).

Read the tax resource for producers who are selling cattle due to drought at [okfb.news/DroughtTax22](http://okfb.news/DroughtTax22)



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## Review candidates endorsed by the OKFB Ag PAC before the Nov. 8 general election

The Oklahoma Farm Bureau Ag PAC has identified the candidates in the upcoming Nov. 8 general election who it believes will best represent the interests of agriculture and rural Oklahoma.

Listed to the right are all candidates appearing on the upcoming general election ballot who received endorsements from the OKFB Ag PAC. An endorsement is the highest level of support a candidate can receive.

Forty additional candidates on the Nov. 8 ballot received financial support from the Ag PAC. Find the names of those candidates on our online voter guide at [okfb.news/vote22](http://okfb.news/vote22).

The grassroots-led OKFB Ag PAC gave a total of \$97,300 to candidates during the 2022 election cycle.

The Ag PAC is supported by voluntary contributions made by OKFB members, and the second-annual Evening of Impact fundraiser to support the PAC will be held Friday, Dec. 2.\* Learn more online at [okfb.news/impact22](http://okfb.news/impact22).

### Candidates endorsed by the OKFB Ag PAC

#### Federal candidates

**James Lankford** – U.S. Senate  
**Markwayne Mullin** – U.S. Senate  
**Kevin Hern** – U.S. House District 1  
**Josh Brecheen** – U.S. House District 2  
**Frank Lucas** – U.S. House District 3  
**Tom Cole** – U.S. House District 4  
**Stephanie Bice** – U.S. House District 5

#### Statewide candidates

**Kevin Stitt** – Governor  
**Cindy Byrd** – State Auditor  
**Kim David** – Corporation Commissioner

#### State Senate candidates

**Darcy Jech** – Senate District 26

#### State House candidates

**Josh West** – House District 5  
**Dell Kerbs** – House District 26  
**Kyle Hilbert** – House District 29  
**Kevin Wallace** – House District 32  
**Anthony Moore** – House District 57  
**Trey Caldwell** – House District 63  
**Jon Echols** – House District 90

View the full list of endorsed and supported candidates online at  
**[okfb.news/vote22](http://okfb.news/vote22)**

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