



To: FSA COC Members and Advisors
FSA County Office Employees
November 15, 2017

Dear Friends:

The County Committee system of government has been in place since the very beginning of the Farm Service Agency. Being one of the very few forms of federal government with grass roots control, we believe this system is the most responsive and accountable government system in existence. Applying the principles of democracy in action, our locally elected committees play a critical role in the implementation of farm policy and provide much needed accountability to our taxpayers. As you know, this committee system also provides the first level of appeal for farmers under a host of USDA programs. It is these fundamental principles and responsibilities that separate the FSA County Committee system from all others.

Since 1965 the National Association of Farmer Elected Committees (NAFEC) and the National Association of FSA County Office Employees (NASCOE) have jointly worked to support the County Committee system of government. NAFEC officers and directors from all across the U.S. regularly visits and works with NASCOE's leaders on issues and concerns that requires working with FSA Management at the state and national offices. Working on behalf of FSA County Committees and FSA County Office Employees, NAFEC and NASCOE can jointly accomplish more, for the benefit of agriculture.

To accomplish these goals NAFEC needs a strong membership. If you are already a member, we appreciate your prior support and encourage you to continue your membership by submitting your annual payment at this time. If you are not currently NAFEC members, you can help by joining today. Dues for County Committee members are \$4 per meeting for those of you signing up for dues withholdings, or if you prefer to make a lump sum payment, the dues are \$40 per year. It is also extremely important for COF employees to become NAFEC associate members. You can do so for as little as \$1 per pay period (\$26 total) or for \$20 per year if you choose to pay in a lump sum. Included with this packet are the needed NAFEC application membership form and the FSA-444, if needed for dues withholdings.

Please join us today as we continue our support of American agriculture and the County Committee system of government.

Sincerely,

Craig Turner
NAFEC President

Dennis Ray
NASCOE President