

Candidacy Announcement for NASCOE Treasurer Curt Houk

My name is Curt Houk and I wish to announce my candidacy for NASCOE Treasurer. I grew up on a family farm in Southeast Iowa where I still farm with my dad and my grandfather and operate a 150 head cow/calf operation. My wife and I purchased our own farm in 2010 that is located a quarter mile from where I was raised. We have been married for 14 years and have three beautiful daughters and a handsome son. I am an alum of Iowa State University where I obtained a degree in Agricultural Education. I am currently a CED in Lucas County Iowa and have been employed with FSA for 10 and a half years and plan on retiring from this agency. Those plans for retirement, so far down the road, are a big part of what have lead me to this point.

I have been a NASCOE member since my first day of employment with FSA. I have always attended my state convention, multiple national conventions, and multiple National Legislative Conferences in Washington D.C. For the last year I have served as the NASCOE Treasurer on the NASCOE Executive Committee and previously was the MWA Executive. These experiences have afforded me many great opportunities to serve on committees and task forces. I worked on the "budget committee" for the two years I was MWA Exec, which is a sub-committee analyzing the NASCOE annual budget line item by line item in order to maximize efficiency of members' dues money and now as your Treasurer have been in charge of the budget committee. It is very apparent that many people are working hard for my job security, benefits and future. I feel compelled to serve in whatever manner I can to help the association and its membership.

I desire to run for NASCOE Treasurer for many reasons. First, I am proud of the service that FSA provides to America's farmers and ranchers and am proud in the manner in which we do it. I have gained knowledge through my experiences and have thoroughly enjoyed serving as the NASCOE Treasurer this last 2 years striving to help NASCOE use membership's dues in the most effective and efficient manner always being mindful to be frugal. My experiences as an Executive and as Treasurer have given me an advantage in knowing how the system works and being in touch with current wants/needs. With 2 years under my belt and a hold on the fiscal wants/demands of NASCOE I would like to continue to help NASCOE grow financially. I would like to continue to work with the Executive Committee in order to implement the ideas for cost savings that the Executive Committee formulates.

The NASCOE Executive Committee is a wonderful team of hard working individuals with whom it is an honor to serve. Communication has been the key to its successes, and will continue to be important as we meet the challenges in our future. We, as Executive Committee members, strive to listen to the voice of membership, and then formalize your thoughts and concerns as we represent you accordingly. The Committee's professionalism and strong sense of teamwork have strengthened our relationship with our membership and FSA management in Washington, DC. I would like to continue this work as a member of the NASCOE Executive Committee as I remain committed to NASCOE's membership and goals.

I sincerely thank you for your support and would appreciate your consideration of me to continue to serve you as NASCOE Treasurer and allow me to utilize my experiences and help make a difference. Thank you for any consideration you may show me during this process.

Respectfully Submitted,

Curt M. Houk