



National Association of FSA County Office Employees

www.nascoe.org

President
Daniel L. Root
1400 West Main St.
Albert Lea, MN 56007
(507) 373-0725 - NASCOE
(507) 373-7960 - Office

Vice President
Bonnie Heinzman
711 Fifth Street
New Martinsville, WV 26155
(304) 758-2351 - Office
(304) 266-2480 - Cell

Secretary
Darlene Schouten
1008 W. Lincoln Ave
Olivia, MN 56277
(320) 523-2075 - NASCOE
(320) 523-1550 - Office

Treasurer
Larry Segars
PO Box 112
Dewitt, AR 72042
(870) 946-3815 - NASCOE
(870) 946-3331 - Office

Introduction to FSA and NASCOE

FARM SERVICE AGENCY

The Farm Service Agency, a part of USDA, ensures the well being of American agriculture, the environment and the American public through efficient and equitable administration of farm programs. They include commodity programs, farm ownership, operating and emergency loans, conservation and environmental programs and emergency and disaster assistance.

One of FSA's greatest strengths is its "grassroots" delivery system of farm programs to Agency customers. FSA's programs are delivered through an extensive network of field offices including over 2,350 United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Service Centers and 51 State Offices, including Puerto Rico. Area and County elected committees and appointed minority advisors, comprised of farmers in the local area, are responsible for overseeing FSA services delivered to the farming community. Minority and/or female advisors are appointed to guarantee equitable representation. This extensive network enables FSA to maintain close relationships with Agency customers and successfully address customer's needs in an effort to continually improve the delivery of FSA programs.

FSA is faced with the challenge of streamlining operations and reducing expenditures, consistent with balanced budget mandates, while maintaining a field office presence sufficient to ensure quality customer service. We strive to provide equitable, friendly, effective, and efficient customer service and to enhance the ability of small, limited resource, beginning and socially disadvantaged family farmers/ranchers to operate successfully. (I)

INTRODUCTION TO NASCOE

The National Association of Farm Service Agency County Office Employees (NASCOE) is an organization that represents the county level employees of the Farm Service Agency (FSA). This professional association represents the interests of all county office employees of the FSA, regardless of membership. NASCOE was chartered in 1959 to provide a nationwide, nonprofit, nonpartisan, non-governmental association through which the County Committee employees of the Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS), now FSA, could render better service to American Agriculture. NASCOE provides a national medium for the exchange of ideas and information, and to facilitate closer cooperation in identifying mutual concerns and the solutions.

Our objectives are: (1) To assist in every way possible to assure successful operation of the Farm Service Agency and the attainment of the Agency's objectives, (2) To cooperate with common interest groups and organizations to conserve and improve our nation's natural resources, (3) To secure equitable salaries, working conditions, and retirement provisions for all county office employees, and (4) To promote professionalism in our employees.

NASCOE membership is strictly voluntary. Of the approximately 8775 eligible county FSA employees, more than 85 percent are members. Each state has an independent state organization. These state associations are affiliated with the national organization (NASCOE). After the USDA reorganization of 1995, FSA granted NASCOE exclusive recognition to represent Farm Service Agency county office **employees in negotiations with management. All officers, executive committee members, and standing** committee members are full time FSA employees who perform their NASCOE duties on unofficial time. Travel and business expenses are paid from membership dues.