



Wayne/Pike County Farm Bureau Newsletter



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Meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. Chamber of Commerce Building, Honesdale, PA

Board of Directors

Tim Jaggars, President (570)499-1323, Bob Rutledge, 1st Vice President (570)224-6982,
Bonnie LaTourette, 2nd Vice President (570)729-8499, Carole Grodack, Secretary (570)937-4162,
Jeanette Swingle, Treasurer (570)698-6359,
Clinton LaTourette (570)729-7865, Zach Jones (570)267-8239, Joyce Carson (570)226-3864,
Donald Salak (570)488-5104, Karen Loscig (570)798-2669, Craig Olver (570)253-4161, Karl Eisenhauer (570) 226-1644,
Ben Komar (570)642-1347 and Courtney Swendson (570)862-3328.

Member Services:

MSC Business: David Mory (610)419-0250 **Nationwide Farm Agents:** Chapman Insurance (570)689-2653, David Zeiler (570)226-3114, Meagher Agency (570)253-0466, Rick Leet (570)798-2666, Sonnie Lehman (570)296-6416, Turano Insurance (570)253-0301
Sherwin-Williams 1-800-4-Sherwin

A Note from President Tim Jaggars

Hello Members! 2020-2021 has been a year of many changes. Please allow me to introduce myself as your county President. I grew up in South Canaan working on my Grandparents dairy farm. I raised rabbits, steers, chickens, pigs and had a large garden. I attended Western Wayne Highschool where I enjoyed the woodshop and majored in cabinet making and house construction. Following high school, I formed my own business building houses for over 3 decades. In 1988 I married my high school sweetheart Lisa and we reside in Lake Ariel. In 2004 we purchased my family's farm, which has been in our family almost 200 years. I currently hold a position as Lake Township Supervisor and raise horses, beef and vegetables on our farm. Now that you know a little about me, I would like to say I am honored to serve as your President and to follow a great leader and mentor, Karl Eisenhauer. A big THANK YOU to him for his years serving us in office. Covid19 has changed the way many of us conduct our day-to-day business, including Farm Bureau. Many conference calls, zoom meetings and emails have kept this organization thriving and moving forward. Although hard to grasp at times, modern technology and a dedicated board's efforts made this possible. Thanks to you, this is the first time Wayne/Pike has been the first county in our region to obtain its membership goal. Our membership continues to rise, showing our dedication to agriculture in this county. I look forward to working with you as we move to the future!

Thank you,

Tim Jaggars

Spring Greetings from the Wayne/Pike County Farm Bureau Women's Committee

The committee has been very busy this Spring. We recognized the baby that was born at the Wayne Memorial Hospital on National Ag Day March 23rd. Mom and Dad received local products of cheese, syrup, honey, crackers, Udderly Body Cream, Milk & Honey Hand Soap and a sippy cup.

The FARM-tastic book "What's in the Garden?" was presented to all the public and elementary school libraries.

Rural Roads Safety Week is April 18-24. "Lightening Can Strike More Than Once" is the 2021 Safety Contest theme. The contest consists of a coloring page for ages 4 to 6, 3-D Display for ages 7 to 12 and a Video contest ages 13 to 18. Go to <http://www.pfb.com/safetycontests> for more information or contact Bonnie LaTourette at (570)729-8499. Deadline is June 01, 2021

The Committee will be celebrating "Farmers Care" in May at the Scranton Ronald McDonald House.

Respectfully,

Bonnie LaTourette

Legislative Report Bob Rutledge

Hello fellow Farm Bureau members. I hope all is well with you and your family after this trying past year. I will touch briefly on just a few of the many legislative issues Farm Bureau has been working on this past year and continues to do so now.

Civil liability reform for agritourism businesses and exemptions for conversion of farm buildings into event spaces. House bill 101 was approved by the House and has moved on to the Senate. If passed, it will afford the farmer some legal protection by setting a higher bar for a plaintiff to collect damages for an injury that occurred while participating in an on-farm agritourism activity. This will not exempt the farmer from taking safety precautions to prevent accidents but will help prevent frivolous lawsuits. The other hope is to pass legislation that would exempt farmers from having to install sprinkler systems in barns and other farm buildings in which they would like to hold weddings and other social events. In many cases, the cost of installing a sprinkler system would be cost prohibitive. The venues would still be required to meet other minimum safety standards such as fire extinguishers, prohibiting open flame in building, and providing enough exits.

Farm Bureau is also supporting efforts to provide more transparency when it comes to deductions in royalty payments made to landowners, by the gas drilling companies. A few gas companies have established a track record of passing on many fees and costs to the landowners, all but eliminating their royalty income. The hope is to pass legislation that would require the gas company to actually pay the 12.5% minimum royalty to the landowner as well as clarify all deductions being made.

Other things that have been on Farm Bureaus' radar include adequate funding of agricultural programs, expansion of broadband infrastructure in rural areas, State income tax law reform to more align our state tax laws with federal tax laws, and many others. It seems every year we make some gains, but there is always much more to do.

Sincerely

Bob Rutledge



Wayne/Pike County Farm Bureau



Wayne/Pike County Farm Bureau

Carole Grodack, Secretary
1062 Mid Valley Road
Lake Ariel, PA 18436

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

www.pfb.com (717)761-2740



Spring Meeting – Saturday, May 08, 2021 2-4 p.m.

Park Street Complex, Honesdale, PA



There will be a short business meeting regarding changes to the by-laws including a required increase in the cost of membership dues and a change in terminology with respect to Associate Members. Light refreshments will be provided.

By-Laws Amendments

Article I Section 1. Members. Individual persons, partnerships, corporations and other entities registered with the Pennsylvania Department of State (Registered Entities) which are (1) organized for agricultural purposes, (2) actively engaged in the production of agricultural products, (3) whose principal occupation is farming, including lessees and tenants of land used for the production of agricultural products and including lessors and landlords who received as rent either in kind or cash, all or part of the crop raised on the leased or rented premises, or (4) engage in "agribusiness," as such term is defined in the SIC codes and by the Farm Bureau's health insurance provider, are eligible for a regular membership in this farm bureau. Regular members shall include any regular members who have retired in good standing from this farm bureau and also include the surviving spouse of a deceased regular member in good standing of this Farm Bureau. Shall read: Section 1. Voting Membership Rights. The membership rights of members are as follows: (a) The right to vote on any and all matters shall be restricted to voting members of this Farm Bureau in good standing. Each voting membership shall have one vote. The voting rights of any partnership or corporation member shall be exercised by any representative thereof duly authorized in writing. Friends of Farm Bureau shall have no voting rights. (b) Rights and privileges of membership in the case of a partnership or corporation shall accrue and belong only to such named partnership or corporation or one individual authorized by the partnership or corporation who is a member, shareholder, officer, employee or agent thereof. (c) Any partnership, closely held corporation or unincorporated association not a named member of this Farm Bureau shall be entitled to the rights and privileges of membership, as determined by the Board, except the right to vote, if all the individual members of such partnership, closely held corporation or unincorporated association are members of this Farm Bureau in good standing in their individual capacities. (d) A dependent member of the family household of a natural person, who is a member of this Farm Bureau, shall be entitled to the rights and privileges of the respective membership except the right to vote or hold office. The Board of Directors may determine from time to time under what circumstances an individual may be deemed to be a dependent member of the household. Section 2. Associate members. Other persons, partnerships, unincorporated associations and corporations interested in agriculture may make application to become an Associate Member of this Bureau and, if accepted, shall upon execution of the membership agreement and assumption of all obligations attached thereto, be entitled to all the rights and privileges of Associate Membership. Associate Members shall not be eligible to hold office in this Bureau and shall not be entitled to vote in the meetings or proceedings thereof. Shall read: Section 2. Friends of Farm Bureau. Other persons, partnerships, unincorporated associations and corporations interested in agriculture may make application to become a Friend of Farm Bureau and, if accepted, shall upon execution of the membership agreement and assumption of all obligations attached thereto, be entitled to all the rights and privileges of a Friend of Farm Bureau. Friends of Farm Bureau shall not be eligible to hold office in this Bureau and shall not be entitled to vote in the meetings or proceedings thereof. Section 4: Dues: The annual dues in this bureau shall be \$13.50 per year plus such amounts this bureau is required to forward to Pennsylvania Farm Bureau for dues set by Pennsylvania Farm Bureau and the American Farm Bureau Federation, along with the costs of the AD&D program and Pennsylvania Farm Bureau publications. Shall read: Section 4: Dues: The total annual dues in this bureau shall be \$100 per year for Voting Members and \$50 for Friends of Farm Bureau Members to cover the required charges from Pennsylvania Farm Bureau and the American Farm Bureau Federation along with the costs of the AD&D program and Pennsylvania Farm Bureau publications. Friends of Farm Bureau Members do not have any charges for AD&D. Section 8. Voting. Members of this Bureau in good standing shall be entitled to vote at any regular or special meeting of Members of this Bureau except as otherwise provided in Section 1 and 2 of this Article. At any such meeting, such Members may take part and vote in person or by proxy. Each Member shall have one vote and that vote can be made by either husband or wife, or in the case of a partnership, by either partner. Shall read: Section 8. Voting. Members of this Bureau in good standing shall be entitled to vote at any regular or special meeting of Members of this Bureau except as otherwise provided in Section 1 and 2 of this Article. At any such meeting, such Members may take part and vote in person. Each Member shall have one vote and that vote can be made by either husband or wife, or in the case of a partnership, by either partner. Section 2. Qualifications. The Members of the Board of Directors must be Voting Members of this Bureau in good standing. Shall read: Section 2. Qualifications. The Members of the Board of Directors including the President and Vice President, must be voting members of this Farm Bureau in good standing who: (1) are actively engaged in the production of agricultural products; (2) were actively engaged in the production of agricultural products; or (3) who provide support services vital to the agricultural industry. The term "were actively engaged in the production of agricultural products" shall mean a person who devoted a substantial portion of their life to farming. In no event may a person whose interest may be in conflict with the interest of the Farm Bureau by reason of their employment, representation or contractual relationship with it or an affiliated company or association be eligible to serve in such capacity. Article VII Added back in from 2019: Section 3. Study Committee. To ensure the by-laws are relevant and effectual, the president shall appoint a by-laws study committee no less than every fifth year.



Get more for your membership with Farm Bureau. www.pfb.com/wayne-pike

Wayne/Pike County Farm Bureau - Promoting agriculture while connecting with the community.