

provided for comments from the public as noted in a forthcoming agenda. Also written comments will be accepted for public record up to 2 weeks following the Board meeting. The final agenda will be available to the public prior to the meeting.

DATES:

March 19—9:00 a.m. to Noon—General Business Session

March 19—1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.—Special Presentations

March 20—8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.—National Stakeholder Symposium

March 20—12–1:00 p.m.—Working Lunch w/Speaker

March 20—5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.—Working Reception

March 21—8:00 a.m. to Noon—Focus Session Wrap-up and Discussion

Place: DoubleTree Park Terrace Hotel, 1515 Rhode Island Avenue, NW., Washington, DC.; Terrace Ballroom and State Room.

Type of Meeting: Open to the Public.

Comments: The public may file written comments before or after the meeting with the contact person. All statements will become a part of the official records of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board and will be kept on file for public review in the Office of the Advisory Board; Research, Education, and Economics; U.S. Department of Agriculture; Washington, D.C. 20250–2255.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Deborah Hanfman, Executive Director, National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board, Research; Education, and Economics Advisory Board Office, Room 344–A Jamie L. Whitten Building; U.S. Department of Agriculture; STOP: 2255, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250–2255; Telephone: 202–720–3684; Fax: 202–720–6199; or e-mail: mhumphreys@reeusda.gov.

Done at Washington, DC this 26th day of February 2001.

Dawn Riley,

Acting Deputy Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics.

[FR Doc. 01–5820 Filed 3–7–01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–22–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Farm Service Agency****President's Commission on Improving Economic Opportunity in Communities Dependent on Tobacco Production While Protecting Public Health**

AGENCY: Farm Service Agency, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: Executive Order No. 13168 published September 22, 2000, established the President's Commission on Improving Economic Opportunity in Communities Dependent on Tobacco Production While Protecting Public Health (Commission). This notice announces that the Commission will conduct a public meeting on March 20, 2001. The purpose of the meeting will be to review comments received on the Commission's Preliminary Report since its February 21, 2001, meeting and to finalize recommendations from tobacco, economic development, and health working groups in preparation for work on the Commission's Final Report.

DATES: The Commission will meet on March 20, 2001, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. at 2101 L Street, NW., Room 303A, Washington, DC. If special accommodations are required, please contact Doug Richardson, at the address specified below, by COB March 16, 2001. All times are Eastern Standard Time. All meetings are open to the public; however, seating is limited and available on a first-come basis.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Doug Richardson, Executive Director, Tobacco Commission, United States Department of Agriculture, (USDA), 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., STOP 0574, Washington, DC, 20250–0574 or telephone (202) 418–4266 or toll free (866) 804–6698; FAX (202) 418–4270; Internet: tobcom@wdc.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the Commission is to advise the President on changes occurring in the tobacco farming economy and recommend such measures as may be necessary to improve economic opportunity and development in communities that are dependent on tobacco production, while protecting consumers, particularly children, from hazards associated with smoking. The Commission collected and reviewed information about changes in the tobacco farming economy and Federal, State, and local initiatives intended to help tobacco growers, tobacco quota holders, and communities dependent on tobacco production pursue new economic opportunities. The Commission issued its Preliminary

Report on January 26, 2001, with comments requested through March 8, 2001. Copies of the Preliminary Report are available on the Commission's website at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/tobcom/> or by contacting the Commission's office at the contact information listed above. All comments received through February 20, 2001, with respect to the Preliminary Report were reviewed by the Commission in its public meeting conducted on February 21, 2001.

The Commission, in its February 21, 2001, meeting, also reviewed draft recommendations from three working groups representing the farm, economic development and health areas of the Commission. After this review, the Commission directed that each working group revise their recommendations based on input received from the meeting and other recommendations to the Commission.

The purpose of the March 20, 2001, meeting is to review additional public input received on the Preliminary Report and to review the revised reports from the tobacco, economic development and health working groups in order to prepare the Final Report to the President.

Written comments may be sent to the contact person listed above.

Signed at Washington, D.C. on March 5, 2001.

James R. Little,

Acting Administrator, Farm Service Agency.

[FR Doc. 01–5775 Filed 3–5–01; 4:24 pm]

BILLING CODE 3410–05–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration**

[00–04–C]

Opportunity to Comment on the Applicants for the Fremont (NE) Area

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: GIPSA requests comments on the applicants for designation to provide official services in the geographic areas assigned to Fremont Grain Inspection Department, Inc. (Fremont).

DATES: Comments must be postmarked, or sent by telecopier (FAX) by March 31, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Comments must be submitted in writing to USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647-S, 1400 Independence Avenue,

SW., Washington, DC 20250-3604. Telecopier (FAX) users may send comments to the automatic telecopier machine at 202-690-2755, attention: Janet M. Hart. All comments received will be made available for public inspection at the above address at 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., during regular business hours.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet M. Hart at 202-720-8525, e-mail janhart@gipsadc.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This Action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512-1; therefore, the Executive Order and Departmental Regulation do not apply to this action.

In the December 1, 2000, **Federal Register** (65 FR 175237), GIPSA asked persons interested in providing official services in the Fremont area to submit an application for designation. There were two applicants for the Fremont area: Fremont and Sioux City Inspection and Weighing Service Company (Sioux City). Fremont applied for designation to provide official services in the entire area currently assigned to them. Sioux City, a designated official grain inspection agency operating in Iowa, Nebraska, and South Dakota, applied for designation to provide official services in all or part of the Fremont geographical area.

GIPSA is publishing this notice to provide interested persons the opportunity to present comments concerning the applicants. Commenters are encouraged to submit reasons and pertinent data for support or objection to the designation of the applicants. All comments must be submitted to the Compliance Division at the above address. Comments and other available information will be considered in making a final decision. GIPSA will

publish notice of the final decision in the **Federal Register**, and GIPSA will send the applicants written notification of the decision.

Authority: Pub. L. 94-582, 90 Stat. 2867, as amended (7 U.S.C. 71 et seq.).

Dated: February 20, 2001.

David R. Shipman,

Acting Administrator, Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration.

[FR Doc. 01-5648 Filed 3-7-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-EN-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

[01-01-A]

Opportunity for Designation in the Amarillo (TX), Cairo (IL), Fostoria (OH), Louisiana, North Carolina, Belmond (IA), and Wisconsin Areas, and Request for Comments on the Official Agencies Serving These Areas

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA), USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The designations of the official agencies listed below will end in September and November 2001. GIPSA is asking persons interested in providing official services in the areas served by these agencies to submit an application for designation. GIPSA is also asking for comments on the services provided by these currently designated agencies: Amarillo Grain Exchange, Inc. (Amarillo); Cairo Grain Inspection Agency, Inc. (Cairo); Fostoria Grain Inspection, Inc. (Fostoria); Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (Louisiana); North Carolina Department of Agriculture (North Carolina); D. R. Schaal Agency, Inc. (Schaal); and Wisconsin Department of Agriculture,

Trade and Consumer Protection (Wisconsin).

DATES: Applications and comments must be postmarked or sent by telecopier (FAX) on or before March 31, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Submit applications and comments to USDA, GIPSA, Janet M. Hart, Chief, Review Branch, Compliance Division, STOP 3604, Room 1647-S, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20250-3604; FAX 202-690-2755. If an application is submitted by FAX, GIPSA reserves the right to request an original application. All applications and comments will be made available for public inspection at Room 1647-S, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., during regular business hours.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet M. Hart at 202-720-8525, e-mail janhart@gipsadc.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This Action has been reviewed and determined not to be a rule or regulation as defined in Executive Order 12866 and Departmental Regulation 1512-1; therefore, the Executive Order and Departmental Regulation do not apply to this Action.

Section 7(f)(1) of the United States Grain Standards Act, as amended (Act), authorizes GIPSA's Administrator to designate a qualified applicant to provide official services in a specified area after determining that the applicant is better able than any other applicant to provide such official services.

Section 7(g)(1) of the Act provides that designations of official agencies shall end not later than triennially and may be renewed according to the criteria and procedures prescribed in Section 7(f) of the Act.

1. Current Designations Being Announced for Renewal

Official agency	Main office	Designation start	Designation end
Amarillo	Amarillo, TX	12/01/1998	11/30/2001
Cairo	Cairo, IL	11/01/1998	09/30/2001
Fostoria	Fostoria, OH	12/01/1998	11/30/2001
Louisiana	Baton Rouge, LA	10/01/1998	09/30/2001
North Carolina	Raleigh, NC	10/01/1998	09/30/2001
Schaal	Belmond, IA	12/01/1998	11/30/2001
Wisconsin	Madison, WI	12/01/1998	11/30/2001

a. Pursuant to Section 7(f)(2) of the Act, the following geographic area, in the States of Oklahoma and Texas, is assigned to Amarillo.

In Texas:

Bounded on the North by the Texas-Oklahoma State line to the eastern Clay County line;

Bounded on the East by the eastern Clay, Archer, Throckmorton, Shackelford, and Callahan County lines;

Bounded on the South by the southern Callahan, Taylor, and Nolan County lines;

Bounded on the West by the western Nolan, Fisher, Stonewall, King, and Cottle County lines; the western