

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Doc. No. AMS-FGIS-18-0076]

Designation for the Georgia Area Consisting of the Entire State of Georgia

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is announcing the designation of D.R. Schaal Agency, Inc. (Schaal) to provide official services under the United States Grain Standards Act (USGSA), as amended. The realignment of offices within the U.S.

Department of Agriculture authorized by the Secretary's Memorandum dated November 14, 2017, eliminates the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) as a standalone agency. The grain inspection activities formerly part of GIPSA are now organized under AMS.

DATES: Applicable Date: October 1, 2018.

ADDRESSES: Sharon Lathrop, Compliance Officer, USDA, AMS, FGIS, QACD, 10383 North Ambassador Drive, Kansas City, MO 64153.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sharon Lathrop, 816-891-0415, *Sharon.L.Lathrop@ams.usda.gov* or *FGISQACD@ams.usda.gov*.

Read Applications: All applications and comments are available for public inspection at the office above during regular business hours (7 CFR 1.27(c)).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In the April 17, 2017, **Federal Register** (82 FR 18101), AMS requested applications for designation to provide official services in the Georgia Area.

The current official agency designated in the Georgia Area, the Georgia

Department of Agriculture (GDA), and Schaal were the only applicants for designation to provide official services in the Georgia Area. As a result, AMS asked for additional comments in the July 24, 2017, **Federal Register** (82 FR 34276).

On September 12, 2018, the GDA rescinded its application for designation to provide official services in the Georgia Area. This left Schaal as the only remaining applicant for designation to provide official services in the Georgia Area. AMS evaluated the designation criteria in section 7(f) of the USGSA (7 U.S.C. 79(f)) and determined that Schaal is qualified to provide official services in the geographic area specified in the **Federal Register** on April 17, 2017. The designation to provide official services in the Georgia Area is effective October 1, 2018, and will be incorporated into Schaal's current designation which is effective from October 1, 2016, to September 30, 2021.

Interested persons may obtain official services by contacting this agency at the following telephone number:

Official agency	Headquarters location and telephone	Designation start	Designation end
Schaal	Belmond, IA, 641-444-3122	10/1/2016	9/30/2021

Section 7(f) of the USGSA authorizes the Secretary 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 (7 U.S.C. 79 (f)).

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 71-87k.

Dated: December 11, 2018.

Greg Ibach,

Under Secretary, Marketing and Regulatory Programs.

[FR Doc. 2018-27142 Filed 12-13-18; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Marketing Service

[Document Number AMS-SC-18-0089]

Meeting of the Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended, the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), is announcing a meeting of the Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee (Committee). The meeting is being convened to examine the full spectrum of fruit and vegetable industry issues and provide recommendations and ideas to the Secretary of Agriculture on how the U.S. Department of Agriculture

(USDA) can tailor programs and services to better meet the needs of the U.S. produce industry.

DATES: The Committee will meet in-person on Wednesday, January 30, 2019, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET), and Thursday, January 31, 2019, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., ET. In-person oral comments will be heard on Wednesday, January 30, 2019, and possibly on Thursday, January 31, 2019. The deadline to submit written comments and/or sign up for oral comments is 11:59 p.m. ET, January 7, 2019.

ADDRESSES: The Committee meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City Hotel, 2799 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202. Detailed information pertaining to the meeting can be found at: <https://www.ams.usda.gov/about-ams/facas-advisory-councils/fviac>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Marlene Betts, Fruit and Vegetable Industry Advisory Committee, USDA, AMS, Specialty Crop Programs, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Room 2077-S, STOP 0235, Washington, DC 20250-0235; Telephone: (202) 720-5057; Email: SCPFVIAC@ams.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) (5 U.S.C. App. 2), the Secretary of Agriculture (Secretary) established the Committee in 2001 to examine the full spectrum of issues faced by the fruit and vegetable industry and to provide suggestions and ideas to the Secretary on how USDA can tailor its programs to meet the fruit and vegetable industry's needs. The committee was reestablished in March 2018 for a two-year period.

The AMS Deputy Administrator for the Specialty Crops Program serves as the Committee's Executive Secretary, leading the effort to administer the Committee's activities. Representatives from USDA mission areas and other government agencies affecting the fruit and vegetable industry are periodically called upon to participate in the Committee's meetings as determined by the Committee. AMS is giving notice of the Committee meeting to the public so that they may attend and present their views. The meeting is open to the public.

Agenda items may include, but are not limited to, welcome and introductions, administrative matters, consideration of topics for potential working group discussion and proposal, and presentations by subject matter experts as requested by the Committee.

Public Comments: Comments should address specific topics noted on the meeting agenda.

Written Comments: Written public comments will be accepted on or before 11:59 p.m. ET on January 7, 2019, via <http://www.regulations.gov>: Document #AMS-SC-18-0089. Comments submitted after this date will be provided to AMS, but the Committee may not have adequate time to consider those comments prior to the meeting. AMS-Specialty Crop Programs strongly prefers that comments be submitted electronically. However, written comments may also be submitted (*i.e.*, postmarked) via mail to the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section by or before the deadline.

Oral Comments: The Committee is providing the public an opportunity to provide oral comments and will accommodate as many individuals and organizations as time permits. Persons or organizations wishing to make oral

comments must pre-register by 11:59 p.m. ET, January 7, 2019, and can register for only one speaking slot. Instructions for registering and participating in the meeting can be found by contacting the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section by or before the deadline.

Meeting Accommodations: The Hyatt Regency Crystal City is ADA compliant and the USDA provides reasonable accommodations to individuals with disabilities where appropriate. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this public meeting, please notify the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. Determinations for reasonable accommodations will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Dated: December 11, 2018.

Bruce Summers,

Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service.

[FR Doc. 2018-27141 Filed 12-13-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-02-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Agricultural Marketing Service**

[Doc. No. AMS-FGIS-18-0079]

Solicitation of Nominations for Members of the USDA Grain Inspection Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice to solicit nominees.

SUMMARY: The Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) is seeking nominations for individuals to serve on the USDA Grain Inspection Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee). The Advisory Committee meets no less than once annually to advise AMS on the programs and services it delivers under the U.S. Grain Standards Act (USGSA). Recommendations by the Advisory Committee help AMS better meet the needs of its customers who operate in a dynamic and changing marketplace. The realignment of offices within the U.S. Department of Agriculture authorized by the Secretary's Memorandum dated November 14, 2017, eliminates the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyard Administration (GIPSA) as a standalone agency. The grain inspection activities formerly part of GIPSA are now organized under AMS.

DATES: AMS will consider nominations received by January 28, 2019.

ADDRESSES: Submit nominations for the Advisory Committee by completing form AD-755 and send to:

- Kendra Kline, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Rm. 2043-S, Mail Stop 3614, Washington, DC 20250-3611;
- Email: Kendra.C.Kline@usda.gov; or
- Fax: 202-690-2333

Form AD-755 may be obtained via USDA's website: <http://www.gipsa.usda.gov/fgis/forms-fgis/ad755.pdf>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kendra Kline, telephone (202) 690-2410 or email Kendra.C.Kline@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: As required by section 21 of the USGSA (7 U.S.C. 87j), as amended, the Secretary of Agriculture (Secretary) established the Advisory Committee on September 29, 1981, to provide advice on implementation of the USGSA. As specified in the USGSA, no member may serve successive terms.

The Advisory Committee consists of 15 members, appointed by the Secretary, who represent the interests of grain producers, processors, handlers, merchandisers, consumers, exporters, and scientists with expertise in research related to the policies in section 2 of the USGSA (7 U.S.C. 74). While members of the Advisory Committee serve without compensation, USDA reimburses them for travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, for travel away from their homes or regular places of business in performance of Advisory Committee service (see 5 U.S.C. 5703).

A list of current Advisory Committee members and other relevant information are available on the USDA website at <https://www.gipsa.usda.gov/fgis/advisorycommittee.aspx>.

AMS is seeking nominations for individuals to serve on the Advisory Committee. Applications submitted during the previous nomination period, March 16, 2018–April 30, 2018, will be considered unless notification is provided the individual no longer is available for consideration.

Nominations are open to all individuals without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, mental or physical disability, marital status, or sexual orientation. To ensure that recommendations of the Advisory Committee take into account the needs of the diverse groups served by the USDA, membership shall include, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

The final selection of Advisory Committee members and alternates is made by the Secretary.