DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

National Agricultural Statistics Service

Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics

AGENCY: National Agricultural Statistics Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of the Charter Re-establishment for the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is seeking to re-establish the committee for 2 years as a discretionary committee, the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics. Effective October 1, 1996, responsibility for the census of agriculture program was transferred to the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) at USDA from the Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce. Effective February 2, 1997, NASS also received the transferred program positions and staff from the Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce. Responsibility for the Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics, which is a discretionary committee and was established by agency authority, was transferred, along with its allocated slot, to USDA with the census of agriculture program.

Authority: The Advisory Committee on Agriculture Statistics was originally established by the Secretary of Commerce on July 16, 1962. The Committee is also established in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C. App.2.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kevin Barnes, Associate Administrator, National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, (202) 720–2707, or email SM.NASS.OA@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose: The purpose of the Committee is to advise the Secretary on the conduct of the periodic censuses and surveys of agriculture, other related surveys, and the types of agricultural information to obtain from respondents. The committee also prepares recommendations regarding the content of agriculture reports and presents the views and needs for data of major suppliers and users of agriculture statistics. The committee draws on the experience and expertise of its members to form a collective judgment concerning agriculture data collected and the statistics issued by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). Description of Duties: The duties of the Committee are solely advisory in nature. The Committee makes recommendations to the Secretary of Agriculture with regard to the agricultural statistics program of NASS, and such other matters as it may deem advisable, or which the Secretary of Agriculture, Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, or the Administrator of NASS may request. Agency or Official to Whom the Committee Reports: The Committee reports to the Secretary of Agriculture through the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics. Committee Membership: The Secretary of Agriculture will appoint the membership of the Committee. Furthermore, members will serve for two-year terms, and can serve no more than three consecutive terms for a total of six consecutive years. Membership will consist of 22 individuals with diverse capabilities distinguished by their broad range of knowledge and interest in, though not limited to, agricultural economics, rural sociology, farm policy analysis, and agricultural education. Members will also be drawn from Educational & Research Organizations; Farm Service and Marketing Organizations; State Government Agricultural Agencies; and Farm, Ranch and Agriculture Producers. A representative from the Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce, and a representative from the Economic Research Service, USDA, shall serve as ex officio members of the Committee. This Committee will be fairly balanced in its membership in terms of the points of view represented and the functions to be performed. Steps will be taken to encourage fresh points of view, such as establishing staggered membership terms and limiting the number of renewed memberships. Equal opportunity practices in accordance with USDA policies will be followed in all appointments to the Committee. To ensure that the recommendations of the Committee have taken into account the needs of the diverse groups served by USDA, membership will include to the extent possible, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent the needs of all racial and ethnic groups, women and men, and persons with disabilities. The USDA prohibits discrimination in all of its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual’s income is derived from any public assistance program.

Ethics Statement: To maintain the highest levels of honesty, integrity and ethical conduct, no Committee or subcommittee member shall participate in any “specific party matters” (i.e., matters are narrowly focused and typically involve specific transactions between identified parties) such as a lease, license, permit, contract, claim, grant, agreement, or related litigation with the Department in which the member has a direct or indirect financial interest. This includes the requirement for Committee or Subcommittee members to immediately disclose to the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) any specific party matter in which the member’s immediate family, relatives, business partners or employer would be directly seeking to financially benefit from the Committee’s recommendations. All members will receive ethics training to identify and avoid any actions that would cause the public to question the integrity of the Committee’s advice and recommendations. Members who are appointed as “Representatives” are not subject to Federal ethics laws because such appointment allows them to represent the point(s) of view of a particular group, business sector or segment of the public. Members appointed as “Special Government Employees” (SGEs) are considered intermittent Federal employees and are subject to Federal ethics laws. SGE’s are appointed due to their personal knowledge, academic scholarship, background or expertise. No SGE may participate in any activity in which the member has a prohibited financial interest. Appointees who are SGEs are required to complete and submit a Confidential Financial Disclosure Report (OGE–450 form) and, upon request, USDA will assist SGEs in preparing these financial reports. To ensure the highest level of compliance with applicable ethical standards USDA will provide ethics training to SGEs on an annual basis. The provisions of these paragraphs are not exhaustive and do not cover all Federal ethics laws and do not affect any other
statutory or regulatory obligations to which advisory committee members are subject.

Recordkeeping: The records of this Committee, formally and informally established subcommittees, or other subgroups of the committee, shall be handled in accordance with General Records Schedule 26, Item 2 or other approved agency records disposition schedule. These records shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552. Information about this Committee is available online at: https://www.nass.usda.gov/About_NASS/Advisory_Committee_on_Agriculture_Statistics/.


Cikena Reid,
USDA Committee Management Officer.
[FR Doc. 2021–10199 Filed 5–13–21; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3410–20–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement
Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers (ACBFR)

ACTION: Public meeting of the Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the Advisory Committee; the purpose of the Advisory Committee on Beginning Farmers and Ranchers meeting is to advise the Secretary on matters concerning beginning farmers and ranchers including but not limited to the following: The development of the program of coordinated assistance to qualified beginning farmers and ranchers under section 309(i) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act; methods of maximizing the number of new farming and ranching opportunities created through the program; methods of encouraging States to participate in the program; the administration of the program; and other methods of creating new farming or ranching opportunities.

DATES: Wednesday, June 2, 2021, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time Zone) and Thursday, June 3, 2021, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time Zone).

ADDRESSES: Virtual. The most up-to-date agenda details and documents will be made available at: https://www.usda.gov/partnerships/advisory-committee-on-beginning-farmers-and-ranchers.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Maria Goldberg, Designated Federal Officer, Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement (OPPE), 202–720–6350, or email: maria.goldberg@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Public participation will be limited to written statements and interested parties who have registered to present comments orally to the Advisory Committee. Written comments may be submitted to email address: ACBeginningFarmersandRanchers@usda.gov. Written comments must be received by OPPE within 15 days after the scheduled meeting. If interested in presenting comments orally, please contact Maria Goldberg at the telephone or email address listed above. Opportunities to provide oral comments will be given in the order the requests to speak are received. The meeting will be open to the public.

Accommodations: USDA is committed to ensuring that all persons are included in our programs and events. Please contact Maria Goldberg, 202–720–6350 or email: maria.goldberg@usda.gov, if you require reasonable accommodations to participate in this meeting.

Dated: May 6, 2021.

Cikena Reid,
USDA Committee Management Officer.
[FR Doc. 2021–10198 Filed 5–13–21; 8:45 am]
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CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

Notice of Public Meeting of the Minnesota Advisory Committee; Cancellation

AGENCY: Commission on Civil Rights.

ACTION: Notice; cancellation of meeting.

SUMMARY: The Commission on Civil Rights published a notice in the Federal Register concerning a meeting of the Minnesota Advisory Committee. The meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 13, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. (CST) is cancelled. The notice is in the Federal Register of Tuesday, May 4, 2021, in FR Doc. 2021–09269, on page 23671.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David Barreras, (202) 499–4066, dbarreras@usccr.gov.


David Mussatt,
Supervisory Chief, Regional Programs Unit.
[FR Doc. 2021–10197 Filed 5–13–21; 8:45 am]
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