

PAC/NAFEC Report – Fall Board Meeting

October 6th, 2015 – Huron, SD

PAC:

Whether or not you like this process, this is the way things work in the legislative arena. This process is everyone's chance to be involved. The PAC is necessary and it does work. The NASCOE Legislative website has all the latest information about the PAC. We need to encourage everyone to visit this site and to educate themselves about the PAC. The sign-up process is easy and everyone's contributions are needed for our legislative agenda to be successful.

South Dakota currently has 32 people who are contributing to the PAC. South Dakota is one of the top contributing states in NASCOE. Should we be happy with this?? Yes, but we still need to have everyone contributing. We need to talk to our membership in our districts, in our offices and at our meetings to encourage everyone to contribute. They would like to have 20% of the membership contributing which means South Dakota should have between 50 and 60...

The past year our membership faced many issues that affected every one of us as far as our jobs and benefits. To name a few... **sponsored bills which contained language to increase our contributions to our retirement and language to reduce the amount of matching in our Thrift Savings, and of course talk of another government shutdown.** Everyone needs to understand that NASCOE was in the fight on our behalf on all of these issues and guess what.... the PAC contributions helped us. So, I encourage everyone to review the information, think about what your contribution would mean in our cause and ask yourself why you aren't investing in your own future!!! Think about this and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me.

NAFEC:

NAFEC is vitally important to our future. We need to ask our county committee members to become members of this organization. I ask each of you to continue to promote NAFEC in your districts and encourage each office to get at least one COC member to join. They need to do this so the COC sees how this organization works on their behalf, the farmers and ranchers they serve. Our COC members may not see or understand this but NAFEC can and does affect change in our programs and the policy under which FSA administers them. NAFEC is a great partner of NASCOE as they are able to fight battles that NASCOE is not allowed to participate in.

I am currently working with a few COC members to become directors of NAFEC for South Dakota. The NAFEC organization would like to have two directors from each state. Please encourage your COC members to join as this will be good for them and FSA. This is why I stated earlier to encourage at least one member of the COC to join as they can report back to the rest as far as what this great organization is all about and how it does really work for them. Please thank those COC members who joined and encourage them to get involved.

Respectfully filed

Jim Anderson
PAC/NAFEC Chair