

2021 IAC PROGRAM GUIDE



California Farm
Bureau
Federation

Issue
Advisory
Committee
[IAC] Program

Updated February 2021

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Introduction

The California Farm Bureau Federation's Issue Advisory Committees (IACs) consist of Farm Bureau members with knowledge and direct involvement in issues of importance to California farmers and ranchers. Committee members discuss cross-commodity concerns for agriculture, serve as a Farm Bureau resource on breaking policy issues, provide advice and recommendations to the CFBF president and Board of Directors, provide policy development recommendations to the Policy Recommendation Committees (PRCs) and the CFBF Resolutions Committee, and participate in advocacy efforts on the issues their committees address.

Committees

In 2021, there will be 8 IACs. Additionally, the Animal Health & Welfare IAC will now have two subcommittees to address dairy and livestock issues separately before reconvening into one committee. The table below describes the scope of each IAC. The CFBF Board of Directors may establish additional short-term, ad hoc committees as issues emerge or grow in importance.

COMMITTEE	ISSUE AREA EXAMPLES
Agricultural Labor	E-Verify EPA Worker Protection Standard Guestworker Programs Immigration US Department of Labor Regulations Wages & Hours
Animal Health & Welfare <i>Livestock Subcommittee</i> <i>Dairy Subcommittee</i>	Animal Care Practices Antibiotics Antimicrobials/Zoonoses Emergency Preparedness Food Safety Processing
Taxation, Farm Policy & Land Use	California Budget Farm Bill, Risk Management Regulatory Reform Property Rights Taxes Williamson Act
COMMITTEE	ISSUE AREA EXAMPLES

Energy, Air & Climate	Air Quality Climate Issues Soil Health, Compost, Biomass Renewable Energy and Fuels Utilities
Forestry, Fish & Wildlife & Public Lands	Forest Planning and Management Multiple Use/Grazing Predator/Depredation Protected Species/ESA Timber Harvest Wildfire
Marketing, Organics & Produce Food Safety	Certification Standards Education Inspections FSMA Labeling Marketing/Bargaining/Checkoffs Quarantines
Pollinator & Crop Protection	Apiculture Pest & Disease Pesticides
Transportation, Trade & Technology	Agricultural Transportation Data Privacy Drones Non-Tariff Barriers to Trade Ports Railroads and Highways Robotics Trade Negotiations

Committee Members

Most committees have 15-20 members; however, individual committee sizes may vary, depending on need and the number of candidates qualified for IAC participation.

One member of each committee serves as the committee chair and another serves as vice-chair.

Responsibilities

The IACs will convene in May. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, participation virtually or in person will be dependent upon state and local health and safety obligations. Participation at other times throughout the year will occur as needed, with approval of the committee chair and staff leads. Any additional meetings or communication will take place via email,

conference call, or webinar.

In addition to these duties, IAC members are expected to remain informed on committee issues and current Farm Bureau policy in order to contribute to the discussion and generate the best outcomes. They provide advice and recommendations on issues of greatest importance to farmers and ranchers.

Other duties of committee members:

- Review and familiarize with all Farm Bureau policies associated with the IAC.
- Provide recommendations on issues to the CFBF Board of Directors.
- Make recommendations for policy development.
- Recommend development of issue papers on emerging or critical issues.
- Engage with advocacy and communication efforts aimed at elected officials and the public, consistent with CFBF policy and priorities.
- Serve as subject experts at hearings, if asked.

Additional duties of committee chairs:

- Work with Farm Bureau staff assigned to the committee to develop the IAC meeting agenda and consult as needed throughout the year.
- Maintain regular communication with staff liaisons concerning committee projects and plans.

Reporting

All recommendations and actions of the IACs will be reported to the CFBF Board of Directors in writing. Recommendations requiring approval will be submitted to the CFBF Board of Directors after review by the CFBF Executive Committee.

Terms & Appointment

Each year, IAC members are nominated by the County Farm Bureaus and are appointed by the CFBF president. Committee chairs and vice-chairs serve at the discretion of the CFBF president.

Qualifications

To qualify for appointment to an IAC, a nominee must:

- Be a current voting Farm Bureau member;
- Have experience or strong interest in the relevant issue area;
- Have access to the Internet and email;
- Be willing to commit the time needed for active participation; and

- Be able to communicate effectively.

Nominations

County Farm Bureaus nominate individuals to serve on IACs, submitting nominations by April 1st, or later to accommodate county board meeting schedules. CFBF will email nominations to the counties, requiring the following for each nominee:

- Personal contact information;
- Description of farming operation, commodities produced, or involvement in an affiliated agricultural sector;
- Knowledge, experience, or reason for interest in the issue areas of the committees for which the candidate is nominated (e.g., vocation, education, leadership positions, or other relevant experience).

From the pool of nominees, the CFBF president appoints members of the committee, including a chair and vice chair. A candidate may be nominated for more than one committee, but the CFBF president will appoint a candidate for one committee only.

Appointees will be notified of committee appointments as soon as possible.

The Young Farmers & Ranchers State Committee Chair will nominate two representatives per committee.

The President will appoint one CFBF Director to serve on each IAC as a Board liaison.

Expenses

CFBF will provide committee members registration, lodging, travel and meals during the IAC meetings at the CFBF Agriculture and Grassroots Conference, in compliance with CFBF Expense Reimbursement Policy. An alternate will not be reimbursed for incurred expenses unless filling in for an IAC representative.

Duties of Chairs, Vice-Chairs, and Staff

Each IAC has a Chair, Vice-Chair, and a staff lead to ensure smooth operation of the committee.

The most productive committees are those run by committee members, with staff facilitating. It is the responsibility of the Chair and Vice-Chair to prepare a proposed agenda. Chairs and Vice-Chairs should reach out to committee members for ideas and input immediately upon appointment. The agenda should be sent by March 1st. Staff can arrange phone calls, emails, and draft the agenda. The Chair leads the committee meeting and directs the discussion. The Vice-Chair assumes that role in the Chair's absence.

The Chair and Vice-Chair may decide throughout the year that a webinar or teleconference should be held on various topics, which staff can coordinate. Staff may also obtain or develop any necessary background information needed to assist committee deliberations. The Chair and staff lead will prepare reports of committee recommendations and actions to the CBBF Executive Committee and Board of Directors.

Timeline

FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL-JUNE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee Chairs and Staff leads finalize annual agenda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capitol AG Conference (virtual) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IACs meet (May) CBBF Board of Directors considers committee recommendations for policy development
JULY	SEPTEMBER	NOVEMBER-DECEMBER
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy Recommendation Committees (PRC) convene to consider IAC policy proposals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PRC Chairs and Vice Chairs participate in CBBF Resolutions Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nominations for new committee members solicited from county Farm Bureaus

IAC Conference Schedule

Monday, May 10th 10 am - 2 pm	Tuesday, May 11th 10 am – 2 pm
Agricultural Labor	Transportation, Trade & Technology
Taxation, Farm Policy, & Land Use	Pollinator & Crop Protection
Wednesday, May 12th 10am - 2pm	Thursday, May 13th 10am – 2pm
Animal Health & Welfare <i>Dairy and Livestock</i> <i>Subcommittees meet 8-10am</i>	Marketing, Organics, & Produce Food Safety
Energy, Air and Climate	Forestry, Fish & Wildlife, & Public Lands

Policy Procedure Guidelines

Committee Actions

The committee is responsible for submitting recommendations to the CFBF Board of Directors for its review, analysis and action. Committee recommendations are categorized as: **board action, policy development, or board information**. The CFBF board may approve, modify and/or reject recommendations as it deems appropriate.

Upon call of the chair and consent of the committee's voting members, the committee may go into executive session with only the voting members present to consider and act on any issue. The chair may, with the voting members' consent, invite others to remain or be present for executive session.

Committee Voting

Committee members with voting rights are the county Farm Bureau representatives appointed to the committee by the CFBF President. CFBF board members and any invited speakers are present in an advisory capacity only; they have the privilege of the floor and may offer recommendations for the committee's consideration. A majority of the committee members with voting rights constitutes a quorum. Advisory members are not *counted toward* a quorum. Committee actions require the affirmative vote of a majority of the voting members present at a meeting at which a quorum is present. The chair may vote to break or create a tie.

A meeting at which a quorum was initially present may continue to transact business, despite the withdrawal of one or more voting members, as long as any action taken, or decision made is approved by at least a majority of the required quorum for that meeting. The committee may act without a meeting if all voting members, individually or collectively, consent in writing to that action.

Participation

Agricultural members of a county Farm Bureau who are not appointed as members of the committee may register to attend the committee or conference meeting. Those individuals do not have voting rights and may address the committee only if recognized by the chair. Committee meetings are not public meetings, and members of the public must be invited by the committee in order to attend.

Dissent from AFBF

The Membership Memorandum of Agreement between CFBF and AFBF provides that the policy adopted by AFBF in January becomes the policy of CFBF, even though CFBF may have adopted contradictory policy in December, unless a dissent is filed in a timely manner. The CFBF Board of Directors must file, within 60 days of the adoption of the policy or action by the AFBF board, a letter of intent to dissent. To meet this requirement for policy dissents, the final dissent action must be taken by the CFBF board at the February meeting. The membership agreement between CFBF and the California county Farm Bureaus provides that the policy adopted by CFBF (and by extension, AFBF) is the policy of the county Farm Bureaus. The agreement requires that county Farm Bureaus must adopt and file with CFBF an action to dissent in a reasonable time before public assertion of a position contrary to that of CFBF and AFBF.