



# Nebraska Farmers Union

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**For Immediate Release**

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## **Twelve Nebraskans Attend 124th NFU Convention in New Orleans, LA**

Lincoln, NE – Twelve Nebraska Farmers Union (NeFU) members attended the 124th National Farmers Union (NFU) Convention in New Orleans this past week where over 500 family farmers, ranchers and supporters from around the nation met.

In addition to NeFU President John Hansen, Nebraska was represented by four delegates. Lynn Belitz of Fullerton and Andrew Tonnies of North Bend represented the NeFU Board of Directors. Keith Dittrich of Meadow Grove and Bill Armbrust of Elkhorn represented the NeFU membership.

NeFU Members attending included Tammy Dittrich of Tilden, Ted and Ramona Thieman of Petersburg, Julie Hindmarsh of Fremont, retiring Midwest Agency General Manager Jeff Downing of Ashland, out of state member Willie Cade and new NeFU Executive Director Matt Gregory of Lincoln.

The Convention delegates updated the NFU policy and also approved three Special Orders of Business on timely topics: [Family Farmers, the Farm Crisis, and the Future of Food and Farm Policy](#); [Family Farming and the Roots of Our Democracy](#); and [Family Farming and Dairy Policy Reform](#).

The National Farmers Union board re-elected Hansen to the NFU Executive Committee and Vice Chair of the NFU Legislative Committee. Hansen was also re-elected Vice Chair of the Farmers Union Midwest Agency Board of Directors.



*L to R front: Matt Gregory, John Hansen, Ramona Thieman, Julie Hindmarsh, Tammy Dittrich  
L to R back: Ted Thieman, Willie Cade, Andrew Tonnies, Lynn Belitz, Keith Dittrich, Bill Armbrust. Not pictured: Jeff Downing.*

“The challenges facing family farmers and ranchers continue to grow more complex,” said NFU President Rob Larew of the 3-day convention. “But through it all, NFU continues to do something Washington too often struggles to achieve: bringing people with diverse viewpoints together, working through tough issues and emerging with solutions they built collectively.”

John Hansen, Chair of the NFU Meritorious Service Committee and NFU President Rob Larew presented retired Ohio Farmers Union President Joe Logan and retired Rocky Mountain Farmers Union President Dale McCall with the NFU Meritorious Service to American Agriculture award. The 125th Anniversary Convention will be held in San Antonio, Texas, March 7-9, 2027.

*Nebraska Farmers Union is a general farm organization with 3,964 farm and ranch family members dedicated to protecting and enhancing the economic well-being and quality of life for family farmers and ranchers, and their rural communities. Since 1913, Nebraska Farmers Union has helped organize over 445 cooperatives.*

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***Fighting for Nebraska’s family farmers and ranchers since 1913.***