

**American Farmers & Ranchers
Oklahoma Farmers Union**



Policy Statement

*Adopted by the delegates to the
121st AFR State Convention
February 13-15, 2026*

2026 Policy Statement



American Farmers & Ranchers is a general farm organization, which has been representing family farmers, ranchers and rural Americans since 1905. It is the oldest and one of the largest general farm and rural organizations in Oklahoma, with members in all 77 counties.

With a broadly based farm, ranch and rural community membership, American Farmers & Ranchers is known as the “Voice of the Family Farmer and Rural America.”

The members themselves make our policy. They do this through a system of annual meetings. Local and county organizations send recommendations to the state level for policy committee review. The local and county organizations also send delegates to the annual state convention to approve our platform, which guides the organization’s actions.

This policy establishes the legislative direction of the organization and represents the diverse and complex interests of the people of rural Oklahoma. AFR strives to represent these issues in a non-partisan manner on a local, state and national level.

**AMERICAN FARMERS & RANCHERS
2026 PROPOSED POLICY POSITIONS**

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AMERICAN FARMERS & RANCHERS

PREAMBLE

We believe in this nation, under God, and for the great hope for eternal freedom, which it holds for humanity everywhere.

We re-affirm our convictions of the truth and the rightness of the ideals expressed in the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, and its Bill of Rights.

We pray our state and national leaders place national security and the preservation of our form of government as their foremost responsibility.

We support prudent policy and programs that preserve the American system of family farms. Furthermore, we encourage all commodity groups and all farmers and ranchers to cooperate in formulating solutions and promoting sustainability.

Under our economic and political system, the family farm system of agriculture is the most productive and efficient in the world. Since our nation's beginning, family farmers and ranchers have brought forth from the soil new wealth in abundant production of food and fiber and even today agriculture remains the number one industry.

PURPOSE

The American Farmers & Ranchers' mission is to provide effective grassroots leadership for the enhancement and protection of farmers and ranchers, so their rural communities may thrive and prosper. Guided by its educational, cooperative and legislative principles, American Farmers & Ranchers is committed to work for the advancement of the quality of life for its membership and people everywhere.

We are also committed to providing a continuing, safe and stable supply of high-quality food and fiber for consumers.

We support the right of farmers and ranchers to engage in modern farming and ranching practices which shall be forever guaranteed in this state. No law shall be enacted which abridges the right of farmers and ranchers to employ agricultural technology, modern livestock production and ranching practices.

American Farmers & Ranchers makes a concerted effort to properly inform consumers, legislative leaders and members of Congress of the problems confronting farmers and ranchers.

American Farmers & Ranchers strives to make aggressive efforts at the national, state and local levels to educate farmers and the general public on the policy and issue positions of other organizations when the position will benefit family farmers, ranchers or our rural communities, and oppose those issues which would negatively impact them.

The role of the family agricultural producer must be that of leadership and stewardship in preserving our natural resources.

The farm and ranch family and its welfare, therefore, is the keystone of our policy. To ensure its continuation, we support a competitive market with fair price discovery.

These families have always been, and remain, the foremost stewards of this land. We have the responsibility to assure that this legacy, with its broad dispersion of land ownership, is passed on to our children and grandchildren.

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1 **SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS**

2
3 **DISASTER RELIEF PROGRAMS**

4 We support an effort to give Farm Bill disaster relief programs permanent authority.

5
6 **EDUCATION**

7 We support the Oklahoma State Legislature continuing to address the crisis within the public
8 education system.

9
10 **HEALTHCARE & HUMAN SERVICES**

11 We believe Oklahoma should make increased access to healthcare in rural areas a priority and
12 work to preserve rural hospitals. We recommend reopening any structurally viable rural hospitals
13 that are currently closed.

14
15 We support state and federal legislation to reduce the cost of medical and mental healthcare and
16 prescription drugs.

17
18 We oppose the further closing of Oklahoma's Department of Human Services (DHS) county
19 offices. We strongly support opening a DHS county office in each county in Oklahoma.

20
21 **IMMIGRATION**

22 We support immigration laws that provide a system of identification, classification and taxation.

23
24 **FARM LABOR**

25 We support modernizing the federal H-2A visa program to safeguard the American agriculture
26 industry, which currently lacks a stable legal workforce.

27
28 **RIGHT TO REPAIR**

29 We support farmers and ranchers having the right to repair their own equipment and/or cause to
30 be repaired through third-party non-manufacturers. We support increased access to and reasonable
31 pricing of service manuals, product guides, on-board diagnostics and other information to identify
32 and repair machinery, parts and software.

33
34 We oppose the further consolidation of farm machinery dealerships and branded repair facilities.

35
36 We support "lemon laws" being enforced and strengthened as they pertain to agricultural
37 machinery and equipment.

38
39 **ANTITRUST ENFORCEMENT**

40 We demand enforcement of the Packers and Stockyards Act, the Sherman Antitrust Act, and the
41 Clayton Antitrust Acts, specifically regarding the antitrust issues surrounding the packing segment
42 of the beef industry in the United States.

43
44 **TRUTH IN LABELING STANDARDS**

45 We demand USDA enforce truth in labeling. We oppose the use of food product labeling that
46 misleads consumers. To qualify for "Product of USA" labeling, livestock and poultry must be
47 bred, born, fed, harvested and processed within the borders of the United States.

48
49 We support Congress establishing strict labeling restrictions on all lab-grown or plant-based
50 imitation meat and dairy, and such issues being regulated by the USDA.

1 **FARM STRESS & MEDIATION**

2 We support all organizations' financial and emotional stress and crisis management efforts and
3 encourage further development of resources for farmers and ranchers in duress.

4
5 We support continuation of the Oklahoma Agricultural Mediation Program (OAMP) and
6 guaranteed timely funding for the continuation and expansion of services.

7
8 **FED CATTLE MARKETING**

9 To address the issue of captive supply in the fed cattle industry, we recommend that no one of the
10 major four beef packing companies may purchase more than 25% of their weekly slaughter needs
11 from any one feeding entity.

12
13 We urge Congress to update and modernize the Livestock Mandatory Reporting Act to create
14 fairness and transparency in the marketplace.

15
16 **AGRICULTURAL INPUT PRICES**

17 We support incentives and reduced regulations to encourage companies to produce agricultural
18 inputs within the United States.

19
20 **ODWC LAND PURCHASES**

21 We oppose the ODWC purchasing more land in the State of Oklahoma.

22
23 **LAND-USE RESTRICTIONS**

24 We oppose municipalities and counties imposing land-use restrictions outside city limits.

25
26 We oppose municipalities incorporating large swaths of rural land without landowner consent.

27 We further oppose the unjustified use of emergency annexation as a means for municipalities to
28 incorporate property.

29
30 **EMINENT DOMAIN**

31 We oppose the purchasing of private property by eminent domain to satisfy an environmental
32 conservation goal.

33
34 Eminent domain should not be the most economical way to acquire private property. Land acquired
35 by eminent domain should have a settlement value of significantly more than the replacement cost
36 for like property plus intangible damages.

37
38 We oppose the use of eminent domain for the acquisition of lands for parks, recreation, historical
39 trails, and non-public utilities that are non-cooperatives. We further urge this type of eminent
40 domain question be handled by a state entity, rather than federal.

41
42 **ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION**

43 We support a producer's voluntary application of technology, age verification and trace back
44 methods which can enhance producer profits. We support current non-electronic animal
45 identification methods. We oppose any mandatory electronic animal identification requirements,
46 whether mandated by state or federal authorities.

47
48 **INTEREST RATES**

49 In light of the heavy burden placed on farmers and ranchers due to high interest rates, we support
50 an interest subsidy program in the upcoming Farm Bill.

1 **WATER**

2 We support water metering for any irrigation or commercial wells pulling from critically depleting
3 aquifers. We prefer this metering be managed on a regional basis.
4

5 **PROPERTY RIGHTS**

6 We firmly support personal property rights and believe others should not interfere with individual
7 landowners' rights to make decisions about economic development on their property, as long as
8 that development falls within lawful guidelines.
9

10 **PROPERTY TAXES**

11 We oppose any change to state statute or the Oklahoma Constitution, which shifts the current
12 sinking fund indebtedness of counties and schools from all property owners to only non-
13 homestead landowners.
14

15 **FSA OFFICE CLOSURE**

16 Farming and agribusiness do not stop. Therefore, in light of the recent historic government
17 shutdown, we support FSA employees being classified as "essential" employees during times of
18 government shutdown or other times of mass federal closures.
19

20 **LAB-GROWN MEAT**

21 We support a complete ban on lab-grown meat, including but not limited to retail sale,
22 manufacturing and research.
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COMMENDATIONS

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We commend National Farmers Union for their leadership and active role in concentration and competition issues in agriculture, particularly in regard to the functionality of the fed cattle market. *(2022)*

We commend Oklahoma’s farmers and ranchers in their efforts to be good stewards of the land as they combat frequent droughts and other adverse weather conditions. *(2024)*

We commend our AFR Farm Stress Management team members who act as “farm stress first responders” for fellow producers throughout Oklahoma. *(2021, Amended 2022)*

We commend rural, often volunteer, firefighters who have tirelessly responded to untold numbers of fires and rescue operations. *(2022, Amended 2024)*

We commend the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority (OMMA) and the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics (OBN) for their efforts toward corralling and regulating Oklahoma’s medical marijuana industry to encourage the continued safety and security of Oklahoma’s citizens. *(2024)*

We commend the Oklahoma Conservation Commission for their continued success at removing polluted streams from the EPA 303(d) list of impaired waters. We also commend the OCC for their efforts toward reducing red cedar, musk thistle and feral hog infestations in Oklahoma. *(2017, Amended 2022)*

We commend law enforcement officers and other emergency personnel and thank them for their service. We further commend the Oklahoma Highway Patrol for their diligence in removing improperly licensed truck drivers from Oklahoma’s roads. *(2016, Amended 2025)*

We honor and commend our U.S. veterans and military personnel and thank them for their selfless service to our country. *(2024)*

We commend all AFR/OFU members that actively volunteer their time to make the organization better for all membership. *(2023)*

We commend public educators for their dedication to Oklahoma’s children. *(2023)*

FARM POLICY

To establish a foundation for achieving our long-term goal of returning profitability to the family farm system of agriculture and economic stability to rural areas, we recommend that the following principles be incorporated within U.S. farm policy:

We oppose the use of embargoes and sanctions of agricultural goods, unless agriculture producers are properly compensated.

We support the use of food programs that provide nutrition for underprivileged populations around the world, with proper oversight of food commodity distribution.

We strongly believe that all food and fiber products imported into the United States must comply with U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) quality, safety and health standards.

We support indexing commodity target prices to reflect cost of production and a reasonable return.

We support National School Lunch Program (NSLP) efforts to address child hunger and promote good nutrition in schools. We further support the school breakfast, farm-to-school and milk programs.

A. FEDERAL FARM PROGRAMS

We encourage the development of a farm program that is simplified and economically beneficial for producers.

We encourage a farm program that takes into consideration the cost of production, as well as the price of the commodities.

Farm programs and regulations should be finalized prior to the sowing/planting seasons of all crops.

Commodity program payments should be delivered to participating farmers in a timely fashion.

We support retention of the present historical formula (1910-1914 base) as a yardstick for measuring farm costs and income compared to present day.

Low interest loans and financial assistance should be available to family farmers and ranchers to help them establish viable farming and ranching operations.

We oppose farm program payment limitations merely based on the size of the operation or ethnicity of owner/operator.

We support future farm policy that recognizes our geographical differences and provides flexibility regardless of the agriculture operation whether crops or livestock.

We support the continuing of farm program payments to producers who graze out their grain rather than mechanically harvest their grain.

1 We support continuation of federal disaster programs for livestock and crop production.

2
3 We support continuation of the following items without budget baseline, and if possible to
4 be included as part of the permanent budget baseline: Small watershed rehabilitation; agriculture
5 conservation easement programs; supplemental agricultural disaster assistance; livestock
6 indemnity payments; livestock forage disaster program; emergency assistance for livestock,
7 honeybees and farm-raised catfish; funding of pending rural development loan and grant
8 applications; value-added agricultural market development program grants and rural micro-
9 entrepreneur assistance program.

10
11 We support permanent disaster authority assistance programs that provide quick and
12 adequate compensation.

13
14 We support delivery of cost-share programs to the local level utilizing a network of
15 conservation districts' non-federal employees.

16
17 We support reducing the paperwork requirements for young farmers to comply with
18 beginning farmer and rancher development loans and grants programs.

19
20 We support the federal government using available technology to monitor crop production
21 around the world and report both quantity and quality to American producers in a timely manner.

22
23 We support efforts to maximize the amount of dollars appropriated in the farm bill for the
24 purpose of farm program payments to help farmers and ranchers.

25
26 We oppose concentration and vertical integration that is detrimental to the family farm and
27 ranch operation in agriculture, with the exception of producer-owned cooperatives.

28
29 In an effort to promote homeland security and food safety, we strongly support only products
30 "born, raised, slaughtered and processed" or "sprouted, grown, harvested and processed" in this
31 country to be eligible to receive a U.S. label including products sold at eating establishments.

32
33 We support programs which educate the media on the function of agriculture.

34
35 We encourage the executive branch to make available to family farmers and ranchers any
36 funds appropriated for intended agricultural purposes by Congress.

37
38 We oppose the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture selling government-held surplus commodities,
39 which artificially depresses the price received by producers.

40
41 We favor storage-paid farmer-owned reserves not to exceed 25% of production.

42
43 We support individuals holding warehouse receipts or scale tickets marked for storage having
44 customers' priority in recovering their property when storage facilities file for bankruptcy.

45
46 We support fixed land costs being included as a cost of production in government
47 calculations.

48
49 We oppose land owned, leased or receiving funding from foreign governments or non-
50 citizens of the United States being eligible for any U.S. farm policy programs.

1 We encourage the increase in reference price for the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) and
2 Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs.

3 4 **B. CROP & LIVESTOCK INSURANCE**

5
6 While we believe in traditional program payments, in lieu of these we support an
7 enhancement of revenue assurance and crop insurance programs which encourages participation
8 by producers.

9
10 We support enhancing, improving and strengthening crop insurance programs, without
11 further program cuts, as a risk management tool for producers.

12
13 In the interest of good conservation practices and not destroying residue which would
14 encourage erosion, we support allowing producers to qualify for prevented planting for crop
15 insurance/Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) for acres in areas categorized as
16 severe drought.

17
18 We support the continued inclusion of all commercially grown crops in the federal insurance
19 programs available through the USDA Risk Management Agency (RMA).

20 21 **C. CONSERVATION MEASURES**

22
23 We support continued funding of the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), the
24 Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP), Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
25 (CREP) and the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP); and capping CRP at 40
26 million acres and restoring the crop base after contract expiration.

27
28 We support establishment of a per acre payment on CRP which limits the payment to the
29 fair rental value. We further support increasing the per-entity CRP payment cap and encourage
30 inflation-based increases as necessary.

31
32 We support protecting the base on any cropland converted to grassland with a prior
33 established crop base until such time that the land is restored back to cropland use.

34
35 We support Agriculture Conservation Easement Program – Agriculture Land Easement
36 (ACEP-ALE) contracts be allowed to qualify for livestock feed assistance in times of severe
37 drought to reduce the grazing pressure on enrolled lands which could cause erosion.

38
39 We support higher emphasis on Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) technical
40 and financial assistance for EQIP conversion to no-till and water conservation assistance,
41 including pond clean-out and new construction, and support Farm Service Agency (FSA)
42 additional resources through the Emergency Conservation Program for hooking up pasture taps,
43 drilling wells, etc.

44
45 In an effort to reduce costs for farmers and ranchers and to give all agriculture producers an
46 affordable way to take part in any new environmental markets or incentives that may develop in
47 the private sector, we support the creation of a public sector ecosystems services credit verification
48 program at USDA NRCS that will be offered to farmers and ranchers as part of the existing suite
49 of voluntary and free technical assistance services already provided by that agency.

1 We support the Oklahoma Secretary of Agriculture having the ability to declare an
2 agricultural emergency. The Secretary declaring an agricultural drought emergency should cause
3 the Emergency Drought Commission to be convened, as opposed to the current schedule of
4 convening following a gubernatorial emergency declaration of drought.
5

6 **D. FSA/NRCS**

7

8 County and district Farm Service Agency (FSA) / Natural Resources Conservation Service
9 (NRCS) committees should be granted authority in determining county and district needs.
10

11 We support the administration of farm programs through elected community and county
12 farmer committees.
13

14 We oppose the closing of any FSA or NRCS county offices.
15

16 We support the farmers' right to update their proven yields and receive reflective farm
17 program benefits based on proven yields in lieu of FSA program yields.
18

19 We support restoration of funding for technical assistance at FSA and NRCS to help
20 effectively implement the farm bill.
21

22 We support FSA employees being classified as "essential" employees during times of
23 government shutdown or other times of mass federal closures.
24

25 We support more focus on Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) conservation
26 incentive contracts.
27

28 As "family farmer" is defined in this document, we support family farms and believe that
29 program benefits, such as FSA guaranteed and direct loans, should be directed to assist the family
30 operator.
31

32 We support current county production information being obtained from county agriculture
33 producers for use by farmer-elected county FSA committee members.
34

35 We support the existing farmer-elected county FSA committee system.
36
37
38

39 **CONSERVATION**

40

41 We support utilization of cover crops in a no-till or minimum tillage system to promote soil
42 health benefits.
43

44 We support incidental grazing of conservation buffer strips.
45

46 We support final authority over required conservation practices being vested in the local soil
47 conservation districts and the county Farm Service Agency (FSA) committee.
48

49 We support the continued appropriation of matching funds by the state to the Oklahoma
50 Conservation Commission (OCC) for flood control rehabilitation.
51

1 We support the continuation of a state cost-share program for soil and water conservation
2 practices, including increased funding for Eastern Red Cedar removal and invasive species control.
3

4 We support the established state fund for the purpose of matching federal funds. We further
5 support state maintenance funds be administered by the OCC to repair and maintain watershed
6 structures constructed by the conservation districts for the purpose of flood control within the
7 boundaries of the state of Oklahoma. We support national efforts to provide rehabilitation funds
8 for watershed structures.
9

10 We urge continuation of soil conservation districts and FSA programs with full authority
11 residing in the farmer-elected county and community committees.
12

13 We support and encourage Congress to fund the small upstream flood control projects
14 administered by Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).
15

16 We oppose conservation program provisions which penalize or do not consider producers
17 for early adoption of stewardship practices.
18

19 We support and encourage the continued voluntary installation of best management practices
20 under the Clean Water Act (CWA) as it pertains to agricultural non-point sources of pollution.
21

22 Reasonable conservation compliance standards should be established by the local FSA
23 county committee and the local conservation district board based on the unique characteristics of
24 the soils in that county.
25

26 We support any legislative efforts to solidify the position of the Oklahoma Conservation
27 Commission as the state agency that receives and administers CWA Sec. 319 funds.
28

29 We encourage the Oklahoma Congressional Delegation to pursue any and all action to hold
30 the water quality work of the Oklahoma Conservation Commission, local conservation districts
31 and the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) NRCS in Oklahoma as a potential model for all states
32 to follow to address nonpoint source pollution through locally led, voluntary, cooperative
33 conservation instead of through regulations or lawsuits.
34

35 We support adequate federal participation in funding soil and water conservation
36 programs. Land diversion programs should not discourage long-term conservation and soil
37 building practices.
38

39 In an effort to better position the state of Oklahoma to assist farmers, ranchers and rural
40 communities in times of drought, we support a continued annual appropriation of at least three
41 million dollars into the Oklahoma Emergency Drought Fund, a continued annual appropriation
42 of at least three million dollars into the statewide conservation cost-share fund and a continued
43 annual appropriation of at least one million dollars into the Oklahoma Controlled Burn
44 Indemnity Fund to be capped at a reasonable amount.
45

46 We support cost share programs to improve irrigation systems and other methods of water
47 conservation.
48
49
50

51 **COMPETITION AND FAIR MARKETS**

1
2 We support an additional title labeled “Competition” being added to the Farm Bill.

3
4 We support appropriate bonding requirements for all individuals and entities when working
5 in Oklahoma.

6
7 We support only the Oklahoma Dept. of Agriculture, Food & Forestry (ODAFF) being
8 charged with the enforcement and administration of all rules and regulations pertaining to
9 production agriculture.

10
11 We support poultry, swine and other contract growers in their efforts to enhance their
12 bargaining and negotiating positions so they may negotiate fair and equitable contracts with
13 corporate processors and integrators.

14
15 We support farmers and ranchers having the right to repair their own equipment and cause
16 to be repaired through third-party non-manufacturers. We further support access to and reasonable
17 pricing of service manuals, product guides, on-board diagnostics and other information to identify
18 and repair machinery, parts and software.

19
20 We support competition among agriculture suppliers and retailers and discourage territorial
21 monopolies. Equipment manufacturers should not prevent competition.

22
23 We support investigation and potential regulations concerning fair trade practices in all
24 commodity marketing exchanges. We further support a specific investigation into how the practice
25 of short selling of commodities and futures manipulation by major national or international grain
26 and livestock companies adversely affects the price farmers receive.

27
28
29
30 **MARKETING OF AG COMMODITIES**

31
32 We support a joint effort among all agriculture groups in Oklahoma to create an environment
33 of transparency between producers and consumers, rural and urban, to maintain confidence in our
34 products and practices.

35
36 We support agriculture advocacy initiatives and communication efforts to promote
37 agriculture to the non-agriculture audience and to educate consumers, utilizing all available
38 methods, including social media, podcasts and other emerging technologies.

39
40 We favor increased farmer-operator representation on exchange boards, specifically on those
41 committees responsible for rulemaking on agricultural commodity contracts.

42
43 We support keeping the oversight and authorization of the Commodity Futures Trade
44 Commission (CFTC) within the U.S. House and Senate Agriculture committees, and believe that
45 the CFTC should:

- 46
47 1. Guard against insider trading by individuals or firms which possess foreknowledge of
48 significant price changes due to large market transactions.
49
50 2. Ensure an adequate number of delivery points for hedging participants; and
51

- 1 3. Monitor, with special vigilance, any market movements which indicate the deliberate
2 accumulation of excessive speculative positions and to exercise, when necessary, those
3 emergency powers granted by Congress.
4

5 We support sufficient bonding, federal insurance or other types of protection for persons
6 commercially engaged in trading stocks, bonds, financial instruments, livestock or crops.
7

8 We support the continuation of agricultural weights and measures activities by the Oklahoma
9 Dept. of Agriculture, Food & Forestry (ODAFF).
10

11 Any meat or produce sold in the state of Oklahoma labeled as Oklahoma grown must be
12 without exception grown/raised, produced and harvested within the state of Oklahoma.
13

14 We support clear parameters be set for how “locally grown” products are labeled.
15

16 We encourage development of local and regional food systems within the state of Oklahoma,
17 including the formation of distribution cooperatives and tribal partnerships using U.S. Dept. of
18 Agriculture grant dollars designated for local and regional food systems.
19

20 We demand efforts be made to shift Oklahoma’s government beef purchases to locally
21 sourced product, including specifically the state prison system and public schools.
22

23 We support a complete ban on lab-grown meat, including but not limited to retail sale,
24 manufacturing and research.
25

26 We support research into producing beef that is tolerable for consumption by individuals
27 with alpha-gal syndrome (AGS). We further support additional research of AGS in general and
28 the potential spread of AGS-causing vectors, to include improved tracking of AGS spread.
29
30
31

32 TRADE

33

34 Trade mitigation payments shall not be made to multinational corporations or foreign
35 entities.
36

37 We understand the issues related to balancing trade with other countries. The federal
38 government should be supportive of the agriculture industry regarding trade issues.
39

40 To facilitate the expedient delivery of commodities relative to trade opportunities, we support
41 increased attention to maintenance of the waterways infrastructure and railways of the United
42 States.
43

44 We support bilateral and multi-lateral fair-trade agreements, not free trade agreements, to
45 stabilize international grain marketing and to expand agricultural exports.
46

47 We support continuing efforts to normalize trade relations with Cuba.
48

49 We support maintaining balanced trade with foreign countries and imposing tariffs on
50 products which disrupt domestic farm markets.
51

1 U.S. trade negotiators should consider human rights issues during negotiations on
2 international trade.

3
4 We favor producers being compensated for lost markets caused by tariff and non-tariff trade
5 barriers.

6
7 We support U.S. funding of the World Bank to the extent that it remains beneficial to the
8 U.S. economy.

9
10 We oppose the forgiveness of any foreign debt, whether military or economic.

11
12 We urge protection against the loss of American jobs due to offshoring.

13
14 We support a proposal that all foreign aid be in the form of credits to be used to buy American
15 goods and commodities.

16
17 We oppose export of fertilizer and other materials, including fuel, necessary for agricultural
18 productions when a definite need for these materials is evident in this country.

19
20 We support the management of tariffs to ensure a stable food supply.

21
22 We oppose importation of duty-free renewable fuel.

23
24 We support all imported food and feed products being inspected. The cost of inspection
25 should come from fees on imports.

26
27 To protect U.S. food safety standards and the availability of domestically produced
28 agricultural products, we oppose lowering any U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) standard to
29 accommodate any foreign country's food and fiber import products.

30
31 We support all beef imports being counted under the beef import quota system and
32 maintaining current beef import caps.

33
34 We oppose the importation of products from countries that do not accept the importation of
35 U.S. agricultural products.

36
37 We support all U.S. military installations, government agencies and schools being required
38 to use only food produced by American farmers and ranchers when possible.

39
40 We support contract sales for agriculture exports being guaranteed.

41
42 We support exempting agriculture from trade sanctions. If embargoes or sanctions are
43 implemented, producers should be compensated for the loss of agricultural markets.

44
45 We support the continued review of the United States Mexico Canada Agreement
46 (USMCA) and World Trade Organization (WTO) agreements. However, we strongly oppose any
47 efforts to restrict agriculture trade export efforts.

48
49 We support agriculture organization representatives be included early in the process when
50 considering future trade agreements, when agriculture products are involved.

51

1 We oppose the WTO and specific trade agreements having undue influence on U.S. farm
2 policy which conflicts with the sovereignty and laws of the citizens of the United States.
3

4 We support full congressional deliberation prior to the enactment of any trade agreement.
5
6
7

8 INSURANCE 9

10 Market conditions and competitive pricing will lead to innovation in developing solutions to
11 problems relating to multi-peril crop insurance and mitigation. Competitive pricing and risk-based
12 underwriting are essential to developing and maintaining a viable disaster insurance market and
13 should be originated and enforced at the state level.
14

15 We support insurance discounts being given to drivers who complete a safe driving or
16 emergency vehicle operations course.
17

18 We support delivery of insurance services by full-time, stand-alone professionals.
19

20 We oppose mandatory workers' compensation being extended to family-size production
21 agricultural operations and small businesses.
22

23 We oppose frivolous lawsuits. If the court finds in favor of an insured defendant and the case
24 is found to be frivolous, we believe the plaintiff and/or their lawyer(s) should be made responsible
25 for defendant's costs.
26

27 We support legislation to strengthen and amend the current tort reform law. Injured parties
28 should be compensated only for the actual loss incurred, plus expenses of recovery.
29

30 We support a catastrophic judgement relief fund administered by the state which could re-
31 insure against potential judgements and diversify cost beyond those borne solely by property
32 owners.
33

34 Reasonable limits of liability exposure should be placed on corporate boards of directors for
35 actions of the corporation made without their prior knowledge or consent.
36

37 Reasonable limits of liability exposure should be placed on state, county and municipal
38 government.
39

40 We favor justifiable evidence of merit being presented to the court before filing a product or
41 malpractice liability lawsuit.
42

43 We favor the establishment of certain statutes of limitations pertaining to liability lawsuits,
44 not to exceed five years.
45

46 We favor legislation limiting liability of any individual to the extent of their contributory
47 negligence.
48

49 We support stiffer penalties for uninsured drivers. This could include coursework or future
50 mandatory reporting instead of fines or jailtime.
51

1 The AFR Mutual Insurance Company (AFRMIC) was originally established as Oklahoma
2 Farmers Union to serve its rural membership. We urge that when decisions must be made regarding
3 reduction of insurance services preference be given to rural insureds over metropolitan insureds.
4

5 We support nursing home facilities being required to carry liability insurance.
6

7 We support limits on liability for permitted agritourism activities.
8

9 We support the National Fire Protection Association Firewise Communities Program and
10 associated educational initiatives for property owners. We encourage the participation of AFRMIC
11 agents in the program which will result in reduced risks for company insureds.
12

13 We believe only AFR agents be permitted to sell a product underwritten by AFR Insurance
14 or its subsidiaries.
15

16 We recommend making any changes needed to Service Oklahoma to return to pre-Service
17 Oklahoma turnaround times for motor vehicle accident reports.
18

19 We oppose any legislation that would move the insurance industry toward a preference for
20 more litigious action.
21

22 We oppose any efforts to federalize property and casualty insurance regulations and prefer
23 regulation remain at the state level.
24

25 We support Oklahoma's competitive market environment, which allows insurers to
26 determine their own property and casualty insurance rates.
27

28 **A. CROP/LIVESTOCK INSURANCE/RISK MANAGEMENT**

29 We encourage increased investigation and prosecution of crop/livestock insurance fraud.
30

31 We encourage a 30-day crop insurance payment window for all parties involved in a claim,
32 to start when the adjuster completes the claim. We further encourage a reasonable time limitation
33 for adjusters to complete claims.
34

35 We encourage increased premium assistance for producers who purchase higher levels of
36 coverage.
37

38 We support private vendors handling federal crop/livestock insurance.
39

40 We favor destruction by feral hogs be considered a peril in multi-peril crop insurance.
41

42 We oppose mandatory federal crop insurance as a requirement for participating in price
43 support programs.
44

45 We oppose any new restrictions on crop insurance related to livestock grazing.
46

47 We oppose any further insurance restrictions on broadcast wheat.
48

49 We encourage a review of current risk management regulations to complement each farm
50 bill.
51

1
2 We support crop insurance premium payments being due after average harvest dates.
3

4 We support the continued availability of the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program
5 (NAP) for dual-purpose crops, grazing winter crops and grasslands.
6

7 Because farmers growing new crops on land where they have no production history are
8 required to use T-yields until proven yields are established, we support special consideration be
9 given to them regarding disaster assistance based on crop insurance losses.
10

11 12 **EDUCATION AND SCHOOLS**

13
14
15 We support public education, particularly in rural Oklahoma. We support state funding of
16 public education.
17

18 We strongly support leaving all agricultural education and FFA programs in comprehensive
19 high schools.
20

21 We strongly oppose the relocation of the Oklahoma Dept. of Career and Technology
22 Education headquarters from Stillwater.
23

24 We support an increase in funding to help retain key personnel at the OSU Division of
25 Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.
26

27 In an effort to increase the number of students earning their driver's license prior to high
28 school graduation, we support driver education courses being reinstated in public schools.
29

30 We support all public education-designated revenue from ad valorem taxation and any other
31 common local, state, or federal government funding remaining in the public school system.
32

33 We oppose any increase to the tax credit for private school education and encourage the state
34 to practice the highest level of scrutiny of the public dollars going to private schools. We encourage
35 special attention be given to rural schools regarding the impact of the current tax credit system.
36

37 We support efforts to reduce the necessary number of superintendents and other management
38 levels within public school districts.
39

40 We oppose private school students participating in a public-school district's extracurricular
41 activities, such as athletics, FFA, FCCLA, etc.
42

43 We support the continued use of non-plant-based meat and dairy in school lunch programs.
44 We further support shifting Oklahoma's public schools' beef supply to locally sourced Oklahoma
45 beef.
46

47 We support adequate school security funding assistance with the help of state or federal
48 funding. We further support continual funding for at least one school resource officer or increased
49 security measures on each public-school campus.
50

51 We support the continued public election of the Oklahoma State Superintendent.

1
2 We support the state fulfilling their obligations to teachers who have received certification
3 as national board-certified teachers, which deem them as highly qualified teachers, by providing
4 annual incentive funding for the certification.
5

6 We oppose attracting new business and industry with tax incentives which adversely affect
7 funding for education, unless “in lieu of” provisions are available for the impacted area from the
8 business or industry receiving incentives.
9

10 We support one credit hour of general agriculture be included as a high school graduation
11 requirement and a similar requirement in the curriculum at any Oklahoma land grant institution.
12

13 We favor voluntary Bible reading and prayer in our public schools.
14

15 We support the continued separation of church and state, especially as it relates to schools
16 receiving public funds.
17

18 We believe K-12 students attending schools that receive public tax dollars should only be
19 permitted to use the restroom of their biological gender at birth.
20

21 We support education of all citizens on the proper care and protocol of the flag of the United
22 States of America.
23

24 We support early childhood development being a parental choice.
25

26 We oppose the use of textbooks in public schools that are anti-American Constitution, anti-
27 God and anti-family.
28

29 We support the study of creationism as a portion of the curriculum in public schools.
30

31 We encourage the use of more volunteer workers, such as senior citizens, parents and retired
32 business people, in local schools.
33

34 We favor school boards and administrators having flexibility in rewarding teachers of
35 excellence and discharging teachers with poor performance records, including those considered as
36 certified staff.
37

38 We ask the Oklahoma Legislature to pass legislation allowing local school districts to vote
39 by super majority an incentive millage of up to five mills for the betterment of education within
40 the school district, and that these monies be non-chargeable against existing or further school aid
41 formulas.
42

43 We support exercising all influence possible to avoid the use of false or misleading textbooks
44 on animal rights and/or environmental issues.
45

46 We support broad-based representation on the state textbook committee by a diverse group
47 of stakeholders.
48

49 We support Ag in the Classroom as a way to build a positive relationship between agriculture
50 and students, while promoting AFR programming across the state.
51

1 We support teaching animal welfare, as opposed to animal rights, through the Ag in the
2 Classroom program and other agricultural advocacy training.

3
4 We support educational instruction for children on nutritional values of food and balanced
5 meal selections and further encourage connecting children with where their food is grown.

6
7 We support restrictions on childcare not being so rigid that they prevent neighbors and/or
8 relatives cooperatively caring for children or the rights of parents to choose services.

9
10 We support Congress designating English as the official language of the United States and
11 the Oklahoma Legislature designating English as our state language.

12
13 We oppose distribution of contraceptives and abortion referrals in school health programs.

14
15 We believe AIDS education curriculum should be accurate medical facts with materials
16 continuing to be provided by the state departments of education and health.

17
18 Rural areas of school districts should be adequately represented on all boards of education.

19
20 The State of Oklahoma must continue to expand its educational assistance to farmers who
21 are in financial difficulty and/or trying to establish a new career.

22
23 We support the Oklahoma Agricultural Leadership Program (OALP) and annual line-item
24 funding by the Oklahoma Legislature which is combined with private sector funding.

25
26 We respectfully request that the Oklahoma Legislature move very cautiously in funding,
27 making sure that all funding is “fair” to rural, as well as urban school districts.

28
29 We oppose consolidation of schools, forced or otherwise, dependent and independent, by
30 whatever means to meet arbitrary standards. Any assessments related to consolidation should be
31 an equitable comparison of all relevant factors. We support voluntary consolidation and/or
32 innovative classroom approaches, providing incentives for such consolidations originate from new
33 money.

34
35 We oppose mandated consolidation of administration. We support patrons’ right to vote to
36 annex or consolidate with another school district voluntarily.

37
38 We support cooperative initiatives by small schools to improve efficiency. Small rural
39 schools should be provided telecommunication services and cooperative programs developed to
40 provide a curriculum that meets the requirements for high school graduation and college entrance.

41
42 We support state-approved core curriculum in all private schools receiving taxpayer dollars.

43
44 We support allowing schools to be given credit for average daily attendance of students
45 participating in virtual learning. However, we support the number of credits counting towards
46 graduation requirements from online instruction be totally at the discretion of the local school
47 board. We recognize the value of online learning for schools which may not be able to provide
48 certain advanced subjects.

49
50 We oppose state funding being sent to virtual charter schools.

51

1 We support a fully funded teacher mentorship program for public schools.

2
3 We support Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) curriculum and programs
4 in public schools.

5
6 We support the Oklahoma career and technical education system as one of the best in this
7 nation for training, re-training and future employment of our youth and adults.

8
9 We support additional training for high school guidance/career counselors regarding trade
10 school education opportunities.

11
12 We support additional recruitment efforts to maintain an available pool of agriculture
13 education instructors to meet the demand resulting from anticipated retirements in future years.

14
15 We support the work of, and adequate funding for, the 4-H, FFA, FCCLA, other CareerTech
16 organizations, AFR youth programs, and any other programs promoting professional skills. We
17 will, therefore, actively oppose any attempt to curtail the activities of these deserving groups.

18
19 We encourage the inclusion of entrepreneurial training as an academic requirement for high
20 school students, such as the skills training demonstrated in agriculture education/FFA, 4-H clubs
21 and career and technical education programs.

22
23 We support the adequate funding of higher education institutions.

24
25 We oppose discrimination against career and technical education toward meeting
26 requirements of high school graduation and college entrance.

27
28 We strongly encourage a minimum of two appointees made by the governor to the Oklahoma
29 Career and Technology Education Board having an agricultural background and/or career and
30 technical education programs background.

31
32 We support adequate funding for research and development through land grant colleges and
33 universities.

34
35 We support following the constitutional requirement and state statute that a majority of the
36 members appointed by the governor to the Board of Regents for the Oklahoma Agricultural and
37 Mechanical Colleges shall be farmers who are actually engaged in farming and/or livestock
38 growing as their principal business or occupation in earning a livelihood.

39
40 We oppose any new legislative or State Department of Education mandates without full
41 funding for such mandates.

42
43 We support a legislative review of the process and fees involved in public school bonds.

44
45 We support the funding of truancy officers in an effort to support children in detrimental
46 family situations.

47
48 We support school districts providing an “alternative” classroom for students who are
49 disruptive or otherwise not engaged in learning activities.

50

1 We encourage nutrition education that promotes the inclusion of animal protein in a healthy
2 diet.

3
4 We support limiting the number of days schools engage in virtual learning.

5
6 We support all public education-designated revenue from ad valorem taxation remaining
7 in the public school system and not being transferred by voucher or any other method.

10 11 **PROPERTY RIGHTS**

12
13 We firmly support personal property rights and believe others should not interfere with
14 individual landowners' rights to make decisions about economic development on their property,
15 as long as that development falls within lawful guidelines.

16
17 Biological surveys, including the cataloging of plant and animal species, and water samples
18 should not be conducted on private property without prior written consent from the landowner.

19
20 Micro-management of watersheds and streams and new user fees that the U.S. Fish and
21 Wildlife Service (USFWS) is implementing should not infringe on a producer's ability to build
22 ponds and till soils, nor impact technical assistance to these producers by the Natural Resources
23 Conservation Service.

24
25 We support state nuisance laws which provide rural residents with immunity from nuisance
26 claims for agricultural activities including marketing.

27
28 The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers should be restricted from writing policies and regulations
29 that interfere with the private rights of citizens.

30
31 We are opposed to municipalities and counties imposing land-use restrictions outside city
32 limits.

33
34 We are opposed to the state or federal government regulating or controlling billboards on
35 private property.

36
37 Eminent domain should not be the most economical way to acquire private property. Land
38 acquired by eminent domain should have a settlement value of significantly more than the
39 replacement cost for like property plus intangible damages.

40
41 We support mediation in eminent domain proceedings.

42
43 All necessary action should be taken to:

- 44
- 45 1. Preserve the water rights of the individual citizen and prevent further usurpation of
46 those rights,
 - 47
 - 48 2. To see that legislation is initiated and supported which recognizes the rights of
49 individuals from which water has been taken, and
- 50

- 1 3. Reaffirm, renew and defend the concepts that water rights are property rights, and these
2 established rights to the use of water by an individual should not be taken away without
3 due process of law and adequate compensation.
4

5 We support governmental financial compensation for protection of endangered habitats on
6 private land.
7

8 The threatened species designation and critical habitat determined by U.S. Dept. of the
9 Interior agencies (i.e. USFWS) for certain species could infringe upon the property rights of
10 agricultural producers and other landowners. We support the impacting agency producing proven
11 scientific data indicating need, an economic impact statement and a benefit to cost ratio for the
12 action being taken before a designation determination becomes final.
13

14 We support all impacted public and private entities and individuals being compensated from
15 the budget of the impacting agency for actual annual losses as a result of the designation. Payments
16 shall be annualized immediately or prior to the loss.
17

18 We favor legislation that limits broad condemnation authority, in particular for private
19 business purposes.
20

21 We oppose the use of eminent domain to acquire land believed to be the habitat of
22 endangered species.
23

24 We oppose the use of eminent domain for the acquisition of lands for parks, recreation,
25 historical trails, and non-public utilities that are non-cooperatives. We further urge this type of
26 eminent domain question be handled by a state entity, rather than federal.
27

28 We oppose federal legislation that would enable the federal government to acquire land
29 outside the normal congressional appropriations process for use as outdoor recreation, historical
30 preservation, or environmental conservation. Congress should maintain control and oversight of
31 such programs in the interest of all citizens.
32

33 We urge clarification of federal and state statutes that would allow all railroad rights-of-way
34 resulting from reversionary easements to revert back to the present property owner if abandoned.
35 If the rights-of-way were purchased and then abandoned, the first right to purchase the property
36 should be offered to the current owner of the tract of land from which it was originally separated.
37

38 We support adequate funding for an agricultural land trust or foundation for the preservation
39 of agriculture land use.
40

41 We support further education of property owners in setting terms relative to compensation
42 of easements or leases of surface or subsurface property rights. We further support development
43 of model leases relative to the activity.
44

45 We encourage the development of model contractual instruments which allow landowners
46 to receive annual payments for compensation of damages and royalties relative to continued
47 generation and/or transmission of energy instead of or in addition to a one-time easement payment.
48

49 We support the right of surface owners to influence what occurs on their property, including
50 the use of third-party mediation when necessary.
51

1
2 Trespass laws should be strengthened and enforced with more extensive fines and penalties
3 for repeat offenders and restitution for property damage should be pursued. Furthermore, current
4 trespassing laws should be enforced to the full extent. This enforcement should include shores and
5 sandbars of public waters, streams and rivers. We support additional enforcement of trespassing
6 laws dealing with private land through which waters flow.
7

8 We continue to support state-resident landowners and members of their immediate families
9 being permitted to fish in ponds on their own lands and to hunt on those lands during regularly
10 posted hunting seasons, without licenses subject to special requirements.
11

12 We oppose any act which mandatorily restricts grazing of livestock in pastures where
13 running streams are located. We oppose requiring mandatory fencing of rivers, streams and ponds.
14

15 We support owners of private property not being responsible or liable for any accident or
16 injury sustained by persons entering property without permission.
17

18 We support just compensation for farmers and ranchers who suffer economic losses as a
19 result of any state or federal agency ruling.
20

21 We support a landowner's right to keep and maintain a private, non-commercial dumpsite
22 for disposal of non-toxic materials.
23

24 We support a landowner's right to store equipment and vehicles on property used for
25 agricultural purposes without restriction.
26

27 We support a landowner's right to burn refuse on their land when located in a rural area in
28 compliance with state and county regulations.
29

30 We support the development of reasonable regulations for the use of unmanned aerial
31 vehicles (drones), while respecting and protecting the property and privacy rights of landowners.
32

33 With landowners' written permission, we support the use of unmanned aerial vehicles for
34 research purposes.
35

36 We support reimbursement of legal costs incurred by an agricultural producer or agribusiness
37 as a defendant in litigation involving their agriculture or agribusiness operation, if the litigation is
38 found to be frivolous or a nuisance action.
39

40 We support the ability for family agriculture to voluntarily contract with integrators in order
41 to maintain their family farm operation.
42

43 In reference to Article 22 Section 1 of the Oklahoma Constitution, we urgently demand
44 enforcement of existing law forbidding foreign ownership of Oklahoma real property.
45

46 We support legislation restricting investment and ownership or leasing of land and natural
47 resources by foreign nations and non-citizens.
48

49 We oppose arrangements between USFWS and the Farm Service Agency (FSA) which allow
50 control of foreclosed lands in FSA inventory to be transferred without public hearings or impact
51 studies.

1
2 We support development of a clear, common definition of wetlands to be used consistently
3 by all state and federal agencies. The landowner must be notified prior to the classification or re-
4 classification of his or her property. The owner of property taken as wetlands should be fairly and
5 reasonably compensated for any loss of use. While we oppose the taking of ANY land by
6 governmental agencies, no takings should occur without a sight inspection of the property and full
7 opportunity for the owner to appeal agency decision.
8

9 We support a requirement for all landowners to be notified of the application of a lien on
10 their property at the time of application.
11

12 13 14 UTILITIES 15

16 We recommend a standard minimum height of at least 17 feet for new utilities across existing
17 highways in the state of Oklahoma.
18

19 We support regulations that limit price gouging of the fuel source for utilities in times of
20 natural disasters and other relevant emergencies.
21

22 We favor a requirement that towers taller than 50 feet be visibly identified.
23

24 We support the use of some form of identification, such as tracer wires, for underground
25 utilities.
26

27 When utility location services are required by law, there should be a finite response time.
28

29 We favor that final authority for utility rate making remain with officials elected by the
30 people, namely the Oklahoma Corporation Commission (OCC). But, we oppose special rate
31 treatment by the Oklahoma Corporation Commission.
32

33 We support actions that encourage competition among electricity providers in instances that
34 do not jeopardize the rates or access for rural citizens.
35

36 We oppose unjustified rate increases and we support increased transparency as to the
37 justification of rate increases.
38

39 We oppose municipal utilities upcharging their customers. Individual municipalities should
40 not be able to charge significantly more than surrounding utility providers.
41

42 We oppose the sale of federally owned hydroelectric plants that serve our cooperatives and
43 municipalities.
44

45 We continue our support for the Rural Utilities Service (RUS).
46

47 We support a close review of the input cost of electricity, including the input costs for electric
48 cooperatives, as compared to the end cost of the utility. This is both for everyday costs and in an
49 effort to prepare for future catastrophic events.
50

1 The U.S. Congress and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) are steadfastly
2 moving toward restructuring the electric utility industry. We believe any restructuring of
3 Oklahoma’s electric industry should embrace the following criteria:
4

- 5 1. Make certain we have continued universal access to electric power.
6
- 7 2. Make certain safeguards are in place to protect all Oklahomans from significantly
8 increased rates and line costs from electric restructuring.
9
- 10 3. All classes of customers should be treated fairly.
11
- 12 4. Make certain rural Oklahomans gain the benefits of “competition,” while prohibiting
13 the discriminatory aspects of “competition” that left rural Oklahomans in the dark a
14 few decades ago.
15
- 16 5. Make sure revenues generated by the electric industry remain revenue-neutral to all
17 receiving entities as much as possible.
18
- 19 6. Make certain the environment is protected and preserved.
20

21 22 23 **COMMUNICATIONS**

24
25 We support the people’s right to quality, free television.
26

27 We support the Oklahoma Broadband Office’s efforts to provide affordable and accessible
28 high-speed internet to all rural Oklahomans. We encourage them to continue to hold internet
29 providers accountable regarding any and all grants or funds usage and coverage map reporting.
30

31 We urge the Oklahoma Broadband Office to investigate the accuracy of their online
32 Oklahoma Broadband Map and hold companies accountable to publish accurate upload and
33 download speeds.
34

35 We urge the federal government to continually monitor the state of high-speed internet and
36 increase the speed at which internet is considered “high speed” when needed.
37

38 We strongly support allowing access to programming for television viewers in rural America.
39 The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) should give consideration to rural residents in
40 obtaining local channels of choice when their mailing address conflicts with regulations preventing
41 them from receiving the nearest local channel.
42

43 We support Oklahoma residents having the option to view Oklahoma news television stations
44 even if the residence is closer to an out-of-state news source.
45

46 We support the preservation of satellite-based augmentation system (SBAS) guidance
47 availability for agriculture and the protection of investments in existing technologies already made
48 by producers.
49

50 We support an agricultural exemption from FCC registration requirements.
51

1 We support increased enforcement of the telephone solicitor no-call list, for both land lines
2 and cell phones.

3
4 We oppose private or government, foreign or domestic, entities listening and collecting data
5 without consent through cellular phones, mobile applications, and other networked devices.

6
7 We support greater access to high-speed internet in rural Oklahoma.
8
9

10 **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

11
12
13 We support state legislation that enhances economic development in rural Oklahoma. We
14 urge local and county AFR organizations to cooperatively work with city, county and state
15 agencies to take advantage of economic development opportunities.

16
17 We support the continuation of sub-state planning districts and continued funding of the
18 Rural Economic Action Plan (REAP) program that provides infusion of capital to assist small
19 towns, rural communities and rural water districts.
20

21 We support the Oklahoma Dept. of Agriculture, Food & Forestry's (ODAFF) Made in
22 Oklahoma (MIO) program.
23

24 We support efforts to expand, enhance or assist the "added value" industry in Oklahoma,
25 including tax incentives for investors in value-added agricultural incentives.
26

27 We encourage increased funding for the Oklahoma Agriculture Enhancement and
28 Diversification Program.
29

30 We encourage legislation that would establish a state program for investing in and/or
31 financing rural business growth within the state.
32

33 We support AFR continuing to pursue agricultural value-added venture opportunities for our
34 membership.
35

36 We support efforts to promote agritourism opportunities for rural Oklahomans as another
37 means of complementing their existing agricultural enterprises.
38
39
40

41 **ENERGY**

42 We encourage greater emphasis on research and development and increased government
43 support to reduce U.S. dependency on foreign oil.
44

45 We support and promote further research to reduce the potential for earthquakes due to water
46 injection wells. We further support the creation of a fund to cover the cost of damages caused by
47 earthquakes. The funds should be provided through an energy company fee and overseen at the
48 state level.
49

50 We support the Oklahoma Energy Resources Board (OERB) well cleanup program and the
51 implementation of an equivalent program requiring cleanup of renewable energy sites.

1
2 We support the requirement of an inflation-contingent decommissioning bond for wind
3 turbine installation to protect landowners from future cleanup expenses.
4

5 We support the continuation of 640 acres or less unit spacing for an individual vertical or
6 horizontal oil or gas well in Oklahoma.
7

8 We support the continuation of hydraulic fracturing (fracking) as a means of extraction of
9 energy resources.
10

11 We urge further development in the use of compressed natural gas (CNG) and propane as
12 alternate motor fuels.
13

14 We support the use of nuclear power plants as an alternative energy source and the continued
15 research and development for encapsulation methods for spent fuel.
16

17 We support local communities' ability to provide primary, supplemental or back-up power
18 utilizing all power resources available.
19

20 Oklahoma public utilities, municipalities, school districts, and/or state-owned vehicles
21 should be encouraged to use Oklahoma natural gas, ethanol blended gasoline, biodiesel and
22 propane for fuel.
23

24 Coal produced in Oklahoma should be permitted to be used for the generation of electricity
25 within the state.
26

27 We support continuing research and construction of ethanol fuel plants and oilseed extraction
28 plants. Registration, permitting and licensing fees should be held to a minimum. We encourage
29 streamlining the permitting process for inland energy refineries, alternative energy production and
30 food-grade oils.
31

32 We support the continued development of energy alternatives appropriate to the area and
33 environment.
34

35 Any large-scale energy production or storage entity, such as battery storage, solar farms, etc.,
36 shall be responsible for managing and sufficiently maintaining their own emergency management
37 system, including a published emergency plan, fire suppression equipment, personnel, etc. The
38 siting of these types of facilities shall consider proximity to the public.
39

40 We support legislation to establish reasonable setbacks regarding wind turbine proximity to
41 established dwellings.
42

43 We believe state and national legislation should support exploration, development and
44 production of sustainable energy sources, including the development of alternative fuels from our
45 natural resources.
46

47 We support antitrust actions to increase competition among private industries involved in
48 energy production.
49

50 We favor retaining oil and gas depletion allowances.
51

1 Intangible drilling costs should be maintained as a deductible expense, as an encouragement
2 to potential drillers.

3
4 We favor responsible drilling and exploration for oil and gas in the United States and its
5 territories.

6
7 In the case of fuel shortages and transportation disruptions, fuel for agricultural purposes
8 should be given national security priority.

9
10 We oppose the creation of federal oil and gas corporations.

11
12 We support legislation requiring all oil companies operating in Oklahoma to make available
13 to the royalty owner and the Oklahoma Tax Commission an annual audit of production of gas or
14 oil if requested from any well.

15
16 To relieve the ad valorem burden on landowners and to support and enhance schools and
17 local and county governments, we support the measurement and appropriate taxation of all types
18 of energy production that leave the State of Oklahoma.

19
20 Energy and energy related companies should be jointly and severally responsible for
21 damages to property and for incidental expenses such as transactional costs of updating abstracts.

22
23 We encourage protection of mineral owners with rights to participate and be involved and
24 included in class action suits to protect their income. We oppose mineral owners having to opt into
25 lawsuits, but rather support current law which considers the mineral owner automatically part of
26 the class action lawsuit.

27
28 All energy and transmission lines should be clearly marked at frequent, visible locations
29 showing current company contact information.

30
31 All energy easements should automatically revert to the surface owner of record. The
32 easement rights should be restored no later than three years after the land ceases to be used for the
33 original intent of the easement. The operator shall be responsible for returning the site to its pre-
34 improvement state; the property owner should not be subject to any liability related to the purpose
35 of the easement.

36
37 We support requiring energy producers to maintain the roads where they cross private
38 property to get to their lease.

39
40 We support gas balancing (proper accounting of production). Gas balancing should be
41 balanced in million cubic feet (MMcf).

42
43 We support the required use of electronic meters and unannounced inspection of such
44 metering devices on gas wells by Oklahoma Corporation Commission (OCC) employees to ensure
45 more accurate measurement and proper payment for all production.

46
47 Verified reports and records of production maintained and indexed by the OCC should be
48 available for the general public and royalty owners or their attorneys' inspection.

49
50 We propose increasing fines for inaccurate measurement and improper payment of gas and
51 oil wells and using the penalties to fund the monitoring program.

1
2 We oppose any effort or decision that would permit an oil company to charge the mineral
3 owner a portion of production or transportation costs incurred in the production or sale of oil or
4 gas.

5
6 We support the current Production Revenue Standards Act (PRSA) and the ability for
7 mineral owners to receive interest from oil and gas well production after six months of production
8 and for operators to provide detailed production revenue sheets of oil and natural gas production.

9
10 When mineral leases expire on land or when a well ceases production, the lessee should be
11 required to clear the records.

12
13 We support new legislation to make forced pooling laws fair to both the mineral owner and
14 producer. "Good faith negotiations" should be clearly defined through legislation.

15
16 We favor the OCC requiring that spacing be based on characteristics of the producing zone.
17 If acreage is forced-pooled and another formation is produced, permitting smaller spacing, that
18 acreage pool in excess of the smaller spacing should be released from the pooling order.

19
20 We urge drilling companies who are issued a drilling permit be held accountable to the
21 government agency or agencies for properly casing and cementing the hole to safe levels. Violators
22 should have their right to operate within the State of Oklahoma terminated.

23
24 We support an OCC rule change requiring the removal of drilling fluids from reserve pits at
25 the landowner's request.

26
27 We support the efforts of the National Energy Technology Laboratory and encourage the
28 development of an additional lab in Oklahoma.

29
30 We support the curtailment of unnecessary flaring by natural gas producers. We support
31 research to develop useful outlets for flared product.

32
33 Public funds should be used as a last resort to plug all abandoned oil and gas wells that have
34 been improperly plugged, with the abandoning company having primary liability.

35
36 We support efforts to get oil companies to use closed pit drilling systems.

37
38 We support legislative action requiring federal land be sold with no more restrictions on the
39 deeds than existed at time of foreclosure. Mineral rights on such foreclosed lands should be left
40 intact and transferred to the new owner.

41
42 We encourage large-scale solar projects be placed on impermeable surfaces, without
43 restricting the rights of landowners.

44
45 We urge proper enforcement of OCC regulations related to the oil and gas industry in
46 Oklahoma. We further support the employment of additional inspectors to better cover inspection.

ENVIRONMENT

1
2
3 We oppose the consolidation of the Oklahoma Dept. of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and
4 the Oklahoma Water Resources Board (OWRB).

5
6 We support appropriate bonding requirements to ensure cleanup for all individuals and
7 entities when working in Oklahoma.

8
9 We support testing of drilling mud used in soil farming prior to application and only applying
10 at a rate that is not detrimental, in addition to other permitting required.

11
12 We oppose any strengthening of emission standards for farmers and ranchers.

13
14 We oppose government subsidies for electric vehicles. We oppose any future dealership
15 quota requirements on electric vehicle sales.

16
17 We oppose the sole use of foreign research in the determination of domestic environmental
18 policy.

19
20 We support fact-based research on the possible causes and effects of climate change. We are
21 interested in ongoing climate observations and discussions and we are ready and willing to
22 participate in active solutions should they emerge, particularly when those solutions benefit
23 Oklahomans and do not create undue burden on our state's farmers and ranchers.

24
25 We oppose the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposing and implementing
26 climate control regulations as a back door method to achieving climate change goals in the absence
27 of passage of federal legislation.

28
29 We oppose international indirect land use in calculation of carbon footprints.

30
31 We support citizens taking the lead in bringing about sound, reasonable and effective
32 solutions to the problem of pollution and favor a cooperative and voluntary approach.

33
34 We support efforts to limit pollution, encourage recycling programs, and the use of
35 biodegradable packaging. We encourage more recycling opportunities be made available in rural
36 areas.

37
38 We oppose the classification of agricultural lands as "point sources" of pollution, unless
39 scientifically proven.

40
41 We support agriculture producers in their efforts to establish soil and water conservation
42 practices for producing food and fiber. However, we oppose regulatory rules by EPA or DEQ
43 dealing with non-point water quality and Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) that unduly
44 burdens agriculture and is not scientifically proven.

45
46 We support only scientifically based water quality standards in streams or water bodies listed
47 on EPA's 303(d) list in determining the need for a total maximum daily load. In addition, we favor
48 sufficient funding for a 90% cost-share for best management practice implementation must be in
49 place before any regulatory TMDL is implemented.

50

1 We believe a landowner who has been issued a resource conservation management plan by
2 the environmental agency with jurisdiction over non-source pollution shall be considered in
3 compliance with the law and not polluting.

4
5 We oppose rules by EPA dealing with air particulate matter regulation regarding production
6 agriculture. We favor exemption for production agriculture.

7
8 We recommend that agriculture no longer be regulated by the EPA, but solely regulated by
9 the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA).

10
11 We support an amendment to the EPA's authority requiring that scientific proof be provided
12 that a situation detrimental to the public's health exists prior to exercising its administrative
13 authority, unless deemed by local, state or national governing bodies as an emergency.

14
15 We support exemption of on-farm fuel tanks from EPA and state agency regulation.

16
17 We urge the Oklahoma Legislature to appropriate funds for a state solid waste disposal
18 program administered by each county.

19
20 We support permits being issued for any dump or landfill only if located a reasonable
21 distance from a public school or flood plain.

22
23 We strongly believe it is in the nation's best interest to have a partnership of federal and state
24 governments vested with the authority to make and carry out regulations concerning the use of any
25 agricultural pesticides and/or herbicides.

26
27 We support the Oklahoma beautification program for planting flowers, trees and shrubs and
28 urge our members, local and county organizations to participate in the program.

29
30 We favor enforcing existing laws and penalties on littering and illegal dumping on the
31 highway and county roads and private property.

32
33 We are in favor of continued environmental monitoring on industrial and municipal waste
34 disposal sites.

35
36 We strongly encourage DEQ to regulate state waste transported into the state in the same
37 way that intrastate waste is regulated.

38
39 We support a fee structure for imported waste that is at minimum equal to the exporting state.

40
41 We support wastewater treatment facilities located in Northwest Arkansas meeting
42 Oklahoma's phosphorous water quality standard established by the OWRB for scenic rivers.

43
44 We support prohibiting any person, firm or corporation from polluting the land, ponds, lakes
45 or streams and that those in violation restore the polluted area to original condition and be subject
46 to punishment by appropriate fines.

47
48 We encourage additional research toward the development of solutions to dispose of human
49 waste in the most environmentally sound and efficient way.

50

1 We support the implementation of currently available treatment options to reduce the volume
2 of polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) present in post-treatment waste products. We encourage
3 methods that do not impose undo financial burden on residents of a municipality.
4

5 We support restoration of land to the original condition at the request of landowners
6 following any oil, gas, mineral, aggregate or electricity production and/or transmission activity.
7

8 We support funding for the Oklahoma Conservation Commission to expand abandoned mine
9 land reclamation activities to more types of mines and a broader geographic area of the state.
10

11 We support matters of mineral litigation to be considered in the local court system rather
12 than the Oklahoma Corporation Commission.
13

14 We propose applicants for construction of future commercial waste disposal sites should
15 notify every surface owner within one mile of the proposed disposal site and such permit
16 application notice should be run three times in the newspaper located closest to such sites.
17

18 When the location of an industrial waste disposal site is considered, the adverse financial
19 impact on the surrounding property must be considered. We oppose waste disposal wells, including
20 those for commercial salt water or toxic chemical disposal sites, being permitted on land which
21 overlays a major source of fresh water.
22

23 We favor a law that would make any person or company found guilty of dumping salt water
24 on public and private lands subject to a minimum fine of \$2,500, with a right for citizens' damage
25 suits, except in state roadbed construction when covered by asphalt or pavement.
26

27 A family-owned and operated confined animal and/or poultry farm should be subjected to
28 only those anti-pollution laws enforced by the Oklahoma Dept. of Agriculture, Food & Forestry
29 (ODAFF). State law and ODAFF rules on confined animal and poultry operations should not be
30 more restrictive than federal law, rules and regulations. We encourage reasonable, yet effective,
31 standards for protection of underground and surface water from confined animal and poultry
32 operations. We support ODAFF maintaining the delegated authority for the EPA National
33 Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES). We support state funding for this delegated
34 authority.
35

36 We favor protecting landowners who purchased their property after conducting an
37 environmental audit which found no contamination from liability from contamination later
38 discovered.
39

40 We support adding agriculture tires to the state recycling program on a voluntary basis.
41

42 We support cost-share programs that encourage transporting poultry litter away from
43 nutrient-limited watersheds.
44

45 We support transferring liability to the state for poultry operations in compliance with their
46 approved environmental plans.
47

48 We propose the USDA be the lead agency in matters pertaining to wetlands.
49
50
51

WATER

We support the minimum flow of water being allowed at all times from federal dams, with notice given to news media in the area affected when an excessive amount of water is to be released. The minimum flow should be based on the average flow of water in the streams before the dam was built.

We ask that Congress define “navigable water” to mean waters that can be reasonably navigated for the movement of goods, including agricultural products.

We oppose the deletion of the word “navigable” waters from the federal Clean Water Act (CWA).

We support government action be taken to increase access to water for agriculture and human use.

Currently a set gross production tax funding amount is dedicated to a water Rural Economic Assistance Program (REAP) and is divided equally between the Oklahoma Water Resources Board (OWRB), the Oklahoma Conservation Commission and the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department for water related initiatives. We strongly support the continuation of this effort and lifting the cap on this fund and making it a permanent dedicated revenue source.

State water quality statutes affecting agricultural water use should be administered and enforced by the Oklahoma Dept. of Agriculture, Food & Forestry (ODAFF).

We support transparency and the application of the open meetings law with respect to negotiations by the Governor, his/her designee and/or OWRB with other states, tribes, municipalities, authorities and/or individuals for the sale or transfer of ownership of Oklahoma water from the originating basin of origin. Preferential consideration should be given to the local population where the water is held or flows before being transferred or sold to other areas.

We support the water rights of long-term water users being protected from having their water depleted or polluted.

We support developing and continuing local, regional comprehensive state water plans on a local, state and regional basis, and continuing regional representation on the OWRB.

We support groundwater rights remaining with the surface rights unless otherwise specified and noted.

We support water metering for any irrigation or commercial wells pulling from critically depleting aquifers. We prefer this metering be managed on a regional basis.

To preserve our freshwater resources, we encourage research and development of filtration processes to utilize non-freshwater resources in energy exploration and development.

We urge drilling companies who are issued a drilling permit be held accountable to the government agency or agencies for properly casing and cementing the hole to safe levels to prevent any possibility of contamination of drinking water. If the drilling company is found in violation, the proper government agency shall be responsible for terminating their right to operate within Oklahoma or drilling wells in Oklahoma.

1
2 The people in the area of a reservoir should have first priority concerning the use of the water
3 or revenue from that water.
4

5 We believe that the regional watershed from which water may be utilized or transferred
6 and/or sold should receive at least a reasonable portion of any economic benefit from the sale or
7 transfer of water out of or within the borders of the watershed through a pre-established trust fund.
8

9 We support continued studies on underground aquifer water storage, recharge and recovery.
10

11 We oppose the sale of Oklahoma water in reservoirs out of state without first meeting the
12 needs of the state and local area and encourage federally recognized Indian tribes to do likewise.
13

14 We believe any sale of water across the state boundaries should be voted on by the citizens
15 within the counties in the watershed from which water will be taken.
16

17 We support adequate time being allowed for public scrutiny on all compacts dealing with
18 public interest, including, but not limited to, water issues.
19

20 We encourage a fair and equitable assessment and not a flat fee assessment relative to annual
21 renewals of water usage.
22

23 We support agricultural use of water from Altus-Lugert Lake.
24

25 If a comprehensive water plan passed by the Legislature includes monitoring of wells, we
26 support public funding for the cost of such activity.
27

28 We support Congressional action mandating the implementation of conservation practices of
29 municipal water consumption prior to draw-down from U.S. Army Corps of Engineer reservoirs.
30

31 We oppose any legislation that establishes a minimum instream flow that restricts
32 landowners' agricultural and personal use.
33

34 All necessary action should be taken to:
35

- 36 1. Preserve the water rights of the individual citizen and prevent further usurpation of
37 those rights,
38
- 39 2. To see that legislation is initiated and supported which recognizes the rights of
40 individuals from which water has been taken, and
41
- 42 3. Reaffirm, renew and defend the concept that water rights are property rights, and these
43 established rights to the use of water by an individual should not be taken away without
44 due process of law and adequate compensation.
45

46 **A. RURAL WATER** 47

48 We support the Oklahoma Rural Water Association (ORWA) in their efforts to find balance
49 with use of water in our state.
50

1 We support additional government funding be made available for the expansion of rural
2 water and sewer systems. If loans are made to rural water systems, the first years of repayment
3 should be at a reduced rate.

4
5 We support programs to provide water for rural water districts, and municipal or industrial
6 use in rural areas, provided the water rights of local landowners are protected.

7
8 We oppose any restriction or taxation on farmers and ranchers drilling their own domestic
9 water wells.

10
11 We support the concept of “dry fire hydrants” in rural areas and the Insurance Services Office
12 (ISO) to allow appropriate fire credits. We further support the periodic testing of dry fire hydrants
13 that are permanently installed.

14
15 We support increased efforts to educate and recruit young people to certify and work in rural
16 and municipal water utility districts.

17
18 We support state grant funds for added fire protection through rural water districts.

19
20 We oppose any new rules from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that add to the
21 list of contaminants and that decrease the acceptable levels of contaminants that municipalities and
22 rural water districts must test for, unless backed by sound science.

23
24 We encourage county water districts’ and municipalities’ cooperation in servicing customers
25 in annexed areas.

26
27 We support and encourage state, federal and tribal funding for improvements to the
28 infrastructure of rural water systems across Oklahoma.

29
30 We support legislation to allow water associations and rural water districts to redeem loans
31 before a sale to outside investors.

32
33
34
35 **FEED, SEED, FERTILIZER, FUEL**

36
37 We support research on the use of crops for pharmaceutical and nutraceutical purposes.

38
39 We support educating farmers and grain handlers on the Plant Variety Protection Act (PVPA).

40
41 We support modification of the PVPA of 1994 with respect to royalty fees, taking into
42 consideration sound science, a reasonable period of time for specific commodities, and percentage
43 of purity of seed.

44
45 We support immunity from legal action for grain handlers from consequences of the PVPA
46 when handling grain.

47
48 We oppose small agricultural producers being included in the Environmental Protection
49 Agency's (EPA) enforcement of the spill prevention containment and control system. Farming
50 operations should be tiered based on volume storage size.

1
2 We encourage congressional oversight of ownership of agricultural commodities in an effort
3 to avoid monopolizing U.S. commodity markets.

4
5 We oppose any outside entities dictating agricultural practices in Oklahoma.

6
7 **A. WHEAT**

8
9 We encourage Congress to initiate legislation to control price-depressing sales of
10 government-owned wheat and the flood of price-depressing wheat imports.

11
12 We support inspection and compensation for producers, custom harvesters and handlers to
13 reduce losses caused by all diseases.

14
15 We oppose any foreign materials being allowed to be added into wheat or feed grains for
16 export prior to or during the loading of ships for export.

17
18 We support grain buyers paying a premium for grain that is better than standard with both
19 discounts and premiums posted.

20
21 We support a coordinated effort among wheat producing countries to develop a genetically
22 enhanced variety with adequate research to ensure food safety and consumer acceptance.

23
24 We encourage the U.S. Wheat Associates to become more active in addressing domestic
25 markets.

26
27 **B. COTTON**

28
29 We support price support loans on cotton being based on a domestic profitability concept,
30 rather than a foreign cotton exchange. As long as the present price support level is based on the A-
31 Index, we ask that it be based on a six-month marketing period.

32
33 We support continuation of the boll weevil eradication program and maintaining boll weevil-
34 free status.

35
36 We favor keeping cotton gins under the Oklahoma Corporation Commission (OCC).

37
38 We support relaxing the OCC's financial reporting requirements for cotton gins.

39
40 We support cotton gin trash research, including fuel pelleting and cattle feed.

41
42 **C. LIVESTOCK**

43
44 We support a modernized pre-determined arbitration process for resolving estray livestock
45 complaints. We support strong financial penalties for owners of "repeat offender" trespassing
46 livestock.

47
48 We support a review and possible update of the 1910 Oklahoma fencing law by the
49 Oklahoma legislature.

50

1 We oppose the defining of animal manure, waste or nutrients as being considered hazardous
2 and regulated under state law or federal “Superfund” law, the Comprehensive Environmental
3 Response Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA).

4
5 We support reform and time reduction for record retention for all confined animal feeding
6 operations (CAFOs).

7
8 We support clarification of the rules on the closure of lagoons of current operating facilities
9 and for existing non-operating facilities.

10
11 We support incentive programs that encourage students to become educated in state meat
12 inspection and/or meat processing and to work in rural areas upon completion of their training.

13
14 We support continuing education requirements for CAFOs producers be on a basis of every
15 third year.

16
17 We encourage the leadership of the various livestock species and general farm organizations
18 to work together to create a U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA)-approved established disaster plan
19 to help protect the future of our farmers and ranchers.

20
21 We support funding of all disaster programs that compensate producers when drought, tariffs,
22 imports or disease affect the reduction of price.

23
24 We support keeping livestock assistance programs in place and establishing a fund so the
25 payment factor can be kept at 100% to ensure timely payments.

26
27 We recommend enrollment in the Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary
28 Medicine (OSU-CVM) be expanded with an emphasis on large animal husbandry, with preference
29 should be given to rural Oklahoma residents.

30
31 We support an initiative to address the shortage of large animal practice veterinarians in the
32 state that focuses on financial assistance for vet school education. We additionally support a low
33 interest loan or guaranteed loan for purchasing an existing practice or construction of a new large
34 animal clinic in rural Oklahoma. In exchange for both considerations, the veterinarian will practice
35 a specified number of years in a rural area.

36
37 We oppose the requirement that veterinary drugs be sold by prescription only and U.S. Food
38 & Drug Administration Guidance GFI 263 that restricts the use of commonly used livestock
39 antibiotics that were previously available over the counter. We support full availability of
40 veterinary drugs to agriculture producers in order to provide adequate animal health care.

41
42 We support retaining the option of using antibiotics in medicines or feeds for animal health
43 preventative measures or when treating livestock that are sick.

44
45 We support livestock owners’ personal property rights to treat their own animals and/or
46 engage veterinarians or lay people to do the same.

47
48 We support the responsible use of scientifically proven safe production practices in livestock
49 and poultry.

50

1 We strongly support enforcement of antitrust laws currently on the books, and antitrust laws
2 must be strengthened and enforced to prevent the continued corporate dominance of agriculture
3 markets, including but not limited to livestock feeding operations.
4

5 We demand enforcement of the Packers and Stockyards Act, the Sherman Antitrust Act, and
6 the Clayton Antitrust Acts, specifically regarding the antitrust issues surrounding the packing
7 segment of the beef industry in the United States.
8

9 We support accurate and effective mandatory price reporting, reflective of actual prices of
10 the major meat packers.
11

12 We support programs to educate producers on animal identification methods in order to
13 identify and assist in retrieving stolen livestock.
14

15 We support and encourage a livestock owner's right to identify their livestock with hot iron
16 branding, tattooing, tagging or other types of identification.
17

18 We support voluntary application of technology, age verification and trace back methods.
19 We support current non-electronic animal identification methods. We oppose any mandatory
20 electronic animal identification requirements, whether mandated by state or federal authorities.
21

22 We propose strengthening the cattle branding system by encouraging that the brand on
23 branded livestock be reflected on the bill of sale in all sales transactions.
24

25 To deter livestock and rural theft, we support stronger penalties with forfeiture of assets
26 going into a revolving fund within the Oklahoma Dept. of Agriculture, Food & Forestry (ODAFF)
27 and support continued efforts by ODAFF to investigate livestock and rural thefts and the
28 prosecution of offenders.
29

30 We support an adequately funded beef check-off to continue the mission of market
31 promotion, research, nutrition, product safety and education.
32

33 We strongly oppose the federal government subsidizing the importation of foreign beef.
34

35 We support producer-led referendums on commodity check-off programs.
36

37 We support pork and beef initiatives funded through check-off programs which educate
38 youth and adults about these industries and products.
39

40 We strongly oppose the re-introduction of predatory animals by any government agency.
41

42 We strongly favor legislative or regulatory changes that will give the right to any owner to
43 control any predatory animals when the owner and/or tenant, the owner's family or the owner's
44 property is in danger.
45

46 We demand that USDA reinstate its prohibition of ownership or control of custom feedlots
47 by packers.
48

49 We support packer slaughter of animals within 14 days of purchase for the transaction to be
50 considered a "cash" sale.
51

1 We support an increase in the amount of the negotiated cash trade percentage as it relates to
2 the fed cattle market.

3
4 We favor competition in the marketplace; therefore, be it resolved that the following be
5 adopted and implemented through legislation:

- 6
7 1. A ban on packer ownership more than 14 days prior to slaughter.
- 8
9 2. Establish provisions for transparency in the market relating to base and forward
10 contracting, including a federal protection plan for whistleblowers and witnesses.
- 11
12 3. Clear delineation of spot markets and their functions.
- 13
14 4. Establish parameters for treble damages and recovery of attorney fees from consumers and
15 producers.
- 16
17 5. Ensure grade transparency uniformity at state inspections.
- 18
19 6. Modernize, re-codify, and enforce the Packers and Stockyards Act to meet the standards
20 and expectations of today’s consumers and producers for their protection.
- 21
22 7. Establish and implement a country-of-origin labeling program.
- 23
24 8. Create a USDA “Office of Special Counsel for Competition” to aggressively investigate
25 anti-competitive practices and market manipulation occurring in the agriculture sector and
26 have the authority and subpoena power to collect concentration-related information.
- 27
28 9. Establish an effective cattle contract library to increase transparency in the alternative
29 marketing agreement (AMA) marketplace and provide additional information on which to
30 base future trade.

31
32 We support the appropriate harvesting of equine in USDA inspected facilities and oppose
33 any legislation prohibiting transportation of equine for harvest.

34
35 We oppose a tax on methane gas released by livestock.

36
37 We oppose the use of federal tax dollars to sustain livestock not intended for human
38 consumption (i.e. the federal Wild Horse & Burro Program). If the program continues, we
39 encourage the sterilization of breeding-age animals in an effort to manage wild populations.

40
41 We encourage ODAFF to increase monitoring and testing for tuberculosis and PI in
42 livestock and other species as required.

43 44 **D. DAIRY AND DAIRY PRODUCTS**

45
46 We support improving the level of income for dairy farmers to better meet their increased
47 cost of production, in order to maintain a productive capacity to meet anticipated future needs.

48
49 We support a stabilized supply of milk and milk products, at levels which will adequately
50 meet the needs of consumers.

1 We oppose labeling or advertising imitation products with dairy terms or names. We oppose
2 redefining the products currently set up with the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA).

3
4 We support continuing the present pricing method for fresh, reconstituted milk.

5
6 We support raising the minimum standards for fluid whole milk to 10% solids; non-fat and
7 skim milk to 99% solids non-fat.

8
9 We oppose raising the import quota on dairy products.

10
11 We encourage the USDA to make efforts to return milk protein casein plants to foster
12 domestic use in the United States.

13 14 **E. PEANUTS**

15
16 We support a more accurate price discovery in the marketplace for peanuts.

17
18 We support an annual target price cost of production adjustment for peanuts.

19
20 We believe storage and handling fees for peanuts in the government loan program should be
21 paid by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA).

22 23 **F. OTHERS**

24
25 We urge and encourage all farmers to explore producing alternate cash crops where soil,
26 water and climate permits, and urge research and extension services at land grant universities to
27 supply valuable help in these areas.

28
29 We support a ban on castor bean production in the State of Oklahoma.

30
31 We oppose the growing, harvesting and processing of any crop which produces ricin, a toxic
32 substance which can be lethal to humans and animals, can be market disrupting and considered a
33 prime tool for use by terrorists to harm U.S. citizens.

34 35 36 37 **FOOD PROCESSING**

38
39 We support interstate or intrastate shipment of beverages and processed foods if the state
40 inspections meet or exceed federal standards.

41
42 We support increasing funding commensurate with the increased number of inspectors
43 needed to adequately inspect intrastate, interstate and international food.

44
45 We support Oklahoma State University's continued efforts to secure federal grants and
46 encourage the Oklahoma Legislature to appropriate the necessary funding for operation of the
47 Oklahoma State University (OSU) Food and Agricultural Products Research and Technology
48 Center (FAPC).

49
50 We oppose state and federal funding of any kind for organizations that promote the
51 elimination of livestock and/or poultry as a source of edible protein.

1
2 We strongly support food safety oversight for micro plastics in our food and water supplies.
3
4

5
6 **ANIMAL WELFARE**
7

8 We support animal welfare, as opposed to animal rights.
9

10 We urge our members to continue to educate the public on the fact that animals do not possess
11 the same “rights” as humans.
12

13 We oppose further laws or state questions which would limit production agriculture by
14 imposing restrictions on traditional methods of producing swine, poultry, equine and cattle.
15

16 We oppose any outside entities dictating how livestock are grown in Oklahoma.
17

18 We support scientifically sound methods of herdsmanship and the continued use of
19 technological advancements in livestock production for American producers to efficiently supply
20 protein to the world.
21

22 We encourage farmers and ranchers to practice good stewardship toward their animals.
23
24
25

26 **AG RESEARCH AND EXTENSION**
27

28 We call for a minimum of one agricultural educator and one family and consumer science
29 educator in each county for continuing adult education. We also encourage a strong 4-H club
30 program in each county.
31

32 We support utilizing a county, district and state citizen advisory system to provide grassroots
33 input to the leadership of the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service (OCES) and the Oklahoma
34 Agricultural Experiment Station (OAES).
35

36 We support robust and consistent funding for Oklahoma State University, the OAES, and the
37 OCES. We advocate for strengthening federal and state investment in key agriculture research
38 facilities and programs, including but not limited to livestock grazing, erosion control, wheat
39 pasture development, and soil health.
40

41 We support developing a national clearinghouse for compiling and making available an
42 agriculture database, with all research being conducted by state land-grant universities.
43

44 We support adequate funding for Oklahoma Ag4Life/AgrAbility.
45
46
47

48 **COOPERATIVES AND ORGANIZATIONS**
49

50 We support partnering with groups who embrace policies that are favorable to family
51 agriculture and are considered pro-agriculture by the members we represent.

1
2 We support farm cooperatives and urge all farmers to support them to the fullest extent in
3 their local communities.

4
5 We support continuation of the Capper-Volstead Act of 1922 that limits each member of a
6 cooperative to one vote, regardless of the amount of stock or membership capital the member
7 owns.

8
9 We reaffirm our support for rural electric cooperatives and urge Congress to provide ample
10 insured and guaranteed loan funds to meet the needs of the rural electric cooperative system and
11 its customers.

12
13 We strongly encourage the U.S. Congress to oppose electric deregulation.

14
15 We urge Congress, state legislators and ratemaking authorities to use their powers to
16 protect the rights of rural cooperatives to generate their own power.

17
18 We urge Congress to continue to recognize the right of cooperatives to serve defense and
19 other installations in their service areas.

20
21 We oppose any effort, congressional or administrative, to weaken or dispose of our rural
22 electric cooperatives or government-owned power-generating facilities.

23
24 We support the concept of cooperative wind and solar energy projects that benefit member
25 landowners.

26
27 We support rural utility cooperatives increasing access to high speed fiberoptic in an effort
28 to improve internet connectivity for rural Oklahomans.

30 CREDIT AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

31
32
33 We recognize and support the value of community banks and lending institutions to rural
34 areas and realize that the broad-based economic stress of the nation has impacted these entities.
35 We trust they will not be ignored for future assistance when they are negatively impacted.

36
37 We call upon Congress and/or state or federal regulatory agencies to investigate reverse
38 mortgage lending practices and the impact the reverse mortgage industry has on consumers.

39
40 We oppose credit institutions implementing U.S. Roundtable for Sustainable Beef (USRSB)
41 criteria, or any other sustainability or conservation program criteria, as a mandate to receive credit.

42
43 We support assistance to rural banks by allowing Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
44 (FDIC) tolerance/leniency in working with local bankers during times of farm crisis.

45
46 We oppose further relaxation of branch banking laws.

47
48 We oppose the continuing increase of regulations on home mortgage lending and support
49 relaxation of regulations relative to community lending for home mortgages.

50

1 We oppose further closure and/or consolidation of existing Oklahoma Farm Service Agency
2 (FSA) county offices, support adequate staffing commensurate with workload levels evaluated
3 annually, and support updated technology for expediting delivery of programs.

4
5 We oppose recall of short-term FSA farm loans until termination date.

6
7 We support FSA being more adequately funded for emergency farm ownership and operating
8 loans.

9
10 All FSA applications and credit for farming activities should be fairly and equitably
11 considered and acted upon in a timely manner to maintain the integrity of the program.

12
13 We oppose the privatization of FSA loan programs.

14
15 We support continuation of the limited resource loan program through FSA and oppose loan
16 time limits as the only disqualifying factor.

17
18 We support FSA accomplishing its original mission with emphasis on agriculture loans and
19 provide adequate funds for both guaranteed and direct loans return to the direct loan concept.

20
21 We support low interest rates and reduced collateral thresholds on agriculture loans from
22 FSA and Farm Credit System (FCS), including but not limited to those for beginning, socially
23 disadvantaged and military veteran farmers/ranchers.

24
25 We support FSA regulations, which would give delinquent FSA borrowers additional time
26 to complete the loan servicing documents.

27
28 We support the amount of write downs on FSA loans to not be below current fair market
29 value and to be determined by a minimum of three certified land appraisers using the comparative
30 sales approach.

31
32 We strongly support jurisdiction of the FCS remain under the authority of the U.S. House
33 and Senate Agriculture Committees.

34
35 We support the FCS in providing long-term, low-interest-rate loans in a timely fashion to
36 young people who want to start farming.

37
38 We support the continued cooperative ownership of the FCS and its status as a government-
39 sponsored enterprise. We support maintaining the Farm Credit Administration (FCA) as the FCS's
40 independent regulator and the agency's focus on FCS safety, soundness and mission fulfillment.

41
42 The Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation (Farmer MAC) could be a new source of
43 long-term, fixed-rate credit for family farmers if properly administered. We urge Congress to
44 review the effects of Farmer MAC on the availability of credit to borrowers whose loans would
45 not qualify to be pooled or who would choose not to have their loan pooled.

46
47 We support continuance of programs authorizing matching grants to states with qualified
48 agricultural mediation programs.

49
50 We favor continuing the Agricultural Link Deposit Program as administered by the
51 Oklahoma State Treasurer. The program should be limited to family farmers, as defined herein,

1 and on the ability to repay. The program should be expanded by providing additional funds for
2 lending.

3
4 We encourage Oklahoma Bankers Association members to get involved with farm
5 organizations on issues related to the farm bill.

9 HEALTHCARE

10
11 We support the continuation or development of any accredited Oklahoma teaching hospital
12 and associated medical or osteopathic doctor training program which primarily returns physicians
13 to rural Oklahoma.

14
15 We support providing a wide range of services to our veterans, including adequate health
16 care in a timely manner, with close scrutiny and continued oversight of U.S. Dept. of Veterans
17 Affairs (VA) programs by the federal government.

18
19 We believe that determining whether life-sustaining procedures should be withheld or
20 withdrawn for illness, disease, injury or extreme mental deterioration (such that there is no
21 reasonable expectation of recovering or regaining a meaningful quality of life) should be made by
22 the attending physicians and immediate members of the family.

23
24 We encourage the use of an “advanced directive” by everyone.

25
26 We support veterans receiving healthcare at their local hospital if the care they need exists
27 in that location.

28
29 We support health care reform that does not disproportionately burden small, family-owned
30 farms and businesses with additional costs.

31
32 We support health care reform to cover all Americans with affordable and available basic
33 health-care coverage.

34
35 We support affordable prescription drugs for senior citizens.

36
37 We encourage the federal government to simplify the information on and enrollment of
38 Medicare Part D and provide more affordable coverage without gaps.

39
40 We oppose funding reductions to Medicare, but support a process for establishing a means
41 test for program eligibility. We support the evaluation of current Medicare files for accuracy,
42 eligibility and fraud.

43
44 We support expanding qualifications to allow more people eligibility for the medical savings
45 plan, including employees with no health plan benefits.

46
47 We encourage the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to continue their efforts to
48 expand the education and training provided by regional hospitals to encompass the entire state and
49 provide care at low cost to indigent patients as well as to train interns in rural areas.

50

1 We support providing equal pay for equal services claims reimbursement, whether in a city
2 or rural health care facility.

3
4 We oppose changes in regulations which would impose unrealistic demands on rural
5 hospitals, pharmacies and physicians, threatening survival of small hospitals and rural pharmacies,
6 and discouraging physicians from establishing or maintaining rural practices.

7
8 We support incentive programs that encourage doctors and nurses to practice in rural areas
9 upon completion of their training.

10
11 We support training for emergency medical technicians be fostered in regional areas utilizing
12 local volunteer fire departments, hospitals, Oklahoma Career and Technology Education centers
13 and other entities utilizing grant funds to accomplish the effort.

14
15 We support legislation to allow 100% federal and state income tax credits or tax deductions
16 for those who self-finance their health insurance and are self-employed.

17 18 19 20 **SOCIAL SECURITY AND SENIORS**

21
22 We support a strong Social Security system.

23
24 We oppose any negative net adjustments of the current Social Security system and support
25 adequate continued federal funding of the Social Security program.

26
27 We support the spouse or family of a deceased person keeping the month's social security
28 check in the month the individual died.

29
30 We discourage any reduction in state payments for elder care either in nursing facilities or
31 through hospice.

32
33 We believe only U.S. citizens should be eligible to receive Social Security benefits.

34
35 We urge Congress to raise the maximum earned income limit for retired individuals who
36 have not yet reached "full retirement" age.

37
38 We oppose any cuts in Social Security benefits and furthermore urge an increase of the death
39 benefit to the beneficiary.

40
41 We support the Older Americans Act. We commend the efforts of senior service programs
42 that serve senior citizens in Oklahoma, and further, we urge funding these programs, including
43 continuance and expansion into all counties in our state.

44
45 We support closer monitoring of benefits for Social Security disability.

TAXATION

We support Oklahoma land acquired by state or federal government, tribal entities, municipalities or non-profit organizations, including commercial real property and farm and ranch land owned by religious institutions, being subject to ad valorem tax. Worship centers and parsonages should remain exempt.

We believe all fuel tax revenues should be directed to improving highways, roads and bridges.

We support all motor vehicle excise tax being earmarked for county roads, state highways and city streets, rather than going into the general revenue fund.

We recommend legislation allowing farmers to use funds from the sale of their family farm to create a retirement fund similar to a 401K or Keogh plan. Taxes would be paid on income as it is withdrawn, rather than on a lump sum as a capital gain tax.

We support maintaining the current capital gains tax at 15% or less.

We support harmonizing and reciprocating Oklahoma state law with other states' farm tax exemptions.

We oppose taxes being levied on stored grain.

We oppose the imposition of any additional and/or movement of the federal motor fuel tax to achieve budget deficit reduction.

We support the collection of road use fuel taxes at the terminal point.

We support capital gains being eliminated for farmers and ranchers on portions of their loans that are restructured through voluntary conveyances to stay in business.

We support the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Chapter 12 bankruptcy reorganization for farmers; however, the IRC must be amended to create separate tax status for the Chapter 12 estate.

We support state tax provisions favorable to producers forced to liquidate livestock and which will not conflict with federal tax provisions.

We support the current federal tax provisions granted by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) for producers forced to liquidate livestock.

We support tax incentives or tax credits for producers who purchase or have purchased equipment to convert from conventional till farming to no-till or minimum till for controlling soil erosion and water conservation.

We support enacting federal and state tax incentives for landowners who sell or lease their land to new or beginning farmers.

We oppose the federal sales tax called "value added tax."

1 We oppose capital gains taxes being levied whenever land is purchased through eminent
2 domain.

3
4 We oppose interest rates being imputed by the IRS to individuals who sell their property and
5 provide financing at a rate lower than the rate being charged by financial institutions. The IRS
6 should not be permitted to charge that individual the difference between the lower rate being
7 charged and the going rate being charged by financial institutions.

8
9 We favor taxing the money earned in the United States by any citizen of another country.

10
11 We favor increasing the state income tax exemption to match the federal amount.

12
13 We support a constitutional amendment providing additional millage for county
14 governments, subject to 60% approval by voters of individual counties.

15
16 We oppose replacing state income tax with increased property taxes and/or taxes on services.

17
18 We oppose any change to state statute or the Oklahoma Constitution, which shifts the current
19 sinking fund indebtedness of counties and schools from all property owners to only non-homestead
20 landowners.

21
22 We oppose moving property tax provisions from the Oklahoma Constitution to state statute.

23
24 We support a catastrophic judgement relief fund administered by the state which could re-
25 insure against potential judgements and diversify cost beyond those borne solely by property
26 owners.

27
28 We oppose further reduction to state tax rates that increase the likelihood of additional ad
29 valorem taxes.

30
31 For state revenue development, we support fair and equitable treatment of all resources.

32
33 We support taxing aggregate materials when they are removed from the county where they
34 were mined. These tax dollars should go first to the county, then the state.

35
36 In the absence of total elimination of a federal estate tax, we recommend a federal estate tax
37 exemption be set at \$12.06 million (2023) and indexed thereafter to inflation.

38
39 We support increasing the annual gift tax exemption level.

40
41 We request that an additional person with an agricultural background be placed on any ad
42 valorem task force. This person should be appointed by the County Assessors Association and
43 confirmed by the Oklahoma Senate.

44
45 We support property taxes being based on agricultural use and fair market value.

46
47 We recommend use of current county soil conservation maps and surveys to tax agriculture
48 land as to its use.

1 We support increased transparency and call for an accounting of all revenue generated by
2 liquor-by-the-drink, pari-mutuel betting, Indian compacts, lottery tickets, and any other taxation
3 intended for the support of public education.
4

5 We ask the Oklahoma Legislature to continue the present practice of assessing agricultural
6 land based on 75% of rental income, 25% of comparable sales, to arrive at a per point value.
7

8 We strongly support continuation of the sales tax exemption, tax credits and income tax
9 deductions used in agriculture.
10

11 We do not support an increase in ad valorem taxes as a means to solve a state revenue
12 shortfall.
13

14 We oppose all ad valorem tax increases that do not require a super-majority vote.
15

16 We support the Oklahoma Constitution being adhered to in the use of ad valorem taxes, with
17 oversight by the Oklahoma State Auditor and Inspector Office.
18

19 We oppose any attempts by oil, gas, wind and solar power companies to exempt their
20 production equipment from tax rolls.
21

22 We oppose the mandatory licensing of farm trailers for any purpose with the exception of
23 commercial use.
24

25 We support the Oklahoma Tax Commission (OTC) notifying businesses to clarify farm items
26 that are tax exempt.
27

28 We support putting all road user taxes in a trust fund for the construction and maintenance
29 of roads. The road user funds now going to other uses should be replaced, dollar for dollar, from
30 the general fund.
31

32 We support the return of investment tax credit on all American-made products.
33

34 Because the collection of taxes falls within the purview of the OTC and the IRS, we believe
35 a farmer's responsibility, with respect to assisting these state and federal agencies, should be
36 limited to a single, annual reporting of wages paid to farm workers.
37

38 We oppose attempts to reduce the percentage of voters necessary to pass all bond issues from
39 60% to a majority vote.
40

41 We support special consideration be given to personnel involved in natural disaster response
42 regarding income taxes.
43

44 We support equal taxation for all new and old, vertical and horizontal oil and gas wells and
45 wind generation facilities in Oklahoma.
46

47 We support the Oklahoma Legislature attempting to more effectively collect sales tax on
48 internet purchases.
49

50 We support a continuation of tax-exempt farm-use diesel.
51

1 **GOVERNMENT**

2
3 The U.S. Congress should not pass any laws which apply to U.S. citizens for which they
4 exempt themselves. All laws should apply equally to all, including the people who pass the laws.
5

6 Any local, county or state primary election where party filing is required shall allow all
7 eligible voters to vote if only one party is represented. Alternatively, any local, county or state
8 primary race where only one party is represented should be moved to the general election.
9

10 We support initiatives that encourage voters to turn out at local, county, state and federal
11 elections.
12

13 We fully support the usage of “God” on government buildings, legal documents and legal
14 tender and we oppose the removal of existing references.
15

16 We encourage all elected officials to vote on issues, rather than voting strictly along party
17 lines.
18

19 We support meaningful, comprehensive campaign finance reform in state and federal
20 elections. We encourage further study of public campaign financing as a means of limiting the
21 influence of large corporations, self-interest groups and the wealthiest individuals.
22

23 We believe that fees or taxes collected by government for a specific purpose should be used
24 for that intended purpose.
25

26 We support government accepting the responsibility of commitments made to military
27 veterans.
28

29 We support cities or towns of less than 25,000 population, and counties less than 60,000, be
30 exempted from provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act. This act provides that prevailing wages be paid
31 on any construction job where public money is involved.
32

33 We support the current agricultural exemption to child labor regulations.
34

35 We oppose the use of super PACs during the election process and find their intrusion to be
36 detrimental.
37

38 We oppose any elected state or county position being changed to an appointed position.
39
40

41 **A. IMMIGRATION**

42
43 We demand all laws that apply to U.S. citizens also apply to immigrants upon entry to the
44 United States.
45

46 We favor immigration laws that continue to embody our creed of acceptance of immigrants,
47 while not burdening our government’s and citizens’ social and other resources.
48

49 We support opportunities to immigrants to earn citizenship that are willing to make a positive
50 social, economic and patriotic contribution as U.S. citizens.
51

1 We support a documented guest worker program for immigrant laborers that results in these
2 individuals paying taxes, obeying local, state and federal laws and have the option of returning to
3 their home country, with full access to the judicial system.

4
5 We oppose illegal immigrant minors being incarcerated with convicted felons while awaiting
6 processing.

7
8 We support immigration laws that provide a system of identification, classification and
9 taxation.

10
11 We support modernizing and simplifying the H-2A visa program. We support the U.S. Dept.
12 of Agriculture (USDA) employing staff to help farmers and ranchers navigate the application
13 process.

14
15 We support the development of new authorization documents that cannot be manipulated or
16 duplicated and include biometric identifiers. Until such a system is developed, we oppose
17 employers of guest workers to be responsible for the authenticity of guest worker documentation.

18
19 We support penalties on non-citizens of the United States who take advantage of systems
20 paid for by U.S. taxpayers, including but not limited to repayment of defaulted public student
21 loans.

22 23 **B. FEDERAL**

24
25 We support the enforcement of the Constitution of the United States.

26
27 We strongly urge Congress to properly fund U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Dept. of
28 Agriculture (USDA)-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and Bureau of
29 Reclamation lakes and reservoirs.

30
31 We support the continued partnership and collaboration between USDA-NRCS and USDA-
32 Farm Service Agency (FSA), but oppose the consolidation of their programs.

33
34 We support Congress' work toward reducing the federal deficit.

35
36 We support a discussion of term limits for federal representatives and senators.

37
38 We oppose any efforts to convert U.S. land descriptions to the metric system.

39
40 The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and other government agencies should be held liable to
41 pay attorney fees of both parties when the government loses the case.

42
43 We favor legislation to require disclosure of foreign ownership and control of American real
44 estate and business firms.

45
46 We support federal policies and programs which encourage U.S. investors to invest in
47 America. We oppose programs such as those administered by the U.S. Agency for International
48 Development (USAID), which provides monetary incentives for U.S.-based businesses to relocate
49 in foreign countries.

1 We oppose the placing of U.S. troops under the command of the United Nations
2 commanders.

3
4 We encourage reimbursement by any foreign country to the United States for assistance
5 given. Restitution could be monetary or in-kind product equivalency payments.

6
7 We oppose the efforts of the state and federal government to take over any part or branch of
8 county government.

9
10 We oppose non-citizens, foreign companies and/or foreign countries providing money for
11 candidates for offices in the United States.

12
13 We oppose granting congressional representation to the District of Columbia.

14
15 We support amending the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act so that reasonable tolerances
16 can be established for food production; and that absolute proof must be established that food and
17 additives will not adversely affect animal and human health by its use.

18
19 We oppose the political appointments of “czars” in the White House which often have more
20 political power than secretarial appointments which require more congressional scrutiny and
21 confirmation. We believe such appointments should be sharply curtailed and require additional
22 oversight by Congress.

23
24 We support legislation that Congress cannot receive a salary raise to take effect during their
25 current term of office or change their retirement status to take effect during their current term of
26 office.

27
28 We support retaining the present U.S. Electoral College method of electing the U.S. President
29 and Vice-President.

30
31 We support a re-assessment of all retirement programs for county, state and federal
32 employees and elected officials to ensure they are fair to both the employee and the taxpayer.

33
34 We recommend that government agencies’ rules and regulations be more accountable and
35 balanced to the best interests of the people and reviewed regularly to alleviate the negative
36 effects on small businesses.

37
38 We support continuation of the Oklahoma Agricultural Mediation Program (OAMP) and
39 guaranteed timely funding for the continuation and expansion of services.

40
41 Since America’s agricultural infrastructure is a critical part of our national security, we
42 support the secretary of Agriculture serving as a permanent member of the Committee on Foreign
43 Investment in the United States (CFIUS), where their expertise could be used to screen transactions
44 and educate fellow members of the committee.

45 46 **C. STATE**

47
48 We support four-year terms for state representatives.

49
50 We oppose any move that would encourage consolidation of power, more specifically into
51 the office of the governor.

1
2 We direct effort be made to help provide rural issues education, preferably including
3 attendance of on-farm field days, for elected state legislators and executive-level state agency
4 personnel.

5
6 We oppose the removal or transfer of inspection on any agriculture practices from the
7 Oklahoma Dept. of Agriculture, Food & Forestry (ODAFF) to any other state agency.

8
9 We support adequate funding for ODAFF, the Oklahoma Conservation Commission, the
10 Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service and Agricultural Experiment Station to meet staffing
11 requirements of day-to-day needs and to utilize these personnel to address catastrophic
12 occurrences. We oppose disproportionate cuts which would adversely impact all natural resource
13 agencies.

14
15 We oppose the Oklahoma Attorney General's circumvention of the proper regulatory
16 agencies relating to the investigation and litigation of potential environmental compliance.

17
18 Prior to filing any lawsuit, the Oklahoma Attorney General shall have the simple majority
19 approval of both the Oklahoma House and Senate.

20
21 We support the Oklahoma Ethics Commission's efforts to affect standards of behavior which
22 will result in more public confidence. However, to encourage public service on boards and
23 commissions, we recommend that reporting requirements be not overly intrusive.

24
25 We support the removal of the straight party voting option on election ballots in the state of
26 Oklahoma.

27
28 We oppose land use planning and zoning by counties in recognition of the need to preserve
29 agriculture land.

30
31 We encourage ODAFF to serve as an intermediary for producers with export opportunities.

32
33 We oppose the Oklahoma Legislature diverting funds from various state retirement systems
34 to fund state government. The Legislature should honor existing obligations.

35
36 We support efficiency in all state agencies. We object to the state legislature removing money
37 from state agency revolving funds to balance the budget; particularly, from non-appropriated state
38 agencies whose funds are received from entities they regulate, not state tax revenue.

39
40 We oppose a state constitutional convention. Any amendments for the state constitution
41 should be submitted to a vote of the people in the form of a single-issue state question.

42
43 We oppose excessive rules, regulations and legislation which levy rigid requirements in the
44 name of "the public interest."

45
46 We support the enforcement of state laws concerning the displaying and removal of
47 campaign signs.

48
49 We support increasing the threshold for small claims court to \$25,000.
50
51

1 **D. COUNTY**

2
3 We support county governments be given a greater role in initiating environmental
4 safeguards and in developing economic opportunities within their counties.

5
6 We oppose state and federal funds allocated to support county and municipal governments
7 being diverted to other governmental entities or programs.

8
9 We support the elimination of partisan designations for county elected officials.

10
11 We support state funding for additional services or expenditures by the counties, when
12 mandated by the Oklahoma Legislature.

13
14 We oppose the re-evaluation of agricultural land for taxation purposes based on recent sales
15 for non-agricultural purposes (i.e. hunting and recreation).

16
17 We oppose property valuation being automatically raised the maximum 5% without due
18 consideration of the specific property and justification provided to landowners.

19
20 We support the present form of county government, with the current structure of eight elected
21 officials per county.

22
23 We support legislation requiring proposed salaries for county officers be publicized before
24 being finalized.

25
26 We favor intra-county district cooperative ownership and use of county road equipment.

27
28 **E. TRIBAL**

29
30 While we acknowledge tribal sovereignty, we encourage tribes and state and local
31 government entities to cooperate on economic development and agriculture issues.

32
33 We support intergovernmental collaboration between local, state, federal and tribal
34 agencies to establish practical air and water quality standards.

35
36 We support the purchase of hunting and fishing licenses by tribal governments from the
37 Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation (ODWC) to issue to tribal members.

38
39 We support tribal governments investing in agricultural enterprises as a sustainable
40 economic endeavor.

41
42 We encourage tribal nations to contribute to utilities, infrastructure, government funds, ad
43 valorem taxation, etc., at the percentage of tribal members per capita, to match the contributions
44 of a non-tribal citizen.

45
46 We support the sharing of information between tribal governments and Oklahoma Turnpike
47 Authority (OTA). All plate holders should be required to pay tolls.

1 **COMMISSIONS**

2
3 **A. COMMODITIES COMMISSION**

4
5 We support the commodity commissions, provided that the funds collected by force of law
6 are used for research, promotion, education and policy development, and that their use for political
7 purposes be strictly prohibited.

8
9 We oppose state government taking commodity check-off funds to balance budgets.

10
11 We support check-off programs on all commodities and periodic reporting to those paying
12 for the check-off. We support mandatorily paid and voluntarily refundable check-off programs.

13
14 We require full transparency in any check-off program in regard to how funds are spent. We
15 recommend annual audits of these programs with no redactions allowed.

16
17 We support the collection of royalty fees on the sale of products developed by commodity
18 check-off research dollars.

19
20 We support the right of referendum by securing signatures of 10% of qualified producers of
21 a commodity.

22
23 All referenda should be conducted by mail or electronic media to ensure maximum
24 participation by producers. Only eligible producers of a commodity shall have a vote on who is
25 chosen for the promotion board that oversees collection and spending of funds. The eligible
26 producer who receives the greatest number of producer votes must be seated.

27
28 We support the right of referendum for a district to recall the appointment of the
29 commissioner from that district.

30
31 We urge the commissions to direct greater effort toward removing restrictions that unduly
32 obstruct the flow of agriculture commodities into domestic and foreign markets (such as
33 embargoes, sanctions, strikes, grading standards, unreasonable inspection rules, and banning farm
34 chemicals without sufficient cause and inequitable quality standards on imports).

35
36 We oppose the consolidation of commodity commissions and/or any commission being
37 placed under the control of any state agency.

38
39 We support the ability of commodity commissions to develop a trust in which to deposit and
40 utilize commission funds.

41
42 We support exempting all agricultural commodity commissions from the Office of
43 Management and Enterprise Services state purchasing system.

44
45 We favor at least 20% of commodity commissions' gross income being used for research in
46 Oklahoma.

47
48 **B. SCHOOL LAND COMMISSION**

49
50 We support leaseholders of school lands be notified of a sale or re-lease.

1 We oppose the bifurcating of Commissioners of the Land Office (CLO) land between
2 hunting and agricultural leases. If the idea persists, any discussions regarding bifurcating should
3 be pursued with extreme caution and significant consideration, to include extensive mediation
4 discussions with the state's agricultural industry.

5
6 We support the sale of school land if no more than 5% of the school lands in any county are
7 sold within a 12-month period and if all sales of school land are deposited within the trust fund,
8 invested and not made available for use by the Oklahoma Legislature for appropriation purposes.
9 All dividends should be returned to be used for the school children of Oklahoma. In the event more
10 than 5% is sold, we direct the state to protect the funds held and to reserve them to be used for the
11 Oklahoma public school system.

12
13 We support the adjusted division of rent procured from school land leases to offset the ad
14 valorem tax revenue lost by the local school district because such land is not on the tax rolls.
15 Lessees, who have made improvements on state school lands, should be reimbursed the fair market
16 value for those improvements. Adjoining landowners also should be reimbursed for the portion
17 that he or she paid for when the improvement was made, such as for building a fence.

18 19 **C. WILDLIFE COMMISSION**

20
21 We support hunter safety education courses taking place in a classroom setting with
22 instruction by a qualified instructor.

23
24 We believe licenses or conservation passports be required for activities not related to
25 hunting/fishing on Oklahoma Dept. of Wildlife Conservation (ODWC) land.

26
27 We support legislation to require at least four farmers or ranchers, by occupation, to be
28 members of the Oklahoma Wildlife Conservation Commission.

29
30 We oppose the listing of species as endangered or threatened without consideration for
31 private property rights and without a study of the economic impact on the citizens of the state of
32 Oklahoma. We additionally oppose the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) critical habitat
33 rules for threatened species.

34
35 We oppose acquisition of land for hiking trails and habitat for endangered species through
36 the use of easements or other restrictions placed on deeds of foreclosed land.

37
38 We support voluntary pro-active cooperative efforts by the private sector landowner to
39 restore potential threatened species by working with groups like the ODWC rather than a federal
40 regulatory approach which could be counterproductive.

41
42 We oppose the ODWC purchasing more land in the State of Oklahoma. We support the
43 ODWC in leasing private land for use as a wildlife public access area.

44
45 We oppose non-native wildlife species introduction in Oklahoma.

46
47 We encourage game rangers to conduct their duties in a professional and courteous manner
48 and to respect the landowner and their property rights.

49
50 Hunting licenses for the State of Oklahoma should have the following requirement printed
51 on the back of the form: "This license can be canceled if the holder violates the present law of

1 hunting or fishing on private property without permission from the owner, landlord or operator. It
2 is hereby understood that the owner of the property is not responsible for any accident or injury
3 sustained by persons entering land with or without permission."
4

5 We recommend that an unlimited number of deer, either sex, be taken in overpopulated areas
6 via depredation permits. We further recommend better education to encourage the use of
7 depredation tags in areas of overpopulation.
8

9 We support the increase in cost of non-resident hunting tags and licenses to align with typical
10 fees of adjoining states.
11

12 We support control of wildlife species including geese, ducks, cattle egrets, feral hogs, and
13 elk in order to protect farmers' crops, livestock and fences in all Oklahoma counties.
14

15 We support the enforcement of legislation prohibiting the deliberate release of swine to
16 become feral hogs.
17

18 We encourage the Oklahoma Dept. of Agriculture, Food & Forestry (ODAFF) to test and
19 track deer and elk harvested for chronic wasting disease.
20

21 We oppose the legalization of the use of dogs in the process of hunting deer.
22
23
24

25 **INVASIVE SPECIES AND DISEASE CONTROL**

26

27 Now that Oklahoma has declared feral hogs an invasive species, we urge the state to continue
28 research, implementation and funding for a feral hog eradication program.
29

30 We urge the state and federal government to take more aggressive steps to control feral hogs,
31 including the enforcement and maintenance of feral hog free zones. We oppose the closure of open
32 season on hogs in wildlife management areas (WMAs).
33

34 We support funding aggressive actions to prevent human, animal and plant diseases from
35 entering the United States. We support effective strategies for dealing with diseases, should these
36 enter the United States.
37

38 We urge immediate action to adequately fund a program to eradicate noxious plants
39 including, but not limited to, all species of mesquite, thistle and cedars from Oklahoma. Such a
40 program should include, but not be limited to, spraying of rights-of-way by federal, state and
41 county agencies where needed.
42

43 We support the funding of eradication of Eastern Red Cedar on state highway and county
44 road rights-of-way.
45

46 As a general farm organization representing producers with a variety of commodities, we
47 recognize the diversity of views regarding application of certain chemicals. Therefore, we support
48 continued education and responsible use regarding the use of all herbicides and pesticides.
49

50 We encourage record-keeping and on-label usage of all crop enhancement products
51 (chemical applications) as a best management practice.

1
2 We support increased education on the proper use of dicamba and the continued review of
3 regulations by the Oklahoma Dept. of Agriculture, Food & Forestry (ODAFF).
4

5 We support education efforts by the Oklahoma Cotton Council and Oklahoma Cooperative
6 Extension Service on the proper use of dicamba.
7

8 We encourage cooperation among agriculture stakeholders to provide education and training
9 for best management practices for pesticide storage, handling and application.
10

11 We support the Oklahoma Mesonet and/or ODAFF be provided with continued funding to
12 provide producers with adequate climatic information for the application of herbicides,
13 insecticides and burning.
14

15 We encourage landowners to use approved burn plans when doing prescribed burns. We
16 further encourage landowners to work with ODAFF through their prescribed fire program.
17

18 We support legislation that limits the liability of individuals who have been educated and
19 follow appropriate protocols when conducting a burn.
20

21 We support the state, federal and tribal governments working with landowners to utilize
22 prescribed burning to reduce the threat of wildfire.
23

24 We support prescribed burning liability relief legislation to protect individuals that have been
25 educated and follow the appropriate protocols when conducting a burn.
26

27 We support the state and federal government working with landowners to utilize prescribed
28 burning to reduce the threat of wildfire.
29

30 Before an agricultural chemical can be removed from the market, we support factual
31 evidence being obtained by the agency with jurisdiction that its use will adversely affect human
32 and animal health or that it is hazardous to the environment and the economic impact be considered
33 when no alternative exists.
34

35 We favor enforcement of the law requiring all harvesting equipment be thoroughly cleaned
36 prior to interstate travel.
37

38 We support the continued use of phostoxin as pest control in grain storage facilities, until a
39 suitable and affordable replacement is provided.
40

41 We urge continued support of the Oklahoma Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory and the
42 Oklahoma State University College of Veterinary Medicine (OSU-CVM).
43

44 Now that Oklahoma is a Brucellosis-free state, efforts must continue to ensure that we remain
45 Brucellosis-free. We encourage the state to encourage producers to continue to vaccinate and to
46 cover the cost of that vaccination.
47

48 We support a joint effort between OSU and ODAFF in requesting additional state and federal
49 funds for the control and eradication of ticks, fire ants, killer bees and parasitic mites in domestic
50 bees in Oklahoma.
51

1 We encourage the continuation of efforts to monitor and mitigate the spread of new world
2 screwworm (NWS). We further encourage the development of additional sterile fly facilities and
3 continued support of existing facilities in the U.S., Mexico, and neighboring countries.
4

5 We support the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service (USDA-ARS) area-
6 wide research efforts in Oklahoma and across the nation to control imported fire ants, using a
7 combination of treatment methods, including natural predators.
8

9 We urge the state and federal government to take more aggressive steps to control feral hogs,
10 including the enforcement and maintenance of feral hog free zones. We oppose the closure of open
11 season on hogs in wildlife management areas (WMAs).
12

13 We support the right of a landowner to use whatever means reasonable to protect any
14 agricultural crop or species of livestock, and/or processed feed, seed or other materials used in the
15 production of an agricultural commodity from depredation, damage or destruction by any nuisance
16 animal species.
17

18 We urge the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to continue to support predator control
19 and limit any restrictive rule that affects the ability of the field men to do their work in predator
20 control.
21

22 We support farmers' and ranchers' ability to control predators or varmints on their land by
23 the most effective, safe and economical means.
24

25 We recommend that any wildlife, or other exotic birds and animals transported to, within, or
26 through the State of Oklahoma, be certified by ODAFF to be free of infectious, contagious and
27 communicable diseases and/or parasites.
28

29 We support designation of the black vulture as a nuisance species and measures be taken to
30 eliminate this threat to American livestock. We urge Oklahoma's farmers and ranchers to report
31 the use of their five depredation allotments.
32
33
34

35 **TRANSPORTATION**

36
37 We support the continued funding of the federal highway fund and oppose such funding
38 being redirected to non-roads and non-bridges projects.
39

40 We recognize the current school bus driver shortage and hope it can be addressed with
41 funding without sacrificing the safety of our students.
42

43 We support traffic violations that occur in relation to or near implements of husbandry being
44 based on a separate and higher fine schedule.
45

46 We support additional funding and staffing for driver's license testing facilities.
47

48 We support safe, well-maintained roads and bridges in rural Oklahoma. County roads and
49 bridges should maintain a high funding priority by the Oklahoma Legislature. We support an
50 increase in the cap on apportionment to the County Improvement for Road and Bridges (CIRB)
51 fund.

1
2 We recommend a standard minimum height of at least 17 feet for new bridges and overpasses
3 across existing highways in the state of Oklahoma.

4
5 We oppose the use of state funds and federal gas tax monies in promoting and assisting in
6 the construction or maintenance of toll roads.

7
8 We support the Oklahoma Dept. of Transportation (ODOT) paying for the repair of county
9 roads used for detours when building or repairing state highways.

10
11 Access roads around lakes that have been built by the state should be maintained by the state
12 and not by the counties.

13
14 We support new bridges being built on the original right-of-way and not off set.

15
16 We support ODOT being responsible for maintaining their fences along limited access
17 highways.

18
19 We encourage ODOT to work with property owners to find common-sense solutions when
20 disputes arise over highway signage regulations.

21
22 We favor a law requiring all road intersections and rights-of-way be cleared of weeds and
23 brush to prevent accidents. We support the baling of rights-of-way with preference to adjacent
24 operators.

25
26 We support the Oklahoma Legislature and Governor maintaining railroad services and all
27 existing transportation facilities in all of Oklahoma.

28
29 We support legislation that would provide for adequate rail competition and oppose rate
30 increases by railroads for agricultural products.

31
32 We support full-contract rate disclosure for freight, including all pertinent contract
33 provisions.

34
35 We support the state assisting in railroad right-of-way purchases and maintenance for rail
36 services and the enhancement, expansion and continuation of short lines for the continued viability
37 of the state economy.

38
39 We oppose state or federal regulation regarding the transportation of hazardous materials by
40 farmers who do so in the course of their own farming operation.

41
42 We support an agriculture exemption from federal and state regulations regarding displaying
43 of Dept. of Transportation (DOT) numbers.

44
45 We support the Oklahoma Highway Patrol (OHP) in their efforts to educate farmers and
46 ranchers on current Federal Commercial Motor Carrier Safety Administration requirements.

47
48 We support variances for natural disasters in “hours of service” regulations for drivers with
49 commercial driver’s licenses (CDLs) with respect to restoring emergency services.

50
51 We support maintaining hours-of-service exemptions for livestock transportation.

1
2 We support permits for hauling loads of hay be cost-free and easily obtainable, since the
3 federal government requires the State of Oklahoma to issue such permits for use on federal roads.
4

5 We oppose federal requirements to install lighting on farm equipment that was not originally
6 equipped with such devices.
7

8 We support reasonable reform of federal and state transportation laws regarding increasing
9 weights and measures when transporting farm commodities and equipment.
10

11 We support counties receiving a portion of the revenue derived from fines levied at ODOT
12 weigh stations located within that county.
13

14 We support the current CDL ag exemption (49 CFR Part 383.3).
15

16 We support continued improvements to the driver's licensing system to encourage shorter
17 delays and greater efficiency for CDL license renewals.
18
19
20

21 SAFETY

22
23 We encourage additional funding allocations for volunteer fire departments to build adequate
24 local firefighting capacity for training, recruitment and retention of volunteers. We oppose
25 insurance companies/agents being the source point of collections for fire department dues.
26

27 We support county officials' authority to declare a burn ban during times of high fire risks
28 and support the enforcement thereof.
29

30 We support public funding and installation of dry fire hydrants.
31

32 We support education and training efforts related to farm operations, grain storage, farm
33 machinery and all-terrain vehicle (ATV) safety.
34

35 We support a statewide coordinated communications network system and an enhanced 9-1-
36 1 system which would improve the efficiency of ambulance and emergency medical services in
37 rural areas.
38

39 We support special protection and precaution for firemen and first responders fighting fires
40 at medical marijuana facilities.
41
42
43

44 CRIME

45
46 We support victims' rights be strongly protected by law at the local, state or federal level.
47

48 We support the efforts of the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics (OBN), both in the control of
49 illegal drug transportation and use and the prevention of human trafficking. We support adequate
50 funding for OBN and similar organizations.
51

1 We support adequate state funding of the criminal justice and incarceration system.

2
3 We favor expediting the appeal process of convicted criminals.

4
5 We recommend severe penalties and strict enforcement of laws governing all drivers,
6 including juveniles under the influence of alcohol and drugs. We also recommend mandatory
7 incarceration of transporters of illegal drugs, pending trial.

8
9 We support changes in the juvenile justice system to provide adequate juvenile detention
10 facilities with adequate counseling and rehabilitation programs.

11
12 We support peaceful communities and the right to peacefully assemble. Those that breach
13 legal standards should be appropriately punished.

14
15 We call for greater emphasis on controlling abuse of alcohol and illegal drugs.

16
17 We support school officials and law enforcement officers in schools be given adequate
18 latitude to address disciplinary problems in schools.

19
20 We encourage random drug testing of anyone responsible for the safety of others and support
21 the crack-down on any abusive use of drugs, illegal or prescription.

22
23 We encourage adequate funds be appropriated for the treatment and/or incarceration of
24 illegal drug users.

25
26 We support the county's option to regulate the sale of liquor.

27
28 We continue to support the Amber, Silver and Blue Alert system, as well as Endangered
29 Missing Advisories.

30
31 We support the establishment of a rural crime unit. We prefer that such a unit be under the
32 jurisdiction of the Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation (OSBI) in cooperation with the
33 Oklahoma Dept. of Agriculture, Food & Forestry (ODAFF) where applicable.

34
35 We oppose attempts to consolidate civilian surveillance and intelligence, such as the OSBI
36 and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), under military control.

37
38 We support the action of local, state and federal departments and agencies to combat
39 terrorism, including any agrarian-related terrorism attack.

40
41 Due to the threat posed by terrorists to the security and welfare of the United States, we
42 support the actions taken through the Dept. of Homeland Security (DHS) to require foreign
43 students in the U.S. on student visas to show proof of enrollment and academic participation.

44
45 We support increasing penalties for acts of agricultural terrorism.

46
47 We support additional efforts to protect our federal borders from the growing and/or import
48 of illegal drugs and potential terrorist activity.

49
50 We support the use of trained dogs for drug detection.

1 We support current laws be strengthened concerning abuse, human trafficking, and sexual
2 crimes.

3
4 We favor providing law enforcement agencies with the resources needed to apprehend,
5 prosecute and monitor sex offenders. We continue to support the use of Megan's Law.

6
7 Parents and minors should be held legally and financially responsible for all costs and
8 damages incurred by a minor's criminal activities.

9
10 We urge our members to join and/or organize their communities into neighborhood watch-
11 type programs and cooperate with local law enforcement agencies for identification of all personal
12 property.

13
14 After an accident involving property damage to fences, buildings or equipment, we support
15 investigating law enforcement officer(s) be required to notify landowners or tenants of such
16 damage immediately after it occurs.

17
18 We support the Oklahoma Dept. of Corrections (ODOC) paying the county jails of Oklahoma
19 at a rate commensurate with state incarceration costs for state offenders after judicial sentences are
20 imposed.

21
22 We recommend uniform and prompt sentencing for the same type of offenses and mandatory
23 minimum sentences be provided by law for repeat offenders.

24
25 We support hardened criminals be segregated from first-time offenders and efforts should be
26 made to rehabilitate first-time offenders.

27
28 We support legislation that would limit early release of prison inmates to those convicted of
29 non-violent crimes only.

30
31 We favor work programs whereby inmate labor would be used to maintain and improve
32 public facilities, such as roads, bridges, parks, buildings and other such public property.

33
34 We support more consideration be given to restitution, rather than confinement, when the
35 risk to the public is minimal.

36
37 We encourage use of electronic monitoring, rather than incarceration, for non-violent
38 offenders.

39
40 We support more emphasis be placed on the supervision of parolees.

41
42 We support publicly funded incarceration facilities that met standards when built not being
43 in violation when new regulations or standards are issued, unless the total cost of updating is
44 provided by the state or federal government.

45
46 To help alleviate the ever-increasing tax burden on rural residents, we support a concept of
47 regional, centrally located jails, funded by the state, to serve multiple cities, towns and counties,
48 but only when these entities and the voters wish to participate jointly.

49
50 We support adequate funding for multiple-county rural crime task forces.

51

1 We support action to prevent or minimize frivolous lawsuits.

2
3 We oppose the unreasonable limitation of gun ownership and Second Amendment rights of
4 law-abiding citizens.

5
6 We support protecting oneself and family with necessary force, particularly when a
7 perpetrator intrudes upon your property.

8
9 We favor a rehabilitation center for minor juvenile offenders and an alternative school
10 environment for repeat offenders.

11
12 We support coordination of local, state and federal governments in prosecution of crimes
13 committed with electronic media.

14
15 We support adequate funding for ODAFF for investigating theft of livestock and other
16 agriculture commodities, products, and increased penalties for perpetrators.

17
18 We oppose the option of cashless bail prior to arraignments.
19
20
21

22 MARIJUANA

23
24 We recognize the production of medical marijuana is an evolving industry in Oklahoma. We
25 recommend continued attention be given to developing policies that protect Oklahoma's rural
26 citizens, landowners and communities.
27

28 As the medical marijuana industry has become a new member of our rural Oklahoma
29 communities, we suggest the following policies be enacted to reduce avoidable conflicts:
30

31 AFR has been successful in further regulating the marijuana industry through the passing
32 of legislation. We support continued monitoring of legislation in this area. We also encourage
33 strict enforcement of existing law by the Oklahoma Medical Marijuana Authority (OMMA),
34 Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics (OBN), and all other regulators of the medical marijuana
35 industry.
36

37 We oppose the medical marijuana industry's zero-tolerance chemical drift policy. We
38 support legislation that prohibits criminal or civil liability caused by chemical spray plume drift
39 upon marijuana plants unless the marijuana grow operation is: 1) indoors as defined by OMMA
40 and 2) has installed an adequate ventilation system that protects against drift chemical damage.
41

42 We support a two-year waiting period on all new Oklahoma residents before they are
43 eligible for a medical marijuana grower license, similar to in-state tuition, hunting licenses, etc.
44 All members of any partnership, corporation or LLC would be subject to the requirement. We
45 support prohibiting the issuing of a medical marijuana license for any person convicted of a
46 felony, whether they are applying as an individual or as part of a partnership, corporation or
47 LLC.
48

49 We encourage the establishment of an Oklahoma Energy Resources Board (OERB)-style
50 remediation program for the medical marijuana industry.
51

1 We oppose legalizing the recreational use of marijuana.

2
3 We support the state’s prepackaging mandate requiring products be prepackaged by the
4 grower or processor before stocking in retail stores.

5
6 In the event recreational marijuana is made legal within the state of Oklahoma, we
7 support current regulations for growing and distributing medical marijuana apply to a
8 recreational marijuana industry.

9
10 In relation to medical marijuana operations, we support legislation restricting investment,
11 ownership or leasing of land and natural resources by foreign individuals or entities that could
12 jeopardize national security.

13
14 We encourage the banning or regulation of products containing synthetically altered CBD, (i.e.
15 Delta 8).

16
17
18
19 **FAMILY LIFE AND SOCIAL ISSUES**

20
21 We oppose any changes to our national anthem or Pledge of Allegiance.

22
23 We urge active involvement in the effort to preserve the fundamental moral values of our
24 society and uphold the Biblical principles upon which our nation was founded.

25
26 We support the traditional family structure.

27
28 We support the 1965 Civil Rights Act and the additional legislation that prohibits
29 discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex/gender,
30 age, disability or veteran status.

31
32 We support programs promoting Christian life. We oppose programs or practices promoting
33 Satanism or witchcraft, and the recognition of such as valid religions.

34
35 We support the groups that are currently fighting to stop the spread of pornography and sales
36 of pornographic materials in our state, along with stronger penalties for violators.

37
38 We strongly oppose television programming, electronic games and Internet sites not suited
39 for full-family viewing.

40
41 We oppose Federal Communication Commission (FCC) rulings that liberalize the use of
42 offensive, explicit or profane language and gestures on network television.

43
44 We believe the gender assigned on your birth certificate by a medical professional at the time
45 of birth should not be amendable. We believe only male or female shall be assigned.

46
47 We support the intent of Oklahoma’s Save Women’s Sports Act (S.B. 2) regarding athletic
48 competition.

1
2
3 **DEFINITIONS**
4

5 **A. HISTORICAL PARITY DEFINED:**
6

7 Congress has, by law, defined “fair” as the economic relationship that existed between
8 prices received by farmers and their production costs, including family living expenses, during
9 the five-year period 1910-1914.

10
11 The prices received by farmers are said to be at “100% of parity” (or “fairness”) when they
12 have the same relationship to production and living expenses as they did during that period. The
13 parity formula is kept up-to-date continuously, by:
14

15 (1) revising the list of services and items purchased by farmers for production and family
16 living to reflect today’s technology; and
17

18 (2) adjusting the parity prices for each farm commodity to take into account the 10-year
19 moving average of changes that occur in the relationship to each other by the actual market
20 prices received by farmers for the respective commodities.
21

22 **B. FAMILY FARM DEFINED:**
23

24 Characteristically, a family farm is owned and operated by a farm family, with the family
25 providing the base of the labor needed for the farming operation, assuming the economic risk,
26 making most of the management decisions and depending on farming and/or ranching for a
27 significant portion of their living.
28
29
30

31 **RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**
32 **(Preceding Five Years)**
33

34 With respect to ballot initiatives, we support a constitutional amendment which would
35 provide fairness to both rural and urban constituencies and require all initiative petition signature
36 drives achieve the requisite percent as prescribed in the constitution—in each of the
37 congressional districts as opposed to statewide—to be deemed as having sufficient signatures to
38 be placed on the ballot for voter consideration. (2025)
39

40 We oppose the establishment of business courts as a new branch of our judicial system.
41 (2025)

42 No public school should be funded at a lower per student rate than any charter school.
43 (2025)
44

45 We support 4-H activities, approved by the county 4-H educator, to be counted as an
46 excused absence for attendance purposes. The student should be given the opportunity to make
47 up any missed work. (2024)
48

49 We support legislation allowing 14-16-year-olds to operate motor vehicles during activities
50 related to farming and ranching, with all relevant safety precautions considered. (2024)
51

1 We support requiring marijuana grow operations visibly post at the point of entry of their
2 grow site(s) the name of the owner or operator, contact telephone number, email and license
3 number (similar to signage required on oil and gas sites). (2024)
4

5 We support requiring a pre-licensing inspection for medical marijuana grow operations.
6 We also support increasing the frequency of post-licensing inspections to once per quarter. We
7 support increasing the number of medical marijuana inspectors and investigators. (2024)
8

9 We support limiting the number of permits an individual, partnership, corporation or LLC
10 can hold. (2024)
11

12 We support requiring proof of a commercial general liability insurance policy for all
13 applications for a medical marijuana grow license. (2024)
14

15 We support increasing the medical marijuana license fee for both OMMA and OBN
16 licensing to a competitive rate based upon the needs of the regulatory agency. We would support
17 a tiered system dependent on the type and size of grow operation. (2024)
18

19 We encourage the continuation of a \$50,000 or higher bond required by medical marijuana
20 grow facilities. (2024)

21 We support a review and possible update of the 1910 Oklahoma fencing law by the
22 Oklahoma legislature. (2023)

23 We support a consistent and transparent per-pole attachment fee to promote adequate
24 broadband service to rural Oklahoma. (2022)
25

26 We encourage Oklahoma to adopt the 1991 Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
27 (FMCSA) ag-restricted CDL rule (Part 383.3) to ease labor issues related to time-sensitive and
28 seasonal harvesting, and we support any other reduction in driving restrictions in the
29 transportation of agricultural commodities. (2022)
30

31 We support a flat-rate tax on road-use electric vehicles in lieu of a fuel tax. This flat-rate tax
32 should be used for the repair and improvement of roads and bridges. (2021)
33
34