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Minnesota Farmers Union 74th annual state convention a success with awards, elections, policy, and special orders.

ST. PAUL (November 23, 2015) – The Minnesota Farmers Union (MFU) held its 74th annual state convention on Saturday, November 21 and Sunday, November 22, 2015. President Doug Peterson and Vice President Gary Wertish were re-elected to serve another two years of office. Policy and special orders were also debated and passed; and delegates were elected for the National Convention in Bloomington, MN March 5-8, 2016.

“Minnesota Farmers Union is about bringing solutions to the table when discussing ag policy and important key issues that are affecting Minnesota family farmers.” said Doug Peterson, Minnesota Farmers Union President. “Our grassroots organization makes sure that there is a voice from every part of the state and policy that is derived from the heart of agriculture in MN, our members.”

President Doug Peterson and Vice President Gary Wertish were re-elected in unanimous ballots on Saturday November 21st. Both are honored to be elected for 2 more years and continue to serve the family farmers of Minnesota.

The MFU delegates debated special orders of business addressing the concerns with the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP), and the Buffer legislation. Delegates went through the Minnesota Farmers Union policy and debated other hot topics including wolves, biofuels, COOL, and WOTUS.

During the convention, speakers included: Senator Amy Klobuchar; Senator Al Franken; Dave Frederickson, Department of Agriculture Commissioner; Roger Johnson, National Farmers Union President; Representative Tim Walz; Representative Collin Peterson.

Several awards were given out at the banquet Saturday night, including : Al Withers, Distinguished Service Award; Dori Klein, Excellence in Youth Education Award; Merlyn Hubin, Lifetime Achievement Award; Paul Johannes, Superior Service Award; and Paula Mohr, Outstanding Agricultural Reporting Award.

Delegates were chosen to represent Minnesota Farmers Union at the National Farmers Union convention which will be held March 5-8, 2016 in Bloomington, Minnesota. National delegates elected are:

District 1:

Delegate: Darin Narum, Polk County

Alternate: Richard Moen, Clearwater County

District 2:

Delegate: Ann Schwagerl, Big Stone County
Alternate: Mike Jorgenson, Big Stone County

District 3:

Delegate: Brent Imker, Cottonwood County
Alternate: Jacob Yost, Nicollet County

District 4:

Delegate: Mark Thell, Carlton County
Alternate: Brian Rohrenbach, Dakota County

District 5:

Delegate: Trevor Jensen, Steele County
Alternate: John Larsen, Olmstead County

Minnesota Farmers Union (www.mfu.org), Standing for Agriculture, Fighting for Farmers.
