



# Minnesota Farmers Union

## 83rd ANNUAL CONVENTION

#MFUConvention24

### Agenda

#### Friday, November 22

- 12:45 p.m. Childcare opens (childcare closes at 6:30 p.m.)
- 12:45 p.m. Auction item check-in begins (outside Lake Mille Lacs Room)
- 1 p.m. Panel discussion: **Getting the most from your farm organization.** – Facilitated by Winona Anderson, Education Director, and Will Teachout, Education Assistant (Minneapolis Ballroom Salons C & D)
- 2:15 p.m. Panel discussion: **Training: Blazing Trails through the Jungle of Food Regulations.** – Training by Kathy Zeman, Minnesota Farmers Market Association, and Jane Jewitt, invited (Minneapolis Ballroom Salons C & D)
- 3 p.m. Credentials & Elections Committee meeting with Attorney Dave Velde (Stillwater Room)
- 3:30 p.m. Registration opens (Foyer)
- 3:30 p.m. Panel discussion: **Weather trends and what they mean for Minnesota cropping systems** – Facilitated by Ariel Kagan, Climate and Working Lands Director (Minneapolis Ballroom Salons C & D)
- 4 p.m. Rules & Bylaws Meeting with Attorney Dave Velde (Stillwater Room)
- 4:45 p.m. Panel discussion: **Finding funding for projects on your farm** – Facilitated by Claudine Arndt, Minnesota Cooks and Membership Director (Minneapolis Ballroom Salons C & D)
- 5:45 p.m. Auction item check-in closes. (Lake Mille Lacs)
- 6:30 p.m. Registration closes
- 6:30 p.m. Minnesota Farmers Union (MFU) & Farmers Union Agency (FUA) Joint Reception (TC400 Tavern)
- 8 p.m. Member Networking Event

#### Saturday, November 23

- 6:30 a.m. Free farm-fresh breakfast for MFU members (ends 8 a.m.) (St. Paul Ballroom)
- 7 a.m. Registration opens (Foyer)
- 7:30 a.m. Membership Engagement Committee meeting (Duluth Executive Boardroom)
- 8 a.m. Childcare opens (childcare closes when banquet ends)
- 8 a.m. Auction item check-in resumes (Lake Mille Lacs Room)
- 8:30 a.m. Door prizes (Minneapolis Ballroom)
- Convention convenes (Minneapolis Ballroom)
- Welcome – Gary Wertish, President
- Prayer
- Pledge of Allegiance

Present & adopt convention rules – Tim Velde, Rules & Bylaws Committee Chair  
 Present & adopt minutes of 2023 convention – Missy Bakker Roach, State Secretary  
 Greeting & Report – Carol Anderson, Executive Committee Chair  
 Communications update – Janet Kubat, Communications Director, and Kyle Hoffman, Communications & Marketing Coordinator  
 Insurance update – Josh Vickerman, FUA President & General Manager  
 Remarks – Anne Schwagerl, Vice President  
 Introduction Farmers Union Enterprises Leadership program – Claudine Arndt, Membership and Minnesota Cooks Director  
 Farmers Union Enterprises Leadership program report – Marty and Lisa Phillips, Nate and Brenda Rudolph  
 Legislative team update – Stu Lourey, Government Relations Director; Ariel Kagan, Climate and Working Lands Program Director; Justin Stofferahn, Antimonopoly Director

10:30 a.m. Guest speakers  
 Policy discussion

11:30 a.m. Lunch (foyer, eat in Minneapolis Ballroom)

12 p.m. Door prizes and remarks (Minneapolis Ballroom)

12:15 p.m. Awards program

1 p.m. Introduction to National Convention

1:15 p.m. Policy discussion

1:50 p.m. Speakers

2:45 p.m. Credentials report – Credentials Committee Chair LeeAnn Hanson-VanDerPol  
 Policy discussion

3 p.m. Auction item check-in closes. (Lake Mille Lacs Room)

**3:30 p.m. Delegate registration closes, re-opens Sunday at 8 a.m., closes at 9:30 a.m. (time certain)**

3:30 p.m. NFU Convention delegate election caucusing. **(time certain)** (Minneapolis Ballroom)

4 p.m. Credentials Committee Meeting to draft ballots (Stillwater Room)

4:30 p.m. MFUPAC reception (St. Paul Ballroom)

6 p.m. Doors open for banquet (Minneapolis Ballroom)

6:15 p.m. Banquet  
 Prayer  
 Year in review video  
 Torchbearer recognition  
 President’s address – Gary Wertish  
 Keynote Speaker  
 Silent auction closes 10 minutes after end of banquet (Lake Mille Lacs Room)

8:30 p.m. MFU fundraiser live auction (Minneapolis Ballroom)

**Sunday, November 24**

6:30 a.m. Free omelet breakfast for MFU members (ends 8 a.m.) (St. Paul Ballroom)

7 a.m. FUMPA meeting (Duluth Executive Boardroom)

8 a.m. Childcare opens (closes after policy discussion ends)

8 a.m. Registration re-opens (Foyer)

8:15 a.m. Door prizes (Minneapolis Ballroom)  
 Call to order  
 Farmers Union Industries (FUI) report – Dale Bednarek, FUI CEO  
 Green View report – Mike McShane, Green View Executive Director  
 Education Report – Winona Anderson, Education Director, and Will Teachout, Education Assistant

National Youth Advisory Committee report – Rebecca Keddy and Julia Keddy  
Membership report – Claudine Arndt, Membership and Minnesota Cooks Director  
Membership Engagement Committee report

9:30 a.m.

Policy discussion

**9:30 a.m.**

**Delegate registration closes – time certain, deadline for alternates to upgrade to delegates if needed**

9:45 a.m.

Credentials report – Credentials Committee Chair (final count of registered delegates)

10 a.m.

Speakers

10:30 a.m.

Policy discussion

11:15 a.m.

Introduction of NFU convention delegate nominees

11:45 a.m.

Election of delegates to NFU convention **(time certain)** (Minneapolis Ballroom)

12 p.m.

Lunch (Buffet in Foyer, eat in Minneapolis Ballroom)

12:30 p.m.

Speakers

Audit and financial report – Carlson SV

12:45 p.m.

Policy discussion

Special orders

Old business

New business

Announcements

Election results (if/when available)

Grand prize drawing

Adjournment

*Most agenda times are subject to change*