



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: Food Regulations and Selling Your Products Direct** – 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
- 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 – 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 from Princess Kay Rachel Visser (Minneapolis Ballroom)
- 12:15 p.m. Awards program
 4-H State Ambassadors Remarks
- 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 legislative reception (St. Paul Ballroom)
- 6 p.m. Doors open for banquet (Minneapolis Ballroom)
- 6:15 p.m. Banquet
 Prayer
 Year in review video
 FFA State Officers comments
 Torchbearer Recognition
 President’s address – Gary Wertish
 Keynote Speaker – Jonathan Kanter
 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