



AFAN IN ACTION

January 2023 Monthly Update

Happy New Year!

Many people make resolutions to do something new or different in the new year, sort of turning over a new leaf if you will. At AFAN, we are resolving to keep doing what we have been doing but doing it better!

Our mission is to support and grow the livestock industry in Nebraska. The reason this is important is because it adds value to the crops and animals we raise which in turn means more economic activity in rural Nebraska. Improving and growing the livestock industry is the number one way that we can create economic vitality in rural Nebraska.

This past year we supported growth in all four livestock sectors as well as supporting growth in soybean processing and other ag based manufacturing operations. To look at the numbers, we worked with over 35 different operations, from large to small all across the state, and the ones that are actually building amount to over \$900 million just in capital construction costs! That is a huge impact from our small organization.

So how can we do better? We can be better at telling our story, better at communicating the importance of livestock, better at supporting the recruitment of value-added agriculture businesses, and we can be better at helping producers reach their goals with livestock.

Our biggest challenge is that even though we are a small, non-profit organization with great support, it still takes considerable financial means for us to do our jobs. And that is where our board and partners come in. Without the financial support from the commodity boards and our many partners, we would not be able to do this. But as the need for our services grows, then the financial need grows. If you are an AFAN partner; Thank you!!! If you are not an AFAN partner, then please consider joining.

In the end, if we can do our job and create more economic opportunities, then everyone gains and everyone's business improves. For more information on the partnership levels please see our website. A new level we are offering this year is the Premier Partnership which has enhanced levels of value and exposure for your company. If you have any questions about any partnership level, don't hesitate to reach out to me.

Thank you for your support and thank you for helping us be better and growing the Nebraska economy. Have a blessed New Year!

Steve Martin
Executive Director



Looking Back

Our team has been busy the last few weeks. We attended a hearing in Rock County for a proposed hog finishing operation. The proposed site would be three 5,000-head finisher barns which is about a 6 million dollar investment in the county.

Unfortunately, any decisions were pushed off until their next meeting in March. In the meantime, we will do what we can to hopefully move this project forward.

We also attended a hearing in Johnson County for some poultry barns. The barns will house broilers for Smart Chicken. This project was approved by county officials and will move on to the building process.

We also attended the Northeast Nebraska Farm & Equipment show in Norfolk. It's always nice to get out to talk with producers and our partners!



Save the Date

January

21-25: IDFA (International Dairy Foods Association)

24-26: IPPE (International Production & Processing Expo)

27-28: Farm Bureau Young Famers & Ranchers Conference


February

13-17: World Ag Expo

22-23: Women in Ag Conference

23: NSDA Trade show & Annual Meeting

REMINDER: Applications are currently open for the 2023 Nebraska Leopold Conservation Award. You can find more information [here](#).



WELCOME

5 STAR PARTNER



AKRS



Please help us welcome and thank our newest 5 Star Partner, AKRS!

At AKRS we are connected to the land. With roots going back 80 years, AKRS has evolved into one of the largest John Deere dealers in the country. While our size gives us scale and capabilities to serve our customers, we never forget our ties back to the communities in which we live and work. AKRS. Solutions for Every Field. (Learn more [here](#))

AFAN's mission is to grow the livestock industry statewide. This would be nearly impossible without the support we receive from our partners so, THANK YOU!

Thank you to our partners for your support!

Not a partner? [JOIN US!](#)

Alliance for the Future of Agriculture in Nebraska | becomeafan.org



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