



# PORK HEADLINES

Leading Our Industry's Future Successes

MARCH/APRIL 2019

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## From the Staff . . .

It was great to see many of you at the WPA annual meeting and Expo! We extend a big thank you to those who braved the extreme cold temperatures to be part of the meeting and helped throughout the two-day event.

Up next we have several producer meetings scheduled the first week of April. (For more info on the scheduled meetings, see page 2.) We invite you attend any session that fits your schedule. We hope to meet many of you at one of those meetings, listen to your feedback, and work together with you as we plan for future WPA programs.

If you're unable to be at one of the upcoming meetings, but would still like to talk about WPA programs, please reach out to us.

*Keri & Mandy*

### WPA STAFF

Keri Retallick, Exec. Vice President  
Mandy Masters, Program Director

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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*Attendees of the Fond du Lac Ag Showcase learned where the many cuts of pork come from on a pig during a carcass breakdown at the event. The demonstration was made possible with assistance from Kewaskum Frozen Foods and Al & Amy Ries. In addition to the carcass breakdown, Wisconsin Pork Association provided pork recipes and cuts information to adults and had a byproducts activity for youth. The annual event draws about 3,000 people from the Fond du Lac area with the purpose of educating the community about Wisconsin agriculture.*

## WPA Membership Elects Directors

Wisconsin Pork Association members gathered for the 2019 Annual Meeting on January 31 at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells. During the meeting, the membership re-elected Nathan Brickl, Sauk City, and Ray Ibeling, Clinton, to the WPA Board of Directors. Christina Meylor, Darlington, was also elected to the WPA Board to fill the seat previously held by Jonathan Wytttenbach. WPA members recognized Jonathan for serving two complete terms on the WPA Board and thanked Nathan and Ray for completing one term on the board. Elected to serve as 2019 officers of the association were: Jim Magolski, President; Mike Salter, Vice-President; Tom Knauer, Treasurer; and Brian Klubertanz, Secretary.

The WPA membership also elected delegates to serve at the 2020 National Pork Industry Forum. Elected to serve as Pork Act Delegates were Nathan Brickl and Brian Klubertanz. Ray Ibeling and Mike Salter were selected as alternates.



## Regional Producer Meetings Scheduled for April 1 -4

The Wisconsin Pork Association is reaching out to all pork producers to get their feedback on industry issues and programs. Pork producers may select from four locations and may attend whatever meeting works best for their schedule. Each event will include a meal followed by the meeting. Representatives from the National Pork Board and National Pork Producers Council are expected to attend. Dates and locations are as follows:

- **April 1 Northeast:** Outagamie Co. Extension Office, 33 65 W. Brewster St., Appleton 6 - 9 p.m.
- **April 2 Southeast:** Sidelines Pub & Grill, 731 S Wuthering Hills, Janesville 6 - 9 p.m.
- **April 3 Southwest:** UW-Platteville Ag Tech Center, 29200 College Farm Rd., Platteville 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
- **April 4 South Central:** Columbia Co. Extension, 112 E. Edgewater Street, Portage 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

This is an opportunity to learn more about the checkoff and non-checkoff programs as well as industry trends, but the most important part of the program is networking with the producers. WPA is interested in the producers' feedback and ways to enhance Wisconsin's pork industry.

Reservations are required for the meal, but walk-ins are welcome to attend the meeting. Please RSVP no later than Thursday, March 28th. For more information or to reserve your spot, contact WPA at 1-608-723-7551 or [wppa@wppa.org](mailto:wppa@wppa.org).

## Grant Program Offered for PRRS/PEDv Testing

Wisconsin Pork Association will continue to offer a grant program in 2019 for Wisconsin swine producers who must complete testing for PRRS and PEDv to comply with swine movement rules in the state. The grant program will provide a \$25 reimbursement per farm to help offset costs incurred for PRRS and PEDv testing.

To receive reimbursement, farms must complete a simple form and submit with proof of test completion to WPA. Proof of test can include a copy of a dated veterinary clinic bill that shows a line item for PRRS/SECD testing or a copy of a dated test report from a veterinary diagnostic lab (test results can be blacked out; proof of testing completion is all that is required for reimbursement.) Each farm is limited to one \$25 grant each quarter of the year. Funding for the grant program is limited and available on a first-come-first-serve basis. The reimbursement form, along with other details on the rule, can be found on the WPA website at [www.wppa.org/testing](http://www.wppa.org/testing).

In addition, WPA is offering one complimentary rope test kit to farmers. The kit includes a cotton rope, sample tube, and other materials to make for easy sample collection. Farmers can contact WPA at 608-723-7551 to receive a kit. Farmers can also assemble their own kits by purchasing 3-strand twisted undyed cotton rope at a local hardware store. Other supplies needed include a clean plastic bag; side cutters, knife or scissors; snap-cap, screw-top tube, or red-top tubes (can be obtained from a vet clinic); permanent marker; and gloves. For details on how to collect oral fluids, go to [www.wppa.org/testing](http://www.wppa.org/testing) and click the "Oral Fluid Collection Guide" link at the bottom of the page.



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# Wisconsin's 2019 Biennial Budget Process is Underway



By Jordan Lamb, DeWitt LLP

On Feb. 28, 2019 Governor Tony Evers delivered his proposed 2019-21 biennial budget to a joint session of the Wisconsin legislature. The bill has been introduced as identical companion bills, 2019 Assembly Bill 56 and 2019 Senate Bill 59. The legislature will now begin the process of holding public hearings on the budget and amending the Governor's proposal before sending it back to him for final review. The end of the fiscal year for the State of Wisconsin is June 30, so the goal is for the Legislature to provide an amended version of the budget bill back to the Governor before June 30, 2019.

There are several provisions in the Governor's budget that are important to Wisconsin livestock farmers including funding for the Wisconsin Livestock Identification Consortium (WLIC), funding for grants for Producer-led Watershed projects through DATCP and funding to improve the staffing of the CAFO program.

However, Wisconsin farmers are working on seeking additional funding for applied agricultural research in this budget bill that is directed to the state integrated specialists who are researchers with joint appointments between the UW-Madison College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and UW Cooperative Extension. Funding for applied agricultural research and researchers is critical to the ongoing health of Wisconsin's \$89 billion agriculture economy. This funding was not provided in the Governor's budget but WPA will be working to get this funding added into the version of the budget that is approved by the Wisconsin Legislature.

Below is a brief summary of some of the provisions in Governor Evers' proposal that are of interest to farmers:

**DNR - Creates a Bureau of Natural Resources Science.** Creates in DNR a bureau of natural resources science and requires DNR to convert the existing office of applied science into the bureau of natural resources science. Under the bill, the bureau director reports to and serves as the science advisor to the secretary of natural resources.

**DNR - Science Research Positions.** Provides 5.0 FTE SEG science positions to conduct research related to water quality and contamination issues.

**DNR - Well Remediation Program.** Provides additional funding to fund the well compensation grant program. Increases the income limit for program eligibility from \$64,000 per family to \$100,000 per family and establishes a hardship program. Aligns contamination eligibility standards under the grant program with federal clean water regulations and create a prioritization list so the most contaminated wells are remediated first.

**DNR - Targeted Runoff Management.** The Governor

recommends providing \$6.5 million in environmental fund-supported general obligation bonding authority for nonpoint source pollution abatement - targeted runoff management infrastructure projects. The Governor also recommends providing \$400,000 SEG in each year for nonpoint source pollution abatement - targeted runoff management grants.

**DNR - Nonpoint Contractual Funding.** The Governor recommends providing \$730,000 in each year of the biennium for contractual services related to nonpoint source pollution abatement.

**DNR - Restoring Wisconsin's Waters.** The Governor recommends increasing position authority to provide 4.0 FTE project positions to facilitate implementation of water quality restoration and improvement plans. The Governor also recommends providing additional conservation fund-supported general obligation bonding authority of \$4 million to provide grants that facilitate implementation of water quality restoration and improvement plans. The Governor further recommends increasing expenditure authority by \$76,600 SEG and position authority by 1.0 FTE SEG position in each fiscal year to implement the water quality grant program. Finally, the Governor recommends increasing expenditure authority by \$1,457,900 SEG annually to fund river and lake protection grants.

**DNR - CAFO Staffing.** The Governor recommends providing expenditure (\$425,000 in each year of the biennium) and position authority (5.0 FTE) to oversee the permitting, inspection and enforcement of concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFO) in Wisconsin. The Governor also recommends increasing the annual fee assessed to operators of CAFOs from \$345 to \$660.

The Governor also establishes an application fee of \$3,270 and a renewal fee (every 5 years) of \$3,270 for the operation of a CAFO.

**DATCP - County Conservation Staffing.**

The Governor recommends providing an additional \$1.4 million grant


*Continued on page 5*

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# NATIONAL PORK PRODUCERS COUNCIL STRATEGIC INVESTMENT PROGRAM UPDATES

## NPPC Supports Modernizing Agricultural Transportation Act

Sens. John Hoeven, R-N.D., and Michael Bennet, D-Colo., reintroduced bipartisan legislation strongly supported by NPPC to reform U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Hours of Service (HOS) and Electronic Logging Device (ELD) regulations. The Modernizing Agricultural Transportation Act would establish a working group at DOT to identify barriers to the transportation of agricultural commodities, including pigs, posed by these devices. Within one year, the group would deliver an action plan for reforms that support the continued safe, humane transportation of agricultural commodities. The proposed working group would be comprised of representatives from the transportation and agriculture industries, transportation safety representatives and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Within 120 days of receiving the working group's report, the transportation secretary must propose regulatory changes to the HOS and ELD regulations, based on the group's findings and recommendations. As DOT works to reform the HOS rules, Congress has provided an exemption for livestock haulers from the ELD requirements.

## Coalition Launched to Lobby for USMCA

NPPC has joined a coalition of 200 leading trade associations and businesses to lobby Congress for the ratification of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). Before USMCA ratification can take place,

however, U.S. tariffs on Canadian and Mexican aluminum and steel imports must be lifted. The Trump administration on June 1, 2018, imposed a 25 percent tariff on steel and a 10 percent duty on aluminum imports from Canada and Mexico (and other nations). Both countries subsequently retaliated against a host of U.S. products. Farmers and food companies have been particularly hard hit by the Canadian and Mexican retaliation. Mexico's 20 percent punitive tariff on U.S. pork, has inflicted severe financial harm on America's pork producers. According to Iowa State University economist Dermot Hayes, the Mexican tariff is costing producers \$12 per animal, meaning industry wide losses of \$1.5 billion annually.

## USDA, FDA to Jointly Regulate Cell Cultured Food Products

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) have announced a formal agreement to jointly oversee the production of laboratory-produced cultured protein. Consistent with NPPC's position and advocacy efforts, the agreement calls on the USDA to have jurisdiction over labeling and inspection of these products, ensuring a level regulatory playing field.

## NPPC Delegates Approve Resolutions

At the annual business meeting of the National Pork Producers Council, delegates adopted several important resolutions, including those that call on NPPC to: strengthen pork industry efforts to prevent foreign animal

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# SIP PROGRAM UPDATES

*Continued from page 4*

diseases from entering the United States; work for a change to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Hours of Service rules so they are more compatible with animal welfare priorities; urge the U.S. Department of Labor and Department of Homeland Security to expand visas to allow foreign workers to stay in the United State longer so farm operations have a more reliable work force; monitor USDA and FDA to ensure the agencies are transparent throughout the development, production and harvest of laboratory-produced cultured protein; and identify existing and emerging pork industry issues and the funding needs to address them with recommendations, including budget requirements, to be provided to state associations prior to the 2020 Pork Forum.

## **NPPC Elects New Officers, Board Members**

At its annual business meeting – the National Pork Industry Forum held March 7-8 in Orlando – the National Pork Producers Council elected new officers and members to its board of directors. Elected as president of the organization was David Herring, a hog farmer from Lillington, N.C. Howard AV Roth, a hog farmer from Wauzeka, Wis., was elevated to president-elect. Jen Sorenson, communications director for Iowa Select Farms, was elected by the NPPC board of directors to be vice president. Lori Stevermer of Easton, Minn., and Russell Vering of Howells, Nebraska, were elected as new members of the board for three-year terms. Mark Cooper of Des Moines, Iowa, was elected to a three-year term and will serve as the board's Packer and Processor Industry Council representative. They join current directors Craig Andersen, of Centerville, S.D., Phil Borgic, of Nokomis, Ill., Scott Hays, of Monroe City, Mo., Dale Reicks of New Hampton, Iowa, Dr. Gordon Spronk, of Pipestone, Minn., Duane Stateler of McComb, Ohio, Kraig Westerbeek, of Warsaw, N.C. and Terry Wolters of Pipestone, Minn. Elected for two-year terms to NPPC's Nominating Committee were Jay Moore of Jackson, Minn., and Neill Westerbeek of Clinton, N.C.

## **Strategic Investment Program**

Funding for industry representation like those described above come directly from pork producer investment in NPPC's Strategic Investment Program (SIP.) SIP allows NPPC and Wisconsin Pork Association to: fight for reasonable legislation and regulation, develop export market opportunities, and proactively address issues of industry and consumer concern, including food safety, environment, and animal health and welfare. Producers agree to contribute \$0.10/\$100 of market value. The ability to use these unrestricted funds better equips WPA and NPPC to respond to today's threats on the state and national level.

# Biennial Budget

*Continued from page 3*

funding in each year of the biennium to counties for county conservation staff to support land and water conservation activities.

**DATCP – Nonpoint Source Pollution Cost Share and Producer-Led Grant Program.** The Governor recommends increasing expenditure authority by \$1,500,000 SEG in each year for nutrient management cost-sharing. The Governor also recommends increasing the amount the department may allocate for producer-led watershed grants to \$750,000 in each year of the biennium.

**DATCP – Soil and Water Resource Management Bonding Authority.** The Governor recommends providing \$10 million in SEG-supported general obligation bonds for grants to counties for implementation of land and water resource management plans, including cost-share grants to landowners.

**Revenue – Limits to the MAC Credit.** This bill limits the manufacturing portion of the MAC credit to only apply to the first \$300,000 in qualified production activities income for each firm qualifying for the credit. Farm-derived income is not subject to the limit, but this limit may apply to food processors who fall under the manufacturing definition.

**University of Wisconsin-Extension – County-Based Staff.** The Governor recommends providing funding and position authority to increase county-based University of Wisconsin - Extension agricultural positions by 20.0 FTE. (Note: These are not state integrated specialist positions.)

## **Transportation Initiatives (selected list):**

- Raises the gas tax by 8 cents and indexes the gas tax to the Consumer Price Index (CPI)
- Eliminates the minimum markup on motor fuel
- Increases the title fee on original or transfer vehicle titles by \$10
- Collects the Hybrid Vehicle fee.
- Finishes the entirety of the Zoo Interchange project
- Enumerates the expansion of I-43 from two lanes to three lanes in each direction in Milwaukee and Ozaukee counties.
- \$1.9 million over the biennium for the Local Road Improvement Program.
- \$30 million in bonding for freight railroad preservation
- \$52 million in total support for the Harbor Assistance Program.





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## Youth Receive Pig Project Grants

The Wisconsin Pork Association Youth Committee recently awarded 27 youth with \$50 grants to help offset the costs of their upcoming 4-H and FFA swine projects. The Youth Pig Project grant program began in 2003 to encourage youth to become involved in the Wisconsin pork industry through projects that offer opportunities to develop life skills and showcase career opportunities.

Wisconsin youth submitted 69 applications for consideration. The application included information on their project goals, simple budget for the project, Youth for the Quality Care of Animals certification date, future goals as they relate to the pork industry, and a paragraph stating why the Wisconsin Pork Association should select them for the Youth Pig Project grant.

Those receiving grants were: Adriana Anderson, Baldwin; Marley Brommer, Nelson; Lachelle Dahlstrom, Barron; Brooke DeGidio, Bloomer; Dylan Dewitt, Ontario; Benjamin Dittman, New Richmond; Amelia Dittman, New Richmond; Clara Eicker, Brillion; Alex Falkowski, Ringle; Hunter Falkowski, Ringle; Ethan Frank, Augusta; Evan Freed, Cadott; Abby Giddings, Eland; Anna Hibicki, Ripon;Carolynn Hiebl, Edgar; Austin Huitema, Markesan; Anika Kolka, Marathon; Paige Langenecker, Hartford; Trenton Lee, Holcombe; Landon Penk, Lublin; Bryson Smith, Lake Geneva; Nathan Stanek, Augusta; Ethan Staudinger, Reedsville; Eli Staudinger, Reedsville; Emma Syverson, Clinton; William Wanish, Colfax; and Matilda Witak, Oconto.

The program is sponsored through checkoff dollars with additional support from the following sponsors: ACJ Farm; Goplin Show Pigs; George Holst; Graff Show Pigs; Jake's Pig Palace; Keel Show Pigs; Tom Knauer Family; Krebs Farms; Magolski Farms; Walsh Family Farm; and Wehrle Farms.



## Swine Sale Calendar

### MARCH

- 23 ~ Brugger Family Show Pigs Open House, Monroe  
Complete Feeds Customer Sale, Janesville  
Jake's Pig Palace Sale, Eland  
J&M Genetics Sale, Union Grove  
Keel Show Pigs Barn Opens, Juneau  
Krueger Farm Bid Board Sale, Campbellsport  
Tibbits Show Pigs Iowa Elite Sale, Ames, IA
- 30 ~ Walsh Family Farm Auction, Beloit  
West Central WI Show Pig Sale, Whitehall

### APRIL

- 6 ~ J&M Genetics Sale, Union Grove
- 20 ~ Jake's Pig Palace Sale, Eland  
J&M Genetics Sale, Union Grove  
Walsh Family Farm Open House & Sale, Beloit

For more details on these upcoming sales, including farm contact info, visit [www.wppa.org/sales](http://www.wppa.org/sales).



The National Pork Forum was held in Orlando, Florida on March 6-8, 2019. Forum serves as the annual meetings for the National Pork Board and National Pork Producers Council. Attending from Wisconsin were: Al & Amy Ries; Mitchel, Nolan & Ross Wolf; Keri Retallick; Shannon & Melissa Wolf; Ray Ibeling and AV Roth (not pictured).

During the Forum, Al Ries and Ray Ibeling served as Wisconsin's delegates for the National Pork Board meeting while Shannon Wolf represented the state during the National Pork Producers Council meeting. AV Roth served as vice-president on the NPPC board of directors in 2018-19 and was elevated to president-elect for the 2019-20 term.





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## CALENDAR

### MARCH

26 - 28 ~ WPS Farm Show, Oshkosh

### APRIL

1 ~ Northeast Regional Meeting, Appleton  
2 ~ Southeast Regional Meeting, Janesville  
3 ~ Southwest Regional Meeting, Platteville  
4 ~ South Central Regional Meeting, Portage  
9 ~ WPA Board of Directors Meeting  
16 ~ WPA Promotion & Events Committee Meeting  
17 ~ WPA Producer Outreach Committee Meeting  
26 ~ WPA Swine Health Committee Meeting  
30 ~ WPA Long Range Planning Meeting

### MAY

1 ~ WLBA Spring Preview & Show Camp Entries Due

### JUNE

1 ~ WLBA Spring Preview Show, Jefferson  
5 - 7 ~ World Pork Expo, Des Moines  
8 - 9 WLBA Show Camp, WI State Fair Park

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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