




Farm Production  
And Conservation

June 17, 2019

Farm Service Agency

**TO** Whom It May Concern

Madison County  
175 C Commercial Pkwy  
Canton, MS 39046

**FROM** Jeff Turbville   
Madison County Executive Director

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**SUBJECT** 2019 Madison County Committee Election, LAA 1

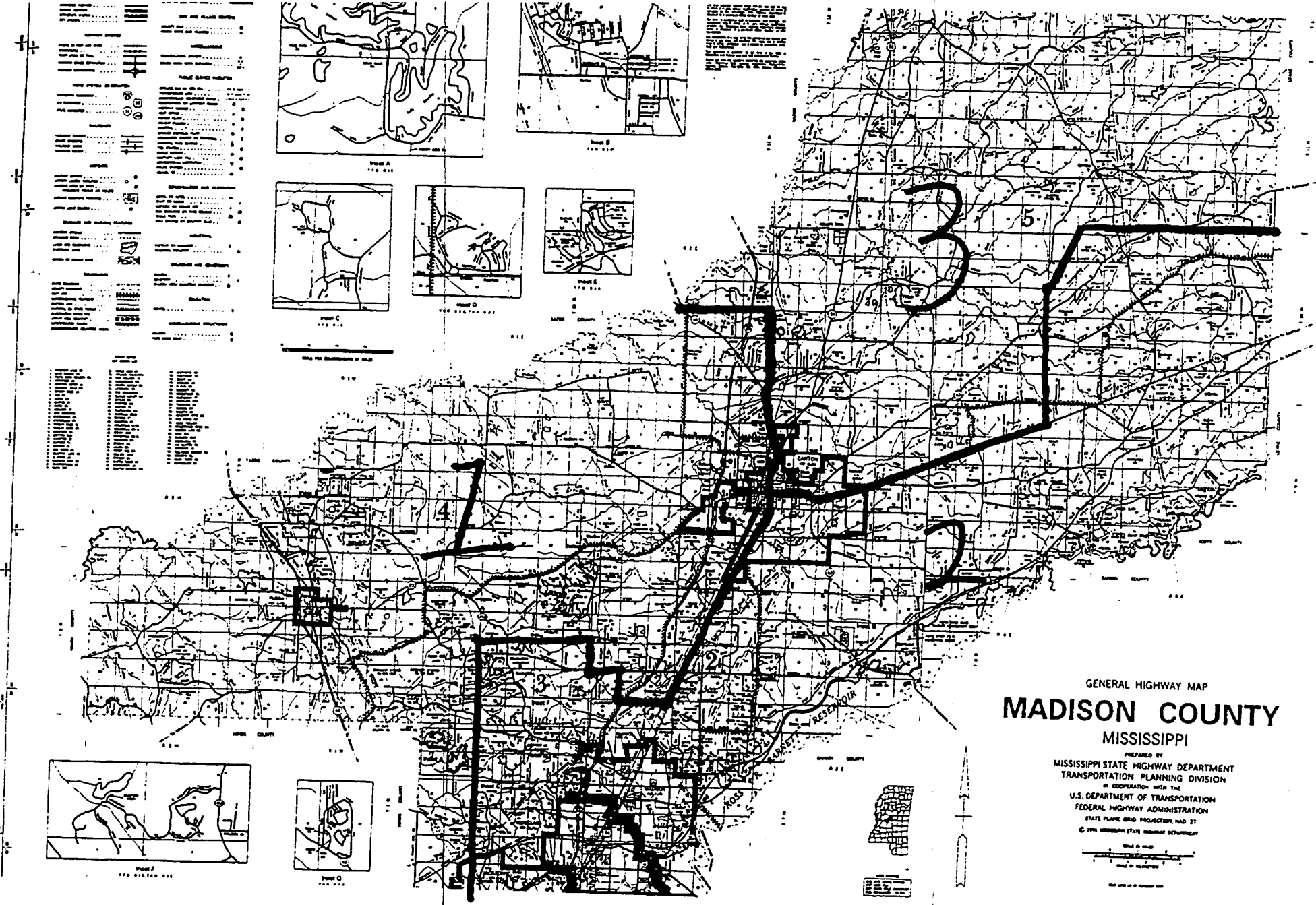
Attached you will find Committee election information, nomination form, and LAA Map of Madison County's LAA. This year's election will be held in LAA 1. A copy of the eligible voter's list for LAA 1 is available for your review in the Madison County FSA Office. Your help in obtaining nominees for the upcoming election would be greatly appreciated.

**Nominations must be received by August 1, 2019.**

I will have a public meeting on Monday, June 24, 2019, at the Madison County Service Center to discuss Committee nomination and election. The meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m.

Please call our office if you have any questions.





County Committee Local Administrative Areas



United States Department of Agriculture

## Farm Service Agency

# County Committee Elections – 2019

**FACT SHEET**  
May 2019

### Overview

Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees are a critical component of the day-to-day operations of FSA and allow grassroots input and local administration of federal farm programs.

Farmers and ranchers who are elected to serve on FSA county committees apply using their judgment and knowledge to help with the decisions necessary to administer FSA programs in their counties, ensuring the needs of local producers are met. FSA county committees operate within official federal regulations and provide local input on:

- Income safety-net loans and payments, including setting county average yields for commodities;
- Conservation programs;
- Incentive, indemnity, and disaster payments for some commodities;
- Emergency programs; and
- Payment eligibility.

Every eligible agricultural producer should participate in FSA county committee elections--whether you are a beginning or established producer, historically underserved producer (minority and women), or whether you have a large or small operation--because FSA county committees are your link with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

### Election Period

**June 14, 2019** -The nomination period begins. Request nomination forms from the local FSA county office or obtain online at [fsa.usda.gov/elections](https://fsa.usda.gov/elections).

**August 1, 2019** -Last day to file nomination forms at the local FSA county office.

**November 4, 2019** -Ballots mailed to eligible voters.

**December 2, 2019** -Last day to return voted ballots to the FSA county office.

**January 1, 2020** -Newly elected county committee members take office.





## COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS - MAY 2019

### Who Can Vote

Agricultural producers of legal voting age may be eligible to vote if they participate or cooperate in any FSA program. A person who is not of legal voting age but supervises and conducts the operations of an entire farm also may be eligible to vote. Members of American Indian tribes holding agricultural land are eligible to vote if voting requirements are met. More information about voting eligibility requirements can be found in the FSA fact sheet titled "FSA County Committee Election - Eligibility to Vote and Hold Office as a County Committee Member," located at [fsa.usda.gov/elections](http://fsa.usda.gov/elections). Producers may contact their local FSA county office for more information. To find your local FSA county office, visit [farmers.gov](http://farmers.gov).

### Nominations

Agricultural producers who participate or cooperate in an FSA program may be nominated for candidacy for the county office. Individuals may nominate themselves or others as a candidate. In addition, organizations representing underserved (minority and women) farmers or ranchers may nominate candidates.

To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign nomination form FSA-669A. The form includes a statement that the nominee agrees to serve if elected. Nomination forms are filed in the FSA office that administers a producer's farm records and is available at the FSA county office or online at [fsa.usda.gov/elections](http://fsa.usda.gov/elections).

All nomination forms for the 2019 election must be postmarked or received in the local FSA county office by August 1, 2019.

### Don't Miss Out On Voting

Ballots will be mailed to eligible voters by November 4, 2019, and must be returned to the FSA county office or postmarked by December 2, 2019. Eligible voters must contact their local FSA county office before the final date if they did not receive a ballot.

### Uniform Guidelines

USDA issued uniform guidelines for county committee elections to help ensure that FSA county committees fairly represent the agricultural producers of a county or multi-county jurisdiction, especially underserved (minority and women) producers. Targeted underserved producers are African-Americans, American Indians or Alaska Natives, Hispanics, Asian Americans, and Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders. In addition to minority and women producers, USDA strongly encourages beginning farmers to actively seek a position on a county committee. The guidelines govern the FSA county committee election process and are designed to increase participation of underserved (minorities and women).

The following are just some of the specifics of the guidelines:

- If no valid nominations are filed, the Secretary of Agriculture may nominate up to two individuals to be placed on the ballot.
- FSA county committees annually review local administrative area boundaries to ensure the fair representation of minority and women producers in their county or multi-county jurisdictions.
- FSA county offices locate and recruit eligible candidates identified as minority and women farmers and ranchers as potential nominees for the FSA county committee elections through outreach and publicity, including the development of partnerships with community-based organizations.

The guidelines are located at FSA County Committee Elections page at [fsa.usda.gov/elections](http://fsa.usda.gov/elections).



## COUNTY COMMITTEE ELECTIONS - MAY 2019

### Appointed Voting Members

The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 provides the Secretary of Agriculture with the authority to appoint targeted underserved committee members with voting privileges to serve on FSA county committees in county or multi-county jurisdictions that lack fair representation from those groups. Secretarial appointees do not replace elected members but join them as voting members on the committee. Individuals serving as non-voting minority advisors are encouraged to submit a nomination form. These forms are also accepted from community-based organizations representing targeted underserved producers. Targeted underserved voting members are appointed by the Secretary from the nominations received.

### Role of Advisors

In addition to elected or appointed members, FSA county committees may also include non-voting minority advisors. Advisors are appointed to county committees in counties or multi-county jurisdictions that have significant numbers of underserved (minority or women) producers but lack such members on FSA county committees. Advisors play an important role by providing diverse viewpoints and by representing the interests of underserved (minorities and women) in decisions made by county committees. FSA state committees officially appoint advisors who are recommended by county committees or community-based organizations.

### For More Information

This fact sheet is for informational purposes only; other restrictions may apply. For program specifics or additional information about FSA county committees, visit a local FSA county office or the FSA county committee website at [fsa.usda.gov/elections](http://fsa.usda.gov/elections).

### Find your Local USDA Service Center

Find your local USDA Service Center at [offices.usda.gov](http://offices.usda.gov).

FSA-669A  
(04-09-19)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Farm Service Agency

**NOMINATION FORM FOR COUNTY FSA COMMITTEE ELECTION**

1. NAME OF NOMINEE (Type or Print Nominee's Full Name)	<b>TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY FSA OFFICE</b>		
	4. INITIALS OF EMPLOYEE RECEIVING FORM AND DATE RECEIVED		
2. ADDRESS OF NOMINEE	5. COUNTY		
	6. LAA	7. STATE	
3. NOMINEE'S CERTIFICATION: <i>I hereby agree to have my name placed on the ballot, that I will serve if elected, and if there is a conflict of interest, I will resign such position.</i>		8. NOMINATOR'S CERTIFICATION: <i>If this nomination is by other than self, the following eligible voter or representative of a community based organization hereby nominates the afore-named person to be a candidate in the next County FSA Committee election for the county.</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> I DO want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.			
<input type="checkbox"/> I DO NOT want to witness the settling of tied votes with another nominee.			
3A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE	3B. DATE	8A. SIGNATURE OF NOMINATOR	8B. DATE
<input type="checkbox"/> Check here if nominee is a write-in candidate.		(If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required).	

**9. TO BE COMPLETED BY NOMINEE**

**VOLUNTARY INFORMATION FOR MONITORING PURPOSES:** The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor FSA's compliance with federal laws prohibiting discrimination against program participants on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, marital status, handicapped condition, or age. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. This information will not be used in evaluating your nomination or to discriminate against you in any way.

<b>ETHNICITY</b>		<b>RACE (Choose as many boxes as applicable)</b>		<b>GENDER</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino	<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native	<input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American	<input type="checkbox"/> Male	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino	<input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
<input type="checkbox"/> Asian	<input type="checkbox"/> White	<input type="checkbox"/> Female			

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THIS FORM**

Complete the form as follows:

- ITEM 1 Type or Print the nominee's full name. The nominee must be:
  - A. Eligible to vote in the designated County FSA Committee election.
  - B. Eligible to hold the office of County FSA Committee member.
  - C. Willing to serve if elected.
- ITEM 2 Enter the nominee's current address.
- ITEM 3 The nominee must check one of the boxes to indicate a preference regarding the settling of tied votes.
- ITEMS 3A & 3B The nominee must sign and date.
- ITEMS 8A & 8B The nominator must sign and date. (If the individual is self nominating, no signature is required.)
- ITEM 9 Completing this item is voluntary.

**ALL FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN THE COUNTY OFFICE OR POSTMARKED BY AUGUST 1, 2019.**

**NOTE:** The following statement is made in accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a - as amended). The authority for requesting the information identified on this form is 7 CFR Part 7 and the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Pub. L. 113-79). The information will be used to obtain nominees for election to the County FSA Committee. The information collected on this form may be disclosed to other Federal, State, Local government agencies, Tribal agencies, and nongovernmental entities that have been authorized access to the information by statute or regulation and/or as described in applicable Routine Uses identified in the System of Records Notice for County Personnel Records, USDA/FSA-6. Providing the nominee name, address, signature/date and nominator signature/date (when applicable) information is voluntary, but necessary for processing the form. Failure to furnish the nominee name, address, signature/date and nominator signature/date (when applicable) information will result in a determination of ineligibility for nomination for election to the County FSA Committee.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, an agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0560-0229. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. The provisions of appropriate criminal and civil fraud, privacy, and other statutes may be applicable to the information provided. **RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO YOUR COUNTY FSA OFFICE.**