



# AFAN IN ACTION

## August 2022 Monthly Update

Greetings from AFAN!

The pork industry is alive and well in Nebraska! That is the biggest take away I got from the 2022 Nebraska Pork Expo. About 225 people attended to hear speakers, visit vendors, eat some great food, and connect with friends. The event really does have something for everyone, from people who are contemplating getting into pork production to current producers that wanted to hear about the latest in animal health. This was the second year of the event, and it definitely grew and improved. As with anything, we didn't know what we didn't know until we tried to host this expo, so we appreciate all the feedback we've gotten, and we will keep making this better every year. With that in mind, put July 19, 2023, on your calendar and plan to be in York, NE for the 2023 Nebraska Pork Expo!



I recently wrote about the cattle feeding operation in Dundy County and how the commissioners approved the conditional use permit. Well, the company, Blackshirt Feeders LP, found a better location in Dundy County that addressed the concerns associated with the original location and had to go back through the process to get a new conditional use permit. The commissioners did approve the new permit. The new location will allow Blackshirt Feeders LP to grow, and it also adds a methane digester to the operation. The digester will mitigate odor from the manure while still resulting in high quality fertilizer for area crop fields. This is a great example of a company that is following all the rules but is still responsive to concerns and took action to alleviate the concerns. Congratulations to Blackshirt Feeders and to Dundy County.

I had the opportunity to attend the Governor's Ag and Economic Development Summit in Kearney. It is a great event that puts a wide variety of ag producers in the same room with a wide variety of state and local economic development people. The reality is, we need each other. Agriculture needs the ED community to bring companies to the state and their communities to process and add value to the things we raise. And the ED people need agriculture to supply the materials that will be processed. Ultimately, we all win. I think this is an area where instead of an urban-rural divide there is urban-rural synergy.

It is fun to sit in our position as AFAN because we work with ag producers and with economic development and we see all the great things both groups are doing. There is so much industry and entrepreneurship in this state and it just grows and grows making Nebraska better all the time. Our role in all of this is to support livestock growth by working with all partners. If you have a project you are working on and need help or just a wall to bounce ideas off, let us know. We are here to help!

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## Looking Ahead

We have some fun events that are in the works for the upcoming months so keep an eye on our website and your inbox for more information as we finalize the details!

We look forward to seeing our partners and our ag industry friends in the coming months!

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## Save the Date

### September

Labor Day - September 5

Livestock Facility Tour - TBD

Husker Harvest Days - September 13- 15

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**Thank you to our partners for your support!**

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