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•Darrel Rennich, 605.695.3676

•SDDP Staff, Tom Peterson, 605.251.2439

### **SD DAIRY PRODUCERS NEWS**

# Member Update

#### **2021 Membership Drive Underway**

With the turning of another calendar, we also enter into another year of asking your support for South Dakota Dairy Producers. Organized in 2009, the leadership of SDDP has been instrumental in growing South Dakota Dairy in a sustainable and responsible manner. New this year is a convenient payment method through our website under the "Membership" tab which offers a pay by credit card option.

S	Search							
Hom	ne Dairy Drive	Policy	News	Events	Membership	Awards & Scholarships	About Us ∽	
MEMBERSHIPJoin SDDP Today!								

The 2020 SDDP Annual Membership Drive is underway. Visit www.sddairyproducers.org for online access to membership forms. Also attached with this newsletter are forms that can be printed and filled out. Member dues can be mailed to SDDP, 2015 Rice Street, St. Paul, MN 55113.

\* Contact Tom Peterson at 605.251.2439 with any questions on membership

<u>SDDP is committed to 4 pillars: Policy, Growth, Education, and</u> <u>Consumer Confidence</u> and delivering value for your <u>membership dollars!</u>



## SD DAIRY PRODUCERS NEWS

### **Policy:**

The 2021 South Dakota Legislative Session kicked off on January 12th. Leading up to the session much attention has been given to the Governor's proposed merger of the SD Department of Ag and DENR agencies. SDDP held in person meetings with Secretary Roberts and department staff. While the discussions were productive and there is a case that since the Department of Ag has evolved into primarily a regulatory agency some efficiencies may be possible. However, questions still remain and this is a topic that we will watch closely and monitor other commodities input on as well.

**AgFest/Ag Unity:** A decision was made that Ag Fest would not take place this year due to ongoing concerns, but Ag Unity is planning to host smaller legislator luncheons at the Capitol. SDDP will participate in those as opportunities to speak directly to state representatives and senators.

**Bill watch:** Early in the session, the bills we are monitoring are primarily brought forth from the Department of Ag and Natural Resources. Those include SB 52 extending the state CAFO permit length of time from 5 to 10 years; HB 1028 limiting those who can oppose a water rights permit to only those directly impacted; and a handful of others including a meat processing grant program and the rebuild of the beef complex at the SD State Fair.

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