



NEWS RELEASE

CoBank Announces 2013 Board Officers

Everett Dobrinski Re-Appointed Chairman of the Board

Dan Kelley, Mary Fritz Named Vice Chairmen

DENVER (December 12, 2012) – CoBank, a cooperative bank serving agribusinesses, rural infrastructure providers and Farm Credit associations throughout the United States, today announced the appointment of officers for its 2013 board of directors.

Everett Dobrinski, chairman of the board since 2008, will continue in the chairman's role in the coming year. He is the owner and operator of Dobrinski Farm, a cereal grain and oilseed farm in Makoti, North Dakota. He is also a member of the board of the Farm Credit Council and previously served as chairman of Verendrye Electric Cooperative. In addition, he is a former director of the Dakota Pride Cooperative and a current member of the board for the North Dakota Coordinating Council for Co-ops. Dobrinski first joined the CoBank board in 1999.

Dan Kelley will serve as first vice chairman. Kelley is chairman and president of GROWMARK Inc., an agricultural and energy cooperative in Bloomington, Illinois. A director since 2004, he produces corn and soybeans in a family farming partnership near Normal, Illinois. In addition, he serves as a director for National Bank, Nationwide Mutual Insurance and Midwest Grain LLC, a grain merchandising company. He is also chairman of the Illinois Agricultural Leadership Foundation.

Mary Fritz will serve as second vice chairman. Fritz is the owner of a dry land grain and cow/calf operation in Chester, Montana. A director since 2003, she also serves as vice chair of the Farm Credit Council board and is a former director and chair of Northwest Farm Credit Services in Spokane, Washington.

"I look forward to working closely with Dan, Mary and the rest of our board members in the coming year," Dobrinski said. "The success CoBank has enjoyed is due in large part to our cooperative structure and the fact that our board is elected by customer-owners throughout rural America. Our top priority for 2013 remains the same as always: preserving the long-term financial strength of the bank so it can continue fulfilling its mission and delivering dependable credit to the vital rural industries we serve."

As previously announced, the number of seats on the CoBank board is being consolidated as part of the merger between CoBank and U.S. AgBank, which closed at the beginning of 2012. Going forward, CoBank will have 24 elected directors from six voting regions around the country, in addition to between two and five appointed directors. The names of all of the bank's 2013 directors are listed in the table below, along with occupation, residence, region, seat type and term expiration date.

Region	Name	Occupation	Residence	Type of Seat	Term expires
East	William H. Harris	Owner of a cash crop farming operation	LeRoy, NY	Modified equity	2015
East	James A. Kinsey	Owner/operator of a purebred Angus seed-stock operation	Flemington, WV	One-member-one-vote	2016
East	J. Scott Markham	Owner of a diversified corn, dairy heifer and beef operation	Constableville, NY	Modified equity	2013
South	Robert M. Behr	COO, Citrus World	Lakeland, FL	Modified equity	2016
South	George B. Kitchens	GM & CEO, Joe Wheeler EMC	Decatur, AL	One-member-one-vote	2013
South	David L. Reinders	CEO, Sunray Co-op	Dumas, TX	One-member-one-vote	2014
South	Richard W. Sitman	Owner, retail rental and storage business	Kentwood, LA	One-member-one-vote	2015
Central	Everett M. Dobrinski	Owner, cereal grain and oilseed farm	Makoti, ND	One-member-one-vote	2015
Central	Daniel T. Kelley	Owner, corn and soybean farm	Normal, IL	Modified equity	2013
Central	David J. Kragnes	Owner/operator of a diversified farm raising wheat, sugarbeets, soybeans and corn	Felton, MN	One-member-one-vote	2016
Central	James R. Magnuson	GM & CEO, Key Cooperative	Sully, IA	One-member-one-vote	2014
Central	Kevin A. Still	CEO, Co-Alliance LLP	Danville, IN	One-member-one-vote	2014
Mid Plains	Robert W. Bray	Farmer and rancher; owner of big-game hunting business	Redvale, CO	Modified equity	2014
Mid Plains	Oghi A. "Tony" DeGiusti, Jr.	Owner of an alfalfa, grass hay and wheat farm and cow/calf stocker operation	Tuttle, OK	Modified equity	2014
Mid Plains	Ronald J. Rahjes	Farmer producing wheat, corn, soybeans and grain sorghum	Kensington, KS	Modified equity	2015
Mid Plains	Clint E. Roush	Owner/operator of a wheat, alfalfa hay and stocker cattle operation	Arapaho, OK	One-member-one-vote	2014
Mid Plains	Scott H. Whittington	GM, Lyon-Coffey Electric	Burlington, KS	One-member-one-vote	2016
Northwest	Gene J. Batali	Owner, spearmint farm	Yakima, WA	Modified equity	2013
Northwest	Mary E. Fritz	Owner of a dry land grain and cow/calf operation	Chester, MT	Modified equity	2015
Northwest	Erik N. "Rick" Jacobson	Retired President & CEO, NORPAC Foods Inc.	Bend, OR	One-member-one-vote	2014
West	J. "Less" Guthrie	Owner of a cow/calf and stocker cattle ranch and diversified farming operation	Porterville, CA	Modified equity	2013
West	Jon E. Marthedal	Owner of a farm producing grapes, raisins and blueberries	Fresno, CA	One-member-one-vote	2013
West	Alarik Myrin	Owner/operator of a ranching and farming operation	Altamont, UT	Modified equity	2014
West	David S. Phippen	Almond grower and co-owner of an almond processing company	Ripon, CA	Modified equity	2015
	William M. Farrow III	President & CEO, Urban Partnership Bank	Evanston, IL	Appointed	2014
	Gary A. Miller	President & CEO, GreyStone Power	Douglasville, GA	Appointed	2013
	Catherine Moyer	CEO & General Manager, Pioneer Communications	Ulysses, KS	Appointed	2014
	Barry M. Sabloff	Retired Executive Vice President, Bank One	Winnetka, IL	Appointed	2016

Nine current members of the board are stepping down at the end of 2012 as a result of the board consolidation process. Those directors include: Wayne S. Allen, Wesley D. Brantley, John J. “Jack” Breen, John C. Eisenhut, Kenneth W. Shaw, Donnell Spencer, David V. Vanni, Robert J. Wietharn and Leland T. Willeke. Most will continue to serve as non-voting board advisors throughout 2013. In addition, director Robert D. Nattier is retiring from the CoBank board after 10 years of service, including five as chair of the board’s Governance Committee.

“I’d like to personally express my gratitude to these directors for their dedication throughout a crucial transition year for our board,” Dobrinski said. “All have worked tirelessly to ensure the success of the CoBank-U.S. AgBank merger, and we deeply appreciate their service and their commitment to the mission of the Farm Credit System.”

About CoBank

CoBank is a \$90 billion cooperative bank serving vital industries across rural America. The bank provides loans, leases, export financing and other financial services to agribusinesses and rural power, water and communications providers in all 50 states. The bank also provides wholesale loans and other financial services to affiliated Farm Credit associations serving more than 70,000 farmers, ranchers and other rural borrowers in 23 states around the country.

CoBank is a member of the Farm Credit System, a nationwide network of banks and retail lending associations chartered to support the borrowing needs of U.S. agriculture and the nation’s rural economy. Headquartered outside Denver, Colorado, CoBank serves customers from regional banking centers across the U.S. and also maintains an international representative office in Singapore.

For more information about CoBank, visit the bank’s web site at www.cobank.com.

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