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## **MORRIS FOUNDATION APPOINTS FOUR NEW DIRECTORS**

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. -- The Ralph K. Morris Foundation recently appointed Doug Wilson, Martin Lowery, Connie Cihak and Michelle Schry to three-year terms on the Board of Directors.

Doug Wilson, CEO of Cooperative Resources International and COO of Genex Cooperative, Inc., is a distinguished leader in the dairy cooperative sector. Wilson has been actively involved in the dairy cattle breeding and genetics area since 1970. While Wilson has played a large role in the cooperative and dairy community at large, he is currently serving as a 4-H Club leader and is on the Mielke Foundation Board.

Martin Lowery is Executive Vice President, External Affairs of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). Dr. Lowery has been employed by NRECA since 1982. Dr. Lowery serves on the board of the National Cooperative Business Association (NCBA) and is also a board member of RE Advisors, Inc.

Michelle Schry is the general manager of the People's Food Cooperative, Inc., LaCrosse, Wisc. Schry is active in the larger cooperative community serving on the boards of Cooperative Development Services, the National Cooperative Business Association and the National Cooperative Grocers Association.

Connie Cihak is a farmer in Dakota County, Minn., and former member of the Land O'Lakes Board for nine years. Cihak was also a spokeswoman for the Agricultural Council of America, a member of the Task Force for Minnesota Dairy Leaders Roundtable and a farm host for MN Association of Coops Congressional Tours and international tours from Poland, Bolivia, New Zealand, Bulgaria, and Russia.

Founding Board members Thomas Lyon, former CEO of Cooperative Resources International and Harold “Hub” Thompson, Board Chair of Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, will be retiring in November.

The Ralph K. Morris Foundation was established in 2001 to carry on the legacy of a great cooperative leader, attorney Ralph Morris. The objective of the Foundation is to provide development opportunities for emerging leaders expressing interest in applying and advancing the principles of cooperation. For more information on the Foundation, please visit their website at [www.ralphkmorrisfoundation.org](http://www.ralphkmorrisfoundation.org).