WASHINGTON, DC – **March 1, 2016** – The Paper and Packaging Board (P+PB) is seeking nominees for its Board of Directors in 2017. P+PB is the oversight board responsible for the implementation of the industry-funded promotional program, *Paper & Packaging – How Life Unfolds™*, designed to increase demand for paper and paper-based packaging. USDA’s Agricultural Marketing Service oversees board activities.

The board consists of 11 manufacturers – including 10 members from four regions and one at-large member from any region – and one importer. Within the four regions, six members are from the South, one member is from the Northeast, two members are from the Midwest, and one member is from the West. The at-large member must manufacture at least 100,000 short tons but no more than 250,000 short tons of paper and paper-based packaging annually.

Domestic manufacturers will fill three seats from the South region and one at-large seat. An importer is eligible for one seat. To be eligible, nominees operating within the South region must manufacture 100,000 short tons or more of paper and paper-based packaging annually. The at-large member may be from any region and shall manufacture at least 100,000 short tons but not more than 250,000 short tons of paper and paper-based packaging annually. The importer must import 100,000 short tons or more of paper and paper-based packaging.

The Paper and Packaging Board is looking for board members with leadership skills and those who can bring diversity to our deliberations, including qualified women, minorities, or persons with disabilities.

Board terms for the South and the At-Large seats are 3-year terms starting on January 1, 2017. The Importer seat is a one-year term to fill a vacant seat with one year remaining.

Nominations will be accepted through April 15, 2016. Election ballots will be mailed in May and must be returned by May 31, 2016. The Secretary will then appoint members from the candidates receiving the most votes.

For more information or to receive a nomination form, contact Laurie Kusek of the Paper and Packaging Board by phone at (703) 935-8590 or email: info@paperandpackaging.org. You may also contact Marlene Betts, USDA Marketing Specialist, at (202) 720-9915 or email: marlene.betts@ams.usda.gov for additional information.

# # #