MINUTES

LOWER LOUP NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

February 20, 2025 Ord, Nebraska

The February meeting of the Board of Directors of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District was held at the Headquarters Office, 2620 Airport Drive, Ord, Nebraska, on February 20, 2025. Chairman Thoene called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Directors in attendance:

Rollie D. Amsberry, Treasurer
Colton R. DeBower
Randy Kauk
Thomas L. Knutson
Larry Mohrman, Secretary
Alan Petersen
Gerald Smith
Alexander L. Vlach

<u>Directors absent</u>:

Robert L. Bauer Matt Lukasiewicz

Staff in attendance:

Russell G. Callan, General Manager Irene Kreifels, Administrative Assistant Alan Bartels, I & E Coordinator Dell Harris, Water Resources Specialist LeeAnn Smith, Water Admin. Assistant Brian Kolar, Projects Specialist Ken Dawson, Water Resources Tech.

Guests in attendance:

Bryce Bauer, DC, NRCS, Ord Heath Hadenfeldt, Cairo William Meyer, Palmer Timothy E. Bartak
Jeremy Eschliman
Justin W. King
Gary A. Kruse
Todd Nitsch
Chad J. Podolak
Henry J. Thoene, Chairman
Rick Vlach, Vice Chairman

James Eschliman
John Shadle

Tylr Naprstek, Assistant General Manager Kim A. Lyions, Financial Secretary Brant Bechtold, Information Specialist Makenzi Woollen, Financial Assistant Dan Ruterbories, Rangeland Mgt. Spec. Derek Vogt, Agronomist Kevin Gustafson, District Engineer

Miles Anderson, DC, NRCS, Albion Mike Nelson, Boelus

VERIFICATION OF MEETING NOTICE AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Chairman Thoene asked for verification of the meeting notice. General Manager Russ Callan stated that the agenda was current with revisions, and that the meeting notices were properly published in all newspapers, posted at the NRD Headquarters office in Ord, on the NRD website, and in the eight field office locations.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

Thoene stated that Directors Bauer, James Eschliman, Lukasiewicz, and Shadle had asked to be excused.

Knutson motioned, seconded by Jeremy Eschliman, to excuse absent Directors Bauer, James Eschliman, Lukasiewicz, and Shadle. Motion carried by electronic vote. Directors voting yes: Amsberry, Bartak, DeBower, Jeremy Eschliman, Kauk, Knutson, Kruse, Mohrman, Nitsch, Petersen, Podolak, Smith, Thoene, A. Vlach, R. Vlach. Director not present for vote: King. Directors absent: Bauer, James Eschliman, Lukasiewicz, Shadle.

MINUTES

Thoene asked for corrections and/or additions to the January 23, 2025, Board meeting minutes. With no changes being heard, Thoene announced that the minutes would stand approved as presented.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Russell Callan, General Manager, highlighted expenditures of \$7,792.50 to MTech for a contribution to the Nebraska Forest Service UTV water tanks. Callan also highlighted additional expenditures of \$3,876.89 to HDR for the Nance County Model; and \$5,000 to Platte Valley Weed Management.

Smith motioned, seconded by R. Vlach, to approve the February 20, 2025, Treasurer's Report. Motion carried by electronic vote. Directors voting yes: Amsberry, Bartak, DeBower, Jeremy Eschliman, Kauk, Knutson, Kruse, Mohrman, Nitsch, Petersen, Podolak, Smith, Thoene, A. Vlach, R. Vlach. Director not present for vote: King. Directors absent: Bauer, James Eschliman, Lukasiewicz, Shadle.

The Treasurer's Report Approval Policy states that the approved expenditures are to be published and each director who has per diem and/or reimbursement of expenses included in such financial reports, abstains from voting for the approval of his or her own per diem and/or expense reimbursement.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Thoene asked for public comments. None were heard.

FORESTER'S REPORT

Callan stated that Lewis was in Lincoln at training; however, a report was included in the agenda.

NRCS REPORT

Bryce Bauer, NRCS, Ord, reported that a work group meeting was held February 12th at the NRD. He said that, typically, they look at rankings and scenarios; however, this year they worked to identify resource concerns. Pinpointed were nitrate water quality and degraded plant condition or cedar encroachment. He added that our local EQIP money will be put into treating those resources.

Bauer added that the staff is working on EQIP Classic. All IRA funds are still on hold. He stated that they are working to fund regular EQIP applications by the first part of March, using EQIP funds authorized to come from the Farm Bill.

Bauer reported that there was an offer for staff buyouts where employees could resign and be on Administrative Leave until the end of the fiscal year. He is assuming some people may have accepted; however, he said he has not received a list yet. Bauer added that the NRCS did lose some staff, stating that anyone employed less than a year was laid off. He added that none were lost in our Lower Loup NRD, but statewide there were 40.

Bauer stated that work is still moving forward on the RCPP program. He stated that the funding is tied to IRA money so, although it is frozen, work will continue so that everything is ready if money does become available.

Kauk asked if the positions that were left vacant are eliminated, or just vacant. Bauer stated that the positions are still there, but did not know the timeline for filling them again.

Miles Anderson, DC, Albion, reported that he is still getting to know staff and has noticed impressive efforts being made with water quality and brush management.

Anderson added that staff in his offices are also working on CSP and that in April some applications should be funded. He added that it is dependent on IRA funds whether a second CSP signup will take place.

INFORMATION & EDUCATION REPORT

Central Region Envirothon Results

Alan Bartels, I&E Coordinator, reported that the Central Region Envirothon was held in Columbus and hosted by LLNRD and CPNRD. He added that St. Paul took first place with a score of 120; Ord scored 113; and Aurora scored 108, adding that the State Competition will be held in Omaha on April 30. There were five more teams competing this year than last year.

Nebraska/National Champion Tree

Bartels reported that he reached out to the Nebraska Forest Service in regards to the Eastern Cottonwood tree at Pibel Lake and received confirmation that it is now registered as the new Nebraska champion. He added that the determination was made based on a point system based on circumference of the trunk, height of the tree, and canopy spread.

Bartels added that he also received additional confirmation that the cottonwood is also the new National Champion, measuring at more than 12 feet larger than Canada's champion tree, which means it is also the largest Eastern Cottonwood known in the world. Bartels stated that there are 546 title-holding trees in the national tree register and ours is the only representative from Nebraska, of any species.

Bartels worked with the Nebraska Forest Service on their press release. Bartels stated that he and Callan did a segment with Steve White, NTV, on the tree.

There are signs ordered to be placed by the tree and at the kiosk at Pibel Lake. Arbor Day programs will be held there this year, as well.

<u>Apparel</u>

Bartels stated that there are order forms at each spot.

Smith added that NCN has done a segment on the tree at Pibel.

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Flow Meter Cost-Share – Quantity Areas 18 & 20

Tylr Naprstek, Assistant General Manager, reported that 110 out of 230 Area 18 flow meter installations are completed in Buffalo County, and 49 out of 114 in Area 20 in Nance/Platte County. It is estimated that there are 278-280 total in Area 18 and about 180 total in Area 20. He added that when the requirement was implemented, a letter was sent out to each landowner. A follow-up is being drafted for this spring.

Lower Platte River Basin Coalition Technical Report

Naprstek stated the report is not complete but should be available at the next Committee meeting. He added that he and Dell Harris, Water Resources Specialist, had reviewed the variance work done last year and it looks like we may return 6.86 acre-feet back into our basin.

Chemigation Training

Naprstek reported that a staff member is attending each chemigation training to help producers recognize NRD staff that will be doing the inspections. He added that a YouTube video on check valves was produced for informational purposes.

Naprstek added that nitrogen certification is coming up and that Mike Lorenz, Agronomist in Fullerton, is putting together a list of about 30 producers in our Phase II Area that need recertification. A nitrogen certification workshop will be held on March 13th in Duncan. He stated that every 4 years anyone who farms in a Phase II management area must recertify.

Drought Monitoring

Naprstek stated there has been little to no change in the drought monitor for the past 3 months.

King arrived at 4:00 p.m.

ORDER OF DESIGNATION

The following Order of Designation, No. 2025-009, was presented to the Board.

ORDER OF DESIGNATION No. 2025-09

WHEREAS, the Lower Loup Natural Resources District has adopted proposed Rules and Regulations for the implementation of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District's Groundwater Management Area; and

WHEREAS, a Public Hearing was held on February 20, 2025, in accordance with Neb. Rev. STAT. § 46-743; and

WHEREAS, the District deems the designation of Water Quantity Management Sub-Area 19 to be in the best interest of the District and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the District has existing Groundwater Quantity Management Sub-Area Rules and Regulations to ensure conformity with Nebraska law and internal consistency; and

WHEREAS, the Lower Loup Natural Resources District has the development and management of groundwater and surface water for beneficial uses as one of its goals in the District's Master Plan and adopted water quantity as a priority in the District's Long-Range Implementation Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Lower Loup Natural Resources District has collected static water levels and has documented that more than 50% of the total quantity sampling results collected in Sub-Area 19 are at or below 10% of the lowest reading recorded during the last 25 years. This meets or exceeds established criteria which triggers a flow meter requirement on all high-capacity groundwater uses. Sub-Area 19 encompasses all area south of the South Loup, Middle Loup, and Loup Rivers within the Lower Loup Natural Resources District boundary in Howard County; all area south of the Loup River within the Lower Loup Natural Resources District boundary in

Merrick County; and all area south of the Loup River within the Lower Loup Natural Resources District boundary in Nance County, east to and including Sections 13 and 24 of Township 16 North, Range 6 West of the 6th Principal Meridian in Nance County, Nebraska.

WHEREAS, the implementation of District's Rules and Regulations provides for the requirement of flow meters and reports of usage as an option for control in Groundwater Quantity Management Areas;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Lower Loup Natural Resources District designate the creation of Groundwater Management Area 19 in the Groundwater Quantity Management Sub-Areas and adopt its Rules and Regulations to be utilized within the boundaries as described in such Rules and Regulations and will include all irrigation water and aquifers lying below such land surface as described.

AND, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Order takes effect March 1, 2025.

Thoene asked if there was any discussion or if the Board was ready to act tonight.

Smith stated that all the education and research that has been done was set up long before there was a problem and that this area is hitting trigger spots, so he thinks that the area should be designated so we can gather more information. He added that we are not implementing restrictions on quantity, but the NRD wants to have information to back any decisions if there is a need to cut back later.

Smith motioned, seconded by Petersen, to approve ORDER OF DESIGNATION No. 2025-09.

Podolak asked if we know what Central Platte NRD is doing, if they require meters. Callan replied that they have not started metering yet; however, they were partners with the project and we did gather information in the area.

Kauk asked if their verbiage on triggering for their drought plan is similar to the LLNRD. Callan stated he did not know what their drought plan entails.

Kauk asked how long producers have to become in compliance by installing meters after implementation. Callan replied two years.

Bartak asked if CPNRD does any metering. Callan stated yes, they do some.

Jeremy Eschliman asked how the boundaries were established. Callan stated there were multiple parameters taken into consideration. He added that there were only 10 areas instead of the now 20, adding that when making boundaries, aquifer location, crop type, crop practices, river basins, governmental boundaries, and public water supplies, were all taken into consideration.

Petersen stated that the LLNRD has been a leader in a lot of these things and hopes that CPNRD will look into it further and follow along.

Knutson asked if CPNRD is having issues. Callan replied that they are having issues with groundwater decline and that is why they participated in the study. He said they are looking at ways to bring water into those areas and that the focus of the study was mostly Buffalo County.

Nitsch asked if there are any potential areas for recharge in CPNRD. Callan stated he does not know but they have something with the canal system and their dam for recharge, adding that they do a lot with their canal systems.

Podolak asked if Gustafson has found any recharge projects in the area. Callan stated he does not know, but he has found a possible one in the Monroe area. LLNRD is always on the lookout for potential recharge sites.

Vote was held. Motion carried by electronic vote. Directors voting yes: Amsberry, Bartak, DeBower, Jeremy Eschliman, Kauk, Knutson, Kruse, Mohrman, Nitsch, Petersen, Podolak, Smith, Thoene, A. Vlach, R. Vlach. Director not present for vote: King. Directors absent: Bauer, James Eschliman, Lukasiewicz, Shadle.

WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Water Quality Report – Data Review

Nitsch reported that Derek Vogt, Agronomist, presented to the Committee and gave information on the water quality areas. Over 3000 water samples were taken last year with some areas showing nitrate increases in groundwater and others showing declines. He added that the producer response to the water quality letters has been positive. He stated that outreach has been done in Area 19, where there are signs of triggering Phase 2 management. He stated that well depth, casing materials, screen material, and basis construction were also discussed regarding how it may impact wells. He added that the Committee recommended approval of the 2024 Water Quality Report.

Nitsch motioned, seconded by Mohrman, to approve the 2024 Water Quality Report. Motion carried by electronic vote, all present voting yes.

Wheeler County Nitrates

Nitsch reported that the District has been watching increasing nitrate levels in Wheeler County since 2018. He added that samples have been collected from irrigation wells and that Bartlett has been relatively low; however, other areas in the community are different. Nitsch added that the Committee recommended a fall or winter hearing date and that the Board should act on the four townships that rated Medium-High to High nitrate level areas, that could possibly trigger sub-areas within the larger areas.

Nitsch motioned, seconded by Knutson, to trigger the four Medium-High and High nitrate level townships in Wheeler County, with a potential hearing date in Fall 2025 or Winter 2026.

Callan stated that we would start with informational meetings with producers in the area and that the motion starts the hearing process, just like what was done for Area 19.

Naprstek showed a presentation outlining the sampling done in Wheeler County and the nitrate levels being detected. He pointed out that the northeast corner is triggered and across the boundary line is Upper Elkhorn NRD territory. He said that the area is mostly chemigated, has a shallow depth to groundwater and has sandy soils, thus creating increasing nitrate levels.

Naprstek pointed out the areas of concern and showed the five-year nitrate sampling results and averages for the area, showing the total number of certified acres and breakdown per field.

Jeremy Eschliman asked about the township that has multiple high testing fields and asked what the soil type is and the direction of the water flow. Naprstek stated that it flows east/northeast and that the water is not very deep there.

Kauk asked about hog farm locations. Naprstek showed locations in 22N-10W, that are hog farms.

Smith asked about putting five of the townships together in the trigger, instead of just the four.

Naprstek stated that it is possible and that township needs to be looked at further.

Mohrman added that we are not picking on anyone specific, that this is being done across the entire area.

Jeremy Eschliman stated there is a body of evidence stating that there are health risks associated with nitrate levels below 10 ppm and added that even at or below 6.5 ppm there are severe health risks.

Podolak asked if nitrogen efficiency has been checked. Naprstek stated that there are some in Area 29 that are close, but no triggers.

Smith added that the NRD has done a good job with promoting reverse osmosis and added that his levels were at 24-28 ppm before installing his system and now levels have dropped below 2.2 ppm.

Vote was held. Motion carried by electronic vote, all present voting yes.

Nitrogen Reduction Incentive Act (NiRIA)

Nitsch reported that 25 producers submitted 69 applications, totaling over \$95,000, mostly from the eastern part of the District and covering approximately 7,400 acres. The Committee reviewed the applications per county and the types of applications received. He added that DNR has talked about covering all of the applications that have been received. Ruterbories has talked about the cost to administer the program which is about 25% of the money. Nitsch also stated that Senator Ibach is talking about running the program for 5 years; however, Governor Pillen is opposed. Callan added that Pillen is more opposed because of additional money being spent, rather than opposed to the entire idea.

King asked for clarification, that there is about \$64,000 allocated to the LLNRD for this project. Callan stated that was correct and added that there is a ranking process the applications go through. He stated that if they are in Phase 2 management, they receive more points, and it also takes into consideration if they use irrigation outside of the management area, and lastly, if they have dryland. Ranking also depends on if producers are using some type of technology to reduce nitrates which ranks them higher. The number of acres a producer has is also a factor in the ranking. The program's payments to producers range from \$10 and \$12 to \$15 per acre. It was discussed how to handle the unfunded \$31,000 of applications. Per Callan, DNR may not be able to fund the balance. Any unused Incentive Act funds will be reallocated and the LLNRD could receive some additional money. This will be a topic of future discussion.

Water Sustainability Grant Application

Nitsch reported that Jason Moudry, Water Programs Specialist, presented the vadose project with USGS at Legislative Conference and it spurred discussions. He said that other NRDs are following the vadose work being done and that LLNRD would like to expand the vadose work to include partnering with CPNRD and UBBNRD, as well as-focusing on two more projects within the LLNRD, entailing 18 more fields in Custer County's Merna Valley area and Wheeler County's high nitrate area.

Nitsch motioned, seconded by Smith, to proceed with the Water Sustainability Fund grant application process.

Callan pointed out a budget for the grant and reiterated that it would be used to recreate the current vadose project two more times within our District and, in addition, implement the other two projects with the CPNRD & UBBNRD. He explained that the total estimated costs of \$330,000 for each of the four study areas equaled a total of \$1.3 million. The Lower Loup, Central Platte and Upper Big Blue NRDs would need to come up with the 40% match, which is roughly \$520,000. The WSF grant asking would be approximately \$789,600, which is 60%. The LLNRD's portion would be approximately \$260,000 for three years.

Vote was held. Motion carried by electronic vote, all present voting yes.

<u>Groundwater Management Plan – Recommendation</u>

Nitsch reported that RFPs were sent out for the Groundwater Management Plan revision. He stated that the bids from JEO, Olsson and HDR were reviewed by staff and their assessment was presented at the Committee meeting with a staff recommendation to go with the bid received by Olsson for \$180,056.

Nitsch motioned to accept the Olsson bid for the LLNRD Groundwater Management Plan revision.

Podolak asked what this was for. Naprstek stated that the new rules and regulations have evolved & surpassed the current Groundwater Management plan. He added that a stakeholders group will be formed to review and contribute to the plan.

Naprstek showed the rankings given to each proposal and explained that Olsson was both the preferred candidate and the lowest bid received.

Mohrman asked Naprstek to expand on the other bids and explain what they either had or did not have. Naprstek stated that Olsson dedicated an entire page to a legislative review, going through the Groundwater Protection Act and listing out the individual statutes that would be addressed. He added that staff felt HDR's proposal had too aggressive of a timeline, wanting to try to get project done in shorter time and asking for an extension if needed. He added that JEO included stakeholder interaction and has done relevant work with the NRD in the past. He added that all three companies were close in ranking; however, they felt that Olsson was the better option.

Motion was seconded by Amsberry. Motion was carried by electronic vote, all present voting yes.

PROGRAMS/PROJECTS COMMITTEE

Aagaard Farm Wetland Development

Kruse reported that staff is looking at developing a potential wetland area at the farm. He added that it would be 1-1½ acres used for educational opportunities and to enhance wildlife habitat.

Pibel Lake Construction and Tree

Kruse reported that the NRD received the grant for the trail but did not receive the RV site grant. He added that staff will know more in May or June about what funds we will receive.

St. Edward BRIC Grant

Kruse reported that St. Edward is currently working with JEO and that NEMA has approved a request to modify. He added that the LLNRD has not received a funding request from St. Edward. He said this project has been redesigned multiple times.

Mud Creek WFPO – Ansley

Kruse reported that there was a meeting held on the watershed area.

Kevin Gustafson, District Engineer, stated that he dropped off a hard copy of the plan for local residents to review. He added that there were a couple questions about ongoing project maintenance after installation and that LLNRD, while not necessarily responsible for doing the maintenance, would be responsible for making sure that regular maintenance was done.

Mira Creek WFPO – North Loup

Kruse reported that Gustafson informed the Committee that they had received the Mira Creek Watershed agreement from NRCS and that there are some points in the agreement that need to be reviewed.

Gustafson added that the Mud Creek WFPO plan was signed in March, 2024, and that the Chief is waiting for funds for design.

Gustafson stated that the Mira Creek WFPO agreement is between the NRCS and the LLNRD. He stated that the term of the agreement is 105 years, which is based on 5 years to implement and 100 years evaluated life of the project. The evaluated life is what the government looks at as the time frame needed for the government to get their money back on their investment. He stated that the agreement does not obligate NRCS funds. We are still waiting for funds to become available and that the LLNRD would be 100% responsible for real property permissions and other potential infrastructure costs that could be included such as bridges, county roads that need modified, etc.

Gustafson provided a table showing the breakdown of NRCS and NRD funds. It showed NRCS costs of \$14,491,900 for 100% design and construction and \$1,848,827 in NRD funds for 100% administrative, permitting, and land costs, with a total estimated project cost of about \$16 million. He added that our portion is about 11%. Gustafson also discussed permitting and the O&M sections of the agreement, stating that the NRD will be responsible for O&M, and once the contract period with the government is up, the LLNRD will still be responsible for the structure and that NRCS will no longer be responsible for any part of the project after the contract term.

Kruse motioned, seconded by Petersen, to authorize the General Manager and the Board Chairman to sign the Mira Creek Watershed Agreement. Motion carried by electronic vote, all present voting yes.

Sargent Flood Project

Kruse reported that Village of Sargent is still working on their project and that Gustafson worked with the Department of Transportation on the right-of-way.

Gustafson added that they do not anticipate any issues and that they will be locating a part of the project within Sargent's right-of-way. He added that even though it is Sargent's right-of-way, they wanted the LLNRD to be responsible for the maintenance of the right-of-way portion for the entire project. He added that they have been looking for options to keep the road open during the planned culvert replacement, with possibly the best option to construct a box culvert crossing Highway 183 in two sections and controlling traffic with signage.

VARIANCE COMMITTEE

Smith reported that the Cherry variance has been withdrawn for landowner discussion, so there is no action to be taken at this time.

Smith also stated that this month was the first hearing for the Schroll variance, requesting to move 7.1 acres from LLNRD to CPNRD, and that we will have a slight gain. He stated there would be action taken by the Committee next month.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Water Strategies Update

Callan stated a report had been placed at everyone's seat.

Litigation Update

Callan stated that there are new bills and changes coming through, such as the Nitrogen Reduction Act Bill and that the NRD has asked for administrative fees. He added that the bill was bumped from \$1 million to \$5 million. He also added that it is being discussed if there should be a statewide standard application, but there is discussion that there is too much variability from District to District for that.

Callan also stated there is the DNR/NDEE merger bill that NARD has testified in opposition to.

New Hires

None.

Non-action Reports

Callan reported that the Monroe Water Smart Federal grant was denied. He said the Water Sustainability Fund grant period is at the end of March and Pat at HDR is working on a revision.

Jeremy Eschliman asked about LB59, regarding NRDs using electronic funds transactions. Callan explained that it will be put on a committee bill to go out.

NARD REPORT

Thoene reported that there was a meeting Monday afternoon at the Lincoln Legislative Conference. He said that budget was discussed as well as how jury duty is handled for employees. Callan stated we have a policy in place stating that that an employee can take time off for jury duty and can either accept the juror stipend and use vacation time or turn the juror stipend into the NRD, with the LLNRD paying for the employee's jury time as administrative leave.

NRC REPORT

Amsberry reported that there was a meeting yesterday in Kearney. Mohrman added that due to weather, there was a low turnout.

Mohrman stated that Jesse Bradley, Interim Director of DNR & NDEE, was at the meeting and discussed what a merger between both departments would look like. Bradley informed the group that there would be a saving of funds; however, accessibility may be less, also. Mohrman reported that the merger would create a Chief Water Officer position, held by someone with an engineering degree.

Mohrman reported that the group's largest project last year was the Santee Water Project, and this was their first money withdraw, so they have a lot further to go with the project. He added that permitting and rights-of-way are holding them up. Mohrman said that their next meeting will be April 9th.

Kruse asked if there was any money unspent in the last 5 years. Mohrman replied that there really is not, but there is some money the Corps of Engineers has not released for disbursement.

Mohrman added that the new Chairman is Greg Wilke from Middle Niobrara NRD and Thoene reported that Chris Higgins from Upper Loup NRD is a new representative.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, Chairman Thoene declared the meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

Roster for attendance of this meeting and tally of votes cast on motions at this meeting are being filed with the official minutes of this meeting at the Lower Loup Natural Resources District's Headquarters Office, 2620 Airport Drive, Ord, Nebraska. Publication notification of this meeting was made via a newspaper in each county within the district. The next Board of Directors meeting will be held March 27, 2025, at 5:00 p.m., at the Headquarters Office in Ord, Nebraska.

Larry Mohrman Secretary