

Regional Election Issues Information Forum

Representatives from the Buffalo County Democratic and Republican Parties will give an overview of the contested races, issues and candidates appearing on most central Nebraska ballot tickets. The event is free and open to the public. A moderated audience question and answer will follow. The event is hosted by:



Nebraska State Legislature District 37

- Bob Lammers
- John S. Lowe Sr.

Board of Regents University of Nebraska District 6 - 6 Year Term

- Paul Kenney
- Marsha E. Fangmeyer

Central Platte Natural Resources District for Board of Directors At Large - 2 Year Term

- Charles J. Bicak
- Keith Ostermeier

Nebraska Public Power District for Board of Directors Subdivision 3 - 6 Year Term

- Ron Larsen
- Melissa Freelend

Referendum ordered by Petition of the People Referendum No. 426

A vote to “Retain” will eliminate the death penalty and change the maximum penalty for the crime of murder in the first degree to life imprisonment by retaining Legislative Bill 268, passed in 2015 by the First Session of the 104th Nebraska Legislature.

A vote to “Repeal” will keep the death penalty as a possible penalty for the crime of murder in the first degree by repealing Legislative Bill 268, passed in 2015 by the First Session of the 104th Nebraska Legislature.

The purpose of Legislative Bill 268, passed by the First Session of the 104th Nebraska Legislature in 2015, is to eliminate the death penalty and change the maximum penalty for the crime of murder in the first degree to life imprisonment. Shall Legislative Bill 268 be repealed?

More info: <http://netnebraska.org/interactive-multimedia/news/classroom-conversations-web-1>

To find out how lawyers from the NE State Bar Association rated Judges on the ballot go to:


https://c.ymcdn.com/sites/nebar.site-ym.com/resource/resmgr/For_the_Public/2016_JudicialPoll_COMPLETE.pdf

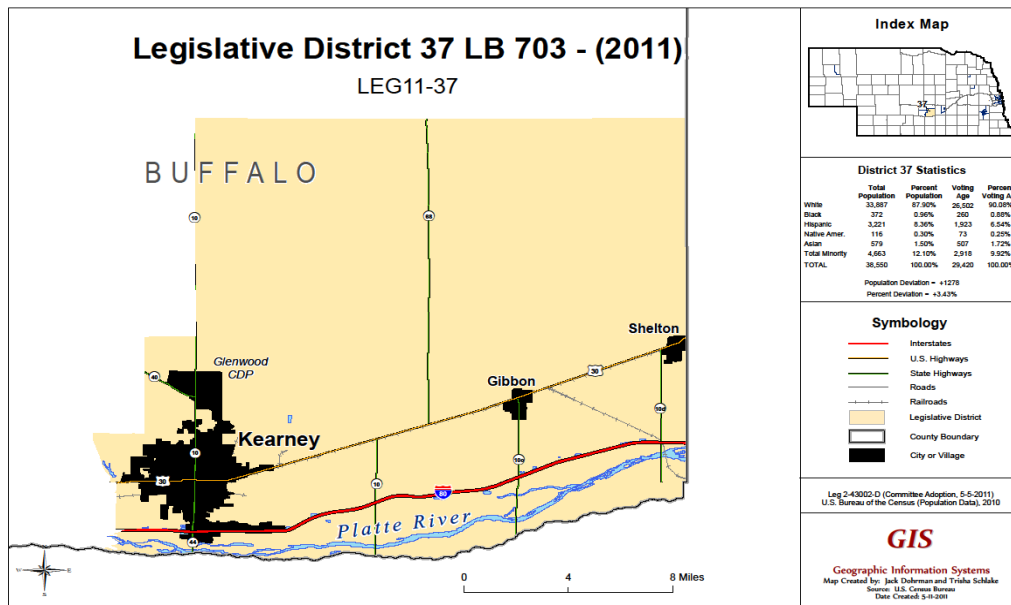
The last rows on pages 6-25 show an overall percent each judge scored.

If more than 50% of voting results are NO, or do NOT retain, the Governor appoints a replacement judge.

The following is a list of all races that appear throughout Buffalo County. Please note that NOT all races will appear on your specific ballot.

SAMPLE BALLOT 2016 GENERAL ELECTION

Buffalo County, Nebraska		General Election		November 8, 2016							
INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTER 1. TO VOTE, YOU MUST DARKEN THE OVAL COMPLETELY.  2. Use a black or blue ink pen or a No. 2 pencil. 3. To vote for a WRITE-IN candidate, write in the name on the line provided AND darken the oval completely. 4. DO NOT CROSS OUT OR ERASE. If you make a mistake, ask for a new ballot. 5. DO NOT FOLD THE BALLOT.		Nonpartisan Ticket Chief Justice of the Supreme Court Statewide Shall Chief Justice Michael G. Heavican be retained in office? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Judge of the Supreme Court District 6 Shall Judge John F. Wright be retained in office? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Judge of the Court of Appeals District 6 Shall Judge Frankie J. Moore be retained in office? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Judge of the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court Statewide Shall Judge Daniel R. Fridrich be retained in office? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Judge of the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court Statewide Shall Judge John R. Hoffert be retained in office? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Judge of the Nebraska Workers' Compensation Court Statewide Shall Judge James R. Coe be retained in office? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Judge of the District Court District 9 Shall Judge William T. Wright be retained in office? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No Judge of the District Court District 9 Shall Judge Teresa K. Luther be retained in office? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No		Nonpartisan Ticket Central Platte Natural Resources District For Board of Directors SubDistrict 5 Vote for ONE <input type="radio"/> Jim Bendfeldt <input type="radio"/> _____ Central Platte Natural Resources District For Board of Directors SubDistrict 5 2 Year Term Vote for ONE <input type="radio"/> Deborah VanMatre <input type="radio"/> _____ Central Platte Natural Resources District For Board of Directors SubDistrict 6 Vote for ONE <input type="radio"/> Michael Reynolds <input type="radio"/> _____ Central Platte Natural Resources District For Board of Directors At Large 2 Year Term Vote for ONE <input type="radio"/> Charles J. Bick <input type="radio"/> Keith Ostermeier <input type="radio"/> _____ Lower Loup Natural Resources District For Board of Directors SubDistrict 3 Vote for ONE <input type="radio"/> James C. Nelson <input type="radio"/> _____ Dawson Public Power District For Board of Directors Buffalo Subdivision - 6 Year Term Vote for ONE <input type="radio"/> Dave Dwiggins <input type="radio"/> _____ Nebraska Public Power District For Board of Directors Subdivision 3 - 6 Year Term Vote for ONE <input type="radio"/> Ron Larsen <input type="radio"/> Melissa Freeland <input type="radio"/> _____ Educational Service Unit 10 For Board of Directors District 6 Vote for ONE <input type="radio"/> Gordon Roethemeyer <input type="radio"/> _____ School Ticket Ansley Public School District 44 For Board of Education Vote for up to THREE <input type="radio"/> Jaimee Bailey <input type="radio"/> Peter Cunningham <input type="radio"/> Tim Loy <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ Centura Public School District 100 Ward 1 For Board of Education Vote for ONE <input type="radio"/> Will Kempster <input type="radio"/> Brent McDonald <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ Elm Creek Public School District 9 For Board of Education Vote for up to THREE <input type="radio"/> Lynette J. Mitchell <input type="radio"/> Marvion Reichert Jr. <input type="radio"/> Morgan Fouts <input type="radio"/> J.C. Ourada <input type="radio"/> Suzanne Brodine <input type="radio"/> Jeni Brown <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____		School Ticket Amherst Public School District 119 For Board of Education Vote for up to THREE <input type="radio"/> Terry D. Abbott <input type="radio"/> Ryan G. Fisher <input type="radio"/> Michael Taubenheim <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ School Bond Election Amherst Public School District 119 "Shall Buffalo County School District 0119 (Amherst Public Schools) in the State of Nebraska issue its bonds in a total principal amount not to exceed Seven Million Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$7,900,000) for the purpose of financing the costs of constructing renovations of and additions to the District's existing school facility, such renovations and additions to include K-6 classrooms, a new kitchen and lunchroom/common area, locker rooms and an expansion of the industrial arts/shop area, and acquiring and installing necessary furniture, equipment and apparatus for such school building and additions; said bonds to be issued from time to time, to be sold at such prices, to bear interest at such rates, to become due at such times, and to have such other terms and provisions, all as may be fixed and determined by the Board of Education of the District; and <input type="radio"/> FOR said bonds and tax <input type="radio"/> AGAINST said bonds and tax Electors voting in favor of said proposition shall blacken completely the oval opposite the words "FOR said bonds and tax" following said proposition, and electors voting against said proposition shall blacken completely the oval opposite the words "AGAINST said bonds and tax" following said proposition. <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ Gibbon Public School District 2 For Board of Education Vote for up to THREE <input type="radio"/> Kimberly Wadkins <input type="radio"/> Brian Knoll <input type="radio"/> Alan M. Green <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ Kearney Public School District 7 For Board of Education Vote for up to THREE <input type="radio"/> Angela Nickel <input type="radio"/> Tim Higgins <input type="radio"/> Marvion E. Reichert <input type="radio"/> Kathy Gifford <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ Pleasanton Public School District 105 For Board of Education Vote for up to THREE <input type="radio"/> Steven Klein <input type="radio"/> Diane Hand <input type="radio"/> Lisa A. Nichols <input type="radio"/> Bruce Loeffelholz <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____		School Ticket Ravenna Public School District 69 For Board of Education Vote for up to THREE <input type="radio"/> Tara Schirmer <input type="radio"/> Marc Vacek <input type="radio"/> Dawn Standage <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ Shelton Public School District 19 For Board of Education Vote for up to THREE <input type="radio"/> Matt Gangwish <input type="radio"/> Russ Muhlbech <input type="radio"/> Chris Lewis <input type="radio"/> Patricia Wiehn <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ Sumner-Eddyville-Miller Public School District 101 For Board of Education Vote for up to THREE <input type="radio"/> Kirby Burden <input type="radio"/> Matthew Glatzer <input type="radio"/> Bryce Williams <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ City Ticket For Gibbon City Mayor Vote for ONE <input type="radio"/> Deborah VanMatre <input type="radio"/> _____ For Gibbon City Council Member Ward I Vote for ONE <input type="radio"/> Derrick J. Clevenger <input type="radio"/> _____ For Gibbon City Council Member Ward II Vote for ONE <input type="radio"/> Kevin Hynes <input type="radio"/> _____ For Kearney City Council Member At Large Vote for up to THREE <input type="radio"/> Stanley Clouse <input type="radio"/> Jonathan Nikkila <input type="radio"/> Duane A. Ruh <input type="radio"/> Bruce Lear <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ For Ravenna City Council Member At Large Vote for up to TWO <input type="radio"/> Jim D. Rasmussen <input type="radio"/> Russell R. Crowell <input type="radio"/> Travis W. Bruce <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ Village Ticket For Amherst Board of Trustees Vote for up to THREE <input type="radio"/> Harvey G. Fisher <input type="radio"/> George J. Day <input type="radio"/> Larry Dean Fisher <input type="radio"/> Raymond L. King <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ For Elm Creek Village Board of Trustees Vote for up to THREE <input type="radio"/> Tanner Tool <input type="radio"/> Cory Halliwell <input type="radio"/> Davis Miner <input type="radio"/> Mike Brown <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____		Village Ticket For Miller Village Board of Trustees Vote for up to TWO <input type="radio"/> Phillip Schroeder <input type="radio"/> LeRoy Lambert <input type="radio"/> Chuck Day <input type="radio"/> Craig M. Simmons <input type="radio"/> Ray Shields <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ For Pleasanton Village Board of Trustees Vote for up to THREE <input type="radio"/> Michael Stubbs <input type="radio"/> Dean Smith <input type="radio"/> T. Miller <input type="radio"/> Andrew Petersen <input type="radio"/> Mike Tracy <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ For Riverdale Village Board of Trustees Vote for up to THREE <input type="radio"/> Allen C. Richards <input type="radio"/> Timothy Pratt <input type="radio"/> Jeremy T. Johnson <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ For Shelton Village Board of Trustees Vote for up to THREE <input type="radio"/> Troy Spellman <input type="radio"/> Richard L. Mathieson <input type="radio"/> William Chuck Roe <input type="radio"/> Lynn McBride <input type="radio"/> David Doremus <input type="radio"/> Jeff Oberg <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____ VILLAGE OF SHELTON, NEBRASKA 1% CITY SALES AND USE TAX Shall the governing body of the Village of Shelton, Nebraska impose a sales and use tax of one percent (1%) upon the same transactions within the Village of Shelton on which the State of Nebraska is authorized to impose a tax pursuant to the Nebraska Revenue Act of 1967, as amended, the proceeds of which to be used to offset and provide for property tax relief? <input type="radio"/> FOR City Sales and Use Tax <input type="radio"/> AGAINST City Sales and Use Tax	
Presidential Ticket For President and Vice President of the United States Vote for ONE <input type="radio"/> Donald J. Trump - Republican President <input type="radio"/> Michael R. Pence Vice President <input type="radio"/> Hillary Clinton - Democratic President <input type="radio"/> Tim Kaine Vice President <input type="radio"/> Gary Johnson - Libertarian President <input type="radio"/> Jill Stein - By Petition President <input type="radio"/> Ajamu Baraka Vice President <input type="radio"/> _____ Vice President		Congressional Ticket For Representative in Congress District 3 - 2 Year Term Vote for ONE <input type="radio"/> Adrian Smith Republican <input type="radio"/> _____ State Ticket For Public Service Commissioner District 5 - 6 Year Term Vote for ONE <input type="radio"/> Mary Ridder Republican <input type="radio"/> _____ County Ticket For County Board of Commissioners District 2 Vote for ONE <input type="radio"/> Ron Loeffelholz Republican <input type="radio"/> _____ For County Board of Commissioners District 4 Vote for ONE <input type="radio"/> Dennis W. Reiter Republican <input type="radio"/> _____ For County Board of Commissioners District 6 Vote for ONE <input type="radio"/> Bill McMullen Republican <input type="radio"/> _____ Nonpartisan Ticket For Member of the Legislature District 37 Vote for ONE <input type="radio"/> Bob Lammers <input type="radio"/> John S. Lowe Sr. <input type="radio"/> _____ For Member of the Board of Regents University of Nebraska District 6 - 6 Year Term Vote for ONE <input type="radio"/> Marsha E. Fangmeyer <input type="radio"/> Paul Kenney <input type="radio"/> _____ <input type="radio"/> _____		Referendum ordered by Petition of the People Referendum No. 428 A vote to "Retain" will eliminate the death penalty and change the maximum penalty for the crime of murder in the first degree to life imprisonment by retaining Legislative Bill 268, passed in 2015 by the First Session of the 104th Nebraska Legislature. A vote to "Repeal" will keep the death penalty as a possible penalty for the crime of murder in the first degree by repealing Legislative Bill 268, passed in 2015 by the First Session of the 104th Nebraska Legislature. The purpose of Legislative Bill 268, passed by the First Session of the 104th Nebraska Legislature in 2015, is to eliminate the death penalty and change the maximum penalty for the crime of murder in the first degree to life imprisonment. Shall Legislative Bill 268 be repealed? <input type="radio"/> Retain <input type="radio"/> Repeal							



Bob Lammers is running for the Nebraska Legislature in District #37, which is comprised of 2/3 of Buffalo County, including the cities of Kearney, Gibbon, and Shelton. Senator Galen Hadley currently serves as the State Senator for District #37, but is unable to seek re-election due to term limits. Bob is a Certified General Appraiser and has worked for Farm Credit Services of America in Kearney for the past 36 years. Bob is a member of the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers. A resident of Kearney for 50 years, Bob has a long history of civic involvement, promoting his community through his involvement with the Kearney Area Chamber of Commerce, where he served as a past chairman. He has also been involved with the Buffalo County Economic Development Council, the Gateway Farm Expo, First Lutheran Church, the University of Nebraska at Kearney, and other civic groups and activities. Bob and his wife Marilyn have been married for 39 years, have one grown son Jeff, and two grandchildren.

<http://www.lammersforlegislature.com/about>

What do you believe is the **most important issue facing your office?** Tax reform is the most important issue facing the state. Too much emphasis has been placed on property taxes to finance our public schools and county government. High property and state income taxes hurt our ability to grow and attract businesses, workers, retain our college graduates, retirees and veterans. A potential \$100 million in e-commerce sales taxes not being collected could be applied to school and county finance to help reduce property taxes. We can reduce the number of counties in our state from 93 to nine to make county government more efficient and streamline the Nebraska Advantage Act.

http://www.kearneyhub.com/news/bob-lammers/article_b4f9cf48-981d-11e6-aa9f-3703eab975ac.html

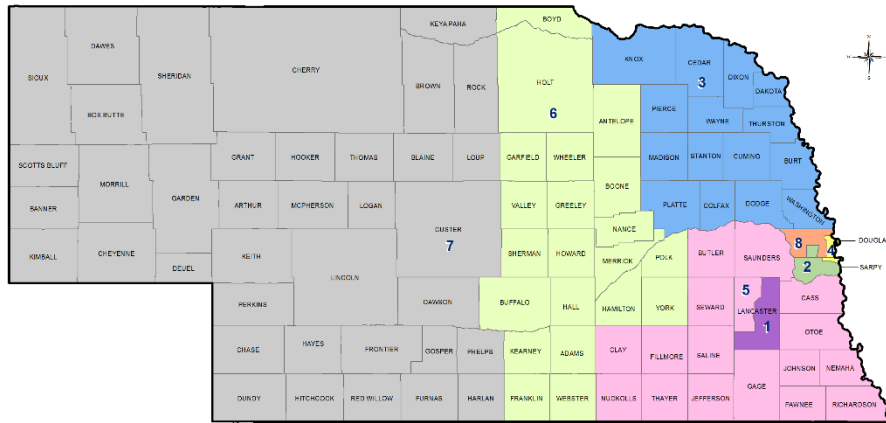
John Lowe is a native Kearneyite who, with his family, has grown the family business of residential, commercial and farm real estate. John has also opened several small family businesses and created good-paying jobs in our community. Currently as the owner of The Platte Valley, John has spent the last year creating another family business and has seen firsthand the impact of high taxes and government regulation and how it's prevented our economy from growing. A primary reason John is running for Legislature is to address our growing tax and regulatory burden head-on so that more entrepreneurs can either start or grow a business right here in Buffalo County.

http://johnloweforlegislature.com/about_john

The **most important issue facing Nebraska** and the next Legislature is growing our economy. I believe we can do this by reducing the growth of government spending, so we can make property tax relief a reality for Nebraska families, while also investing in the core responsibilities of government, education, public safety and infrastructure development. Using my experience as a business owner, finding inefficiencies to bring down costs while increasing the quality of our product to do the same for the state of Nebraska is what has me excited about this campaign.

http://www.kearneyhub.com/news/john-s-loweforlegislature/article_97f9fc1a-981d-11e6-af2a-c7ba85664568.html

(Districts took effect May 27, 2011)



Board of Regents University of Nebraska District 6 - 6 Year Term

Paul Kenney is an agri-businessman, farmer and rancher from the Amherst, Nebraska area. He earned his degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of Nebraska Lincoln in 1982. Paul and Angie Kenney have four sons, two of which farm with Paul, three daughters-in-law and six grandchildren. Paul Kenney's farming operation is a homesteaded farm that has been passed-down through the family for over 100 years. Kenney serves as the chairman of KAAPA Ethanol, Chairman of the Nebraska Ethanol Board and as a member of Governor Pete Rickett's Agricultural Advisory Committee. Kenney has also served on the Amherst Public School Board for 16 years, is former President of Kearney Area Ag Producers Alliance, UNL Ag Alumni Board Member, Amherst Volunteer Fireman and past board member of Kearney Area Chamber of Commerce. In addition Kenney has served as a past council member of Prince of Peace Catholic Church and St. Johns Catholic Church, as past chairman of Gateway Farm Expo, is a graduate of the Nebraska Lead IX Program, was President of the Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute, and has been honored as Farmer of the Year by the Kearney Kiwanis service club. <http://www.paulkenneyforregent.com/about-paul>

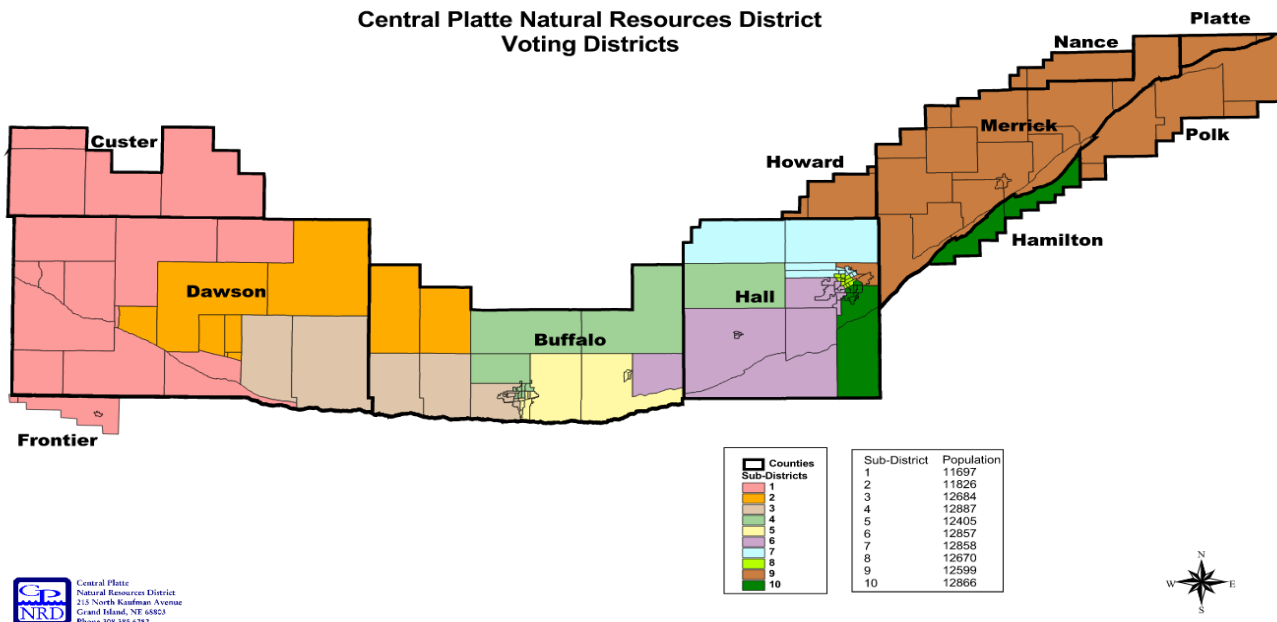
What do you believe is the most important issue facing your office? I believe that the Board of Regents will battle increased cost of operation that is during a time of decreased state revenues. Delivering a better education, increasing our number of students and being competitive at our individual campuses with their peer institutions. My wife and I both benefited from our education at the university along with three sons and two daughters-in-law. I want those benefits available for your and my children and grandchildren. http://www.kenneyhub.com/news/paul-kenney/article_c2bbf6ee97d6-11e6-83a2-b72970947e5c.html

Marsha Fangmeyer grew up in Deshler, Nebraska, part of a large extended family. She graduated from high school in 1971 and then attended the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. She is the first of her family to attend college. The University provided her with a variety of opportunities inside and outside the classroom. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in social work in 1976. She was active on campus with the YWCA and the Tutors of Nebraska Indian Children. She was a work-study student. She also helped finance her education by serving as a student assistant in the dormitories both while in undergraduate school and law school. She graduated from the UNL law school in 1979. She started her career with Legal Aid of Southeast Nebraska in Beatrice, serving the counties of Southeast Nebraska, providing access to justice for low income Nebraskans. It was here she began her commitment to Domestic Abuse programs, served on the YWCA board and began years of volunteer service to the Nebraska Bar Association.

<http://www.marshafangmeyer.com/meet-marsha>

There are many issues, but currently **the most pressing issue** is how to address the expected shortfall in the state budget, and how that shortfall will impact the university budget. At the same time it is important that we make post-secondary education affordable for all students. We will have to make adjustments in the university budget to avoid a major tuition increase. We can encourage more contributions to scholarship programs and help the University Foundation with fundraising efforts in that regard. No doubt there will be some trimming of the budget. We have to be smart about it, stay focused on the mission and push some dreams into the future http://www. Kearneyhub.com/news/marsha-fangmeyer/article_e35ac8c0-97d6-11e6-bc35-03a2dd9cd870.html

Central Platte Natural Resources District
Voting Districts

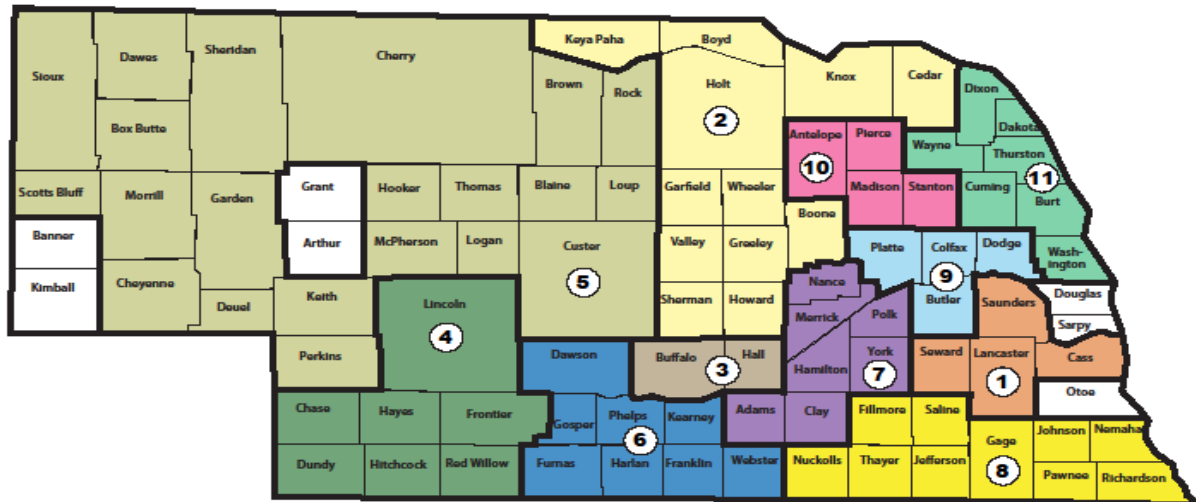


The Central Platte NRD is one of 23 natural resources districts in Nebraska. The Legislature created the NRDs in 1972 to manage water quality, water supply, soil erosion, flood control, drainage, fish and wildlife habitat, recreation and parks and range lands. Eleven counties have land included in the Central Platte NRD. The NRD's board has 21 members, each of whom serves a four-year term. For the at-large seat, **incumbent Charles J. Bicak of Kearney** hopes to fend off **challenger Keith Ostermeier of Grand Island** for a two-year term. http://www.theindependent.com/news/ag_news/candidates-vie-for-two-seats-on-central-platte-nrd-board/article_7e859fe0-97e7-11e6-b04c-b7b5ec63d412.html

Bicak is a biology professor at the University of Nebraska at Kearney and has served as senior vice chancellor for academic and student affairs since 2009. He was dean of natural sciences at St. Edward's University from 2005 to 2009. He was also professor and chairman of biology at California State University, Bakersfield. He received his bachelor's degree in biology from UNK, his master's in plant science from the University of British Columbia and his doctorate in rangeland ecology from Colorado State University. "Wise decision making regarding water is the most important priority," he said. "Our board goals focus on both water quantity and quality. The CPNRD has been a leader among Nebraska's 23 NRDs, the nation and, indeed, the world in advancing creative and effective strategies for wise stewardship of water." He said water drives success in the agricultural sector. "The wide range of CPNRD responsibilities requires a board member to invest time and energy in understanding initiatives that are wide-ranging," Bicak said. "This includes understanding the rationale for concepts as varied as prescribed burns in the western rangeland areas of the district, regulation of nitrates in groundwater in the central areas and flood control in the east. Further, all that the board and CPNRD staff accomplish must be cost effective."

Ostermeier's family includes his wife, Stacey, and three grown stepchildren. He earned both his bachelor's degree and his master's from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He has served as a soil conservationist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Soil Conservation Service (now the Natural Resources Conservation Service), conservation director for the Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District and has been with OAK Farms since 2000. He operates a family farm operation of irrigated corn and soybeans and cattle feeding. "I became interested in water management growing up on an irrigated farm in northern Hall County," Ostermeier said. "As a mechanized systems management major at UNL, I was drawn to the soil and water classes. That led to working as a soil conservationist with NRCS. I did my master's thesis on fertigating with surge irrigation. I conducted my research and worked at the Management Systems Evaluation Area project near Shelton." As conservation director with CNPPID, he worked with surface water irrigators on irrigation water management, as well as leading the Central Nebraska Regional Water Conservation Task Force. He also developed a greater understanding of integrated management of surface water and groundwater. "I think production agriculture has the best managers of natural resources," Ostermeier said. "As a farmer, I realize the importance of soil, water and air quality in raising crops and livestock. I appreciate the role NRDs have in managing our natural resources through education and cost-share programs. That is why I would like to serve on the CPNRD board."

DIRECTOR SUBDIVISIONS OF THE AREA AND TERRITORY OF THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT



Melissa Freelend is the Community Service Director with NRG Media.

Why are you running for office? I am running to stand up for Nebraskan families, ensure reliable service, and fight unnecessary rate increases. Over the past decade, NPPD has raised rates by over 40 percent, more than 10 times the national average. As one of 11 members of the NPPD Board, I want to be our community's voice, working for common sense solutions that are good for all Nebraskans. We deserve transparency and two-way communication from elected leaders. Too often, our representatives operate in secret and lack accountability. I'm running to be a voice for you, because that is what our community and our families deserve.

What do you believe is the most important issue facing your office? The two most important issues are rates and reliability. Many people in our community are already struggling because of NPPD's rate increases, and there are too many areas in our community that have frequent outages. We need new leadership on the board to make sure rates stay stable and low well into the future. We need to protect ourselves in times of energy market upheaval, while creating good-paying jobs and ensuring a healthy place for our children and families to grow.

How would you balance the needs of government versus taxpayers' interest? NPPD rates have increased more than any of Nebraska's other major electric utilities over the last eight years. I will fight to put a stop to that and keep our electricity affordable and reliable. NPPD is carrying nearly \$2 billion in long-term debt. I will work to weed out waste, fraud, and abuse to bring NPPD's budget into order and ensure fiscal responsibility. Government is supposed to serve the People, not just exist for its own sake. I will always work for you, not the special interests. http://www. Kearneyhub.com/news/melissa-freelend/article_baf27714-963e-11e6-acd6-97ba12654d93.html

Ron Larsen is a Personal Investment professional and 12 year incumbent NPPP Board Member, former Kearney City Councilman, Kearney Mayor. http://www.kearneyhub.com/news/ron-larsen/article_12c28ea2-963f-11e6-929d-035c766a5855.html

Why are you running for office? Completing my second term on NPPD and I enjoy the position. It keeps me informed about issues not only with NPPD but others issues facing our state.

What do you believe is the most important issue facing your office? It is very important that we not only provide safe, clean power, but we need to provide it at a very competitive price. There are many mandates being issued by the EPA and many governmental entities that challenge NPPD daily. It is very important that a board member understands the issues facing them. We must answer the needs of our customers, while watching the costs, so that we deliver power at a competitive price.

How would you balance the needs of government versus taxpayers' interest? NPPD is a governmental body that must balance the issues and mandates they are faced with while controlling the cost to the rate payers. By state law, if someone requests that power be provided to them, NPPD must comply. That is the basis for public power. Nebraska is the only state that is 100 percent public power, so the board members must answer to the rate payers.