NDSWRA Newsletter

New Assistant Director Selected: Meet Jerry Volk

The NDSWRA Board of Directors reviewed applicant submissions in May and interviewed three candidates in June for the Executive Director position. Jerry Volk starts this month as the Assistant Director for the NDSWRA. Jerry has spent the last 30+ years working as an engineering consultant and felt it was time for a change and new direction in his life. He has been a past member of the NDSWRA and has attended many conferences and events with the Association. Jerry resides in Dickinson with his wife and together they have five children and five grandchildren spread across the country.

Jerry has always had a passion for recycling and finding creative ways to reuse materials in different ways. He states, "I believe that the overall management of our solid waste and the recycling of products and materials is an important part of maintaining a safe environment for our children, grandchildren and future generations. Each of us has an obligation to do what we can. Getting successful recycling programs started in our rural areas is extremely challenging and hopefully my engineering background and experience in working with smaller communities will be helpful in assisting communities and committees in this endeavor." Jerry hopes to meet many of you in Aberdeen and in the upcoming months. He will train in as the next director until November, when Angela will "retire" from the Association. Be sure to welcome him aboard and feel free to contact him with any questions, concerns or ideas about the Association. You can reach Jerry at (701) 590-0488, at ndswra@ndsupernet.com or by mail at P.O. Box 1628, Dickinson, ND 58602-1628.

This Week: Free Webinar on Pay As You Throw

On Thursday, July 15, grab some lunch and listen/watch from your home or office as a "Pay As You Throw (PAYT) On the Go: Practical, Pocketbook Incentives for Recycling/Diversion Success" webinar is presented online from 12 - 2:30 p.m. CST. **PAYT can be one of your most effective, cost-effective and flexible methods of increasing recycling and reducing GHGs.** Hear the best-known national expert on PAYT (Dr. Lisa Skumatz) and guest speakers discuss PAYT, how it works, impacts, and hear a panel of city experts talk about pros and cons and real-world experience with the key ways to implement PAYT: Ordinance, contract / franchise; municipal; and hear from municipal & hauler perspectives. There are PAYT lessons for urban, suburban, rural, and remote areas with all types of collection systems. The webinar is sponsored by the Econservation Institute and is part of an EPA Region 9 grant. To register, visit: www.paytnow.org, http://www.paytnow.org/presentations.html or call (303) 494-1178 or e-mail skumatz@econservationinstitute.org for more information.

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- ***Project Safe Send***
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Welcome our Newest Members:

Mike Strotheide,
Strotheide Consulting

Suzanne Russ,
Dickinson State University

Jen Ondracek,
City of Medora

We welcome you to submit solid waste, recycling, composting and related articles, news releases or photos by e-mail for our next newsletter (October 2010).

Early Bird Deadline for Exhibitors: July 15

If you plan to have a booth at the upcoming Joint Solid Waste and Recycling Conference and Trade Show in September, you better act fast! The space is nearly full with a few days remaining for the "early bird" rate of $350 for members and $450 for non-members. After July 15, the rates will be $400 for members and $500 for non-members. A reminder **for ND vendors**, your membership rate will **not** be included with a booth. Be sure to mark your membership separate when the information arrives. All conference related fees should be made out to the SDSWMA and mailed to Carolyn Trautman (information is on the registration form). Membership fees for the NDSWRA can still be mailed to the P.O. Box in Carrington. Attendees can expect to see an agenda by late July and can register until September 1st. The conference will take place September 14-16 at the Best Western Ramkota in Aberdeen, SD. Call (605) 229-4040 and ask for the SD Solid Waste Conference block of rooms ($84.99 plus tax by August 13th). Additional rooms are blocked at the will be held in a block for $74.98 plus tax at the Super 8 North (605-226-2288) and Super 8 East (605-229-5005) for Sept. 13th, 14th and 15th.
NOTE TO ATTENDEES: Sessions this year will actually begin on Tuesday morning; therefore, you'll want to travel on Monday and be sure and reserve a room on Monday night as well.

Fire at Earth Recycling in Minot

See the article at: http://www.minotdailynews.com/page/content.detail/id/539545.html?nav=5010

Project Safe Send Collects Pesticides and other Chemicals

The North Dakota Department of Agriculture is once again offering "Project Safe Send", a program that allows farmers and residents to bring in their containers of pesticides, herbicides, and other farm-related chemicals. The collections are taking place across the state from July 7 – 22. Check out their Web site for a list of locations: http://www.agdepartment.com/Programs/Plant/PSSCollection.html.

Board of Directors Reviews New Location for 2011 Symposium

The NDSWRA Board of Directors wants your opinion regarding the 2011 symposium location. The board is looking at holding the conference in Dickinson, but wants to make sure there would be enough support from vendors as well as attendees. "For as long as I've been involved with the Association, we've never held a symposium in the western part of the state," says Angela Boeshans, current Executive Director for the NDSWRA. "During the past year, we have held several workshops in the west and attendance has been very high which indicates that there is a growing interest in solid waste and recycling in this area of the state. I think it would be great to tie in connections for speakers from Montana as well as allow our vendors from Minnesota and other states to access this part of the state for equipment and consulting needs". Please contact Angela or any board member (see the back page) soon regarding your opinion of holding the 2011 symposium in Dickinson; reservations need to be made soon as the hotels in this area are currently experiencing high demand due to the growth in the oil industry.

Z's Trees & Dakota Mulch Provides Wood Grinding and Wood Chips

In Cooperstown, ND, a 435 horsepower wood grinder eats up tree rows and other wood products. A fairly new company, Z's Trees and Dakota Mulch offers both tree removal and finished wood chips. Owner Rodd Zorn started his business after assisting with the Hurricane Ivan and Hurricane Katrina tree cleanup efforts. In 2009, he wanted to bring his business full circle and use the wood chips that were left from the grinding jobs. He expanded with a chipper that creates a 1 to 3 inch size wood chip which he then sells as playground material, animal bedding and more. Besides the natural (undyed) wood chips, Zorn has dyed chips available in red, gold and dark walnut. Visit http://zstreesdakotamulch.com for more information on this new North Dakota business.

Check out the article on a couple that recycled 400,000 aluminum cans to pay for their wedding:
http://green.yahoo.com/blog/greenpicks/284/couple-recycles-400-000-cans-to-pay-for-wedding.html

Bismarck Expands Recycling Program

The City of Bismarck Public Works office has expanded their recycling program to include recycling within all city buildings such as the library, city hall, the Civic Center and other city offices. The city has a recycling committee made up of city employees, residents, business representatives and others that are interested in advancing recycling efforts within the city. As a part of this, the recycling group encouraged the city to begin recycling "in-house" to set an example by starting with their own city offices. This past winter, the City purchased recycling containers for inside of city buildings and a used truck (pictured above) to collect newspapers, office paper, cans, plastics and other items from various departments each week or as needed.

Proper Reuse and Management of Damaged Utility Poles Encouraged

BISMARCK, N.D. – (June 11, 2010) The North Dakota Department of Health is encouraging the proper reuse and management of damaged utility poles, according to Ted Poppke, environmental scientist with the Department of Health. "Many of the utility poles that were knocked down or damaged during winter storms earlier this year are being reused by farmers, ranchers and others," Poppke said. "While we encourage the recycling or reuse of these materials, we do want to make sure people handle them safely."

Wood Materials

Most utility poles and cross arms have been treated by one of several methods to extend the service life of the pole. This treated wood should not be burned in open fires or in stoves, fireplaces or residential boilers because toxic chemicals may be produced as part of the smoke and ashes. In addition, treated wood should not be used where it may come into contact with humans or food sources – including playgrounds or play areas, vegetable gardens and agricultural production and storage areas – or where it may come into direct or indirect contact with drinking water supplies.

Lead

The galvanized steel pins that hold ceramic or plastic insulators on the utility poles have threads made of lead. If swallowed, lead and lead dust can cause adverse health effects, including behavioral problems, learning disabilities, miscarriage, seizures and death. Children 6 and younger and pregnant women are the most at risk for the dangers of lead.

Anyone collecting broken utility poles or parts should handle the lead-containing metal components as little as possible. Because it is toxic, lead cannot be disposed of in the garbage or a landfill. Instead, the parts that contain lead must be separated for recycling. The Department of Health's Division of Waste Management has a list of metal recyclers who may be interested in recycling the lead. Ceramic or plastic insulators that are entirely free of metal, including lead, may be reused, recycled or disposed of in an inert or municipal solid waste landfill. For more information or to obtain the list of metal recyclers, contact Ted Poppke, North Dakota Department of Health, at (701) 328-5166.

Determine Greenhouse Gas Impact from Waste Management Actions

EPA and its partners have developed several tools to help individuals and organizations determine the greenhouse (GHG) impact of their purchasing, manufacturing, and waste management actions. Several of these tools are based on EPA research on emission factors, as reported in Solid Waste Management and Greenhouse Gases: A Life-Cycle Assessment of Emissions and Sinks and associated reports." Website: http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/wycd/waste/tools.html

Green Lights Recycling Celebrates 15 Years

Green Lights Recycling, a Blaine, MN company that services ND communities and businesses for the recycling of fluorescent bulbs, electronics and more, will celebrate with food, prizes and entertainment on July 20, 2010 at their facility in the Cities. They wish to thank everyone for their loyal business and friendship over the past 15 years.

NDDH Recycling Survey, Community List and Starting a Recycling Program

Example of recycling program in Carrington.

The North Dakota Department of Health, Division of Waste Management, is in the process of a statewide recycling survey for 2009 data. Estimated 2008 recycling rates are available from the Department, which were put together for a BioCycle Magazine survey. 2004 diversion / recycling rates also are available. Additional statistics regarding recycling in North Dakota can be found in their "Recycling Works!" brochure at: www.ndhealth.gov/wm/Publications/RecyclingWorks.pdf.

A community recycling list for North Dakota can be found at: www.ndhealth.gov/wm/Publications/CommunityRecyclingInNorthDakota.pdf. Please contact Christy Smith at (701) 328-5266 if your community is not listed.

Finally, the North Dakota Department of Health offers a guideline for communities wanting to start a recycling program: www.ndhealth.gov/wm/Publications/Guideline27ImplementingARecyclingProgram.pdf . From time to time, the Department receives notices about grants related to recycling programs. Please contact Christy Smith if you wish to join her distribution list for related grant opportunities.

Wahpeton Company Pays Businesses for Recycling

- reprinted with permission from the Wahpeton Daily News, by Brandon L. Summers, July 2, 2010

Edwards Universal Goods, Wahpeton, is seeking a recycling license from the city. Robert Winston, vice president of the company, presented the request Tuesday at the Public Works and Safety Committee meeting. "(Winston) was looking for customers in town and has a little bit of a unique situation compared to other recyclers," said Darcie Huwe, finance director. Edwards actively finds commercial applications for recyclable materials such as cardboard, aluminum, paper, plastics and even Styrofoam. "We found an outlet for that," said Winston. "There's a turkey farm in Sisseton (S.D.)... that uses it for nesting for their turkeys. He added, "Whatever we collect that doesn't have a recycle market for it, we try to find a way to use it so that it doesn't end up in a landfill."

The company is unique in that it buys recyclable goods directly from businesses. Edwards serves as a client for businesses in the same way the city of Wahpeton is a client for Waste Management. Also, where residents pay for recycling bins, Edwards provides such bins for businesses. The city has a provision for a recycling license for a $100 fee, which will be prorated. "The purpose of the license is so we know who's hauling in town and we know who's accountable," said Huwe. "You don't want someone carrying on business as a recycler and dumping out by the river or something." Huwe also noted that there are other companies in the area that are performing similar functions who aren't licensed. Edwards' license would have no affect on the exclusive residential agreement for waste and recycling between the city and Waste Management, said Huwe and Steve Lies, city attorney.

One current client of Edwards Universal Goods is Oklahoma City-based company Shred-It, said Winston. "They don't have the outlets, so they'll bring it to us to process at that point," Winston said. Rather than dumping shredded sensitive documents procured from local businesses, such as St. Catherine's Living Center, Edwards sees that they are appropriately recycled. In its efforts to reduce waste and landfill use, Edwards oversees delivery of materials to centers across the country. The recycled materials are collected in large quantities, with aluminum and baled paper shipped to mills in Wisconsin, and plastics sent to California.
"Nothing that we deal with is trash, or what you would call waste," Winston said. "Because we don't accept any waste. Anything that's been contaminated." Such contaminants include food left on cardboard from restaurants. Edwards controls the amount of trash that ends up in its dumpster, and eventually the landfill, by removing contaminants such as tape from boxes, Winston said.

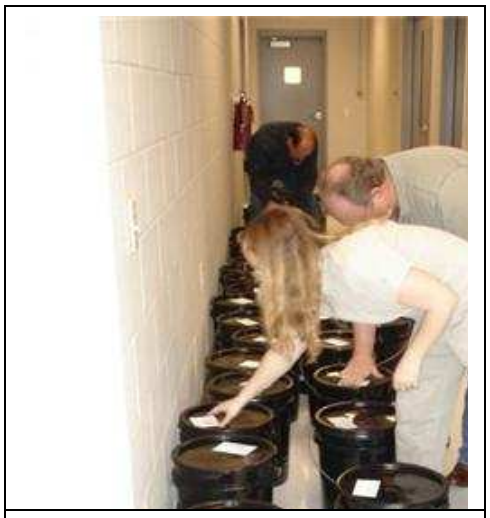
Edwards Universal Goods pays $75 per ton of office paper and cardboard, and 10 cents per pound of plastics and aluminum. Committee member Jim Hartman offered the first motion of his term to begin the licensing process for Edwards Universal Goods as soon as possible.

The motion was seconded and approved by the committee to be sent to the full council.

Print out a new flyer from the ND Dept. of Health that informs people not to flush (or put down the drain) unwanted household medications. Visit www.ndswra.org to download or print it out.

Educational Recycling Kits for Every County in North Dakota

Within the past few months, the NDSWRA put together and distributed educational recycling kits that were sent to the largest elementary school in each county. For example, in Barnes County, the kit was sent to Jefferson Elementary in Valley City. Each kit contains examples of what can be recycled (like a newspaper, plastic bottle, etc.) and what they get made into (egg carton, carpeting, etc.) along with a booklet of tips on how to reduce, reuse and recycle and a DVD titled "The Rotten Truth".
The DVD is an excellent video that talks about landfills, recycling, waste reduction and composting. See the letter (PDF) for a list of what is in each kit. Each kit also has a checkout list so that others (from schools, extension offices, public works offices, etc.) can borrow the kit to educate the public, students and others about recycling and waste reduction.
To see where the recycling kit is located in your county, visit: www.ndswra.org/grants.htm. The kits were funded by both an EPA grant and by the NDSWRA. A list of educational brochures that are available for your community, business, etc. can also be found on the same site (such as paint/household hazardous waste, waste prevention/waste reduction/buying recycled content, composting, etc.). For questions about the kit or the grant, contact Angela (see last page).



Members and Board Members assisted in "stuffing" the 5-gallon recycling buckets that were recently distributed throughout North Dakota.

At right, Christy Smith from the ND Department of Health (front), Lance Loken from Western Plains Consulting and Galen Bren with the City of Bismarck (back) help label the buckets that were "stuffed" with all of the kit items. Not pictured included Brad Torgerson and Tedd Poppke with the ND Department of Health and Leonard Haider of Mandan who also helped put together the kits.

Feedback Wanted: Should We Be a Partner with Keep America Beautiful?

Over the past year or so, you may be aware that the National Recycling Coalition (NRC) dissolved and is currently reorganizing and building their membership again. The NDSWRA has never been a member of a national organization, such as the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) or the National Recycling Coalition (NRC), however, many state solid waste and recycling organizations are members of these. When the NRC was having difficulties, rather than have no national voice for recycling, it was thought that another organization could take over/merge/help with this task. Over the past six months, the national organization, Keep America Beautiful (KAB), whose primary function is the education of litter reduction (or the "Great American Cleanup"), has decided to create a KAB Recycling Partnership or if you will, a "recycling branch" as part of their organization. They have held several webinars inviting organizations from 41 states to partner with them in their plans for improved recycling programs for communities and schools in the future.

Angela Boeshans, the NDSWRA's current Executive Director, "attended" these webinars. Boeshans states, "KAB's mission is to 'engage individuals to take greater responsibility for improving their community environments'. They are an educational organization with public-private partnerships." As a partner, KAB is waiving "membership" fees in 2010; in the future the NDSWRA would send in a fee of $5 per member (for us, about $600). In return for this investment, KAB would provide the following: grants for state America Recycles Day coordinators (or organization would be the state coordinator/point of contact), recycling bin grants and educational tools for those that want to expand their public recycling space programs (at parks, universities, stadiums, malls, etc.), improved school programs (such as RecycleMania, a national recycling challenge that several ND colleges/universities are participating in), curbside value partnerships (there are higher participation and volumes associated with this program) and other programs. KAB is not a public policy organization.

Boeshans brought this information to the June NDSWRA Board of Directors meeting and most of the board seemed to agree that the NDSWRA should partner with KAB; however, not all agreed. The Board decided that an article would be written informing our members about it and ask for your feedback on whether or not we should partner. For more information or to informally vote "yes" or "no" to partner with KAB, please contact Angela (see last page).

To see how communities and residents are working towards locally grown food, check out the ND Department of Agriculture's June Newsletter, "Going Local North Dakota," at www.ndswra.org.

Renae Beeter, Waste Management, Resigns After 13 Years

The following is a note from Renae Beeter, Territory Manager for Waste Management of North Dakota. Although Renae worked from the Minot office, she put on lots of miles while overseeing hauling, yard waste and recycling contracts and services for many communities across North Dakota. To reach Renae, her contact information is listed in her note below. We wish her the best on her new adventures!

> "Hello everyone, I wanted to let you know that after 13 years with Waste Management I have decided to resign. Today (April 30) is actually my last day and I will be closing down my work computer shortly and turning it in. I'm excited for the new adventures to come and look forward to spending more time with my boys. My new e-mail address is rbeeter@srt.com. Please utilize this address moving forward as I will no longer have access to the wm.com address. In addition, I have a new cell phone number of 701-240-2662. Have a great day, Renae".

Board Member Nominations

At the Annual Membership Meeting (during the joint conference in Aberdeen this September), members will vote for five Board of Director positions. Exiting board members include Mike Korman (CPS, Ltd.), Lavern Berger (Berger Enterprises), Patty Fiorenza (City of Williston), Lance Loken (Western Plains Consulting) and Brad Torgerson (ND Department of Health). New nominations to-date include: Christy Smith (ND Department of Health), Dave Bell (City of Williston) and Todd Hartleben (McCain & Associates). We are seeking additional individuals, public and private sector candidates and non-profit representatives to run. If you are interested, please contact Brad at (701) 328-5165 or at btorgers@nd.gov.

New Member Provides Help to Reduce Expenses and Increase Recycling

Strotheide Consulting LLC is a new company to North Dakota but its principals are returning residents glad to be back in the State. Michael Strotheide, CEO, has been providing solid waste and recycling cost-reduction services for three years in Oregon and Montana. The services benefit businesses, schools, or organizations by reducing their waste expenses and assisting in their recycling efforts. Strotheide Consulting uses a multi-step auditing process to evaluate a client's waste stream, to develop recommendations and then implement approved measures designed specifically for the site. The business model is unique in that clients pay no upfront consulting fees, but rather share a portion of the savings generated monthly by Strotheide Consulting.

The services provided by Michael Strotheide have assisted schools, hospitals and organizations to further develop recycling committees who are planning for more environmental responsibility and sustainability. The recycling aspect of these clients' businesses have also become promotional tools within their own region, differentiating them from competitors and increasing community goodwill. One client, a college in Oregon, decreased its solid waste costs, established a recycling program and is developing a on-site composting system based on waste reduction strategies developed through Strotheide's services. Strotheide Consulting LLC is owned by Michael and Belinda Strotheide and located in Bismarck. Michael graduated from Minot State College and has been consulting for over 20 years. He has successfully served as an executive in economic development for businesses, municipalities and organizations in Texas, Oklahoma, Montana and North Dakota. For more information contact Michael at (701) 751-0368 or visit www.StrotheideConsulting.com.

Scholarship Application Now Online – Encourage Family & Employees to Apply

Be sure to print out a Scholarship Form that's available on our Web site (www.ndswra.org). If you are a member, you or your children can apply for a scholarship to be used towards furthering your education. Be sure to print out

and post the application in your break room or somewhere that employees will see this opportunity (or e-mail the PDF or link to others). If the City of Mayville is a member, then any employee with the City of Mayville, and/or their children may apply for the scholarship. Interested in attending a graduate course? Continuing Education? College? Simply fill out the application (but not before making copies for others!) and return it by Aug. 31. Scholarships will be awarded during the joint conference in Aberdeen this fall. Contact Angela if you have questions.

Dickinson to Recycle Tires; Looks to Add Yard Waste and Cardboard Sites

In February, the City of Dickinson attended a scrap tire webinar that provided them with the motivation and information to start saving tires for recycling that would normally be landfilled. Ron Bachmeier, Senior Public Works Specialist for the City of Dickinson stated that in 2009, the City landfill approximately 10,000 used tires. When landfilled, the tires take up space and cause other issues. The recycling committee that formed in February has also been moving forward with possibility of setting up sites that residents could drop off yard waste at (which the city had years ago) and corrugated cardboard. Bachmeier said that one idea would be to offer/collect cardboard from larger sources (retailers) and at the same location, place a container for the public to drop off cardboard. Finally, more communities across the state, such as in Carrington (pharmacies) and now Dickinson (police station) will begin collecting outdated prescription drugs. See the orange box on page 4 for a flyer related to this topic.

Who are the Leaders in North Dakota's Solid Waste and Recycling Scene?

It's time to select our long-standing leadership award. This award is given to a member (individual, business, government entity, tribe or non-profit organization) that has gone out of their way to promote, handle or pursue proper solid waste management and recycling. If you have someone or a group in mind to receive this award, please contact us. A list of our members can be found on our Web site (www.ndswra.org).

The second award we are seeking nominations for is the Greener North Dakota Award. This award provides an opportunity for businesses, individuals, government entities and non-profits to receive an award for their positive environmental efforts in the following categories: recycling, composting, recycled content use, waste reduction, pollution prevention and/or reduction, renewable energy programs and more. The award helps create a positive draw to those who are working to keep items out of North Dakota's landfills, water, air, creating jobs and more. The nominee does **not** have to be a member of the NDSWRA. The nomination form for this award can be printed out from our Web site at www.ndswra.org/greenerndaward.htm. Both awards will be handed out during the 15th Annual Solid Waste and Recycling Symposium in Aberdeen, SD.

Your company's advertisement could fit right here, reaching over 120 members (plus whoever it is forwarded to). If you are interested in advertising in the next newsletter (October), please contact us. Rates per newsletter are: $50/business card size, $75/quarter page or $150/half page.

City of Grand Forks Collects 12 tons of E-waste in 3-hour Event

In May, 430 citizens took the time to transport their e-waste (used electronic items) to the City of Grand Forks' recycling event. The highest tonnage was TVs, followed by computer monitors, computer drives (CPUs) and miscellaneous electronic items. Besides the city's Public Works office, Waste Management, Inc. was also a sponsor.

ND Solid Waste and Recycling Association

P.O. BOX 235

Carrington, ND 58421

(701) 650-8857

Executive Director:

Angela Boeshans

E-Mail:

angela.boeshans@hotmail.com

Web Site:

www.ndswra.org

Mission:
To educate, train and promote environmentally sound waste management practices.

Calendar of Events

July:
- 13-15, Tribal Green & Healthy Schools Workshop, Rapid City, SD (605) 721-1922, ext. 106
- 15, PAYT Webinar, see article on page 1
- 28, NDSWRA Board of Directors Meeting, 8:30 a.m. via conference call

August:
- 25, NDSWRA Board of Directors Meeting, 8:30 a.m. via conference call

September:
- 14-16, ND and SD Joint Conference and Trade Show, Aberdeen, SD (annual membership meeting also takes place during the conference)
- 29, NDSWRA Board of Directors Meeting, 8:30 a.m. via conference call

Board of Directors

Board meetings take place the fourth Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m. If you would like to listen in or join us on these conference calls, or would like an issue brought forth at a meeting, please contact one of our board members:

- Brad Torgerson, President, ND Department of Health, (701) 328-5166
- Lavern Berger, Vice-President, Berger Enterprises, (701) 594-3385
- LeahRae Amundson, Secretary/Treasurer, City of Grand Forks, (701) 738-8744
- Brenda Watt, Friendship, Inc. – Grafton, (701) 352-0060, ext. 31
- Mike Korman, CPS, Ltd., (701) 746-7459
- Lance Loken, Western Plains Consulting, (701) 221-3113
- Patty Fiorenza, City of Williston, (701) 577-6368
- Tom Beauchamp, City of Langdon, (701) 256-2115
- Brady Brunsvold, City of Fargo, (701) 298-6944

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