

State Board of Agricultural Research and Education North Dakota State University Morrill Hall 314 NDSU Dept 7520, PO Box 6050 Fargo, ND 58108-6050

November 20, 2023

To the State Board of Agricultural Research and Education,

My name is Eric Volk, and I am the executive director of the North Dakota Rural Water Systems Association (NDRWSA), a non-profit organization established in 1974 that provides technical, managerial, and financial assistance, training, and advocacy for rural & small water and wastewater systems in the state. The vision of the association is to make certain that all of North Dakota has access to affordable, ample, and quality water.

Each Rural Water System is governed by an elected board of directors. As part of our continuing education practice, NDRWSA has utilized the services of NDSU Extension's Leadership and Civic Engagement Program to help our board members become better leaders and decision-makers. Topics such as Strategic Planning, Emotional Intelligence, Succession Planning, Conflict Management, Effective Meetings and Board Management Best Practices have or will be offered to increase the overall sustainability of our systems.

On behalf of the Rural Water Systems in North Dakota and the members they serve, we would ask for the continued support of the services provided by NDSU Extension's Leadership and Civic Engagement Program. They are a valuable resource to Association's like ours and to the state.

Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Eric Volk, Executive Director

NDRWSA

ericvolk@ndrw.org

701-391-5080

Technical, Managerial & Financial Assistance • Circuit Rider Program • Wastewater Program Workforce Development • Source Water Protection • Training Program