



## NREDA News Brief | January 2024

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### President's Message



Happy New Year! I'm excited to serve as your 2024 NREDA President. As we enter a new year, it provides new opportunities. I always try to set new goals each year. Of course, there are always personal goals such as exercise more, eat healthier, build up savings, etc. Some work-related goals include expanding our industrial parks, building a speculative building, exploring new business opportunities in our system, growing sales, and supporting our member distribution cooperatives. What are your goals for 2024?

The NREDA board will be meeting in February for a strategic planning session, which is held every other year. This is where we work to set our goals and priorities for the organization. We have a great group of leaders for this year's board, and they all are dedicated to NREDA. One of my goals for NREDA is to continue to build our membership. I hope that you renew your membership for 2024, if you haven't done so yet, and please spread the word for others to join as well. Also, please make sure to put the 2024 conference on your calendar, which will occur November 13-15 in Omaha, NE.

If we haven't connected, I would love to do so. Please send me an email at: [brittany.dickey@cbpower.coop](mailto:brittany.dickey@cbpower.coop) or add me on LinkedIn. One of the best benefits of NREDA is networking and learning from one another!

***Brittany Dickey, 2024 NREDA President***

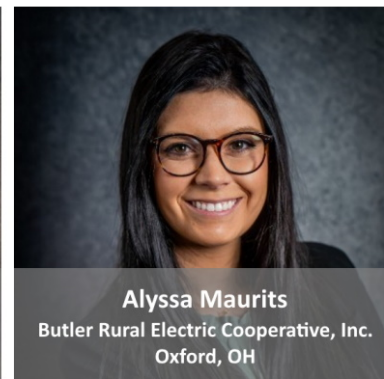
We would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your support as a National Rural Economic Developers Association (NREDA) member! We hope you are planning to renew your membership for 2024, if you haven't already done so, to continue to enjoy the many valuable benefits that NREDA has to offer. Members receive discounted registration to the Annual Conference and the opportunity to attend webinars throughout the year at no charge, among the various benefits detailed below. And, we hope you have your calendar marked to attend the 2024 Annual Conference to be held November 13-15 in Omaha, Nebraska!

We encourage member engagement on one of our committees, as well. You may view more information and submit your interest at <https://www.nreda.org/committees>. We value all contributions, and membership is the lifeblood of our organization. Your involvement is important and very much appreciated!

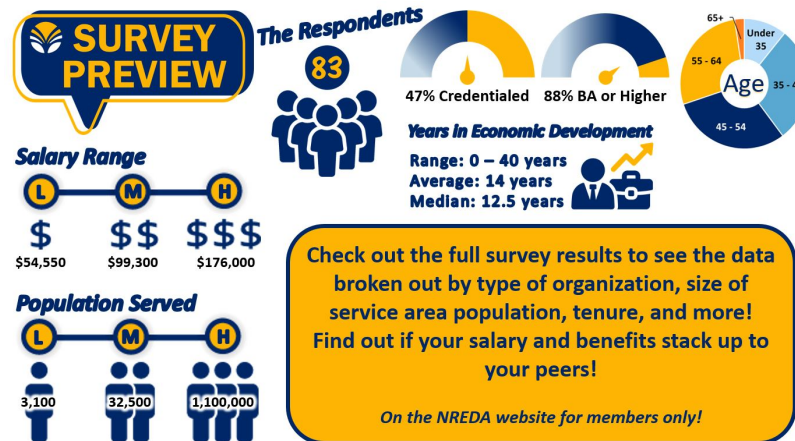
**NREDA memberships are calendar year-based. Membership renewal invoices reminders have been sent twice via email to 2023 members so far during this renewal period. If you did not receive your reminder, please email Karla Dunbar at [NREDA@AssnOffices.com](mailto:NREDA@AssnOffices.com) to request your 2024 membership invoice to remain part of our incredible community of professionals.**

## New Member Spotlight

# Welcome New Members!



## 2023 Salary & Benefits Survey Results



Time to ask for money? How does your economic development budget measure up to others in the field? Check out NREDA's recent salary and benefits survey (full access is available to current members)!

[Survey Results](#)

## Upcoming Webinars

Save the dates and look for more information to be released soon for our upcoming webinars! Webinars are FREE to current NREDA members so be sure to join/renew for the 2024 calendar year soon!

**March 27, 2024 - 2:00 p.m. ET**  
***Best Practices in Housing***

**June 2024 (date TBA)**  
***ED Rural Issues***

**August 21, 2024 - 2:00 p.m. ET**  
***Economic Development Essentials for New and Seasoned Professionals***

**October 2024 (date TBA)**  
***Deciding Your Next Steps for Professional Growth & Development***

Save the Date!

# NREDA Annual Conference

November 13-15, 2024

Marriott Omaha Downtown Capitol District  
Omaha, Nebraska



Look for more information this summer!

## Call for Presentations

### Call for Presentations for a Future Member Webinar or Annual Conference!

We want to hear from you! NREDA encourages you to submit your proposed session topics/presentations to be considered for a future Member Webinar or Annual Conference! Sessions should be educational and a benefit to NREDA members. In-person sessions that are interactive are always well-received, and webinar and in-person panels that offer various perspectives are desirable!

Please note:

- Proposals to be considered for the 2024 Annual Conference must be submitted by February 1st.
- Proposals for webinars will be considered on an ongoing basis. Webinars will be hosted via NREDA's zoom software platform.
- Your submission will be shared with the Professional Development and/or Conference Committee, and you will be contacted if the topic is selected for further discussion.

Proposed Session Format for in-person conference sessions:

- Sessions may be between 45-90 minutes, depending on the specific format/content.
- Session timeline should allow for a brief Q&A period.

- Panels should not exceed 5 panelists.

[Submit Your Topics](#)

## Golden Shovel Housing White Paper

### Understanding Housing Shortages Whitepaper

Check out Golden Shovel's recent [housing whitepaper](#) that details groundbreaking strategies to solve the housing shortage in your community!

## Nex-Tech

### Nex-Tech hosts U.S. Congressman Tracey Mann

Check out this overview of Nex-Tech's recent successful, productive visit that may be a useful to you in coordinating your next legislative visit!

<https://www.nex-tech.com/congressman-tracey-mann-meets-nex-tech-how-it-happened/>

## Job Postings

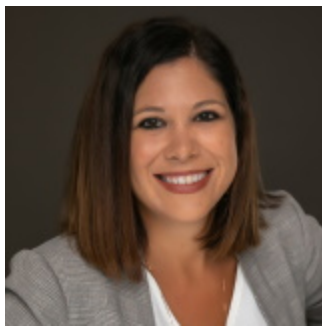
NREDA provides current members space to post a position on the NREDA website, plus inclusion in the NREDA News Brief, at **no charge**.

### Manager of Business & Community Development

Prairie Energy Cooperative

[Click Here](#) for more Information

## 2024 NREDA Executive Committee



**President**

Brittany Dickey  
Vice President, Business Development  
Corn Belt Power Cooperative  
[Brittany.Dickey@cbpower.coop](mailto:Brittany.Dickey@cbpower.coop)



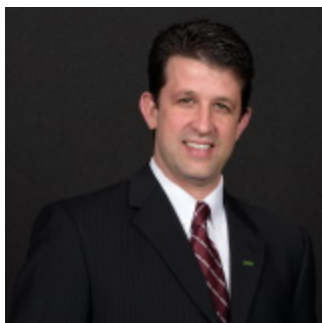
**1st Vice President**

*Chairperson - 2024 Annual Conference*  
Lisa Hurley  
Executive Director  
York County Development Corporation  
[lhurley@yorkdevco.com](mailto:lhurley@yorkdevco.com)



**2nd Vice President**

*Chairperson - Membership*  
Karla Organist  
Senior Program Manager  
University of Northern Iowa - Institute for Decision Making  
[karla.organist@uni.edu](mailto:karla.organist@uni.edu)



**Secretary-Treasurer**

Kris Williams  
Director of Energy Services  
Ozarks Electric Cooperative Corp.  
[kwilliams@ozarksecc.com](mailto:kwilliams@ozarksecc.com)



**Past President**

David Cleveland  
Managing Director, Business Development &  
Governmental Affairs  
Jackson EMC  
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#NREDA Don't forget when posting on social media to use the hashtag #NREDA when sharing your stories! This way we can spread it to all of our members!

## News Brief Guidelines

NREDA would love to share your unique stories, industry trends, best practices, white papers, and - of course - your successes in our bi-monthly e-newsletter!

### Guidelines:

- E-newsletter distribution is bi-monthly at the end of the month – 2024 months are January, March, May, July, September, & November.
  - Please email your article to Tracey Hogan at [tracey@assnoffices.com](mailto:tracey@assnoffices.com) by the 15th of each e-newsletter month. Please include the subject line **NREDA Newsletter**
- #### Article Submission
- Please submit your article in a an editable format (Microsoft Word or text in the body of an email preferred).
  - Feel free to include a photo with your article.
  - Please send information, educational, and/or newsworthy items.
  - Please no ads or sales/marketing articles.
  - Articles submitted by current NREDA members receive priority.



### Contact Info:

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Email: [nreda@assnoffices.com](mailto:nreda@assnoffices.com)

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