League of Women Voters of Nebraska
Seventh Annual Meeting

Celebrating our First 100 Years,
Looking Forward to the Next 100

August 22, 2020
Zoom Meeting 9:45 am (check in) – 1:00 pm

Thanks to the Iowa 19th Amendment Centennial Commemoration Committee for use of the TM
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Tips for Getting Familiar with Zoom

This guide will provide tips on downloading the Zoom App and provide instructions on how to join the Zoom meeting.

DOWNLOAD THE ZOOM APP

⭐ Download the app to your device: computer, cell phone, iPad, etc.

⭐ Please ensure you have the most current version of Zoom.

   o Older versions may not have all of the functionality that’s being utilized during the meeting.

   o Visit: https://zoom.us/download

ZOOM HELP CENTER

⭐ Getting started on Windows and Mac: https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362033

⭐ Getting started with iOS: https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362993

⭐ Getting started with Android: https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/360042982391

⭐ Joining a meeting: https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193

⭐ Quick start guide for new users: https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/360034967471

⭐ Frequently asked questions: https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206175806-Frequently-Asked-Questions

Appreciation is expressed to LWV Greater Omaha for the use of these tips
LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEBRASKA
2019–2021
4600 Valley Road, Suite 306, Lincoln, NE 68510, 402-475-1411
office@lwvnebraska.org; https://www.lwvnebraska.org
Sharon R. Nemeth, Office Administrator

Co-Presidents: Dianne Bystrom, 919 Elk Court, Plattsmouth, NE 68048, 515-451-5084
president@lwvnebraska.org
.................................................................dbystrom@lwvnebraska.org
Linda Duckworth, 16318 Valley Street, Omaha, NE 68130-2078, 402-850-9804
.................................................................lindabduckworth@gmail.com

Vice Presidents: Sherry Miller, 341 South 52nd Street, Lincoln, NE 68510, 402-488-2568
[Action]
.................................................................kitty66hawk@aol.com
Katie Wadas Thalken, 1318 North 53rd Street, Omaha, NE 68132, 402-305-6705 (h);
402-280-5677 (w)..................................................kwadas@lwvnebraska.org

[Membership]
Mary Ann Sturek, 6379 South 95th Street, Omaha, NE 68127-4023, 402-592-8869

Secretary: Lynne Elwood, 13640 Hascall Street, Omaha, NE 68144, 402-980-9043
.................................................................lelwood2@gmail.com

Treasurer: Lynne Elwood, 13640 Hascall Street, Omaha, NE 68144, 402-980-9043
.................................................................lelwood2@gmail.com

Directors (on Board):

[Centennial Celebration]
MaryLee Moulton, 2035 S. 181st Circle, Omaha, NE 68130, 520-990-5944 (c)
.................................................................marylee@lwvgo.org
Melina Cohen, 4930 Davenport Street, Apt. 3, Omaha, NE 68132, 402-609-9532
.................................................................mcohen@lwvnebraska.org

[Education]
Sheri St. Clair, 7200 Blanchard Blvd, Lincoln, NE 68516, 269-760-1539
.................................................................fairmaps@lwvnebraska.org

[Government]
Phyllis Salyards, 1003 West 11th Street, Hastings, NE 68901-3830, 402-463-6395
.................................................................hpalsyar@inebraska.com

[Health Care]
Megan York Lyons, 7190 South 91st Street, Lincoln, NE 68523
.................................................................mlyons@lwvnebraska.org
Janelle Stevenson, 221 South 27th Street, Lincoln, NE 68510, 308-289-4928
.................................................................jstevenson@lwvnebraska.org

[Mental and Behavioral Health]
Aimée Folker, 724 North 75th Street, Omaha, NE 68114, 402-320-1991
.................................................................afolker@lwvnebraska.org
Palistene Gray-Moore, 4516 North 63rd Street, Omaha, NE 68104, 402-709-0507
.................................................................pgraymoore@lwvnebraska.org

[Natural Resources]
Megan York Lyons, 7190 South 91st Street, Lincoln, NE 68523
.................................................................mlyons@lwvnebraska.org
Janelle Stevenson, 221 South 27th Street, Lincoln, NE 68510, 308-289-4928
.................................................................jstevenson@lwvnebraska.org

[Social Policy]
Carol Dennison, 13210 North 47th Street, Omaha, NE 68152, 402-451-0304 (h);
402-680-6960 (c)..................................................cdennison@lwvnebraska.org
Rebecca Gonzales, 433 North Wilson, Wilber, NE 68465, 402-826-9306
.................................................................rudgonzo@gmail.com

[Voter Services]
Caryl Guisinger, 45150 State Hwy 52, Belgrade, NE 68623, 308-357-1000 (h); 308-850-6041 (c)
.................................................................caryl.lwvne@gmail.com
Toni Monette, 3018 South 126th Plaza, Apt. 79, Omaha, NE 68144, 402-707-3157
.................................................................toni@lwvg.org

[Liaisons]
Hastings
Phyllis Salyards, 1003 West 11th Street, Hastings, NE 68901-3830, 402-463-6395
.................................................................hpalsyar@inebraska.com
Lincoln
Mary Boschult, 950 South 49th Street, Lincoln, NE, 68510-3807, 402-483-0415
.................................................................mary4now@aol.com
Omaha
Krystal Fox, 12901 South 31st Street, Bellevue, NE 68123, 402-507-0883 (c)
.................................................................krystal@lwvg.org
Seward
Ellen Beck, 2325 Star Street, Seward, NE 68434, 402-646-9112
.................................................................Ellen.Beck77@gmail.com
Directors (off-Board):
[Money in Politics]  Kate High, 7135 York Lane, Lincoln, NE 68505, 402-499-9283............ kateonlenox@gmail.com
Voter Editor]  Annette Conser, 12410 Rose Lane, Omaha, NE 68154, 402-493-4810
.................................................................................................................. annetteconser@cox.net

Nominating Committee:
Elected Chair:  Joanna Lindberg, 1618 South 141st Avenue Circle, Omaha, NE 68144-1003, 402-330-1192
.................................................................................................................. joannalindberg@yahoo.com
Elected Member:  Ann Chalson, 2706 South 107th Street, Omaha NE 68124, 402-392-0318
.................................................................................................................. aschalcon@icloud.com
Elected Member:  Alex Garrison, 6710 North 41st Street, Omaha, NE 68112, 785-371-6939
.................................................................................................................. web@omalahlwv.org
Board Appointee:  Caryl Guisinger, 45150 State Hwy 52, Belgrade, NE 68623, 308-850-6041
.................................................................................................................. caryl.lwvne@gmail.com
Board Appointee:  Sherry Miller, 341 South 52nd Street, Lincoln, NE 68510, 402-488-2568
.................................................................................................................. kitty66hawk@aol.com

Local League Presidents:
[Hastings]  Phyllis Salyards, 1003 West 11th Street, Hastings, NE 68901-3830, 402-463-6395
(co-presidents)  .......................................................................................................................... hpsalyar@inebraska.com
Judy Sandeen, 721 North Hastings Avenue, Hastings, NE 68901-4426, 402-462-2961
.................................................................................................................. jsandeen@windstream.net
[Lincoln]  Mary Boschult, 950 South 49th Street, Lincoln, NE 68510-3807, 402-483-0415
.................................................................................................................. mary4now@aol.com
[Omaha]  Rebecca Armstrong Langle, 16555 Ontario Circle, Omaha NE 68130, 402-210-7442
(co-presidents)  .......................................................................................................................... rebeccaarmstrong7@gmail.com
Krystal Fox, 12901 South 31st Street, Bellevue, NE 68123, 402-507-0883 (c)
.................................................................................................................. krystal@lwvgo.org
[Seward]  Ellen Beck, 2325 Star Street, Seward, NE 68434, 402-646-9112
.................................................................................................................. Ellen.Beck77@gmail.com

Budget-Finance Committee (contact info above for those in italics):
Ellen Beck, Chair; Linda Duckworth; Lynne Elwood; Terri Rittenburg
Terri Rittenburg, 2442 North 87th Street, Lincoln, NE 68507, 307-343-2540.......................... tritt@uwyo.edu

Bylaws Committee (contact info above):
Caroline Sedlacek, Chair; Dianne Bystrom; Aimée Folker; Sherry Miller; Sharon Nemeth

Education Fund Committee (contact info above):
Linda Duckworth, Chair; Mary Ann Sturek; Secretary; Lynne Elwood, Treasurer; Carol Dennison; Sheri St. Clair

Endowment Fund Committee (contact info above for those in italics):
Ellen Beck, Chair; Dianne Bystrom; Cindy Hadsell; John Else; Lynne Elwood
Cindy Hadsell, 5114 Chicago Street, Omaha, NE 68132, 402-553-6316 (h); 402-312-4929 (c)...... clhadsell@aol.com
John Else, 835 Parkwood Lane, Omaha, NE 68132-1932, 402-218-6910 (c)............................ elsejf@gmail.com

LWVUS Liaison to Nebraska:
Melissa Currence, 3648 Bellecrest Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45208, 513-535-3242
.................................................................................................................. currencem@gmail.com; mcurrence@lwv.org

Parliamentarian:
Caroline Sedlacek, 14839 Camden Court Omaha, NE 68116, 402-676-3307 (c); 402-493-4444 Ext 103 (w)
.................................................................................................................. csedlacek@cox.net

08/09/20
Parliamentary Motions Guide  
Based on *Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised (11th Edition)*

The motions below are listed in order of precedence. Any motion can be introduced if it is higher on the chart than the pending motion.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Close meeting</td>
<td>I move to adjourn</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Majority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Take break</td>
<td>I move to recess for</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Majority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Register complaint</td>
<td>I rise to a question of privilege</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make follow agenda</td>
<td>I call for the orders of the day</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lay aside temporarily</td>
<td>I move to lay the question on the table</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Majority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Close debate</td>
<td>I move the previous question</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>2/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limit or extend debate</td>
<td>I move that debate be limited to ...</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postpone to a certain time*</td>
<td>I move to postpone the motion to ...</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Majority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refer to committee</td>
<td>I move to refer the motion to ...</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Majority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modify wording of motion</td>
<td>I move to amend the motion by ...</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Majority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kill main motion</td>
<td>I move that the motion be postponed indefinitely</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Majority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bring business before assembly (a main)</td>
<td>I move that [or &quot;to&quot;] ...</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Majority</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*For an annual meeting this applies to postponing a motion to a later time during the meeting or referring the motion to the board or to a committee. See next item. The motion cannot be postponed to next annual meeting, for example.*
**Parliamentary Motions Guide**  
Based on *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (11th Edition)*

**Incidental Motions** - No order of precedence. Arise incidentally and decided immediately.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enforce rules</td>
<td>Point of order</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submit matter to assembly</td>
<td>I appeal from the decision of the chair</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Varies</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Majority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suspend rules</td>
<td>I move to suspend the rules which ...</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>2/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avoid main motion altogether</td>
<td>I object to the consideration of the question</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>2/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divide motion</td>
<td>I move to divide the question</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Majority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demand rising vote</td>
<td>I call for a division</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parliamentary law question</td>
<td>Parliamentary inquiry</td>
<td>Yes (if urgent)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Request information</td>
<td>Request for information</td>
<td>Yes (if urgent)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Motions That Bring a Question Again Before the Assembly** - no order of precedence. Introduce only when nothing else pending.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Take matter from table</td>
<td>I move to take from the table ...</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Majority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancel or change previous action</td>
<td>I move to rescind/amend something previously adopted...</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2/3 or maj. w/ notice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reconsider motion</td>
<td>I move to reconsider the vote ...</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Varies</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Majority</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PURPOSE AND PRINCIPLES

PURPOSE: The purposes of the LWVUS are to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government and to act on selected governmental issues.

BELIEF: That successful government in the United States is not an accident, but the result of informed and responsible citizen participation.

NON-PARTISANSHIP: Takes action on governmental issues and policies in the public interest. Does not support or oppose any political party or any candidates. League officers and board members do not hold party positions or support or oppose candidates.

MEMBERSHIP: A grass-roots organization open to all persons at least 16 years of age. Individuals under age 16 may be associate members. No single group of professional, economic, political or social description predominates.

VOTER SERVICE: Inform the public about registration and voting procedures. Explain legislation in the public interest. Provides factual and unbiased information on issues and candidates. Local Leagues are encouraged to provide voter registration opportunities and report their activities at board meetings and in the VOTER.

PRINCIPLES:

- The League of Women Voters believes in representative government and in the individual liberties established in the Constitution of the United States.
- The League of Women Voters believes that democratic government depends upon the informed and active participation of its citizens and requires that governmental bodies protect the citizen’s right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public records accessible.
- The League of Women Voters believes that every citizen should be protected in the right to vote; that every person should have access to free public education which provides equal opportunity for all; and that no person or group should suffer legal, economic or administrative discrimination.
- The League of Women Voters believes that efficient and economical government requires competent personnel, the clear assignment of responsibility, adequate financing and coordination among the different agencies and levels of government.
- The League of Women Voters believes that responsible government should be responsive to the will of the people; that government should maintain an equitable and flexible system of taxation, promote the conservation and development of natural resources in the public interest, share in the solution of economic and social problems that affect the general welfare, promote a sound economy and adopt domestic policies that facilitate the solution of international problems.
- The League of Women Voters believes that cooperation with other nations is essential in the search for solutions to world problems, and that the development of international organization and international law is imperative in the promotion of world peace.
SEVENTH LWVNE ANNUAL MEETING
HARD WON NOT DONE™

Virtual via Zoom August 22, 2020

ORDER OF BUSINESS

9:45 am  Sign-in and procedural orientation

10:00 am  Call to Order
           Welcome
           Greetings from LWVUS President Deborah Turner
           Introductions/Get to Know You Small Group Breakouts
           Attendance Count
           Appointments
           Parliamentarian
           Two Readers for the Minutes
           Technical Support and Chat Assistance
           Timer
           Rules and Procedures
           Adopt Order of Business
           Minutes of the 6th LWVNE Annual Meeting, April 27, 2019
           Treasurer’s Report
           Accomplishments for the year
           FairMaps/Redistricting
           Statewide expansion of 411
           Voter Services/Know Your Voting Rights
           19th Amendment Centennial Celebration
           Diversity Equity Inclusion (DEI)
           Communications Committee: Social Media Website
           Special Stamp Cancellation Ceremony: USPS Stamp Commemorating the
           Founding of LWV
           Brief Recess
           Q & A Breakouts
           Adoption of 2020–2021 Program: Proposed Changes of Redistricting, Money in
           Politics and Reimagining Public Safety in Nebraska
           Adoption of Budget
           Reports*  Co-Presidents   Office Administrator
           Vice Presidents  Directors
           Parliamentarian   Local Leagues
           Update on League Priority Bills in 106th Legislature, 2nd Session
           Coalition Memberships
           LWVUS Convention Report
           Recognition
           Directions to the Board
           Invitation to Annual Meeting 2021: Seward
           Announcements

1:00 pm    Adjourn

*Written reports are found in Annual Meeting workbook; however, board members may expand upon their reports
at this time
MEMBERS OF THE 7th ANNUAL MEETING
2020 Attendance Report

LWVNE Members
Non-voting League Members
Visitors

[Non-voting Members are LWVNE members who did not register for the Annual Meeting and League members from other states who are in attendance; all local Leagues are current in their PMP to LWVNE.]

LWVNE Bylaws, Article IX. Section 2. Voting Body.
   a) The voting body shall consist of members from local Leagues who are current in Per Member Payment (PMP) to LWVNE and members-at-large whose LWVNE dues are current, who are properly registered, and who are in attendance.
   b) No member shall vote in more than one capacity, and there shall be no proxy voting.

LWVNE Bylaws, Article IX. Section 4. Quorum. A majority of voting members in attendance shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of the Annual Meeting provided that at least two local Leagues are represented and, in addition, two elected officers and two on-board directors are present.

RULES AND PROCEDURES

1. Rules and procedures shall be in accord with the bylaws of LWVNE and Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised.
2. First and last name shall be seen on Zoom.
3. The attendance report shall be given at the beginning of the meeting.
4. All business is accomplished by making, debating and acting on motions.
5. Each time a member wishes to speak shall raise their hand for recognition by the presiding officer before speaking or put the request in the chat.
6. The first time a member is recognized they shall state their name.
7. The member making the motion is entitled to speak first.
8. The debate will alternate between speakers supporting and opposing.
9. Each speaker on a motion has two minutes. A timer will notify when the time is up.
10. All lengthy motions shall be in writing and put in the chat.
11. No member may speak in debate more than twice on the same motion without consent of the voting body.
12. When a member has a question or requests information, it is put in the chat. After recognition, the member directs the question to the presiding officer. (See side 2 of the Parliamentary Motions Guide, Enforce rules and Request information)
13. Discussion and debates will be held with regard for the rights of all members. Each side will be heard with courtesy and respect.
14. Poll voting will be used as needed.
# TREASURER’S REPORT

Lynne Elwood
Net Worth Report 3/1/2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account Description</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>8588 General Fund-West Gate Bank Old (c4) Account</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starting Balance 4/1/19</td>
<td></td>
<td>$3,325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Deposits</td>
<td></td>
<td>$7,658</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withdrawals</td>
<td></td>
<td>$7,017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer to #8468</td>
<td></td>
<td>$3,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Balance 3/1/2020</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$266</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8468 General Fund-West Gate Bank New (c3) Account</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starting Balance 9/18/ transfer from 8588</td>
<td></td>
<td>$3,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Deposits</td>
<td></td>
<td>$12,176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withdrawals</td>
<td></td>
<td>$7,780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Balance 3/1/2020</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$8,700</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2838 Education Advocacy West Gate Bank</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starting Balance 4/5/19</td>
<td></td>
<td>$15,521</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposits</td>
<td></td>
<td>$12,185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withdrawals</td>
<td></td>
<td>$11,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Balance 3/1/2020</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$16,606</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TIAA CREF Endowment</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value 2/29/2020 (1/1/20: $59,137)</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$55,544</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fees YTD 1/1/20-2/29/20</td>
<td></td>
<td>$165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withdrawals (purchase computer in Dec.)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposits YTD</td>
<td></td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dividends, interest and other income YTD 2/20</td>
<td></td>
<td>$70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Annual Income</td>
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<td>$1,227</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>PayPal</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities:</strong> Fair Maps reimbursement (Kate High)</td>
<td></td>
<td>$218</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets 3/1/2020</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$80,898</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Non-Cash Contributions</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Administrator</td>
<td></td>
<td>$5636</td>
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<tr>
<td>Board Members</td>
<td></td>
<td>$399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$6035</strong></td>
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The books of the Treasurer shall be audited annually at the end of the fiscal year and at such other times as necessary.
**Ed Fund Fiscal Year 4/1/19 to 3/31/20**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
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<th>Expenses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019 Donation Drive</td>
<td>$1,647</td>
<td>Vote 411</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Donations</td>
<td>$2,482</td>
<td>Gift</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leslie Fund</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>Centennial</td>
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<tr>
<td>interest</td>
<td>$46</td>
<td>Earth Day Booth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clean Energy</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>Seward MIP</td>
<td>$96</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fair Maps</td>
<td>$7,500</td>
<td>Youth Climate Summit</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$17,175</td>
<td>Fair Maps Web site</td>
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<td>Fair Maps web security cert</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Donation Drive printing, etc</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Donation Drive printing, etc</td>
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Ed Fund Balance 2/26/20 $16,606

subtract Fair Maps Grant $4,604

subtract Clean Energy $500
**Net Worth Report 4/1/20-7/31/20**

Lynne Elwood

**General Fund-West Gate Bank**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Total Deposits</td>
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<td>Transfers from Ed Fund Office Sharing</td>
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<td>Transfers to Endowment Fund from Gen. Fund</td>
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<td>Transfers from PayPal</td>
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<td>Withdrawals</td>
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**Balance 7/31/20**

<table>
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<th>Amount</th>
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<td>$10,565</td>
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**Education Fund Money Market-West Gate Bank**

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<td>Starting Balance 4/1/20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Deposits</td>
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<tr>
<td>(Fair Maps Grant $2500 and EDI Grant $500)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transfers Via Gen. Fund from Endowment</td>
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<td>Transfers to Gen. Fund</td>
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**Balance 7/31/2020**

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<th>Amount</th>
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**TIAA CREF**

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<td>Dividends, Interest &amp; Other Income YTD</td>
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**Liabilities**

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</table>

**Total Assets 7/31/2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$105,411</td>
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PROPOSED 2020–2021 PROGRAM CHANGES

Underlining = Insertion; Strikethrough = Deletion

PROPOSED CHANGES TO REDISTRICTING POSITION

Rationale: The amended proposal retains many of the original bullets, but were revised to be more consistent with LWVUS policy and with the Fair Maps approach. John Else wrote the policy to match the bill he was working on. That bill is no longer in play.

REDISTRICTING: The League of Women Voters of Nebraska has found that redistricting is an exceptionally important issue for good government, and is a complex issue. The LWVNE supports creating a redistricting process that is fair and unbiased. —Adopted 2015, amended 2020.

Specifically, the League supports:

1) A redistricting process that is either patterned after the 2014 Iowa model (with the Legislative Research Office preparing the maps without Legislative input) or on a model that creates a nonpartisan Citizen Redistricting Commission (composed of an equal number of Republicans and Democrats plus a mutually-agreed upon registered nonpartisan chairperson) to create maps that are submitted to the Legislature for its approval or rejection.

2) A redistricting process that includes the criteria for drawing redistricting that are historical best practices adopted by most states, namely:
   • Comply with the U.S. Constitution (federal mandate)
   • Comply with the Voting Rights Act (federal mandate)
   • Equal population (federal mandate)
   • Compact and contiguous
   • Respect of communities of interest
   • Where possible, district lines shall follow permanent and easily recognized features, such as toll ways, expressways, highways, streets, rivers, and clear geographical features, and when practical, shall coincide with census tract boundaries
   • Maintain, as much as feasible, city, town & county boundaries, & undivided census tracts
   • Create competitive districts with no significant detriment to other goals.
   • Ignore incumbent officials addresses
   • Cannot intentionally favor or disfavor a political party, incumbent, or candidate
   • No city block shall be subdivided, since a city block is the smallest parcel for which census data are available.

3) Consideration of two possible amendments to the Nebraska Constitution to facilitate the redistricting process:
   • To provide for two-year elections in the districts where no legislators or two legislators are residents in new districts;
   • To provide for the Nebraska Supreme Court to take responsibility for redistricting if the Legislature rejects three sets of plans submitted to them.

REDISTRICTING: The League of Women Voters of Nebraska believes unbiased and transparent redistricting is fundamental to good government. In concurrence with the LWVUS redistricting position, the LWVNE supports the implementation of a non-partisan, open, and unbiased redistricting process preferably by an independent special commission composed of membership that accurately reflects the partisan make-up, diversity, and demographics of Nebraska’s population. Public interest groups and civic organizations should also be included in the process with representation from all parts of our state.

Specifically, the League supports inclusion of the following criteria for redistricting:

1) Compliance with the U.S. Constitution (federal mandate):
2) Compliance with the Voting Rights Act (federal mandate);  
3) Creation of districts with equal population (federal mandate);  
4) Creation of compact and contiguous districts where possible;  
5) Preservation of traditional neighborhoods and local communities of interest;  
6) Creation of district lines that follow permanent and easily recognized features, such as toll ways, expressways, highways, streets, rivers, and clear geographical features, where possible;  
7) Coincidence with census tract boundaries;  
8) Maintenance of town and county boundaries, and undivided census tracts when feasible;  
9) Ignorance of incumbent officials’ addresses;  
10) No intentional favoring or disfavoring of a political party, incumbent, or candidate  
11) Enforceability in court.

PROPOSED STUDY 1:

**Rationale:** The proposed position on Money in Politics was developed by only one member; League studies are designed to include input by more than one member in developing a position (https://www.lwv.org/league-management/other-issues-tools/guidelines-lwvus-studies).

A Full Study of Money in Politics using League study guidelines and data from the LWVNE project led by Kate High and other possible data for the possibility of developing a state position of money in politics.

**PROPOSED MONEY IN POLITICS POSITION**  
(To be inserted between the Nebraska Constitution and Redistricting positions)

**Rationale:** At the 2017 Annual Meeting, the League of Women Voters of Nebraska voted to approve a Money in Politics project in Nebraska. Much has been written and researched nationally about the overall increase in campaign donations and “dark money” funneled through shadowy non-profit organizations; the LWVNE project focused on what, if any, of the nationally identified trends were also true in Nebraska. The results of this project have shown that reporting requirements in Nebraska compared to other states and the federal government are highly unregulated. This lack of regulation has led to an escalation of the amount of money state legislative candidates raise. Most of the money raised is coming from just a few powerful donors. The amount of money a candidate raises is highly correlated to the likelihood of winning. Winning candidates are beholden to the wealthy and powerful interests who got them elected. In most states, what is normalized and commonly done would lead to stiff prison sentences in other states and at the federal level, but not in Nebraska.

**MONEY IN POLITICS:** Consistent with the LWVUS position on Money in Politics, the League of Women Voters of Nebraska concurs public financing is the best option to protect the integrity and fairness of elections. Nebraska had a public financing option beginning in 1992 under the Campaign Finance Limitation Act (CFLA); however certain provisions of the act were ruled unconstitutional in 2011, causing Nebraska to return to its earlier campaign finance laws. Other states have since implemented public financing options that have passed judicial challenges. The League advocates for Nebraska to restore public financing through a revised and updated CFLA.

Until that goal is reached, LWVNE supports the following list of reasonable, Nebraska-based measures that could be quickly enacted to reduce corruption, the appearance of corruption, and the increasing concentration of control of the legislative process into the hands of the monied few.—Adopted 2020.
Specifically, the League supports:

1) **Limited donations from individuals.** The donation limit of surrounding states ranges from $200 to $2600 for state legislative races. Considering the wage and income levels of the great majority of Nebraskans, lower donation limits are more realistic and provide candidates with a broader base of support.

2) **Differentiation of types of non-individuals and application of limits accordingly.** Four out of six neighboring states have banned corporate donations entirely, the other two states have set limits. Limits or bans have also been put in place for unions and political action committees (PACs).

3) **Elimination of the $250 “black hole”.** The rule which allows donations and expenditures of $250 or less not to be itemized creates needless mystery throughout campaign finance reporting. In 2016, over 23 percent ($5.3 million) of all money raised by legislative candidates was not itemized. For most Nebraskans, $250 is not an insignificant amount of money and should be fully disclosed.

4) **Implementation of a “revolving door” cooling off period.** Most surrounding states have a two-year cooling off period before former public officials may lobby their former colleagues.

5) **Elimination of in-session fundraisers.** They pose an ethical challenge with which our state senators should simply not be faced. It is an easy fix—no donations while the Legislature is in session.

6) **Ending pay to play.** Vendors wishing to do business with the state must be assured their bids for contracts will be judged on merit, not by political intrigue through unlimited campaign donations to elected officials. Nebraska law wisely prohibits lottery vendors from donating—apply the same rule to all state contracts over a designated amount.

7) **Requirement of robust enforcement of existing laws.** This would include the consistent use of donors’ legal names and residence addresses. Fees for failing to file campaign finance reports timely should be paid in full with few exceptions.

8) **Ending of campaign to campaign donations.** Donors rightfully need to be assured their donations are used as legally intended—“for the purpose of influencing the nomination or election of a candidate.”

9) **Regulation of Dark Money communications prior to an election.** We need to know who is behind the attack ads and flyers filling our mailboxes and air waves in the days before an election. Make disclosure voter friendly.

10) **Updating of the Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission’s antiquated computer system.** It does not provide campaign finance information in easy-to-use formats for the general public. The long-awaited roll out of a new computer system promises improvements, but they remain to be seen.

**PROPOSED STUDY 2:**

*Rationale:* This is a topic of current national attention.

**Public Safety Study Proposal**

**TOPIC:** Reimagining Public Safety in Nebraska

**FOCUS:** Review the current state of public safety and examine ways that racism and mental health can be addressed to make the community safer.

**SCOPE:** Research the current public safety concerns and examine alternatives that would address these concerns. The study would look at Omaha, Lincoln and Nebraska State Patrol public safety departments. Areas to be examined would include but not be limited to:

- Interviews with police and community members
- Racial profiling analytics
- Exploration of interaction between police and citizens
- Issues surrounding mental health and public safety
Proposed 2020–2021 Program Changes, continued

- De-escalation training
- De-militarization of public safety
- Successful models for reimagining public safety
- Introduction of social worker and mental health workers to public safety
- Community organization impact on public safety

GOAL: Provide a basic overview of the current state of public safety in Nebraska and possible programs that can be implemented to provide for better interaction with the community. Provide resources for citizens’ use at local and state levels to develop positions as a basis for testimony at local and state government levels.

THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEBRASKA
2019–2020 PROGRAM

GOVERNMENT

THE NEBRASKA CONSTITUTION: Members of the League of Women Voters of Nebraska support measures to improve the Nebraska Constitution through comprehensive coordinated revision. The League is not committed to any specific method of constitutional change, but will accept any practical method of change. Members of the League believe a good constitution should contain only fundamental provisions for a framework of government and should define its powers and organization.—Adopted 1969, amended 2011.

Specifically, the League supports:

1) A concise Bill of Rights;
2) Additional means to amend the Constitution;
3) An executive branch with authority adequate to carry out responsibilities assigned to it by the Constitution;
4) Provisions for initiative and referendum;
5) A nonpartisan unicameral Legislature;
6) Four-year terms with no term limits for Legislators;
7) A merit plan for judges;
8) Public hearings on legislative bills;
9) Mandatory legislative reapportionment after each federal census;
10) Salaries set by statute;
11) An appointed parole board consisting of specialists in penal and related matters; and
12) Opposition to state aid to non-public schools.

REDISTRICTING: The League of Women Voters of Nebraska has found that redistricting is an exceptionally important issue for good government, and is a complex issue. The LWVNE supports creating a redistricting process that is fair and unbiased. —Adopted 2015.

Specifically, the League supports:

1) A redistricting process that is either patterned after the 2014 Iowa model (with the Legislative Research Office preparing the maps without Legislative input) or on a model that creates a nonpartisan Citizen Redistricting Commission (composed of an equal number of Republicans and Democrats plus a mutually agreed upon registered nonpartisan chairperson) to create maps that are submitted to the Legislature for its approval or rejection.
2) A redistricting process that includes the criteria for drawing redistricting that are historical best practices adopted by most states, namely:
   • Comply with the U.S. Constitution (federal mandate)
   • Comply with the Voting Rights Act (federal mandate)
   • Equal population (federal mandate)
   • Compact and contiguous
   • Respect of communities of interest
   • Where possible, district lines shall follow permanent and easily recognized features, such as toll ways, expressways, highways, streets, rivers, and clear geographical features, and when practical, shall coincide with census tract boundaries
   • Maintain, as much as feasible, city, town & county boundaries, & undivided census tracts
   • Create competitive districts with no significant detriment to other goals.
   • Ignore incumbent officials addresses
   • Cannot intentionally favor or disfavor a political party, incumbent, or candidate
• No city block shall be subdivided, since a city block is the smallest parcel for which census data are available.

3) Consideration of two possible amendments to the Nebraska Constitution to facilitate the redistricting process:
   • To provide for two-year elections in the districts where no legislators or two legislators are residents in new districts;
   • To provide for the Nebraska Supreme Court to take responsibility for redistricting if the Legislature rejects three sets of plans submitted to them.

MERIT PLAN FOR SELECTION OF JUDGES: The League of Women Voters of Nebraska supports the nominative, appointive and elective features of the Merit Plan for the judges of the Supreme Court, the district courts, the juvenile courts, the county courts and the Workmen’s Compensation Court, and recommends that it be retained in the Constitution.—Adopted 1967, amended 1985 and 1987.

Specifically, the League supports:

1) The Commission on Judicial Qualifications as the appointed body to confidentially receive and process complaints from any citizen concerning the discipline or removal of any judge;
2) The right of appeal and removal power remaining with the Supreme Court; and
3) The right of the electorate to reject judges by election under the Merit Plan, and the Legislature to retain the impeachment power.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT: Members of the League of Women Voters of Nebraska advocate a county government structure that is representative, responsive and responsible, flexible and accountable, that permits the separation of legislative and administrative functions and allows efficient and economical delivery of services with adequate funding. Major structural changes in each county government must be approved by a majority vote of the people in that county.—Adopted 1977, 1991.

Specifically, the League supports:

1) The right of a county to choose its own structure, including elective and appointive options;
2) Structural and/or functional consolidations of counties and of a city with a county;
3) The option of county home rule;
4) Permission for counties to possess all powers not prohibited by state laws;
5) Alternative methods for initiating change in a county structure by legislative action of the state or the county and/or by a petition of the county voters;
6) A variety of means of financing county government;
7) Permission to allow county governments to create or dissolve special purpose districts; excluding school districts, lying wholly within the county, to approve their budgets and to supervise their long-range plans;
8) The right of counties to appoint a county administrator; and
9) The right of counties to appoint row officers.

FINANCING STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT: The League of Women Voters of Nebraska supports a state fiscal policy that reflects the goal of adequate revenues in order to meet the budgeted expenditures of all levels of government to meet state and local services. In order to allow the aforementioned levels of government to fulfill their governmental responsibilities, a tax structure which is progressive, efficient and flexible is necessary.—Adopted 1987, amended 2011.

Specifically, the League supports the following:

1) The state’s primary sources of revenue should continue to be derived from a combination of sales and personal income taxes. Additional revenues can be achieved through an increase in tax rates, by extending the sales tax to services with exemptions for medical, legal, child-care and educational services, and increases in tobacco products and liquor taxes.
2) The League is opposed to the state operating, or sanctioning the operation of any state or regional lottery.
3) The state should utilize the federal income tax form as a progressive, economic and efficient vehicle for taxpayers to determine their tax obligations.
4) The state’s primary responsibility is in providing adequate funding, in priority order, for: all levels of education, human services programs, aid to local governments, government services and economic development.
5) The state legislature when considering budget reductions should carefully evaluate each program and use line item reductions, not across-the-board reductions. The League does not support the imposition of fixed percentage “lids” on state expenditures as a proper method of budget reduction or the use of deficit spending in times of inadequate revenue.
6) We believe there should not be any sales tax on food.

NATURAL RESOURCES


WATER QUALITY: The League supports clean drinking water for all Nebraskans and believes that measures should be in place to protect water from contamination and pollution.

Specifically, the League supports:

1) Legislative action that outlines a process for Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (NDHHS), Nebraska Department of Natural Resources (NeDNR), and Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) to proactively identify and manage emerging threats to human health including, but not limited to, chemicals, pathogens, steroids, antibiotics, hormones and nutrient contaminants in drinking water;

2) Exclusion of pipeline siting in areas covered by the State Wellhead Protection Program, areas around municipal and private household wells without Wellhead Protection designation and in areas where the water table is at a level that rises near to the subsurface pipeline or to the surface beneath elevated pipelines. We encourage all municipalities to protect their wellhead protection areas through local ordinances;

3) A Legislative Task Force for further study on the management of both point source and non-point source contamination to both surface and groundwater sources to assure that Nebraska’s current regulations are appropriate and adequate to protect water quality. The task force should include both agricultural and municipal representatives and consider specifically nutrients such as nitrates, as well as herbicides, pesticides, human and veterinary pharmaceuticals, hormones and particulate pollutants including mercury;

4) Funding of NDHHS, NeDNR, NRDs (Natural Resource Districts) and NDEQ at a level that adequately allows for staffing and programming to monitor water quality, investigate complaints, thoroughly assess permitting requests and follow-up on violations to protect Nebraskans from contamination of both surface and groundwater. Budget shortfalls should not reduce essential water quality monitoring programs. Nebraska should assure that EPA regulations are implemented immediately with staffing levels adequate to assure compliance; and

5) A robust educational program for private household drinking well owners in Nebraska and expansion of testing for contaminants which is currently limited to bacteria and nitrates. Local Health Departments should actively seek out property owners with private wells and provide both education and assistance with testing.
WATER QUANTITY

Specifically, the League supports:

1) Conservation of water through efficient irrigation practices, improved farming techniques and continued research and education;
2) Legislative support for beneficial use of water to include water for domestic use including livestock watering, agricultural and manufacturing, including power production uses, and for the following instream uses: fish and wildlife, ground water recharge recreation, and dilution of wastes. Highest priority shall be given to domestic use; and
3) Legislative action to resolve the issues of ground water ownership, interrelationship of ground and surface water, and the administrative structure of water management.

The League acknowledges that there is a physical relationship between surface and groundwater, which is recognized by hydrogeologists. Since geological conditions vary from region to region across the state, laws should be sufficiently flexible to acknowledge this fact.

The League believes that a method for resolving conflicts between competing interests should be established. This method should include tested mediation procedures, and the parties to a dispute should be encouraged to settle the matter between themselves. If arbitrary decisions are made, they should recognize statewide and local interests, should balance public and private interests, and should recognize the differences between the various areas of the state.

Specifically, the League:

1) Supports existing water law, which recognizes the relationship between ground and surface water;
2) Recognizes the respective roles of the Department of Natural Resources and the Natural Resources Districts;
3) Recommends the creation of an institutional framework for resolving water conflicts which is flexible and expedient and which reflects publicly established criteria; and
4) Proposes that water problems be resolved by statute instead of abdicating decision-making authority to the courts.

The League supports state regulated water marketing (which includes leasing) as a means of allocating ground and surface water, with consideration given to protection of the public interest, environmental factors, effect on third parties, property tax implications and future water requirements.

Specifically, water marketing administration should include:

1) Quantification of water available for sale;
2) Terms of sale; and
3) A framework for resolving unintended consequences.

The League supports the sale (or leasing) of ground surface water between preference classes with the understanding that the preference system should be preserved.

Since the U.S. Supreme Court has determined ground water to be “publicly owned” and the Nebraska Constitution states that use of surface water is “dedicated to the people of the state” the League believes that the state should derive revenue from the marketing of water.

LAND USE: Members of the League of Women Voters of Nebraska support a state land use program based on goals and strategies which encourage local control, while at the same time identifying and providing statutory mechanisms for managing areas of statewide concern. Preservation of unique and prime agricultural land should be a primary goal and programs should be developed to implement that goal. The League of Women Voters of Nebraska supports green belt (buffer zone) type legislation and recognizes the inter-relationship of taxation and land use.—Adopted 1979, amended 1985, 1987, 1991.
Specifically, a state land use program should incorporate the following:

1) Requirement that local government exercises at least a minimum level of planning and control over land use;
2) Provision of state technical assistance to local governments;
3) Requirement that state agencies and political subdivisions abide by comprehensive planning of local government with provision for appeal to the state if conflicts occur;
4) Encouragement of coordination between governmental agencies, commissions, and boards, which are planning for the same area, and coordination between areas;
5) Identification of areas of statewide concern;
6) Recognition of the interrelationship of urban and rural concerns in land use;
7) Adoption of goals and implementation of policies to preserve unique and prime agricultural land;
8) Coordination of the state land use planning process by the Policy Research Office;
9) Establishment of a capital improvements process with long and short-range goals;
10) Involvement of the public; and
11) Insurance that policies and procedures are understandable and simple to follow for those who need to work with and under them.

ENERGY: The League of Women Voters of Nebraska believes that energy conservation must be a part of any national or state energy policy. Public understanding and cooperation are essential to the success of any program of energy conservation. Citizens should be involved in the difficult choices that must be made.

ELECTRIC UTILITY Deregulation/Privatization IN NEBRASKA: Sound government policies are supported with “condition certain.” “Condition certain” means that no changes in the regulation of electricity will take place unless and until certain conditions are in place, such as viable wholesale energy markets and viable transmission networks.

SOCIAL POLICY

CORRECTIONS: The League of Women Voters of Nebraska supports a correctional system which provides for realistic and humane treatment of the accused and sentenced offender both juvenile and adult, as well as for the protection of the community. In order to achieve such a system, the League advocates the use of community-based alternatives to incarceration and the separation of corrections from law enforcement.—Adopted 1975, Alternatives to Incarceration, -updated 1984, amended 1993, 2016.

Specifically, the League supports:

1) Diversion of offenders from the criminal justice system to appropriate programs;
2) Decriminalizing certain victimless crimes when alternative programs and facilities are feasible;
3) Improved and increased use of a variety of pre-trial release procedures;
4) The principle that juveniles be heard in juvenile court and held in facilities specifically designed for juvenile offenders;
5) A probation system comprising an adequate professional staff as well as volunteers;
6) Institutional programs aimed at reintegrating the offender into the community;
7) A central state agency to set minimum jail standards and to coordinate local correctional administration;
8) Removal of payment to jailer based on number of prisoners confined; and
9) A system which insures the preservation of civil and human rights of pre-trial detainees and which insures basic human rights of sentenced offenders.
10 Abolition of the death penalty.

EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT: The League of Women Voters of Nebraska supports bringing state laws into compliance with the goals of the Equal Rights Amendment.—Amended 1981, 1985.

Specifically, the League supports:
2019–2020 Program, continued

1) Elimination or amendment of those laws that have the effect of discrimination on the basis of sex;
2) Promotion of laws that support the goal of ERA; and
3) Strengthening the enforcement of such existing laws.

NATIVE AMERICANS: The League of Women Voters of Nebraska believes that Native Americans should participate in the formulation, development implementation and valuation of all policies and programs affecting them.—Adopted 1974, amended 1985, 1987, 1993.

Specifically, the League supports:

1) Equality of opportunity for employment, health care, education, and welfare benefits;
2) Efforts to keep Native American children within their own families. In cases in which the child must be removed from his/her family, the primary concern of welfare departments should be to place the child in willing and qualified Native American foster/adoptive homes. Non-native American foster/adoptive parents should receive cultural awareness and sensitivity training before a Native American child is placed in the home;
3) Multicultural education and sensitivity training which includes the customs and culture of the Native American;
4) Affirmative action programs as a necessity;
5) Education efforts as a necessity to inform Native Americans of their rights and the services available to them;
6) A Nebraska Commission on Indian Affairs composed entirely of Native Americans, whose objective shall be to enhance the cause of the Native American rights and to develop solutions to problems common to all Nebraska Native Americans, maintained and adequately funded; and
7) A review by this commission of all treaties of Midwestern Native Americans, specifically as they apply to the tribes or their branches located within the state of Nebraska. The existing responsibilities and rights outlined in the federal and Nebraska statutes should be determined and implemented.


Specifically, the League supports:

1) Establishment of uniform minimum standards by federal, state and local governments in the regulation of preschool, child-care, and learning centers and homes;
2) Adequate staffing to promote personal, emotional and intellectual growth;
3) Education of preschool and learning center teachers, parents, caregivers and others about quality care; and
4) An environment free from child abuse and/or neglect.

CHILD WELFARE: The League of Women Voters of Nebraska supports policies and programs that respect the rights, promote the well-being and insure the safety of Nebraska’s children. Government services for children should be comprehensive, accessible in all areas of the state, integrated/coordinates, efficient, adequately funded and should provide for accountability. These services should be staffed by professionals and volunteers who are well trained and competent in the specific area of service and should respect the rights of parents.—Adopted 1993.

Specifically, the League of Women Voters of Nebraska believes:

1) All reports of alleged abuse and neglect should be investigated. This may include screening by trained staff using a standard, effective protocol. An appropriate number of investigative workers should be hired and maintained to perform investigative tasks and to ensure the safety of children;
2) Foster families need preservice/inservice training, respite care, access to counseling (especially for behaviorally disordered children), adequate financial compensation based on the needs of the children,
access to information about foster children needing placement and regular communication with Child Welfare, Juvenile & Adult Protective Services (CWJAPS) workers. Foster families should be recruited and trained to provide specialized care for children with special needs;

3) A range of placement options based on the needs of children should be developed in all areas of the state, including specialized treatment foster homes, specialized group homes, and long term residential treatment facilities. The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and other state agencies caring for state wards should continue to contract with out-patient mental health providers and other agencies for diagnostic, evaluative and treatment services to enable foster children to remain in existing foster homes. Contracting with out-of-state facilities for out-of-home care or treatment should be a last resort;

4) Permanency for children should be achieved in an expeditious manner. Standards and a protocol should be developed for county attorneys, judges and CWJAPS workers to use in determining if parents are making progress towards reunification with children or if termination of parental rights is appropriate. CWJAPS workers should be trained in collecting and documenting information necessary to make reunification or termination of parental rights decisions. County attorneys, guardians ad litem, and judges and CWJAPS workers should be trained on issues related to termination of parental rights and on the adoptability of disabled children. Adoption laws should allow and encourage open adoption in appropriate cases;

5) The number of juvenile courts and juvenile judges should be increased in areas of the state where there is a demonstrated need. County attorneys, guardians ad litem and judges should be provided with ongoing training on child abuse and adoption issues. Court Appointed Special Advocates should be used in the juvenile court system whenever possible; and

6) Public awareness of abuse and neglect problems and preventive measures should be increased. Public health education about the relationship between chemical dependency and increased risk of abuse and neglect should be undertaken. Family life education classes should be available in the public schools, especially parenting classes for high school students, and home visits of high risk families with newborns should be made. Family counseling services and parent education classes should be available in all areas of the state. Family Preservation Services providing intensive casework and in-home therapy for both short-term cases and longer-term intervention should be available to at-risk families in all areas of the state.

VIOLENCE PREVENTION: The League of Women Voters of Nebraska supports policies and programs at all levels of the community and government that serve to prevent violence in the home and in the community. These include:

1) Programs and services for the prevention of child abuse and intervention;
2) Family support services for violence prevention and intervention;
3) Public and private development and coordination of programs that emphasize the prevention of violence;
4) The active role of government and social institutions in preventing violent behavior; and


MENTAL HEALTH CARE: Supports an adequately funded mental health care system which provides comprehensive and coordinated services for children and adults with mental disorders. Supports state and local policies and programs which provide the opportunity for persons with mental disorders to achieve optimal management of their illness. —Adopted 2004.

INVESTIGATION OF EXPANDED GAMBLING IN NEBRASKA: The intent of the effort is to look at the issue of expanded gambling in Nebraska, to collect as much available information as possible on the
subject with attention to both the economic and social implications, and to present these findings to our membership. At that time, we may or may not propose a formal position. —Adopted 2003.

EDUCATION

FINANCING PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN NEBRASKA
The LWVNE believes in a public educational system financed by a combination of local and state revenues. Since state government has created the public schools by law it has a responsibility to aid local school districts in providing adequate and equitable school financing while maintaining local control. The wealth of the local school district in which a student resides should not determine what services are available. (Adopted 1981, amended 1983, 1991, 2008)

Specifically, the League supports:

1) Teacher salaries that are competitive with other states and that reflect upon teaching as a respected profession;
2) Teacher salaries for superior teachers that are comparable with administrators’ salaries, to encourage those teachers to remain in the classroom;
3) Shifting the tax burden from heavy reliance on the local property tax to increased state support while maintaining local control of school districts and budgets;
4) Removal of arbitrary limitations upon budgets of local government subdivisions;
5) Provision of adequate revenue from sales and income taxes, both individual and corporate, to support educational services;
6) Accreditation standards of the minimum level of education regardless of the wealth of the local district in which a student resides; and
7) A free public school education through 12th grade, age not a limiting factor. Public school funds should be used to provide special education services to children with verified special needs from birth to age 21.

CURRICULUM IN NEBRASKA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Specifically, the League supports:

1) Teachers being endorsed in all subjects they are teaching;
2) Public school curriculum standards that will prepare students for citizenship, the world of work and to meet admission requirements of post-secondary educational institutions;
3) A strong social studies and government curriculum;
4) An emphasis on citizenship to include the relationship between freedom and responsibility and how to be a responsible voter;
5) Incorporation of critical thinking skills into all teaching. Throughout the educational process, the purpose of critical thinking is to develop patterns of active analysis of information rather than passive acceptance of information;
6) A minimum school year of 180 school days with a minimum of 1,032 instructional hours for elementary schools and 1,080 instructional hours for secondary schools;
7) The option of year-round public schools for districts that elect to do so;
8) Comprehensive counseling being offered to all Nebraska students;
9) Expanded learning options available and accessible to all students, including a higher emphasis on technology, vocational instruction, independent learning, apprenticeships, and dual enrollment in high school and post-secondary schools;
10) Arts, humanities, music, health, and physical education as a significant part of education that should be offered and available in every school; and
11) Service learning as an important style of learning that validates students as contributing members of their community.

STUDENT TESTING
The LWVNE supports:

1) Mandatory minimum competency testing of students before graduation from high school;
2) Criterion-based testing of students, which means testing for mastery, allowing for different ways for students to demonstrate mastery, and testing on 100 percent of the curriculum;
3) A reduction in the amount of standardized testing that is norm-referenced which guarantees some students will always fail and which detracts from classroom teaching of the curriculum;
4) The exemption of students with special needs from mandatory standardized testing or mandatory minimum competency testing.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
A comprehensive pre-kindergarten educational program should be available and accessible to all Nebraska children.

TRANSITIONS
The LWVNE supports renewed focus on the needs of students at the key transition years (for example, 4th to 5th grade and 8th to 9th grade). Emphasis should be placed on individual tutoring, skill-building, extended school days, extended school years, and summer enrichment programs.

ACADEMIC FREEDOM
The LWVNE supports academic freedom for all public school teachers and students in order to instill in students the value of democracy and to prepare students for informed and active civic participation.

SCHOOL SAFETY
The LWVNE supports policies and programs that promote safe school environments for all students and staff to the exclusion of those zero-tolerance policies that do not allow for common sense and individual mitigating circumstances.

EVALUATION OF TEACHERS AND ADMINISTRATORS
The LWVNE supports teacher tenure and Nebraska laws on teacher certification, just cause, and due process. The League supports performance-based evaluation of teachers and administrators. (Adopted 1993, amended 2008)
# Proposed Budget for 2020–2021

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### General Fund Expenses

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<td><strong>TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENSES</strong></td>
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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE AS OF AUGUST 2, 2020
Sherry Miller, Vice President–Action

Legislative Day 2020 focused on LB 996 (Brandt) Create the Broadband Data Improvement Program; LB 1207 (McCollister) Redistricting Reform; LB 932 (Wishart) Assure expansion of Medicaid by October 1; LB 283 (Pansing Brooks) Climate Change Study. Participants lobbied all senators on these four bills.

I’m happy to report that LB 996 was approved by the Governor on July 24. LB 992, a companion bill that improves broadband internet service was placed on Select File on July 26th. These two bills should overcome the drastic gap of internet service experienced by thousands of Nebraskans trying to work from home while their children were required to attend school virtually.

LB 1207 was advanced to General File on March 9th. Senator McCollister requested an opinion from Nebraska Attorney General Peterson on the constitutionality of the bill. The AG’s conclusion is that LB 1207 does not place limits on subsequent legislatures, which could continue to determine the rules of its proceedings (20-006 issued July 13th). Earlier this year an initiative petition had been planned if LB 1207 failed, but Covid19 halted those plans.

LB 932 was heard by the Health and Human Services Committee on January 29th. No action was taken, but Nebraskans in need of Medicaid expansion could begin to enroll in the program on August 1st for coverage beginning October 1.

LB 283 Motion after motion was filed to prevent cloture on this bill and they worked. An action alert to League members and a letter from me to each senator were sent. Senator Erdman replied to me that he couldn’t support it; he doesn’t believe in climate change period. I responded civilly that I appreciated his prompt response and hoped that our grandchildren would have a safe world to live in. He replied a bit later, thanking me for that response, adding that he has received a lot of abuse as a senator when he disagrees on an issue. Just a peek into the life of an elected official.

Although LB 283 failed, LB 632, which has advanced to Select File, contains provisions for a state flood mitigation plan.
THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF NEBRASKA, INC.
BYLAWS

ARTICLE I NAME

Section 1. Name. The name of this corporation shall be the League of Women Voters of Nebraska, Inc., hereinafter referred to in these bylaws as LWVNE or as the State League. The State League is an integral part of the League of Women Voters of the United States, hereinafter referred to in these bylaws as LWVUS.

ARTICLE II PURPOSE AND POLICIES

Section 1. Purpose. The purpose of the LWVNE is to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation in government and to act on selected governmental issues. LWVNE is a public benefit organization. It is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes, including for such purposes, the making of distributions to League of Women Voters organizations that qualify as exempt organizations described under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Section 2. Policies.
   a) Political Policy. The League shall not support or oppose any political party or any candidate.
   b) Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy. The League is fully committed to ensure compliance in principle and in practice—with LWVUS’s Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Eligibility. Any person who subscribes to the purpose and policy of the LWVUS shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2. Types of Membership.
   a) Voting Members. Persons at least 16 years of age who join the League shall be voting members of the local Leagues, state Leagues and of the LWVUS.
      (1) those who live within an area of a local League may join that League or any other local League;
      (2) those who reside outside the area of any local League may join a local League or shall be state members-at-large;
      (3) those who have been members of the League for 50 years or more shall be life members excused from the payment of dues.
      (4) those who are students are defined as individuals enrolled either as full or part-time with an accredited institution excused from the LWVUS per member payment (PMP).
   b) Associate Members. All others who join the League shall be associate members.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

Section 1. Officers. The officers of the League of Women Voters of Nebraska shall be a president, vice presidents, a secretary and a treasurer.

Section 2. Election and Term of Office. The officers shall be elected for a two-year term by the Annual Meeting in odd years, shall assume their duties at the close of that Annual Meeting, and shall serve until the conclusion of the next odd-year Annual Meeting or until their successors have been elected.

Section 3. Co-Officers. If an elected office or appointed office cannot be filled by one member, the office may be filled by two members serving as co-officers with the directors determining the duties of each co-officer. Co-officers share equally the one vote allotted for the office. If only one co-officer is present at a meeting, the co-officer has the full vote. If both are present, but do not agree on a vote, each may cast a half-vote for the side of the question they support. Presidents and co-presidents may only vote to create or
to break a tie; therefore, unlike other co-officers, co-presidents cannot split their vote unless a ballot vote is taken.

Section 4. Vacancies. A vacancy in the office of president shall be filled by a vice president as determined by the Board of Directors to serve until the next odd-year Annual Meeting. If no vice president can serve in this capacity, the Board of Directors shall elect one of its members to fill the vacancy. The resulting vacancy or any other elected or appointed vacancy shall be filled by the Board of Directors.

Section 5. Duties of Officers. The elected officers shall perform the duties given in this section and such other duties as are prescribed by these Bylaws, by the General Policy, by the Board of Directors, by the president and by Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised.
  a) The President. The president shall preside at all meetings of the corporation and of the Board of Directors unless someone else has been designated by the president to preside. The president may, in the absence or disability of the Treasurer, sign or endorse checks, drafts and notes; shall be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee; and shall have such usual powers of supervision and management as may pertain to the office of the president and perform such other duties as may be designated by the Board.
  b) The Vice Presidents. The vice presidents shall perform such duties as the president and Board of Directors may designate.
  c) The Secretary. The secretary shall keep minutes of Annual Meetings and of meetings of the Board of Directors. The secretary shall notify all officers and directors of their election; shall sign, with the president, all contracts and other instruments when so authorized by the Board; and shall perform such other functions as may be incidental to the office.
  d) The Treasurer. The treasurer shall collect and receive all moneys due. The treasurer shall be the custodian of these moneys, shall deposit them in a bank or banks designated by the Board of Directors and shall disburse them upon the order of the Board of Directors. The treasurer shall present periodic statements to the Board at its regular meetings and an annual report to the Annual Meetings. The books of the treasurer shall be audited annually at the end of the fiscal year and at such other times, as necessary.

ARTICLE V BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Section 1. Composition. The Board of Directors shall consist of the officers of the State League, local League and recognized Member-at-Large (MAL) Unit selected liaisons, a minimum of four elected directors, and a minimum of four appointed directors.

Section 2. Manner of Selection and Term of Office. The elected members of the Board of Directors shall appoint a minimum of four additional directors as they deem necessary to carry on the work of the League. The term of office of the appointed directors shall begin upon appointment and continue to the close of the next odd-year Annual Meeting to coincide with the term of office of the elected officers.

Section 3. Qualifications. No person shall be elected or appointed or shall continue to serve as an officer or director of this corporation unless that person is a member of the League of Women Voters in the state of Nebraska.

Section 4. Co-Directors. If an elected or appointed director office cannot be filled by one member, two members may serve as co-directors. Co-directors share equally the one vote allotted for the directorship. If only one co-director is present at a meeting, the co-director has the full vote. If both are present, but do not agree on a vote, each may cast a half-vote for the side of the question they support.

Section 5. Vacancies. Any elected or appointed vacancy may be filled, until the next odd-year Annual Meeting, by a member appointed by the Board of Directors.

Section 6. Powers and Duties. The Board of Directors shall have full charge of the property and business of the corporation with full power and authority to manage and conduct the same, subject to the instructions
of the general membership at the Annual Meeting. The Board shall plan and direct the work necessary to carry out the Program on state governmental matters as adopted by the Annual Meeting. It shall accept responsibility delegated to it by the Board of Directors of the League of Women Voters of the United States for the organization and development of local Leagues, for the carrying out of Program, and for promotion in the local Leagues of finance programs requisite to further the work of the League as a whole, including transmission of funds toward the support of an adequate national budget. The Board shall create and designate such special committees as it may deem necessary.

Section 7. Regular Meetings. There shall be at least four regular meetings of the Board of Directors annually. The president shall notify each member of the Board of Directors of the time and place of all regular meetings. No action taken at any regular Board meeting attended by three-fourths of the members of the Board shall be invalidated because of the failure of any member or members of the Board to receive any notice properly sent or because of any irregularity in any notice actually received.

Section 8. Special Meetings. The president may call special meetings of the Board of Directors and shall call a special meeting upon the written request of five members of the Board. Members of the Board shall be notified of the time and place of special meetings by telephone or e-mail at least six days prior to such meeting. During an Annual Meeting, the president may or, upon the request of five members of the Board, shall call a special meeting of the Board by notifying the members of the Board of the time and place of said meeting.

Section 9. Quorum. The quorum for a meeting of the Board of Directors shall be five including at least two of the elected officers.

Section 10. Voting. The Board of Directors shall be authorized to vote by mail or by electronic means when it is deemed necessary or by phone in an emergency. The electronic process shall use a reply back verification for documentation that all members received the communication. If a quorum shall vote on a question sent to all members of the Board, the vote shall be counted and shall have the same effect as if cast at a meeting of the Board. The vote shall be made a part of the minutes at the next meeting of the Board.

ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES/ACTION TEAMS

Section 1. There shall be a Budget-Finance Committee as described in Article VIII, Section 2.

Section 2. There shall be an Education Fund Committee as described in Article VIII, Section 3.

Section 3. There shall be an Endowment Fund/Investment Committee as described in Article VIII, Section 4.

Section 4. The vice presidents, on-board directors and off-board directors may create committees to carry out their duties.

Section 5. Other committees/action teams may be appointed by the board as deemed necessary.

ARTICLE VII RECOGNITION OF LOCAL LEAGUES AND MAL UNITS

Section 1. Local Leagues.

a) Local Leagues are those Leagues which have been so recognized by the League of Women Voters of the United States.

b) The Board of Directors shall recommend to the national Board that the national Board recognize as a local League any group of members of the League of Women Voters of the United States in any community within the state, provided the group meets recognition standards for local Leagues as adopted by the national Convention.

c) In the event of recurring failure of a local League to meet recognition standards, the Board of Directors shall recommend to the national Board that the national Board withdraw recognition from the local League. All funds held by a local League from which recognition has been withdrawn shall be paid to the League of Women Voters of Nebraska.
Section 2. Members-at-Large. All members of the League of Women Voters of Nebraska not enrolled in a local League or Member-at-Large (MAL) unit shall be members-at-large.

Section 3. Member-at-Large (MAL) Units.
   a) Member-at-Large (MAL) units are those groups of Members-at-Large that have been so recognized by the League of Women Voters of Nebraska.
   b) The Board of Directors has responsibility for the establishment of new MAL units. For this purpose, the Board may organize a group of Members-at-Large in a community in which no local League exists and shall recognize the group as a MAL unit when it meets the guideline standards adopted by the Board of Directors.
   c) The Board of Directors shall withdraw recognition from a MAL unit for recurring failure to meet guidelines. All funds held by a MAL unit from which recognition has been withdrawn shall be paid to the League of Women Voters of Nebraska. Members of MAL units from which recognition has been withdrawn shall then be considered members-at-large.

ARTICLE VIII FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

Section 1. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the League of Women Voters of Nebraska shall commence on the first of April of each year.

Section 2. Budget-Finance Committee. At the summer board meeting in odd years the president shall appoint a budget committee to advise the board on financial matters and to prepare the annual budget. The treasurer shall be an ex-officio member of the Budget Committee but shall not be eligible to serve as chair. Any vacancy shall be filled by a member appointed by the president to serve until the next odd-year summer board meeting.

Section 3. Education Fund Committee. The president, secretary and treasurer serve on this committee. In addition, in odd years at the summer board meeting, two on-board directors are selected by the board to serve on this committee. This committee reviews grant proposals from local Leagues and/or participation of the state League in cooperative activities with other non-profit organizations. Proposals recommended for funding by the committee are forwarded to the Board of Directors for final approval by a vote taken at a meeting or by e-mail as required by Nebraska Revised Statute 21-1895. Proposals not recommended for funding by the committee are reported at the next board meeting or by e-mail.

Section 4. Endowment Fund/Investment Committee. At the summer board meeting in odd years, three members shall be appointed by the board to serve on this committee in addition to the president and treasurer. The Committee shall provide a secure fund, with a reasonable return based on investments reflecting our written investment strategy, to provide for payment of the League's operating expenses and for special initiatives approved by the LWVNE Board of Directors. The committee shall select the chair. Any vacancy shall be filled by a member appointed by the Board of Directors to serve until the next odd-year summer board meeting.

Section 5. Budget. The Board shall submit a budget for the ensuing year to the Annual Meeting for adoption. This budget shall provide for the support of the State League including a per member payment from the local Leagues. Members-at-large shall pay dues to the State League which shall include a Per Member Payment (PMP) to the League of Women Voters of the United States. A copy of the budget shall be sent to each local League president and each member-at-large at least 30 days in advance of the Annual Meeting.

Section 6. Distribution of Funds on Dissolution. In the event of the merger or dissolution of this corporation for any reason, all money and securities or other property of whatsoever nature which at the time is owned or under the absolute control of the corporation shall be distributed at the discretion of the board, or such other persons as shall be charged by law with the liquidation or winding up of the corporation and its affairs; to any member organization of the League of Women Voters national organization, which is exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding section of any future
federal tax code; or if none of these organizations are then in existence or exempt under those tax provisions, then, at the discretion of the board, to another organization that is organized and operated exclusively for charitable and educational purposes and which has established its tax-exempt status under such designated tax provisions. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction in Lancaster County, Nebraska, exclusively for such purposes or to such organizations as said court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

**ARTICLE IX ANNUAL MEETING**

Section 1. Place, Date and Call. An Annual Meeting of the League of Women Voters of Nebraska shall be held at a time and place to be determined by the Board of Directors. The president shall send a first call to the presidents of the local Leagues, chairs of MAL units and members-at-large not less than three months prior to the opening date of the Annual Meeting fixed in said call. Thereafter, the Board of Directors may advance or postpone the opening date of the Annual Meeting by not more than two weeks. A final call for the Annual Meeting shall be sent to the presidents of the local Leagues, chairs of MAL units and members-at-large at least two months before the Annual Meeting.

Section 2. Voting Body.

a) The voting body shall consist of members from local Leagues who are current in Per Member Payment (PMP) to LWVNE and members-at-large whose LWVNE dues are current, who are properly registered, and who are in attendance.

b) No member shall vote in more than one capacity, and there shall be no proxy voting.

Section 3. Powers. The Annual Meeting shall consider and authorize for action a Program, shall elect officers in the odd years, shall adopt a budget for the ensuing year, and shall transact such other business as may be presented.

Section 4. Quorum. A majority of voting members in attendance shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of the Annual Meeting provided that at least two local Leagues are represented, and, in addition, two elected officers and two on-board directors are present.

Section 5. Reporting. It shall be the responsibility of the president of the League of Women Voters of Nebraska to report to the members, in the next consecutive Voter, all action taken at the Annual Meeting.

**ARTICLE X NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

Section 1. Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee shall consist of five members, two of whom shall be members of the Board of Directors. The chair and two members, who shall not be members of the Board of Directors, shall be elected by the Annual Meeting in odd years.

a) Nominations for these three positions shall be made by the current Nominating Committee. The other two members of the Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors immediately after the Annual Meeting in odd years.

b) Any vacancy occurring in the Nominating Committee shall be filled by the Board of Directors. The President of the League of Women Voters of Nebraska shall send the name and address of the chair of the Nominating Committee to the president of each recognized local League, chairs of MAL units and members-at-large.

Section 2. Suggestions for Nominations. The chair of the Nominating Committee shall request, through the president of each local League, the chair of each recognized MAL unit and other members-at-large, suggestions for nominations. Suggestions for nominations shall be sent to the chair of the Nominating Committee at least two months before the Annual Meeting. Any member may send suggestions to the chair of the Nominating Committee.

Section 3. Report of Nominating Committee and Nominations from Floor at the Annual Meeting. The report of the Nominating Committee of its nominations for officers, directors, and the chair and two members of the succeeding Nominating Committee shall be sent to local Leagues, MAL units and
members-at-large no later than one month before the date of the Annual Meeting. Immediately following
the presentation of the Nominating Committee report, nominations may be made from the floor provided
that the consent of the nominee shall have been secured.

Section 4. Election. The election shall be by ballot, except that when there is but one nominee for each
office, the vote may be by voice. A majority vote shall constitute an election.

ARTICLE XI PROGRAM

Section 1. Principles. The governmental principles adopted by the national Convention and supported by
the League as a whole, constitute the authorization for the adoption of Program.

Section 2. Program. The Program of the League of Women Voters of Nebraska shall consist of:
   a) Action to protect the right to vote of every citizen.
   b) Those state governmental issues chosen for concerted study and action.

Section 3. Annual Meeting Action. The Annual Meeting shall act upon the Program using the following
procedures:
   a) Local League boards and MAL unit committees may make recommendations for a Program to the
      Board of directors at least two months prior to the Annual Meeting.
   b) The Board of Directors shall consider the recommendations and shall formulate a proposed
      Program of recommended and non-recommended proposals, which shall be submitted to the local
      League Boards, MAL units and members-at-large at least one month prior to the Annual Meeting.
   c) Recommendations for changes submitted in writing by local League Boards and MAL unit
      committees and received by the Board of Directors at least two months before the opening of the Annual
      Meeting shall be considered by the Board prior to the Annual Meeting at which time the Board may
      change the proposed program.
   d) A majority vote shall be required for the adoption of the Program proposed by the Board of
      Directors.
   e) Any recommendation for the Program submitted to the Board of Directors at least two months
      before the Annual Meeting, but not recommended by the Board, may be adopted by the Annual Meeting
      provided consideration is ordered by a majority vote and the proposal for adoption receives a majority
      vote.

Section 4. Member Action. Members may act in the name of the League of Women Voters of Nebraska
only when authorized to do so by the elected officers of the League of Women Voters of Nebraska.

Section 5. Local Leagues or Member-at-Large (MAL) Unit Action. Local Leagues or MAL units may
take action on state governmental matters only when authorized to do so by the elected officers of the
League of Women Voters of Nebraska. Local Leagues or MAL units may act only in conformity with, or
not contrary to, the positions taken by the League of Women Voters of Nebraska.

ARTICLE XII NATIONAL CONVENTION AND COUNCIL

Section 1. National Convention. The Board of Directors, at a meeting before the date on which names
of delegates must be sent to the National office, shall appoint delegates to that Convention in the number
allowed the League of Women Voters of Nebraska under the provisions of the Bylaws of the League of
Women Voters of the United States.

Section 2. National Council. The Board of Directors, at its meeting preceding the meeting of the Council
of the League of Women Voters of the United States, shall appoint delegates to such Council in the number
allowed the League of Women Voters of Nebraska under the provisions of the Bylaws of the League of
Women Voters of the United States.
ARTICLE XIII PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Parliamentary Authority. The rules contained in the current edition of Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern the corporation in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws.

ARTICLE XIV AMENDMENTS

Section 1. These Bylaws may be amended by:

a) A two-thirds vote at any Annual Meeting, using the following procedures:
   i. Proposals for change shall be submitted by any local League Board, chair of MAL unit, or committee appointed by the President to the Board of Directors at least three months prior to Annual Meeting.
   ii. All such proposed amendments together with the recommendations of the Board shall be sent to the presidents of local Leagues, chairs of MAL units and members-at-large at least 30 days prior to Annual Meeting.
   iii. The presidents of local Leagues and chairs of MAL units shall notify the members of their respective Leagues or MAL units of the proposed amendments. Failure of a local League president or MAL unit chair to give such notice or failure of any member to receive such notice shall not invalidate amendments to the Bylaws.

b) A two-thirds vote of the voting members of the board of directors present and voting at a regularly scheduled board meeting, provided the amendment(s) was (were) reviewed and recommended by the board and submitted to the local League presidents, chairs of MAL units and the members-at-large at least two months in advance of the meeting for comment. If a bylaw amendment is not approved by the board, it may be directly submitted at the next Annual Meeting for consideration by the general membership.

Section 2. After each LWVUS Convention, it shall be the responsibility of the LWVNE president and office administrator to bring the LWVNE bylaws into conformity with the LWVUS bylaws. Such amendments shall not require a vote of the LWVNE members.

As adopted by the Convention, 1948 and as amended by the Convention, May 1950; Convention, April 1953; Convention, May 1955; Convention, May 1956; Convention, April 1957; Convention, May 1963; Convention, April 1967; Convention, April 1971; Convention, April 1973; Convention, May 1975; Convention, May 1977; Convention, May 1979; Convention, May 1981; Convention, May 1983; Convention, May 1985; Convention, May 1987; Convention, May 1989; Convention, May 1991; Convention, May 1992; Convention, May 1995; Convention, May 1997; Convention, May 2001; Convention, April 2003; Convention, April 2005; Convention, April 2007; Convention April 2013; Annual Meeting April 2015; Annual Meeting April 2016; Annual Meeting April 2017; Board Meeting October 2017; Board Meeting March 2019; Annual Meeting April 2019, and Board Meeting March 2020.
OFFICERS’ REPORTS

CO-PRESIDENTS’ REPORT
Dianne Bystrom and Linda Duckworth

From launching the celebration of the centennial of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution to coping with obstacles resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, our first year (2019–2020) as co-presidents of the League of Women Voters of Nebraska has been both rewarding and challenging.

Following our election and installation at the April 2019 annual meeting, we met to set our goals for 2019–2020. We wanted to update, amplify and improve communications between the LWVNE and its members; more fully demonstrate our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI); initiate and offer more leadership development opportunities for members; focus strategically on our legislative priorities; and encourage applications for grants to support and expand our educational efforts. We also wanted to provide support for the LWVNE’s celebration of the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment and an expanded, statewide VOTE411.org voter education campaign.

Here’s what we accomplished:

1. Communications – We recommended the establishment of the LWVNE’s first Communications Committee at our July 20, 2019, board meeting. The committee’s first project was working with office administrator Sharon Nemeth to purchase a new laptop for the state office. Upon recommendation of the Communications Committee, the board moved that “up to but no more than $1000 be allocated from the Endowment Fund to purchase a new laptop, software, and set up for the LWV-NE office.” The motion passed and a new laptop was purchased.

The Communications Committee then focused on recruiting a volunteer to serve as Director of Communications for the LWVNE. Despite a MailChimp email sent to all members of the LWVNE in October 2019 and personal contacts made through February 2020, the committee was not able to recruit a Director of Communications. So, members of the Communications Committee have served in this capacity since March 2020. Membership on the committee was expanded from four (July 2019) to eight (August 2020). Current members of the Communications Committee are Dianne Bystrom, chair; Katie Wadas-Thalken, vice chair; Aimee Folker, MaryLee Moulton, Caryl Guisinger, Toni Monette, Rebecca Gonzales and Geri Simon.

With the expanded membership, committee members have sent regular communications to members through the MailChimp platform (Dianne and Toni); applied for and received free G-Suite email addresses @lwvnebraska.org (Katie); increased its presence on Facebook (MaryLee and Geri); established a presence on Twitter and Instagram (Dianne, MaryLee and Geri); and developed and launched a new content rich and user-friendly website, www.lwvnebraska.org, (MaryLee, Caryl, Dianne and Rebecca). Members of the Communications Committee will continue to maintain the new website with content updates, editing and CiviCRM management.

2. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) – Linda has taken the lead in more fully demonstrating the LWVNE’s commitment to DEI. She talks on a regular basis with Connie Ferguson, the Shur Fellow assigned to the LWVNE, about DEI initiatives. Linda and Dianne applied for a $500 grant from the LWVUS to provide an honorarium to a DEI-certified facilitator to lead a workshop for the LWVNE board. The grant was awarded, and Linda is beginning to interview and vet possible
facilitators for such a workshop. As part of the LWVUS grant requirements, Linda is completing the three Leaderosity modules. Linda also worked with members of the planning committee for the LWVNE board’s virtual retreat on May 17–18 to include a session on DEI. The virtual retreat resulted in the following action item on DEI for the future:

Goal: To ensure the League is more representative of diverse populations and their concerns.
- **Short Term objective:** Utilize $500 grant to hire a DEI facilitator to conduct DEI training for board members. NAM participation by board members and participation in DEI related topics and other training.
- **Long Term objective:** Intentionally reach out to community organizations around the local Leagues and smaller communities with high diversity populations (utilize village zones and neighborhood associations) to increase accessibility and participation. (Prioritize communities we want to target)

Linda also worked with Toni Monette on her proposal that the LWVNE sponsor a three-part online discussion on voting issues with an emphasis on diversity, equity and inclusion. The motion was adopted by the LWVNE board at its July 2020 meeting. Toni and Rebecca Gonzales will lead this effort, which is planned for August. Finally, Dianne attended a DEI Happy Hour sponsored by the Nonprofit Association of the Midlands on May 21.

3. Leadership Development – We had hoped to include a leadership development activity during each meeting of the LWVNE board. We conducted a goal-setting activity at our July 20, 2019, board meeting to help set objectives for 2020. This activity included the “One, Some, Many” exercise to identify and prioritize shared goals and a discussion of goals as Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time Bound (SMART). The goals receiving the most consensus support, in order of priority, were voting, legislation, a diverse membership, visibility and redistricting.

The SMARTIE (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time Bound, Inclusive and Equitable) worksheet was distributed before the October 12, 2019, board meeting. As a group, the board identified two possible goals: getting redistricting legislation out of committee in the 2020 legislative session and getting Senator Sue Crawford to present legislation to limit “dark money” in politics. Each board member was charged to identify a goal and complete all five areas under Practice: Measuring Success by the January 2020 board meeting. A worksheet on Inclusive Board Culture was distributed at the October 2019 board meeting for members to complete by the March 2020 meeting. Some directors completed their SMARTIE worksheets. However, due to time constraints, time was not spent at the January or March board meeting to discuss SMARTIE goals or Inclusive Board Culture.

Discussion of the Inclusive Board Culture worksheet was moved to the May 17 virtual board retreat as part of the DEI session. Planning the May 17–18 virtual board retreat also provided a leadership development opportunity for some of the LWVNE’s youngest and newest members. Working with Linda, Toni Monette, Aimee Folker, Megan York Lyons, Janelle Stevenson and Carol Dennison did a great job planning and organizing the board’s first annual virtual retreat.

As mentioned under DEI, Linda is completing Leaderosity modules as part of the LWVUS grant. She also was invited to serve on the LWVUS Futures Committee, which was tasked with recommending specific actions to the national board to carry out the goals of the Transformation Road Map. The committee, consisting of a diverse group of 18 members from across the country, met three times virtually and one time in Washington, DC, in October 2019. Linda is pleased to
note that several of the specific actions identified by the group found their way into plans discussed at the LWVUS virtual convention. As part of its leadership development efforts, the LWVNE offered to reimburse the registration fees of all Nebraska delegates to the LWVUS virtual annual convention. In May 2020, Dianne registered the LWVNE for an organizational membership with the Nonprofit Association of the Midlands to provide leadership training for board members at reduced rates. Dianne and Megan have participated in leadership development sessions offered by NAM through the LWVNE membership.

4. Legislative Priorities – At its October 12, 2019, meeting, board members used the SMARTIE worksheets to identify two possible legislative goals: getting redistricting legislation out of committee in the 2020 legislative session and getting Senator Sue Crawford to present legislation to limit “dark money” in politics. At its February 1, 2020, legislative priorities meeting, the LWVNE set four bills as priorities for its February 12, 2020, Legislative Day: (1) LB 996, create the Broadband Data Improvement Program; (2) LB 1207, establish procedures to divide the state of Nebraska into legislative districts by designative boundary lines based on population for federal and state level elective office; (3) LB 932, require expansion of the medical assistance program (Medicaid expansion) as prescribed no later than October 1, 2020; and (4) LB 283, provide for a Climate Change Study. We wish to thank Vice President of Action Sherry Miller and other members of the LWVNE board for testifying to legislative committees, sending action alerts, and writing letters to the editor and members of legislative committees on behalf of these bills and others. One of the LWVNE’s priority bills, LB 996, was approved by the 106th Legislature on July 21, 2020, during its second (summer) session.

5. Grants – We encouraged LWVNE board members to apply for grants offered by state nonprofits as well as the LWVUS to support and expand our educational efforts. Grants were received from the LWVUS for People-Powered Fair Maps ($10,000) and a DEI facilitator ($500). In addition, the Know Your Voting Rights statewide campaign received $7,500 from the Nebraska Civic Engagement Table and up to an additional $6,646 from the LWVNE ($5,646 from the Education Fund and $1,000 from the General Fund).

In addition to the grants received, the board recommended that a committee review the Guidelines for Grants and Cooperative Ventures published in the General Policy (as last revised on October 13, 2018). Dianne chaired a committee with members Toni Monette and Sherry Miller. The committee’s proposed revisions to the Guidelines for Grants and Cooperative Ventures in the General Policy were presented and approved by the LWVNE board at its July 11, 2020, meeting.

6. Centennial Celebration – We supported the commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment led by Centennial Celebration Director MaryLee Moulton by speaking at the August 26, 2019, kick-off event in Omaha and providing editorial feedback to finalize the six panels developed as part of the LWVNE’s display on the “Long Road to the 19th Amendment in Nebraska.” Dianne spoke to several groups across the state, primarily by Zoom during the pandemic, on the women’s suffrage movement in Nebraska using panels from the LWVNE suffrage display as a backdrop. Linda performed as Susan B. Anthony for a Lunch and Learn program sponsored by the LWV of Lincoln-Lancaster County. Dianne is working with MaryLee Moulton and Candide Villard on requests to display the LWVNE suffrage panels at Union Pacific on August 18; the College of St. Mary on August 24–28; the Stuhr Museum in Grand Island on September 6; and the four all-girls Catholic high schools in Omaha from September 8–October 2, 2020.
7. **VOTE411.org** – We assisted Voter Services Co-Directors Caryl Guisinger and Toni Monette in publicizing the statewide launch of VOTE411.org with the media as well as with members of the LWVNE. Linda contacted many of the smaller, mostly weekly Nebraska newspapers by telephone to ask them to run a letter to the editor we drafted about VOTE411.org. Dianne emailed the larger daily newspapers and television stations with the same request. News media that ran letters to the editor or articles about VOTE411.org include the *Ashland Gazette*, *Fremont Tribune*, *Grand Island Independent*, *Kearney Hub*, *Norfolk Daily News*, *Seward Independent*, *Wahoo Newspaper* and *Waverly News*. News Channel Nebraska interviewed Dianne for a story it ran on April 15, 2020, on the statewide launch of VOTE411.org. Also, Dianne sent a MailChimp email to all members of the LWVNE on April 16 about the statewide launch of VOTE411.org.

### VICE PRESIDENT-ACTION’S REPORT

**Sherry Miller**

Let me state first what a pleasure it has been to work with directors and co-directors on the LWVNE Board, as we took up the task of tracking bills in the legislature once it reconvened in July. Their reports will highlight successes of bill passage due to League diligence, along with those that failed but not due to lack of volunteer activism.

Those bills we supported and which failed will surely see light again in 2021, and we will be even more prepared to support or oppose as necessary.

Second, it has been a real pleasure to work with Shannon Konkol, our summer legal intern student from the UNL College of Law. Shannon and I have not had the opportunity to meet in person, but connecting through emails has worked very well. I asked her to research bills at the state and federal level for background information needed to send out action alerts or to contact elected representatives.

Topics assigned to Shannon included:

1. broadband expansion to support LBs 992 and 996
2. publication of sample ballots before an election (state statute 32-803)
3. LB 1106 The Grand Compromise to achieve property tax relief, funding for UNMC expansion, and tax incentives to attract business to the state
4. a summary of the HEROES ACT, H.R. 6800, with respect to funding for Telehealth, particularly related to mental/behavioral health
5. availability of ballot boxes for drop-off in Nebraska and states with all vote by mail
6. immigration bill introduced in 2018 (S. Amdt 1959), which never made it out of the Senate. S. 2540 Reform & Integrity Act of 2019 is in Committee on the Judiciary.
7. cases of voter impersonation fraud in states with all vote by mail
8. in collaboration with Interfaith Power & Light intern, a report on statutes regarding the option of virtual meetings by public bodies during conditions like the pandemic
9. last assignment was to check history of ERA passage in Nebraska

Shannon’s internship ends with the resumption of classes. She has met her 20 hours per week contract, while also helping Toni Monette with VOTE 411 details. I look forward to working with other interns in the future!
Finally, I wish to thank all League members who responded to Action Alerts when asked to contact their state legislator or federal representative. Remember that each constituent who reaches out to their representative or senator reflects the views of at least 20 other constituents. THAT’S REAL POWER!!

VICE PRESIDENT-MEMBERSHIP’S REPORT
Katie Wadas-Thalken

Over the past year our Member at Large numbers have remained steady at 9 members. In order to increase the League’s visibility, I have been an active member of the Communications Committee. I am an editor on the Facebook page and applied for and administer the GSuite for our new email addresses. This upcoming year I will try to promote membership through our Members at Large option for those who live outside of local League areas.

SECRETARY’S REPORT
Mary Ann Sturek

I served as secretary for all the Board meetings this year except being excused for the one in January. Until the March meeting, all followed the format of the Board members physically attending. The March 14, 2020, Board meeting marked the beginning of virtual meetings due to COVID-19. An additional meeting was held in April with the Annual Meeting moved to August. For every board meeting, I also prepared a written report on the result of motions considered by the Board via email that transpired between Board meetings. In addition, there have been conference calls and virtual committee meetings, one of which I served as secretary.

PARLIAMENTARIAN’S REPORT
Caroline Sedlacek, Registered Parliamentarian

The president appoints the parliamentarian. Much of the work is carried out between meetings. The parliamentarian advises the president and the board of directors on matters of parliamentary procedure. The parliamentarian's role during a meeting is a consultative one. If the parliamentarian is a member of the League, she has the same duty as the presiding officer to maintain a position of impartiality, and therefore does not make motions unless on behalf of a committee chaired by the parliamentarian, participate in debate, or vote on any question except in the case of a ballot vote.

Activities this past year: Chairing the bylaws committee; assisting the co-presidents and office administrator, when requested, in preparing the board agendas; discussing with and advising the co-presidents and office administrator on matters between meetings; assisting in preparing the annual meeting agenda; preparing the board meeting scripts when requested and preparing the annual meeting script; distributing handouts of parliamentary topics to the board and serving as parliamentarian at the board meetings and annual meeting.

In addition, last October the parliamentarian was appointed to LWVUS 2020 Convention Bylaws Committee and in the spring was appointed to the LWVUS 2020 Convention transcript review committee that will review the Convention proceedings later this year.
OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT
Sharon R. Nemeth

My main goal as Office Administrator is to keep communication flowing among the local Leagues and LWVNE. I check for messages on the office phone daily, directing requests to whomever should receive them; I often respond to callers myself. I also administer LWVNE’s email account, office@lwvnebraska.org. The phone service is also used by LWVLL, so election seasons keep me busy in getting citizens’ requests to League contacts.

BOARD DIRECTORS’ REPORTS

9TH AMENDMENT CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION REPORT
MaryLee Moulton, Director

Since our last annual meeting in April of 2019, we experience lots of highs and lots of disappointments. Things got off to a good start.

- State Senator Lynne Walz sponsored a proclamation declaring August Women’s Suffrage Month in honor of Nebraska passing the 19th Amendment on August 2, 2019.
- On August 16, 2019, we celebrated the opening of History Nebraska’s Votes for Women exhibit together.

- We had a Centennial Kickoff event in Omaha on August 26, 2019 with Judge Laurie Smith Camp as the speaker and our honored guests included Nebraska First Lady Susanne Shore, Omaha Mayor Jean Stothert and State Senator Lynne Walz.
December 5, 2019, Co-President Linda Duckworth spoke to the Lincoln-Lancaster League as Susan B. Anthony at Lunch and Learn.

We created seven panels depicting the history of the *Long Road to the 19th Amendment in Nebraska* that were to be displayed all over Nebraska to educate about the centennial (you can see all the panels on our new website, lwvnebraska.org).

Our first display of the panels was in the Capitol Rotunda in February 10–14, in concert with our LWVNE Legislative Day.

In February some members journeyed to the Centennial kickoff conference at the Catt Center at Iowa State and visited the home of LWV Founder Carrie Chapman Catt.
Also, the poster versions of the banners were displayed at Union Pacific and an Omaha Public Library Branch.

In March, co-President Dianne Bystrom was a breakout session speaker at Women Lead 2020: Claim Your Power, University of Nebraska Innovation Campus Center, Lincoln, where we also displayed the historical banners.

AND THEN COVID HIT

Unfortunately, the following events that we had scheduled to participate in were cancelled:

- 4th of July Parade and Display in Seward
- John C. Fremont Days Suffrage Tea & Parade in Fremont
- The 8th Circuit Judicial Conference, featuring Ruth Bader Ginsberg (this was a particular disappointment because we were coordinating all the displays and the participation of Leagues across the 8th Circuit states)
- Suffrage and Women of Nebraska Quilt Display
- Talk by Elaine Weiss, author of the Women Hour in Lincoln
- State Annual meeting in Seward
- Filmstreams film showing and discussion about suffrage in Omaha

The LWVNE board voted to extend the celebration of the 19th Amendment and our founding into 2021. We hope to use the historical panels across the state in 2021 to educate Nebraskans about our history and we hope that we will be able to participate in some of the events cancelled because of COVID in the future. As we look forward to our next 100 years, we have adopted the Iowa 19th Amendment Centennial Commemoration Committee’s slogan, HARD WON, NOT DONE, as we strive to make sure that all Nebraskans are empowered to participate in our democracy.

EDUCATION REPORT
Melina Cohen, Director, and Lynne Elwood, Past Director

On August 14, 2020, the Nebraska Legislature adjourned a session unlike any before it—marked by a months-long recess due to the COVID-19 pandemic and heightened partisanship.

Lynne Elwood, who served as LWVNE Education Director for the first half of the 2020 legislative session, identified a number of bills of importance. The League supported LB 996, which was a priority bill for the League in accordance with its support of policies and programs to promote quality education for all children. The bill was approved by Governor Pete Ricketts on July 24,
Education Report, continued
Government Report begins

2020. The League also supported LB 998, which aligned with the League’s support of school safety. It was placed on General File. In addition, the League supported LBs 839 and 1073, which remain in committee. Finally, the League supported LB 965, which would provide for the teaching of American Sign Language and establish a language assessment program for children who are deaf or hard of hearing. The bill was passed and presented to Governor Ricketts on August 11, 2020.

The League opposed LB 1202, a school neo-voucher bill that did not advance out of committee. However, Senator Lou Ann Linehan notably promised to bring similar legislation back in 2021, if reelected in November 2020.

Of major concern to both Lynne Elwood and Melina Cohen, who assumed the Education Director role on May 15, 2020, was LB 1106, which would have made permanent changes to school funding and significantly reduced the state’s ability to adequately fund public schools. Although LB 1106 did not pass, an iteration of the so-called “property tax relief” bill, LB 1107, did. Like LB 1106, LB 1107 will create a substantial shortfall that will almost certainly result in cuts to K–12 public schools and higher education. This is particularly troubling in light of projected reductions in revenue combined with growing needs across the state as well as ongoing unmet needs in schools, including, but not limited to, mental and behavioral health services for students.

GOVERNMENT REPORT
Sheri St. Clair, Director

Activities related to government issues such as redistricting, voter suppression and election safeguards are being monitored during the 106th Legislature. Activity of interest fell under the auspices of the Government, Military, and Veterans Affairs committee. During the first session, several bills related to redistricting failed to advance. In the second session, LB 1207, a bill for redistricting, was introduced by Senator John McCollister of Omaha. This was designated a priority bill by LWVNE. We submitted testimony, testified in person, and sent written requests to the Executive Committee urging the bill be advanced. The bill has advanced to General File; however, it has been referred to the Attorney General for review. No action is anticipated.

The following are the bills of interest which were monitored during the second session.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LB/CA</th>
<th>Title of Bill</th>
<th>Senator</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LB1005</td>
<td>Change provisions regarding nomination and election of certain partisan candidates: “open primaries” – eliminates party affiliation for several offices</td>
<td>McCollister</td>
<td>Gov’t Comm hearing 2-26-20</td>
<td>Written/verbal testimony in support: to encourage citizen participation, making government more representative in uncontested elections, 21% nonpartisan registrants in NE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LB1022</td>
<td>Provide for election of election commissioners and eliminate certain deputy positions; selected not appointed, 10K bond; eliminates position of chief deputy election commissioner</td>
<td>Hansen, M</td>
<td>Hearing 2-27-20</td>
<td>Recommend neutral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LB1035</td>
<td>Change the number of legislative districts: increase to 50 districts</td>
<td>Friesen</td>
<td>Ex Board hearing 2-18-20</td>
<td>Recommend oppose: cost, necessity. US avg is 156K/senator and 57K per rep. NE has 37K per senator; Lowest</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Government Report, continued**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LB/CA</th>
<th>Title of Bill</th>
<th>Senator</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LB1055*</td>
<td>Change provisions for voting by mail in certain counties: counties with less than 10K people, have dropbox, have 1 in person polling site</td>
<td>Brewer</td>
<td>Adv to General File: Committee priority</td>
<td>Testified in support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LB1086</td>
<td>Provide for poll watchers under the Election Act: criteria for appointment poll watcher, requirements for written notification, permissible activities</td>
<td>Hansen, M</td>
<td>Amendment to LB 1055</td>
<td>Monitor: LB1086 and LB820 rolled into amendment 2573 to LB 1055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LB1157</td>
<td>Provide for counting Nebraska residents in Nebraska prisons for redistricting purposes: for redistricting, count inmates at address prior to confinement</td>
<td>Wayne</td>
<td>Ex Board Hearing 2-12-20</td>
<td>Recommend support: otherwise the 2020 census will count incarcerated persons as residents of penal site rather than home, giving prison districts skewed boundaries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LB1207</td>
<td>Adopt the Redistricting Act:</td>
<td>McCollister</td>
<td>Adv to General File; referred to Atty General</td>
<td>Written/verbal testimony in support at Ex Board 2-12-20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*LB1055 is on its way to becoming law. LB1055 would guarantee in-person voting options for counties or precincts that conduct elections entirely by mail. LWVNE testified in support of this bill as the preservation of in-person voting options is essential for voters who need translation assistance, who need to use an ADA-compliant voting machine or Nebraskans who prefer to vote in person. LB1055 has become the Government, Military, and Veterans Affairs Committee’s “Christmas tree bill” this year. Included with it is LB1086, which codifies some protections for the election observer program. Also included are LB820 (removal of phone numbers from voter application forms, changes to timeline for recall elections), LB1136 (public power board members to be governed by Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act), LB1119 and LB1120 (timing of special elections and school bond elections). Shortly before postponement of the legislative session, LB1055 advanced from General File on a 45–0 vote.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>279CA</td>
<td>Constitutional amendment to authorize an increase in the number of members of the Legislature: to 55</td>
<td>Scheer</td>
<td>Placed on General File; Amend to return to Ex Board</td>
<td>Recommend oppose: cost, necessity. US avg is 156K/senator and 57K per rep. NE has 37K per senator; Lowest number is NH: 400 reps (3300 per rep)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>280CA</td>
<td>Constitutional amendment to change legislative term limits to three consecutive terms</td>
<td>Wayne</td>
<td>Ex Board Hearing 2-18-20</td>
<td>Written support: LWV-NE 2019-20 Program: “...no term limits for legislators”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>283CA</td>
<td>Constitutional amendment to change qualifications of electors: from “every citizen to only a citizen”</td>
<td>Brewer</td>
<td>Govt Comm Hearing 1-29-20</td>
<td>Neutral or oppose: likely unnecessary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>286CA</td>
<td>Constitutional amendment to remove felony convictions other than treason from being a disqualification for voting</td>
<td>Cavanaugh</td>
<td>Govt Comm Hearing 2-26-20</td>
<td>Attended hearing: lots of support from other groups. Leagues work to re-enfranchise former felons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LVWNE was represented at a 2-day convening (October 2019) sponsored by LWVUS to kick off the People Powered Fair Maps™ campaign. This was identified as the major initiative to kick off the League’s second 100 years. Included in the convening were sessions on topics such as building partnerships, community engagement, and the opportunity to learn how other states are approaching redistricting. All state Leagues, including Nebraska, were provided with monetary grants to support redistricting work.

LVWNE formed the Fair Maps Committee, which used some of the grant monies to create a website: [www.fairmapsne.org](http://www.fairmapsne.org). In addition to providing general information regarding redistricting, the website makes available the “Crash Course on Redistricting” intended for use by school and civic groups. We have also printed postcards for use in contacting legislators and other interested parties. On June 4, the Fair Maps Committee sent (using the new state League Google account) an announcement regarding education and redistricting to over 330 recipients from our partners’ list, Lincoln-area social studies teachers, all Nebraska libraries that have an email address and over 400 League members (via MailChimp). Recipients were directed to the fairmapsne.org website.

Harris Payne, Director of Social Studies with the Nebraska Department of Education, helped us to include in an e-mail to social studies curriculum staff throughout Nebraska our announcement about redistricting and the fair maps website together with appropriate social studies core objectives as a resource for teaching those skills.

On March 22, a press release was issued announcing that the LWVNE had joined ranks with Nebraskans for Independent Redistricting (NIR). The League supported NIR’s initiative to create a constitutional amendment intended to appear on the ballot in November’s general election that will put the responsibility of drawing district lines on a nine-member independent commission instead of state legislators. In mid-June, we learned that the effort to deploy signature gatherers was being abandoned due restrictions associated with COVID-19. Additionally, no legal or administrative routes to approval were identified. On June 24, NIR formally announced cessation of all efforts associated with the petition drive.
MENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
Aimée Folker and Palistene Gray-Moore, Co-Directors

When will we begin to settle into the new “normal”? We’re all probably months away from being able to answer that question with any confidence, given all of the moving parts and unknowns. In behavioral health there’s an idiom that says, “What is normal anyway but a setting on a washing machine.” So, as we look towards the lasting toll of the Pandemic, violence, and continued calls to reform the Police and address the egregious inequality of race, class, and ability in our communities and country—we find Mental Health is a common thread that continues to be brought up. We need to keep the focus on providing and expanding Mental Health services accessible to all of Nebraskans. As Palistene wrote in our Legislative report: when you ignore the quality of life for families and children and short-circuit the needs that would elevate their circumstances, that is a mental health issue.”

We’ve had some successes in the past year. The Co-Chairs monitored the implementation of Nebraska Medicaid expansion entitled Heritage Health Adult, as it opened for registration on August 1st (coverage begins October 1st). Co-Chairs participated in the NAMI National Day of Hope on May 1st advocating for Mental Health for All. We also participated in the roll out of a four-county (Douglas, Cass, Sarpy and Pottawattamie) Mental Health Anti-Stigma campaign with co-chairs joining the Community Stakeholders Working Group.

The Co-Chairs’ next steps involve forming a committee by reaching out to the local leagues and in addition to tracking and discussing mental and behavioral health issues, we plan to re-evaluate the League’s Program adopted in 2004 and update if needed. We’d like to sponsor a state team at the 2021 NAMI Walk Across America held in June, and create a robust advocacy push for the upcoming Legislative sessions as we see how the effects of the COVID Pandemic continue to highlight the need and lack of mental and behavioral health (and whole health care in general) across our state.

The Co-Chairs wish to extend their gratitude to everyone who has helped us “learn the ropes” as we are both new State Board Members this year.

NATURAL RESOURCES
Janelle Stevenson and Megan York Lyons, Co-Directors

During our first year as co-directors, we focused primarily on climate change issues. The fall quarter allowed time to review previous and pending legislation related to natural resources and energy before preparing for the 2020 Legislature.

On Legislative Day in February, one LWVNE priority bill was LB 283 (2019) with AM 2119 (2020). This bill, with an amendment, requested the University of Nebraska Lincoln create an effective plan to meet the challenges of extreme weather events (aka, climate change) through adaptation and mitigation strategies, including attracting new businesses and investment to NE, as well as reducing the potential negative impacts of climate change.

Next, Megan attended an Executive Committee hearing on February 12 to speak on behalf of the Nebraska League of Women Voters in support of the LR 294. Middle school students of Prairie Hill Learning Center developed the resolution for legislators to acknowledge that climate change is directly affecting the people of Nebraska, young and old, and there is a moral responsibility for
the Legislature to recognize that climate change is scientifically proven to correlate with human activity.

March 2, 2020, Janelle submitted an LTE to the Lincoln Journal Star regarding LR 294. The letter emphasized the science-based research Prairie Hill Learning students did to write the resolution. They strongly encouraged state legislators to acknowledge that humans are causing climate change that has inflicted weather related turmoil across Nebraska and our country, let alone polluting our soil, water, and air through various industrial means. Although the resolution did not make it out of committee, the Prairie Hill students and UNL Sustain continued to strike every Friday to bring awareness to Governor Ricketts and the Nebraska Unicameral of their demands.

In July, after a break in the legislative session due to COVID-19, LWVNE members contacted state senators in response to a multi-organizational Action Alert supporting LB 283 advancing to discussion. The bill was debated but did not move forward. We remain hopeful that the momentum behind climate change legislation will encourage senators to want Nebraska to join over thirty other states with climate change plans.

At the 2020 LWVUS National Convention, June 22–27, a Climate Emergency Mobilization Resolution passed: The League of Women Voters calls for an immediate wide-scale mobilization by the United States to restore, protect, and fund an ecologically sustainable environment and climate, based on an interrelated approach that is environmentally sound, science-based, just and equitable, dedicated to adequately addressing the scale and speed of the GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE EMERGENCY.

The National Convention also featured natural resources and climate caucuses attended by Nebraska delegates: LWV New Mexico Transfer of Federal Public Lands Caucus, “Our Time is Up- The Climate Emergency Mobilization Solution, Climate Migration, Immigration, and Human Rights;” and “Climate Emergency—Time for All Hands on Deck.”

On July 9, the Great Plains Conference Creation CARE team, LWVNE, and LWV of Kansas held a regional forum of 50+ people via Zoom. The event “Faith, Climate Change, and Voting in 2020” highlighted how climate impacts our daily lives, the facts and falsehoods of voting actions, and where we can go to find local and state candidates who fight for the environment.

SOCIAL POLICY
Carol Dennison, Bridget Clayborn (resigned), Rebecca Gonzales, Co-Directors

A bill, LB 849, we have supported has become an amendment to LB 848; it merges Columbus Day with a newly created Indigenous People’s Day. The amendment, supported by Sen. Brewer, addresses an age eligibility gap between tribal law and state law age of majority in services for indigenous youth who are state wards. The bill extends eligibility for the Bridge to Independence program for indigenous youth who reach the age of majority at 18 under tribal law but do not reach the state age of majority until 19. Thanks to Sen. Pansing Brooks and Sen. Brewer for seeing this legislation through to its passage.

Another success, LB 230, introduced by Sen. Pansing Brooks, bans the use of room confinement in juvenile facilities.

We also supported the Nebraska Youth in Care Bill of Rights that would provide youth in detention with a list of rights related to services, connection to family, transition planning and grievances.
While it did not make it to the floor, many issues of youths in detention were addressed in another bill.

LB 1144, which passed into law July 31, addresses many issues of juveniles in the YRTCs. Introduced by Sen. Sara Howard, it requires the juvenile services division to report to the inspector general any instance of assault, escape, attempted suicide and other acts that occur at a YRTC. Also, the department is required to submit quarterly reports of grievances filed at YRTCs and to notify the inspector general of any leadership changes within the juvenile services division or the YRTCs. The inspector general is required to conduct an annual review and physical inspection of six state institutions and report to the Legislature. In addition, to ensure juveniles are able to gain academic credits, Sen. Howard introduced LB 1188 to appoint a superintendent to oversee the educational program at the YRTC’s by Dec. 1, 2020.

Please show your appreciation to Senator Howard for the vision and determination to improve oversight of juveniles who are in state detention facilities.

LB 996, a data collection program to improve broadband internet in rural communities was one of LWVNE’s three priority bills for Legislative Day. Social policy co-directors suggested it as a priority bill because it addressed so many issues important to poor and underserved populations: health, educational, economic, and civic engagement needs. Since the COVID-19 stay-at-home orders, high-speed internet has become even more crucial to remote employment, education, telehealth, social connection and, especially important for the mission of LWVNE, civic engagement. LB 966, introduced by Sen. Brandt, was signed into law.

In addition, LB 992, introduced by Sen. Curt Friesen, was placed on Final Reading on Aug. 5, 2020. This bill provides mechanisms for cooperation between utilities and internet providers, and ways to develop infrastructure. Also, Gov. Pete Ricketts designated $40 million from COVID-19 federal monies for communities with between 1,000 to 5,000 residents who are lacking adequate broadband services to apply for grants that must be completed by December 31, 2020.

To inform rural communities of expanded broadband opportunities, Carol Dennison wrote an article “The Good News About COVID-19, High-Speed Internet is Spreading,” that was released on August 3, 2020, to rural news media outlets. To date, it has been published in North Platte and will be published on August 6, in The Daily Record, a publication for legal and business professionals in Nebraska.

**VOTER SERVICES**
Caryl Guisinger and Toni Monette, Co-Directors

**Vote411**
Especially in celebration of LWV’s 100th Anniversary year, it is important that candidate information be available to every voter in Nebraska. As of 2019 and previously, only Omaha and statewide federal/state races in Nebraska were covered in the LWV’s Vote411 voter information system. Full Vote411 coverage in Douglas County (Omaha) has seen great success with educating voters. The 2012 and 2016 presidential elections experienced nearly a 70% voter turnout rate in Douglas County. Conversely, the rest of the state generally hovered around a 20–40% voter turnout. Educating voters on the candidates is key to higher turnout. Fair and equal access to candidate information is imperative to an educated populace.
Effective with the 2020 election season, the LWV of Nebraska expanded coverage of Vote411 to include city, county, school board, district, and state races to the remaining 92 counties across Greater Nebraska.

Starting with the 2020 Primary, Vote411 expansion covered 96 primary races in 63 counties. Across the state, invitations to participate were sent to 298 primary candidates, of which 161 candidates opted in—a 54% response rate. A 54% candidate response rate for Greater Nebraska was higher than expected for the kickoff statewide Vote411 voters guide.

Vote411 not only provides voter education regarding candidates and their platforms, but also offers free publicity to candidates running for public office. Buffalo (Kearney), Saunders (Ashland/Wahoo), Hall (Grand Island), Dodge (Fremont), Lancaster (Waverly), Seward, Madison (Norfolk), and several other smaller counties printed Letters to the Editor encouraging voters in their locales to utilize Vote411 for non-partisan candidate information and to encourage public officials to participate in the online portal.

As we move toward the General election, Voter Services is ramping up once again to reach out to every candidate who is running in a contested race across Greater Nebraska. Now that voters across the state have been introduced to Vote411, the Voter Services co-directors feel confident that the candidate response rate will continue to increase as the Vote411 Voters’ Guide becomes a familiar face to voters across the state.

After the General election, we will assess the analytics on increased voter registrations, requests for absentee (vote by mail) ballots, Vote411 access, voter turnout, and more.

“Know Your Voting Rights in Nebraska” Brochure
The “Know Your Voting Rights in Nebraska” (KYVR) brochure is a 2020-specific voting rights and voter education resource for voters in Nebraska. It includes information regarding Voter Registration, Vote by Mail, Key 2020 Election Dates, demographic-specific voter content, Vote411 Information, and more in both English and Spanish. The creation, printing, and distribution of the brochure was funded jointly by a grant from the Nebraska Civic Engagement Table and from the LWVNE Education Fund.

Print Distribution: Approximately 3500 brochure requests have been received from multiple statewide organizations, including local Leagues, and will be distributed to specific statewide organizations in mid-August 2020.

A second print run will be distributed based on outreach via MailChimp in mid-August 2020 to LWV members and to support an upcoming LWVNE GOTV organizing effort. This second print run will be distributed in early September 2020.

Electronic Distribution: Electronic distribution is another key component of GOTV outreach with the KYVR brochure.

- The brochure is prominently posted on the new www.LWVNebraska.org website.
- A planned outreach to colleges and universities across Nebraska to request inclusion of the KYVR electronic pdf on their website’s home page is scheduled in August 2020.

Text Banking: In late April 2020, the Voter Services co-directors participated in text banking efforts via the Nebraska Civic Engagement Table to remind voters of Vote by Mail ballot processes and deadlines for the Primary election.
MailChimp Communications
Providing user-friendly communication briefs is imperative to Get Out the Vote in 2020 and to growing the League’s membership. To this goal, LWV of Nebraska has developed a new communication tool via MailChimp briefs that commenced in the spring of 2020. Currently, it has a distribution list of 420 members.

As an on-going effort to promote increased communications, Voter Services will continue to provide informative topics and resources to voters and to League members.

- Previous topics: Nebraska Primary Election, Vote411
- Upcoming topics: Voter Registration, Vote by Mail, Election Security, Falsehoods and Misconceptions about Voting by Mail, Key Dates for the General Election, Vote411 General Election Voters’ Guide, and more

LWVNE Website
It is our goal to make prominent the League’s central mission to empower voters via the robust voting-related content. Partially funded by the “Know Your Voting Rights in Nebraska’s” NCET grant, the new LWVNE website—which initially kicked-off July 15, 2020—contains information on voter education materials, including the KYVR’s brochure, videos, and other voting-related content in both English and Spanish.

Two main Voting sections are prominently placed on the new LWV of Nebraska’s website: Voting and Votantes – Informacion en espanol. The Spanish portion of the site was translated by two contributing LWVGO members.

In both the English and Spanish Voting sections, comprehensive information about voting abounds:

- Video shorts: League’s history and centennial, Youth voting, Vote411
- Why Vote
- Civic Rights and Responsibilities
- 2020 Key Dates for the General Election
- Vote411 Voters’ Guides
- Ballot Drop Box Locations
- Voting Resources: Voters’ Guides, Registering to Vote, Early Voting Application, Overseas Voters, and more
- Flyers/Brochures: Ex-Felon Voting Rights, Legal Status and Voting Rights (ACLU), etc
- Voting News You Can Use: Go Vote Omaha production of LWVGO, Articles on Reform, Articles on Elections, Podcasts on Voting, etc

Webinars
With the onset of a global pandemic during typically the most robust season of voter registration and education, the Voter Services team was charged with pivoting voter educational efforts to mainly a digital format.

It is important that the narrative surrounding the voter registration process, the security of Vote by Mail, the prevalence of voters in low propensity voting areas, and those who are part of the growing Rising American Electorate is disseminated.
**Voter Services Report, continued**

The focus of the webinars is to provide timely and relevant voting information to League members, community organizations, and the public. The first webinar focused on the intersectionality of climate change and the urgent need to get citizens registered to vote to support this important issue.

The initial and future discussions include information on the Rising Electorate, Key Election Dates, and strategies to get involved in Getting Out the Vote in the time of the global pandemic.

- “Faith, Climate Change, and the 2020 Election” - July 2020 (Partners: LWVNE and United Methodist Church)
- “Election Security and Vote by Mail: What to Expect” - upcoming September 2020 (Potential Partners: LWVNE and Civic Nebraska)
- “The RAE (Rising American Electorate) and the Final Countdown to Get Out the Vote” - October 2020, 30 days prior to the election (Potential Partners: LWVNE and LWVUS Dr. Turner and others)

**Upcoming/Pending Efforts**

The expansion of Vote411 across Nebraska, the production of the “Know Your Voting Rights in Nebraska” brochure, and the various collaborative efforts to inform and engage the electorate to exercise their civic duty in voting has proved to be successful. However, Getting Out The Vote and furthering the League’s mission of Empowering Voters and Defending Democracy does not stop there.

The Voter Services Co-Directors have multiple on-going projects that include continued digital outreach utilizing Voter Action Network data, presentations to the community regarding the League’s past and present efforts to improve voter turnout, and a robust community-organizing campaign that includes all of Nebraska.

Voting was not always a right and it is not guaranteed, so it is our mission to continue to further all people’s access and engagement in our democracy through the necessary act of voting as a tool to implement the change we seek.

As such, the following efforts will drive the LWV of Nebraska as we move forward:

- Facebook Ads promoting Vote411
- LWVNE presentation at Bank of the West virtual event
- Additional text banking via the NCET - September 2020
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) voting related digital discussion series
- A new GOTV effort, funded by the Nebraska Civic Engagement Table in August 2020, that will increase the League’s presence and outreach in rural communities, especially to single women and women of color.
OFF-BOARD DIRECTORS’ REPORTS

A REPORT OF MONEY IN POLITICS
Kate High, Chair

   a. Part 1-Overview of the Nebraska Legislature 2016 Election
   b. Part 2-Nebraska Campaign Finance Laws Compared to Surrounding States
   c. Part 3-Conclusion-Restoring Nebraska’s Second House

   The reports were reviewed and accepted by the League of Women Voters US Education Fund Clearinghouse which contains studies and research conducted by League members. Visitors to the website (https://sites.google.com/a/leagueofwomenvoters.org/clearinghouse/home) may download and print documents. The purpose of the site is to share League study documents among national, state and local Leagues and with the public.

2. Money in Politics Meetings/Programs
   a. Go Vote, Omaha! Public Access television program April, 2019
   b. Seward Public Library and Seward LWV co-sponsors, September 2019
   d. OLLI (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) at the University of Nebraska course, “Dark Money, Montana to Nebraska and Beyond.” This was a four-session class co-presented with Jack Gould, Common Cause, October-November 2019. Class will be repeated beginning March 2020 with potential for a sequel.

3. LWVNE position statement on Money in Politics in Nebraska to be presented at 2020 Annual Meeting.

Thank you, League members, for supporting the MIP project through providing opportunities to present the League’s MIP findings, careful review and editing of the three reports, and your wonderful OLLI Dark Money evaluations!

Also, many grateful thanks to the LWVNE Board of Directors and especially Sherry Miller for providing me with the opportunity, moral support, and courage to proceed with this project. I couldn’t have done it without them.

VOTER EDITOR REPORT
Annette Conser

The VOTER is published three times each year: Winter, Spring, and Fall. The number of mailed VOTER newsletters has been reduced to about 25 (some addresses include more than one member); there are currently 417 members who receive the e-Voter, approximately 95 percent of our membership.
LOCAL LEAGUES’ REPORTS

HASTINGS REPORT, 2019–2020
A report was not received in time for publication.

LINCOLN-LANCASTER REPORT, 2019–2020
Mary Boschult, President

This past year started off with the anticipation of celebrating the 100-year anniversary of the Nineteenth Amendment. Women were not given the right to vote. They took it. They fought for it and they died for it.

We were honored to be invited to have a voter registration and membership table at the August 16, 2019, opening of the History Nebraska exhibit of VOTES FOR WOMEN about women suffrage leaders in Nebraska. Events and interest in voting and in suffrage have continued through the year.

There are many policy positions and opportunities for advocacy and mobilization with the League of Women Voters. In recognition of the limits of member time, attention and resources, the Lincoln Board agreed on the following priorities for the program year: Voting/Voting Rights; Equal Rights/Discrimination; Immigration; Women's Health/Reproductive Health; Campaign Finance; Mayor Term Limits. Additional action areas were also identified—Access to Health Care; Poverty for Women and Families; Defend Repeal of the Death Penalty; Defend Immigration Reform/Dreamer Licenses; and Gun Control.

Between May and March 2020, we completed 17 registrations and 3 combined registrations/membership recruitment events. The remaining 17 events including an invitation from a specialty downtown boutique were cancelled due to the virus. A request from a Black Lives Matter march in June was handled by a local group that volunteers to help the League. We look forward to finding new ways to further our mission and have recently had conversations with the Lincoln NAACP and the Yazidi Community center about voter registration and voter education in a time of the pandemic.

We were invited to submit an article in the Over 55 local newspaper about the Lincoln League and voter registration. Charlyne Berens wrote the article for us and it was published in the spring issue. It is also posted on our website.

Our efforts to educate voters included seven Lunch and Learn events. April and May lunches were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Lunch and Learn Committee has resumed planning for a 2020–2021 season.

On October 19, we co-sponsored a symposium titled “Celebrating the Nineteenth Amendment: Women's Rights Here and Abroad” that was held at Innovation Campus. Co-sponsors were OLLI-UNL and the Winter Lecture Series. Thanks to Karen and Dick Dienstbier for making the connections for funding and for sponsor coordination.

We joined with Common Cause Nebraska and OLLI-UNL to co-sponsor a seminar series on Money in Politics held in October and November 2019. League member Kate High was a key presenter for the series. The LWVLL Education Fund provided funds to share in the cost of the movie, “Dark Money: Montana to Nebraska and Beyond.” Thanks to Nancy Comer for
coordinating the sponsors for the effort and completing the application form for the Ed Fund request. A repeat of the series was planned in the spring but was cancelled due to the pandemic. We hope it can be rescheduled in 2020.

In 2019, we completed an update to our Directory of Elected Officials. This publication is popular with the public as well as our members. Thanks to Paula Eurek for updating the full brochure and finding a new printer since the last printer had sold their business. Copies are available in the office and it is also posted on our website.

Our new web page includes information on our activities and policy positions accessible to our members and to the public. It also includes a link to join the League or contact us. Maureen Ose has done a marvelous job in creating the page and adding appropriate content. Maureen added the new buttons to join or pay dues and to include the processing fee if you wish to do so. She also took on getting the paper membership brochure printed after LWVUS stopped printing and selling them to local Leagues.

Our FACEBOOK page has been helpful in maintaining a presence in the social media environment and in publicizing the Lunch and Learn events when we were able to hold the lunches. Thanks to Kristen Anderson for handling this for us.

In the 2020 Unicameral session, we provided testimony to oppose LB814, a bill to limit access to reproductive health care. We also testified in opposition to LB 1022 introduced to eliminate the appointed Election Commissioners and Chief Deputy Election Commissioners in Lancaster, Douglas, Sarpy and Hall Counties. In addition, we documented our opposition to LR 292CA, a proposed state constitutional amendment to require a photo ID to vote in Nebraska. The session was paused due to the pandemic, but we continue to monitor those issues related to our priorities as the session concludes this summer.

OMAHA REPORT, 2019–2020
Krystal Fox and Rebecca Armstrong Langle, Co-Presidents

When we started our Presidential term in 2019, we were looking forward to August 2020: celebrating the League’s 100th anniversary, the anniversary of the 19th amendment, and working towards the Eighth Circuit Judicial Conference that was to be held in Omaha this year.

From May 2019–January 2020, we both worked to establish new policies and procedures for the LWVGO board. We were excited to welcome Candide Villard as the League’s first paid intern, made possible by the continued support from the Weitz Foundation and our individual donor base. We settled into our new office space at the AIM Building and were able to host many events at our new home, welcoming League members in our new bustling downtown space.

As our Voter’s Service and Community Engagement teams registered thousands of voters and attended dozens of community events, we saw LWVGO membership grow even more as the 2020 election grew closer. Our membership team has worked to provide new ways for members to be involved in the work and growth of the League, through book clubs and membership orientation meetings. In early 2020, Rebecca welcomed a baby girl and took a short maternity leave. When she returned in March, our work came to a screeching halt due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Our work shifted greatly as we pushed for Vote By Mail registrations and put together the Voter’s Guide for online-only distribution.
The Eighth District Judicial Conference, along with many other 100th anniversary events were, unfortunately, cancelled. But the League will persevere. We will continue to grow our membership, we will continue to focus on voter registration and turnout, and we will continue to take an active role in ensuring fair policies are enacted.

As our country focuses their attention on racial equity through the Black Lives Matter movement, LWVGO will continue to provide leadership on issues relating to voting rights, fair government policies, and equality for all. We want to work on ensuring we are reflecting the values of our community through a focus on diversity and inclusion and membership engagement as we move forward.

SEWARD REPORT, 2019–2020
Ellen Beck, President

The Seward County League of Women Voters in 2019–2020 continued to grow its membership and provide important events and outreach to Seward County voters and prospective voters.

Some key events included passing out voter registration information at the Seward Farmers Market for National Voter Registration Day, forums on Money in Politics in Nebraska and redistricting in Nebraska, League Night at Rue 6 and our first Virtual Candidates Night for the May 12 Primary.

League members also have been leading important projects, such as voter registration at local high schools, the nursing home and retirement communities, and the creation of a history timeline of the Seward League for our 100th Anniversary celebration.

However, the outcome of many of our events and plans remains up in the air due to restrictions related to the novel coronavirus pandemic.

The 4th of July festivities in Seward were canceled due to the pandemic, but a Facebook event was held and the Seward League participated by submitting its timeline project.

The League is planning to distribute voting brochures for National Voter Registration Day this year, and will hold a fall Candidates Night for Sept. 28, perhaps a combination of in-person and online.
The Sixth Annual Meeting of the League of Women Voters of Nebraska was called to order at 12:50 PM by President Sherry Miller on Saturday, April 27, 2019, at the AIM Exchange Trading Floor, 7th Floor, Omaha, Nebraska.

The inspiration was given by Mary Ann Sturek. The current state board members present were asked to identify their current role with the state League.

Sharon R. Nemeth, Office Administrator, reported 26 voting members and 6 non-voting members/visitors present. A quorum was present.

Parliamentarian: Caroline Sedlacek
Readers for the Minutes: Annette Conser and Joanna Lindberg
Tellers/Pages: Peggy Adair and Lynne Anderson

Mary Ann Sturek, Secretary, read the rules and procedures which were adopted.

The Minutes of the Fifth Annual Meeting, having been approved by the readers Eunice Goldgrabe and Judy King, were accepted.

In the absence of Treasurer Kate High, the treasurer’s report from April 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019 (on pp. 5-6 of the workbook) was given by President Sherry Miller and will be filed for audit.

Mary Ann Sturek, Secretary, read the rules and procedures which were adopted.

Treasurer Kate High received notification that our application has been approved. President Sherry Miller stated her goal for the Endowment Fund to be $100,000 by the 2020 Annual Meeting.

The budget for 2019-2020 (on pp. 7-8 of the Sixth Annual Meeting Booklet), prepared by Kate High, Ellen Beck, and Sherry Miller (ex officio), was presented by Ellen Beck. As Budget Chair, Ellen Beck, by the direction of the board of directors, moved the adoption of the proposed budget. The budget was adopted.

Treasurer Kate High received notification that our application has been approved. President Sherry Miller stated her goal for the Endowment Fund to be $100,000 by the 2020 Annual Meeting.

Reports
Reports of the President, Secretary, Parliamentarian, Office Administrator, Directors (Education, Government), Voter Editor Report, local leagues (Lincoln, Omaha, Seward), and Nominating Committee are printed in the Sixth Annual Meeting Booklet (pp.30-40). With no objections noted, the reports were not read.

Update on 501 (c) (3) Transition
Treasurer Kate High received notification that our application has been approved. President Sherry Miller stated her goal for the Endowment Fund to be $100,000 by the 2020 Annual Meeting.

Update on League Priority Bills in 106th Legislature, 1st Session – Sherry Miller
Four bills on redistricting were presented but none were a senator’s priority bill. Our strategy for the 2020 session is to find another senator to introduce a bill, perhaps a consolidation of all four from 2019. If that process fails, a 2020 petition on the 2020 General Election ballot is being strongly considered. Our opposition to LB 670 (Opportunity Scholarship Act)- Senator Linehan’s priority bill- continues. The Revenue Committee advanced the bill but it has not been heard by the full legislature as yet. Refer to p. 9 in the Sixth Annual Meeting Booklet for more details.
Minutes of the 6th Annual Meeting, continued

Update on Money in Politics Project – Kate High
Kate High has created a slide show of the details outlined in her report (p. 10-11) stating “when read on-line, links to the full data are enabled for readers who wish to see a full 50-state comparison or additional commentary.”

Update on Membership Leadership Development (MLD) in Nebraska – J. Lindberg
Joanna Lindberg reported the Transformation Journey presented at the 2018 LWVUS Convention transformed MLD into DEI (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion) with ShurFellows directing. Without any current NE ShurFellows, our only involvement so far has been LWV-GO completing a survey. That contact is Connie Ferguson (conniezo@hotmail.com). To think more broadly is the reason MLD is now DEI.

19th Amendment Centennial Celebration Committee Report – MaryLee Moulton
MaryLee Moulton reported the overall plan for the Celebration will be announced this June. The Nebraska Historical Society has sources on the history of the League in Nebraska. See her report on p. 12 of the Sixth Annual Meeting Booklet for more details.

Adoption of Proposed Bylaws Amendment – Caroline Sedlacek
Referring to p. 13 in the Sixth Annual Meeting Booklet for the specific proposed amendment to Article VIII. Section 4 (Endowment fund/Investment Committee) and its wording, if adopted, Caroline Sedlacek, Chair of the Committee, moved its approval and explained “the rationale is to reflect the committee’s change of view of the fund, i.e., to grow it and to show donors that LWVNE is not just looking for funds to maintain the organization.”

The motion, needing no second and having no discussion, passed.

Adoption of 2019-2020 Program
Sherry Miller referred members to pp. 21-29 of the Sixth Annual Meeting Booklet for the 2019-2020 Proposed Program, noting it is the same as 2018-2019. With no discussion when called for a vote, the 2019-2020 proposed program was approved.

Suggested Program Item on Elections for LWVNE 2020 Annual Meeting and/or LWVUS Convention – Sharon R. Nemeth
Referring to p 2 (Purpose and Principles) in the Sixth Annual Meeting Booklet, Office Administrator Sharon R. Nemeth explained several other state leagues are reaching out to other states regarding upcoming program planning events, working together to promote a concurrence on Voter Representation/Election Process which is based on the language of LWVUS and fourteen state leagues. Discussion and input will be sought throughout 2019-2020.

Nominating Committee Report and Election – Katie Wadas-Thalken
Chair Katie Wadas-Thalken presented this slate for the 2019-2020 Board:

- Co-Presidents: Dianne Bystrom and Linda Duckworth
- VP Action: Sherry Miller
- VP Membership: Katie Wadas-Thalken
- Secretary: Mary Ann Sturek
- Treasurer: Kate High
- Educator Director: Lynne Elwood
- Government Director: Sheri St. Clair
- Healthcare Director: Phyllis Salyards
- Mental Health Director: VACANT
- Natural Resources Director: VACANT
- Social Policy Director: Carol Dennison and Bridget Claborn
- Nominating Comm. Chair: Joanna Lindberg
- Nominating Committee (2): Ann Chalson; VACANT

The motion from the Nominating Committee, not needing a second and with no discussion, passed. Alex Garrison (LWV-GO) was nominated from the floor as the second Nominating Committee member and was approved by the body. With no nominees for the Mental Health Director and Natural Resource Director, these two directors shall be appointed by the Board. Suggested names for these positions should be forwarded to the Co-presidents. The officers, directors, and nominating committee begin their terms at the end of this annual meeting.
Directions to the Board
1) Complete these directions from last year:
   –Determine how the state league can address the need to defend the First Amendment and journalism, now more than ever under attack.
   –Study the Electoral College and the position of LWVUS to abolish it.
2) In all future documents, motions, or discussions in which gender is referenced that we use “he, she, and/or they” or “her, his, and/or their” in order to support our policies of inclusion.

Recognition
Outgoing President Sherry Miller was presented with a Centennial League coffee mug and a certificate from Chris Carson (LWVUS) and from the outgoing board with a pass to the Willa Cather Site in Red Cloud, NE along with specialized Willa Cather books.

Incoming Co-presidents Dianne Bystrom and Linda Duckworth were presented with “centennial stationery” from outgoing President Sherry Miller.

Office Administrator Sharon R. Nemeth was presented a gift from outgoing President Sherry Miller and a signed card from members of the current board in recognition of National Administrators’ Day.

Outgoing President Sherry Miller acknowledged the work and dedication of outgoing board members Darci Garcia (VP-Action) and John Else (Social Policy Director).

Office Administrator Sharon R. Nemeth noted that Sherry Miller is the first President in ninety-nine years to serve three terms.

Outgoing President Sherry Miller was recognized for her unique qualities as President by Janece Molhoff, John Else, Joanna Lindberg, and Karren Kerr.

Invitation
The LWV-Seward invites the members to the Seventh Annual Meeting in Seward next spring (2020).

Seward also invites all LWV members to march as Suffragists in Seward’s 4th of July 2020 parade. (Seward is officially Nebraska’s 4th of July City. For decades, its 4th celebration has drawn crowds of more than 40,000 people to the city of 7,000. The event, run by local high school students, features dozens of events throughout the day and culminates with the parade and fireworks.)

Installation of the 2019-21 League of Women Nebraska Board
Installation of the 2019-21 League of Women Nebraska Board was conducted by Parliamentarian Caroline Sedlacek.

The Sixth Annual League of Women Voters of Nebraska adjourned at 2:13 PM.

Mary Ann Sturek, Secretary
s/ Annette Conser
s/ Joanna Lindberg