

Minutes submitted by Kim Hachiya, board secretary  
Approved by the Association Board of Directors, March 9, 2023  
UNL Emeriti and Retirees Association general membership meeting  
Feb. 24, 2023  
Nebraska East Union

President-Elect Larry Dlugosh convened the meeting at 11:45 a.m. About 55 people had preregistered and six “walk ins” joined.

Memory moments recognized those who have died since the January 19 meeting.

Betty Dasenbrock, widow of Wilbur “Bud” Dasenbrock, Landscape Services  
Betty June Olson, (Women’s Physical Education Department) College of Education and Human Sciences

Lyle Gene Robeson, Animal Science

Bill Seiler, Communication Studies

Lynn Walsh, partner of Deb Mullen, College of Education and Human Sciences

*And although not UNL retirees, we ask that you also remember:*

Dave Fitzgibbon, University Communication and Marketing

The Michigan State University Campus Community

A donation in honor of the university emeriti and retirees who passed away during the past year is made to the ERA Scholarship Fund in recognition of their service.

Larry introduced Heath Mello, University of Nebraska System Vice President for External Relations. Heath invited folks to a virtual legislative update program at 11:30 a.m. March 20. (register at [bit.ly/ERAbriefing](https://bit.ly/ERAbriefing) or contact [ecooper@nebraska.edu](mailto:ecooper@nebraska.edu)) He noted that because there of a large number of new legislators this term, there’s a lot of work to bring them up to speed on what the university does for the state. He encouraged folks to go to <https://nebraska.edu/advocates> to learn how to join the effort. Heath will be our speaker at the April 18 meeting.

Earl Hawkey reported that in 2022, receipts exceeded expenditures and that as of Jan. 31, the Scholarship fund exceeded \$40,000.

Kim Hachiya thanked those who donated to the 2023 Glow Big Red Campaign. The ERA Scholarship attracted 30 donors who pledged \$2,785. This unlocked our \$250 challenge grant so our grand total is \$3,035. Coupled with previous gifts, we have approximately \$45K in this account. Once we reach \$60K, we will have fully endowed two scholarships. The UNL Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid is tasked with choosing the first recipient of our scholarship for use next fall. Thanks to all who make this possible.

The entire Glow Campaign again set records: 5,187 total gifts were made and the grand total pledged is \$653,246.

Larry introduced Mike Boehm, vice chancellor for the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources and NU Vice President. He gave a brief history of IANR, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, concurrent with the 150th anniversary of the College of Agriculture. He talked about the planned U.S. Department of Agriculture-Agricultural Research Service National Center for Resilient and Regenerative Precision Agriculture that is planned for Nebraska Innovation Campus. It will be a national hub, located in the heart of the Midwest and Great Plains, already host to a number of land grant institutions and federal ag research facilities. It will bring about 40 new scientists and 100-120 staff to Nebraska. It will be a new model that will partner with established ag industries, attract start-ups and entrepreneurs. The facility will cost about \$150 million when fully operational. About \$11 million has been spent in planning for the complex, which will include a lab building about the size of the Scarlet Hotel (and located near there). The four-story building will be LEED-Silver certified. New greenhouses will be contiguous and connected to existing UNL greenhouses. A \$25 million federal appropriation will be matched by private funding. Boehm is confident in the future of this project. Boehm also spoke about efforts to attract and keep young people to Nebraska through partnerships with schools and investments in health care, technology/internet rural infrastructure, childcare, entrepreneurship and ecotourism.

Larry thanked VC Boehm and noted a \$100 honorarium will be donated to the scholarship fund.

The next meeting is Thursday, March 16 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Nebraska East Union. Charlyne Berens will speak about the effects of creeping partisanship in the Nebraska Unicameral.

The meeting adjourned at 1 p.m.