



NEBRASKA AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Mike Foley
State Auditor

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July 29, 2025

Kent Pulfer, Board Chair
Nebraska Dairy Industry Development Board
c/o Department of Agriculture
245 Fallbrook Blvd.
PO Box 94947
Lincoln, NE 68509-4947

Dear Mr. Pulfer:

Attached is a copy of the audit report of the Nebraska Dairy Industry Development Board for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025. You can also access the report on our website at auditors.nebraska.gov.

If you have any questions concerning this report, please do not hesitate to write or call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Mike Foley", is written over a blue ink stamp of the same name and title.

Mike Foley
State Auditor

Enclosure

cc: Ashley Dempsey, Accounting and Finance Manager – Department of Agriculture

**AUDIT REPORT
OF THE
NEBRASKA DAIRY INDUSTRY
DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

JULY 1, 2024, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2025

**This document is an official public record of the State of Nebraska, issued by
the Auditor of Public Accounts.**

**Modification of this document may change the accuracy of the original
document and may be prohibited by law.**

Issued on July 29, 2025

NEBRASKA DAIRY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

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NEBRASKA DAIRY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

BACKGROUND

The Dairy Industry Development Act (Act), which is found at Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 2-3948 to 2-3963 (Reissue 2022), was enacted by the Legislature in 1992 in anticipation of the national checkoff related to advertising and promotion provisions of the Nebraska-Western Iowa Federal Milk Order (Order 65) being rescinded. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Marketing Service, published 7 CFR Part 1065 in the Federal Register on December 23, 1998. This rule terminated the advertising and promotion provisions of Order 65 with respect to milk marketed on or after December 1, 1998. The Nebraska Dairy Industry Development Board (Board) initially worked with the Nebraska Department of Agriculture to plan for a smooth transition of the checkoff program from the national level to the State level. January 1999 was the first month that the Board received collection fees.

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 2-3958(1) (Reissue 2022) requires “a mandatory assessment of ten cents per hundredweight on all milk produced in the State of Nebraska for commercial use.” The funds are used, pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 2-3950 (Reissue 2022), for financing programs to do the following:

[M]aintain and expand domestic sales of milk and dairy products, develop new products and new markets, improve methods and practices relating to marketing or processing of milk and dairy products, and inform and educate consumers of sound nutritional principles including the role of milk in a balanced diet.

During the audit period, the Board contracted with Midwest Dairy Association and Southwest Dairy Museum, Inc., to assist in accomplishing the goals of the Act. The Board also contracted with the Nebraska Department of Agriculture for the administrative functions of collecting, disbursing, and auditing, as the Board has no employees to perform those duties.

The following Vision, Mission and Principles, and Goals were taken from the Board’s Budget Request (for the 2025-2027 Biennium), which is available online at <https://das.nebraska.gov/budget/>, under the “Agency Budget Requests” section.

VISION

“Bring Dairy to Life For a Better World”

MISSION AND PRINCIPLES

“Work with others to give consumers an excellent dairy experience.”

GOALS

Midwest Dairy developed six objectives to drive focus during the next three years. The objectives reflect both business needs and foundational needs of the organization. The following objectives and strategies supply the direction for programming and investment priorities.

1. Increase Dairy Sales

Increase dairy sales by 18 million incremental pounds of milk annually through partnerships prioritized by volume and opportunity.

NEBRASKA DAIRY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

GOALS (Concluded)

2. Grow Trust in Dairy

By the end of 2026, increase positive perception of dairy's environmental sustainability by 3 percentage points, respectively, with adult consumers, adolescent consumers (age 13-17), sustainability thought leaders, and health and wellness thought leaders.

3. Advance Research in Dairy

By the end of 2026, use dairy checkoff-provided research and insights to influence at least 50 business decisions for processors and sales partners.

4. Create Dairy Checkoff Advocates

Annually increase by 15% the farmer contacts identified as Support or Advocate.

By the end of 2026, demonstrate value of dairy checkoff with 100% of identified processors and influential decision-makers (state directors/secretaries of agriculture, Members of Congress, and their key staff members).

5. Develop Farm & Community Leaders for Dairy

By the end of 2026, cultivate the leadership skills of 50 dairy farmers and develop the communication skills and readiness of 650 trusted dairy voices to reach consumers.

6. Enhance Midwest Dairy Employee Culture

By the end of 2026, increase employee engagement to a score of 4.20 or more as reflected by the Gallup Q12 Engagement Mean score.

NEBRASKA DAIRY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

KEY OFFICIALS AND BOARD CONTACT INFORMATION

Nebraska Dairy Industry Development Board Members

Name	Title
Kent Pulfer	Chair
Joyce Racicky	Vice Chair
Douglas Temme	Secretary/Treasurer
Jodi Cast	Member
David Crook	Member
Douglas Nuttelman	Member
Heath Snodgrass	Member
Valerie Parsons	Ex Officio Member, Department of Agriculture – Ag Promotion Partnership Specialist

Nebraska Dairy Industry Development Board Executive Management

Name	Title
Brent Davis	Department of Agriculture – Operations Director
Ashley Dempsey	Department of Agriculture – Accounting and Finance Manager

Nebraska Dairy Industry Development Board
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Lincoln, NE 68509-4947
nebraskadairyindustry.org



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NEBRASKA DAIRY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Nebraska Dairy Industry Development Board
Lincoln, Nebraska

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of the Nebraska Dairy Industry Development Board (Board), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Board's basic financial statements as listed in the Table of Contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash-basis financial position of the governmental activities and the major fund of the Board, as of June 30, 2025, and the respective changes in cash-basis financial position for the year then ended in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* (*Government Auditing Standards*), issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Board and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 1, the financial statements of the Board are intended to present the financial position and the changes in financial position of only that portion of the governmental activities and the major fund of the State that is attributable to the transactions of the Board. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the State of Nebraska as of June 30, 2025, and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting as described in Note 1. This includes determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and, therefore, is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 25, 2025, on our consideration of the Board's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Board's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



July 25, 2025

Matt Schochenmaier, CPA, CISA, CFE
Audit Manager

NEBRASKA DAIRY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - CASH BASIS
June 30, 2025

	Governmental Activities TOTAL
Assets:	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 106,916
Deposits with Nebraska Department of Agriculture	791
Total Assets	\$ 107,707
 Net Position:	
Unrestricted	\$ 107,707
Total Net Position	\$ 107,707

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

NEBRASKA DAIRY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - CASH BASIS
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025

	Governmental Activities TOTAL
Disbursements:	
Operating	\$ 1,231,753
Travel	223
Total Disbursements	<u>1,231,976</u>
General Receipts:	
First Purchasers Assessment	1,243,706
Miscellaneous	2,834
Total General Receipts	<u>1,246,540</u>
Change in Net Position	14,564
Net Position July 1, 2024	<u>93,143</u>
Net Position June 30, 2025	<u><u>\$ 107,707</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

NEBRASKA DAIRY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD
STATEMENT OF CASH BASIS ASSETS AND FUND BALANCE
GOVERNMENTAL FUND
June 30, 2025

	<u>Major Fund</u>
	Fund 26100
	Nebraska Dairy
	Industry
	<u>Development</u>
Assets:	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 106,916
Deposits with Nebraska Department of Agriculture	<u>791</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>\$ 107,707</u></u>
Fund Balance:	
Assigned	<u>\$ 107,707</u>
Total Fund Balance	<u><u>\$ 107,707</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

NEBRASKA DAIRY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD
**STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS,
AND CHANGES IN CASH BASIS FUND BALANCE**
GOVERNMENTAL FUND
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025

	<u>Major Fund</u>
	Fund 26100
	Nebraska Dairy
	Industry
	<u>Development</u>
Receipts:	
First Purchasers Assessment	\$ 1,243,706
Miscellaneous	2,834
Total Receipts	<u>1,246,540</u>
Disbursements by Function:	
Economic Development and Assistance	<u>1,231,976</u>
Total Disbursements	<u>1,231,976</u>
Net Change in Fund Balance	14,564
Fund Balance, July 1, 2024	<u>93,143</u>
Fund Balance, June 30, 2025	<u><u>\$ 107,707</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

NEBRASKA DAIRY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

1. **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

A. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying basic financial statements of the Nebraska Dairy Industry Development Board (Board) have been prepared in conformity with the basis of cash receipts and disbursements, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

The basic financial statements have been prepared primarily from accounts maintained by the State Accounting Administrator of the Nebraska Department of Administrative Services.

B. Reporting Entity

The Board is a State agency established under and governed by the laws of the State of Nebraska. As such, the Board is exempt from State and Federal income taxes. The financial statements include all funds of the Board. The Board has also considered all potential component units for which it is financially accountable and other organizations that are fiscally dependent on the Board or whose relationship with the Board is so significant that exclusion would be misleading or incomplete. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. These criteria include appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body, and (1) the ability of the Board to impose its will on that organization, or (2) the potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on, the Board. The Board is also considered financially accountable if an organization is fiscally dependent on and there is potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on, the Board regardless of whether the organization has (1) a separately elected governing board, (2) a governing board appointed by a higher level of government, or (3) a jointly appointed board.

These financial statements present the Board. No component units were identified. The Board is part of the primary government for the State of Nebraska's reporting entity.

C. Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

Agency-Wide Financial Statements. The Statement of Net Position – Cash Basis and Statement of Activities – Cash Basis display information about the activities of the Board and are in the format of government-wide statements, as required by Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement Number 34. These statements include all the financial activities of the Board. The Board reports governmental activities only. Governmental activities are generally financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other nonexchange transactions.

The Statement of Net Position – Cash Basis presents the reporting entity's non-fiduciary assets and liabilities, with the difference reported as net position. Net position is reported as unrestricted net position. Unrestricted resources often have constraints on resources that are imposed by management, but those constraints can be removed or modified.

The Statement of Activities – Cash Basis demonstrates the degree to which the direct disbursements of a given function or segment is offset by program receipts. Direct disbursements are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program receipts include: 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment; and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. General receipts include all other receipts properly not included as program receipts. The Board reported the following general receipts: First Purchasers Assessment and Miscellaneous.

NEBRASKA DAIRY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

1. **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (Continued)

Fund Financial Statements. The fund financial statements provide information about the Board's fund. GAAP requires separate statements by fund category – Governmental, Proprietary, and Fiduciary. The Board uses only the Governmental Fund category. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on the major Governmental Fund.

The Board reports the following major Governmental Fund type:

Special Revenue Fund. This is the Board's primary operating fund. It accounts for financial resources received and used for specific purposes.

The Board designates fund balances as follows:

Assigned. The fund balance has been constrained by the Board for a specific purpose, but it is neither restricted nor committed.

D. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus and basis of accounting. The agency-wide financial statements were reported using the cash basis of accounting. As such, the measurement focus includes only those assets and fund balances arising from cash transactions on the Statement of Net Position – Cash Basis. Receipts are recognized when received, and disbursements are recognized when paid from the fund of the Board. This differs from governmental GAAP, which requires agency-wide financial statements to be reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Under this measurement focus and basis of accounting, receipts are recorded when earned, and disbursements are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows.

The governmental fund financial statements were also reported on the cash receipt and disbursement basis of accounting. As such, the same measurement focus and basis of accounting were used as described above. This differs from governmental GAAP, which requires governmental fund financial statements to be reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this measurement focus and basis of accounting, receipts are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Receipts and related receivables are considered to be available and, thus, susceptible to accrual when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. Disbursements are usually recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, disbursements related to compensated absences and claims and judgments are recorded only when payment is due.

E. Cash and Cash Equivalents

In addition to bank accounts and petty cash, this classification includes all short-term investments, such as certificates of deposit, repurchase agreements, and U.S. treasury bills. These short-term investments may have original maturities (remaining time to maturity at acquisition) greater than three months; however, cash is available and is considered cash and cash equivalents for reporting purposes. These investments are stated at cost, which at June 30, 2025, approximates market. Banks pledge collateral, as required by law, to guarantee State funds held in time and demand deposits.

NEBRASKA DAIRY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Concluded)

Cash and cash equivalents are under the control of the State Treasurer or other administrative bodies, as determined by law. All cash deposited with the State Treasurer is initially maintained in a pooled cash account. On a daily basis, the State Treasurer invests cash not needed for current operations with the State's Investment Council, which maintains an operating investment pool for such investments. Interest earned on these investments is allocated to funds based on their percentage of the investment pool.

F. Budgetary Process

The State's biennial budget cycle ends on June 30 of the odd-numbered years. By September 15, prior to a biennium, the Board and all other State agencies must submit their budget requests for the biennium beginning the following July 1. The requests are submitted on forms that show estimated funding requirements by programs, sub-programs, and activities. The Executive Branch reviews the requests, establishes priorities, and balances the budget within the estimated resources available during the upcoming biennium.

The Governor's budget bill is submitted to the Legislature in January. The Legislature considers revisions to the bill and presents the appropriations bill to the Governor for signature. The Governor may: a) approve the appropriations bill in its entirety; b) veto the bill; or c) line item veto certain sections of the bill. Any vetoed bill or line item can be overridden by a three-fifths vote of the Legislature.

The approved appropriations will generally set spending limits for a particular program within the agency. Within the agency or program, the Legislature may provide funding from one to five budgetary fund types. Thus, the control is by fund type, within a program, within an agency. As a result, the Budgetary Comparison Schedule reports only total disbursements by program.

Appropriations are usually made for each year of the biennium, with unexpended balances being reappropriated at the end of the first year of the biennium. For most appropriations, balances lapse at the end of the biennium.

All State budgetary expenditures for the Nebraska Dairy Industry Development Fund are made pursuant to the appropriations, which may be amended by the Legislature, upon approval by the Governor. State agencies may reallocate the appropriations between major objects of expenditure accounts, except that the Legislature's approval is required to exceed the personal service limitations contained in the appropriations bill. Increases in total appropriations must also be approved by the Legislature as a deficit appropriations bill.

Receipts are not budgeted.

2. Deposits and Investments

Investment of all available cash is made by the State Investment Officer on a daily basis, based on total bank balances. These funds are held in the State of Nebraska Operating Investment Pool (OIP), an internal investment pool. Additional information on the deposits and investments portfolio, including investment policies, risks, and types of investments, can be found in the State of Nebraska's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). Information on the OIP may be obtained by writing to the Nebraska Department of Administrative Services, 1526 K Street, Suite 240, Lincoln, NE, 68508, or by calling (402) 471-6500.

NEBRASKA DAIRY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

3. Contingencies and Commitments

Risk Management. The Board is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft of, damage to, or destruction of assets, errors or omissions, injuries to employees, and natural disasters. The Board, as part of the primary government for the State, participates in the State's risk management program. The Nebraska Department of Administrative Services is responsible for maintaining the insurance and self-insurance programs for the State. The State generally self-insures for general liability, motor vehicle liability and physical damage, employee health care, employee indemnification, and workers' compensation. The State has chosen to purchase insurance for:

- A. Life insurance for eligible employees.
- B. Crime coverage, with a limit of \$11,000,000 per occurrence and a deductible of \$1,000,000 per occurrence subject to specific conditions, limits, and exclusions.
- C. Real and personal property on a blanket basis for losses up to \$200,000,000, with an all other perils deductible of \$1,000,000 per loss occurrence. Newly acquired properties are covered up to \$10 million for 90 days. If not reported after 90 days, the property is covered for \$5 million under the miscellaneous unnamed location coverage. There is a wind and hail limit on the real and personal property of \$96,250,000. This coverage does not apply ground up. The perils of flood, earthquake, and acts of terrorism have various coverage, sub-limits, and self-insurance. State agencies have the option to purchase building contents and inland marine coverage.

Details of the various insurance coverages are available from the Nebraska Department of Administrative Services – Risk Management Division.

In calendar year 2024, one settlement of \$7,450,00 exceeded insurance coverage by \$2,050,000. No other claims have exceeded coverage in the last three fiscal years. Workers' compensation is funded in the Workers' Compensation Internal Service Fund through assessments on each agency based on total agency payroll and past experience. Tort claims, theft of, damage to, or destruction of assets, errors or omissions, and natural disasters would be funded through the State General Fund or by individual agency assessments, as directed by the Legislature, unless covered by purchased insurance. No amounts for estimated claims have been reported in the Board's financial statements. Health care insurance is funded in the Insurance Trust Funds through a combination of employee and State contributions.

Litigation. The potential amount of liability involved in litigation pending against the Board, if any, could not be determined at this time. However, it is the Board's opinion that final settlement of those matters should not have an adverse effect on the Board's ability to administer current programs. Any judgment against the Board would have to be processed through the State Claims Board and be approved by the Legislature.

4. Operating, Economic Development, and Assistance Disbursements

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 2-3950 (Reissue 2022) designates the Board as the agency of the State of Nebraska responsible for carrying out the purposes of the Dairy Industry Development Act (Act). As made clear by § 2-3950, the purpose of the Act is to do the following:

[M]aintain and expand domestic sales of milk and dairy products, develop new products and new markets, improve methods and practices relating to marketing or processing of milk and dairy products, and inform and educate consumers of sound nutritional principles including the role of milk in a balanced diet.

NEBRASKA DAIRY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Concluded)

4. **Operating, Economic Development, and Assistance Disbursements** (Concluded)

Additionally, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 2-3961 (Reissue 2022) authorizes the Board to sponsor joint projects with any private or public organization that is a “qualified program” – defined by Neb. Rev. Stat. § 2-3949(8) (Reissue 2022) as “any state or regional dairy product promotion, research, or nutrition education program which is certified pursuant to 7 CFR 1150.153, as amended” – to meet the objectives of the Act. The Board has entered into cooperative agreements with Midwest Dairy Association and Southwest Dairy Museum, Inc., non-profit organizations, to carry out the purpose of the Act. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2025, the Board paid Midwest Dairy Association \$1,197,872 and Southwest Dairy Museum, Inc., \$18,391 pursuant to those agreements.

5. **Related Party**

The Board contracted with Midwest Dairy Association (Association), which is related through common control and management, to implement and administer programs intended to contribute to the betterment of Nebraska’s dairy farmers and the State’s dairy industry. Such programs include, but are not limited to, strategic initiatives, wellness, farmer relations, consumer demand, dairy product research and innovation, farmer communications, and consumer confidence. Under the terms of the contract, the Association also provided the Board with administrative and reporting services. Payments under the contract amounted to \$1,197,872 for the period ended June 30, 2025.

The Association’s Corporate Board is the governing body of the Association and had 35 voting members. One member of the Board, along with the wife of another Board member, served on the Association’s Corporate Board. The Nebraska Division Board of the Association provides input to the Association’s Corporate Board. Five members of the Board, along with the wife of another Board member, also served on the Nebraska Division Board of the Association.



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NEBRASKA DAIRY INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

Nebraska Dairy Industry Development Board
Lincoln, Nebraska

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of the Nebraska Dairy Industry Development Board (Board), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Board's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated July 25, 2025. The report was modified to emphasize that the financial statements present only the funds of the Board. The report notes the financial statements were prepared on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Board's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Board's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Board's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Board's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matt Schochenmaier". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

July 25, 2025

Matt Schochenmaier, CPA, CISA, CFE
Audit Manager