

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE NEBRASKA STATE COLLEGES
ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION\FISCAL, FACILITIES AND AUDIT

ACTION: **Approve Authorization for Chancellor to Sign Contracts for ARPA Water & Sewer Projects at Chadron State, Peru State and Wayne State Colleges**

The Colleges request authorization for the Chancellor to sign consultant and construction contracts (as applicable) for the following upcoming ARPA projects:

Chadron State College Water & Sewer System Upgrades (Approximately \$2,000,000)
Peru State College Water & Sewer System Upgrades (Approximately \$2,000,000)
Wayne State College Water & Sewer System Upgrades (Approximately \$2,000,000)

Per Policy 8064, Board of Trustees approval or authorization for the Chancellor to sign applies to consultant contracts of \$150,000 or more and to construction contracts of \$300,000 or more. Authorization for the Chancellor to sign these contracts (as applicable) in amounts not to exceed available funding will assure that these projects can proceed in a timely manner.

The Board approved the allocation of the \$2.0M ARPA equipment money for the three Colleges and allocated \$2.0M to each College for water and sewer projects, at the June 16, 2022 Board meeting. The PSC water and sewer project was approved by the Department of Environment and Energy on July 11, 2022. The CSC and WSC water and sewer projects needed further evaluation and were finally approved on November 18, 2022. The process to actually draw down the funds for the equipment and water and sewer projects has yet to be worked out with the State and University System, but we believe they are getting closer to a solution. We are reliant on the University System because we utilize the same accounting system and they must agree to the structure with the State. The Colleges have started spending the equipment money and the water and sewer projects will be assigned to engineering consultants in the coming weeks.

Per Policy 8060, no further Board approvals will be needed for these water and sewer projects since program statements and design development documents do not apply to utilities infrastructure.

The System Office recommends approval of the Authorization for Chancellor to Sign Contracts for ARPA Water & Sewer Projects at the Colleges.