

2023 Presidents Report

The year 2023 started out extremely busy. If you recall NDTOA needed to hold it's 2022 annual convention in January due to poor weather conditions when it should have been held in December. At the same time that we were trying to complete our 2022 annual convention, the 2023 legislative session had already started.

In the past NDTOA has usually had only one lobbyist that is working for our association. With the sessions becoming so hectic and with important bills and potential funding at stake, a decision was made by the NDTOA Board of Directors to hire on an additional lobbyist to work for the association.

Attending the legislative session in 2023 was our full time lobbyist Mr. Larry Syverson and helping out was assistant lobbyist Scott Meske. One of the duties of the Vice President is to oversee the legislative process so it was not uncommon to see Vice President Weber and several NDTOA directors at the Capital on days that bills were heard pertaining to townships.

When the session wrapped up we started working on carrying out tasks that the legislative body had given us the opportunity to work on. Larry Syverson and myself represented the townships on a committee to award the \$10 million dollars of grant funding to townships that had applied and met the requirements for the grant that was set by our state legislators.

Another project that Larry and I worked on was to be part of a task force set up to update and produce a model livestock zoning ordinance. Several confined livestock facilities were toured this past summer so

that we would have an understanding of what it means to have a confined livestock feeding operation in a township. This work will continue and hopefully have it available for legislators to view for the 2025 legislative session.

As we start making plans for the 2024 year the first item that we will be working on is the workshop tour that will take us around the state to met with township officers to inform them of what changes that they need to be aware of that came out of the legislative session pertaining to townships.

Another project that the NDTOA Board of Directors will continue to work on is finding different ways to help inform and educate township officers.

Thank you for being a township officer.

Respectfully,

President – Lee Brandvold