ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

of the



for the fiscal years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022

NORTHEAST NEBRASKA SOLID WASTE COALITION

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

for the fiscal years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022

NORTHEAST NEBRASKA SOLID WASTE COALITION ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT For the Fiscal Years Ended September 30, 2023 and 2022

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NORTHEAST NEBRASKA SOLID WASTE COALITION

List of Principal Officials September 30, 2023

Title	Name	Representing	Population
Chairperson Vice-Chairperson Board member Board member	Corey Granquist Charlie Bahr Mark Jensen Robert Lloyd Eric Stinson Dan Weddle Duane Rehak Rob Fite Samuel Titus Paul Poeschl Amy Denker-Rost Michael D Fleer Tami Clausen Joe Bourch Jerry Abrahamson Randy Paczosa Rick Tucker Josh Anderson Joshua Koepke Brenda Kersten Dennis Wolverton Todd Groteluschen Vacant Shawn Kotik Gary Svitak Randy Gates Brianna Duerst	City of Norfolk City of Columbus City of Fremont Platte County Madison County Dodge County Stanton County City of Madison Burt County City of Stanton City of Stanton City of Oakland City of Battle Creek Village of Hooper Village of Hooper Village of Juncan Village of Inglewood Village of Inglewood Village of Silver Creek Village of Nickerson Village of Meadow Grove Village of Meadow Grove Village of Hoskins Village of Creston Village of Creston Village of Craig Village of Winslow Maple Creek Precinct	$\begin{array}{c} 25,865\\ 24,028\\ 27,141\\ 7,793\\ 4,297\\ 5,230\\ 4,082\\ 2,283\\ 1,962\\ 1,520\\ 1,369\\ 1,194\\ 857\\ 392\\ 380\\ 320\\ 312\\ 287\\ 263\\ 241\\ 240\\ 206\\ 202\\ 19\end{array}$

Total

110,483



1248 O Street, Suite 1040 / Lincoln, NE 68508 P 402.473.7600 / F 402.473.7698 forvis.com

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Directors Northeast Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition Norfolk, Nebraska

Report on the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Northeast Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition (the Coalition), as of and for the years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Coalition'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 financial position of the Northeast Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition as of September 30, 2023 and 2022, and the changes in financial position and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits 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*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*). 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 Coalition, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Coalition's ability to continue as a going concern for 12 months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.



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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 Coalition'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.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Coalition's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis as listed in the table of contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with GAAS, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information and supplement evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Board of Directors Northeast Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition

Supplementary Information

Our audits were conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Coalition's basic financial statements. The budgetary comparison information is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. In our opinion, the budgetary comparison information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 27, 2024, on our consideration of the Coalition'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 Coalition'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 the Coalition's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

FORVIS, LLP

Lincoln, Nebraska March 27, 2024

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

This discussion of the Northeast Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition's (the Coalition) financial performance provides an overview of the Coalition's financial activities for the fiscal years ending September 30, 2023 and September 30, 2022. We encourage readers to consider this information in conjunction with the Coalition's financial statements which follow.

FINANCIAL OPERATIONS SUMMARY

With revenues of \$3,615,195, expenses of \$3,987,500, and a special item of \$4,313,121, the Coalition's net position increased \$3,940,816 in fiscal year 2023 (FY 2023). Net position decreased \$3,174,447 in fiscal year 2022 (FY 2022) and \$1,048,409 in fiscal year 2021 (FY 2021), which resulted in net position of \$13,461,865, \$9,521,049, and \$12,695,496 in FY 2023, FY 2022, and FY 2021, respectively. In FY 2022 revenues were \$3,338,735 and expenses were \$6,513,182, compared to revenues of \$3,211,670 and expenses of \$4,260,079 in FY 2021.

USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT

The Northeast Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition is a special purpose government presented as a single enterprise fund and presents its financial statements using the economic resources measurement focus and accrual basis of accounting which is the same measurement focus and basis of accounting employed by private sector business enterprises. This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Coalition's basic financial statements. The annual report consists of a series of financial statements and other information as follows:

Management Discussion and Analysis introduces the basic financial statements and provides an analytical overview of the Coalition's financial activities.

The Statement of Net Position presents information on the Coalition's assets and liabilities, with the difference between them reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Coalition is improving or deteriorating.

The Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position is the basic statement of activities for proprietary funds. This statement presents information on the Coalition's operating revenues and expenses, non-operating revenues and expenses and whether the Coalition's financial position has improved or deteriorated as a result of the year's activities.

The Statement of Cash Flows presents the change in the Coalition's cash and cash equivalents during the year. This information can assist the user of the report in determining how the Coalition financed its activities and how it met its cash requirements.

The Notes to Financial Statements provide additional information essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the basic financial statements.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

Statement of Net Position

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of the Coalition's financial position. The Coalition's net position for FY 2023 totaled \$13,461,865. This compares to \$9,521,049 and \$12,695,496 for FY 2022 and FY 2021, respectively. A summary of the Coalition's net position is presented below.

	September 30			
	2023	2022	2021	
Current assets	\$ 6,198,022	\$ 8,672,384	\$ 7,586,037	
Restricted assets	9,080,196	9,347,815	12,138,285	
Net property, buildings, and equipment	7,404,489	4,119,081	4,448,459	
Total assets	22,682,707	22,139,280	24,172,781	
Current liabilities	232,071	232,520	167,821	
Noncurrent liabilities	8,988,771	12,385,711	11,309,464	
Total liabilities	9,220,842	12,618,231	11,477,285	
Net investment in capital assets	7,377,113	4,077,014	4,448,459	
Restricted net position	91,425	-	828,821	
Unrestricted net position	5,993,327	5,444,035	7,418,216	
Total net position	\$13,461,865	\$ 9,521,049	\$12,695,496	

The decrease in current assets in FY 2023 is primarily due to a decrease in cash and investments as a result of constructing cell 6 of the landfill. Cash and investments went from approximately \$7.29 million in FY 2021 to \$8.37 million in FY 2022 to \$5.82 million this year. The increase of \$1.08 million in FY 2022 was a result of cash provided from operations.

Restricted assets decreased \$267,619 or 2.9% in FY 2023 compared to a decrease of \$2,790,470 or 23% in FY 2022. This is due to a decrease in cash and investments held for closure/postclosure care costs. The rise in interest rates on long-term treasuries caused a decrease in fair market value of investments held for closure/postclosure care costs. This was partially offset by interest on investments and the Coalition's funding of closure/postclosure care costs of \$459,961 in FY 2023 and \$393,013 in FY 2022.

The increase in net property, buildings, and equipment of \$3,285,408 and the increase in net investment in capital assets of \$3,300,099 in FY 2023 were due to the addition of cell 6 which were partially offset by the normal depreciation of assets. In FY 2022 net property, buildings, and equipment decreased \$329,378 and net investment in capital assets decreased \$371,445 primarily due to normal depreciation of assets.

Noncurrent liabilities went from \$12,385,711 last year to \$8,988,771 this year, a decrease of \$3,396,940. During the year a permit modification was approved that increased landfill capacity 2,313,992 tons. This reduced the accrued closure/postclosure care costs and extended the landfill life 17 years. See Note 4 in the financial statements for more information.

In the current year restricted net position increased \$91,425 due to the decrease in accrued closure/postclosure care costs. Unrestricted net position increased \$549,292 going from \$5,444,035 last year to \$5,993,327 due to normal operations of the coalition. In the previous fiscal year, restricted net position and unrestricted net position both decreased. Restricted net position decreased \$828,821 and unrestricted net position decreased \$1,974,181 due to the decrease in fair market value of investments held for closure/postclosure care costs and the increase in accrued closure/postclosure care costs.

Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position

Operating revenues consist of tipping fees for disposal of waste at the Coalition's landfill in Stanton County. Coalition waste is primarily received from transfer stations of member communities. The Coalition's tipping fee remained at \$24 per ton for both years. Tonnage increased 1,266 tons in the current year going from 124,676 tons to 125,942 tons, which increased user charges \$81,295 or 2.8% in the current year. From FY 2021 to FY 2022 tonnage increased 5,516 tons going from 119,160 tons to 124,676 tons. This increased user charges by \$87,593 or 3.1% in the prior year.

The Coalition hired Waste Connections to perform day-to-day landfill operations. Payments to Waste Connections are included in disposal fees. The scale operators at the landfill are Coalition employees. Payroll and related taxes and benefits on the operating statement are for wages and fringe benefits paid to these two employees. The utilization of capital assets is reflected in the financial statements as depreciation which allocates the cost of an asset over its expected useful life. Nonoperating revenue consists of interest income and any increase in the fair value of investments. Nonoperating expense is any decrease in fair value of investments.

A summary of revenue, expenses and changes in net position for the fiscal years ended September 30 2023, 2022, and 2021 follows:

	September 30		
	2023	2022	2021
Operating revenues:			
User charges	\$ 3,032,751	\$ 2,951,456	\$ 2,863,863
Total operating revenues	3,032,751	2,951,456	2,863,863
Total operating revenues	0,002,701	2,001,400	2,000,000
Operating expenses:			
Payroll and related taxes and benefits	102,017	95,859	95,319
Disposal fees	1,244,697	1,155,287	1,096,851
Repairs and maintenance	10,162	10,397	6,237
General and administration	288,977	276,659	425,364
Closure/postclosure costs	916,182	1,076,247	686,567
Depreciation	340,648	378,854	364,535
Total operating expenses	2,902,683	2,993,303	2,674,873
	<u> </u>	<u>, , ,</u>	
Operating income (loss)	130,068	(41,847)	188,990
Nonoperating revenue (expense): Net increase (decrease) in the fair			
value of investments	(1,084,817)	(3,519,879)	(1,585,206)
Investment income	582,444	387,279	347,807
	502,444	507,275	547,007
Total nonoperating revenue (expense)	(502,373)	(3,132,600)	(1,237,399)
Change in total landfill canceity. See Nate 4	1 212 101		
Change in total landfill capacity - See Note 4	4,313,121		
Change in net position	3,940,816	(3,174,447)	(1,048,409)
Net position, beginning of year	9,521,049	12,695,496	13,743,905
Net position, end of year	\$13,461,865	\$ 9,521,049	\$12,695,496
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Disposal fees increased \$58,436 or 5.3% from FY 2021 to FY 2022 and then increased \$89,410 or 7.7% from FY 2022 to FY 2023 due to a 10% increase in fees paid to Waste Connections approved by the coalition board and effective August 1, 2022. Payroll and related taxes and benefits increased \$6,158 or 6.4% in the current year primarily due to a 6% cost of living adjustment. Payroll and related taxes in the prior year remained relatively unchanged from FY 2021. Consultant fees for the landfill master plan the last couple years resulted in general and administration increasing \$12,318 or 4.5% in the current year and \$148,705 or 35% in the prior year.

Net decrease in fair value of investments was \$1,084,817 this year compared to a net decrease of \$3,519,879 last year. These decreases were driven by increases in interest rates on long-term treasuries which increased both years, but more in the previous year. Investment income

increased \$195,165 or 50.4% in FY 2023 and \$39,472 or 11.3% in FY 2022 due to increasing short-term interest rates.

As mentioned earlier, a permit modification increased landfill capacity 2,313,992 tons. This modification increased net position \$4,313,121, but with the decrease in fair value of investments FY 2023 net position increased \$3,940,816. The permit modification decreased current year closure/postclosure care costs of \$160,065 and depreciation \$38,206. See Note 4 in the financial statements for more information.

CAPITAL ASSETS

On September 30, 2023, the Coalition had approximately \$7.40 million invested in capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation of approximately \$8.37 million. This compares to \$4.12 million invested in capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation of approximately \$8.03 million on September 30, 2022. Most of the Coalition's assets consist of landfill cells. The Coalition owns 160 acres of land on which the landfill is sited with land and related costs totaling approximately \$1.2 million. The Coalition also has a maintenance building and scale house totaling approximately \$465,000. Depreciation charges were \$340,648 for FY 2023 and \$378,854 for FY 2022. See Note 5 in the financial statements for more information on the Coalition's capital assets.

CONTACTING THE COALITION'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, customers, creditors, and members with a general overview of the Coalition's finances and to demonstrate the Coalition's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Coalition's Finance Department at (402) 844-2000.

NORTHEAST NEBRASKA SOLID WASTE COALITION

STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION

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September 30, 2023 and 2022

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ASSETS	 2023	 2022
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,850,031	\$ 5,389,585
Investments	1,971,668	2,982,762
Receivables:		
Accounts	351,920	279,229
Interest	 24,403	20,808
Total current assets	 6,198,022	 8,672,384
Restricted Assets:		
Cash and investments held for closure/postclosure costs	 9,080,196	 9,347,815
Total restricted assets	 9,080,196	 9,347,815
Property, Buildings, and Equipment:		
Land	1,218,051	1,218,051
Buildings and improvements	14,527,819	10,852,287
Equipment	26,154	26,154
Construction in progress	 -	 49,476
Total property, buildings, and equipment	15 772 024	12,145,968
Total property, buildings, and equipment Less accumulated depreciation	15,772,024 8,367,535	8,026,887
	 0,307,535	 0,020,007
Total property, buildings, and equipment		
net of accumulated depreciation	 7,404,489	 4,119,081
Total assets	\$ 22,682,707	\$ 22,139,280

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

NORTHEAST NEBRASKA SOLID WASTE COALITION

STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION-CONTINUED

September 30, 2023 and 2022

LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION	 2023	 2022
Current liabilites:		
Accounts and contracts payable	\$ 210,722	\$ 215,682
Payroll liabilities	21,349	16,838
Total current liabilities	 232,071	 232,520
Noncurrent liabilities (Net of current portion):		
Accrued closure/postclosure costs (payable from restricted assets)	8,988,771	12,385,711
Total noncurrent liabilities	 8,988,771	 12,385,711
Total liabilities	 9,220,842	 12,618,231
Net position:		
Net investment in capital assets	7,377,113	4,077,014
Restricted for closure/postclosure costs	91,425	-
Unrestricted	 5,993,327	 5,444,035
Total net position	 13,461,865	 9,521,049
Total liabilities and net position	\$ 22,682,707	\$ 22,139,280

EXHIBIT 2

NORTHEAST NEBRASKA SOLID WASTE COALITION

STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION for fiscal years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022

	2023		2022	
Operating revenues:				
User charges	\$	3,032,751	\$	2,951,456
Total operating revenues		3,032,751		2,951,456
Operating expenses:				
Payroll and related taxes and benefits		102,017		95,859
Disposal fees		1,244,697		1,155,287
Repairs and maintenance		10,162		10,397
General and administration		288,977		276,659
Closure/postclosure costs		916,182		1,076,247
Depreciation		340,648		378,854
Total operating expenses		2,902,683		2,993,303
Operating Income (Loss)		130,068		(41,847)
Nonoperating revenue (expense):				
Net increase (decrease) in the fair value of investments		(1,084,817)		(3,519,879)
Investment income		582,444		387,279
Total nonoperating revenue (expense)		(502,373)		(3,132,600)
Change in total landfill capacity - See Note 4		4,313,121		
Change in net position		3,940,816		(3,174,447)
Net position, beginning of year		9,521,049		12,695,496
Net position, end of year	\$	13,461,865	\$	9,521,049

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

NORTHEAST NEBRASKA SOLID WASTE COALITION

STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

for the fiscal years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022

	2023	2022
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Cash received from customers	2,960,060	2,940,494
Cash paid to suppliers for goods and services	(1,534,105)	(1,421,740)
Cash paid to employees for services	(97,506)	(93,831)
Net cash provided by operating activities	1,328,449	1,424,923
Cash flows for capital and related financing activities:		(= (= c)
Acquisition and construction of capital assets	(3,640,747)	(7,409)
Net cash (used for) capital and related financing activities	(3,640,747)	(7,409)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Restricted investments purchased	(516,613)	(439,410)
Purchase of investments held for operating	(1,931,565)	(2,962,402)
Proceeds from sale of investments held for operating	2,982,762	2,540,098
Interest received	237,142	85,015
Net cash provided by (used for) investing activities	771,726	(776,699)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(1,540,572)	640,815
Cash and cash equivalents - beginning of year	5,419,175	4,778,360
Cash and cash equivalents - end of year	\$ 3,878,603	\$ 5,419,175
Reconciliation of operating income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities:	1	
Operating income (loss)	\$ 130,068	\$ (41,847)
Adjustments to reconcile operating income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation	340,648	378,854
Closure/postclosure costs	916,182	1,076,247
Changes in assets and liabilities		
(Increase) accounts receivable	(72,691)	(10,962)
Increase accounts payable	9,731	20,603
Increase payroll liabilities	4,511	2,028
Total Adjustments	<u>1,198,381</u> \$ 1,328,449	<u>1,466,770</u> \$ 1,424,923
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$ 1,328,449	\$ 1,424,923
Supplemental Schedule of Noncash Investing, Capital and Financing Activities		
Net (decrease) in the fair value of investments	\$ (1,084,817)	\$ (3,519,879)
Accounts payable exchanged for capital assets	27,376	42,067
Total noncash investing, capital and financing activities	\$ (1,057,441)	\$ (3,477,812)
Reconciliation of cash and cash equivalents to the statement of net position:		
Cash & cash equivalents	\$ 3,850,031	\$ 5,389,585
Cash held for closure/post closure costs	28,572	φ 3,309,505 29,590
	\$ 3,878,603	\$ 5,419,175
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

For the fiscal years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022

1. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies</u>:

The following is a summary of significant accounting policies followed in the preparation of these financial statements.

A. <u>Reporting Entity and Nature of Operations:</u>

The Northeast Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition (the Coalition) is a joint venture composed of twenty-four cities and counties in Northeast Nebraska formed pursuant to the Nebraska Interlocal Cooperation Act for the purpose of providing solid waste management to their respective entities by the means of creating, building, and operating a solid waste disposal facility, more commonly referred to as a landfill. The Coalition's Board is composed of a member from each of the participating cities and counties. None of the participating entities have an equity interest in the Coalition. The Coalition commenced operations October 30, 1995.

B. <u>Basis of Accounting</u>:

The Coalition's financial statements are prepared using a flow of economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus all assets and all liabilities associated with the operation of the Coalition are included on the statement of net position. The statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net position presents increases (e.g. revenues) and decreases (e.g. expenses) in net position. Operating revenues are revenues derived during the normal course of providing solid waste management. The primary example of operating revenues is user charges. Non-operating revenues are all revenues that do not meet the definition of operating revenues. Non-operating revenues include investment income and gain on disposal of capital assets.

The Coalition uses the accrual basis of accounting wherein revenues are recognized when earned and expenses when incurred. Capital assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over estimated useful lives ranging from 2 - 30 years on buildings and improvements and 5 - 25 years on equipment. The Coalition's financial statements are prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The Governmental Accounting Standards Board is responsible for establishing GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements (Statements and Interpretations).

For the fiscal years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022

1. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)</u>:

C. <u>Budgets/Budgetary Accounting</u>:

With the passage of LB 1207 in the 1994 Legislative session, joint entities such as the Northeast Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition created to fulfill the purpose of Integrated Solid Waste Management Act pursuant to the Interlocal Cooperation Act, were required to comply with the Municipal Proprietary Function Act for purposes of budgetary accounting. At the September 27, 2023 Coalition meeting, following a public hearing, the Coalition Board adopted the budget for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2023. Prior to this, public hearings on the budget were also held in Columbus, Norfolk, and Fremont. This budget was prepared by Coalition staff and submitted to the Coalition Board for their approval. The Municipal Proprietary Function Act requires that if estimated expenditures exceed budgeted expenditures the Board must adopt a proprietary function reconciliation statement within 90 days after year end which reflects any difference between the adopted budget statement and the actual expenditures for the fiscal year.

The Coalition's budget is adopted and stated on a cash basis. For budget purposes both cash and cash equivalents along with restricted cash and investments (net of unamortized discount) are considered cash. The Budgetary Comparison Statement is prepared on this budgetary basis, which is not in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

D. <u>Statements of Cash Flows</u>:

The Coalition's cash and cash equivalents (which includes restricted cash) consists of demand deposit accounts and any certificates of deposit or U.S. Treasury obligations with original maturities of three months or less which are considered cash equivalents for purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows.

E. <u>Investments:</u>

The Coalition uses the following methods in determining the reported amounts:

Type	Method
Certificates of Deposit	Cost
U.S. Treasury Obligations:	
Held for Closure/Postclosure Care	Fair Value
Held for Operating	Cost, which approximates Fair Value

For the fiscal years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022

1. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)</u>:

F. <u>Recent Accounting Pronouncements:</u>

Adoption of New Accounting Pronouncements

During the year, the coalition adopted four GASB Statements. Statement No. 91 Conduit Debt Obligations provides a single method of reporting conduit debt obligations by issuers and eliminates diversity in practice associated with commitments extended by issuers, arrangements associated with conduit debt obligations, and related note disclosures. Statement No. 94 Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements improves financial reporting by addressing issues related to public-private and public-public partnership arrangements and provides guidance for accounting and financial reporting for availability payment arrangements. Statement No. 96 Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements provides guidance on the accounting and financial reporting for subscription-based information technology arrangements (SBITAs) for government end users by defining a SBITA, establishing a SBITA results in a right-to-use subscription asset and corresponding subscription liability, providing the capitalization criteria, and requiring note disclosures. Statement No. 99 Omnibus 2022 enhances comparability in accounting and financial reporting and improves the consistency of authoritative literature by addressing practice issues identified during implementation and application of certain GASB statements and accounting and financial reporting for financial guarantees. The adoption of these standards did not have an impact on the financial statements.

New Accounting Pronouncements Not Adopted

In June 2022, GASB issued Statement No. 100 Accounting Changes and Error Corrections-An Amendment of GASB Statement No. 62. This statement enhances accounting and financial reporting requirements for accounting changes and error corrections to provide more understandable, reliable, relevant, consistent, and comparable information for making decisions or assessing accountability. This statement will be effective for the Coalition's year ending September 30, 2024.

For the fiscal years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022

2. <u>Cash and Cash Equivalents:</u>

On September 30, 2023 and 2022, the Coalition's cash consisted of fully insured and collateralized checking accounts. The Coalition's policy is to maintain all cash and equivalents either in fully insured and/or collateralized checking accounts, certificates of deposit and short-term U.S. Treasury obligations with original maturities of three months or less. On September 30, 2023 and 2022, and throughout such years, the Coalition's bank deposits were entirely covered by Federal Deposit Insurance or by collateral held in joint custody in the Coalition's name at a third party bank (a Federal Reserve Bank) acting as the Coalition's agent. The Coalition's agent, in the Coalition's name, held U.S. Treasury obligations.

3. <u>Deposits and Investments:</u>

The Coalition's deposits at September 30, 2023 were fully insured and collateralized checking accounts and certificates of deposit. The Coalition's primary account had a bank balance and a book balance at September 30, 2023 of \$4,678,383 and \$3,850,031, respectively. At year end, the Coalition held U.S. Treasury Securities with an amortized cost of \$1,971,668. These U.S. Treasury Securities had an original maturity at the time of purchase of twelve months or less. The Coalition also has an account held by the Coalition to finance closure/post closure care. At September 30, 2023 the balance in this bank account was \$28,571.

Investments held for closure/postclosure care are shown at fair value. Investments held for closure/post closure care consisted of zero coupon U.S. Treasury obligations (Strips), Inflation Indexed Treasury Notes, and U.S. Treasury Securities.

For the fiscal years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022

3. <u>Deposits and Investments (Continued):</u>

At September 30, 2023 and 2022, the Coalition had the following investments and maturities:

		Fair Value	Fair Value
US Treasury Obligations:	Maturity	9/30/2023	9/30/2022
Inflation Indexed Notes	4/15/2028	\$760,685	\$762,739
Inflation Indexed Notes	4/15/2028	494,545	495,880
Inflation Indexed Notes	4/15/2026	511,869	-
Strips	11/15/2026	401,912	393,600
Strips	8/15/2028	567,073	560,167
Strips	11/15/2034	315,469	330,446
Strips	11/15/2036	352,572	377,174
Strips	8/15/2037	333,518	360,781
Strips	5/15/2040	1,249,988	1,409,512
Strips	11/15/2040	1,222,342	1,385,894
Strips	5/15/2041	211,673	240,827
Strips	11/15/2042	188,158	212,233
Strips	11/15/2043	210,028	242,165
Strips	5/15/2044	639,030	724,034
Strips	8/15/2044	229,973	261,048
Strips	11/15/2044	347,693	394,616
Strips	11/15/2046	241,014	311,342
Strips	11/15/2046	265,310	282,831
Strips	11/15/2047	283,822	339,881
Notes	8/15/2048	224,951	233,055
Total Investments		\$9,051,625	\$9,318,225

Interest Rate Risk: The Coalition's investment policy for operating funds is limited to Direct U.S. Treasury obligations or certificates of deposit with a maturity of 1 year or less. The investment policy for Debt Service funds is direct U.S. Treasury obligations with a maturity of 5 years or less. The investment policy for Closure/Post Closure Funds is direct U.S. Treasury obligations with investments maturing on or before needed for closure and post closure care.

Credit Risk: Coalition's investments at September 30, 2023 and 2022 consisted entirely of U.S. Treasury obligations rated AAA.

For the fiscal years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022

3. <u>Deposits and Investments (Continued):</u>

Concentration of Credit Risk: The Coalition's investment policy places no limits on the amounts that may be invested in any one issuer.

Fair Value Measurement Risk: Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Fair value measurements must maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs. There is a hierarchy of three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value. Level 1 is quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. Level 2 is observable inputs other than Level 1 prices, such as quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities; quoted prices in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets or liabilities. Level 3 is unobservable inputs supported by little or no market activity and are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities. Where quoted market prices are available in an active market, securities are classified within Level 1 of the valuation hierarchy. If quoted market prices are not available, then fair values are estimated by using quoted prices of securities with similar characteristics or independent asset pricing services and pricing models, the inputs of which are market-based or independently sourced market parameters, including, but not limited to, yield curves, interest rates, volatilities, prepayments, defaults, cumulative loss projections and cash flows. Such securities are classified in Level 2 of the valuation hierarchy. In certain cases where Level 1 or Level 2 inputs are not available, securities are classified within Level 3 of the hierarchy. The Coalition's investments in U.S. Treasury obligations are classified within Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy. The Coalition's demand deposits and certificates of deposit are carried at cost, and thus are not included within the fair value hierarchy.

Reconciliation to the financial statements:	Carrying Amount Sept 30, 2023	Carrying Amount <u>Sept 30, 2022</u>
U.S. Treasury obligations	\$9,051,625	\$9,318,225
Demand deposits	3,878,602	5,419,175
U.S. Treasury obligation held for operating	1,971,668	2,982,762
	14,901,895	17,720,162
Cash and cash equivalents	3,850,031	5,389,585
Investments	1,971,668	2,982,762
Cash and investments held for closure/post closure cost	sts <u>9,080,196</u>	9,347,815
	<u>\$14,901,895</u>	<u>\$17,720,162</u>

For the fiscal years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022

4. <u>Closure and Postclosure Care Cost</u>:

State and federal laws and regulations require the Coalition to place a final cover on its landfill site when it stops accepting waste and to perform certain maintenance and monitoring functions at the site for thirty years after final closure. Although closure and postclosure care costs will be paid only near or after the date of closure, the Coalition reports a portion of these closure and postclosure care costs as an operating expense in each period based on landfill capacity used as of each balance sheet date.

In 2020, the Coalition applied for permit modifications to increase the side slopes and change cell six bottom elevation. These permit modifications were approved in May 2023 and resulted in changes to the Coalition's closure/postclosure calculations, which increased landfill capacity by 2,313,992 tons and also extended the remaining life of the landfill from 15 years to 32 years. A special item of \$4,313,121 was recorded in 2023 due to these changes and depreciation estimates were adjusted for the increase in landfill capacity.

The \$8,988,771 and \$12,385,711 reported as landfill closure and postclosure care liability at September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively, represents the cumulative amount reported to date based on the use of 40.1% and 58.6% respectively, of the estimated capacity of the landfill. These amounts are based on what it would cost to perform all closure and postclosure care in 2023 and 2022. The Coalition expects to close the landfill in a single phase. The estimated remaining landfill life is 32 years. Actual cost could change significantly due to inflation, changes in technology, or changes in regulations. The Coalition will recognize the remaining amount of the total estimated cost of closure and post closure care of \$22.41 million as the remaining estimated capacity is filled.

The Coalition is required by state and federal laws and regulations to make annual contributions to an account held by the Coalition to finance closure and postclosure care. The Coalition is in compliance with these requirements and, at September 30, 2023 and 2022, cash and investments reported on a budgetary basis of \$11,536,261 and \$10,675,716, respectively, (\$9,080,196 and \$9,347,815 fair value, respectively) are held for these purposes. These are reported as restricted assets on the balance sheet. The Coalition expects that future inflation costs will be paid from interest earnings on these annual contributions. However, if interest earnings are inadequate or additional postclosure care requirements are determined (due to changes in technology or applicable laws or regulations, for example), these costs may need to be covered by charges to future landfill users or from future tax revenue.

For the fiscal years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022

5. <u>Capital Assets:</u>

Capital asset activity for the years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022 was as follows:

	Balance October 1, 2022	Additions	Deletions	Balance September 30, 2023
Capital assets, not being depreciated: Land	\$ 1,218,051	\$ -	\$-	\$ 1,218,051
Construction in progress	49,476	ъ - -	(49,476)	\$ 1,218,001 -
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	1,267,527	-	(49,476)	1,218,051
Capital assets, being depreciated:	10.050.007	3,675,532		14 505 010
Buildings & land improvements Equipment	10,852,287 26,154		-	14,527,819 26,154
Total capital assets, being depreciated	10.878,441	3,675,532		14,553,973
·····				- ,,-
Less accumulated depreciation for:		220 7(0		
Buildings & land improvements	8,005,625	339,768	-	8,345,393
Equipment	21,262	880		22,142
Total accumulated depreciation	8,026,887	340,648		8,367,535
Total capital assets, being depreciated, net	2,851,554	3,334,884		6,186,438
Capital assets, net	\$ 4,119,081	\$ 3,334,884	\$ (49,476)	\$ 7,404,489
	Balance October 1, 2021	Additions	Deletions	Balance September 30, 2022
Capital assets, not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 1,218,051	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,218,051
Construction in progress		49,476	-	49,476
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	1,218,051	49,476		1,267,527
Capital assets, being depreciated:				
Buildings & land improvements	10,852,287	-	-	10,852,287
Equipment	26,154	-	-	26,154
Total capital assets, being depreciated	10,878,441	-	-	10,878,441
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings & land improvements	7,627,652	377,973	-	8,005,625
Equipment	20,381	881	-	21,262
Total accumulated depreciation	7,648,033	378,854		8,026,887
-				
Total capital assets, being depreciated, net	3,230,408	(378,854)		2,851,554
Capital assets, net	\$ 4,448,459	\$ (329,378)	\$ -	\$ 4,119,081

For the fiscal years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022

6. <u>Risk Management:</u>

The Coalition is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and natural disasters. The Coalition's general liability policy is a five million dollar aggregate, five million dollar per occurrence policy. The policy period is October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023. Settled claims have not exceeded coverage in any of the past three years.

7. <u>Pension Plan:</u>

The Coalition provides a defined contribution Simplified Employee Pension plan. The plan established under Section 408(k) of the Internal Revenue Code, is for all employees age 18 or older. The amount contributed by the Coalition for the benefit of its employees is 7% of their salaries. Participants are always fully vested. Pension expense for the years ended September 30, 2023 and 2022 totaled \$4,630 and \$4,531, respectively.

8. <u>Related Party Transactions:</u>

The Coalition receives substantially all of its waste from member cities and counties, providing the majority of the Coalition's user fee revenue. As of September 30, 2023 and 2022, \$312,574 and \$211,493 of accounts receivable were from member cities and counties, respectively. The City of Norfolk, a member of the Coalition, provides administrative services for the Coalition. During fiscal year 2023 and 2022, \$46,967 and \$43,463 was paid to the City of Norfolk for these services, respectively. Also, the Coalition reimbursed the City of Norfolk \$15,295 in fiscal year 2023 and \$7,934 in fiscal year 2022 for Coalition expenses paid by the city and \$5,546 and \$4,844 was due to the City of Norfolk at September 30, 2023 and 2022, respectively.

NORTHEAST NEBRASKA SOLID WASTE COALITION

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN GENERAL FUND BALANCE -BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGETARY BASIS for the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2023

	Budget	Actual	Variance Positive (Negative)	
Revenues:				
Interest income	\$ 67,000	\$ 221,612	\$ 154,612	
User charges	2,955,331	2,960,060	4,729	
Total revenues	3,022,331	3,181,672	159,341	
Expenditures:				
Payroll and related taxes and benefits	101,047	97,507	3,540	
Disposal fees	1,235,036	1,238,733	(3,697)	
Repairs and maintenance	20,790	8,538	12,252	
Operating supplies	3,062	1,580	1,482	
General and administration	265,671	285,254	(19,583)	
Capital outlay	4,207,200	3,640,747	566,453	
Total expenditures Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	5,832,806	5,272,359	560,447	
Excess (denciency) of revenues over expenditures	(2,010,473)	(2,090,007)	119,700	
Other financial sources (uses):	(470,000)	(450.004)	40.000	
Intrafund operating transfer out	(478,000)	(459,961)	18,039	
Total other financial sources (uses)	(478,000)	(459,961)	18,039	
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other financial uses	(3,288,475)	(2,550,648)	737,827	
Fund balance - budgetary basis: Beginning of year	8,372,347	8,372,347		
End of year	\$ 5,083,872	\$ 5,821,699	\$ 737,827	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

NORTHEAST NEBRASKA SOLID WASTE COALITION

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN CLOSURE/POST CLOSURE FUND BALANCE -BUDGET AND ACTUAL - BUDGETARY BASIS for the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2023

	Budget		Actual		I	Variance Positive (Negative)	
Revenues: Interest income	\$	400,000	\$	400,584	\$	584	
Other financial sources: Intrafund operating transfer in		478,000		459,961		(18,039)	
Excess of revenues and other sources over expenditures		878,000		860,545		(17,455)	
Fund balance - budgetary basis: Beginning of year	1(0,675,716	1	0,675,716			
End of year	\$ 1	1,553,716	\$ 1	1,536,261	\$	(17,455)	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

NORTHEAST NEBRASKA SOLID WASTE COALITION NOTES TO SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2023

1. <u>Budget and Budgetary Control:</u>

The annual appropriated budget adopted by the Coalition is prepared on a cash basis and, therefore, the budgetary basis differs from that used to present the financial statements in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Such differences and their effect on operations are summarized as follows:

Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financial sources over

expenditures, and other financial uses on a budgetary basis:		
General Fund	\$ (2,550,648)	
Closure/Post Closure Fund	860,545	
	(1,690,103)	
Basis differences:		
To adjust revenues from recognition on a cash basis	(1,051,878)	
To adjust total expenditures from recognition on a cash basis	2,369,676	
Change in Landfill Capacity	4,313,121	
Change in Net Position, on a GAAP basis	\$ 3,940,816	



1248 O Street, Suite 1040 / Lincoln, NE 68508 P 402.473.7600 / F 402.473.7698 forvis.com

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*

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Directors Northeast Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition Norfolk, 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, the financial statements of the Northeast Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition (the Coalition), which comprise the statement of net position as of September 30, 2023, and the related statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net position and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 27, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Coalition'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 Coalition's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Coalition'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 a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity'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 were not identified.



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Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Coalitions' 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 results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity'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 entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

FORVIS, LLP

Lincoln, Nebraska March 27, 2024