

**NAPE/AFSCME Local 61**  
**2025-2027 Delegate Assembly Election**  
*Candidate Statements*  
*Listed in Ballot Order (Order of Nomination)*

**Candidate for Eastern Area Delegates (Vote for no more than 2) - Declared Elected**

Daniel Buchanan (DHHS, Beatrice)

Automatic Delegate - Board of Directors Eastern Area Representative

Todd Flick (Electrical Board, Auburn)

Todd is an electrical inspector for the Nebraska State Electrical Division. He has been a NAPE member for a little over a year and will be serving as a first time delegate.

Vicki Vosler (Game & Parks Commission, Ashland)

Vicki is a Food Service Worker at Mahoney State Park and has been a member of our union for nearly 20 years. She currently serves on the Board of Directors, and has previously been elected to serve as a delegate to both bargaining conferences and the Delegate Assembly.

**Candidates for Western Area Delegates (Vote for no more than 2) - Declared Elected**

Adam Hathaway (Transportation, Sidney)

Automatic Delegate - Board of Directors Western Area Representative

Chasity Jenny (Foster Care Review Office, North Platte)

Chasity works as a Systems Oversight Specialist with the Foster Care Review Office. She has worked for the State of Nebraska for almost eight years, and prior to her current position, was a case worker with DHHS. Chasity has been a member of the union since she was hired with the State and enjoys keeping informed of matters that have impact on fellow employees of the State. Born and raised in rural Nebraska, Chasity has an appreciation for the advantages and also the challenges that are associated with living in the Western Area. Chasity's educational background is in the areas of family studies, counseling, and clinical psychology. Aside from working a job she loves, Chasity stays busy with her active children and pets, and she enjoys reading and traveling.

Mari Waid (DHHS, Scottsbluff)

Mari is a Social Services Worker at the Scottsbluff Customer Service Center. She is a steward, serves on the labor/management committee, and previously served on the NAPE/AFSCME Board of Directors.

**Candidates for Southern Area Delegates (Vote for no more than 2) - Declared Elected**

Lindsey Eads (Veterans' Affairs, Kearney)

Automatic Delegate - Board of Directors Southern Area Representative

Ruben Adams (Transportation, Grand Island)

Ruben is a Highway Maintenance Crew Chief and has worked for the State of Nebraska since 2007. Ruben has served as a NAPE union steward and Volunteer Member Organizer.

Barry Barbour (Veterans' Affairs, Kearney)

Barry has been an LPN for 38 years and has spent the last 2 ½ years serving at the Central Nebraska Veterans Home, where he joined NAPE on day one. Prior to that, Barry was a proud member of AFSCME Local 2991 for 15 years while working as an LPN for the State of Iowa. Barry has witnessed firsthand what can happen when a strong union loses its focus—it risks losing the rights we've fought for. That's why he's committed to staying focused on delivering the highest quality care to our veterans and doing my part to strengthen and support our union.

**Candidates for Northern Area Delegates (Vote for no more than 2) - Declared Elected**

Carrie Leffler (DHHS, Center)

Automatic Delegate - Board of Directors Northern Area Representative

Kitty Guthmiller (Transportation, Fullerton)

Kitty is a Senior Highway Maintenance Worker and has worked for the NDOT since 1995. Kitty has been a NAPE member for 26 years. A fierce advocate for members' rights, Kitty would love the opportunity to serve as a delegate.

Brian Bierschenk (DHHS, Norfolk)

Brian has worked for the State of Nebraska as a Developmental Disabilities Quality Control Specialist since 2018. He has also represented the Northern Area on the Board of Directors for the 2021-2023 term and has served as a delegate to both the bargaining conference and delegate assembly.

**Candidates for Omaha Area Delegates (Vote for no more than 2) - Declared Elected**

Francisca Morales (NDVA, Bellevue)

Automatic Delegate - Board of Directors Omaha Area Representative

Brianne Bushlow (DHHS, Fremont)

Brianne has been a Social Services Worker in Fremont for over nine years. She currently serves as the Omaha Area Representative on the Board, and would like the opportunity to continue representing her union brothers and sisters. She will push herself to grow as a steward and leader to make sure we have the strongest voice possible on the job.

Teri Doss (Economic Development, Omaha)

Teri is an Economic Development Consultant and serves as a union steward. She previously worked for DHHS in Fremont and has been a NAPE member since 2019.

**Candidates for Lincoln Area Delegates (Vote for no more than 4)**

Erika Robles (Revenue, Lincoln)

Automatic Delegate - Board of Directors Lincoln Area Representative

Mackenzie Marrow (Library Commission, Lincoln)

Automatic Delegate - Board of Directors Lincoln Area Representative

Anissa Rasmussen (Economic Development, Lincoln)

Anissa has been with the Department of Economic Development for 21 years. She currently works on the Business Innovation Team, as a Business Innovation Consultant. In addition to being actively involved in our union as a steward and volunteer member organizer, Anissa has served on the NAPE Board of Directors for 4 years. Anissa has been on the bylaws committee, and is currently on the NAPE Government Affairs Committee. Anissa would love the opportunity to attend the Delegate Assembly.

Thao Tang (Revenue, Lincoln)

Thao is a Revenue Agent and has been a state employee for more than two decades. She would be honored to serve as a delegate and represent her fellow union members.

Brooke Noordhoek (State Patrol, Lincoln)

Brooke is a Crime Analyst with the Nebraska State Patrol. She would like to continue to be more involved in the union and state government to make Nebraska a great place for state workers.

Max Hjermstad (Natural Resources, Lincoln)

Max is a Professional Engineer at the Department of Natural Resources where he also serves as a union steward. Max says, "Now more than ever, we should be thinking about how to build systems of mutual support within our union, protecting each other today and giving each other tools to fight tomorrow's battles. I'm talking with my coworkers about what that might look like, and I'd love to carry their ideas to our assembly in August."

René Botts (DHHS, Lincoln)

René is a Procurement Contracts Officer for DHHS. She believes strongly in what we are doing in NAPE/AFSCME Local 61. We are banding together to achieve better wages and benefits at our jobs. We have each other's backs! As a Steward, René represents people in discipline and grievance cases because she received excellent training to do so from our Union. She educates coworkers about the benefits of standing together and becoming a member. René has served on the Board of Directors for a two-year term. She is a Volunteer Member Organizer working to grow our membership. René would like to continue to serve in the Union and would appreciate your vote to elect her to the Delegate Assembly in August.

La'Trisha Turner (DHHS, Lincoln)

La'Trisha is an Office Specialist at the Lincoln Regional Center. La'Trisha serves as a union steward and she is passionate about our union, our members, and our rights. She would appreciate your vote!

**Candidates for Statewide DHHS Delegates (Vote for no more than 4)**

Miguel Nieto Lopez (DHHS, Lincoln)

Automatic Delegate - Board of Directors DHHS Representative

Michael Henry (DHHS, Lincoln)

Automatic Delegate - Board of Directors DHHS Representative

Lisa Steiner (DHHS, Lincoln)

Lisa has been with the State of Nebraska for almost 15 years with experience in Corrections, Education, Labor, and now DHHS. **She** recently spent some time in a position that wasn't covered by the NAPE contract, and she learned how important and comforting it is to have that contract and union besties behind you. She's so glad to be back under the contract and ready to serve you at the Delegate Assembly!

Eric Bachenberg (DHHS, Lincoln)

Eric has been a state employee for 45 years, and an active NAPE member since 18981. He has previously served at various delegate assemblies, and he was delegate to AFSCME convention in 2014 in Chicago. He would appreciate your vote!

Lorri Boye (DHHS, Omaha)

Lorri is a Social Services Lead Worker and has been a state employee for nearly ten years.

Cassie Grave (DHHS, Pender)

Cassie is a Social Services Worker and has been a member of NAPE/AFSCME for the past four years. She would be honored to serve as a delegate and represent her fellow NAPE members.

Adam Herron (DHHS, Lincoln)

Adam is an IT Business Systems Analyst. He has previously served as a delegate. He is asking for your vote so he can continue to provide a voice for our members for the next two years, especially as we see attacks by government leaders to lay off government employees and eliminate collective bargaining.

**Candidates for Statewide NDOT Delegates (Vote for no more than 2)**

Nathaniel Glass (NDOT, Omaha)

Nate is a Construction Tech III in Omaha. He is proud that we have a union that serves its members. He believes in our union and would appreciate the opportunity to help protect and improve the conditions of the working man and woman.

Ray Caspers (NDOT, Omaha)

Ray is an Auto/Diesel mechanic, and has worked for the State of Nebraska since 1982. He would be honored to be a voice for his fellow NDOT members at this year's Delegate Assembly.

Delwin "DC" Walter (NDOT Omaha)

DC is a Highway Maintenance Crew Chief and has been a NAPE/AFSCME member for the past three and a half years. He served as a delegate to last year's bargaining conference.

**Candidates for Statewide Agency Delegates (Vote for no more than 6) - Declared Elected**

Jason Baker (Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Kearney)

Automatic Delegate - Board of Directors State Agency Representative

Dan DeJong (Environment & Energy, Lincoln)

Automatic Delegate - Board of Directors State Agency Representative

Mary Schmidt-Rodriguez (Military, Lincoln)

Automatic Delegate - Board of Directors State Agency Representative

Christine Dittmar (Revenue, Lincoln)

Chris is a Senior Revenue Agent for the Nebraska Department of Revenue.

Nathan Kreutzer (Environment & Energy, Lincoln)

Nathan is an Environmental Specialist II and has been a member of our union since 2021. Nathan has been active as a steward for over a year. He has been working to grow union involvement at NDEE and he would like to help out more.

Lindsey Hollmann (Environment & Energy, Lincoln)

Lindsey is an Engineer and has been an active union member and steward during her time at the Department of Environment & Energy.

Matthew Vajgrt (DMV, Grand Island)

Matt is a Motor Vehicle Examiner and has been a member of our union since his first year on the job. Matt is running to serve as a delegate because he wants to do everything he can for State of Nebraska employees. Now, more than ever, it is important that we come together in solidarity and fight for each other. Thank you for your consideration.

Tyler Zinsmaster (Natural Resources, Lincoln)

Tyler is an IT Applications Developer and has been with the state for nearly 5 years. Tyler is a proud state employee. He has also been a proud member of NAPE for just as long, and a Steward since 2023. If elected to the Delegate Assembly, Tyler will work as an ardent supporter of his fellow public workers, and for the success and growth of NAPE and the labor movement. As well, he personally would be honored to gain experience getting more involved and knowledgeable with the union and our bylaws. Tyler likes getting into the nitty gritty, and wants to be able to offer not only his perspective, but the perspectives of the workers he would represent.

Sharon Waters (Game & Parks, Lincoln)

Sharon has been a state employee for 15 years, and has worked at the following agencies NDCS, NDOL, DHHS, and currently at NGPC. Sharon has been a union member for over 11 years, serving on the Government Affairs Committee, as a union steward, and has participated in three delegate assemblies and two AFSCME conventions. Sharon would be honored to continue to be a voice for NGPC and all state employees.

**Candidates for Department of Education Delegates (Vote for no more than 2) - Declared Elected**

Katherine Knutzen (Columbus)

Automatic Delegate - Board of Directors Department of Education Representative

Rebecca Schademann (Lincoln)

Rebecca has worked for the State since 2010 at both the Department of Economic Development and the Department of Education. She serves as a union steward and has served on the negotiations team, Board of Directors, and Delegate Assembly.

Lacey Bonneau (Lincoln)

Lacey is an IT Infrastructure Support Analyst for NDE at Lincoln Headquarters.

**Candidates for State Colleges Delegates (Vote for no more than 2) - Declared Elected**

Kelly Overshiner (Chadron)

Automatic Delegate - Board of Directors State College Representative

Brandon Bannon (Chadron)

Brandon is a custodian at Chadron State College and serves as a union steward. He would be honored to serve as a delegate and give a voice for all the support staff at the State College System

Vacant

1 Position

**Candidates for Richardson County Delegates (Vote for no more than 2) - Declared Elected**

Bryan Dettmann (Falls City)

Automatic Delegate - Board of Directors Richardson County Delegate

Randy Gilsdorf (Falls City)

Randy is a mechanic at the Richardson County Roads Department. He is a union steward, previously served on the Board of Directors, and has served as a delegate to many Delegate Assemblies during his nearly 30 years as a NAPE member.

Vacant

1 Position

**Candidates for Supervisory Delegates (Vote for no more than 2)**

Teresa Menking (DHHS Fremont)

Automatic Delegate - Board of Directors Supervisory Representative

Mary Schwanke (DHHS, Fremont)

Mary is a Social Services Supervisor and currently serves as the Supervisory Representative on the Board of Directors. Mary would love to serve as a delegate to ensure supervisory members have a strong voice on the Board.

Bryce Holmes (Transportation, Omaha)

Bryce is a Highway Project Manager for NDOT District 2 in Omaha. While in the bargaining unit, he has served as a steward, and he frequently attends meetings to learn and communicate information to his fellow union members. Bryce would be honored to be the voice of his fellow rules and regulations covered union members.

Tim Miller (Transportation, Kearney)

Tim recently promoted to supervisor at the Kearney I-80 Yard after serving as a Highway Maintenance Crew Chief with more than a decade of experience. Tim served as the NDOT representative on the Board of Directors and served on the 2025-2027 contract negotiations team. While in the Bargaining Unit, Tim was a union steward and has attended steward seminars to sharpen his skills to advocate for his fellow NAPE members. Tim is passionate about making sure employees' voices are heard and would be honored to serve as a delegate.

**Candidates for At-Large Delegates (Vote for no more than 6) - Declared Elected**

Kelly Kopeitka (DHHS, Fremont)

Automatic Delegate - Board of Directors At-Large Representative

Sally Merker (DHHS, Lincoln)

Automatic Delegate - Board of Directors At-Large Representative

Amy Peters (DHHS, Lincoln)

Automatic Delegate - Board of Directors At-Large Representative

Kyle Martsching (DHHS, Lincoln)

Kyle has been a proud NAPE union member for over 3 years and a union steward for over 2 years. He regularly attends NAPE monthly meetings as well as attends various NAPE rallies. Kyle has worked with his fellow union members to encourage fellow co-workers to join the union with many joining the ranks to become NAPE union members. In the past Kyle sat on an advisory committee for over 3 years, co-wrote grant proposals and also co-wrote curriculum and policies for the grant project when funding was received. He also wrote and implemented client programs and helped guide individuals towards their goals. Kyle has lived in Lincoln for over 25 years and spent his entire career working for non-profits and in each role he has advocated for the individuals he supported. Kyle has spent over 18 years volunteering weekly at The Cat House, a local cat rescue. Kyle believes strongly in our union and would be proud to represent it as a delegate.

Alyssa Macke (DHHS, Lincoln)

Alyssa is a Developmental Disabilities Services Coordinator, steward, Volunteer Member Organizer, and all-around union activist. Alyssa believes strongly in our mission and would like to use her voice to amplify all state employee voices. She would be honored to have your vote.

Lynda Clause (Library Commission, Lincoln)

Lynda is an Administrative Technician and has been a proud NAPE member for over three years.

Rose Mackey (DAS, Lincoln)

Rose currently works in IT as a Server Admin for the OCIO Web Team. She has been a steward for multiple years and wants to be involved and learn more about how the union works by being elected to the Delegate Assembly.

Blayne Glissmann (Environment & Energy, Lincoln)

Blayne is an Environmental Specialist II and has worked for the State of Nebraska for more than 25 years. He has previously served as a delegate and would be honored to serve again.

Jessica Davis (DHHS, Lincoln)

Jessy is a Behavioral Health Practitioner IV at the Lincoln Regional Center. She has served our union as a steward, delegate, at the bargaining conference, as a member of the Board of Directors, and as a delegate to the Nebraska State AFL-CIO convention. She is always happy to represent her fellow union members.