FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 28, 2025

CONTACT Lisa Scheve, Grow Sarpy 402.233.7155 LScheve@GrowSarpy.com

Grow Sarpy Celebrates 50 Years of Growth at Annual Meeting

Sarpy County, NE – In a landmark celebration of half a century of progress, Grow Sarpy held its 2025 Annual Meeting on February 20, marking 50 years of economic development and community transformation in Sarpy County. The event brought together community leaders, local business representatives, and investors to reflect on past achievements and set a course for the future.

The meeting showcased recent milestones that underscore Sarpy County's robust economic momentum. Notable highlights included:

- A significant increase in countywide building permits in 2024, reflecting ongoing development.
- A healthy project pipeline paired with a reinvigorated site development committee focused on identifying new industrial opportunities.
- The completion of 74 Business Retention and Expansion visits in 2024, with encouraging feedback from local companies regarding workforce growth and future capital investments.
- Expansion of the Introduction to Construction and Safety Kit Program, which has bridged education and industry by distributing over 1,200 kits to school districts, with plans underway to introduce a new Trades Day initiative.

The evening's awards ceremony honored standout contributions to economic development in the region. Papillion Landing Community Centers & Sports Complex was named the 2025 Business Progress Award recipient for its significant impact on local growth and community engagement. In addition, Paula Dennison of the City of Gretna received the 2025 Partner in Economic Development Award in recognition of her steadfast support in fostering job creation and investment throughout Sarpy County.

For more information on Grow Sarpy's progress and upcoming initiatives, please refer to the organization's 2024 Progress Report, Economic Indicators Report, and BRE Report available in print and online at <u>www.GrowSarpy.com</u>.

(Photos attached)

* For further interview opportunities, please reach out to Lisa Scheve (contact information listed above). *

###

About Grow Sarpy

Grow Sarpy (<u>www.GrowSarpy.com</u>) is a nonprofit business organization and is part of the Greater Omaha Economic Development Partnership. The mission of Grow Sarpy is to grow and diversify Sarpy County through recruitment, expansion, and development of industrial and service enterprises – creating new employment opportunities, capital investment, and an exceptional quality of life.

About the Greater Omaha Chamber Economic Development Partnership

The Greater Omaha Chamber Economic Development Partnership (<u>www.OmahaChamber.org/economic-development/</u>) represents an eight-county area from two states (Nebraska and Iowa) that includes Cass, Dodge, Douglas, Mills, Otoe, Pottawattamie, Sarpy and Washington Counties. The regionalized partnership operates as a comprehensive resource, driving growth and championing collaboration.