

NOTICE OF MERRICK COUNTY EDUCATIONAL LAND AUCTION

Notice is hereby given that an authorized agent of the Board of Educational Lands and Funds of the State of Nebraska "BELF" will offer at public auction the right to enter into a land exchange on the day and time set forth below, at the MERRICK COUNTY COURTHOUSE in Central City, Nebraska. Such exchange involves the following listed educational lands within the County.

DATE: July 2, 2026

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

It is the intent of the School Trust to perform such exchange by transferring the property legally described below to each Successful Bidder (herein referred to as "Successful Bidder") at the auction. The exchange shall be conducted in accordance with Section 72-253(2) of the Nebraska Statutes. The closing of the exchange will take place by August 31, 2026.

PREDOMINANT LAND USE: Grassland

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: A portion of the South Half of the Southeast Quarter (S1/2SE1/4) consisting of approximately .85 acres, with a 1.15 acre access easement, in Section 16, T16N, R03W of the 6th P.M., Merrick County, Nebraska, except any and all mineral rights. See the Deed for the exact legal description.

LOCATION: Approximately 2.5 miles north of Silver Creek, NE.

BEGINNING BID PRICE: \$8,000.00 plus the cost of improvements, and plus the \$481.95 cost of advertising.

IMPROVEMENTS: In the event that the current lessee is not the Successful Bidder, the Successful Bidder must pay the current lessee the value of the improvements on the exchanged land. The improvements are: 6.3 rods of fence. The total value of the improvements is \$330.00. The value of such improvements owned by the current lessee shall be added to the amount payable by the Successful Bidder (if the successful bidder is not the current lessee). All improvements affixed to the land which are not listed above will pass to the purchaser of the land.

In order to be eligible to bid on the above land included in this exchange, a party must present to a representative of BELF prior to making any bid, a down payment of twenty-percent (20%) (\$1,600.00) of the beginning bid price. The balance of the successful bid price shall be due and payable on or before August 31, 2026. The twenty-percent (20%) down payment must be made by bank draft, cashier's check, certified check, or money order made payable to the Board of Educational Lands and Funds. The final payment due on or before August 31, 2026, must be made by wire transfer or good funds, as provided in the Ag Exchange Agreement. Personal checks will not be accepted. The real estate will be conveyed by Quitclaim Deed signed by a representative of BELF, the Governor and the Secretary of State of the State of Nebraska free and clear of all liens and encumbrances, but subject to all easements, restrictions, reservations, rights-of-way, and other matters of record, and all public roads. As required by the Nebraska Constitution, the Board shall retain all salt springs, coal, oil, minerals, artifacts, fossils and other natural resources on, over, or contained in the land. If the Successful Bidder fails to pay the purchase price in full on or before August 31, 2026, the Board may enforce the contract or may declare the agreement null and void, and the Successful Bidder's rights under the Ag Exchange Agreement, including all payments made prior to closing, shall be forfeited as liquidated damages to the Board.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS: The Successful Bidder shall execute an Ag Exchange Agreement with BELF to facilitate the land exchange. **Copies of the Ag Exchange Agreement may be obtained prior to the sale by calling Kelly Sudbeck at the BELF office (402-471-2014). Please obtain and carefully review a copy of the Agreement prior to the auction.**

REAL ESTATE TAXES: The Board will pay the real estate taxes for 2025 and all prior years. The 2026 taxes and all real estate taxes for subsequent years shall be the sole responsibility of the Successful Bidder. No rent will be prorated.

CLOSING AND POSSESSION: The Successful Bidder shall receive a Quitclaim Deed of the Exchanged property on the date of closing, and shall receive possession of the real estate at closing.

All exchanges of educational land at public auction are considered to be non-revocable offers which have received pre-auction confirmation, provided the Successful Bidder bids an amount equal to or excess of the beginning bid price.

For further information contact:

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