

OMRO TOWN CRIER

Vol 6, Issue 2, February 2025

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

Here are statements provided by the candidates for positions on the Town Board. They are being published as provided except perhaps with changes in font and margins. Election day is April 1, 2025.

The First is from Brian Noe who is running unopposed for Town Chairman.

Throughout my time as your Town Chairman, I've worked with several board members and committee members to provide services while allowing growth to occur at a reasonable and sustainable level to allow property owners to enjoy relatively low town taxes. Over the years the town has successfully obtained grants for park land, recycling, storm water and several road projects, helping reduce taxes required to make these improvements. I'll continue to put necessary plans in place that position the town for eligibility for future grant funding as well.

My involvement as the Wisconsin Towns Association Winnebago County Unit Vice Chair has allowed me to keep up with statewide issues and help the town maintain compliance with all state regulations. We continue to see development pressure, and there's more work ahead to be certain future developments are orderly and of long-term benefit.

Costs for essential services continue to rise, creating the challenge of working toward cost-effective solutions. The Town is very fortunate to have an all-volunteer joint fire department, and we have worked with department personnel to fund new trucks and equipment over the years while keeping that budget affordable. We are also served by local First Responders who provide timely care until an ambulance arrives. Due to drastic increases in ambulance service rates recently, we've formed a committee to create a multi-municipality ambulance service that can work to improve response times and control costs rather, than be at the mercy of any one ambulance providers.

Having improved many processes and services over the years, I look forward to continuing to address these matters, along with any others that may arise. We're fortunate to have many good people willing to serve the town, and I look forward to continuing successful collaboration with them. So, I'm hoping for your continued support in the April election.

The remaining statements are from candidates for Town Supervisor. There are three candidates and you will be able to vote for two since there are two positions to fill.

This first is from Steve Disterhaft.

I would like to re-introduce myself to the residents of the Town as I ask for your vote for Town Supervisor on April 1st. I was originally elected to the board in 2021 and was fortunate to get re-elected in 2023. During my time on the Board, I have been part of a team involved in overseeing the successful completion of the financial audit of the Town's books, approving important safety and security updates to the Town Hall, as well as updates to the Town refuse facilities. I have also participated in the annual

review of Town roads each spring since getting elected in 2021, which involves assessing all Town roads, determining those needing repair, obtaining cost estimates, and prioritizing the work based on costs and budget allowances. These activities demonstrate just some of the invaluable experience I have gained in my four years as a Town Supervisor and hope to expand on if re-elected. Additionally, I have had the opportunity to communicate with Town of Omro residents regarding concerns they have encountered and helped to get those concerns addressed. On a personal note, I have worked for Miron Construction for 25 years, and the Town's proximity to the Fox Valley is what brought us here in 2017. Since moving to the area, we have enjoyed watching the area grow and really appreciate the close-knit community feel. I believe that good government can help a community to further flourish, so long as people are willing to give of their time and talents. I would be honored to receive your vote and be given that opportunity again.

The second is from Dave Ruedinger.

Town of Omro – supervisor position.

I was asked to consider running for a position in the Town of Omro. After my original thought of why me? It occurred to me that should really ask why not me? What do I bring to the table? I am a CPA by trade with an emphasis on closely held businesses primarily in distribution, manufacturing and real estate development and taxation. As a long-term resident I realize that we have it pretty good. We live here because we want to. We share the same values and are more alike than we think.

My initial directives would include the following:

Maintain what we have. I think the Town has been well run. It has been a good steward of Town resources and strives to balance the diverse interests of its suburban residents and our agricultural roots.

Listen to all stake holders – they are the ones paying the bills. What concerns have they expressed and how have they been addressed. Has Town leadership surveyed the residents to see where there at? How do they measure success or failure?

Does the Town have a business plan? Where does it want to be in three years? In ten years? What does it want to look like? Is it moving in the right direction? How does it measure progress? Does it have the tools it needs to be successful.

As you can see I have more questions than answers. Why not me?

The third is from Jessica Bradley

Faith, Family and Farming!

I am a lifelong resident of Winnebago County. Growing up in Pickett the youngest daughter of seven children born to Alice and Quinn Rasmussen. Life of a kid on a family farm where we learned responsibility by caring for cattle, horses, sheep, goats and chickens sparked my passion in agriculture. In 2005 I purchased the farm I grew up on and my mother stills lives there today, and we raise crops on the land.

In 2006 I was blessed to marry my husband, Michael Bradley, a lifelong resident of Town of Omro. Michael is the third oldest son of nine children born to Jane and Argene

Bradley raised on our Century Farm his Great Grandfather Henry Sr. purchased in 1916. In 1979 Michael bought the farm from his father and together with his first wife Julie farmed, milked Registered Holsteins and raised five daughters until her passing in 2000. Together Michael and I welcomed a son that will be the fifth generation on our farm. We have thirteen grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

I have worked for CentralStar Cooperative as a DHI Technician since 2016. I travel the state and work with many of the “Mega” farms and am always happiest when I am back local working with the “Family” farms, helping to give them the information they need to succeed!

I have a strong belief in planning. Benjamin Franklin said “If you fail to plan, you are planning to fail!” I know this is a strength that I will bring to the Town Board. I look forward to fulfilling my civic duty on the Town of Omro Board, with respecting the past that has made it the strong community it is today!

WHAT’S ON MY BALLOT

As of this issue the ballot content has not been finalized for the April 1, 2025, non-partisan election. About March 10, 2025, you should be able to find what is on your ballot through this link provided by the State of Wisconsin Elections Commission: [What's On My Ballot](#)

SPRING PRIMARY ELECTION RESULTS

Spring Primary elections were held Tuesday, February 18, 2025.
Here are the results within the Town of Omro and Winnebago County:

For State Superintendent of Public Instruction

	Town	County
Jeff Wright	42	3,629
Brittany Kinser	108	4,971
Jill Underly	98	5,621

For Winnebago County Executive

Jon Doemel	80	3,912
John Matz	67	3,281
Gordon Hintz	109	7,127

In the Town of Omro there were 1,883 registered voters when the polls opened and one new voter registered during the day. There were 259 votes cast with 53 of those being absentee. The turnout was 14%.

TOWN OF OMRO CODE OF ORDINANCES

The Town Board has collected all ordinances adopted by the Town into one Code of Ordinances. That code is posted on the town website and can be reached through this link: [Town of Omro - Ordinances](#) and scrolling down to the correct chapter.

This month this editor will focus on Chapter 168, *Solid Waste*

This ordinance needs to be revamped. It starts to lay out a designation for “dumping ground” but does not establish a particular site. It provides days and times which are no longer in use. It does not require dump passes. It does not discuss recycling or the new electronics recycling. It does establish that only Town residents may use the dumping site and establishes rules and penalties.

[Currently the dump on Wendt Road is open on Saturdays. All year it is open from 8:00 P.M. until 3:00 P.M. From April 1 to October 1, it is additionally open on Thursdays from 4:30 P.M. to 6:30 P.M. For electronics recycling see the Town website: [Town of Omro - Garbage & Recycling](#) and scroll to the bottom of the page.]

LOST GIFT CARD

Someone lost a gift card at the Town Hall during elections. It can be claimed by contacting the Clerk, Dana Woods, and identifying the store and amount on the card.

FEBRUARY 24 TOWN BOARD MEETING

Public comment was this editor giving the Board a heads up about Chapter 168 in the Town Ordinances.

The Board did the following:

Approved entering into an Intergovernmental Agreement for the purpose of providing emergency medical services. The State Department of Revenue awarded a \$50,000 Planning Grant for the purpose of studying ways to create an innovative way of providing emergency medical services in the event that the contract with the City of Oshkosh ends. This could lead to application for another grant to complete the process.

Took no action on updating the Agreement for the Omro-Rushford Fire Department. As a side note, it was mentioned that the Fire Department has secured \$61,000 in donations. The need for more First responders was also highlighted.

In reports it was announced that the Planning Commission was in agreement with extending its Highway 21 Corridor project to the west side of the City of Omro.

The Board went into executive session to discuss employee evaluations, promotions and compensation.

SUBMISSIONS FOR THE NEWSLETTER

This is Issue 2 of Volume 6 of the free on-line newsletter devoted to things in the Town of Omro. Previous issues can be found on the Town of Omro website under the “Residents” tab or directly by this link: [Town of Omro - Newsletters](#)

If this editor does not know of an event it will not be included in the newsletter. Please share your thoughts for additional articles or questions. Reader contributions (ideas, not money) will be appreciated and can be sent to NewsLetter@townofomro.gov as can requests to be included in the mailing list.

Please share this with friends and encourage them to add their e-mail address to the distribution list.

The editor is Tom Tuschl.