

Nebraska Regent Visits Falls City

(KTNC) - The newest member of the University of Nebraska Board of Regents visited Falls City this week.

Governor Dave Heineman appointed Rob Schafer to the Board Regents in March to fill the District 5 seat vacated when Lavon Heidemann became Lieutenant Governor.

Schafer is the managing partner at the Carlson, Schafer, and Davis Law Firm in Beatrice.

He also operates a farm in Pawnee County and is a Pawnee City High School graduate.

Schafer compares serving on the Board of Regents to serving on the Board of Directors of a large corporation. He says their job is to set policies and goals, and provide guidance, for the University president.

Schafer says there is a lot going on at the University of Nebraska now.

He cites research going on at the Innovation Campus' Food for Water Institute, researching ways to increase food production to meet the demands of a growing world population.

Schafer says the University of Nebraska recently became the 14th institution chosen to help with research and development of items for the Department of Defense.

The University of Nebraska operates campuses in Lincoln, Omaha and Kearney, as well as the University of Nebraska Medical Center. Schafer says they have a goal to increase enrollment at both the Lincoln and Omaha campuses in the next few years.

Regent District 5 includes 16 counties in southeast Nebraska, bordered on the east by Richardson, Nemaha, Otoe, and Cass Counties, and Nuckolls, Clay, Seward, and Butler Counties on the west. The district also includes northwest Lancaster County and a portion of the city of Lincoln.

Since he was appointed to the Board of Regents, Schafer will have to run for election to the board in 2014 to fill the final four years of the term.