

7:15AM	Registration Opens , <i>sponsored by Wesco</i>	
7:15AM – 8:00AM	Networking Breakfast with Exhibitors , <i>sponsored by Power & Tel</i>	
8:00AM – 8:05AM	Welcome & Introduction Evann Freeman, Vice President of Government and Community Relations, EPB	
8:05AM – 8:20AM	Fiber Broadband: The Future that Fiber Enables Gary Bolton, President & CEO, Fiber Broadband Association	
8:20AM – 8:25AM	FBA OpTIC™ Program: Developing that Workforce Needed Laura Hartman, Workforce Development Program Manager, FBA	
8:25AM – 8:50AM	Opening Keynote: Digital Agriculture – The Next Innovation Frontier Dr. Scott Hutchins, Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics, USDA	
8:50AM – 9:30AM	Future Ready Infrastructure: Where Fiber Fuels Intelligence AI has the potential to transform community services, modernize the electrical grid, Technology is becoming the infrastructure behind nearly every sector of Nebraska's economy. From precision agriculture and advanced manufacturing to healthcare, education, energy and artificial intelligence, organizations increasingly depend on secure, high-capacity connectivity to innovate, compete and grow. Fiber is more than broadband. It is the foundation that enables AI adoption, digital transformation, workforce development and the next generation of business investment. This discussion will explore how digital infrastructure supports economic growth, strengthens communities and positions Nebraska to compete for the industries and jobs of the future. Panelists will share real-world examples of how technology is driving innovation across sectors and discuss the policies, partnerships and investments needed to ensure Nebraska remains competitive in an increasingly connected economy. Moderator: Emily Allen, Executive Director, Tech Nebraska Panelists: • Cesile Johnson, Chief Technology Officer, Core Bank • Dan Harbeke, Regional Head, External Affairs and Public Policy, Google • Mike Miller, Telecom Practice Leader, HDR	
9:30AM – 10:00AM	Fireside Chat: Data Gravity: Understanding the Orbit of Edge Compute Bill Severn, President and CEO, 1623 Farnam, LLC with Rachel Hack Merlo, Head of Local Government Affairs Strategy, GFiber	
10:00AM	Breakfast Sponsor Remarks Bob Zuzek, Regional Sales Manager, Power & Tel	
10:00AM – 10:45AM	Networking Break with Exhibitors	
10:45AM – 10:50AM	The Dolly Parton Imagination Library and AARP OATS FBA Programs Ashley Travers, Vice President, Strategic Partnerships, KGPCo	

- 10:50AM – 11:20AM **Fireside Chat: How AI and Robotics Are Shaping What's Possible on the Farm**
Xin (Rex) Sun, PhD, Endowed Chair and Director, Peltier Institute for Advancement in Agricultural Technology, North Dakota State University, with Joe Baeumel, VP, Business Development and Partner Strategy, KGPCo.
- 11:20AM – 12:00 PM **Fireside Chat: Precision Agriculture: How AI Enables Better Yields**
Zach Hunnicutt, 5th Generation Farmer, Aurora, Nebraska with Jordan Dux, Senior Director of National Affairs, Nebraska Farm Bureau
- 12:00PM – 12:45PM **Networking Lunch, sponsored by Graybar/CommScope**
- 12:45PM – 1:30PM **Networking Dessert with Exhibitors**
- 1:30PM **Lunch Sponsor Remarks**
Scott Jackson, National Market Manager, Graybar
- 1:30PM – 2:10PM **Fiber to the Farm: Where, When, and Connected to What**
Fiber broadband is essential for farms as it provides reliable and high-speed internet connectivity, which is crucial for various agricultural activities. It supports access to markets, supports precision agriculture, fosters entrepreneurship and economic growth, and enables seamless distribution of farm data. But fiber won't reach every barn and acre but can be used to backhaul data collected with other broadband access technologies including LTE, Fixed Wireless, and LEO.
Moderator: Bob Zuzek, Regional Sales Manager, Power & Tel
Panelists:
- Jeff Brown, Senior Director, Business Development, Calix
 - Walt Donovan, Vice President, Strategic Partnerships, DYCOM
 - Quinn Jordan, Director of Strategic Partnerships, TEC
- 2:10PM – 2:15PM **Networking Reception Sponsor Remarks**
Rob Buck, Director, Sterling Street Outfitters
- 2:15PM – 2:40PM **Fireside Chat: Fiber and Economic Development in Big Sky Country**
Brit Fontenot, Director of Economic Development, City of Bozeman with Roger Timmerman, CEO, Utopia Fiber
- 2:40PM – 2:50PM **Sip & Stretch Coffee and Snack Break**
- 2:50PM **Membership Update and Introductions**
Jennifer Vassil, Vice President of Membership, FBA
- 2:50PM – 3:30PM **Beyond Precision Ag: Rural Community Economic Impact**
As the fiber broadband industry moves to connect every home, what does this mean for local stakeholders in terms of economic impact and opportunity? What role does fiber play in improving GDP, creating job opportunities, and new business development? What impact can it have on education, community services and home prices, and does fiber present the best catalyst for growth as rural communities look to grow and thrive.

Moderator: Ashley Travers, Vice President, Strategic Partnerships, KGPCo

Panelists:

- Jeff England, CFO, Silverstar
- Carla Shearer, CEO/General Manager, SCTelecom
- Angie Kreider, Director of Business Development, Rainbow Communications
- Emily Haxby, Vice Chair, Gage County Board of Supervisors

3:30PM

Closing Remarks

Evann Freeman, Vice President of Government and Community Relations, EPB

3:30PM – 4:30PM

Networking Reception with Expo Hall, *sponsored by Sterling Fleet Outfitters*

