

Nebraska Wind Conference 2012

David “Dave” Vavra

Chairman

Saline County Wind Association LLC

(SCWA)

**Landowner Associations
Getting Organized**

Why Organize?

There Are Several Reasons to Form a Landowner Association:

- 1. A wind developer has expressed an interest in your area**
- 2. A few landowners are wanting to pursue wind development**
- 3. County Officials/ Economic Organization are encouraging development**
- 4. Control the development of wind energy in your area**
 - To build or not to build?**



MN wind project - roads

What Are We Doing Here?

First and foremost you need to determine your organizations initial objectives

Recognize these objectives can and will change as you become better informed

What Are We To Do?

**In Saline County's Case
our 1st order of business
was to educate the
interim board members,
the Landowners, and
the County Officials.**



Chadler 2014

Who?

**Who do you want to join your
proposed wind association????**

EVERYBODY

That will be in the affected area

And then some....

Types of Potential Members

- **Gun Ho Gus!**
 - Right or wrong over the cliff!
 - I'm going to make a killing
- **Don't care Dorothy**
 - Goes which ever the wind blows
- **No Way Ned!**
 - \$\$\$ could literally falling out of the turbines and they would be against it.
 - May actively work to oppose a project



Recruitment Strategies

- **You will be forming a volunteer organization. You have to look for ways to involve as many people as possible.**
 - **You will always have your core leaders**
 - **Some of these will step forward**
 - **Some you will need to recruit**
 - **You look for people that have a strong interest in putting the project before their own agenda(s)**
 - **Look for those who think outside the box, even if they may be contrarian from time to time.**



Recruitment Strategies

- **Hold educational meetings with the general membership to explain possible project and negotiated contract**
 - **No member was bound to sign any lease agreement.**
 - **With SCWA, our job in protecting the landowner was to educate, negotiate, and explain the strong points and shortcomings of the negotiated Lease Agreement**



Saline County Wind Association Informational Meetings

The Saline County Wind Association will be hosting two informational meetings regarding Wind Farm development in Saline County. Area landowners are encouraged to attend one of the two meetings. The same information will be presented at each meeting.

Saline Center
Wednesday, November 19, 2008
and
Thursday, November 20, 2008
7:00 PM

While the meetings are open to all residents and landowners of Saline County, the main targeted audience are the landowners in the following Townships:

* Atlanta * Brush Creek * Monroe * North Fork *
* Pleasant Hill * Turkey Creek *

Presenters and topics of discussion include:

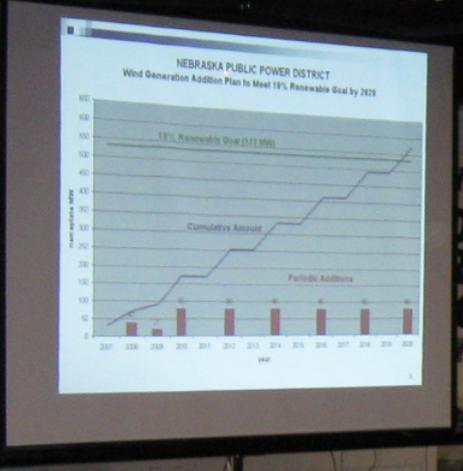
- √ Wind Association History and
Introduction of Interim Wind Board and Alternates
Dave Vavra, Chairman-Saline County Wind Association
- √ Wind Energy Development in Nebraska
John Hansen, President-Nebraska Farmer's Union
- √ Legal Aspects of Wind Energy That All Landowners Need to Hear
John Hay, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- √ Saline County Commissioners' View on the Project
Willis Luedke, Saline County Commissioner
- √ View From the State
Senator Russ Karpisek
- √ Wind Association's Call to Action of Landowners
Dave Vavra - "We Need To Work Together"

Landowners - This could mean additional INCOME for you!

Call your neighbors, pool rides, choose one of the meetings, don't miss this opportunity.

For additional information, please contact:

*Darrel Hayek (402) 947-8601, Doug Horak (402) 821-2036, Darel Petersen (402) 576-3736,
Doris Broz (402) 821-2547, Dave Rezabek (402) 946-6631, Nicky Zalesky (402) 826-0376,
Dave Vavra (308) 380-7225*



A man in a dark jacket is standing at the front of the room, gesturing towards the projection screen while presenting to the audience.

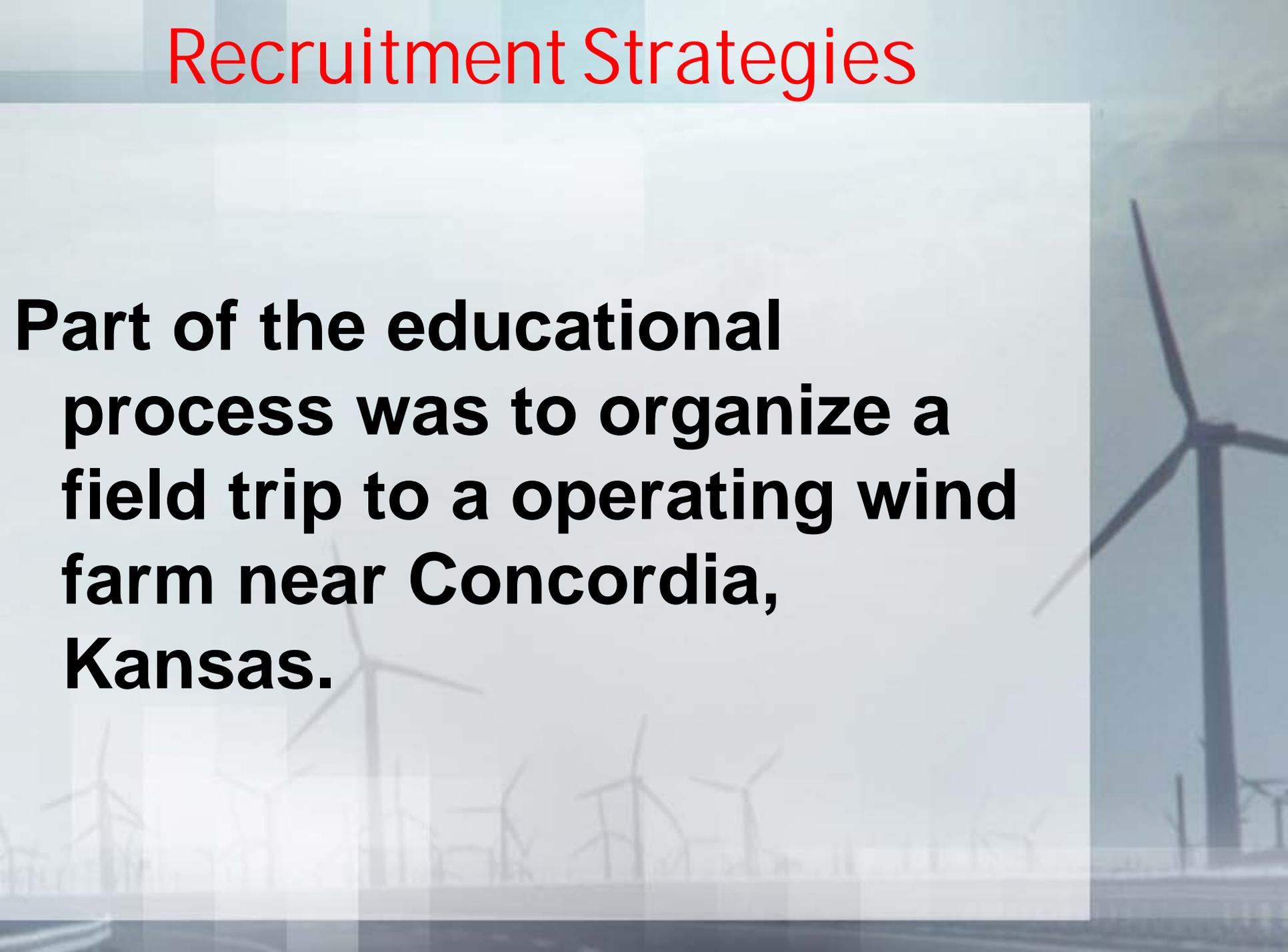
An audience of approximately 15-20 people is seated at long tables in a dimly lit room, facing the presentation area. Some individuals are looking towards the screen, while others are looking towards the presenter.

01/19/2009



01/19/2009

Recruitment Strategies



Part of the educational process was to organize a field trip to a operating wind farm near Concordia, Kansas.



01/30/2009



01/30/2009



Installing road rock on top of fabric mat material.

Recruitment Strategies

**Once the initial objectives are met,
determine the next set of objectives**

- **For SCWA it was to elect a permanent board and then pursue wind development for the area**
 - **The board interviewed several wind developers**
 - **Then in separate meetings the most promising developers presented their proposals to the entire membership**
 - **Hired an experienced wind attorney**

Recruitment Strategies

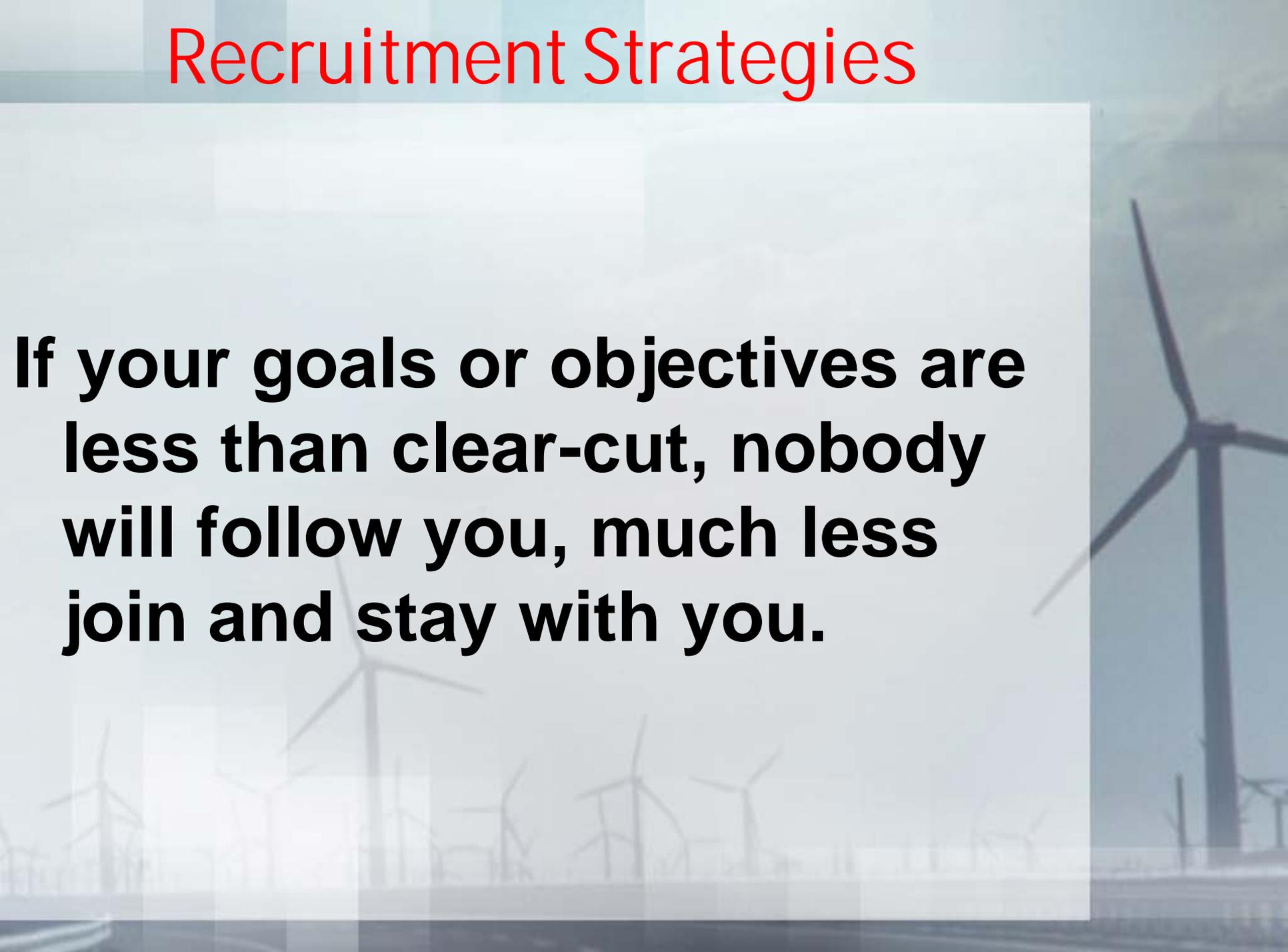
- **Negotiate an equitable wind lease agreement with the chosen wind developer**
- **Use the “Community Concept” to encourage membership**





Recruitment Strategies

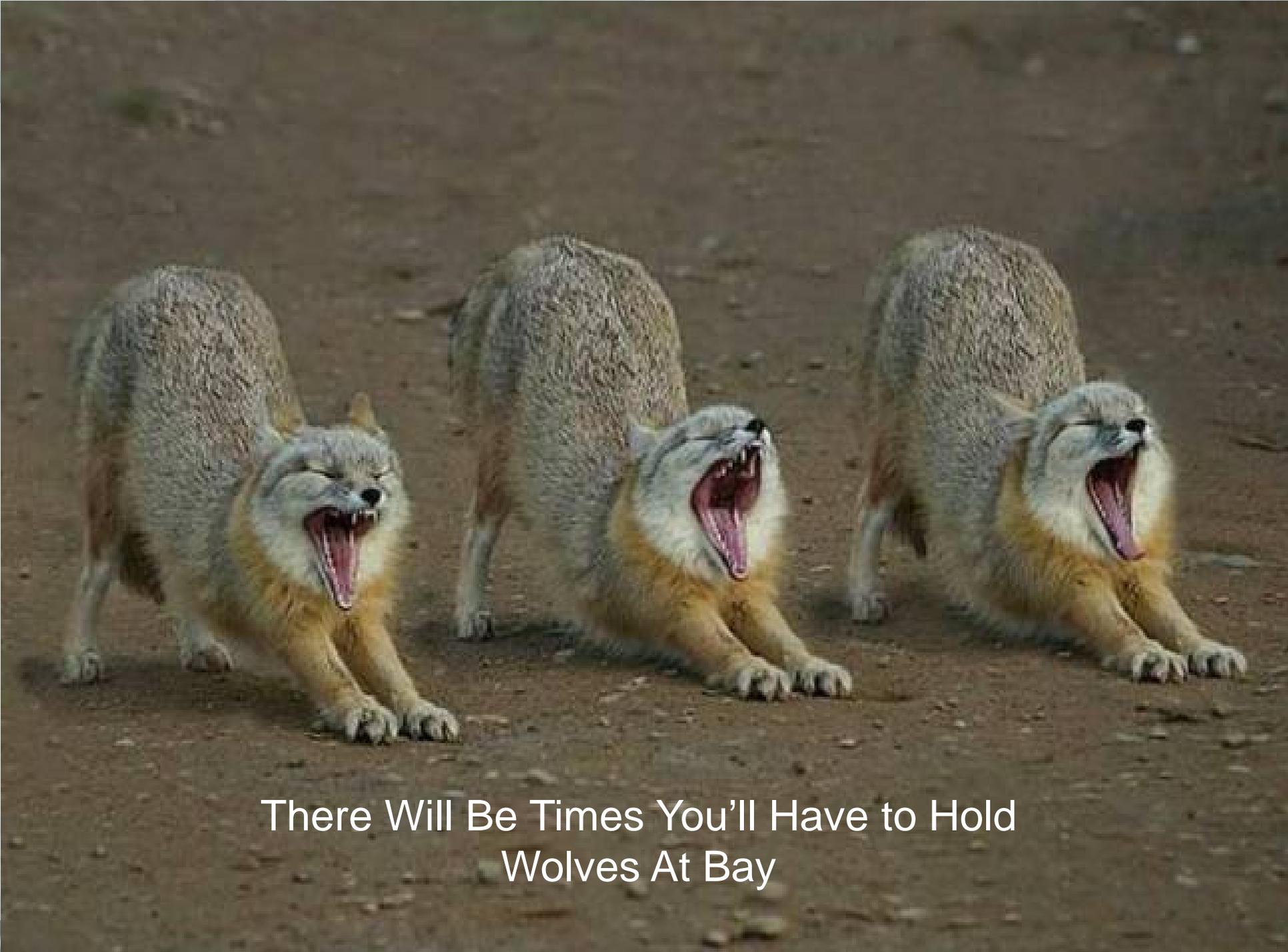
If your goals or objectives are less than clear-cut, nobody will follow you, much less join and stay with you.



Recruitment Strategies

You have to be looking at this for the long term.

Enthusiasm deteriorates quickly if you don't set and keep the long term vision in place.



There Will Be Times You'll Have to Hold
Wolves At Bay



Then There Will Be Times You'll Feel
Somewhat Exposed

Recruitment Strategies

In closing:

- **Determine your initial objectives**
- **Educate potential members**
- **Involve local government officials**
- **Based on feedback from the members either proceed with or terminate the process**
- **Elect permanent leaders (Board with set terms)**
- **Determine a new set of objectives if needed**
- **Engage and further educate the membership and local officials**

Something to consider when signing a wind lease:

If you are a young landowner and you sign a wind lease today, your unborn child's grandchild could be 10 years old when that lease terminates.

If your older, well, you get the idea....

Ainsworth, NE



If successful, this could be your Western Horizon

10/04/2010