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PRESS RELEASE

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“Osage Coop Elevator Announces Expansion”

On Tuesday, August 5th, the Mitchell County Board of Supervisors heard the plans for expansion from Osage Cooperative Elevator management and representatives from their Board of Directors. The expansion will include a new, state of the art, dry fertilizer facility and will allow the co-op to accommodate the needs of their growing customer base. According to co-op Manager, Gayle Melcher, “The plant being built will have several product bins and four micro nutrient bins. This plant is being constructed to accommodate the next 30-50 years and beyond. This investment will serve the needs of our patrons for years to come.” Brenda Dryer, Executive Director for the Mitchell County Economic Development Commission explains, “I congratulate the member owners and staff of the Osage Cooperative Elevator on this exciting project. I am thrilled with the multi-million dollar capital investment, the new jobs to be created, and the impact this project will have on the agriculture sector of the Mitchell County economy.”

The existing dry fertilizer plant was built in the 1960’s and has served its useful life. The state of the art facility will be constructed north of the far north grain bin on a field owned by Osage Coop Elevator in rural Mitchell County. Testing and permits will take place this year with construction to begin next year with operations expected to commence the spring of 2016. The new facility will allow the cooperative to accommodate their customers with better in-season delivery and to mix and unload receiving trucks at the same time.

The Osage Cooperative Elevator has requested TIF incentives from the Mitchell County Supervisors to support this large scale investment.

The Osage Cooperative Elevator was founded by area producers in February 1945 and is currently owned by its 465 members. For the past 69 years it has served farmers and consumers in the Osage area with a wide range of products and services and is one of only twelve single location coops in the State of Iowa.

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