

NEVADA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES (NACO)

Board of Directors' Meeting

July 1, 2022, 9:30am

Ely Convention Center

150 W. 6th Street

Ely, NV 89301

ADOPTED MINUTES

Attendance: President Lucey, President Elect Higbee, Past President Kirkpatrick, NACo WIR Representative Steninger, Clark County Commissioner Gibson, Douglas County Commissioner Tarkanian, Eureka County Commissioner Goicoechea, Lincoln County Commissioner Lister, Lyon County Commissioner Keller, Nye County Commissioner Strickland, White Pine County Commissioner Carson, Fiscal Officer Kalt, and NACO Staff (Vinson Guthreau, Jennifer Berthiaume, Taylor Allison, Jacob Brinkerhoff, and Amanda Berg)

The meeting was called to order at 9:38 a.m.

1. **Public Comment.** Commissioner Carson thanked the Board for coming to White Pine County and introduced Michael Wheable as the new County Manager. Mr. Wheable was formerly the county's District Attorney.
2. **Approval of Agenda.** The agenda was approved on a motion by Commissioner Goicoechea with second by President Elect Higbee.
3. **NACO President's Report.** President Lucey noted that it was nice to have a break in June to conclude the necessary work the Counties were required to complete on the primary election. He thanked White Pine County for hosting the meeting, reflecting on the fact it was nice to be back in an area he had so much family history in. President Lucey congratulated those that won their primaries and thanked the County Clerks and Election Officials for all their hard work. He discussed participating in the recruitment process for the selection of a new Director of Extension and informed the Board that Jacob DeDecker is expected to on-board in mid-July. He gave an overview of his qualifications and experience and let the Board know that Mr. DeDecker would be scheduling meetings with each of the Commissions.
4. **NACO Executive Director's Report.** Vinson reminded the Board of the upcoming National Association of Counties (NACo) Annual Conference and gave an overview of the voting criteria and process used in past years. He concluded his remarks by informing the Board that he would be distributing an email with instructions (on the voting process) soon.
5. **Approval of Minutes of the May 13, 2022, NACO Board of Directors Meeting.** The minutes were approved on a motion by Commissioner Carson with second by Commissioner Goicoechea.
6. **Presentation on Tourism and Recreation Programs in White Pine County, Kyle Horvath, Tourism Director, White Pine County.** Commissioner Carson introduced Mr. Horvath. Mr. Horvath gave the Board an overview of the economic development efforts within in the County. He also discussed the tourism and recreation opportunities available

in White Pine County. Commissioner Lister inquired as to how his position was funded and Mr. Horvath stated that his position is funded by the collection of room taxes. President Lucey inquired as to the availability of short-term rentals and Mr. Horvath noted that they are available within the City of Ely, but not yet within the County. The item concluded with the clarification that room taxes and resort fees differ in that resort fees stay with the property.

7. **Update on Previously Discussed NACO Strategic Planning Session for 2022.** Vinson informed the Board that he had begun executing the process previously approved by the Board, noting that the process was being driven at the staff level, but that a survey would be distributed to all member Commissioners the following week. Vinson informed the Board that the current goal is to deliver a draft of the plan to the Board in August and to present the final plan in September. President Lucey noted that Commissioner French and Past President Kirkpatrick had attempted to begin the process but were thwarted by the pandemic. He noted the importance of strategic planning for the future of the Association and encouraged all members to take the time to complete the survey.
8. **Update from the Nevada Department of Indigent Defense Services, Marcie Ryba, Executive Director.** Director Ryba gave the Board an update on the Department's achievements and updated them on the maximum contribution's counties are required to pay towards indigent defense services. She reviewed the status of the counties available to apply for reimbursement and reviewed the timelines for quarterly status reports. She urged the Board to ensure that those reports were completed and submitted in accordance with the deadline set forth by the IFC. She also stressed the need for the information to ensure that her biennial budget request is accurate. Ms. Ryba then discussed additional programs the counties can opt into to assist in saving county dollars. She informed the Board of the resources being developed to assist rural counties and gave an overview of the Bill Draft Request the Department would be submitting for consideration by the Legislature in 2023. Commissioner Lister inquired as to the deadlines for counties to opt into the other programs, which is November of 2022. Director Ryba concluded the item by encouraging the Board to appoint a singular person within their county to communicate with the Department and Vinson noted that NACO could support that process.
9. **Consideration and Possible Action for Appointment by the Governor to the Board of Indigent Defense Services (BIDS), Including the Reappointment of Current Members, Due to Expiring Terms.** Vinson thanked Commissioner Lister for his service to the Board. He then gave an overview of the composition of the Board, noting that NACO appoints four members, and the composition is majority county appointments. He informed the group that all four of the NACO appointments would be expiring in October, but that with the timeframe of Governor's office to complete appointments it is best to start the process early. He reminded the NACO Board that its current appointees are Commissioner Lister, Commissioner Hall, Former Nye County Commissioner Joni Eastley, and Humboldt County Manager Dave Mendiola, who currently Chairs the Board. Vinson informed the group that staff recommends the re-appointment of Commissioner Hall, Mr. Mendiola and Ms. Eastly and recommends the appointment of Nye County Assistant Manager Lorina Dellinger. He informed the members that Ms. Dellinger manages Nye County's indigent defense and that her appointment would maintain the geographic representation previously determined by them. Commissioner Lister stated that it is important for NACO to be well represented on the Board and rural representation is also important, noting that he supported Ms. Dellinger's appointment. The Board approved the appointments as recommended on a motion by Commissioner Lister with second by Commissioner Strickland.

- 10. Discussion and Possible Approval of a Partnership Between NACO and Public Surplus.** This item was heard out of order by consensus of the Board. Vinson discussed his work to diversify Association income beyond county dues and reminded the Board of other partnerships they had approved that are sources of non-dues revenue. He directed the Boards attention to the MOU included in the agenda packet, noting that Public Surplus does have existing relationships in Nevada. He gave an overview of the way Public Surplus conducts on-line auctions for local government agencies and stressed that there would be no additional cost to counties if the relationship were approved. Commissioner Lister inquired as to if counties would have to pay an additional fee or if that was added to the cost of the item included in the auction. Mr. Jacob Holdaway from Public Surplus assured the Board that there is no additional charge to the government entity, the winning buyer of the auction item pays all fees. The partnership was approved on a motion by Commissioner Goicoechea with second by Commissioner Lister.
- 11. Presentation of NACO's 2021 Financial Audit, Michael Bertrand, Bertrand and Associates, LLC.** This item was heard out of order by consensus of the Board. Fiscal Officer Kalt congratulated Staff on their excellent work and walked the Board through the financial statements contained within in the agenda packet and made comparisons from FY20 to FY21. He specifically called the Boards attention to the increase in the Association's net position of 9.9%, the fact liabilities were down, and annual conference revenues had increased. He also discussed vacancies in staff had contributed to budget savings, but that the Association's net position would have increased regardless of the vacancies. Mr. Bertrand informed the Board that the audit process found no issues. He discussed the fact that under new governmental accounting practices the Board would see a change in how leases would be addressed, however the changes would not be largely impactful as the only lease held is for the multi-purpose Xerox machine. He also informed the Board that PERS liabilities could increase due to inflation. Next, Mr. Bertrand discussed the communications document within the agenda packet and drew their attention to the only adjustment made to the accounts was within the pension item. He concluded the item by informing them that no management recommendations were made but encouraged the updating of the Association's adopted financial policies. The 2021 Audit was accepted on a motion by President Elect Higbee with second by Commissioner Carson.
- 12. Update on Board Approved NACO Public Health Coordinator Roadmap, Taylor Allison, NACO Public Health Coordinator.** Taylor directed the Boards attention to the Roadmap approved at their March meeting, included in the agenda packet. She reminded them of the four guiding principles of the document and informed them that she had created a monitoring tool for use by the counties. She informed the Board that she is collaborating with the Nevada Public Health Institute on a presentation for new members of the county Boards of Health. Taylor the discussed the development of a tool for counties to map services and providers and noted that she is also collaborating with stakeholders on a healthcare workforce pipeline. President Lucey stated that Taylor is a much-needed addition to the NACO staff and an asset for the state as well. He then inquired as to if she is working on the new health district being developed by some of the counties. Taylor stated that she has participated in a supportive role helping gather information on available services and that she is working on outreach with all the counties. President Lucey inquired as to her success in gather contacts within the counties and she noted that she is still working on that issue with some counties. Vinson noted that the formation of the new health district was born of gaps identified within those counties and is a solution to fill those gaps.

13. **Update on Western County Roundtable Regarding Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS), Conducted in Boise, Idaho.** Commissioner Lister informed the Board that the meeting was held as a hybrid and was hosted by the Idaho Association of Counties. He noted that the group gathered was good and uniform message was presented. Commissioner Lister then noted that the message included the need for a clear definition and rules and the need to wait for the SCOTUS ruling on the pending Sackett v. EPA case before moving forward. Commissioner Carson inquired as to the outcome of the meeting. Commissioner Lister stated that no decisions were made, and the continuing process is unknown. Jacob concluded the item by noting that the comments made during the meeting were consistent with those made from other Roundtables that he had observed.
14. **Update and Possible Action. Regarding Public Lands and Natural Resources Issues Affecting Counties Including:**
 - a. **Updates from the NACO Public Lands and Natural Resources Subcommittee.** Jacob gave the Board an overview of the Subcommittee's meeting earlier in the morning including discussions on standing agenda items: America the Beautiful (30X30), Greater and Bi-state sage grouse and ESA regulation updates. He also discussed NDOW's update of the State Wildlife Action Plan and informed the Board that the comment period is open for that update. The Subcommittee also discussed the NEAP's need for additional funding and Wild Horse and Burro issues. Commissioner Goicoechea clarified that roundup issues are due to capacity at holding facilities.
15. **Updates from Members on the National Association of Counties Board, Western Interstate Region Board, and Individual Counties.** President Elect Higbee discussed the recent meetings held in Alaska and informed the Board that some resolutions had been passed but not much of the discussions centered on issues within Nevada. He then noted that WIR is putting together a committee to discuss key western issues, as membership in WIR has been granted to more eastern states. Members of the Board also gave updates on activities within their counties.
16. **Public Comment.** None was given.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:21 a.m.