

NEVADA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES (NACO)

Board of Directors' Meeting

August 26, 2022, 9:30am

NACO Office Conference Room

304 S. Minnesota Street

Carson City, NV 89702

ADOPTED MINUTES

Attendance: President Lucey, President Elect Higbee, Vice President Giomi, Past President Kirkpatrick, Clark County Commissioner Gibson, Elko County Commissioner Andreozzi, Elko County Commissioner Steninger, Esmeralda County Commissioner Keyes, Humboldt County Commissioner French, Lincoln County Commissioner Lister, Lyon County Commissioner Keller, Mineral County Commissioner Hall, Nye County Commissioner Strickland, Washoe County Commissioner Hartung, White Pine County Commissioner Carson, NACO Fiscal Officer Kalt, and NACO staff (Vinson Guthreau, Jennifer Berthiaume, Taylor Allison, Jacob Brinkerhoff and Amanda Berg)

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m.

1. **Public Comment.** None was given.
2. **Approval of Agenda.** The agenda was approved, with allowance for taking certain items out of order at the request of President Lucey, on a motion by President Elect Higbee with second by Commissioner French.
3. **NACO President's Report.** President Lucey remarked on the successful meeting held in White Pine County in July. He spoke about the upcoming Annual Conference and thanked staff for their hard work organizing the event. He informed the group that he had collaborated with Past President Kirkpatrick on the COVID-19 After Action Report and noted that the work of Commissioners across the state had a substantial impact on the success of the actions put in place to combat the pandemic.
4. **NACO Executive Director's Report.** Vinson stated that he would be providing various updates throughout the meeting that he would have otherwise covered within his report. He then informed the Board that former Lyon County Commissioner Virgil Arellano had firefighting gear that he was looking to donate to a small rural department and to contact Amanda {NACO Office Manager} for additional information.
5. **Approval of Minutes of the July 1, 2022, NACO Board of Directors Meeting.** The minutes were approved on a motion by Commissioner Carson with second by Commissioner Lister.
6. **Approval of NACO's April, May, and June 2022 Financial Statements.** Vinson reminded the Board that this is the regular quarterly review and update to ensure transparency with the Board regarding the Association's financial position. He noted that everything is on track regarding revenue and expenses under the approved budget. He informed the Board that grant reimbursements for Taylor's position are being received timely and that the Dues and Registration item is over budget for the year. He explained that staff had negotiated a fixed 3-year contract for Higher Logic, which is the platform used for the newsletter and event registration, the contract will provide overall savings for the period. Commissioner

Lister inquired as to why the cash on hand amount was so large and it was explained that the amount is based on full year revenues and that it would be looked at during the end of year review. Fiscal Officer Kalt noted that it has been a concern and he would collaborate with staff on recommendations for the Board to consider. The financial statements were approved on a motion by Commissioner Hartung with second by Commissioner Lister.

7. **Approval of NACO's May, June, July 2022 Investment Reports.** Vinson directed the Board's attention to the additional materials provided in the agenda packet. He noted that there was a slight downturn in the accounts, but everything remains in accordance with the approved investment policy. He also informed the Board that the Broker would be providing an update during the Annual Business meeting. Fiscal Officer Kalt, noted that there was a net realized gain in July, and that book yield would increase based on the approved distribution of investments. The investment reports were approved on a motion by Commissioner Hartung with second by Commissioner French.
8. **Update and Presentation Regarding NACO's 2022 Strategic Planning Session.** Vinson thanked those Board members who had completed the survey, noting that valuable information was obtained as a result. He informed the Board that staff met with On Strategy the previous day for a ½ day session to go over the responses and to build the initial plan. He directed the Board to the presentation that had been distributed and gave an overview of the survey responses, noting that responses were a good cross section of Commissioners across the state and that overall satisfaction with the Association is high. Vinson then addressed the most valued services that NACO provides, including advocacy and collaboration. Items that were noted to improve upon were additional educational opportunities and legislative engagement. He then informed the Board that a draft plan would be presented in September with the final plan being brought forth for approval in November. President Lucey concluded the item by acknowledging that it was an initiative originally brought forth by Commissioner French during his term as the Association President but was delayed due to the pandemic.
9. **Discussion and Possible Board Direction on NACO's Appointment for the Nevada Committee on Local Government Finance (CLGF).** Vinson gave an overview of the Committee and reminded the Board of the distribution of its allotted appointments. He noted that Cristine Vuletich was the appointed representative to the seat reserved for Washoe County, but that she had recently retired, with her retirement the Department of Taxation had requested a reappointment for her seat which expires in 2023. He informed the Board that Washoe County is currently recruiting for a CFO, who would be the ideal appointment for the Committee. Due to Ms. Vuletich being willing to complete her term, staff recommended that the Board allow her to remain on the Committee until the County had completed the recruitment process. The decision to allow Ms. Vuletich to remain on the committee until the end of her term was approved on a motion by Commissioner Hartung with second by President Lucey.
10. **Discussion and Format of NACO Board Meeting for September 2022 and 2022 NACO Annual Business Meeting.** Vinson reminded the Board of the process for conducting the meetings, noting that they are held offsite and prior to the General Session, which requires them to be adjourned on time. He reminded the Board of the election of the Vice President and the process for collecting and determining the nominee.
11. **Update on Preparations and Plans for the 2022 NACO Annual Conference, which will be held September 27-29 and hosted by Storey County.** Vinson informed the Board that the Early Bird registration would be extended to the 1st of September. He noted that current

registration numbers were looking good and gave the Board a highlight of the educational sessions being planned. He concluded the item by reminding the Board of the Silent Auction and the items within it being provided by each county.

12. **Update from NACO Legislative Committee, Including Possible Approval of NACO Bill Draft Requests for the 2023 Session of the Nevada Legislature.** Vinson informed the Board that the Committee is meeting regularly, and all Commissioners are welcome to join. He reminded the Board that BDRs are due on September 1st and gave an overview of the proposals approved by the Committee for Board consideration. The first being a change to the statute governing Off Highway Vehicle trail connectors to allow for more local autonomy. The second proposal would allow for digital publication of public notices to allow greater ability for Commissions to meet in times of necessity, noting that many local papers have limited publication dates and distribution. The third proposal would allow Commissions to establish a process to fill vacancies locally. The fourth proposed BDR would update the NRS to adjust the population thresholds that affect counties under 45,000 per the 2020 census. The final proposal brought forth would be reforms to child welfare funding to align with local needs while maintaining the state-county partnership. President Lucey noted that all the proposals are issues important to address and functional in nature. Vinson then informed the Board that work was being done in concert with the League of Cities and one of their proposals included the tracking of unfunded mandates, reminding the Board that its longstanding policy is to oppose those mandates. He also discussed a proposal to provide funding for the Air Service Commission to support air traffic in underserved areas, noting that the Board had supported a similar proposal in 2019. Vice President Giomi noted that the change in noticing requirements would be particularly helpful for Neighborhood Improvement Districts. Commissioner Carson stated that the information provided by the proposed tracking of mandates would be helpful for future discussions on impacts. NACO's BDRs were approved as presented on a motion by Commissioner Strickland with second by Vice President Giomi.
13. **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 informed the Board that Cheva Gabor of the USFS had spoken to the Committee regarding proposed changes to the funding distribution mechanism for SRS. He informed the Board that the Committee had received updates on standing items on their agenda. President Elect Higbee discussed efforts to streamline the various BLM RAC's and informed the Board that there was a lack of movement on the standing issues. Jacob concluded the item by giving the Board an overview of specific grants available to counties.
14. **Updates from Members on the National Association of Counties Board, Western Interstate Region Board, and Individual Counties.** Commissioner French discussed the WIR and the PILT fly-in. He also noted that ESA reforms are being discussed and informed the Board that the fall meeting would be held in Oregon in October. President Elect Higbee discussed the recent NACo Annual Conference. Past President Kirkpatrick informed the group that the Board continues to discuss additional PILT dollars coming West, housing, opioids and an additional tranche of pandemic relief dollars being distributed using the PILT formula, specifically noting that NACo is working on the guidance for the use of those funds. Updates were given on activities within their counties, by members of the Board.
15. **Public Comment.** Holly Gatske from Extension thanked the Board for their support and staffs work on the recent Taste of Extension event held in Clark County. She noted that they

are working on additional accessibility for the 4-H camps and discussed a new national program the university is participating in that will have additional benefit for children. Ms. Gatske also remarked on new Living with Fire educational programming, hiring activities and warned the Board that the program was receiving reduced funding under the SNAP program. Commissioner Lister encouraged the Legislative Subcommittee to keep an eye on water resources bills and to discuss having a policy in place regarding those issues. Connie Lee from the Association of Conservation Districts informed the Board that their recently approved strategic plan included collaboration with the Association.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:52 a.m.