

NEVADA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES (NACO)

Board of Directors' Meeting

March 23rd, 2018, 9:30 a.m.

ADOPTED MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: President Weekly, President Elect Waits, Vice President French, Washoe County Commissioner Lucey, Mineral County Commissioner Tipton, Carson City Mayor Crowell, Lincoln County Commissioner Higbee, Washoe County Commissioner Hartung, Lyon County Commissioner Hunewill, Pershing County Commissioner Shank, Elko County Commissioner Steninger, Esmeralda County Commissioner Bates, Storey County Commissioner McGuffey, Nye County Commissioner Wichman and NACO Staff (Dagny Stapleton, Vinson Guthreau, Amanda Evans and Tori Sundheim)

REMOTE ATTENDANCE: Churchill County Commissioner Olsen and White Pine County Commissioner Stork

OTHER ATTENDANCE: UNCE Director, Dr. Ivory Lyles; Molly Walt, Nevada Commission on Women and Nevada Department of Taxation Director, Bill Anderson

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

1. **Public Comment.** None was given.
2. **Approval of Agenda.** The agenda was approved on a motion by Commissioner Tipton with second by Commissioner Lucey.
3. **NACO President's Report.** President Weekly informed the Board that he was proud of the Association's representation at the National Association of Counties (NACo) Legislative Conference and that he enjoyed getting to know some of the members more. He also noted that he would like to see more variety in the workshops at the NACo conferences. He noted that April's meeting would take place in Clark County and asked the Board to confirm attendance with staff for a potential dinner on Thursday evening hosted by Clark County. President Weekly acknowledged the birthdays of Commissioners Kirkpatrick and Olsen. He also informed the Board that Clark County will be having elementary school students acting as commissioners for a day in celebration of National County Government Month and that he is hosting an event called Serenity Saturday to provide resources and assistance to those suffering from addiction and domestic violence in his district.
4. **NACO Executive Director's Report.** Dagny echoed the President's comments regarding the success of the NACo Legislative Conference and informed the Board that there has been heightened engagement with the Nevada Congressional Delegation as a result of the meetings held in Washington. She announced that the final marijuana regulations had passed included language NACO advocated for that included a distribution of State marijuana revenues to counties. She announced that the distribution would occur in the near future and outlined the distribution formula of the taxes, including \$1.5 million to all 17 counties regardless of allowance of marijuana facilitates. Dagny informed the Board that a socioeconomic baseline analysis for each county will be conducted by Cooperative Extension and The UNR College of Business and that Tom Harris and Buddy Borden will be reaching out each county individually to collect information for the project. Dagny referenced information included in the packet on the County Leadership Institute and noted that there are funds reserved in the budget to send one member of the Board. Commissioners Lucey and Hartung both indicated a desire to attend. She announced the publication of individual county health profiles by the State, which can be found on the NACO website. Dagny concluded her remarks by announcing that the Right to Counsel Commission had asked individual counties to come before them and provide presentations on their indigent defense programs.
5. **Approval of Minutes of the February 23, 2018 NACO Board of Directors Meeting.** The minutes were approved on a motion by Commissioner Tipton with second by Commissioner Hartung.

6. **Approval of Additional 2018 NACO Associate Members.** USI Insurance Services National Inc. was approved for Associate Membership on a motion by Commissioner Hartung with second by Commissioner Tipton.
7. **Discussion and Approval of a Rural Appointee to Represent NACO on the Committee on Local Government Finance.** Dagny gave an overview of the Committee and NACO's current appointees: Jessica Colvin from Clark County and Christine Vuletich from Washoe County. With the retirement of Alan Kalt from Churchill County he is no longer able to serve on the Committee and therefore a rural representative needs to be appointed by the Board. Dagny referenced the two applicants whose information was included in the agenda packet, Gina Rackley from Humboldt County and Josh Foli from Lyon County. Commissioner Hartung moved to appoint Ms. Rackley. Commissioner Hunewill spoke in support of Mr. Foli and his experience. Commissioner Hartung informed the Board that he has interacted with Ms. Rackley and that he believes that she would be a good representative for the rural counties. Vice President French also spoke about Ms. Rackley's qualifications and background. The Board appointed Ms. Rackley to the Committee, on the motion by Commissioner Hartung with second by Vice President French.
8. **Introduction of the Recently Appointed Director of the Nevada Department of Taxation, Bill Anderson.** Mr. Anderson introduced the Department's Public Information Officer, Stephanie Klapstein. Mr. Anderson then outlined his experience and qualifications, including 20 years of service to the State, ten of those in the budget office and most recently as the State's Chief Economist for the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR). He spoke about his desire to maintain a collaborative and successful relationship with NACO and committed to come before the Board as the need arises. Mr. Anderson spoke about the earlier discussion on the distribution of marijuana revenues and confirmed that the distribution would occur soon. President Elect Waits requested clarification on the dual distribution of funds and Mr. Anderson informed the Board that, because the Department had to wait for the final approval of the regulations in order to make the FY18 distribution, that that distribution was delayed and would be paid shortly, but that for FY19 and each year following that the disbursements will occur each November of that fiscal year.
9. **Presentation on the Nevada Commission for Women, Molly Walt.** Ms. Walt reminded the Board that she had spoken during public comment the previous month and had given them an overview of the Commission at that time. She gave an overview of the makeup of the Commission and the members of the Board. She introduced a survey on gender equality in the workforce that is currently being conducted and encouraged participation in the survey. She informed the Board that an annual report to the Legislature is required. She also informed the Board that there will be Town Hall meetings conducted throughout the State and encouraged participation by the Board as the Commission will be tasked with proposing legislation. Ms. Walt also spoke about the interim task force on financial security, why elderly women are not as financially secure as men and how to determine why women who are not participating in the workforce are not. She concluded her remarks by announcing an exhibit highlighting women's contributions to Nevada that will be displayed in July in the Grant Sawyer building in Clark County. Commissioner Wichman asked whether Ms. Walt was working with the Women in Mining organization and she confirmed the Commission is working with the group.
10. **Update on the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension (UNCE), UNCE, Director Ivory Lyles.** Dr. Lyles informed the Board that the first meeting of the re-launched UNCE Advisory Council had occurred in February and that he is proud of the diverse membership of the Council, including Commissioner Kirkpatrick and Director Stapleton. He is planning a second meeting in June to discuss the charter and operational structure of the Council. Dr. Lyles also announced the fall meeting, which will be held in Reno in late August, and he discussed his statewide travel and engagement with the Commissioners across the state. He asked for support for the socioeconomic baseline analysis project and for the budget enhancement request to the Board of Regents who are expected to act on the request soon. Dr. Lyles addressed vacancies in the Extension program and explained that they are working hard to fill those vacancies. He also welcomed Nye County back to the program. Vice President French inquired as to Dr. Lyles' sense of what the budget for the program will be for the next cycle and noted that, although the enhancement is not as much as he would like it is a start to making the program whole. Dagny informed the Board that Jake Tibbets from Eureka County is also a member of the Council, along with other rural and urban representatives and that counties are well represented. President Weekly suggested that the program work directly with the commissioners in

the counties that have open positions and on how best to represent the unique needs of each community.

11. **Discussion and Possible Direction for NACO to Promote April 2018 as National County Government Month.** Vinson reminded the Board of previous discussion relating to an Op-Ed highlighting county services and requested review and approval to disseminate it to media outlets. Vinson also informed the Board that NACO will be highlighting county services through the Association's Twitter and encouraged each county to pass a proclamation recognizing National County Government Month. He asked that those counties who pass proclamations to please let NACO staff know. Commissioner Hartung requested that This is Reno be added to the distribution list for the document and staff requested any additional media outlets not on the current distribution list be forwarded. Dagny also requested that any events or social media posts be shared with staff so that the Association can also promote them. The Op-Ed was approved on a motion by Commissioner Tipton with second by Commissioner Lucey.

Note: The NACO Board of Directors May Interrupt the Open Meeting and Exclude the Public from the Meeting for the Limited Purpose of Receiving the Information and for Deliberation Relative to Agenda Item #12 (d) below:

12. **Update and Possible Action Regarding Public Lands and Natural Resources Issues Affecting Counties Including:**
 - a. **NACO Public Lands and Natural Resources Committee Update.** Tori informed the Board that a revised version of the Committee's action plan will be presented to the Board in May and requested any priorities be submitted to her for inclusion in the plan. She informed the Board that comments on WOTUS are due on May 21st. She also went over the Omnibus provisions that are expected to be passed including a fix to wildfire borrowing, stopping the administration's request to eliminate SNPLMA, a ban on listing the Greater Sage Grouse, full funding for PILT & SRS and funding for Nellis Airforce Base.
 - b. **Update on the Greater Sage Grouse Resource Management Plan Amendments.** Vice President French informed the Board about meetings that had been held during the week, including one with fellow cooperating agencies regarding the greater sage grouse. He informed the Board that the draft sage grouse plan is to be given to the Department of the Interior by April 21st and that the opportunity to comment on the draft will be on a tight timeline.
 - c. **Approval of a Contract with Resource Concepts Inc., to Provide Technical Support to Counties on Issues Related to the Greater Sage Grouse Resource Management Plan Amendments.** Tori reminded the Board of previous discussion regarding the need to hire a consultant to address science based issues that the Association does not have the technical expertise to address. RCI and specifically Jeremy Drew were chosen due to qualifications, previous work and previous supplemental support. She referenced both Mr. Drew's resume and the contract included in the agenda packet. Dagny addressed the contract and noted that it is a cost not to exceed contract and if approved by the Board the Association will enter into the contract and collect each affected county's equal contribution. She explained that any contributions not paid to RCI would be returned to the counties. She confirmed that the counties interested in participating are: Washoe, Lincoln, Lander, Pershing, Elko, Eureka, Humboldt, White Pine, and Lyon. The contract was approved on a motion by Commissioner Tipton with second by Commissioner Higbee.
 - d. **NACO as Defendant-Intervenor on behalf of the Service in Lawsuit against the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Seeking to Vacate their Decision not to List the Bi-State Sage Grouse as an Endangered Species.** Dagny informed the Board that Tori had drafted the reply brief on behalf of all the defendants and would be arguing before the Federal court in a hearing in San Francisco on April 6.
 - e. **Approval of Compensation for Tori Sundheim for Representing NACO, as Legal Counsel, in Desert Survivors et al. v. Fish and Wildlife Service Case 3:16-cv-01165.** Dagny informed the Board that the Association's budget does allow for additional

compensation on a case by case basis for legal representation. Additional compensation for Tori, in the amount of \$3,000.00, was approved on a motion by Commissioner Wichman with second by Commissioner Bates.

13. **NACO Committee of the Emeritus Update.** Dagny announced that the next workshop to be held on April 6th and will be on the Nevada legislative process. Michael Stewart of the Legislative Counsel Bureau, Assemblywoman Teresa Benitez-Thompson, and lobbyist Lisa Foster will be participating. She also informed the Board that the Committee has begun work on the newly elected official training that will be conducted at the November conference.
14. **National Association of Counties and Western Interstate Region Board Member Updates.** Vice President French informed the Board that discussion during the meeting in Washington DC included efforts for reformulation of the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) formula to make it more equitable to rural counties and that a final proposal is expected to be presented in Idaho in May. He also discussed the Endangered Species Act (ESA) reform committee. Commissioner Tipton informed the Board that interim resolutions were brought forward and passed with little dissent among the NACo Board and that the NACo Board is requesting feedback on conferences. The next meeting of the NACo Board will occur in Nashville in July.
15. **NACO Board Member Updates.** Updates were given by members of the Board highlighting various activities within their counties.
16. **Public Comment.** Jeremy Drew of RCI thanked the Board for their faith and support of the approved contract.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.