

NEVADA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES (NACO)

Board of Directors' Meeting
January 27, 2017, 9:30 a.m.
NACO Office
304 S. Minnesota Street
Carson City, NV 89703

ADOPTED MINUTES

Attendance: President Elect Phillips, Vice President Elect Weekly, Past President Wichman, Lander County Commissioner Waits, Washoe County Commissioner Herman, Esmeralda County Commissioner Bates, Humboldt County Commissioner French, Lincoln County Commissioner Higbee, Elko County Commissioner Dahl, Washoe County Commissioner Lucey, Storey County Commissioner McGuffey, Douglas County Commissioner Thaler, Mineral County Commissioner Price, Lyon County Commissioner Alt, Eureka County Commissioner Goicoechea, Pershing County Commissioner Shank, Carson City Mayor Crowell, Nevada Association of County Human Services Administrators-Ken Retterath, Nevada Assessors Association-Dave Dawley, and Nevada Treasurers Association-Tammi Davis

Remote Attendance: Churchill County Commissioner Olsen, Churchill County Commissioner Erquiaga, White Pine County Commissioner Perea and Nye County Manager, Pam Webster.

Other Attendance: Elko County Manager Rob Stokes; Linda Bissett, NV Energy; Lyon County Commissioner Gray; Christy McBrad, McDonald Carrano; Denise Felton Churchill County Assessor; Hugh Gallagher Storey County Comptroller and Lee Bonner, NDOT.

The meeting was called to order by Past President Wichman at 9:31 AM

- 1. Public Comment. Please Limit Comments.** Mayor Crowell thanked NACO, Jeff, Dagny and the Emeritus Committee for providing a newly elected officials training to Carson City. Jeff informed the Board that he received a letter earlier in the week from Rachel Dahl requesting the Association's support for the position of USDA Rural Development Nevada Director. The letter was read into the record and was accompanied by additional letters of support as well as a resume for Ms. Dahl.
Addendum A President Elect Weekly introduced Jeff Penix who provided a short presentation on the Project We Foundation and the work the group does with foster and adoptive children.
- 2. Approval of Agenda.** The agenda was approved on a motion by Vice President Waits with second by Commissioner Dahl.
- 3. Investiture of the 2017 NACO Officers.** Past President Wichman delivered the oath of office to Lincoln County Commissioner Kevin Phillips as President, Clark County Commissioner Lawrence Weekly as President Elect and Lander County Commissioner Patsy Waits as Vice President. Upon completion of the investiture Past President Wichman turned the meeting over to President Phillips.
- 4. NACO President's Report.** President Phillips stated that he is honored to serve the Association and is thankful for the service of his fellow Commissioners. He also informed the Board that he and Jeff had attended the National Association of Counties (NACo) annual conference for county association executives.
- 5. NACO Executive Director's Report.** On behalf of the staff Jeff congratulated the 2017 NACO officers and welcomed the new members to the Board. He also delivered a message from Immediate Past President Carson who was unable to attend due to vehicle issues and sent her congratulations to the officers and best wishes to the Board.
- 6. Approval of Minutes of the December 16, 2016 NACO Board of Directors Meeting.** The minutes were approved on a motion by President Elect Weekly with second by Mayor Crowell and Commissioner Bates.

7. **Approval of NACO Resolution 17-01 Recognizing January as National Radon Action Month.**
The Resolution was approved on a motion by Past President Wichman with second by Commissioner French.
8. **Appointment of Two Members to the Nevada Department of Taxation's Committee on Local Government Finance for Three Year Terms beginning February 1, 2017.** Jeff gave a brief review of the Committee and reminded the Board that it is a statutory committee and consists of eleven members, of which NACO has three appointee's and reports and makes recommendations and sets policy for local government finance on behalf of the Department of Taxation. He noted that traditionally the NACO appointees consist of one from Clark County one from Washoe County and a rural county representative. The two appointees who's terms are up for appointment are those of Churchill County Comptroller Alan Kalt, who expressed interest in reappointment and former Washoe County Finance Director John Sherman. Commissioner Lucey noted that while Mr. Sherman served the County and the Committee well he recommended that the new Washoe County Assistant Manager in charge of financial oversite Christine Vuletich be nominated to the Committee. Mr. Kalt and Ms. Vuletich were unanimously appointed to the Committee on a motion by Commissioner Lucey with second by President Elect Weekly.
9. **Approval of a Letter of Support for Sarah Adler to Continue as U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development Nevada Director.** President Phillips noted the letter that had been read into the record during public comment from Ms. Dahl requesting support for the position and inquired as to how the Board wanted to proceed. Past President Wichman informed the Board that the item had been included in the agenda at her request and noted that the request was made based upon the work that Ms. Adler has done throughout the state and is accessible and willing to work with those in the field. Commissioners McGuffey, Bates and Shank echoed the statement made by Past President Wichman on behalf of their respective counties and Vice President Waits noted that she knows Ms. Dahl and feels while she would do a fabulous job she believes the Association should support Ms. Adler as she is interested in continuing in the positon. Commissioner Thaler inquired as to potential political implications and Jeff clarified that it is a Presidential appointment with confirmation completed by the Secretary of the Interior and that both are simply seeking a letter of support to the Congressional Delegation to support their potential nomination to fill the position. Commissioner Goicoechea noted that Ms. Adler has done a wonderful job but is hesitant to show official support as the Association is bi-partisan. Past President Wichman noted that she believes that Ms. Adler has not shown political bias in the position and she feels the office is not a partisan motivated one. Commissioner Alt informed the Board that he had received letters and calls requesting support for Ms. Dahl, primarily from the ranching community. Commissioner Thaler noted that ne agrees with Commissioner Goicoechea and has concerns with showing support one way or the other until a nomination had been made. Commissioner French said that what the Association can do is identify with and reflect on the experience of the work completed by Ms. Adler and therefore show support based on historical experience. Commissioner Dahl informed the Board that he would recuse himself from the vote as he is related to Ms. Dahl. A letter in support of Sarah Adler reflecting the historical experience of the counties was approved on a motion by Past President Wichman with second by Commissioner Bates on a vote of 13-4.
10. **Approval of NACO Support for Valley County Idaho Commissioner, Gordon Cruickshank, to Represent the Western Region on the National Association of Counties Executive Committee.** Commissioner Dahl inquired as to any others showing interest in the position and Jeff noted that he hadn't heard of anyone but that didn't mean that there aren't or wouldn't be. Commissioner French stated that the Commissioner had done an excellent job as President of WIR and would be a good representative. Support for Commissioner Cruickshank was unanimously approved on a motion by Commissioner Dahl with second by Past President Wichman.
11. **Presentation on the Nevada Department of Transportation's Long Range Transportation Plan.** Tim Muller recognized Sondra Rosenberg and Lee Bonner as lead members of the team that is facilitating the plan. Mr. Muller and Brian Gant from Wood Rogers gave a presentation that outlined how the plan, more commonly known as the One Nevada Plan, is being developed, how it incorporates federal requirements and how public input and local agency transportation plans are

being collected and incorporated. Commissioner thanked the department for completing the work on Kingsbury Grade which resulted in the reopening of the major road to and from Lake Tahoe in Douglas County. Dagny reminded the Board that she is the NACO representative to the NDOT STTAC which is the steering committee overseeing the plan and requested that the Board forward any concerns and input to her so she can communicate it to the committee. Dagny then asked how the counties not in the four RTC's noted in the presentations would be incorporated. She was informed that the long range plan would become the plan for the rural counties, but only on state system roads. Commissioner McGuffey inquired as to plans regarding the industrial park on I-80 that would incorporate rail or other modes of transportation. Ms. Rosenberg said that there are plans for additional modes of transportation around USA Parkway but there is need for local land use decisions to solidify future plans. Commissioner Dahl inquired as to the completion of the freeway between HWY 50 and the industrial center and it was noted that it should be completed in the fall.

12. **Discussion and Possible Action regarding the Phase-out of Advanced Data Systems used by Nevada's Counties.** Dagny introduced the item to the Board noting that all 15 rural counties and 83 offices, including Assessors, Treasurers, Clerks and Recorders, use the system in some capacity and noted that the system has been customized to these offices over the course of the 33 years the system has been in place. She noted that ADS will be closing and is giving the affected counties a three year time frame for procuring replacement of the system. Dagny informed the Board that NACO had facilitated a meeting that Wednesday regarding the issue and that the meeting was attended by over 50 people and included Commissioners, county staff and elected officials from sixteen counties to discuss coordination and next steps to go forward and that they would be meeting again in March. She noted that next steps include setting up meetings and demonstrations for potential replacement systems and looking into a consortium model for replacement. She also noted that there are serious concerns regarding the funding for replacement. She introduced Churchill County Assessor Denise Felton who had done extensive work on the issue and provided the Board a presentation on the issue as a whole. Ms. Felton reiterated that the issue is of great importance and that with overlapping duties in offices it is imperative that the transition be smooth and that all affected offices must come to an agreement on what will work for the sharing of necessary information. She noted that the costs associated with the ADS system are a fraction of what other vendors in the market are charging and that not only will the software need to be replaced but the hardware will need to be replaced as well. Carson City Assessor Dawley noted that annual support through ADS ran around \$5K/yr and that yearly maintenance quotes on new software support are running about \$60K/yr and that those quotes don't include the initial software and hardware purchases. Ms. Helton informed the Board that several DA's are working on draft for an inter-local agreement that will allow for the creation of a consortium of offices that will allow for narrowing the scope of what will be needed for quoting purposes. She also noted that her research has included contacting other states who have been in the same predicament and that several of them have created consortiums and may be used as models. She noted that coming to an agreement across the board on what software to use will be a challenge but that is the goal. Mr. Dawley noted that during conversations with the Taxation Department he was told that it is a local not a state issue, although the system is responsible for the collection and sharing of information with the State including the collection of taxes. He also noted that Assemblyman Kramer was at the meeting and is willing to work with the group and that Mike Willden is aware of the issue as well and noted that the fiscal implication for Carson City alone will be well over \$1M just for the initial purchase. Past President Wichman inquired as to what Clark and Washoe Counties use and Ms. Helton noted that they are on a Thompson Royters, and that they had been contacted and have said they will not work with the group due to the fact they are working with larger accounts. Vice President Waits inquired as to the court systems use of the system and it was noted that many of the courts and sheriffs are converting to a system used by the DA's. President Elect Weekly asked if conversations had been had with Washoe and Clark and what they could do to help and Mr. Dawley said that both counties are very supportive but that there really isn't anything they can do since their supplier will not work with the group and that both counties will be converting to another platform with their existing supplier. President Weekly also inquired as to obtaining grants and Mr. Dawley said that was one of the main reasons he had contact the Department of Taxation and reiterated that because the issue doesn't affect Clark and Washoe that the State is not willing to get actively involved. Dagny reiterated that communication is being held with Clark and Washoe and both are involved as are the individual Affiliate Associations. Washoe County Treasurer Tammi Davis noted that they are aware of how important the issue is within the rurals and that they are will provide support in any way possible and

that she feels the answer received from their vendor was appropriate and noted potential issues with band width in some of the more rural areas. Commissioner Grey asked if the system is obsolete just because the company is closing or if the system would still be viable if the company was remaining open. Mr. Dawley noted that the platform is becoming obsolete and finding support for the platform is not possible and that the need for replacement was impending, he also noted that a large part of the discussion with possible new vendors is the temporary hiring of an ADS employee to support the existing system during conversion because the three year time frame is very limiting to the conversion. Jeff informed the Board that at the meeting on Wednesday the group was told that NACO is will to assist in the process and that the first step is to bring the individual offices together and the second is to come up with a strategic plan and then locate funding. He noted that prior to the March meeting each individual Affiliate Association will be identifying their needs to help determine the best solution to satisfy all those affected. Commissioner Shank noted that the issue will also affect school districts, some GID's and possible cities. ADS owner Mark Carter said that only three school districts, one city and a few utilities are on the platform. Mr. Carter also noted that he is committed to seeing the process through and that he is skeptical about the \$1M/county estimate and that if a consortium is reached it will bring the costs down. He also stated that he has spoken to several vendors and most are open to a cost share and he is working with potential vendors and helping them to understand the needs of the counties and how much development will need to be done to fill the gaps between ADS and other software. Commissioner Perea inquired as to the feasibility of the counties creating a cooperative to hire an employee to support the system to buy some time and Commissioner McGuffey said he agrees with the idea of creating a consortium and that BOCC's can't tell the elected departments what they need to use. Mr. Carter said that the elected officials are doing an excellent job of being proactive. Jeff told the Board that the item was brought to their attention and that he will review the statute that would allow for the possible consortium and that any consortium will need to be approved by the individual BOCC's. Commissioner French asked Mr. Carter about ADS' resistance to hacking and expressed concerns that the replacement products available don't have that same resistance. Mr. Carter said that the platform is designed with a specific internal component that is proprietary and that none of the alternative software will have that same component, but that new security measures will be sufficient and that the data contained in the systems is considered to be of low value to hackers as much of it is public record. Past President Wichman inquired as to why the service provider for Clark and Washoe doesn't just buy the platform and Mr. Carter said that the platform is considered obsolete and that they alternative companies want the clients not the software. No action was taken and the Board will be kept up to date on the developments in the process.

13. **Update on the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Grants Management Advisory Committee (NRS 232.383).** Cindi Smith of DHHS gave a presentation to the Board regarding the Committee and outlined how portions of the "tobacco funds" are utilized to the benefit of Nevada's citizens. She asked the Board for information on the gaps in service delivery within their counties. She noted that the request for funding was published and that webinars are being conducted regarding the priorities developed by the State and the department and include food security, disability services including respite care, positive behavioral support in schools, independent living including life skills training/assistance and transportation, assistive technology for the disabled and housing. There is also focus on child abuse and neglect including parent engagement and education. She also referenced Family Resource Centers in all 17 counties and the need to better communicate their locations and the services they provide. She also noted that the Committee funds a program run by DCFS that works with families considered "at risk" but not in need to be incorporated into the DCFS system. She concluded her presentation with the 211 System which should be up and running in the short term and that a public outreach campaign will be in February. She encouraged communication from the Board and Jeff noted that he asked Ms. Smith to update the Board because the Committee will be releasing an RFP for grants that counties and county service providers can apply for and that services can be coordinated between counties. Commissioner McGuffey noted that through his work with Storey County senior centers that homebound individuals are being served with meals but that there are issues with home maintenance etc. and inquired as to if grant funds could be used to provide those services. Ms. Smith noted that issues such as those could be considered as respite care and would be available for grant funds.
14. **Update and Possible Action regarding Proposed Legislative Measures (Bill Draft Requests and Bills), Budget Requests and NACO Priorities for the 2017 Legislative Session, including but Not**

Limited to: The Governor's Budget, NACO's Bills (AB16, AB43 and SB8), Appropriation for Construction of a New Courthouse in White Pine County (AB40), Public Notices, Indigent Legal Defense, Public Guardians, Voting Machines, Street and Highway Funding, Recreational Marijuana, Portable Recording Devices (Body Cameras) for County Peace Officers, Financial Audits and Private Activity Bonds. Dagny updated the Board on meetings that have been and will be held with Legislators in advance of the start of the session to discuss NACO's bills and county priorities and referenced the summary of the Associations bills included in the support documents that can be utilized when speaking with Legislators. She noted that the Chair of Assembly Government Affairs will likely request presentations from all 17 counties and that the presentations should have a common message regarding fiscal impacts. She noted that University Administration are clearly concerned about AB16 and a meeting is scheduled with the Chair of the Board of Regents and the Interim Chancellor. She also noted there is an error in the bill language that confuses the intent of the bill which is for the State to match the counties contributions to the program, not to reimburse them for those contributions and it will need to be amended. Jeff addressed AB43 to address the issue with property tax cap's and the lack of a floor below which it cannot drop, and said that the issue is understood by Legislators even by those that will not pass any tax increases and work is being done on potential language changes and arguments to outline the intent of the bill in the public. He noted that it was requested that the bill be heard early in the session because the Assessors will need to know the outcome and stressed that the bill is not intended as a tax increase but to fix an issue and provide stability to the counties. Jeff informed the Board that he is working with Clark County to reconcile differences in SB8 regarding PSI's with their language in SB9 that gives the County more control of the reports and the intent of NACO's SB8 that will give counties more control but also lowers the cost of production of the reports for counties. Dagny informed the Board that the Legislative Committee discussed AB40, White Pines bill for funding for their new courthouse and has asked the County to gather information on the breakdown of the origin of residence of the prisoner population. She noted that the Clerks and Registrars are working hard on the replacement of voting machines and are working with the Secretary of State and that there is a BDR that may provide an appropriation for the replacement of the machines by 2018. Mayor Crowell noted that he had a conversation with Chair Carlton and requested that the cost estimate be determined and shared with the Board. It was also reiterated that the replacement needs to be done by 2018 so that they can be tested and in use prior to the Presidential election in 2020. She informed the Board that Senator Segerblom has two bills regarding recreational marijuana that would have the Governor work with Tribes to allow recreational marijuana on tribal lands and another that would give counties veto for land use for distribution facilities and add a 15% tax of which 5% would go directly to counties to incentivize the counties that would otherwise zone out distribution locations. She also noted that there is also still the possibility of getting some of the state revenues turned over to the counties based upon the determination of impacts. Jeff informed the Board that the language of the Indigent Defense bill is still being worked on and that Senator Segerblom is expected to sponsor the bill. He noted that the draft has been sent to all county managers and requested information to develop a fiscal note. He said he had visited the Lander County Commission on the issue and has made it clear that the bill will not pass without NACO support and that there is still work to be done with many of the DA's and that the Judges are getting on board with the issue. Commissioner Thaler inquired as to push back from the DA's Association and Jeff noted that the latest information he received is that they are opposed and Commissioner Thaler stated that during a conversation with the Douglas County DA that their opposition centered strongly around the make-up of the proposed Commission and the need for more rural representation. Jeff said that the Commission would have thirteen members and that as of the most current draft six or seven of those members would be rural or county representatives. Commissioner Shank said her DA also has concerns and asked if Jeff would be willing to present in Pershing County as well, which he is. Dagny said that Senator Ford will revisit his 2015 bill regarding body cameras and that she has been gathering information on what the costs for implementation will be and after a conversation with the Senator he is committed to putting a funding mechanism in the bill with the mandate. She also noted that the current proposal for funding is 911 fees. Mayor Crowell noted that 911 fees are currently utilized for system upgrades and maintenance which are costly items and Commissioners Dahl and Lucey shared concerns with utilizing 911 fees for body cameras. Commissioner Thaler also agreed with the concerns and noted that it could be an issue of "robbing peter to pay paul" and why they were looking at 911 fees. Dagny noted that the proposal would increase the fees on phone bills and not assess property taxes but asked for information to be sent to her to be used in continued discussions with the Senator. Vice President Waits noted concerns with the costs associated with the charges to counties when 911 is called and Commissioner French noted concerns with the costs of software

upgrades to allow dispatchers to identify latitude and longitude coordinates of calls to direct emergency services. Jeff noted that he is in the process of reviewing the Governor's budget and is scheduling a meeting with the Department of Health and Human Services to go over their proposed assessments, especially in regards to CPS and the effect of their mistake from 2015. He also informed the Board that the League of Cities has a bill that would require counties to either maintain town roads or share gas tax revenues. Commissioner Thaler asked if any outreach had been done find out the impetus behind the bill and Jeff said he will be meeting with the League soon.

15. **Discussion and Possible Approval of NACO's Federal Priorities for Discussion with Nevada's Congressional Delegation during the National Association of Counties Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. February 25 to March 1, 2017.** Jeff went over the tentative schedule which will include a state dinner on Monday and reception and Capital tour with former Congressman Porter. He reviewed the current schedule of meetings with the Federal Delegation and noted that there could be adjustments to it. He made reference to the Legislative Priorities included in the backup and requested direction from the Board on any necessary changes, noting that they will be distributed to the Delegation ahead of time. He also told the Board that he will be getting with those attending to strategize on who would speak to which issues to ensure the best use of the short amount of time given during the meetings. Commissioner Weekly encouraged everyone to attend the conference and to utilize the resources of Congressman Porter and Jeff requested all those attending to let staff know. Commissioner Lucey moved for approval of the Priorities and they passed unanimously on a second by Past President Wichman.
16. **Update and Possible Action Regarding Public Lands and Natural Resources Issues Including:**
 - a) **Discussion and Possible Approval of a NACO Federal Priority List.** Tori referenced the priority list provided to the Board that had been approved by the Public Lands & Natural Resources Committee the day before. Vice President Waits expressed concerns with the "no holding facilities" comment under the wild horse and burro item, Commissioner French clarified that it was included aspects of the Wild Horse and Burro Act that allowed for euthanasia and that no holding facilities equates to their ability to ignore AML's and include potential adoption outside the country. Past President Wichman suggested the item should say "remove excess animals by any means necessary." And it was noted that holding facilities are necessary for round up purposes. Commissioner Goicoechea suggested including the recommendations of the BLM Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Committee during their Elko meeting. Tori referenced a change in verbiage to the C1 item regarding water and access and Past President Wichman inquired as to the inclusion of proposed bills and it was noted that the item is a nod to the bills without specifically referencing them and simply states policy. Commissioner Goicoechea noted concern with the use of agency use of water and RS2477's in the same sentence and that it is unclear what is being asked for. Tori clarified that the item is asking them not to use un-adjudicated claims of RS2477's and Commissioner Goicoechea noted issues with PWR107's which the BLM is using to claim water by reservation but they are not included in existing water right reports and that some of the PWR107 claims are for areas not in existence when they were allotted in 1926 and that it will be an ongoing issue. It was determined that Commissioner Goicoechea will work with Tori on the specific language change to the item. The priorities were approved as edited on a motion by Past President Wichman with second by Vice President Waits.
 - b) **The Bureau of Land Management's Final 2.0 Planning Regulations.** Tori informed the Board that she had received communication from Senator Heller's office regarding congressional review of the rule and Commissioner Goicoechea noted that there is traction in Washington for repeal. No Action was taken.
 - c) **BLM's Proposed Sagebrush Focal Area Withdrawal Draft Environmental Impact Statement.** Tori announced the new DEIS and encouraged the Board to review the draft specifically with regards to the reasoning for the new DEIS as well as their values of mineral potential. She noted the Board support of the State's plan to trade areas of high mineral potential with areas of high quality habitat if they do not adopt the no action plan that would eliminate the withdrawals. She noted inconsistency in the BLM's verbiage and Commissioner Dahl noted the fact that with time there are changes in what is considered high mineral potential Tori noted that their value of the bird does not equate to the value of mineral withdrawal. Commissioner Goicoechea noted that the State plan does not include withdrawal and that they are included because the SFA's were

included in the LUPA and if the LUPA is negated it is not an issue. He also noted that the withdrawal is in comment period and the new administration can choose to take a different route including the no action alternative. Commissioner French also stressed that if you overlay the areas of high mineral potential with high quality habitat there are no great benefits and that they did not ground truth any of the proposed high quality habitat areas identified. She encouraged individual county comments and that she would be preparing comments on behalf of the Association.

- d) **Update on H.R. 1484, “The Nevada Lands Act.”** Commissioner Dahl updated the Board on the item and noted that it will be receiving a new number to correlate with the new Congressional Session. He told the Board that the language is being refined and he expects it to be introduced within a couple of weeks and a hearing would be forthcoming. He noted that the bill calls for a two phase transfer and with the assistance of the Association and Mike Baughman some of the groups that were formerly in opposition to the transfer are now seeing benefits to transfer with the change in the language. He also noted that the new language includes requirements for reporting to Congress on the State’s ability to pay, that the funds are being used properly and that there will be no net loss of land for public use. Commissioner French inquired as to how it would affect PILT and water rights and Commissioner Dahl noted that it contains provisions for the State to pay the equivalent of PILT.
- e) **The U.S. Department of the Navy’s Fallon Range Training Complex Modernization: Expansion of Land Ranges, Airspace Modifications, and Public Land Withdrawal Renewal Environmental Impact Statement, and the U.S. Air Force’s Notice of Intent to Prepare a Legislative Environmental Impact Statement for the Nevada Test and Training Range Military Land Withdrawal at Nellis Air Force Base.** Tori informed the Board that although they do not usually allow Cooperating Agency status they are entertaining the idea and that any county wishing NACO to participate on their behalf needs to send a letter of request to the Bases. Past President Wichman informed the Board that Nye County has applied for Cooperating Agency status on their own. She also noted that while she is very supportive of the military and is proud to be a host county but is disturbed by the loss of PILT and the need to still provide services to people who don’t live within the county. Commissioner Goicoechea noted that the item is still in the scoping process and it will be several years before the proposed withdrawals will come to fruition.
- f) **Discussion and Possible Nominations to Fill Future Vacancies on the BLM’s Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board.** Dagny informed the Board that the Board of nine will have open seats and that although Nevada has the most wild horses the state has no representation. She said that NACO reached out to ensure the Board knew there were seats available and that they would be willing to support the nomination of a Commissioner. She noted that both Commissioner French and President Phillips applied for seats the preceding summer but were not appointed. She noted that the open seats are in public interest, natural resource management and wild horse research. President Phillips suggested that Commissioners French and Goicoechea apply for appointment and Commissioner Goicoechea thanked him for consideration but noted that he does not currently have the time available to appropriately serve in the position. Past President Wichman moved to provide letters of support for Commissioner French and Rex Clearly should they choose to apply for positions to the Board. The motion passed on a second by Vice President Waits.
- g) **Litigation –** This item was heard in closed session.
 - 1) **NACO’s Efforts Seeking to Compel the U.S. Bureau of Land Management to Comply with the Provisions of the Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act.**
 - 2) **The Center for Biological Diversity’s 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 and NACO’s Motion to Intervene on behalf of the F&WS.**
 - 3) **The BLM’s and U.S. Forest Service’s Greater Sage-Grouse Resource Management Plans including the Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief Filed by the State of Nevada and Seven Nevada Counties, and Recent Implementation Training.** No Action was taken.

- 17. **NACO Committee of the Emeritus Update.** Past President Wichman, Chair of the Committee informed the Board that a meeting of the Committee will be scheduled soon and that the new

membership of the Committee is exciting and she is looking forward to seeing what the Committee will do in the upcoming year. Past President Wichman thanked Mayor Crowell for the invitation to present at the County on behalf of the Board.

18. **National Association of Counties and Western Interstate Region Board Member Updates.**

Commissioner Dahl noted that a meeting of WIR will be held in November during the NACo Annual Legislative Conference and that he will be looking forward seeing what happens with the change in the Administration.

19. **NACo Board Member Updates.** No updates were given.

20. **Public Comment** – President Phillips reminded the Board that the next meeting is February 17th and will be conducted by teleconference. Jeff reminded the Board that the NACo Legislative Conference will be February 25-March 1 and Amanda requested the Board send her their travel information so she can provide attendance lists to the individual Congressional offices for the scheduled meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 PM