

NEVADA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES (NACO)

Board of Directors' Meeting
Friday, December 12, 2025, 9:30am
NACO Offices
304 S. Minnesota Street
Carson City, NV 89703

ADOPTED MINUTES

Attendance: President Andreozzi, President Elect Gardner, Vice President Andriola, Past President Giomi, Churchill County Commissioner Getto, Clark County Commissioner Kirkpatrick, Esmeralda County Commissioner Perez, Lander County Commissioner Helming, Lincoln County Commissioner Reese, Lyon County Commissioner Keller, Nye County Commissioner Boskovich, Pershing County Commissioner Crim, Storey County Commissioner Carmona, Washoe County Commissioner Herman, White Pine County Commissioner VanCamp, and NACO Staff (Vinson Guthreau, Jennifer Berthiaume, Amy Hyne-Sutherland, and Amanda Berg)

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 Vice President Andriola with second by President Elect Gardner.
3. **NACO President's Report.** President Andreozzi thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve as President and expressed the great value he places in NACO and his appreciation for the Board members for the service they provide to their communities. He wished the Board a Merry Christmas and explained that he would need to step out of the meeting for a brief to attend another meeting remotely.
4. **NACO Executive Director's Report.** Vinson informed the Board that the Legislative Committee would resume monthly meetings beginning the first Friday in February, reminding them that the Committee is open to all county elected officials and staff. He also noted that Bill Draft Requests for the 2027 Legislative Session are due on September 1, 2026. Vinson discussed the National Association of Counties annual Legislative Conference that will be held in February 2026 in Washington DC, noting that he has heard the Senate will be in session and that he will be checking on the status of the House in preparation for planning meetings with the Delegation. He also informed the Board that Storey County would be sponsoring the dinner held for Nevada attendees and their guests. Vinson next discussed the workshop on AB211, which was sponsored by Assemblymember Considine during the 2025 Legislative Session, to address neighborhood blight and how the receivership process can benefit communities. He noted that the workshop is not a part of the quarterly workshop series developed with the assistance of the Emeritus Committee, that it would be taking place on January 9th, and directed the Board's attention to the flyer in the agenda packet. Vinson concluded his report by reminding the Board that the swearing in of the 2026 NACO officers would take place at the January meeting and wishing everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

Consent Agenda

5. **Approval of Minutes of November 21, 2025, NACO Board of Directors Meeting. For Possible Action**
6. **Approval of the Reappointment of Joni Eastley, former Nye County Commissioner, to the Nevada Rural Housing Authority (*NRS 315.977*). For Possible Action**
7. **Approval of the Reappointment (Joint Appointment with the Nevada League of Cities and Municipalities) of Zetkha Fountas, Resident Representative, to the Nevada Rural Housing Authority (*NRS 315.977*). For Possible Action**
8. **Approval of Reappointment of Joe Crim, Jr, Commissioner, Pershing County, as a NACO Appointment to the Board of Indigent Defense Services (BIDS), (*NRS 180.300*). For Possible Action**
9. **Approval of Appointment of Eric Blakey, Commissioner, Churchill County, Replacing Dave Mendiola, Former Humboldt County Manager, to the Board of Indigent Defense Services (BIDS), (*NRS 180.300*). For Possible Action**
10. **Approval of the Reappointment of Maurice White, Supervisor, Carson City, as a NACO Appointment to the Commission on Off-Highway Vehicles (*NRS 490.067*). For Possible Action**
11. **Approval of the Reappointment of Debra Strickland, Commissioner, Nye County, as a NACO Appointment to the Nevada Advisory Board on Outdoor Recreation (*NRS 407A.575*). For Possible Action**
12. **Approval of the Reappointment of Stacey Giomi, Supervisor, Carson City, as a NACO Appointment to the Board for the Fund for Hospital Care to Indigent Persons (*NRS 428.195*). For Possible Action**
13. **Approval of the Reappointment of Delmo Andreozzi, Commissioner, Elko County, as a NACO Appointment to the Board for the Fund for Hospital Care to Indigent Persons (*NRS 428.195*). For Possible Action**
14. **Approval of the Reappointment of William McCurdy II, Commissioner, Clark County, as a NACO Appointment to the Board for the Fund for Hospital Care to Indigent Persons (*NRS 428.195*). For Possible Action**
15. **Approval of the Reappointment of Shayla Holmes, Human Services Director, Lyon County, as NACO's County Social Services Appointment to the Board for the Fund for Hospital Care to Indigent Person (*NRS 128.195*). For Possible Action**
16. **Approval of the Appointment of Dee Helming, Commissioner, Lander County, as NACO Appointment to the Board for the Fund for Hospital Care to Indigent Persons, Replacing Outgoing White Pine County Commissioner Laurie Carson, (*NRS 428.195*). For Possible Action**

The consent agenda was approved as presented on a motion by Vice President Andriola with second by Commissioner Getto.

Regular Business

- 17. Approval of NACO Resolution 25-04 Recognizing January 2026 as National Radon Month.** President Andreozzi read the resolution into the record, and it was approved on a motion by Vice President Andriola with second by Commissioner Getto.
- 18. Presentation by the Nevada Emergency Preparedness Association (NEPA), Taylor Allison, Lyon County Emergency Management and Government Affairs Director.** Ms. Allison gave the Board an overview of the Association including its leadership and membership makeup, noting that she currently serves as the Western Nevada Director. She informed the Board that the Association's credentialing program which began in 2019 aligns with National standards and includes three certification levels (professional, associate, and support) with the third having been added in 2025. Ms. Allison shared with the Board the list of currently credentialed county personnel and noted that many county staff members are in the process of obtaining certification which will take place in February of 2026. She discussed the creation of a report on Emergency Management Capacity throughout the many levels of government throughout the state that is expected to be released prior to the summit being conducted in February as well. Ms. Allison gave the Board an overview of emergency management personnel statewide, noting that there are only 88 full time emergency management staff statewide, and that 50% of county staff and 94% of State staff are federally funded positions. She discussed the increase in county level emergency management investment and the divesture of federal resources since COVID and the structural imbalance of responsibility and resources based upon the national approach to emergency management (locally executed, state driven, federally supported). Ms. Allison informed the Board that once the FEMA report is currently being developed is released and a new plan will need to be structured to provide effective emergency management services statewide. She discussed the Association's 2026-2027 policy priorities and how partnership with NACO is beneficial, including the right-sizing of emergency management for all counties and closed her presentation by inviting counties to attend the Nevada Preparedness Summit in Clark County in February and announcing the creation of a new group that will address the specific responsibilities of local emergency management. Amy inquired as to whom would be recommended for the third credentialing level, and Ms. Allison informed the Board that the Support level certification is for those with some level of training but who's main job does not involve regular emergency management tasks. She also noted that NEPA is working with all the other associated associations (Sheriffs, fire, etc.) to avoid and/or eliminate duplication within training programs. President Elect Gardner concluded the item by remarking on the collaboration necessary for effective emergency management activities when necessary.
- 19. Final Discussion and Approval of the NACO Annual Budget for 2026.** Vinson reminded the Board that it was the second presentation of the budget documents and informed them that overall, the final budget numbers had not changed. He drew their attention to the documents included in the agenda packet and noted the only change was that previously the contract for natural resources support services was included in the salaries line item but was removed to a separate category at the suggestion of the bookkeeping staff, informing the board that the justification for the change was included in the budget descriptions. Vinson discussed the memo from the Association's Fiscal Officer, Alan Kalt, and drew their attention to the county dues schedule also included in the agenda packet. He informed the

Board that the budget continues to make strong investments in staff and programming and upon approval of the budget that invoices for the county dues would be distributed. Fiscal Officer Kalt concluded the discussion by informing the Board that it continues to be a pleasure for him to serve on behalf of the Board and to work with Vinson and the NACO staff on the development of a strong and responsible budget. The 2026 NACO budget and county dues schedule was approved as presented on a motion by Past President Giomi with second by Vice President Andriola.

20. **Presentation of the Annual NACO Investment Portfolio Review, Andy Robbins, Managing Partner, Moreton Asset Management.** Mr. Robbins began his presentation with a discussion of the expected interest rate cuts and shared an updated graph with the Board based on information received subsequent to the distribution of the agenda packet. He noted that projections are expecting two interest rate reductions in 2026. Mr. Robbins discussed that a new Chair of the Federal Reserve (Fed.) will be installed in June following the expiration of the current Chair's term in May, noting that it is expected that the new Chair will favor lower interest rates. However, he also noted that interest rate changes will depend on current rates of inflation and employment which are both currently rising. Vice President Andriola inquired as to what is being seen based on recent Supreme Court cases, specifically *Slaughter v. Trump*. Mr. Robbins informed the Board that he did not have great insight into the case, but that the markets are currently as volatile and unpredictable as he has seen, noting that even the Fed is not able to make accurate predictions. He also discussed the attempts to balance inflation and unemployment, drawing the Board's attention to a slide on the effects of tariffs on imports being difficult to determine. Next, Mr. Robbins discussed the effect that loan delinquencies (auto, mortgage, student loan etc.) are having on the markets. President Elect Gardner inquired as to if the hold placed on student loan payments from 2021-2024 and the expected forgiveness of the loans did not occur were causing the spike. Mr. Robbins stated that yes, a lot of borrowers had relied on the forgiveness of their student loans and have since been put in a bind due to excessive credit card spending. He then drew the Board's attention to the Association's investment portfolio giving a high-level overview of the account, noting that there was currently approximately \$177 thousand in unrealized gain and that the portfolio was approaching \$1 million dollars. Mr. Robbins gave the Board a breakdown of the current investments, noting that there was a high level of liquidity and a good mix of allocations, with a long-term yield of just under 4% for fixed rate investments. He concluded his presentation by informing the Board that the portfolio is poised to perform well in 2026. NACO Fiscal Officer Kalt noted the importance of highlighting the growth of the portfolio between the audits conducted in 2023 and 2024 and the fact that the unrealized gain helps with the budget. He also reminded the Board of the sweep account instituted and that those revenues help to support important NACO programming. Vinson inquired whether Mr. Robbins would recommend any changes to the currently approved investment policy. Mr. Robbins said he would need to refamiliarize himself with the policy but believes the current policy is good. However, he did note that the portfolio included approximately \$200 thousand as a buffer and inquired as to whether the Board would like to maintain the liquidity or to invest the funds. Fiscal Officer Kalt suggested keeping \$50 thousand in liquid funds and moving the remainder to investments, based off of the approved budget which does not require Board action based on the adopted investment policy. President Andreozzi concluded the item by thanking Mr. Robbins for his detailed presentation, noting that it is good to see the background on the portfolio and that the economic outlook is improving.
21. **Update from NACO Health and Human Services Manager, Including Presentation and Summary of Final Grant Report.** Amy informed the Board that the subgrant from the State which had funded the Public Health Coordinator position and related activities had ended in

November (2025) that she had submitted the final grant report, drawing their attention to the summary included in the agenda packet. She highlighted intergovernmental coordination activities with the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, the Divisions of Child Welfare and Adult Protective Services, as well as the Department of Agriculture. She discussed the work completed on the statewide review and report on Foundational Public Health Services and Opioid needs assessments in the counties to maximize State support and the educational opportunities and workshops conducted outside of the annual conference. Amy then informed the Board of a series of monthly workshops that would be conducted from February to May of 2026 on child welfare in Nevada and the updated NACO website with links and resources related to public health. President Andreozzi noted that Amy had been wonderful and effective in the role and that he was glad the Board had prioritized keeping the position past the grant funding. Vice President Andriola echoed the President's remarks and also discussed the creativity of the creation of the immunization toolkits that allow for customization by the counties, highlighting yet another example of the value of NACO membership for the counties.

22. Update from NACO Committee of the Emeritus. Past President Giomi informed the Board that there had been no activity by the Committee since the November meeting. Vinson informed the Board that updates had been made to the New Commissioner Handbook, and that it is available on the NACO website, noting that there were not a lot of changes but reiterating that it is a valuable resource for new Commissioners.

23. 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. Jeremy Drew of RCI informed the Board that there had been a lot of activity following the federal government shutdown. He informed the Board that the State Water Engineer had stepped down and that Chase McNamara had stepped down as the Policy Advisor on Natural Resources for Governor Lombardo. Jeremy noted that there would be a learning curve with his replacement, but there would be a benefit to a short overlapping timeframe. He also announced that SLUPAC had recently been staffed. Jeremy discussed proposed ESA reforms, noting that four sections were to be addressed (listing, habitat, interagency cooperation and threatened), noting that new comments could be informed by a previously approved comment letter since the comment deadline was December 22nd. He also discussed a proposal to clarify the definition of WOTUS, noting that the process would slow due to judicial actions, specifically the Sacket decision. He informed the Board that the proposed definition changes would be closely reviewed, and comments would be submitted on January 5th if the requested extension was not approved. Jeremy next discussed renewable energy transmission projects moving forward, landscape solar projects being placed on hold, and the lack of guidance from the BLM on the new revenue sharing program for solar energy projects. He did note that current information indicates that the program is for both new and existing projects, and that 25% would go to State and local governments. Jeremy discussed a meeting with the Navy to address ongoing issues with compensation and access with regards to the withdrawals surrounding the Fallon Naval Air Station and the effects it will have for multiple counties. He informed the Board that the spending plan for the Wild Horse and Burro program requested by the Department of the Interior and submitted prior to the shutdown had yet to be approved. Vinson concluded the item by informing the Board that SRS had recently passed, and both Lincoln and Nye counties would be included in the back payments for the two years the program was not passed. No action was taken.

24. Updates from Members of the National Association of Counties Board, Western Interstate Region Board, and Individual Counties. Commissioner Kirkpatrick informed the Board that NACo was getting caught up on committee hearings post shutdown. President Elect Gardner informed the Board that he would be attending the NACo Board symposium being held in the President's home county remotely due to a conflict with his county commission meeting. He also informed the Board that a new We are Counties campaign had been approved as well as policy priorities and encouraged attendance at the upcoming legislative conference and the annual conference in July. He also informed the Board that FEMAs planned discontinuation of the BRIC program had been denied by a federal judge. Board members gave updates on activities within their counties.

25. Public Comment. Varlin Higbee informed the Board that Karen Bud Fallon had reappointed all members to the Wild Horse and Burro Committee and that would be meeting would take place in February where it was expected that the previous recommendations would be pushed back up to Washington.

26. *CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO NRS 241.030. To receive information regarding potential or existing litigation involving a matter over which the Board has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power, and to deliberate toward a decision on the matter and direct staff accordingly.*

Following the closed session, the meeting was adjourned at 11:39 a.m.