

NEVADA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES (NACO)

Board of Directors' Meeting
Tuesday, September 23, 2025
Immediately Following the Annual Business Meeting
South Point Casino, Hotel & Spa
NAPA Room C
9777 South Las Vegas Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89183

ADOPTED MINUTES

Attendance: President Andreozzi, President Elect Gardner, Vice President Andriola, Past President Giomi, Churchill County Commissioner Ghetto, Clark County Commissioner Gibson, Clark County Commissioner Kirkpatrick, Douglas County Commissioner Tolbert, 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, White Pine County Commissioner VanCamp, Fiscal Officer Kalt, and NACO Staff (Vinson Guthreau, Jennifer Berthiaume & Amy Hyne-Sutherland)

The meeting was called to order by President Andreozzi immediately following the adjournment of the Annual Business Meeting.

1. **Public Comment.** None was given.
2. **Approval of Agenda.** The agenda was approved on a motion by Past President Giomi.
3. **NACO President's Report.** President Andreozzi referred to his comments during the previous meeting.
4. **NACO Executive Director's Report.** Vinson informed the Board that the application period for the Cashman Good Governance Award, given by the Nevada Taxpayers Association, which recognizes local governments for ingenuity in service delivery had opened. He encouraged the Board to submit projects from their communities and referred to additional information included in the agenda packet for further information. Vinson then reminded the Board of the Community Partnership Program and the contract with the California State Association and introduced Robbie Bendorf who is helping to leverage new memberships in the program and strengthen existing member relationships.
5. **Approval of Minutes of the August 22, 2025, NACO Board of Directors Meeting.** The minutes were approved on a motion by Vice President Andriola.
6. **Discussion and Possible Approval of Board Direction to NACO Staff Regarding Proposed Policies Impacting the University of Nevada, Cooperative Extension Program.** Vinson reminded the Board that NACO has been heavily involved with and supportive of Cooperative Extension. He informed the Board that discussions have been taking place at several levels of government regarding the program and its funding, and the item was placed on the agenda at the request of Commissioner Kirkpatrick with the hopes that the Board will approve the drafting of a letter in support of Cooperative Extension.

Commissioner Kirkpatrick discussed the boots-on-the-ground mission of Extension and the various programs it oversees. She discussed current discussions being held at the Regent level that would redistribute the funding for the program to more research driven areas of the university system, including local funding provided by the counties through property tax allocations. Commissioner Kirkpatrick discussed previous legislative efforts to ensure that the program remains true to its original intent through land grant university status and encouraged all counties to contact their individual Regents to discuss the importance of Extension and encourage its continued full and proper funding. Past President Giomi discussed the creation of a one-page white paper on the history of the funding of Extension as well as a model resolution for counties to pass in support of the program. Specifically, noting the benefit of the educational component of Extension programs. Vice President Andriola echoed the comments of the Past President and noted that she has also held conversations regarding the issue. Supervisor Giomi inquired as to the consequences of what would happen if action were not taken and President Andreozzi reminded the Board that the counties have dedicated tax rate to extension and that sweeping those funds would usurp local authority at the very least. Commissioner Kirkpatrick also reiterated the importance of Extension programs for citizens. Commissioner Reese inquired as to what would happen to the 4-H Camp in Alamo and the contracts with the counties for the asset, Commissioner Kirkpatrick stated that she could not say for sure, but that important part is protecting the taxpayers and the dollars they pay into the program. Staff was directed to bring forth a resolution in support of Extension on a motion by President Andriozzi with second by Past President Giomi.

7. **Update from the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT), Tracy Larkin Thomason, Director.** Director Thomason thanked the Board for the opportunity to address the Board. Director Thomason began her presentation with an overview of the Department, including the number of employees, maintenance districts, and administrative hierarchy. She discussed the number of road miles and other infrastructure assets held under the department as well. The State Highway Fund, and challenges, specific inflation outpacing revenues were also discussed. President Elect Gardner inquired as to specific inflation impacts and the Director informed the Board that the Department could expend millions of additional dollars a year to keep pace with repair needs and infrastructure upgrades. President Elect Gardner also inquired as to what advocacy efforts are being done on the effect electric vehicles are and will have on ongoing funding issues. The Director clarified that the Department does not advocate but is continuing to complete analysis on the effect electric vehicles are having on fuel tax revenues. She also noted that increased MPG on traditional fuel powered vehicles is having an effect on revenues and that indexing has assisted Washoe and Clark Counties with revenue shortfalls related to that issue and encouraged the Board to reach out directly for analysis related to their area. Director Thomason continued with an overview of the process for approval of projects in rural areas of the State, the county tour process, and a new tool to assist local governments in submitting need requests. She also discussed tribal engagement, the local road safety program which is nearing the end of its four-year funding, the TAP or Transportation Alternatives Program which provides funding for smaller scale community projects for bike paths etc. Director Thomason also discussed the fact that 25% of fatal crashes occur on rural roads, and additional work being done to mitigate that issue. The tourism and freight route being studied between California and Southern Nevada was discussed as was a study on I80 from Vista Blvd. to USA Parkway in the Northern portion of the State. The Director concluded her presentation with an update on various projects throughout the State. Commissioner Helming inquired as to plans for maintenance on the rural highways, the Director stated that the majority of the challenge is funding and they are working with a large amount of current grants and will continue to evaluate the best way to continue to

leverage those grants, but that federal funds are not allowed to be utilized for maintenance. Commissioner Helming inquired about the status of I-11 and the Director stated that they are looking at bringing up the status of HWY 95 to interstate standards from Mercury, but it will continue to be improved until complete. Past President Giomi inquired as to what the increase of mineral exploration and expansion, if there have been discussions to have those firms participate in funding for rural highways. The Director acknowledged that is an issue but that she is looking at opening those conversations, but feedback from the Counties will be critical at the legislative level going forward to ensure proper funding. President Andreozzi acknowledged that as long as there are roads there will be funding challenges and that the fuel tax component is not the answer, noting that registration revenue was higher than the tax. The Director noted that all the issues are multipronged and evolving over time, but all options need to be on the table to make funding sustainable. President Elect Gardner noted that Commissioners hear about road issues on a daily basis from their constituents, the Director acknowledged that and noted that education of what the taxes are and how they can be utilized also is important. Commissioner Kirkpatrick suggested a carve out of some sort through the energy companies to help offset the reduction of fuel taxes for electric vehicles. Director Thomason reiterated that nothing is off the table and President Elect Gardner noted that his county has broached the subject with NV Energy when a charging station was proposed to his county. President Andreozzi concluded the item by thanking the Director for her time and presentation.

8. **Update from NACO Health and Human Services Manager, Including the Approval of Resolution 25-02, A Resolution in Support of September as Suicide Prevention Month in Nevada.** President Andreozzi remarked on his personal advocacy on the issue, noting that Elko County has lost more people to suicide than during the pandemic and asked for moment of silence of reflection for those lost and their families. President Andreozzi read the resolution, included in the agenda packet into the official record. The resolution was passed unanimously on a motion by himself with second by Commissioner Keller. President Elect Gardner reminded the Board of previous public comment given from the groups involved in 988 and that he had invited them to Douglas County for a full presentation at the Commission which was important not only for the Commission but for the citizens as well. Commissioner Tolbert also noted that they address specific issues experienced in each area, which is also important. Amy informed the Board that there is a good short training course called Safe Talk that addresses a lot of myths around suicide and is freely available across the State, and she is happy to connect the Board to that resource. President Andreozzi asked the Board to stay following the meeting for photographs with the resolution.
9. **Updates from Members of the National Association of Counties Board, Western Interstate Region Board, and Individual Counties.** Updates will be given at a future meeting following upcoming meetings. Members of the Board gave updates on activities within their counties.
10. **Public Comment.** Nye County Commissioner Strickland encouraged the Board to advocate for the Secure Rural Schools program, which was not funded under HR1. President Andreozzi reminded the Board that the President's Reception would take place in the Napa Room beginning at 6:30.

The meeting was adjourned by President Andreozzi.