

## **NEVADA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES (NACO)**

Board of Directors' Meeting

April 22, 2022, 9:30am

NACO Offices

304 South Minnesota Street

Carson City, NV 89703

### **ADOPTED MINUTES**

**ATTENDANCE:** Vice President Giomi, Past President Kirkpatrick, Douglas County Commissioner Tarkanian, Eureka County Commissioner Goicoechea, Humboldt County Commissioner French, Lincoln County Commissioner Lister, Lyon County Commissioner Keller, Mineral County Commissioner Hall, Nye County Commissioner Strickland, Pershing County Commissioner Shank, Storey County Commissioner Carmona, Washoe County Commissioner Hartung and NACO Staff (Vinson Guthreau, Jennifer Berthiaume, Jacob Brinkerhoff and Amanda Berg)

The meeting was called to order by Vinson at 9:39 a.m. (The meeting was Chaired by Vinson at Vice President Giomi's request, as he attended remotely)

1. **Public Comment.** None was given.
2. **Approval of Agenda.** The agenda was approved on a motion by Commissioner French with second by Commissioner Hall.
3. **NACO President's Report.** None was given as President Lucey was unable to attend the meeting.
4. **NACO Executive Director's Report.** Vinson introduced the Board to the Association's new Natural Resources Manager, Jacob Brinkerhoff and gave an overview of his background and qualifications. Commissioner French informed the Board that he had been a part of the interview and selection process and that he believes Jacob is a good fit for NACO and that he is excited to work with him. Jacob concluded the item by giving the Board a more detailed review of his background in Natural Resources and Public Policy. Jacob thanked the Board for the opportunity to join the NACO staff.
5. **Approval of Minutes of the March 25, 2022, NACO Board of Directors Meeting.** The minutes were approved on a motion by Commissioner French with second by Commissioner Lister.
6. **Approval of NACO's March 2022 Financial Statements and Investment Reports.** Vinson reminded the Board that the statements and reports are brought to the Board on a regular basis to maintain transparency. He noted that the Association expenses are currently under budget and that the investment portfolio is performing well. The NACO fiscal year was clarified as January 1 through December 31 at the request of Commissioner Lister. The financial statements and investment reports were approved on a motion by Commissioner Lister with second by Commissioner Hartung.

7. **NACO Staff Update Regarding the Nevada Sustainable Transportation Funding Advisory Group.** Vinson informed the Board that the item was added to the agenda at the request of Commissioner Lister, based upon the Board's discussion at the February meeting. He reminded the Board that the Advisory Group was created by the Legislature during the 2021 Session and that the Group is tasked with providing a written report with recommendations to the Legislature by the end of the year. Vinson informed the Board that the Group, on which he is the Board's representative, met on April 12<sup>th</sup> and had discussed potential funding mechanisms, though no recommendations had been made. He assured the Board that his participation is based on their priorities including that there be no General Fund obligations. He then informed the Board that NDOT will return to the Board for a presentation when the Group's recommendations are final. Past President Kirkpatrick informed the Board that she had secured the document discussed at the February meeting and that she would send it to Vinson for distribution. Commissioner Lister inquired as to if Vinson had a sense as to where the Group was headed with their recommendations. Vinson stated that there is opposition to all the recommendations discussed and that it will be up to the Legislature to fully vet any of the recommendations that come out of the Advisory Group. A potential parcel delivery fee was discussed, and the item was concluded by Past President Kirkpatrick encouraging the focus be on preservation of existing roads before investing in new roads.
8. **Possible Approval of SOLUS Technology Solutions as a NACO Associate Member.** Vinson directed the Board's attention to the application included in their agenda packets and SOLUS Technology Solutions was approved as an Associate Member on a motion by Commissioner Hartung with second by Commissioner Hall.
9. **Discussion and Update from the Nevada Rural Housing Authority (NRHA), Including, but Not Limited to, Awarding of State ARPA Dollars and an Update on NRHA Programs, Bill Brewer, Executive Director, Nevada Rural Housing Authority.** This item was taken out of order for scheduling purposes. Vinson introduced the item, reminding the Board that former Nye County Commissioner, Joni Eastley and former Pershing County Commissioner, Roger Mancebo are NACO's appointed representatives to the NRHA Board of Directors. Ms. Eastley thanked the Board for her appointment to the Board and discussed the importance of the work that NRHA does throughout the State. Ms. Mishon Hurst gave the presentation as Mr. Brewer was unable to attend due to travel. Ms. Hurst's presentation began by outlining the agency's mission and priorities, and highlighted successful outcomes of the program with statements from some of the residents they have served. Ms. Hurst then outlined statistics of the homeownership, housing voucher, affordable housing units, and weatherization assistance programs in rural areas, highlighting the \$7.5 million expended in rental assistance during the COVID-19 Pandemic. She then outlined the future goals of NRHA, including opportunities to add inventory, Frontier community development, access to affordable homeownership tools and voucher expansion and advocacy. Ms. Hurst ended her presentation by discussing some of the challenges to reaching those goals including inflation, zoning issues and access to necessary data. All Commissioners are encouraged to contact NRHA with any questions or concerns they may have, as well as to discuss opportunities for housing expansion that the Authority may be assisting with.
10. **Discussion of Western Interstate Region (WIR) Host County for 2023 Annual Conference, Including Interest from Eligible Nevada Counties and Host County Requirements.** Vinson directed the Board's attention to the RFP included in the agenda packet and informed the Board that he had discussed the RFP internally as well as with Douglas and Washoe Counties because of their access to Lake Tahoe. He also informed the

Board that WIR's Legislative Director, Jonathan Shuffield would be open to discussing hosting of the Conference beyond 2023.

11. **Update on Planning Activities for NACO's 2022 Annual Conference, hosted by Storey County.** Vinson thanked Storey County for hosting the event and Amanda informed the Board that Sponsor registration had opened and gave an overview of the finalization of the logo and theme.
12. **Presentation on the NACO High Performance Leadership Academy, Including Program Curriculum and Dates for Enrollment, Luke Afeman, Senior Director of Enrollment, Professional Development Academy.** Vinson reminded the Board of the fully on-line program and NACO's partnership with the program, noting that he has completed the Academy. He encouraged County participation in the program by enrolling those staff members in expanded or expanding leadership roles. Mr. Afeman then gave the Board an overview of the Academy and informed them that county enrollees receive an \$850 scholarship to assist in covering the costs of the program.
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.** Vinson informed the Board that the Subcommittee had discussed the Governor's Shared Stewardship Program announcement and that staff had already had conversations with the Division of Outdoor Recreation on the importance of including counties in their meetings and discussions, and they would continue to monitor the implementation of the agreement. The Subcommittee also discussed the disaster declarations of 13 Nevada counties and received an update on the Navy's proposed withdrawals for the Fallon Naval Airbase. No action was taken.
14. **NACO Legislative Committee Update.** Jennifer informed the Board that the Committee had met on the 8<sup>th</sup> and discussed potential Bill Draft request ideas, reminding the Board that the Association is entitled to introduce five BDRs. She reminded the Board that the Committee's proposals will be introduced to the Board for discussion and approval in August as they must be submitted in September. Vinson encouraged the Board to submit any issues or ideas to staff so they can be brought to the Committee for discussion. The next meeting of the Committee will take place on May 13<sup>th</sup>.
15. **NACO Committee of the Emeritus Update.** Vinson informed the Board that the workshop held on the 8<sup>th</sup> on the Bi-partisan Infrastructure Law was one of the best panels to date and that the workshop had record setting attendance, thanks in part to the in-person/remote attendance hybrid platform. He concluded the item by informing the Board that the next meeting of the Committee would be May 6<sup>th</sup>.
16. **Updates from Members on the National Association of Counties Board, Western Interstate Region Board, and Individual Counties.** Past President Kirkpatrick informed the Board that NACo Board of Directors have been discussing the Treasury guidance on Pandemic relief funding and how best to get the dollars directly to counties. Commissioner French stated that he will have an update on WIR following the conference in May. Commissioners gave updates on activities within their counties.

17. **Public Comment.** Storey County Manager, Austin Osborne informed the Board that the county is looking forward to hosting the conference and staff is working to assist the Association with planning efforts.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.