

NEVADA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES (NACO)

Board of Directors' Meeting

May 29, 2026, 9:30am

NACO Conference Room

304 S. Minnesota Street

Carson City, NV 89703

ADOPTED MINUTES

Attendance: President Gardner, President Elect Andriola, Past President Andreozzi, Carson City Supervisor Giomi, Churchill County Commissioner Getto, Esmeralda County Commissioner Perez, Humboldt County Commissioner Tipton, Lander County Commissioner Helming, Lincoln County Commissioner Reese, Lyon County Commissioner Hendrix, Nye County Commissioner Boskovich, Pershing County Commissioner Crim, Washoe County Commissioner Herman, White Pine County Commissioner Carson, NACO Fiscal Officer Alan Kalt & NACO Staff (Amy Hyne-Sutherland, Jennifer Berthiaume & Amanda Berg)

The meeting was called to order at 9:32 A.M.

1. **Public Comment.** None was given.
2. **Approval of Agenda.** The agenda was approved on a motion by President Elect Andriola with second by Supervisor Giomi.
3. **NACO President's Report.** President Gardner reminded the Board that the National Association of Counties (NACo) Annual Conference would be held in New Orleans in July and noted that Amy had informed him that there were currently 10 registrants from Nevada. President Gardner noted that the CEO search was still underway and reminded them that Supervisor Giomi is the Chair of the Selection Committee that would be meeting following the June Board meeting to review the applicants and make recommendations to the Executive Committee for interviews. President Elect Andriola encouraged the Board to reach out to their respective Human Resources (HR) departments to share the position posting and share the position on their own social media platforms. She also acknowledged the assistance of President Gardner, Supervisor Giomi, Fiscal Officer Kalt, and the Washoe County HR department for their assistance in modernizing the position announcement and processes. President Gardner concluded his report by noting that the Western Interstate Region (WIR) of NACo had held their annual conference earlier in the month and reminded them that Douglas County will host the event in 2027.
4. **NACO Interim Chief Executive Officer's Report.** Amy noted that data centers had become a significant concern and informed them that a special meeting of the Public Lands and Natural Resources (PLNR) Committee would take place to discuss the issue. She also noted that NACo is also working to address concerns surrounding the centers nationwide and that the goal of the meeting would be to focus on the sharing of information. Amy also shared that the Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) is working to update their abatement packages for data centers and that the potential is there to look at the existing packages for other business types as well. The Board noted that it would be important to compile the most truthful information available regarding the pros and cons of the centers and it was noted that it would be important for County staff to participate in the meeting.

President Elect Andriola also offered to share the existing information that the Truckee Meadows Regional Planning Authority had compiled. Amy also discussed Opportunity Zones which are afforded federal tax incentives for housing projects in low-income census tracts. She informed the Board that the designation of the Zones is currently under review and encouraged the Board to collaborate with the Governor's office to identify appropriate areas within their counties to receive the designations. Jennifer informed the Board that she would include a link to a NACo webinar that discusses the issue for the members. Amy next discussed NACo's intent to apply for the Rural Health Transformation Fund Rural Health Outcomes Accelerator Program Grant to examine county drivers of healthcare costs and develop a pilot program to improve health outcomes while reducing county costs for health-related services. . . She also reminded the Board to reach out if assistance is needed. She reminded the Board that the NACo Annual Conference would also involve the election of the 2nd Vice President and requested that the registrants assign their proxy to NACo as block voting is the tradition. The Board was informed that Jennifer had submitted a letter to the Interim Legislative Operations and Elections Committee on the fiscal impacts of the proposed changes to voting systems that they were considering that morning. Jennifer requested that the counties keep track of the costs associated with the proposed changes as the counties should expect to be asked for the fiscal impact information. Amy concluded her report by reminding the Board that she had attended the WIR conference and that the content had focused heavily on disaster recovery, emergency preparedness, and tourism management.

5. **Approval of Minutes of April 24, 2026, NACo Board of Directors Meeting.** The minutes were approved as presented on a motion by President Elect Andriola with second by Commissioner Tipton.
6. **Discussion and Possible Action to approve NACo Staff to advocate for the approval of Nevada's Section 1115 Reentry Demonstration Waiver, including letters to Nevada's Federal Delegation and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Administrator Dr. Mehmet Oz.** President Gardner directed the Board's attention to the letters contained in the agenda packet and the submission of the letters as presented was approved on a motion by President Elect Andriola with second by Past President Andriozzi.
7. **Discussion regarding NACo Energy Summit.** Amy informed the Board that a workshop style learning session is being planned for August 14th. She noted that NV Energy, and representatives from solar, geothermal, and small-scale nuclear industries would be taking part. Amy informed the Board that the intent of the Summit is to provide county feedback to the industry and the cross-sharing of information on the issues of importance to counties. She informed the Board that Extension would also be supporting the event specifically where solar and agrivoltaics would be discussed. President Gardner noted appreciation for taking the individual county Commission meetings into account when determining the date for the Summit. Commissioner Helming informed the Board that she had attended a tour of a small-scale nuclear energy plant in Illinois during a meeting of the NACo Energy Academy and Commissioner Reese also noted that he had toured a facility in Denmark, he also suggested that Tom Burns from GOED be invited to participate.
8. **National Association of Counties (NACo) County Explorer Demonstration.** President Gardner informed the Board that he had requested the item to ensure that available resources are shared and that County Commissioners and staff are aware of the information available to them. Amy then gave the Board an overview of how to use the tool and what types of information are available. President Gardner noted that during budget hearings his Board had received questions on the ROI for the dues paid to both NACo and NACo and

noted that the scope of available information and useful resources is impactful. It was also noted by Commissioner Reese that Lincoln County does not have a large budget available for travel and that he finds great value in the presentations given during Board meetings, even though he attends most remotely. President Gardner also noted the benefit of counties that cannot afford individual lobbyists from the efforts of NACO staff at the legislature and the potential of additional information sharing. Jennifer noted that she would be open to looking at developing reports for the National events that staff attends. She also reminded the Board that a meeting summary is provided to them that includes links to information discussed during the meetings that the members can share with their fellow Commissioners. Supervisor Giomi mentioned concerns with Open Meeting Law violations if they were to share the document with their colleagues and suggested that distribution through the respective County administrative or managers offices may be a better option.

Updates from Standing Committees:

9. **NACO Legislative Committee.** President Elect Andriola reminded the Board that the last meeting was held on May 1st and the next would take place on June 5th. She informed the Board that Committee currently had six BDR proposals under review and that they would determine which five would go to the Board for review and approval for submittal to the Legislative Council Bureau prior to the September 1 deadline. The sharing of any departmental issues that are overarching for all or multiple counties was encouraged. Supervisor Giomi discussed the disposal of State lands at fair market value even to local governments and Amy stated that the issue would be further researched and discussed at the next Committee meeting. President Gardner concluded the item by requesting that any county that did not plan to use their BDR to consider allowing NACO to use it if appropriate.
10. **NACO Committee of the Emeritus.** Past President Andriozzi informed the Board that the group is very engaged and had previously discussed workshop topics, noting the most recent workshop held on unclaimed property, as well as having shared ideas for educational sessions at the upcoming NACO Annual Conference. He also shared that they had discussed keynote speaker ideas for the Conference and Amy shared that a speaker had been identified but the other options presented are solid alternatives if something fell through. The Committee had also discussed a potential 'onboarding' system for newly elected Commissioners following the General Election.
11. **NACO Committee on Housing.** Jennifer informed the Board that the next meeting would take place on June 12th due to the Juneteenth holiday. She directed the Boards attention to presentations from the last two Committee meetings included in the agenda packet and informed them that a representative from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is expected to present on their regulations during the next meeting regarding appropriate Opportunity Zones. Jennifer also noted the importance of having county specific data to drive appropriate solutions and noted that she would like to see staff from departments that cover housing, infrastructure, planning, etc. participate on the Committee. Amy concluded the item by noting that the NEAP presentation included in the agenda packet was specific to Douglas County but reports for all the counties are available.
12. **NACO Committee on Cooperative Extension.** Amy directed the Boards attention to the flyer included in the agenda packet and reminded them that the purpose of the Committee is to establish or reestablish local input into programming and to facilitate the sharing of successful programs that can be scaled for statewide use, noting the goal of providing a forum for collaboration and accountability. She concluded the item by informing the Board

that the make-up of the Committee was close to full statewide participation nearing members from all 17 counties.

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.

Commissioner Tipton noted that the Association is lucky to have the support of Jeremy Drew from Resources Concepts, Inc. and turned the update over to him. Mr. Drew informed the Board that he had been monitoring the various updates the counties have given to the Interim Committee on Natural Resources and noted that emerging items of importance during the presentations include data centers, wild horse and burro issues, renewable energy and transmission projects and access to public lands through private property. Mr. Drew discussed the relaunching of SLUPAC in April and noted that their next meeting would take place in July, he also reminded the Board that SLUPAC is not isolated to discussion State land issues. He updated the Board on a meeting held with the BLM on the implementation of the BLM Greater Sage Grouse (GRSG) Resource Management Plans held earlier in the month. Mr. Drew explained that the ROD has some flexibility, but the working group is developing the most emergent issues and identifying the most appropriate solutions. He also noted that the BLM stated that Cooperating Agency status is no longer required for participation and encouraged any counties with GRSG to share any emerging issues. The Board was informed that the Committee had also discussed data center linkage on public lands, siting of energy plants, renewable energy generation and green link. Mr. Drew also reminded the Board that comments on the proposed new grazing regulations are due on July 13th and that a meeting would be held in June regarding developing issues surrounding the DOD withdrawals for the Fallon Range Training Complex, including compensation and public access closures. He also updated the Board on a lack of forward motion on ESA issues and upcoming planning efforts regarding wild horse and burro issues, including emergency gathers in Washoe, Humboldt, Lander, and White Pine Counties. Past President Andriozzi stressed the need for ecosystem health being considered during GRSG discussions, specifically where wildfire is concerned for not only for the bird but for all sagebrush obligate species. Mr. Drew informed the Board that an SEC meeting would be taking place the following Monday in Elko and they would be discussing advancing that narrative. Commissioner Reese also informed the Board that a new BLM Director had been named and that Steve Pearce is a former Congressman from New Mexico.

14. Updates from Members of the National Association of Counties Board, including the Rural Action Caucus and the Midsize County Caucus. President Gardner informed the Board that the last meeting of the NACo Board had taken place at WIR on May 7th but he was unable to participate to his own Commission meeting. He also noted that Vice President Keller was absent and would not be able to present on the Rural Action Caucus. President Elect Andriola informed the Board that she had applied to NACo to be considered for the Vice Chair position of the newly formed Midsize County Caucus.

15. Updates from Members of the Western Interstate Region Board. Commissioner Tipton noted that Amy had discussed the positives of the WIR conference but that he was disappointed that now public lands issues affecting the continental states were discussed. He noted that highlighting the host county is important, but that future focus should be made on the major issues affecting the Region, not just the host county.

16. **Updates from Individual Member Counties.** Members of the Board reported on activities within their counties.

17. **Public Comment.** None was given.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:18 P.M.