



NACO E-News

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December 17, 2010

2010 Officers

Pamela Lancaster, President
Hall County Supervisor

Steve Erdman, Vice-President
Morrill County Commissioner

LeRoy Janssen, Sec./Treasurer
Wayne County Sheriff

Dennis Kimbrough, Past President
Fillmore County Supervisor

Upcoming Events

Legislative Meeting
Lincoln, January 14, 2011

Legislative Meeting
Lincoln, January 21, 2011

County Board Workshop
Kearney, February 9 –11, 2011

NWCA Conference
Kearney, February 14-17, 2011

[NACo Legislative Conference](#)
Washington, D.C., March 5-9, 2011

116th Annual Conference Well Attended

In a stark contrast to last year's blizzard, fair weather for NACO's 116th Annual Conference played a roll in the large attendance. Nearly 800 officials and employees representing 91 counties participated in this year's conference, held at the Cornhusker Marriott in Lincoln on December 8-10.

Delegates attending the Friday morning business meeting unanimously elected Steve Erdman, Morrill County Commissioner, as the 2011 President. Wayne County Sheriff LeRoy Janssen was elected vice-president and Hayes County Commissioner Leon Kolbet was elected as secretary-treasurer.

Also appointed as Directors were Madison County Commissioner Lee Klein, Northeast District representative; Sheridan County Commissioner Jack Andersen, Panhandle District representative; and Hall County Surveyor Casey Sherlock, Surveyors, Highway Superintendents and Engineers representative.

Fillmore County Assessor Joan Ackland was honored as the County Official of the Year during the Awards Luncheon held on Friday afternoon.

See full conference highlights in the January issue of *CountyLine*.

2011 Scholarship Applications Available

Nebraska high school seniors who are the children or stepchildren of county officials or employees are encouraged to apply for one of twelve \$1000 NACO scholarships. Additional information and the downloadable [application](#) can be found under the 'Services' tab on the NACO website.

Nationwide Retirement Solutions, the administrator of NACO's deferred compensation program, will award four Nationwide/NACo college scholarships - each worth \$2,000 - to four high school seniors whose parent or grandparent participates in NACO's Deferred Compensation Plan. The scholarship deadline is January 31, 2011. For more information about eligibility and application procedures, click [here](#).

Nebraska Crime Commission Grant Application Deadlines

- Jan. 7, 2011 2010/2011 Federal & State Juvenile Justice Grant
- Jan. 28, 2011 2011 State Juvenile Justice County Aid Enhancement Grant
- Apr. 15, 2011 Title V Delinquency Prevention & Juvenile Accountability Block Grant

The applications and instructions can be accessed on the Crime Commission website: <http://www.ncc.negov>.

*The NACO & MIPS offices
will be closed
on December 24th*

*Merry
Christmas
from the
NACO & MIPS Staff*



Legislative News...**Roster of 2011 Nebraska State Senators**

On Thursday, the Nebraska Legislature released a report for a 10 percent options listing of potential general funds cuts from state agencies within each legislative committees' jurisdiction. The cuts are intended to identify options to address the projected shortfall of \$986 million of funds. The report is found at: <http://www.nebraskalegislature.gov/reports/lr542.php>. The Legislature has identified program functions that may be amended, reduced, or eliminated. Included within the nearly 70 page report are the following:

- Reducing county aid by \$ 9,659,935;
- Returning the fiscal responsibility for County Court to counties; and
- Cutting legislative positions and repealing LB 467 (2008) that expanded the scope of investigation of the Legislature's Ombudsman to include city or municipal jails

Legislation is required for several of the options identified in the report. It is likely that a great deal of the legislative session will necessitate addressing the contents of the report. Additionally, the results of the report will be utilized by the Legislature to craft a budget for the upcoming biennium.

Another related issue is Senator Fischer's proposed method for addressing road funding needs. Her press release can be viewed [here](#).

Supreme Court Cases of Interest...

On December 3, the Nebraska Supreme Court issued *IBEW No. 1597 v. Sack*, 280 Neb. 858, --- N.W. 2d --- (2010) and *IBEW Local 763 v. Omaha Pub. Power Dist.*, 280 Neb. 889, --- N.W. 2d --- (2010). Both cases had gone to the Commission of Industrial Relations (CIR) and the Commission's decisions were appealed. The first IBEW case examined whether deputy county officials and other county employees could be considered for inclusion in the same bargaining unit as nonsupervisory positions. It was determined that deputies could not while other positions could be considered in the same bargaining unit as nonsupervisory positions. This case will be discussed in further detail in the January 2011 edition of NACO's *Countyline*.

The second IBEW case related to issues within a collective bargaining unit agreement for a "Tobacco-Free Worksite" policy. IBEW alleged the policy was a "prohibited practice" under Nebraska statutes. The CIR found that OPPD did not commit a prohibited practice by implementing the policy and the Supreme Court affirmed the decision.

2011 Directory of County Officials

The order form for the NACO 2011 Directory of County Officials is now available online. The directory is an annual publication that provides names and contact information for elected and appointed county officials in the state. Each directory is \$16 if tax-exempt and \$17 if taxable. [Online directory order form](#)

County Board Handbooks

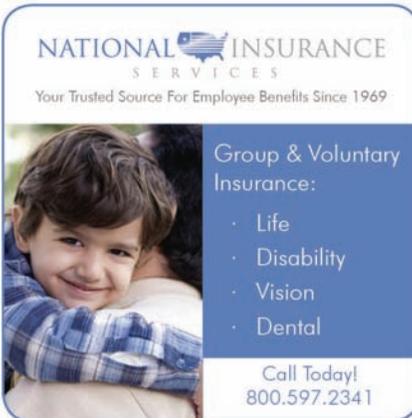
The County Board Handbook and the 2010 Supplement order form is available online. Pre-order for pickup at the County Board Workshop and save shipping and handling. To download the order form, click [here](#) or visit our website.

Reminder

Effective January 1, 2011, the standard mileage rate as established by the Internal Revenue Service will be **\$0.51** per mile.



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If you are aware of any news that may be of interest, please let us know

Nebraska Association of County Officials
Mayfair Building
625 South 14th Street | Suite 200
Lincoln | NE | 68508
Phone 402-434-5660 | Fax 402-434-5673
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