



NACO E-News

www.nacone.org

October 24, 2008

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Jail bonds to be decided by voters on November 4th

As overcrowding, the security and safety of inmates and jailers and out-of-date facilities continue to be of concern for Nebraska county jails, many counties are considering their options.

- ◆ Buffalo, Lancaster and Saunders counties are currently in the process of building
- ◆ Lincoln, Nemaha and Seward counties will put a bond issue for new construction to the vote of the people on the November 4 ballot
- ◆ Voters in both Red Willow and Jefferson counties rejected bond issues in the last year

In the past seven years, eleven counties have either renovated, made additions, or built new jail facilities.

- ◆ Butler, Cass, Dakota, Hall, Phelps, Saunders, and Scotts Bluff counties have new facilities
- ◆ Douglas, Holt, Jefferson, and Saline counties have renovated and/or made additions to existing facilities

According to a September 2008 report prepared by the Nebraska Crime Commission Jail Standards Division:

- ◆ 30% of Nebraska jails are operating at or above housing capacity
- ◆ Of the 71 adult detention facilities, 46 do not meet State or professionally recognized minimum standards regarding design and housing capacities



New Law Enforcement Center in Grand Island—Hall County, which was completed in the summer of 2008

Upcoming Events

NWCA Fall Training ✓

Hastings, October 28 -29, 2008

NE Wind Energy Conference ✓

Kearney, November 11-12, 2008

Annual Conference ✓

Lincoln, December 10-12, 2008

Voter registration and early voting numbers are on the rise



The number of registered voters in the state has increased to nearly 1,150,000—an increase of about 43,000 from November 2007. About 24,000 of those registrations have occurred since September 22nd, with almost half of being in the 2nd Congressional District. It would seem that the push to register college age students may also be a factor—9,600 of those registrants are in the 18-25 age group.

In the past two weeks, there have been over 72,000 early voting ballot requests. As of Tuesday, that brought the total to nearly 122,000 requests. That's an increase from the past two general elections of about 15,000.

In-person voter registration must be done by Friday in order to vote in this General Election. Requests for a ballot to be mailed must be made by October 29th, and the deadline for in-person early voting is November 3rd.



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Conference Matters

Conference [registration](#) and a [tentative agenda](#) are available on the NACO website at www.nacone.org. Registration is \$120 on or before November 28th. Registrations received after that date will be \$135. The fee for the guest program is \$65 and will be limited to 52 people. The full guest program itinerary will be available in the November issue of the *CountyLine*.

Reminder: County Official of the Year nominations must be received by November 14th. The nomination form is available by [clicking here](#) or visiting the NACO website at www.nacone.org.

News Across the State...

Links are to outside sources and may not be available indefinitely

[Board mulls over 18 Justice Center bids](#)

Kearney Hub, 10/08/08

[Veterans cemetery awarded \\$5 million](#)

Chadron News, 10/08/08

[Bailout package included wind project help](#)

Norfolk Daily News, 10/09/08

[Board agrees to increase funding for CASA](#)

Columbus Telegram, 10/9/08

[Goal is to have Bloomfield wind farm operating by end of year](#)

Norfolk Daily News, 10/9/08

[Wind's portion small, growing](#)

Kearney Hub, 10/10/2008

[County denies request for zoning change](#)

Beatrice Daily Sun, 10/10/08

[One constant in county board sizes: variety](#)

Grand Island Independent, 10/11/08

[Sheriff encourages individual, community efforts...](#)

Star Herald, 10/11/2008

[Otoe County Commissioners support wind farm plan](#)

Lincoln Journal Star, 10/13/08

[Petersburg seeks wind-generation farm in Boone County](#)

Columbus Telegram, 10/13/08

[County approves video link](#)

Grand Island Independent, 10/14/08

[Bond sale for jail could wait for markets to settle](#)

Kearney Hub, 10/15/08

[Benefits of drug court discussed](#)

Norfolk Daily News, 10/15/08

[Early ballots pouring in—with postage due](#)

Grand Island Independent, 10/15/08

[Gering voters have the chance to extend LB840](#)

Star Herald, 10/16/08

[Secretary of State Gale: General Election is a 'pivotal hinge'](#)

Grand Island Independent, 10/16/08

[Madison County pledges \\$1 million for nursing college](#)

Norfolk Daily News, 10/16/08

[Nebraska's vote matters](#)

North Platte Bulletin, 10/16/08

[Neb. Votes to pack extra punch, Gale says](#)

North Platte Telegraph, 10/16/08

[Airstrip growth hits road block](#)

Kearney Hub, 10/17/2008

[Region experiencing a large increase in registered voters](#)

Star Herald, 10/19/08

[Early voter traffic steady](#)

Gothenburg Times, 10/19/08

[Smith campaigns for five on county board](#)

News Press, 10/21/08

[Jail overcrowding forces further inmate farming](#)

North Platte Telegraph, 10/21/08

[Voters to decide on number of county commissioners](#)

Aurora News Register, 10/21/08

[Supervisors dialed into new reverse 911 system](#)

Columbus Telegram, 10/22/08

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