

County All Stars to Get Hall of Fame Treatment

Jeff Eslinger | County News Editor

“County All Stars” is more than just a catchy phrase for the NDACo Annual Conference. Every county has All Stars, and they deserve to be recognized. *We are asking every county to send us at least one story about county all star employees* who have committed random acts of kindness, above-and-beyond the call of duty actions, and acts of courage and selflessness. They can be from news clippings, stories found on social media, or just about any form of story, whether front page news or a private caring gesture.

At the **Annual Conference October 8-10**, we’ll create a “Wall of Fame” to display them, so all attendees can draw inspiration from these All Stars.

Share those stories! Photos are a definite bonus, too. Use whatever method of contact you prefer:

jeff.eslinger@ndaco.org
NDACo at PO Box 877
Bismarck ND 58502-0877

But that’s not the only Hall of Fame connection at this year’s conference. Our keynote speaker is also a genuine Hall of Famer! We’re not going to tell you WHO he is, or WHICH Hall of Fame he’s in. We will be rolling out hints and teasers about him over the coming weeks, starting with this little blurry image:



And finally, just to recap some of the changes we’ve already announced:

1. Commissioner caucus meetings – we’re asking caucuses to meet before the conference so the work does not have to be rushed in a short meeting on Sunday
 2. Busing will not be offered, but we are working on finding a way to provide transportation during the Monday evening dinner and entertainment
 3. A light continental breakfast will be offered at the Event Center Monday and Tuesday, not at hotels
 4. No hotel room blocks – a list of hotels offering discounts or state rate has gone out
 5. We will not ask counties to bring door prizes (that doesn’t mean we won’t give away lots of freebies!)
- We look forward to seeing you in October.

Constitutional Initiative to Eliminate Property Taxes Submitted to Secretary of State

Secretary of State Michael Howe announced June 19 that a proposed petition to initiate a constitutional measure has been submitted to the Office of Secretary of State for review and approval to circulate. The proposed constitutional initiative relates to, “Prohibiting all political subdivisions from levying any tax on real or personal property except for bonded indebtedness until paid.” The petition was approved for circulation June 29.

ND Association of Counties Executive Director Aaron Birst said about the proposal, “We have seen this kind of attempt before to eliminate property taxes. We are not convinced there is a workable solution that is equitable for funding the services the counties in North Dakota provide to serve the people who live and work in the county. NDACo has repeatedly testified against proposals to abolish property taxes as our members feel this will threaten local control in responding and addressing local needs at the levels citizen’s desire. NDACo takes direction on policy matters from our members. They will be meeting to set resolutions at our Annual Conference in October.”

Over 75 percent of North Dakotans voted down a similar effort in 2012. More recently, in the 2022 election, voters supported 84% of the levies and measures



put forth by their local governments, showing that when citizens understand what they are getting for their tax dollars, they support them.

The deadline for submitting petition signatures to the Secretary of State is 120 days before the election at which the measure is to appear on the ballot or one year from the date the petition is approved for circulation. That means, to be on the ballot for the 2024 Primary Election, signed petitions must be submitted prior to midnight on February 12, 2024. To be on the ballot in the 2024 General Election, petitions need to be submitted prior to midnight on July 8, 2024

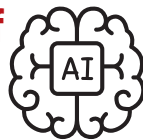
The maximum time allowed to gather petitions is one year from the date the petition is approved for circulation.

Rick Becker of Bismarck, North Dakota is the chairperson of the sponsoring committee.

North Dakotans elected many new county officials this year, so we expect a LARGE number of first-time attendees!
If it’s your first conference, you get a BIG discount!
See www.ndaco.org/conference for details.

County QUICK FACTS

Top 4 Uses Of AI In Local Government



- ✓ Data analytics/
Predictive modeling
- ✓ Smart infrastructure
- ✓ Citizen service (Chatbots)
- ✓ Public safety monitoring and analysis

See page 6
for more AI news



Logical Solutions

With Local Connections

Connect with us at InterstateEng.com

BUILT ON COMMUNITY

Embracing a collaborative team approach, Interstate Engineering focuses on building for tomorrow. From projects to career paths, Interstate Engineering knows the best approach to any accomplishment is to collaborate, celebrate success, and grow for tomorrow.



Board Member PROFILE



BECKY HAGEL

Foster County Commissioner representing Region 6

What is your favorite thing about being a commissioner? I was appointed once the Foster County Board went to a five-member board. I was not going to run in the fall; but once I was in office, I realized I had to run to use my experience as an assistant auditor-treasurer in Minnesota, where I worked for 30 years, was going to be crucial to getting the county back on track. I am very proud of the progress we have made instituting and updating policies and financials.

Family: My husband Kelly and I have been married for 13 years. Kelly has a construction company. Kelly has one son who resides in beautiful Alexandria, MN. My daughter, Erin and her husband, Jason, moved to Carrington with their son Calvin to establish Jason's electrical business. Calvin started at Bismarck State College in the lineman program. My younger daughter, Liz, recently moved with her two sons, Bodie and Ransom, to North Dakota from Oregon.

Hobbies: Quilting. (I should say piecing quilts and other smaller projects since I pay someone to do the actual quilting.) Recently, I became the co-chair of our local guild.

Favorite movie: *To Kill a Mockingbird*

Music: I listen to many different artists – early Beatles and Bee Gees but my all-time favorite is Frank Sinatra.

Books: Mysteries by Louise Penny or biographies of historical figures, anything by Jon Meacham or Doris Kearns Goodwin.

Something people probably don't know about you: I've been the Municipal Court Judge for Carrington since 2017.



NDACo Executive Committee

Steve Lee, President..... McLean
 Jayme Tenneson, 1st Vice President... Nelson/Griggs
 Trudy Ruland, 2nd Vice President..... Mountrail
 Chad Kaiser, 3rd Vice President. Stutsman
 Carrie Krause, Past President..... Wells

Directors

Beau Anderson..... Williams
 Steve Forde..... Nelson
 Becky Hagel..... Foster
 Lori Hanson..... Mountrail
 Kari Hatzenbuehler..... Morton
 Kim Jacobson..... Agassiz Valley
 Wanda Knutson..... Mercer
 Dana Larsen..... Ward
 Val McCloud..... Rolette
 Nick Moser..... Cavalier
 Scott Ouradnik..... Slope
 Mary Scherling..... Cass
 Kelly Vincent..... Griggs

Ex Officio Members

Marcia Lamb..... Billings
 Perry Turner..... McIntosh
 Chad Peterson..... Cass

NRG Technology Services Staff:
 See page 6



NDCCA Executive Committee

Chad Peterson, President..... Cass
 Karen Anderson, Vice President..... Walsh
 Joan Hollekim, Treasurer..... Mountrail
 Perry Turner, Past President..... McIntosh

Directors

Jason Arth..... Sargent
 Glenda Collier..... Eddy
 Cory Hanson..... Williams
 Jim Kapitan..... Cass
 Neal Messer..... Stark

NDACo Staff

Aaron Birst..... Executive Director
 Alisha Adolf..... Professional Development Manager (ILG)
 Kaitlyn Bakken..... GIS Coordinator
 Cassie Braun..... Accounting Assistant
 Genny Dienstmann..... Operations
 Patrick Engelhart..... CEG Safety Specialist
 Jeff Eslinger..... Communications Director
 Ryan Gellner..... Vision Zero Outreach Program Manager
 Cathy Heidt..... Administrative Secretary
 Teanna Hintz..... Accounting Assistant
 Jason Horning..... Next Gen 9-1-1 Program Manager
 Chuck Horter..... Human Resources Coordinator
 Lisa Jahner..... Research & Programs
 Mary Korsmo..... SACCHO Executive Director
 Kathy Kottenbrock..... 9-1-1 Project Manager
 Jennifer Morman..... CEG Claims Manager
 Donnell Preskey..... Government/Public Relations Specialist
 Jake Schimetz..... Facility Manager
 Linda Svihovec..... Research Analyst
 Michelle Tabbert..... Administrative Officer
 Angie Wentland..... Controller
 Mike Wolf..... CEG Underwriting & Loss Control Manager

FROM the COUNTIES

Summer is Here!!

I'm not sure where spring has gone; it might have been the three days in May when daytime highs were below 85 degrees. Now that summer has "officially" arrived, we, at least in some parts of North Dakota, have received some much-needed precipitation and somewhat moderating temperatures.

The National Association of Counties (NACo) Annual Conference will be held in Austin Texas beginning July 21. Each state has one national board representative at this conference, except for states like North Dakota, that have 100% of counties being NACo members, which gives us one additional national board representative.

Why is this important? The national board votes on NACo policy goals when working with the decision-makers in Washington on issues such as agriculture, energy, environment, nutrition, social programs, and pretty much every issue being dealt with by the U.S. Congress. Our state is well-represented on numerous NACo committees by ND county officials, giving us a strong voice on national policy. I strongly encourage all ND counties to continue your membership in NACo.

The NDACo Annual Conference in October is fast approaching. It is one of the best, if not the best, annual state counties conference in the U.S., rivaling the national conference with educational opportunities, interaction



Steve Lee | NDACo President
McLean County Commissioner

with vendors, and opportunities to exchange ideas with fellow county officials and employees. If you have attended a past Annual Conference, you are already aware of these benefits, and if not, you can take advantage of a first-time attendee registration discount. Be sure to attend the NDACo conference for learning, fun, and networking with other county officials.

Enjoy the summer and take advantage of some of the GREAT recreational and entertainment opportunities that North Dakota Counties have to offer.

Have a great summer and be safe!

FROM the COMMISSIONERS

314 Flamingos Die in Circus Fire

First question, where did this happen? Second question, why 314? Did the 315th make it out or were there only 314 to begin with? Third, why on earth does a circus have this many flamingos? So. Many. Questions. But congratulations are due, because you've read further than most.

Happily, there was no circus fire that I'm aware of, and thus, all my fictitious flamingos shall live to fly another day, but I do have a point here; we are a society built on information garnered from headlines. We read one headline, then another, or now, we click to the next article. But this isn't new. David Ogilvy, the father of modern advertising, said, "...five times as many people read the headline as read the body copy," long before I was born. With our hectic lives and infinite amounts of content available on our phones. I bet it has gotten worse. But why should elected officials care about the ramblings of long-dead advertizing moguls? Because it's budget time and we've got a story to write.

Very few of us are going to have an easy budgetary year. And all of us are having trouble with workforce. With these struggles comes decisions about property taxes, fees and overall rate of taxation. And with these items come news articles, followed by citizens concerned about how their money is being spent. Neither of these things are bad, mind you. In fact, the



Chad Peterson | NDCCA President
Cass County Commissioner

opposite it true. We should be overjoyed when people pay attention to what we are doing. We should be giddy at the fact they care enough to engage. But we need to be ready to explain why we did what we did. And we need to understand the hardest part; that we may only have one sentence to do it.

From fictional flamingos to the basics of governance, too few people are engaged enough to understand what's really going on around them and why. It's our job to help spread the word about local government and what we do...even if it's only line at a time.

FROM the ASSOCIATION

Summer is Here – Let's do Policy

Ahh summer, when our thoughts turn to policy.

OK, maybe working on policy is not as high on our lists as fishing or golf, but we're going to have to do it, so let's get it done and out of the way. In past years, we've crammed a whole important policy meeting for the year into a half hour of our Annual Conference, which left little time for more than rubber stamp votes.

This year, we're asking commissioners to meet in their regional caucuses, both in person and online, and have any resolutions and other votes taken care of in advance of the conference. **Each caucus has a representative on the NDACo Board. Those representatives will be in touch with the commissioners in their region to make arrangements for an August or September meeting.**

We need to hear from you about any resolutions you'd like us to pass, to help guide us in this interim period and help us prepare



Aaron Birst | NDACo Executive Director

for the next legislative cycle. Please feel free to call or email me with your thoughts, and/or contact the commissioner who represents you (you can see that at www.ndaco.org/board).

And yes, if I attend your meeting, I'll be happy to pack my golf clubs or fishing rod for the after-meeting.



Aaron Birst, Managing Editor
Jeff Eslinger, Editor

Clearwater Communications,
Layout/Design

ND Association of Counties

PO Box 877, Bismarck, ND 58502-0877

Ph 701-328-7300

Website: www.ndaco.org

North Dakota County News is the official publication of the ND Association of Counties (NDACo). Circulation is approximately 2,000, with bimonthly publication. Deadline for submissions and advertising is the 15th of each even-numbered month. Copyright 2023 by NDACo. Portions of **County News** may be reproduced without permission of editor. Opinions expressed in advertising and editorial content do not necessarily reflect NDACo views.

COUNT YOUR SAVINGS WITH STATE COOPERATIVE PURCHASING CONTRACTS & SURPLUS PROPERTY!



THE STATE CAN HELP YOU AFFORD WHAT YOU NEED.

- Computers
- Copiers/Multifunctional Devices
- Software
- Vehicles
- Paper & Paper Products
- Janitorial Products & Trash Bags
- Batteries
- Food
- IT Consulting
- Government Credit Card

- Computers/Technology
- Office Equipment & Furniture
- Cold Weather Gear
- Rescue Vehicles
- Law Enforcement Equipment
- Mechanical Equipment
- Utility Vehicles
- Road Maintenance Machinery
- Tools
- First Aid Gear

NORTH
Dakota | Procurement
 Be Legendary. MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

701.328.2740 • INFOSPO@ND.GOV
 OMB.ND.GOV/COOPERATIVEPURCHASING

NORTH
Dakota | Surplus Property
 Be Legendary. MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

1278 HEMLOCK ST. • BISMARCK, ND
 701.328.9665 • SURPLUS@ND.GOV
 OMB.ND.GOV/SURPLUS

2023 HR Collaborative Summer Virtual Series Are Off to a Great Start

Genny Dienstman, CAE | NDACo Operations

NDIRF's HR Collaborative has hosted two of its six virtual sessions this summer and the attendance has been very strong with over 115 registrations so far.

"The HR Collaborative's Six-Session Summer Virtual Series kicked off June 7, featuring a great discussion with ND Labor Commissioner Nathan Svihovec and Williams County Administrator Helen Askim," said HR Collaborative Director Joanna Drennen. "This first session generated such strong engagement and momentum, setting up our series for continued success."

The second session was hosted by NDACo HR Coordinator Chuck Horter, who shared insights on behavioral based interviewing. These helpful tips gear you towards finding the right employee for your organization.

If you haven't registered for these sessions, there is still time to take them ALL in! How does that work? All sessions are recorded, so when you register, you have access to all six sessions, including the recordings.

Partner organizations (NDACo, NDLC and NDSBA) are offering Education Credits for attending each session and all sessions are CLE approved for attorneys.

The remaining session schedule is listed below. Register today for some great HR training right at your desk! Go to www.HRNDGov.org/summer-training-registration.

PERS: Time to Move Forward

Chuck Horner | NDACo HR Coordinator

Well it is official: House Bill 1040 passed and has been signed into law which will officially create a new ND Public Employees Retirement plan for new employees starting on January 1, 2025 or January 1, 2024 pending a decision by the PERS Board. No changes were made, however, to the Judges Defined Benefit Plan or the Public Safety Plans for law enforcement. Current employees will remain covered by the existing Defined Benefit Plan until they retire or terminate their eligible public service employment.

New employees hired after the eligibility date established in 2024 or 2025 will participate in a Defined Contribution Plan similar to the 401k plans found in the private sector or related 403b plans that cover nonprofit organizations. The new formula contributions will be:

- 4.12% Employer + 3% Match
- 4.00% Employee + 3% Match

Current employees with less than 5 years of service will have an incentive to move from the defined benefit plan to the defined contribution plan.

How big is this change?

Although this marks a huge change in the PERS program, it is something that has been happening for decades in other organizations, especially in the private sector. Very few defined benefit pension plans exist anymore; and because of the massive liability to maintain these plans, employers are simply moving away from them.

I experienced this first hand when I worked for a private company for 31 years. In 2006, everyone eligible in my company was informed that the defined benefit pension plan would be "frozen"

for current employees at their present years of service and that they would be eligible for 401k participation going forward. New employees would simply start out in a newly revised 401k plan. Thus, I was frozen at 25 years of defined benefit eligibility and then had 6 years of enhanced 401k defined contribution eligibility. In the end it all worked out OK for those of us impacted.

What about retention?

As an HR Director, I did not see any major impacts with the pension changes in my company, especially with new employees. The fact is, younger employees pay very little attention to pension plans and they view it only as something to deal with way in the future. In many respects, they like the portability of defined contributions and accept the fact they can take their plan contributions and earnings to other organizations that have similar plans. While some view this as a potential retention problem for the future, I do not; as I have not seen this play out in the organizations I have worked with over the past couple of decades.

Just do it.

In my opinion, the key to retention will continue to be job satisfaction and fair compensation for a fair day's work. Thus, I would encourage everyone to review their current retirement plans and to carefully explore the numerous options available to build a solid economic platform for retirement. People who take the time to research their retirement options and take advantage of the investment opportunities – and just do it – generally benefit from their actions.

SESSION 3

10-11:15 a.m. (CDT) on Wednesday, July 12

Understanding the ADA and Responding to Accommodation Requests

Brian D. Schmidt

Attorney at Law and Partner at Smith Porsborg Schweigert, Armstrong, Moldenhauer & Smith

SESSION 4

10-11:15 a.m. (CDT) on Wednesday, July 26

Remote Work

Tanya Wieler

Dakota Dynamics HR Consultant

SESSION 5

10-11:15 a.m. (CDT) on Wednesday, Aug. 9

Supporting Workplace Well-Being

Katie Johnke, RDN, LRD, CLC

Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health Nutrition Services Coordinator

SESSION 6

10-11:15 a.m. (CDT) on Wednesday, Aug. 23

HR Collaborative Reference Guide Review + LocalGovU

Nancy Reis, SHRM-CP

NDIRF Administrative Services Manager

NACo
members
agree:
Membership
adds value

ACCESS a seat at the table
ENGAGE on the issues that matter
NETWORK with your peers and national experts
SAVE time, money and resources
SUCCEED as a county and as an individual

Become a NACo member today.

Visit NACo.org or call 888.407.NACo (6226)

My County. My NACo.



Peterson Named to National AI Exploratory Committee County Leaders and Partners to Examine Best Practices for Deployment of AI

Catlin Solum | Cass County Public Information Officer

Cass County Commissioner Chad Peterson has been named to a national exploratory committee on artificial intelligence launched by the National Association of Counties (NACo). The Artificial Intelligence (AI) Exploratory Committee will examine emerging policies, practices and potential applications and consequences of AI. The 15 committee members, representing county elected and appointed officials from across America, will focus on the lens of county governance policies and practices, operations and constituent services, public trust, privacy and security, and workforce productivity and skills development.

“It’s an incredible honor for me and Cass County to be considered for this position,” said Peterson. “From Grand Farm locally to the unmanned aircraft systems in Grand Forks, the state of North Dakota is set to lead the world in this growing space. Having a voice in the room offering input on policy could prove invaluable.”

The exploratory committee will work with cross-sector partners to examine AI in local government across a range of issue areas, with a proposed process to:

- Assess the current state of AI technology
- Identify potential applications of AI and the related benefits and risks for

county government operations

- Evaluate the risks and benefits of AI related to workforce productivity, displacement and skills
- Explore the county governance landscape with ethics, public trust, privacy and security impacts
- Develop a preliminary policy and practice toolkit with sample guidelines and standards for AI
- Identify opportunities for collaboration and partnership with different county stakeholders
- Advise on public policy issues that may need to be considered by NACo’s board and policy committees, and
- Facilitate education and engagement opportunities for county officials, NACo networks and partners.

“Workforce shortages have affected everyone in both public and private sectors,” said Peterson. “In Cass County, leveraging AI could help remove mundane tasks and free up time to allow better delivery of personalized services to the public. That said, we must not allow it to become the default solution as our team has always prided ourselves on being accessible. Face-to-face interaction is what makes us what we are as a community. As we saw during the pandemic, removing that would be to our detriment.”

The exploratory committee will meet at NACo’s Annual Conference on July 22, with plans to meet both in person and virtually as work progresses.

Unleashing the Power of AI to Learn About AI Revolutionizing the Writing Processes

Jeff Eslinger | County News Editor, and Chat GPT

I wanted to include an article in this issue about using Artificial Intelligence (AI) but I didn’t know where to turn. So I turned to AI

I asked Chat GPT (<https://chat.openai.com/>) to write an article about using AI to write an article...about AI Everything after this paragraph was written by AI with minor editing by me. The first sentence is garbage, but most of the rest is pretty good:

In today’s fast-paced world, where technology rapidly evolves, we find ourselves at the forefront of a remarkable era. Artificial Intelligence (AI) has become an invaluable asset, simplifying and enhancing numerous aspects of our lives. As a county official, harnessing the power of AI to draft articles about any subject can open a world of opportunities and benefits.

First and foremost, AI assists in gathering and analyzing vast amounts of data. By employing natural language processing and machine learning algorithms, AI tools can swiftly sift through mountains of information, extracting relevant data, statistics, and insights. This capability not only saves time but also ensures accuracy and comprehensiveness in your articles.

AI can also aid in generating compelling introductions and captivating headlines. By analyzing successful articles and understanding audience preferences, AI algorithms can suggest attention-grabbing hooks, enabling you to engage readers from the get-go.

AI provides valuable assistance in structuring and organizing your articles. With its ability to comprehend complex topics and identify key concepts, AI algorithms can suggest logical flow, topic transitions, and even generate outlines for your articles. This ensures that your content is coherent, well-structured, and easily digestible.

Finally, leveraging AI can save time. By automating repetitive tasks like fact-checking, proofreading, and reference formatting, AI tools free up time for writers to focus on creativity, analysis, and critical thinking.

AI has revolutionized the writing process. By harnessing its data analysis capabilities, content structuring assistance, and writing style suggestions, writers can produce high-quality articles efficiently and with greater accuracy. Embracing AI as a writing partner enables us to push the boundaries of creativity and knowledge dissemination.



ApexEngGroup.com

NRG TECHNOLOGY STAFF



Lonny Bosch	President	Danielle Kraft.....	Accounting Assistant
Cody Anderson.....	Systems Engineer	Matthew Levoron.....	Field Technician Intern
Garrett Bruner.....	Service Coordinator	Jeff McDowell.....	Systems Engineer
Dawson Dosch.....	Field Technician	Erik McGurren.....	Security Analyst
Dwight Driscoll.....	Account Manager	Amber Schriock.....	Service Manager
Travis Fandrich.....	Field Technician	AJ Snyder.....	Field Technician
Jacob Fettig.....	Field Engineer	Kay Ternes.....	Service Coordinator
Kendall Fey.....	Field Engineer	David Weiand.....	Systems Engineer
Jacob Fricke.....	Service Coordinator		

Improved 911 Services Launched in First North Dakota Locations

Karim Tripodina | SRT Public Relations Manager

Minot, N.D. - North Dakota has deployed the state's first end-to-end Internet Protocol (IP) 911 service in support of the state's transition to Next Generation 911 (NG911). This transition from analog to IP-based connectivity means the system that carries emergency 911 calls will be more capable, faster and less vulnerable to 911 service interruptions.

Traditional 911 services use analog circuits to reach the state's 911 system. NG911 migrates that infrastructure to a flexible, secure broadband infrastructure that can carry a much broader range of communication signals such as text, picture or video. The IP-based network allows information to flow seamlessly across the 911 system, from the public to first responders and beyond.

The North Dakota Association of Counties (NDACo) contracted with Lumen to provide NG911 for all 911 call centers – known as public safety answering points (PSAPs) – in the state. Dakota Carrier Network (DCN) provides statewide network connectivity between 13 independent

telecommunication companies and Lumen. The NG911 network also requires a telecommunications switch to deliver individual calls to the 911 system and route each call to the appropriate PSAP. SRT is the pilot telecommunications company and assisted with local network design. NDACo, DCN, and SRT collaborated to deliver end-to-end IP 911 calls from SRT subscribers to seven PSAPs.

"SRT is proud to be part of the first deployment alongside DCN and NDACo. We are committed to public safety and have been integral to delivering critical emergency services to the most remote corners of our service area. The NG911 system leverages the latest technology to ensure 911 is available and reliable," said Shawn Grosz, SRT Chief Technology Officer.

"The work done on behalf of DCN and piloted by SRT completes modernization work on the final portions of the 911 network still using analog technology," said Jason Horning, Next Generation 9-1-1 Program Manager for NDACo. "We are grateful for their leadership and excited for the

public to benefit from the improved reliability and the future opportunities that the new network design provides."

Seth Arndorfer, DCN Chief Executive Officer, added, "911 is a critical service that must work every time. The rollout in SRT territory was flawless and we're already working in other parts of the state, with anticipated statewide completion in

third quarter 2024. Then, every North Dakotan – citizens and first responders – can be confident 911 connectivity will be there when they need it."

The faster, more flexible and efficient NG911 system offers benefits to callers and first responders alike. Callers can get help quickly from any device at any time, and first responders can share life-saving information instantly.

Emergency Dispatchers Seeing Major Spike in 911 Hang-Ups

County emergency services, along with ND State Radio, are facing a trend experienced by dispatch centers across the country: an influx of 911 hang-up calls or misdials over the past year. So far in 2023, 911 centers have experienced about four times more hang-ups and misdials than what had been the average in previous years.

The issues stem from changes to mobile device emergency settings, some of which have automatic crash detection technology and features that will dial 911 when certain buttons are pressed. Some phones have settings where 911 is dialed when the power and volume buttons are held down simultaneously. A 911 call might also be initiated when pressing the power button five times in rapid succession. Mobile users can check the settings on their devices to avoid a misdial or talk to their service providers.

"Even if you do misdial, please stay on the line and let our dispatchers know that the call was a mistake," said Darin Anderson, North Dakota State Radio Division Director. "We have a checklist and hang-up procedure we use that requires time and can put a significant

strain on public safety resources. If there is a hang-up, we still need to do call backs and confirm the caller is ok."

Upon receiving a 911 hang-up call, emergency dispatchers will call the number back to ensure there is not an emergency. If contact is not made with that caller, they will use GPS location information generated by the call to dispatch law enforcement. This can result in law enforcement expending resources for a potential non-emergency.

"Each time we are dispatched for a hang-up 911 call, our troopers could be out in the field, patrolling and providing help to those who truly need it," said Sgt. Wade Kadrmas, ND Highway Patrol. "Those calls can really take away from our normal duties. We understand that mistakes happen. No one gets in trouble for misdialing 911, but it's critically important that the person stays on the line to communicate with our dispatchers. It saves a lot of time."

Anderson suggests a few additional guidelines to assist emergency dispatchers and first responders:

If you accidentally dial 911, don't hang up. Stay on the line to let a dispatcher know you are OK.



If you misdial 911 and do hang up, immediately answer the returned call from dispatchers to let them know you are OK.

Talk to your kids about using 911 and when it is appropriate to call. Don't let kids play with old cell phones unless they no longer work, or the battery is removed. Deactivated cell phones can still dial out to 911.

Turn off the "Emergency SOS" setting on your phone if you think you might not need it. If it is activated, avoid placing your phone in cupholders or your pocket where buttons can be bumped accidentally.

For information about how 911 hang-ups may be affecting your county, contact your county emergency Manager.

The Next Generation of Drivers – Setting Them Up for Success

Kaitlin Atkinson | Vision Zero Coordinator

Teen drivers make up approximately 5.5% of all licensed drivers in North Dakota but are behind the wheel in nearly 21% of all crashes. Parents play a crucial role in preventing their children from being part of this statistic. Through Vision Zero, we offer a variety of tools to help make sure teens are educated when they take to the road. Each year, *Driving Skills for Success* is hosted in one or two cities in North Dakota to bring all of the tools and education to one venue for young drivers to experience.

Driving Skills for Success is an event where teen drivers' skills and judgement are put to the test. This program helps teens learn the skills they need to take personal responsibility and make the right choices every time they get behind the wheel.

Driving Skills for Success is for teen drivers with a permit or license between the ages of 14-18. Participants will have a chance to drive a controlled course with law enforcement while having various distractions, experience virtual simulators, and many more interactive stations. Parents are welcome to attend.

Teens are also welcome to sign up for the ND Safety Council's *Alive at 25* course. *Alive at 25* is an interactive classroom course that is designed to reduce the likelihood of young drivers ending up in a vehicle crash.

Register your teen today for the event in Grand Forks on July 11 or Fargo on Aug. 2 by going to www.visionzero.nd.gov/events/DSFS/ and selecting the location that works best for you.

VISION ZERO

Zero fatalities. Zero excuses.

Other tips to set your teen driver up for success include:

- Complete all required practice hours in a variety of driving conditions while your teen is learning to drive. Rain, fog, snow, ice, nighttime, and sunrise/sunset all pose challenges to new drivers, so help them navigate them during that practice time.

- Know and understand the North Dakota Graduated Drivers License (GDL) laws. They are in place to build confident and skilled drivers to make roads safer for all road users.

- Set ground rules and consequences for your teen driver. By getting it in writing and talking about it on a regular basis, it reminds your teen of the importance of their decisions when they get behind the wheel.

- Be the driver you want your teen to be. Be sure to buckle up, drive distraction-free, follow posted speed limits, and always driver sober. By showing your teen you believe in the expectations you have set for them, they are more likely to abide by them.

As a parent you are the biggest influence on your young driver and play a key role in ensuring they make every trip, no matter how far, a safe one.



GIS in County Government

Kaitlyn Bakken | NDACo GIS Coordinator

If you're new to GIS, it stands for Geographic Information Systems. It is a computer system that analyzes and unites location information and displays what things are like there. Displaying data spatially benefits users because visuals are easier to read and comprehend. Even more important, it helps us recognize patterns in data, relationships, and geographic location to improve communication, efficiency and better management and decision-making.

It's not hard to see how GIS is a great solution for a variety of uses in big and small industries, but it is also useful in many county applications. Here in North Dakota, counties use GIS in public health, transportation, disaster management, ag land valuation, locating addresses in voting precincts, and road maintenance operations.

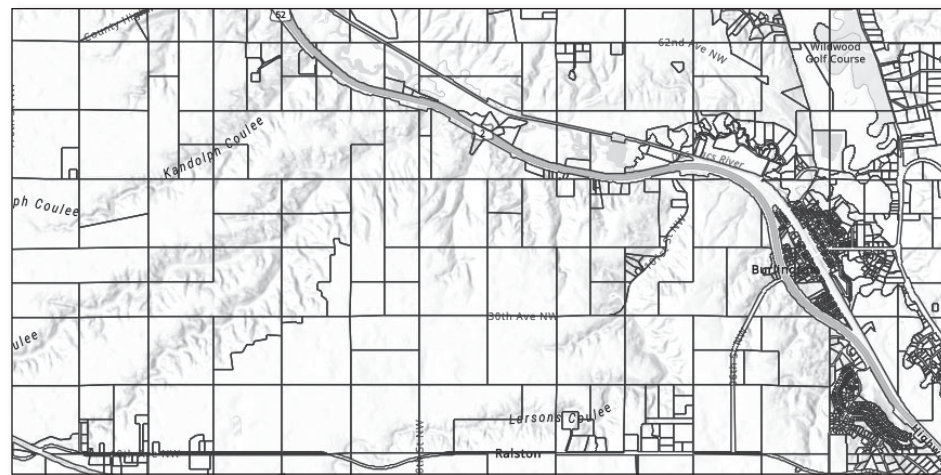
NDACo's GIS Program has assisted contracted counties with several projects, including:

- Creating maps of school district boundaries using census block information overlaid to help with school district dissolution decisions.

- Working on addressing corrections in specific areas and a whole county.
- Updating and reallocating commissioner districts to ensure they followed the North Dakota Century Code.

Implementation of GIS in public health has become even more essential since the COVID-19 pandemic. NACCHO has put it to use to demonstrate and study the connection between inequity, the social determinants of health (where people are born, live, learn, work, etc.), and spatial relationships. They are also working to collect new data to identify the root of issues to make data driven decisions and support systemic change going forward. The CDC has developed a Social Vulnerability Index database to help identify, map, and plan support for communities during a public health emergency.

In recent years, the agricultural sector has taken up applications of GIS to extrapolate a more sustainable future in the field. Facing pressure to increase crop yield while keeping production prices low, GIS allows for more precise farming, which in turn leads to only using what is needed when it comes to fertilizer, insecticides, and herbicides. Usage of GPS in the field keeps track of exactly where



fertilizers, insecticides, and herbicides are applied which leads to lowering chance of excess application and runoff. In addition to that, drones can detect disease and weeds, calculate nutrient values and biomass of crops without requiring boots on the ground.

Natural disasters cause tremendous amounts of property damage and take thousands of lives every year. GIS can help predict and create trends to better track natural disasters, so we are able to better prepare. NASA's Earth Applied Sciences Disasters Program maintains the Disasters Mapping Portal, which is free, available satellite data that can be used to display the chain of events that could take place during a natural disaster. Satellite data

posted on the hub can be used to create maps and provide a different view of the impending disaster, better direct disaster response resources, communicate risk, and ultimately reduce loss.

All of this considered, GIS is extremely versatile in calculating ways to solve problems and pose unique and effective solutions. With GIS becoming more widely known and applied, the future is expansive and more exciting than ever. Applications go farther beyond just what's mentioned in this article.

In the words of Jack Dangermond, "GIS is waking up the world to the power of geography, this science of integration, and has the framework for creating a better future."

NACo Membership:

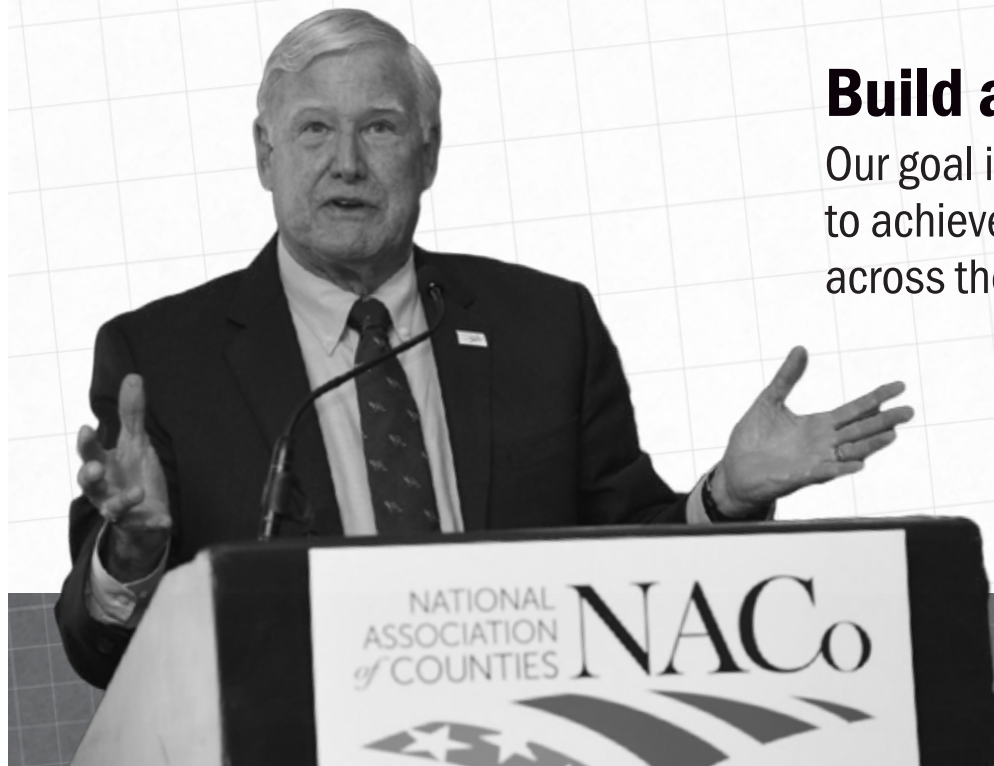
A BLUEPRINT FOR SUCCESS



The National Association of Counties (NACo) is your organization, representing counties in Washington, D.C., just as your state association represents you in the state capital.

Build a stronger county with NACo

Our goal is to engage members with resources to achieve healthy, vibrant and safe counties across the United States.



Learn more at www.NACo.org/membership or call 888.407.NACo (6226)

STRONGER COUNTIES. STRONGER AMERICA.



Innovation Champions Awarded

Leanna Emmer | NDLTAP Technical Support Representative

Congratulations to Rolette County Highway Department as the **1st Place Winner** of the **2022 Innovation Champions Contest** at the state and regional level. This amazing innovation – the **Hydraulic Side Disc** – was designed and fabricated by Mark Davis and Oscar Haas.

The hydraulic side disc, which attaches to the maintainer, runs along the shoulder chopping the vegetation and disking the shoulders. On the second run, the disc does the same thing, while the moldboard pulls the shoulder back onto the road. The material pulled back onto the road is less

bound together, making it easier for the operator/maintainer to lay the retrieved gravel onto the road.

The likelihood of gravel/vegetation clumps left on the road is significantly reduced. The hydraulic side disc has increased efficiencies and increased safety for the operator. Completing the job in less time also improves roadway safety for the motoring public.

Great job Mark and Oscar. To learn more about the hydraulic side disc and other amazing innovations visit the NDLTAP website, www.ndltap.org/events/innovation.



All Innovations Deserving

As is the case every year, it is difficult to award just one top prize. We want to acknowledge all entrants and the countless “All-Stars” working in every county highway department.



NDLTAP recognizes all IC contest submissions by presenting them with a poster....it is well deserved recognition. Recognition for going the extra mile - looking for ways to improve job efficiencies, increase safety, and save tax dollars.



Congratulations to Recent NACo Leadership Academy Graduates From North Dakota!

- Ben Gates, Emergency Manager, Steele County
- Bob Henderson, Director of IT, Cass County
- Erica Johnsrud, Auditor/Treasurer, McKenzie County
- Erik McGurren, Security Analyst, NDACo/NRG
- Jason Thiel, IT Director, Barnes County
- Josh Smaage, Director of Information Technology, Stutsman County
- Keith Vaagen, Highway Maintenance Lead Worker, Dunn County
- Kevin Karvonen, Highway Maintenance Worker Technician, Dunn County
- Loretta Blotske, Deputy Recorder, McLean County
- Lori Foss, Chief Deputy Auditor, McLean County
- Ryan Stepan, IT Director, Williams County
- Shena Garcia, Deputy Recorder, Cass County
- Wanda Sheppard, Auditor, Dickey County

SPECIAL PROMOTION

Only \$500 registration fee for any county that registers five or more at the NACo Annual Conference.

New program for graduates: “Leading on Purpose” begins October 16, 2023.

Information and registration at www.naco.org/resources/education-and-training/naco-high-performance-leadership-academy.

WIR Report

Chad Peterson | Cass County Commissioner, NDCCA President

This year, the Western Interstate Regional (WIR) meeting took place in St. George, Utah. It was a very positive experience for all involved (with the exception of one car being broken into).

Team ND* heard from multiple local and federal partners. U.S. Border Patrol gave us a good briefing on our southern border. It's not getting better, but law enforcement is doing their best given the constraints they have to deal with.

Briefings on potential grant availability from the USDA took place also. I asked the USDA representative to streamline and simplify grant applications. Too

often, the money available doesn't justify the expense to apply.

Forestry and forest fires were top of mind at the meeting. Examples of where the federal government hasn't taken an active role in controlling growth has led to disease and increased fire potential. The best takeaway: *Forests are not museums*. We need to manage them, use them and enjoy them. Lots to learn at every meeting and this one was no different.

*Team ND: Chad Peterson, Steve Lee, Marcia Lamb, Scott Ouradnik, Aaron Birst and Genny Dienstmann.



The Next Cohort of NACo's High Performance Leadership Academy Kicks Off July 31

The NACo High Performance Leadership Academy is an online 12-week program that empowers frontline county government professionals with fundamental, practical leadership skills to deliver results for counties and residents.

Registration for the course beginning in August is now open at www.naco.org/Skills.

The High Performance Leadership Academy uses a curriculum developed by General Colin Powell, and has been completed by over 8,000 county officials from more than 1,800 counties.

QUESTIONS? Email Luke Afeman at lukea@pdaleadership.com.



Counties affect the lives of residents every day. When our frontline staff are empowered as leaders, we deliver services more effectively. **The NACo High Performance Leadership Academy is a resource that connects your staff with practical leadership training.** HPLA uses an innovative, interactive online learning platform that combines real-time webinars, recorded sessions and small group discussions to deliver effective training without traveling away from the county - saving money and maximizing time.

THE ACADEMY FOCUSES ON FIVE ESSENTIAL SKILLS:

LEAD:

Engage teams and stakeholders to foster positive climates and exceed common expectations

ORGANIZE:

Plan, lead and execute organizational change more effectively and consistently

COLLABORATE:

Establish alignment and strong partnerships through building stronger relationships

DELIVER:

Measure projects and processes to deliver results aligned with county and community priorities

COMMUNICATE:

Create clarity, confidence and community

The NACo High Performance Leadership Academy empowers frontline county government professionals with fundamental, practical leadership skills to deliver results for counties and residents.

NACo Member County cost per enrollee begins at \$1,995.

Additional discounts may apply. Contact us for more details.

With a curriculum developed by *General Colin Powell* and public and private sector leaders, NACo High Performance Leadership Academy gives students the opportunity to learn from world-class faculty. All content is guided by an expert facilitator.

Find out more at NACo.org/Skills



Congratulations!

NDACo Awards Scholarships to Students from Burleigh, Dickey, Foster, Stutsman, Wells and Williams Counties

Bismarck, ND - The North Dakota Association of Counties (NDACo) has awarded \$2,000 scholarships to six students who are children of North Dakota county officials or employees. These exceptional students will be honored at the 2023 NDACo Annual Conference in October.



Ivan Askim
 Son of Helen Askim
 Williams County
 Administrator
 NDSU Freshman



Emma Dockter
 Daughter of Karissa Dockter
 Wells County Deputy Treasurer
 Valley City State University
 Freshman



Katelyn Falk
 Daughter of Jason Falk
 Stutsman County
 Chief Deputy Sheriff
 University of Mary Freshman



Braden Kruse*
 Son of Nathan Kruse
 Foster County Deputy Sheriff
 UND Freshman



Ella Miller
 Daughter of Kresta Miller
 Dickey County Deputy
 Clerk of Court
 NDSU Freshman



Morgan Nelson
 Daughter of Tracy Nelson
 Burleigh County Deputy
 Sheriff - Lieutenant
 NDSU Senior

* Braden is the recipient of the Amy Svihovec Memorial Scholarship. Created in 2010, this scholarship honors the memory of Amy Svihovec, daughter of Linda Svihovec, former Auditor and Treasurer of McKenzie County, and is awarded to a scholarship recipient whose goals and achievements carry on Amy's legacy.

The NDACo Scholarship Fund was established in 1998 with contributions by county donors and Nationwide Retirement Solutions and continues to receive contributions from individual county employees, officials and corporate supporters.



NDCCA Board of Directors Welcomes Arth

At the May meeting of the ND County Commissioners Association, Sargent County Commissioner Jason Arth was approved to fill a vacancy that resulted from the 2022 General Election.

Jason is the manager/agronomist at Northern Plains Ag in Cayuga, ND, which sells seed and chemicals to farmers. He lives on the farm he grew up on near Milnor and Lidgerwood. While earning a degree in Crop and Weed Science at NDSU, he was in the SAE fraternity, where he developed leadership skills and the desire to be involved in his community. His SAE advisor was NDCCA President Chad Peterson.

Beyond work and county government, Jason's larger responsibility is as a husband and



Jason Arth

father of two. An interesting side note about Jason is that his grandfather served Sargent County as a commissioner in the 1970s.



Growing Communities. Creating Connections.

From Williams to Cass and everywhere in-between, our team of engineers and architects are here to serve the needs of your county.

CIVIL ENGINEERING | ARCHITECTURE



MINOT, FARGO, WILLISTON
 WWW.ACKERMAN-ESTVOLD.COM

The NDCCA County Commissioners Handbook An Online Resource for New and Veteran Commissioners

Jeff Eslinger | County News Editor

North Dakota County Commissioners now have a comprehensive and user-friendly online handbook. Making it an online publication allows it to be a “living document” that can be edited as things change or new information is added. You’ll find it at www.ndcca.org/handbook.

Developed by a Commissioner for Commissioners

The idea of handbook for commissioners came from Mountrail County Commissioner Trudy Ruland. In 2017, Ruland enrolled in Rural Leadership North Dakota, a program of North Dakota State University Extension. As part of the program, participants develop projects to benefit their community or profession. Trudy chose to develop a handbook for county commissioners.

Ruland chose the handbook idea because, “It’s something I really wish I had when I first got elected. I’m not so sure anyone who runs for county commissioner really knows all they need to know about the job. This is something new commissioners can use, but it’s even helpful to veteran commissioners like me.”

Trudy worked with NDACo Research Analyst Linda Svihovec. As former McKenzie County Auditor and Treasurer, Linda had good insights on what kind of information commissioners need. “I certainly had to answer a lot of questions from commissioners over the years, especially new commissioners, so I knew what kind of information needed to be at their fingertips,” Svihovec said.

The handbook is on the North Dakota County Commissioners Association (NDCCA) website. The “Handbook” tab can be accessed from the home page, but commissioners may want to simply bookmark www.ndcca.org/handbook.

Let’s explore the noteworthy features that make this web page an essential tool for anyone involved in county governance.

Intuitive Navigation:

The NDCCA Handbook web page starts off with an interactive Table of Contents. When a user sees the topic they want to explore, they just click the item and it zooms straight down to that information. The primary menu at the top of the page includes Policies, Procedures, Resources, Training, and

more. This streamlined layout saves time and enables users to locate specific information effortlessly. As an option, there are instructions at the top of the page for how to do a word search.

Comprehensive Handbook:

At the heart of the NDCCA Handbook web page lies a vast collection of guidelines, policies, and procedures related to county governance. Covering a wide range of topics, the handbook provides detailed information on areas such as county administration, fiscal management, land use planning, public safety, and community development. Over time, it will grow in both volume and detail.

Up-to-Date Information:

Probably the biggest advantage of an online document is that it can (and will) be updated as things change, as they often do with each new legislative session. Commissioners don’t have to order a new book or worry about working with old information. By providing current information, the handbook ensures that county commissioners can make informed decisions and effectively

navigate the evolving governmental landscape.

Downloadable Resources:

The NDCCA Handbook web page provides downloadable materials for county commissioners and officials. These resources include forms, templates, checklists, and other helpful documents that streamline administrative tasks, enhance decision-making, and foster effective governance.

User-Focused Interface:

We hope the NDCCA Handbook serves as an invaluable resource for county commissioners and anyone interested in county government. By harnessing the features of this web page, county commissioners can navigate the many diverse functions of their jobs.

Although the navigation aims to be as intuitive as possible, we invite commissioner input on how to improve it. Just click on the graphic of a suggestion box to offer your suggestions or ask questions. The icon opens an email message directed to Linda.

ND County Recorders Association Meets

North Dakota’s recorders held their Annual Conference June 20 – 22 in Stanley, ND. Highlights included ILG courses, “Stump the Chump” (Q & A with NDACo Executive Director Aaron Birst) and some wacky fun at the golf course across the street from the Mountrail County Courthouse.

Several organizational items were covered, including changing their training requirement from County Officials Academy to County Day at the Capitol. Kelly Vincent (Griggs Co) updated the recorder group on the website progress (ndcountyrecorders.org).

New officers elected:

- Carrie Krause (Wells Co)-President
- Heidi Anderson (McLean Co)-Vice President
- Melissa Hanson (Burleigh Co)-Secretary
- Jackie Babbitt (Richland Co)-Treasurer

Kelly Vincent (Griggs Co) remains the Recorders’ NDACo Board Representative. Melissa Hanson (Burleigh Co) and Danielle Petersen (Renville Co) will be NDACo Conference Delegates.



ND County Recorders Association group photo, taken in Stanley, ND’s Community Butterfly Garden.

Saving feels better.



The National Association of Counties (NACo) has enhanced the Live Healthy Discount Program to deliver greater healthcare savings to county residents at NO COST to the county.

No-cost Prescription Discount Program.

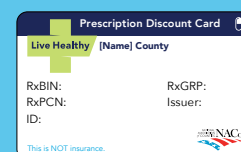
- Save up to 80%* on generics and up to 40%* on brand-name prescription medications for residents and their pets

Low-fee health discounts nationwide.

- Provides 24/7 telemedicine service and save 15% to 75% on vision services, hearing aids and screenings, diabetes supplies, prepaid lab work and more

Low-fee dental discounts nationwide.

- Save 15% to 50% on check-ups, cleanings, fillings, crowns, x-rays, root canals and more at over 110,000 participating providers



To learn more and enroll your county, visit NACo.org/Health

*This is not insurance. Savings may vary by drug and by pharmacy. The Prescription Discount Card is operated by CVS Caremark®. The Discount Medical Organization for NACo Health and Dental Discounts is Alliance HealthCard of Florida, Inc. All rights reserved. ©2022 CVS Caremark



Share With Students In Your County

Participate In The “I Love My County Because...” Art Contest

NACo and Americans for the Arts are pleased to announce the opening of the third annual “I Love My County Because...” Student Art Contest. Now through the end of September, students in grades K-12 are invited to submit artwork for the contest.

Winning artwork will be included in a 2024 wall calendar distributed to all NACo member counties. Learn more, access the application and download promotional materials at www.naco.org/resources/i-love-my-county-because-art-contest.

I Love My County Because...

ART CONTEST

Submit your artwork at NACo.org/ART

Now accepting entries!

Check out the website for more information

AMERICANS FOR THE ARTS | NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF NORTH DAKOTA COUNTIES (NACo) | I LOVE MY COUNTY BECAUSE... ART CONTEST



WE'RE HERE FOR YOU

Summit Carbon Solutions is an agricultural company, and we are proud of our Midwest roots. Our project was created out of a desire to protect the value of our farmland and support North Dakota's two most important industries – agriculture and energy.

During construction, Summit Carbon Solutions will invest an average of \$81 million in every North Dakota county where the project operates. Once in operation, the project will contribute an average of \$465,000 in new property taxes in those same counties to support local schools, infrastructure, public safety and more.

We're based here in the Midwest, we hire local workers and suppliers, and we're here to help drive the future of agriculture.

To get the facts about carbon sequestration and learn more about the Summit Carbon Solutions project visit SummitCarbonFacts.com.

To learn more, scan the QR code with your smartphone camera.

SummitCarbonFacts.com

Legislative Procurement Updates

Red Tape Reduction – Making Procurement Easier, Repealing “Reciprocal Preference” Law

Sherry Neas | Office of Management and Budget (OMB), State Procurement Office

On Aug. 18, 2022, Governor Burgum signed Executive Order 2022-08 creating the Red Tape Reduction Working Group. One of the red tape reduction suggestions was repealing the state’s current law related to “reciprocal preference.”

North Dakota Century Code (NDCC) section 44-08-01 is a very broad law that applies to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), any state entity, and the governing body of any political subdivision of the state. This law required the preference given to North Dakota bidders to be “equal to the preference given or required by the state of the nonresident bidder, seller, or contractor.”

Applying this law required a government entity to do research when they receive a bid or proposal response from an out-of-state bidder to determine what preference laws that state had, and then “reciprocate” or apply the same rate of preference to North Dakota bidders. Some states have very complicated laws, and this requirement complicated procurement with very few instances of changing the outcome of a bid.

Senate Bill 2042 was passed which will repeal this section of law, thus materially simplifying the procurement process. For more information, contact Sherry Neas, Chief Procurement Officer, at 701-328-1726.

Cooperative Purchasing Legislation

During the recent legislative session, a bill was passed that will provide additional authority for counties and cities to participate in cooperative purchasing agreements pursuant to a joint-powers agreement.

Senate Bill 2370 will amend NDCC section 11-11-14 related to counties to add the following:

“With the approval of the board of county commissioners, a county may participate in cooperative purchasing agreements with the state, or another political subdivision of this state or any other state, by executing a joint-powers agreement under chapter 54-40.3.”

NDCC Chapter 40-05 “Powers of Municipalities” will be amended to add new language to subsection 40-05-01 allowing cities to “contract for cooperative purchases pursuant to a joint-powers agreement under chapter 54-40.3. This section does not apply to construction of public improvement as defined in chapter 48-01.2.”

Similarly, Senate Bill 2370 will amend and reenact NDCC 40-05 related to cities to add the following:

“With the approval of the board of city commissioners or the city council, a city may participate in cooperative purchasing agreements

with the state, or another political subdivision of this state or any other state, by executing a joint-powers agreement under chapter 54-40.3. This section does not apply to construction of a public improvement as defined in chapter 48-01.2.”

The new laws will require cities and counties to execute Joint Powers Agreements pursuant to NDCC Chapter 54-40. Be sure to consult your legal counsel when considering use of a cooperative purchasing contract. The Office of the Attorney General publishes a “Contract Drafting and Review Manual” on its website which contains a “Joint Powers Agreement Checklist.”

Before attempting to join a cooperative purchasing organization, be sure the organization is governmental. Some cooperative purchasing organizations are for-profit businesses. Some cooperative contracts offer buildings or other structures that may be considered public improvements and may not be eligible under the North Dakota cooperative purchasing laws. Consult legal counsel to be sure you have authority and be sure you follow the requirements of the new laws!

Cooperative Purchasing with State – OMB

NDCC Section 54-44.4-13 gives OMB authority to “participate in, sponsor, or administer” cooperative purchasing agreements that are made available to government entities, public transportation providers, tribal agencies, and nonprofits established on behalf of public entities. OMB creates state contracts and joins eligible cooperative

purchasing contracts, and these state contracts are made available to state and local government.

Visit the OMB website: omb.nd.gov.

Under “Doing Business with the State” you’ll find a link to over 300 state contracts. For more information and assistance, call the State Procurement Office at 701-328-2740.

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Deadline August 18

\$848 Million For Local Infrastructure Resilience

\$848 million is available in FY 2022 and FY 2023 funding for the Promoting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT) grant program. Established by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law,

PROTECT funds may be used to plan for and improve the resiliency of local infrastructure.

Learn more at www.naco.org/blog/counties-directly-eligible-848-million-through-new-usdot-protect-transportation-resilience.

American Rescue Plan Resource Hub

Find stories of counties investing ARPA resources to support our residents, technical assistance in implementing these programs in your county, and our latest analysis and research.

Learn more: www.naco.org/resources/american-rescue-plan-resource-hub

Inflation Reduction Act Analysis

Learn about the key provisions for counties and how your county can increase resiliency and better prepare for impacts on residents and businesses, while helping counties save money.

Learn more: www.naco.org/resources/legislative-analysis-counties-inflation-reduction-act

VANGUARD APPRAISALS, INC. 




APPRAISAL SOFTWARE SIMPLIFIED

- ◆ CAMAVISION® MASS APPRAISAL SOFTWARE
- ◆ MODERNIZE/COMPUTERIZE THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS
- ◆ A LEADER IN MASS APPRAISAL SERVICES & CONSULTATION FOR OVER 50 YEARS
- ◆ ASSESSOR WEBSITE HOSTING & DEVELOPMENT

CONTACT US FOR A FREE ON-SITE CAMAVISION® DEMONSTRATION



RYAN EHLI
701-721-2779
ryane@camavision.com



ROWNEA GERBRACHT
605-490-1594
rowneag@camavision.com

www.camavision.com 319-365-8625








Abacus Cost Services

a De Novo Consulting Solutions Company

NOT JUST A COST PLAN

A BETTER COST PLAN!

RELIABLE, PRODUCTIVE & EASY TO OPERATE



950 GC WHEEL LOADER

The Cat® 950 GC wheel loader is designed specifically to handle all the jobs on your worksite from material handling and truck loading to general construction and stockpiling. Great machine performance combined with the low owning and operating costs makes the 950 GC the right choice for your business.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE 950 GC, AND OTHER MEDIUM-SIZED WHEEL LOADERS, AT [BUTLERMACHINERY.COM](https://www.butlermachinery.com)

Butler 

4-H Ribbons Help Youth Improve Goal Setting and Evaluation

The 4-H motto, *To Make the Best Better*, encourages 4-H members to consider where and how they can improve. It requires youth to engage evaluation skills to discover where they are and how well they are doing. 4-H'ers learn how to evaluate and gain feedback on their efforts by entering projects in county fairs and Achievement Days.


4-H uses the Danish system of evaluation to evaluate 4-H projects relative to the standards developed for each class, show or contest. The system does not evaluate participants against other participants. Each project earns a white, red or blue ribbon based on how well the project meets the average standard, but the focus at each level is on what the youth has accomplished and how they can challenge themselves in the future.

Leigh Ann Skurupey, director for the Center for 4-H Youth Development, reminds 4-H leaders and judges that the “best” 4-H is trying to make better is the young people involved in 4-H.

“In 4-H, we target the learning process as a way to help young people build essential life skills to grow, lead and thrive,” she says. “As a result, we are helping young people to achieve the best in themselves to reach their full potential.”

She explains that the items exhibited in fairs are not the end goal and do not illustrate all the learning that takes place in a 4-H project. As youth participate in 4-H projects, they develop skills, gain knowledge and build confidence. The judging experience helps to foster a positive growth mindset and skills for evaluation and goal setting.

“Through the process of planning, creating and exhibiting projects for judging, young people develop key life skills and explore careers,” Skurupey says. “While no evaluation system is perfect, the Danish system helps 4-H develop top-quality youth instead of focusing on blue ribbon projects.”



North Dakota
Livestock Alliance
ndlivestock.org



The North Dakota Livestock Alliance is a non-profit organization led by farmers and ranchers focused on transparency with North Dakota's Counties about:

- ***Livestock development benefits and challenges***
- ***Modern livestock management and environmental stewardship***
- ***State and local livestock zoning and permitting procedures***
- ***Why your County wants to be a Livestock Friendly Community***

Contact us or invite NDLA to your next County Commission meeting at ndlivestock.org or 701-712-1488 Follow us on Twitter @LivestockND

Sheriff Shawn Brien brought to the **Burke** County Commissioners, at the June 20th meeting, a request for deputy presence at the three county schools next school year. The sheriff's department has seen an uptick in responding to calls at the schools in the past three to four months. After speaking to the superintendents, Sheriff Brien would like to place an officer in the schools, approximately three hours per week at each school. The cost would be about \$5000 year (overtime). Commissioner Owings would prefer it be part of the deputy's normal day shift, and agreed, "It's a good idea." Sheriff Brien plans to attend the school board meetings to visit with board members about the cost (reimbursement) and will report back at the July 18th meeting.

In a second discussion regarding the schools in the county, Barry Jager, Burke County Emergency Manager, has been contacted by the schools for an emergency response program. Burke Central School is currently using the Emergent 3 app. To coordinate, Powers Lake and Bowbells will go with the same app. This app gives local law enforcement, emergency response teams, and school faculty immediate communication during an incident (fire, medical, active shooter, etc.) The schools would like financial help for start-up costs, and payment of the annual fee (\$1500). A motion was approved to accept the preliminary costs and annual fee for all three schools, budgeting from the 9-1-1 line item.

- *Burke County Tribune*

Four individuals were formally charged for a myriad of crimes following a recent investigation. A press release issued by the **Adams** County Sheriff's Office (ACSO) stated: On Wednesday, June 7th, the Adams County Sheriff's Office was conducting surveillance on two individuals who were wanted for stealing a Harley Davidson motorcycle. Sheriff Fisher was running close proximity surveillance while deputies coordinated the operation remotely. Sheriff Fisher ultimately assisted the primary subject, Donovan Umstead, to the ground and placed him under arrest for outstanding felony warrants and theft of a motorcycle. The second individual, Carmen Pearson, fled on foot into a local business, where she was apprehended without incident by a deputy. During the course of the investigation, it was learned that additional stolen vehicles and drugs were being stored at a local residence in Hettinger. A nighttime search warrant was requested and approved to be executed on a residence at 104 Main Street S, Hettinger. With the assistance of Hettinger County Sheriff's Deputies, the Adams County Sheriff's Office executed

the nighttime warrant on the residence. Upon entry, two individuals were detained without incident. An initial search of the garage portion of the residence resulted in the recovery of a vehicle that had been stolen from the Bismarck/Mandan area days prior. Deputies continued the search of the residence and recovered more than 50 smoking devices that tested positive for methamphetamine, as well as multiple other drug related items. A search of one room in the residence revealed equipment and chemicals that appeared to be used in methamphetamine manufacturing laboratories. The ACSO Narcotics Detective consulted with the Narcotics Division of ND BCI, and requested their assistance. Upon arrival of a Special Agent out of Dickinson, the agent requested the assistance of the Hettinger Rural Fire Department to stage nearby while evidence was collected, and the equipment and chemicals were rendered harmless. The two individuals in the residence, Corey Moffatt and Justine John, were arrested and transported to the Southwest Multi County Correctional Center. On Friday, June 9th, they were formally charged with multiple felony drug, theft, and methamphetamine manufacturing offenses. "It's just one of those things where, I know that it's difficult and saddening to hear that these types of things are happening in our community, but we're not exempt from them. The best thing we can do is gather information and use every resource that we have to eradicate the problem," said Fisher.

- *Adams County Record*

The prospect of Canadian utility company siting a small nuclear reactor just a stone's throw from the North Dakota border has come as a surprise to state officials and local landowners. But the power such a project could bring may be welcome. "It's a very positive development," said Jody Gunlock of the possibility that SaskPower will build a nuclear power plant across the border from Noonan, ND, located in **Divide** County in the state's far northwest corner. Gunlock, who ranches near the border and also serves as Divide County's emergency manager, is eager to hear more, not just about SaskPower's plans, but about the possibility of North Dakota planning its own small modular nuclear reactors. Sheri Haugen-Hoffart, one of three commissioners serving on the North Dakota Public Service Commission (PSC), said NDNC's query was the first she'd heard of the project. Gov. Doug Burgum's office indicated that the Department of Commerce had communications with SaskPower and others regarding small modular reactors

(SMRs) at a recent energy conference in Atlanta. Victor Schock, director of public utilities at the PSC, said he was prompted to research the project after the inquiry for this story and said SaskPower hadn't reached out to state authorities about the plans. "Not that they would necessarily need to since they're really outside our jurisdiction, but that wouldn't necessarily prevent us from intervening in a proceeding they may have up there either," Schock said. "If we're concerned about safety on our side of the border, it would be potentially worthwhile to intervene and raise some concerns." SaskPower is narrowing down potential sites for the location of a GE-Hitachi BWRX300 small modular reactor, with one possible location in the Estevan region and the other near Elbow, which is about an hour northwest of Regina. Site selection should be finalized by the end of 2024, with licensing finished by 2029, said Darcy Holderness of SaskPower, in an online presentation earlier this month. An operating reactor wouldn't be in place until the mid-2030s, he said, and the site picked could possibly host at least an additional reactor after the initial project is approved.

- *North Dakota News Cooperative*

Divide County's Job Development Authority (JDA) fell in line with the city of Crosby when it comes to Community Developer KayCee Lindsey's exploration of a federal energy grant program. JDA board members approved a motion by Robbi Larsen to allow Lindsey to explore opportunities under the Department of Energy's "Energizing Rural Communities" program which may provide federal funds to communities exploring community development using alternative energy sources, or energy efficiencies. Larsen's motion comes after Crosby's city council, by consensus, encouraged Lindsey's involvement and follows last month's JDA board meeting where county commissioners Rodney Johnson and Chico Eriksmoen told Lindsey not to involve herself with the program. Following the JDA meeting, Crosby's city council sent a letter to JDA board members encouraging Lindsey's pursuit of any grant opportunities. The letter was signed by council president Kjell Vassen, who also serves on the EDC (Economic Development Council) board, and Crosby Mayor Troy Vassen. "We believe that pursuing this grant and others like it, is a vital function of the Divide County economic developer's duties," the letter said. "The City of Crosby is also supportive of KayCee working on this grant during her regular duties." "To me, this is no different than any other grant that KayCee works on,"

said Larsen. "From the amount of time KayCee's going to devote to this, which could be not much time at all, an hour or two a week, I guess this could come out of the city's portion of time." Lindsey's position is funded by a combination of county and city funds. That arrangement, by extension, means she serves not only the board, but answers to both the commission and the council.

- *Crosby Journal*

The most limiting factor to future population growth in **McKenzie** County is the lack of housing availability, according to the McKenzie County Job Development Authority (JDA), McKenzie County Public School District No. 1 (MCPSD1), and city governments across the county. In an effort to alleviate the current housing crisis, the JDA has worked with local financial institutions, home builders, and contractors to develop a new initiative to get more houses built. At a public housing discussion in early March, the main issues that were brought forward by local builders not having enough capital to build more than two houses at a time, and the difficulty that builders have when trying to convince lenders to loan them money to build Spec homes. Spec homes are speculative homes that are built without an end buyer in place at the time of construction, instead the home is placed on the market once its completed. A new program, the JDA Home Builder Construction Loan Participation Project, has been created to be a revolving door fund to help contractors gain access to the capital they need to build more houses, thereby reducing the cost to build each house by allowing builders to buy product in larger quantities, and to save money by hiring contractors to do multiple projects at a time. As a revolving door fund, the money that is loaned out will be repaid to the same fund, making it available to be loaned out again. According to information shared by the JDA, in 2020, there was 72 home-building permits filed in McKenzie County. That number dropped to 39 in 2021, and bottomed out in 2022 at 25. As early April, there had been no building permits pulled for 2023. According to the 2020 Census, McKenzie County was the fastest-growing county in the nation. Job Service ND projected McKenzie County to increase 39.7 percent in employment numbers by 2031. The next highest area is the Fargo area at only 13 percent growth. The lack of housing has been cited by businesses in all sectors, from health care, oilfield, food service, retail and more, as a major roadblock to getting more employees to fill vacant positions.

- *McKenzie County Farmer*

U.S. Supreme Court Issues Decision Impacting Property Tax Forfeiture Laws

Tyler v. Hennepin County centered on a lawsuit brought forth by Geraldine Tyler, who owed Hennepin County, Minnesota \$15,000 in unpaid property taxes, interest and penalties for a condo she did not reside in. She received a statutorily prescribed notice of foreclosure, failed to answer, and then never tried to redeem the property during the 3-year period allowed by the state. She also did not seek to repurchase the property. After the county sold the condo for \$40,000 and kept the proceeds above and beyond Tyler's \$15,000 debt, Tyler sued, arguing that she was owed the \$25,000 surplus under the Fifth Amendment's Taking Clause, which bars the government from taking private property for public use without adequately compensating the property owners, as well as the Eighth Amendment's ban on excessive fines.

In addition to arguing that keeping the surplus equity did not violate the Constitution, the County argued that Ms. Tyler did not have standing as she had additional encumbrances and liens on the property for an outstanding mortgage and HOA lien that amounted to more than the so-called equity in her property. NACo joined an amicus brief through the Local Government Legal Center (LGLC) in support of Hennepin County, arguing that the ability to keep surplus proceeds helps county governments afford the

administrative costs associated with seizing and selling forfeited property.

In a 9-0 decision, the Supreme Court rejected the County's standing arguments and held that the County violated the Takings Clause (the Court did not reach the Excessive Fines question.) Under the majority opinion, county governments are not legally entitled to keep the profits from the sale of tax-forfeited property beyond the existing tax debt. However, the ruling preserves the ability of local governments to impose interest and late fees when a taxpayer fails to pay taxes and seize property to recover a tax debt, which are important enforcement mechanisms.

As the Court points out in its decision, while Minnesota is in the minority, it is not alone in excluding surplus equity from the definition of property rights after title vests in the state or local government. Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Illinois, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Oregon and South Dakota all currently allow this practice. Additionally, in Alaska, Idaho, Nevada, Ohio, Rhode Island and Texas, local governments are allowed to keep surplus proceeds for a particular public use, while in Montana, state law permits local governments to keep the surplus proceeds from the sale of non-residential properties.

States that currently allow for the retention of the surplus equity will need to update their statutes. Local governments will need to ensure that they are not keeping any surplus equity after the sale of a forfeited property. That said, the Court specifically noted that interest and fees on a tax debt would not be considered a Taking. The Court's ruling also leaves open the possibility that states can seize surplus equity so long as they provide a mechanism for its return after the sale of the property.

Property taxes are an essential revenue source that allow county governments to provide critical services to our residents, and delinquency undermines this process. While this ruling will restrict counties' ability to keep surplus equity from the sales of tax-forfeited property (which often does not fully compensate for the lost revenue stemming from unpaid property taxes), it protects the ability of counties to pursue avenues such as penalties, fees and property forfeiture in response to property tax delinquency.

Reprint from the NACo Blog at www.naco.org/blog.

Burgum Appoints Watford City Attorney Chas Neff Jr. to Northwest Judicial District Judgeship

Gov. Doug Burgum has appointed Charles "Chas" Neff Jr. to a judgeship in the Northwest Judicial District.

Neff has served as a staff attorney for the Northwest Judicial District Court since May 2020, assisting judges with research and drafting orders and opinions on a variety of topics including criminal motions, oil and gas matters, administrative appeals and complex civil pre-trial motions, in addition to providing trial assistance. He previously served as the McKenzie County State's Attorney in Watford City in 2017 and 2018 and as an assistant state's attorney from 2014 to 2017, prosecuting over 3,000 criminal cases, 23 jury trials, and advising the County Commission on legal matters. He also spent seven years as a reference staff attorney and consultant for the legal research platform Westlaw at Thomson Reuters in Eagan, Minn., and worked for the

Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations during the 61st General Assembly.

Neff was born and raised in central Minnesota. He is a graduate of Shanley High School in Fargo and Cardinal Muench High School Seminary. He earned his bachelor's degree in mass communications from North Dakota State University in Fargo and his law degree in 2006 from the University of St. Thomas School of Law in the Twin Cities.

Neff is a member of the Upper Missouri Bar Association and the Long X Arts Foundation and has officiated several sports at the high school and collegiate levels. He will fill the judicial vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Paul W. Jacobson. Two attorneys were named as finalists to fill the vacancy for the judgeship, which is chambered in Williston.

VANGUARD APPRAISALS, INC.

APPRAISAL SOFTWARE SIMPLIFIED

- ◆ CAMAVISION® MASS APPRAISAL SOFTWARE
- ◆ MODERNIZE/COMPUTERIZE THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS
- ◆ A LEADER IN MASS APPRAISAL SERVICES & CONSULTATION FOR OVER 50 YEARS
- ◆ ASSESSOR WEBSITE HOSTING & DEVELOPMENT

CONTACT US FOR A **FREE ON-SITE** CAMAVISION® DEMONSTRATION

RYAN EHLI
701-721-2779
ryane@camavision.com

ROWNEA GERBRACHT
605-490-1594
rowneag@camavision.com

www.camavision.com 319-365-8625

Personal and Business Banking

We have the **people**,
the **products**
and the **expertise**
to help you accomplish your goals
and live your dreams.

When it matters.

Kirkwood
BANK & TRUST

Bismarck

Dickinson

kirkwoodbank.com

Member FDIC



Enjoying the ride. We didn't convince your best friend to go on an adventure. Or cross something off your bucket list. But we did fuel the road trip that reminded you the you're only as old as you feel. When the energy you invest in life meets the energy we fuel it with, exhilarating moments happen.

ENBRIDGE[®]
Life Takes Energy™

Protect Your Money With an Opportunity For Growth



Nationwide[®]
is on your side

A powerful investment solution is available to add to your Nationwide retirement plan. Nationwide Indexed Principal Protection[®] (NW-IPP) is a long-term savings option that protects principal. That means no matter what the market does, your participants' money is protected and they retain the opportunity for upside potential.

Principal protection

- Principal investment protection from market declines can help provide confidence through unstable market conditions

Growth potential

- Any gains are locked in and become part of the principal at the end of the one-year index term¹

Flexibility of choice

- Two flexible options: Update investment mix to allow for payroll deductions or invest a lump-sum dollar amount exchanged from another investment option in the plan (no minimum required)
- Money can be exchanged out of this investment option at any time (restrictions may apply)

Balanced approach

- NW-IPP is a group fixed indexed annuity, so as part of a wide range of investment options, it may offer a balance between protection and growth



Next steps

- Learn more by contacting your local retirement specialist and by watching this video at nrsfou.com. You can click hereto be contacted by a Nationwide Representative.

¹Growth opportunity is subject to a cap rate. The index term is a one-year period during which the index performance is determined, and the cap rate is applicable. Fees associated with recordkeeping may still apply and in some instances, result in a reduction of principal; please see your Quarterly Report for more details.

This material is not a recommendation to buy or sell a financial product or to adopt an investment strategy. Investors should discuss their specific situation with their financial professional.

Group fixed indexed annuities are not stock market investments and do not directly participate in any stock or equity investments. The index does not include dividends paid on the underlying stocks, and therefore does not reflect the total return of the underlying stocks; neither a market index nor any fixed indexed annuity is comparable to a direct investment in the equity markets. When you purchase Nationwide Indexed Principal ProtectionSM, you are not directly investing in a market index. The actual return of the index account will be based on the performance of the underlying index. It is important to understand that actual returns may be less than the return of the index due to the index cap. Past index performance is not a guarantee of future performance.

Group fixed indexed annuities are contracts purchased from a life insurance company. They are designed for long-term retirement goals. Withdrawals are subject to income tax, and withdrawals before age 59½ may be subject to a 10% early withdrawal federal tax penalty. Nationwide Indexed Principal ProtectionSM is a group fixed indexed annuity issued by Nationwide Life Insurance Company and held in the general account.

Guarantees are backed by the claims-paying ability of the issuing insurance company. Transfers out of this contract to other funding providers are subject to certain restrictions.

Retirement Specialists are registered representatives of Nationwide Investment Services Corporation, member FINRA, Columbus, Ohio. The information they provide is for educational purposes only and is not legal, tax or investment advice.

Nationwide, the Nationwide N and Eagle, Nationwide is on your side and Nationwide Indexed Principal Protection are service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. © 2023 Nationwide

SAVE THE DATE!

Rural Developers Assembly

A gathering of rural people interested in new concepts to strengthen our rural communities.

When: August 2

Where: Cass County Electric
3312 42nd St. S., Fargo, ND 58104

Time: 1:00pm - 4:00pm CDT

Registration fee will be a nonrefundable \$15 donation to the North Dakota Rural Electric Cooperative Foundation 501(c)3 Charity. The Foundation uses its funds to enhance rural development projects that improve quality of life and stimulate the economy.

Register here.

<https://cvent.me/A8Blm1>

Registration deadline is Aug. 1.



**For North Dakota.
For Local Government.
For You.**



www.NDIRF.com • (701) 224-1988

Dunn County Awarding Four Employees with Trip to NDACo Conference

To encourage and reward their County All-Star employees, Dunn County has instituted a program that is open to all employees excluding department heads (because they are already encouraged to attend).

Department Heads nominate employees from ANY department, not just their own.

Criteria for deciding the winners is based on Dunn County's core values: Service, Fiscal Responsibility, Integrity, and Accountability.

The department head must provide specific examples of how the nominee demonstrated one or more of the competencies. The cost to the county is nominal, less than \$2000 a year to send 4 employees.

Counties wishing to develop this kind of program can obtain a sample nomination form from NDACo or may contact Dessie Calihou Dunn County Director of Human Resources at 701-573-9968





**From Concept
Through Construction
Turning Vision
Into
Reality
Since 1955**

**BOTTINEAU: 701-228-2292
MINOT: 701-852-0338
BISMARCK: 701-258-9227**

EMAIL: wold@woldengr.com

QUALITY ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS FOR COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

- RURAL ROADWAY DESIGN
- BRIDGE & DRAINAGE STRUCTURES
- WATER & SEWER DESIGN
- FLOOD PLAIN ASSISTANCE
- CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION
- MATERIAL TESTING
- SURVEY & GIS MAPPING
- PROJECT FUNDING ASSISTANCE

BOWMAN
STANLEY
WATFORD CITY
NORTH DAKOTA

WWW.BROSZENG.COM



2023 COUNTY CALENDAR

July

- 11-13 _____ ND Auditors & Treasurers Association Conference, Radisson Hotel, Bismarck
- 11-13 _____ Human Service Zone Directors Annual Meeting, NDACo County Office Building
- 21-24 _____ NACo Annual Conference, Austin, TX

August

- 7-10 _____ ND Association of Assessing Officers Annual Meeting, Bismarck Hotel & Conference Center and Bismarck Library
- 22 _____ Retirement Committee, Roughrider Room, Capitol
- 23 _____ NDCCA Board of Directors Meeting, NDACo County Office Building
- 24 _____ ILG/NDACo Board of Directors Meeting, NDACo County Office Building
- 29-30 _____ County Tour to Dunn, McKenzie, Billings, Golden Valley and Stark Counties

September

- 4 _____ Labor Day
- 11-14 _____ ND Emergency Management Association Annual Conference, BSC National Energy Center of Excellence
- 12-13 _____ County Tour to Morton, Burleigh, Emmons, Grant and Sioux Counties
- 20-22 _____ ND League of Cities Annual Conference, Bismarck Event Center
- 23 _____ First Day of Fall



Colliers
Securities

Serving North Dakota's Public Finance Needs

Government Financing Projects
Senior Living | Healthcare | Education

Experience you can trust. **Commitment you can count on.**

For over 40 years the experienced professionals at Colliers Securities have served municipalities in the upper Midwest and we are honored that since 2003 we have consistently ranked as a top provider of public financing for North Dakota municipalities.

We understand public financing and are committed to working with our clients to help develop solutions best suited to meet their unique needs. Our clients value our depth and range of experience and our specialization in a variety of sectors. When North Dakota needs to finance important government, senior living, healthcare or education projects, they turn to us, their trusted public finance partner.

Reach out to us and see how we can help with any of your public finance needs.

John Lundby
Senior Vice President
701.222.1617

Mike Manstrom
Senior Vice President
701.222.1616

Craig Theis
Senior Vice President
612.376.4135

colliers.com

Colliers Securities LLC is a Member SIPC/FINRA

www.genequip.com

Sales ▲ Rental ▲ Parts ▲ Service



Rolling Stock

- ▲ Wheel loaders and attachments
- ▲ Excavators and attachments
- ▲ Dozers
- ▲ Compact equipment
- ▲ Skid steers and attachments
- ▲ Snow removal equipment & attachments
- ▲ Generators
- ▲ Water pumps

Aggregate

- ▲ Full-line aggregate processing equipment

Travis Hinkley,
Municipality Sales Rep
P: 701-364-2182
C: 701-446-6712
thinkley@genequip.com

Municipality Meets Quality



Fargo, Bismarck, Minot & Williston, ND ▲ Sioux Falls & Rapid City, SD ▲ Duluth & Shakopee, MN ▲ Urbana, IA