

ND Commissioners Summit to Bring Key Thought Leaders Together

Jeff Eslinger | ND County News Editor

The North Dakota County Commissioners Summit is right around the corner. Commissioners will hear from key thought leaders on “hot topics” that all counties are dealing with. Check out this packed agenda:

TUESDAY, MARCH 19

5:00 – 7:00 Welcome Social

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

8:30 Welcome

- Joan Hollekim, Mountrail County Commissioner & NDCCA President
- Aaron Birst, NDACo Executive Director

9:00 Property Tax Elimination Measure Panel Discussion

- Neal Messer, Stark County Commissioner & NDCCA Board Member
- Nathan Berseth, Richland County Commissioner & Richland School District President
- Josh Askvig, AARP State Director
- Panel Moderator: Donnell Preskey, NDACo Government/Public Relations Specialist

10:00 Break

10:15 Creating Efficiencies: Tool Chest Legislation and Shared Services

- Terry Traynor, Former NDACo Executive Director
- Jayne Tenneson, Nelson & Griggs Counties State’s Attorney & NDACo President

- Debbie LaCombe, ND Dept. of Homeland Security Deputy Director
- Mary Senger, Burleigh County Emergency Manager

11:15 Human Resources Topics for Commissioners

- Helen Askim, Williams County Administrator/HR Director
- Aaron Birst, NDACo Executive Director

11:45 Transportation Funding Opportunities

- Kent Leben, County Section Leader, NDDOT Local Govt. Division

12:15 Lunch

1:15 Legislative Leadership

- Rep. Mike Lefor, House Majority Leader
- Sen. David Hogue, Senate Majority Leader
- Panel Moderator: Donnell Preskey, NDACo Government/Public Relations Specialist

2:15 County Commissioner Resources

- Brennan Quintus, NDIRF CEO
- Joanna Drennen, NDIRF HR Collaborative Executive Director
- Linda Svihovec, NDACo Research Analyst
 - Salary Survey, County Handbook, and more
- Alisha Adolf, NDACo Professional Development Manager (ILG)
- Chad Peterson, Cass County Commissioner & NDCCA Past President
 - NACo Involvement/Matching Funds Program

3:15 Break

3:30 County Commissioner

Hot Topics Panel

- Joan Hollekim, Mountrail County Commissioner & NDCCA President
- Stan Dick, Cavalier County Commissioner & NDACo Past President
- Steve Lee, McLean County Commissioner & NDACo Past President
- Shelly Wepler, Ward County Commissioner
- Panel Moderator: Daryl Dukart, Former Dunn County Commissioner & Former NACo Board Member

4:30 Adjourn & Tour NDACo Office (optional)

In legislative years, the County Day at the Capitol is held in March, so this off-year presents a great opportunity for a meeting on interim legislative work and other issues of concern to commissioners.

Online registration at www.ndcca.org is closing soon, but we will gladly accept walk-ons who choose to register on-site the day of the event.

Attendees will receive 6 FREE ILG training hours!

The Integrity of North Dakota Elections

North Dakota Counties play a vital role in the administration of elections. It is through the County Auditor that



North Dakota’s election laws are upheld and elections are conducted securely, accurately, and with integrity. The Office of the Secretary of State will be providing key election information to the readers of County News to spread the truth about our election processes and provide insight into the integrity of our election systems. This issue will feature the truth about absentee and voting by mail and North Dakota’s use of paper ballots.

The Truth about Absentee and Voting by Mail

North Dakota voters are never mailed a ballot without first requesting one. An application for a ballot must be filled out by the voter.

Each Board of County Commissioners has the option to designate their county as a vote by mail county. If the Board of County Commissioners does not designate their county as a vote by mail county, the county is an absentee county. The only difference between vote by mail counties and absentee counties is how the voter receives their application for a ballot. In vote by mail counties, the County Auditor mails a ballot application to all eligible voters. In absentee counties, voters must request the application for an absentee ballot from their County Auditor. The County Auditor must receive and verify the completed application before a ballot is mailed to the voter.

Voter ID laws still apply when requesting to vote absentee or by mail. The application to request a ballot requires the eligible voter to include their date of birth, state-issued

ID number, and signature on the application. Once the County Auditor receives the completed application, the date of birth and ID number are verified against the Central Voter File for accuracy before a ballot is mailed. This ensures that our vote by mail and absentee voting complies with our strict voter ID law and ensures that only qualified electors are voting in our elections.

Checks and balances are in place when the ballot is returned to the County Auditor to verify its validity before it is tabulated. The signature and ID information are validated against the application, and the Central Voter File is updated to indicate that the voter has returned a ballot. The Central Voter File notifies the County Auditor and prohibits multiple ballots from being returned by the same voter. Additionally, the Central Voter File marks the voter as having returned an absentee or mail ballot, which prohibits that voter from voting again at the polling location.

Continued on page 22

Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 11
Grand Forks, ND

ND Association of Counties
PO Box 877
Bismarck, ND 58502-0877
www.ndaco.org

County QUICK FACTS



Veteran Suicides*

Nationally: 6,392

Midwest Region: 1,315

North Dakota: 14

*Source: Veteran Suicide Data Sheet, 2021

SEE RELATED STORY P. 14



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

**ACKERMAN
ESTVOLD**
WWW.ACKERMAN-ESTVOLD.COM

Board Member PROFILE



SCOTT OURADNIK
Slope County Commissioner
Representing Region 8,
WIR Board Member

What is your favorite thing about being a commissioner? I enjoy the leadership role associated with being a county commissioner and the chance to have a positive effect on the constituents I serve.

Family: My wife Kelley and I have been married for 18 years. We have three school-aged children: Jett, Cutter and Sage.

Other things you are involved in: I serve on the Slope County Fair Board, volunteer for the Amidon Rural Fire Department, Amidon First Responders, NDIRE, and SBARE.

Favorite movie or movie genre: My favorite movies include *Braveheart*, *Caddyshack* and *Three Amigos*.

What music are you listening to right now? My go-to music is anything 60s and 70s country – Don Williams, Conway Twitty and Glen Campbell.

What are you reading right now? *Storm Watch* by C.J. Box.

Something people probably don't know about you: My wife and I "homesteaded" the ranch we're on. No power, road, water, etc. when we purchased it.

Philosophy of life and/or work: Public service, while being challenging at times, is amongst the most important work one can do for his or her community.

Favorite quote: "We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone"
- Ronald Reagan.



NDACo Executive Committee

Jayne Tenneson, President Nelson/Griggs
Trudy Ruland, 1st Vice President Mountrail
Chad Kaiser, 2nd Vice President..... Stutsman
Nick Moser, 3rd Vice President..... Cavalier
Steve Lee, Past President..... McLean

Directors

Beau Anderson..... Williams
Jamee Folk..... Mercer
Tony Grindberg..... Cass
Steve Forde..... Nelson
Becky Hagel..... Foster
Lori Hanson..... Mountrail
Kim Jacobson..... Agassiz Valley
Erica Johnsrud..... McKenzie
Wanda Knutson..... Mercer
Dana Larsen..... Ward
Shirley Murray..... Sheridan
Scott Ouradnik..... Slope
Kelly Palm..... Griggs

Ex Officio Members

Perry Turner (McIntosh)..... NACo Board
Robert Wilson (Cass)..... NACo Board
Joan Hollekim (Mountrail)..... NDCCA President

NRG Technology Services Staff:
See page 6



NDCCA Executive Committee

Joan Hollekim, President..... Mountrail
Neal Messer, Vice President..... Stark
Glenda Collier, Treasurer..... Eddy
Chad Peterson, Past President..... Cass

Directors

Jason Arth..... Sargent
Tracey Dolezal..... Dunn
Cory Hanson..... Williams
Jim Kapitan..... Cass
Andy Zachmeier..... Morton

Ex Officio Members

Scott Ouradnik (Slope)..... Western Interstate Region Board
Perry Turner (McIntosh)..... NACo Board

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
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
Linda Svihovec..... Research Analyst
Michelle Tabbert..... Administrative Officer
Angie Wentland..... Controller
Mike Wolf..... CEG Underwriting & Loss Control Manager

FROM the COUNTIES

SPRING IS IN THE AIR...I THINK

Wow! What a winter! Yesterday I snuck out of the office to haul grain in 60 degree temperatures. Today, I'm staring out my office window into a blizzard.

We just returned from the NACo Legislative Conference in Washington. It seems like all counties, large and small throughout the country, have many of the same concerns. Mental health, opioids, elections, and immigration were some of the hot topics at the conference. We had the opportunity to ask questions of our federal leaders and speak with other county leaders about solutions for our counties. Our North Dakota contingent was able to take many great things back home to help lead our counties.

One of my biggest takeaways from the conference is the role that Public Service Loan Forgiveness can play in employee recruitment and retention. Since COVID times there have been some changes in the administration of the program that may allow more employees to receive student loan forgiveness.

Getting back home, the County Commissioner Summit is scheduled for March 20 in Bismarck. This will give you the opportunity to get updated on some of the current issues that we are facing in North Dakota. The social the evening before gives you the opportunity to socialize with your fellow commissioners and get some new ideas. I truly believe that the most beneficial portion of any conference is the time outside of the



Jayme Tenneson | NDACo President
Nelson/Griggs County State's Attorney

presentations to meet your peers and to develop relationships.

Finally, we have two important taxation issues that we are currently facing. We have the Primary Residence Credit. Participation has been great thus far, but we have another month to inform and get citizens signed up for their tax credit of up to \$500. We are also facing the property tax referendum, which has the potential to completely change the funding structure that we currently know. Please do your part to educate yourself and the voters of the implications of this referendum.

One last plug for NDACo, please get involved with NDACo. There is a wealth of knowledge and opportunity for you to benefit yourselves and your county.

FROM the COMMISSIONERS

Hurry Up and Register...

The March 20th County Commissioners Summit is creeping up on us. The NDACo Team has been working on an eventful agenda; there are many outstanding speakers on important topics. If your schedule allows, don't miss out on this opportunity. There will be a social for those that can make it the night before, another great chance to network with fellow commissioners and leaders. You can see the tentative agenda and register at www.ndcca.org/summitregistration.

I hope everyone has been keeping up on one of the most important issues facing local governments, the referendum to eliminate property taxes. This topic is on the agenda for the 2024 County Commissioners Summit. I am looking forward to hearing everyone's concerns on this important topic. The local flexibility of levying property tax is critical for the operation of local government. As leaders, it is important that we gain as much knowledge as possible concerning the referendum and the ramifications. If anyone wants to visit more on a personal level, feel free to call, even if your opinion differs.

I am sure by now many of you have applied for your Primary Residence Credit. This credit of up to \$500 will certainly help many with their property tax obligation, and in some instances, cover the real property taxes for the primary residence in full. What a great way to help taxpayers that reside in North Dakota. The state is doing a great job publicizing this credit, but make sure you help at the



Joan Hollekim | NDCCA President
Mountrail County Commissioner

local level to ensure every eligible taxpayer gets this credit.

I can say that my recent travels to Washington DC for conferences will have a lasting impact. Thank you for giving me this opportunity as your president. Let me tell you though, that given the choice between a national event and a local event, I much prefer the comfort of "home" and what is brought to the table at the local level. So, thank you everyone that has made North Dakota local government a remarkable experience.

Let's hope the weather cooperates and we can all gather at the upcoming County Commissioners Summit in March at the Ramada Hotel & Conference Center in Bismarck to collaborate with fellow commissioners and leaders to discuss challenges and issues facing us at the local level.

FROM the ASSOCIATION

Let's Compare Notes

The old saying, "If you don't like the weather in North Dakota, stay another day" was certainly true when I wrote this article. In Bismarck we went from a beautiful sunny 60-degree day to a blizzard with 0-degree temperatures. Yikes! But the more I thought about it, that's kind of how counties operate. We must be prepared for any possible event, at all times. Whether it is blizzards, flooding, droughts, or whatever else mother nature throws at us, we adapt to ensure our citizens still receive the best possible services.

One of the best ways counties learn to adapt to rapidly changing conditions—big and small—is by getting together and comparing notes. "Oh, you're

doing it that way? We've been doing it the other way. Maybe we should try what you're doing." Conversations like that happen all the time when county officials get together.

And that is exactly why we launched the County Commissioners Summit. There is plenty of information in this issue of County News and online about the Summit scheduled for March 20th in Bismarck. If you are a commissioner and haven't signed up yet, please do. Or just show up if you can't commit until the last minute. We want your participation!



Aaron Birst | NDACo Executive Director



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.

SAVE MONEY AND TIME



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

NORTH
Dakota | Procurement
Be Legendary. MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

701.328.4912 • INFOSPO@ND.GOV
OMB.ND.GOV/COOPERATIVEPURCHASING

- 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 | Surplus Property
Be Legendary. MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

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

How to Support Workplace Mental Health

Workplace stress is a common phenomenon that can have a significant impact on an individual's well-being and productivity. According to the American Psychological Association's Work in American Survey: Workplaces as Engines of Psychological Health & Wellbeing, "77% of U.S. workers reported stress at work in [November 2023], with 57% reporting negative health effects as a result" (US Workplace Stress at All Time High, Survey Says, www.InsuranceJournal.com, accessed 3 Jan. 2024).

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) recognizes workplace stress can "make it more difficult for workers to get their tasks done; threaten their productivity, happiness, and well-being; and lead to burnout (www.OSHA.gov, accessed 3 Jan. 2024). Your entity can support its employees' mental health by finding "ways to alleviate or remove stressors in the workplace to the greatest extent possible, build coping and resiliency supports, and ensure that people who need help know where to turn" (www.OSHA.gov, accessed 3 Jan. 2024).

On its website, OSHA also shares examples of employers' approaches to help reduce workplace stress and highlight mental health supports within the workplace, including:

The six following examples were originally published on www.OSHA.gov, accessed 4 Jan. 2024.

- **Promote self-care, mindfulness, and general mental well-being.**

Organizations are implementing strategies to educate workers about self-care and mindfulness activities to help them cope with stress. Employers and supervisors are encouraged to engage their workers to determine what strategies may be most supportive in their workplace. Examples include:

- Providing access to mobile apps that aim to build emotional resilience and improve sleep habits.
- Offering "Mindful Moment" meditation sessions for workers multiple times a week or full web-based meditation or yoga classes.
- Identifying internal staff who can lead self-care activities for the entire company (e.g., weekly, virtual, guided meditation sessions).
- Implementing structured wellness challenges centered on self-care activities to encourage

employees to engage in wellness activities.

- Hosting virtual yoga classes or virtual workouts.
- Supporting mental health awareness campaigns.
- Providing information on Employee Assistance Programs.

- **Support an attitude of gratitude.**

It is important to make a concerted effort to be positive, identify and praise workers' achievements, and encourage staff to look for the good that still exists around them. For example, consider launching an "attitude of gratitude" challenge that focuses on the positive, or an employee recognition program to highlight workers (via social media, articles, and live Webcasts) who have taken action to support each other or their broader communities. Keeping it simple, creating a virtual gratitude board for workers to share what they are grateful for can be beneficial.

- **Promote a culture of safety and health in the workplace.**

To promote compliance, top leadership and managers within the company should lead by example and consistently reinforce safety practices and look for opportunities to get workers involved. Employers can alleviate concerns by ensuring that workers are supplied with necessary protective gear and implementing other protective measures that will keep them safe and healthy, at no cost to workers.

- **Educate workers about the organization's existing safety precautions and ask for their feedback.**

The absence of information can cause worries to fester. To prevent this, employers should communicate with their workers regularly in a language they understand to explain what protection measures they have implemented to protect them. More importantly, employers should then ask their workers for feedback on those measures to determine if more can be done to make them feel safe, such as implementing new procedures or helping to enforce protective measures among co-workers and customers. OSHA has created a sample list of questions that employers can use to gauge their workers' perception of existing protective measures. With this feedback in hand, employers can either implement additional protective measures to reduce workers' concerns, or at least explain why a certain course of action has been taken.



- **Regularly provide safety and health training that includes a focus on mental health and ask for worker feedback.**

Education and training are important tools for informing workers and managers about workplace hazards and controls so they can work more safely and be more productive. Employers should ensure mental health and workplace stress are included in trainings. Trainings should always be done in the language the workers understand. Employers should underscore their business model succeeds when workers stay healthy and finish the day and go home safely. Workers feel trusted when employers ask them for ideas or improvements and follow-up on suggestions. When possible, provide them time during work hours, if necessary, to research solutions.

- **Protect workers from workplace violence.**

Conflict is stressful, both when it occurs and when workers anticipate that it might. Employers must find ways to help de-escalate and prepare for these stressful situations, such as having workers approach non-complying

customers in teams of two; training them on threat recognition, conflict resolution, and nonviolent responses; and providing backup support in the form of managers, security, or law enforcement. See OSHA's workplace violence webpage for additional resource here: www.OSHA.gov/workplace-violence.

An additional idea is to highlight your entity's employee assistance program (EAP) available through your health insurance provider or other organization. Regular EAP communication helps to ensure the program's availability is top-of-mind for your entity's employees and that information about the program is easy to access. For example, one North Dakota government entity makes its EAP provider information highly accessible by placing business card-sized materials throughout its buildings, allowing employees to discreetly pick one up if they're interested in obtaining EAP services.

If you're interested in learning more about how to support workplace mental health at your entity, visit www.OSHA.gov/workplace-stress.

What is Generative AI?

Amber Schriock | NRG Service Manager

Generative AI, a recent buzzword, is nothing more than software that can – you guessed it – *generate* text, images, videos, etc. That doesn't mean it copies from other sources, it creates something new. This is done by using large language models (models with billions of parameters) and machine learning algorithms (automatically improves itself based on experience gained from data input).

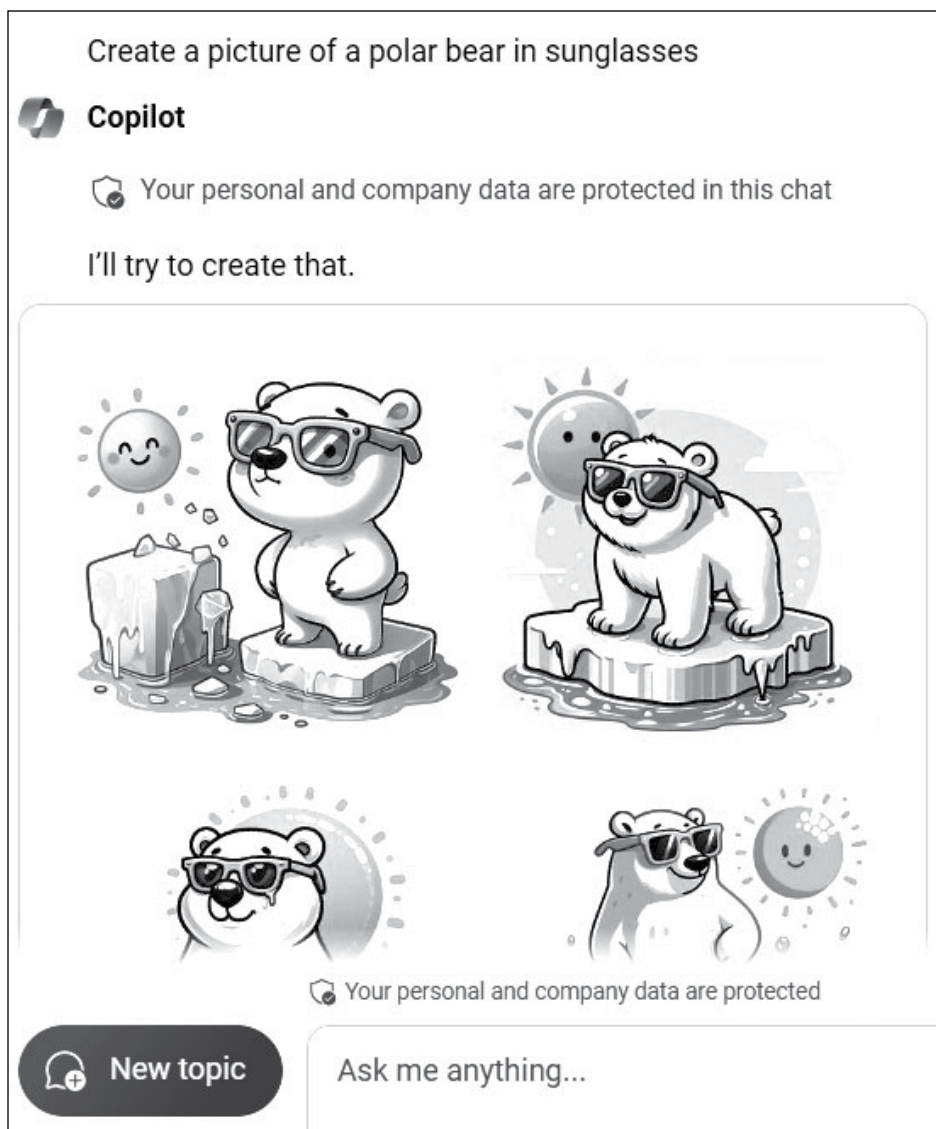
You may be familiar with ChatGPT, DALL-E, or Bard, but there are also business case uses for Generative AI. Corporate marketing can be auto generated and sent out. Graphics in movies can be generated. Drugs can be produced or revised for efficiency

and effectiveness, reducing cost in the pharmaceutical industry. Manufacturing, automotive, aeronautics, etc., can be optimized to meet specific benchmarks and stay within limitations.

Generative AI is only as good as the information it is given. There need to be controls that meet data protection and legal requirements, as well as detect bias outputs. The accuracy of the outputs must be verified (did you hear about the lawyer using a fictitious court case as a reference?) AI does not recognize intellectual property and copyrights, only puts in what you want the world to see, so it's up to you to carefully review what it generates.



This slide from the webinar speaks volumes.



Supercharge Documentation and Efficiency with AI

NACo Webinar Available on Demand

To be competitive, organizations must invest in staff and give them the tools to be effective. Counties are embracing advanced automation and emerging technology to support their workforce, resulting in lower turnover, increased revenue and better outcomes.

In particular, the Bells AI documentation assistant can cut documentation by around 50%, reducing the burden on staff and supervisors. The National Association of Counties (NACo) recorded a recent webinar with Grace White, Chief Quality Officer, MHMR of Tarrant County, Texas and Chris Yakscoe, Director, Bells AI, Netsmart for a focused conversation on Bells and advanced automation technology.

This webinar covered:

1. How AI technology can address workforce challenges including staff satisfaction, training, quality improvements and more!
2. How automation leads to sustainability, including faster and more accurate claims and maximized reimbursements.

3. How counties have harnessed emerging technology to target barriers to care, while improving compliance and the bottom line – and creating a positive workplace culture for staff.

To watch this webinar recording, go to <https://vimeo.com> or scan the QR code below.



You will need to share your email address and name to access the video. All North Dakota counties are NACo members.

NRG TECHNOLOGY STAFF



Lonny Bosch..... **President**
 Cody Anderson..... Systems Engineer
 Garrett Bruner..... Service Coordinator
 Dawson Dosch.....Field Technician
 Dwight Driscoll..... Account Manager
 Travis Fandrich.....Field Technician
 Jacob Fettig..... Field Engineer
 Kendall Fey.....System Engineer
 Jacob Fricke..... Service Coordinator

Danielle Kraft..... Accounting Assistant
 Matthew Levorson..... Field Technician Intern
 Jeff McDowell..... Systems Engineer
 Erik McGurren.....Security Analyst
 Amber Schriock..... Service Manager
 AJ Snyder.....Field Technician
 Kay Ternes..... Service Coordinator
 David Weiland..... Systems Engineer

Update on NDACo's 911 Fee Processing

NDACo is pleased to report that the 911 fee processing system was launched January 1, 2024, right on schedule. The project was announced in early 2023 and has been adopted by 52 of our state's 53 counties.

Both counties and the telecommunication companies (telecoms) have reported successfully using the web portal set up by Tao Interactive, NDACo's web services provider. In January over 150 telecoms reported their number of fees collected and submitted money accordingly. The process goes as follows:

1. Reporting begins the first of the month. Telecoms have 30 days to report through the web-based reporting tool.
2. During the first week of the month, NDACo processes that

data and begins distributing the money.

3. The State Interoperable Radio Network (SIRN) receives their portion of the fees within one week.
4. NDACo creates a report and sends it to counties by the end of the first week of the following month, along with the money collected for them.
5. The process is repeated each month.

By all reports, things are going smoothly so far. The majority of telecoms operating in the state participated in the process in the first month, and we are optimistic all telecoms will be on board as the process continues to prove itself.

NDACo
NORTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
for the good of all counties!

DEVELOPMENT SITE

MY ACCOUNT COUNTRIES FAQs CONTACT

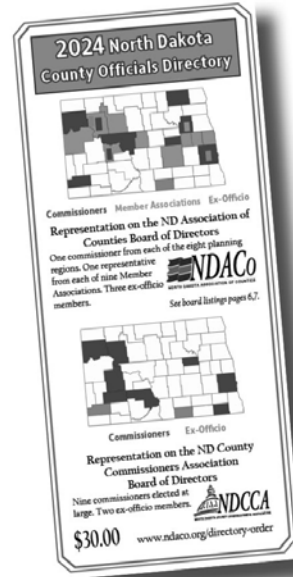
North Dakota 9-1-1 Fee Remittance

This site is provided for the remittance of 9-1-1 fees applicable to "assessed communications service" as defined by North Dakota Century Code Chapter 57-40.6. The site does not handle 9-1-1 fees that apply to prepaid wireless service which will continue to be collected by sellers of prepaid wireless services and products.

Through a joint powers agreement with the North Dakota Association of Counties most counties in the state of North Dakota have requested that their 9-1-1 fee revenues be centrally collected. This site offers providers of "assessed communications service" a single point of remittance for most 9-1-1 fees in the state. A map of the counties participating in this program and for which 9-1-1 fees should be remitted through this can be found here.

Login
Username
Password
LOGIN
Contact to Request Access

Order your copy of the 2024 ND County Officials Directory NOW!



- Every County
- Every department
- Addresses
- Phone numbers
- Emails
- Only \$30

Order now at

www.ndaco.org/directory-order



For North Dakota.
For Local Government.
For You.

NDIRF NORTH DAKOTA
INSURANCE
RESERVE FUND

www.NDIRF.com • (701) 224-1988

A Fresh Perspective on Road Safety

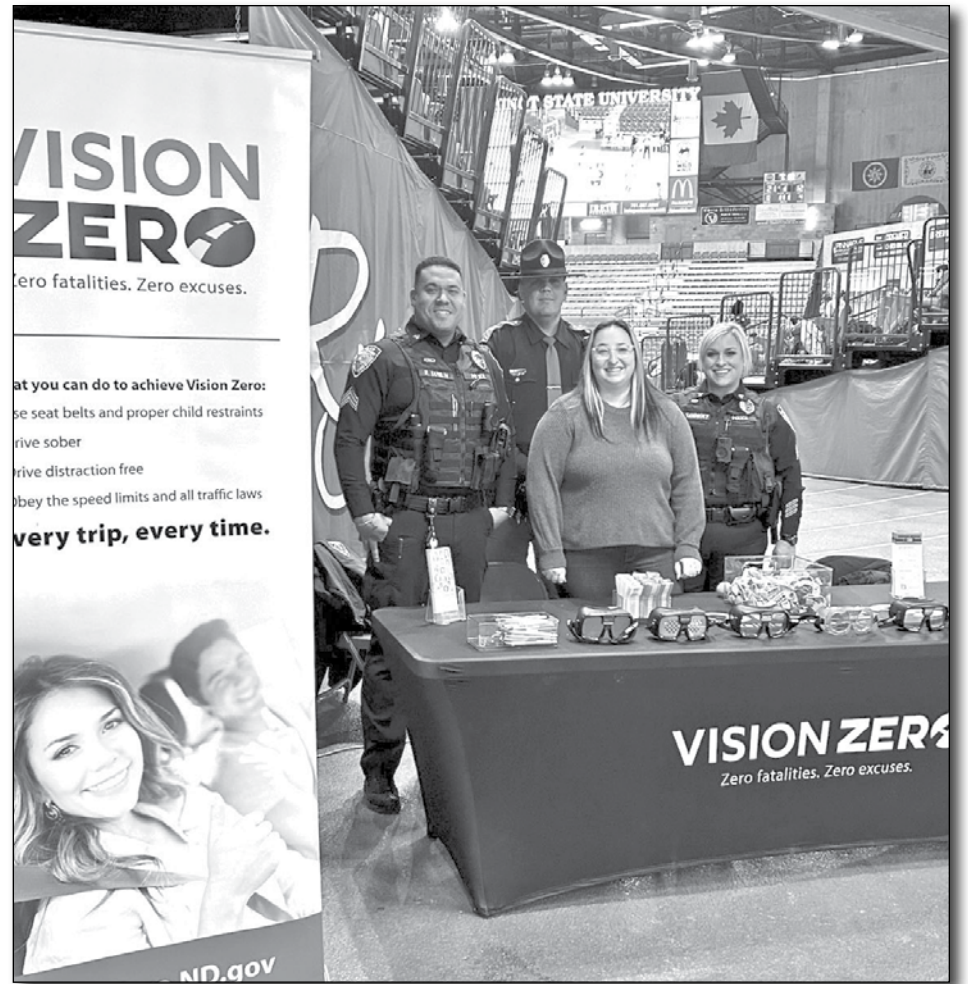
Molly Schoen | Northwest Vision Zero Outreach Coordinator

The Vision Zero team gained a new member recently. Molly Schoen has joined the initiative as the new Vision Zero Outreach Coordinator in the northwest region. With this appointment, the region is poised to make significant strides in enhancing road safety and promoting a culture of responsible driving. Schoen is a Purdue Global University graduate with a background in public safety and worked as a dispatcher at Minot Central Dispatch for six years.

“I’m excited to continue fostering relationships I’ve built with area law enforcement and have already been able to collaborate with some officers in my new position,” says Schoen.

Vision Zero was represented in January at Minot’s KMOT Ag Expo. Schoen had her first opportunity to engage with the community with educational tools like Distract-A-Match and the Fatal Vision Goggles. Recently, McClusky School invited Vision Zero for an Impact Teen Driver presentation, where grades 7-12 interacted with both Schoen and the southwest coordinator, Theresa Liebsch.

In addition to community events, Vision Zero has made notable progress in collaborating with local schools to instill road safety habits among the younger generation. Vision Zero Schools Des Lacs-Burlington, Nedrose and Killdeer high schools have all



actively participated in furthering and organizing traffic safety awareness and best practices.

These efforts not only educate students about the dangers of reckless driving but also empower them to become ambassadors for road safety within their peer groups and families. Vision Zero also had the opportunity to team up with the student leaders of Nedrose and host a Buckle Up Phone Down challenge at a Varsity Girls Basketball game. Des Lacs-Burlington student leaders are busy planning a Vision Zero day for Burlington Elementary School that will occur later this spring.

Coming up, Vision Zero and volunteer student leaders from each school will be at the State A girls’ basketball tournament and the State B boys’ basketball tournament, both taking place at the MSU Dome. Vision Zero will also be at the Badlands Shootout in Watford City. Along with community engagement, Vision Zero will be participating in upcoming conferences such as the North Dakota Safety Council Safety and Health Conference, North Dakota Transportation Conference, North Dakota Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association Conference, Lifesavers Conference and the Vision Zero Partner Conference.



VISION ZERO
Zero fatalities. Zero excuses.

Recognizing Hidden Dangers: Steps To a Safer Office

Michael Wolf | CEG Underwriting & Loss Control Manager

It's fairly obvious that safety and health hazards can and do exist on worksites filled with heavy machinery and equipment where employees often are required to engage in strenuous manual labor. A job where most of the tasks are completed while sitting in a chair in a climate-controlled office building would seem less fraught with danger. However, *a surprising number of hazards can and are present in an office setting.*

Many office related injuries can be prevented if workers or supervisors recognize the risks and implement simple workplace modifications to help mitigate them. Here are some steps you can take to reduce the risk of injury among your office staff.

Clutter-free

Boxes, files and various items piled in walkways can create a tripping hazard. Be certain that all materials are safely stored in their proper location to prevent buildup of clutter in walkways. Further, in addition to posing an electrical hazard, stretching cords across walkways or under rugs creates a tripping hazard, so ensure all cords are properly secured.

Step on up

Standing on chairs – particularly rolling office chairs – is a significant fall hazard. Workers who need to reach something at an elevated height should use a step ladder. The Chicago-based American Ladder Institute cautions that step ladders must be fully opened and placed on level, firm ground. Workers should never climb higher than the step indicated as the highest safe standing level.

Maintain a clear line of vision

Workers can collide when making turns in the hallways and around blind corners or cubicle walls. The National Safety Council suggests installing convex mirrors at intersections to help reduce collisions. If workers can see who is coming around the corner, collisions are less likely to occur.

Get a grip

Carpeting and other skid-resistant surfaces can serve to reduce falls. Marble or tile can become very slippery – particularly when wet. Placing carpets down can be especially helpful at entranceways, where workers are likely to be coming in with shoes wet from rain or snow.

Shut the drawer

File cabinets with too many fully extended drawers could tip over if they are not secured, the Council warns. Additionally, open drawers on desks and



file cabinets pose a tripping hazard, so be sure to always completely close drawers when not in use.

Safe stacking

Proper storage of heavy items can help reduce the number of office injuries. Large stacks of materials can cause major injuries if they are knocked over. Store heavy objects close to the floor and make sure that the load capacity of shelves or storage units is never exceeded.

Dim the lights and use task lamps

Florescent lights in office buildings often are too bright for optimal vision. According to the American Optometric Association, light that is at about half-normal office levels is preferred. This can be achieved by removing some bulbs from overhead fixtures. If more light is needed for a particular task, use individual task lamps rather than increasing overall lighting. Lightbulbs in task lamps should be fully recessed to avoid the creation of a bright spot in the worker's line of vision.

Wear the right glasses

Workers should tell their eye doctor if they spend a large portion of the day working on the computer. Generally, your monitor should be about 20-30 inches away from you. Blue light glasses are beneficial for computer use and helps prevent/reduce eye strain.

Increase font size on computer

Small font sizes on the computer can strain both your vision and your neck, as workers tend to pull the head forward to view smaller print. A simple adjustment to the font size on the computer screen can eliminate the need for this. In many

software programs, you can use the CTRL-scroll up or down or CTRL+ or CTRL- to increase or reduce the size of the page you are looking at.

Give Your Eyes A Break

Giving your eyes a rest and allowing them to focus on things at varying distances can help reduce strain and fatigue. Workers should implement the 20-20-20 rule. Take a 20 second break every 20 minutes and focus on something 20 feet away.

Maintain cords in good repair

Damaged and ungrounded power cords pose a serious fire hazard and violate safety codes. Cords should be inspected regularly for wear and taken out of service if they are frayed or have exposed wire. Further, cords should never be used if the third prong has been damaged or removed. Make sure cords are not overloading outlets. The most common causes of fires started by extension cords are improper use and overloading. Extension cords should be approved by a certifying laboratory such as Underwriters Laboratories, and only used temporarily to connect one device at a time.

Inspect space heaters

We don't recommend using them, but if employees use space heaters, verify the devices are approved for commercial use and have a switch that automatically shuts off the heater if the heater is tipped over. Further, make sure space heaters are not powered through an extension cord or placed near combustible materials such as paper.

Never block fire sprinklers

Furniture and tall stacks of materials

can block the range of fire sprinklers, reducing their effectiveness in the event of an emergency. Objects should never be placed higher than 18 inches below sprinkler heads to allow a full range of coverage.

Do not block escape routes or prop open fire doors

Items never should be stored along an emergency exit route. These paths should remain free of clutter, according to OSHA. Fire doors should not be held open by unapproved means (such as with a garbage can or chair), as this creates a significant fire hazard.

Repetitive Motion Issues

When it comes to ergonomic related exposures, everyone is different. Some employees could work in an office setting that is not set up properly for several years and experience no repetitive motion issues while another employee could experience repetitive motion problems much sooner. Encourage employees to let you know if they are experiencing any repetitive motion discomforts so the issue can be addressed. Making some simple changes to a workstation or adding a piece of ergonomic equipment can be the difference between a safe comfortable working environment or a workers compensation claim. The CEG is available to assist in providing ergonomic assessments.

Talk to employees about their concerns

Simply asking workers how they are feeling in their office setting can go a long way toward recognizing hazards. Employers should take advantage of the cases where employees are experiencing symptoms like discomfort and fatigue early on, when quick, inexpensive interventions can usually solve the problem. Ignoring these early warning signs can lead to employee suffering and unnecessary workers compensation costs.

Establish employee reporting systems

Establishing an employee reporting system can be the best way for organizations to get a handle on potential hazards before they cause injury. Consider creating an anonymous reporting process that encourages workers to come forward with their concerns. Research shows that early intervention yields the most cost-efficient results in all areas.

Using common sense along with implementing sound safety practices in the office setting will go a long way in helping keep employees safe and injury free. **Remember to always Work Smart ~ Work Safe.**

74th Annual NDACE County Roads Conference

Genny Dienstmann | NDACE Executive Director

Over 200 attendees and 40 vendors were in Fargo for the 74th Annual NDACE County Roads Conference January 31-February 2.

National Association of County Engineers Executive Director Kevan Stone kicked off the conference sharing legislative priorities on the national level and the impact NACE is making to help Congress understand the infrastructure needs across the country. He also shared the many funding opportunities counties can utilize for their infrastructure projects.

Keynote speaker David Haukaas, senior investment consultant to Bison World, shared the vision of Bison World and how this attraction will impact tourism in our state and assist other North Dakota destination partners as well.

Other topics covered at the conference included legal drains, asphalt/concrete paving, culvert maintenance, steel pipe design and modular bridges.

All presentations can be found on the NDACE website at www.ndace.org.

This year's Engineer of the Year was awarded to Jennie Krause, KLJ Engineering. Jennie was surprised and very honored to be selected for the award and shared her appreciation for

being part of such a great organization.

NDACE also awarded LoadPass the Friends of NDACE Award, and three scholarships were given to engineering students totaling \$6,500.



Ramsey County Highway Supt. Kevin Fieldsend presents Friends Award to Joelle VanderLinden and Brent Bogar.



Ramsey County Highway Supt. Kevin Fieldsend presents Engineer of the Year Award to Jennie Krause of KLJ Engineering..

County Engineers Recognize LoadPass Credit for Expanding the Truck Permit System

Geoff Simon | WDEA Executive Director

WDEA's LoadPass Permits system, which allows counties and cities to manage the movement of oversize trucks and equipment, was recently recognized by the ND Association of County Engineers with its Friends of NDACE award.

The award is given to a company, organization or person that shows outstanding leadership, contributions and assistance to county government. In making the award presentation, Ramsey County Highway Superintendent Kevin Fieldsend complimented LoadPass on efforts the past several years to offer the permit system to counties outside the oil-producing region.

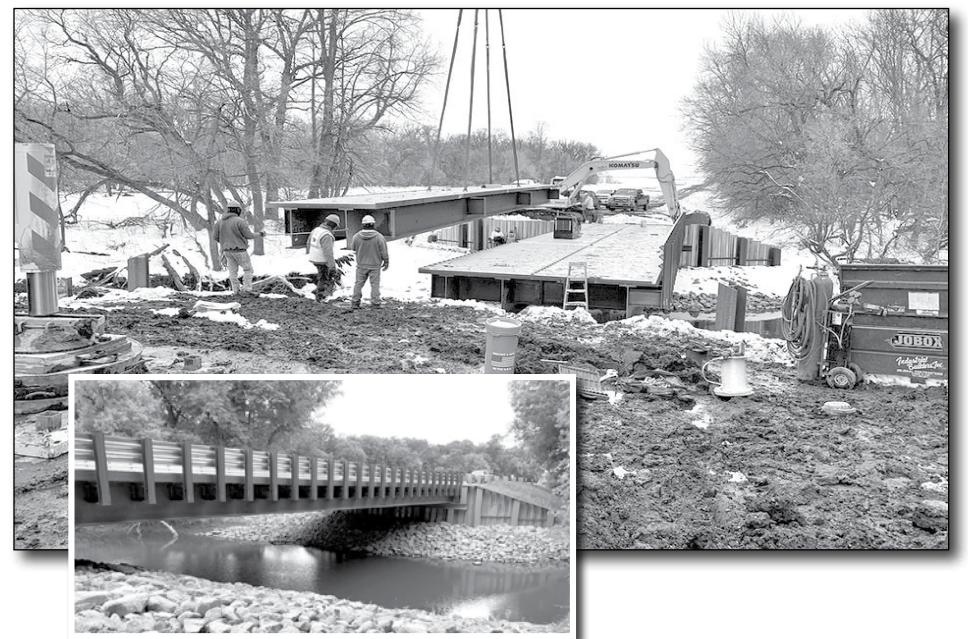
"When they were first established, they were working mainly in the western part of the state, but in recent years they have expanded their program statewide working with cities and counties across North Dakota," Fieldsend said. "They have streamlined the permitting process and have created efficiencies within highway and law enforcement departments who work in this area."

The permit system was established in the mid-1980s by the ND Association of Oil and Gas Producing Counties

(now WDEA) to track and monitor overweight, non-divisible loads and over-dimension trucks on county roads in the oilpatch. It has evolved over the years to a completely paperless system, including an interactive map for route selection, and was rebranded as LoadPass in 2016.

WDEA began offering the service to counties outside the oil-producing region in 2015, with Emmons County the first to join. Since then, 13 additional eastern North Dakota counties, as well as three cities, have signed up as LoadPass participants, and several more plan to join in 2024. Fieldsend, in presenting the award to LoadPass Operator Joelle VanderLinden and WDEA consultant Brent Bogar, said county road managers have been very pleased with the system.

"Today, if you talk to anyone that has joined this organization, they will tell you that it was one of the best things they have ever done," Fieldsend said. "All of the personnel are extremely dedicated to the work they do and are eager to help with any situation or difficulties that you may have."



NSBA Recognizes Grand Forks County Among Eight Top Bridges for 2024

CHICAGO - Innovation abounds in the steel bridge industry, but eight recent bridges rise above the rest.

The American Institute of Steel Construction and the National Steel Bridge Alliance recognized eight bridges with 2024 Prize Bridge Awards – the structural steel industry's highest design honor for bridges.

"Steel bridges have connected American communities for centuries," said NSBA Senior Director for Market Development Jeff Carlson, PE. "This year's Prize Bridge Award winners continue that proud tradition and showcase the innovation—at all scales,

from showcase bridges to local lifelines—that will keep Americans moving for centuries to come."

The **Grand Forks County Prefabricated Bridge, Northwood, ND** was recognized as the nation's best Short Span Bridge (no single span greater than 140 ft.) The project team took full advantage of offsite fabrication to cut down on construction time in the bitter cold of a North Dakota winter.

The bridge's general contractor was Industrial Builders Inc, West Fargo, N.D. Structural engineer was KLJ Engineering, Grafton, N.D. and the fabricator/detailer/erector was TrueNorth Steel, Fargo, N.D.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Upcoming ILG Professional Development Opportunities Details and registration at www.ndaco.org/ilg

- CEG Monthly Safety Moment: **Effective Corrective Actions** (Webinar) – March 13
- Got 15?! **Office of State Tax Commissioner Monthly Webinar** – March 13
- County Commissioners Summit** – March 20, Bismarck Ramada Hotel | *6 Free ILG hours*
- Organization of Rural Ambulance Service Districts** (Webinar) – March 25
- Behavioral Health 360 – Mental Health and Wellbeing Self-Care** (Webinar) – March 27
- Bidding Your Projects!** (Webinar) – March 28
- NDIRF Financial Performance and Claims Review** (Webinar) – April 3
- CEG Monthly Safety Moment: **Workstation Ergonomics for Office Workers** (Webinar) – April 10
- Got 15?! **Office of State Tax Commissioner Monthly Webinar** – April 10
- HR Conference for Local Government** – April 17-18, Bismarck Hotel
- Public Health Law in ND's Local Public Health Units** (Webinar) – April 30



PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT
ACADEMY
WE MAKE LEADERS BETTER

NACo High Performance Leadership Academy Opportunities

The NACo High Performance Leadership Academy is an innovative, completely online 12-week program created to equip frontline county government professionals with practical leadership skills to deliver results for counties and communities.

CURRENT PROMOTIONS:

- First person from any county can attend for \$1,000 (in other words, counties that have never enrolled an employee)

- Any Cybersimulation Attendee can utilize a BOGO (Buy one Get one) – one per county per simulation
- Enroll 10 participants for \$15,000 (a savings of \$5,000)
Twelve North Dakota county officials are registered or actively in the course now. Way to go!
45 of our 53 counties have enrolled someone in the Academy so far.

Upcoming NDLTAP On-site Training Events

Roadway Foundation Basics - March 26

Linton Community Center, 101 1st St NE, Linton

Registration Deadline: March 19

Work Zone Safety for Short-term Projects - March 27

City of Bismarck Public Works Bldg, 601 S. 26th St, Bismarck

Registration Deadline: March 20

Leadership - "Skills to Live By"

April 10, 2024 (1:00 - 4:00 pm CT; 12:00 - 3:00 pm MT)

Burleigh County Highway Dept, 8100 43rd Ave NE, Bismarck ND

April 11, 2024 (8:00 - 3:00 pm CT; 7:00 - 2:00 pm MT)

Burleigh County Highway Dept, 8100 43rd Ave NE, Bismarck ND

Motor Grader Operator Training

If you are interested in scheduling on-site Motor Grader Operator Training for your county, starting in May, please contact Denise Brown at denise.brown.1@ndsu.edu.

Information and registration for all training is at www.ndltap.org/training. Each training event qualifies for Road Scholar Credits. More information on the Road Scholar program is at www.ndltap.org/programs/scholar.

RESILIENT

HR Collaborative Biennial Conference \ April 17-18, 2024, in Bismarck



www.NDIRF.com/HR-Collaborative

NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE



North Dakotans visiting the Capitol during the NACo Legislative Conference were Tracy Peters (Cass), Steve Forde (Nelson), Chad Peterson (Cass), Robert Wilson (Cass), Aaron Birst (NDACo), Kaitlyn Bakken (NDACo), Jayme Tenneson (Nelson and Griggs), Trudy Ruland (Mountrail), Perry Turner (McIntosh), Jim Kapitan (Cass), Donnell Preskey (NDACo) and Joan Hollekim (Mountrail).



NDACo's Donnell Preskey was a co-presenter with Jennifer Finch, Weld County Colorado, at the NACo Legislative Conference on "The Art of Influence: Unlocking the Secrets of Message Craftmanship." Donnell is a board member of the National Association of County Information Officers and has presented at several national conferences on the importance of communications and advocacy. More than 100 people attended the session, most of the attendees were commissioners and county communication specialists.



NACo Board Report

Perry Turner | McIntosh County Commissioner, NACo Board Member

The 2024 NACo Legislative Conference was held in Washington D.C., February 10-13, 2024.

Several NDACo officials attended the conference with approximately 2000 county attendees from across the country.

President Joe Biden headlined the conference along with cabinet secretaries, federal agency leaders and senior administration staff.

Conference attendees worked to shape a 2024 legislative agenda, received current updates on key federal policies, such as the Farm Bill, and served as advocates for critical county priorities.

Issues covered during the conference included disaster preparedness, 2024 election and election workers, artificial intelligence, behavioral health, and justice.

The NACo Board of Directors held their meeting Tuesday morning. We adopted several priorities that provide essential building blocks for healthy, safe and vibrant counties:

- Counties as intergovernmental partners
- High speed internet
- Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT)
- Secure Rural Schools (SRS)
- Mental and behavioral health
- 2024 elections.

Each year NACo releases a data driven document which captures all counties do to serve people. Several interesting county facts:

- 78% of all public transit is operated by counties
- 62% of all counties have federal land in their county
- Counties support and operate 1000 hospitals, 800 long term care facilities, 2900 jails and 1900 public health facilities.



Logical Solutions With Local Connections

A collage of three images is presented within a white, stylized arrow shape pointing upwards. The top image shows a long, straight road stretching into the distance under a cloudy sky. The middle image shows a construction site with heavy machinery and workers. The bottom image shows a surveying instrument mounted on a vehicle. Below the collage are four colored boxes: a green box labeled 'ENGINEERING', a grey box labeled 'SURVEYING', a blue box labeled 'PLANNING', and a white box containing a QR code. At the bottom of the section, the text 'Connect with us at InterstateEng.com' is displayed.

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.



Important New Resources for North Dakota Veterans

Governor Doug Burgum has signed a proclamation declaring 2024 as the Veteran and Military Suicide Prevention and Awareness Year, inspired by, and developed in conjunction with, the American Legion's "Be the One" program to clearly connect with veterans struggling with the thought of suicide. Burgum also announced that the state will expand marketing of the 988 Suicide and Crisis hotline, starting immediately with the Governor's Office website and each cabinet agency displaying the 988 icon with links to resources for anyone in need.

"We encourage any state agency, government entity or business to follow suit and proudly display the 988 icon to raise awareness around suicide and destigmatize the fear of asking for mental health support," Burgum said.

Lonnie Wangen, ND Department of Veterans Affairs (NDDVA) Commissioner, stated, "I would like to thank Governor Burgum for making this important number a part of his State of the State Address! This is the

'One Stop' for crisis needs that we have wanted for years by call, text or email."

988 offers help for...

- Suicide prevention
- Mental health
- Drug and alcohol treatment
- Disaster distress helpline
- Many other crisis needs

Counties are encouraged to promote and share the 988 number and link to Crisis help for suicide, mental health, drugs, and alcohol:

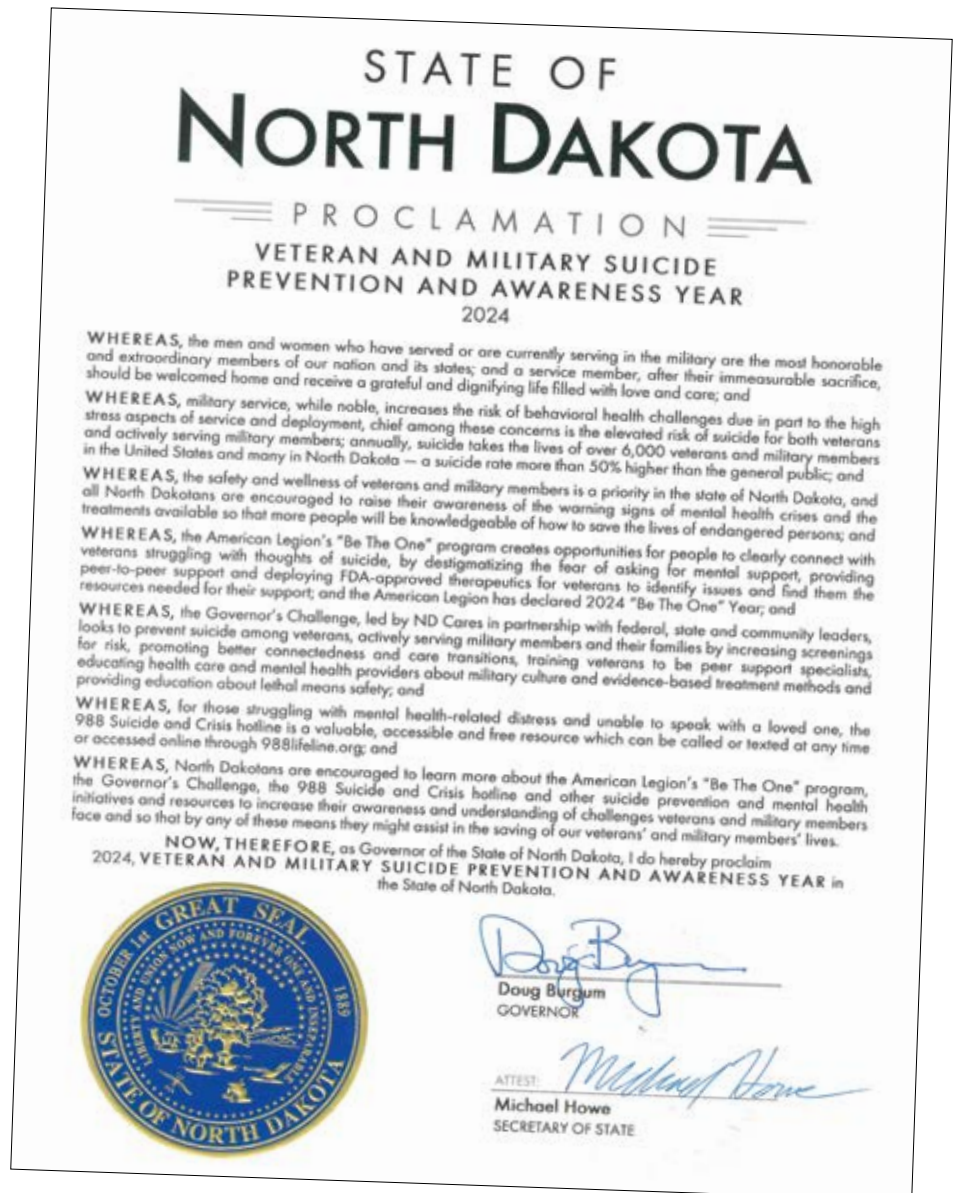
On your websites

- On your email signature page
- On your printed newsletters
- Social media
- Letterheads
- Any way you have an opportunity.

THIS NUMBER SAVES LIVES!



More resources can be found at www.samhsa.gov/find-support/in-crisis.



Energy Conservation Grant

The Energy Conservation Grant, administered by Community Services, assists North Dakota political subdivisions in making energy efficiency improvements to public buildings.

Energy conservation projects in nonfederal public buildings owned by political subdivisions may qualify for consideration. Awards are available up to \$100,000 and a 50% cash match is required. Projects that meet the qualifications will be awarded on a first come, first served basis and are subject to funding availability.

Examples of eligible projects include:

- Installation of insulation
- Installation of efficient lighting
- Heating, venting, and air conditioning (HVAC) upgrades
- Weather sealing
- Replacement of windows and doors
- Other energy conservation projects that meet the required payback period



Department's Community Services website to determine if the project is a fit for the Energy Conservation Grant Program. Forms and guidelines are at: www.commerce.nd.gov/community-services/state-energy-programs/energy-conservation-grant

For information about the program, contact Cameron Hayes, Program Administrator at (701) 328-6868.

Funds will be provided on a reimbursement basis with appropriate supporting documentation.

Projects that were started prior to July 1, 2013 are not eligible to apply.

TO APPLY

Review the Qualifications & Guidelines on the Commerce

Order your copy of the 2024 ND County Officials Directory NOW!



- Every County
- Every department
- Addresses
- Phone numbers
- Emails
- Only \$30

Order now at

www.ndaco.org/directory-order

Purchasing Pulse

Contract Amendments for Price Adjustments

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

Contract Administration is important in public procurement. Many contract terms are for multiple years. Requiring a contractor to hold a price firm for more than one year will require that contractor to allow for inflation in their original contract price, which results in the government entity paying higher costs up front.

It is reasonable that costs will change over time, and a well written contract includes language to accommodate price changes. A price adjustment provision is a type of “anticipated amendment.” The annual renewal of the contract is a logical time to review cost. There are several ways to address contract amendment changes.

- The contractor can propose a price adjustment and provide a justification for the change, and the government contract administrator will determine whether the price adjustment is fair and reasonable.
- A price adjustment can be based upon the Consumer Price Index (CPI) established by the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics. CPI is a measurement of inflation. There are other commodity-specific and geographical indexes that can be used, such as a fuel or Midwest.

The CPI price adjustment process is fairly simple. Consider the CPI All Consumer in effect when the contract started. Then look up the CPI All Consumer in effect when the price adjustment is being considered. Simple math will determine the rate of the CPI increase or decrease. This percentage can be the basis for the price adjustment. Amend the contract accordingly.

CPI Price Adjustment Example:

A contract for data entry has an hourly price of \$35.00.

First price adjustment:

Year 2 CPI: 137.8

Year 1 CPI: -134.1 (base year)

3.7 increase since Year 1

$3.7/134.1$ (base year) = 0.0276

increase or a 2.76% increase in the contract rate.

\$35.00 (Original Contract Price) x 2.76% (or 1.0276)

= \$35.97 (New Contract Price)

Second price adjustment:

Year 3 CPI: 141.4

Year 1 CPI: -134.1 (base year)

7.3 increase since Year 1

$7.3/134.1$ (base year) = 0.0544

increase or a 5.44% increase in the contract rate.

\$35.00 (Original Contract Price) x 5.44% (or 1.0544)

= \$36.90 (New Contract Price)

If you have any questions on contract amendments for price increases or government sources of supply, contact the State Procurement Office at infospo@nd.gov.

Save Time and Money with Government Sources of Supply

Your organization may be able to purchase directly from government sources, such as OMB state contracts, State Surplus Property, Rough Rider Industries, and Work Activity Centers, without obtaining competition. Visit www.omb.nd.gov/statesourcesupply for more information. Be sure you know the purchasing laws and procedures that apply to your entity and ask your legal counsel if you have questions.



NDACo encourages all counties to celebrate National County Government Month in April. For resources, go to www.naco.org/ncgm.



Abacus Cost Services

a De Novo Consulting Solutions Company

NOT JUST A COST PLAN
A BETTER COST PLAN!

You don't hire engineers who are "good enough." You hire the very best.

Incidentally, so do we.



There is no B-Team.

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 

North Dakota 4-H Expands Its Reach Across the State

As the only research-based youth organization in the state, North Dakota 4-H plays a pivotal role in equipping youth with essential life skills and preparing them to enter the workforce as the next generation of leaders for our state. Through 4-H's immersive, hands-on learning experiences, youth develop confidence, creativity, curiosity, leadership skills and resiliency to thrive now and in the future.

In 2023, North Dakota 4-H experienced a remarkable growth in its reach, thanks to the efforts of NDSU Extension staff and volunteers across the state. The number of young people engaged increased by 40.3%, growing from 29,377 in 2022 to 41,217 in 2023. As a result, one in every five North Dakota youths benefited from 4-H programs in 2023.

With a 9.7% increase in enrolled members for a total of 6,909 members, North Dakota 4-H is expanding opportunities to strengthen youth with life skills. Participation in North Dakota 4-H camp also increased by 5% with youth participation from 47 of the state's 53 counties.

"The expansion of 4-H in North Dakota is undeniably a cause for celebration," says Leigh Ann Skurupey, NDSU Extension's assistant director for 4-H Youth Development. "With each new connection forged, every skill acquired and every volunteer hour dedicated, 4-H is growing a vibrant community of tomorrow's leaders."


As 4-H youth develop vital life skills and readiness for the workforce, 4-H volunteers also are enriched through professional growth and networking opportunities. A recent study conducted by a multistate collaboration of 4-H professionals found that a significant majority of 4-H volunteers in North Dakota reported positive outcomes: 82% noted an increase in their leadership confidence, 89% established new connections within their community, and 87% gained personal benefits, such as acquiring new skills that are applicable in others settings.

Communities also benefit from the influence of 4-H. In 2023, more than 500 North Dakota 4-H clubs engaged in 2,165 service-learning projects, actively bolstering their communities and fostering positive transformations.



For more information: www.ndsu.edu/agriculture/extension/extension-topics/north-dakota-4-h-youth-development

Leigh Ann Skurupey, 701-231-7253, leighann.skurupey@ndsu.edu



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:

- *The economic and community benefits to welcoming livestock operations to your county*
- *What to expect when a livestock operation is proposed in your community*
- *State and local livestock zoning procedures*
- *Modern livestock management, barn design and environmental stewardship*

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

The Rural Broadband Association (NTCA) recognized Shawn Grosz, SRT Chief Technology Officer, with the 2023 Excellence Award in Innovation. The award was presented to Grosz during the NTCA Rural Telecom Industry Meeting & EXPO (RTIME) in February. Grosz earned the Innovation Award for his transformative work on 911 services in North Dakota. SRT was the pilot telecommunications company involved in deploying North Dakota's first end-to-end Internet Protocol (IP) 911 service in support of the state's transition to Next Generation 911 (NG911). The **North Dakota Association of Counties (NDACo)**, Dakota Carrier Network (DCN), and SRT collaborated to deliver end-to-end 911 calls from SRT subscribers to seven 911 call centers – known as Public Safety Answering Points or PSAPs. The NTCA Excellence Awards recognize broadband providers who have exceeded expectations to support their customers and community members and to advance communications services in rural America. Winners are selected by the association's Awards Committee comprising NTCA members.

-SRT News Release

After **Williams** County voters rejected an extension of the county's 1 percent public safety sales tax in 2022, county commissioners are going back to the drawing board. The county commission on Feb. 6 unanimously agreed to place another sales tax renewal measure on the June 11 primary ballot, but with the intention to tweak the purpose of the tax to include uses beyond public safety. While the commissioners did not make a final decision on future uses of the tax at their meeting, they proposed countywide quality-of-life projects and rural health initiatives as potential options. "We have to decide what we need and what the public will support, because it's their money," said Vice Chairman Beau Anderson, who represents Grenora, Trenton and rural areas west of Williston. Revenue from the sales tax thus far has gone toward capital and operating costs for 18 public safety agencies in the county, including law enforcement, fire and ambulance departments, as well as for behavioral health services. Half goes to the city of Williston and the other half to Williams County to distribute. Voters first approved the tax in 2014 for public safety purposes and for a 10-year span. It is set to expire in March 2025. Since it began, county officials said it has averaged about \$24 million a year in revenue, split between the county and Williston.

-Crosby Journal

Logan County Commissioners approved a resolution to place a question on the June County Ballot. At their

regular monthly meeting, which was held Wednesday, Feb. 14, Commission Chair John Wald and Commissioner Blanche Schumacher (Commissioner Charlie Johs was not present due to illness) gave Logan County Auditor Jody Kristiansen the go-ahead to proceed with placing the question of whether to increase the county 911 fee by 50 cents per month per telephone line to assist with 911 associated costs. Currently the monthly assessed fee for county 911 services is \$1.50 per line and Logan County voters will be asked in Measure #1 if they agree to have that fee increased to \$2.00.

-Napoleon Homestead

Measuring the success of the **Walsh** County Career Builders (WCCB) program is easy when reviewing the program's impacts after only 15 months – a total of 23 job placements with Walsh County employers, which ranks the county fourth in the state. The (WCCB) program provides matching funds to help local businesses attract and retain talent with scholarship and student loan repayment programs. The North Dakota Career Builders program is also leveraged providing eligible applicants with up to \$17,000 in scholarship and/or student loan repayment. Program impacts: September 2022 – December 2023. As of December 2023, Walsh County had 23 employees utilize the program. One was a scholarship

recipient; the remaining 22 professionals utilized the student loan repayment program. This ranked Walsh County fourth in the state in gaining employees to fill in-demand jobs. The top three counties include the state's urban areas where a higher number of applicants would be expected. The job placement numbers provided by the state include totals since the ND Career Builders program began in the fall of 2019. Walsh County's program began in the fall of 2022. This means all of Walsh County's job placements happened after the creation of the WCCB program, further indicating the positive impact marketing the program has had for local employers. The 22 professionals utilizing the WCCB program for student loan repayment are in the following occupation categories:

- Eleven: Education
- Five: Healthcare or Veterinary
- Three: Financial
- One (each): Skilled Trade, Information Technology, Sales

The one scholarship recipient who utilized the WCCB program is in the healthcare field.

- Walsh County Record

A four-member team from Orsted, the parent company proposing a 262.26 MW wind farm, known as the Badger Wind Project, located in **Logan and McIntosh** counties near the Burnstad area presented

their updated plan at a public hearing. The public hearing was held Wednesday, Feb. 14 at the Logan County Courthouse, with about 30 landowners and persons of interest in attendance. The four members of Orsted, Mark Crawl, Amanda Colette, Andrew Kreiger and Mollie Smith, provided a power point presentation led by Crawl, followed by a question-and-answer session. The original project was previously approved, and construction was to start in March of 2022 and be completed by the end of 2023. Since approval and since those deadlines have passed, the company has decided to expand the footprint by 659 acres to cover 24,421 acres in Logan County and increase by 3,352 acres in McIntosh County, for a total project area in McIntosh County at 34,567. The initial plan called for 251.6 MW while the increased footprint will add additional wind turbines, which will bring output to 262.26 MW. Company officials told the group that the addition would allow them to be more efficient and make for a more marketable product. Prior to the start of the hearing, Logan County Commission Chair John Wald said that no decision would come at the close of the hearing as he and Commissioner Blanche Schumacher were present, but Commissioner Charlie Johs was absent due to illness. Wald said they may hold a special meeting to make a decision on the proposed expansion, once all three commissioners can gather.

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

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



Lack of Federal Support Overwhelmed Law Enforcement During DAPL, Officials Testify

Reprinted with permission from North Dakota Monitor, <https://northdakotamonitor.com> | Mary Steurer

February 22, 2024

The Dakota Access Pipeline protests would not have mushroomed in size had law enforcement received better support from the federal government, a county sheriff tasked with managing the demonstrations testified.

Morton County Sheriff Kyle Kirchmeier said during a federal trial that U.S. agencies ignored multiple requests from North Dakota for assistance during the protests against the pipeline's construction in 2016 and 2017.

North Dakota seeks \$38 million from the United States as compensation for costs it claims it incurred while policing the demonstrations. A bench trial for the lawsuit, overseen by U.S. District Court Judge Daniel Traynor, began Feb. 15 in Bismarck.

Attorneys representing the United States, meanwhile, have said North Dakota is overstating the cost of the protests and is asking the federal government to be held responsible for events outside its jurisdiction.

Environmental and Indigenous rights activists came to North Dakota from several states and countries to oppose the project, often referred to as DAPL. In court records, the state estimates the protest camps grew to thousands of people.

The state's witnesses so far have largely been law enforcement personnel who have described responding to the protests and their experience with federal agencies.

"There was no time during the protests where I thought we had adequate resources," Eric Pederson, a former North Dakota Highway Patrol captain, testified Wednesday.

The largest DAPL protest camp was north of the Cannonball River, on federal land managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Demonstrators also camped on Standing Rock Sioux Tribe land and private property.

Attorneys for North Dakota and the United States disagree over who held primary responsibility for enforcing the law on the Corps' land.

North Dakota has argued that the Corps gave mixed messages to protesters as to whether or not they had permission to camp on Corps land. This, combined with a lack of federal assistance, dragged out the protests and left state and local police with a crisis they did not have the resources



Oceti Sakowin Camp in the early morning, Cannon Ball, North Dakota, USA, January 2017.

to manage themselves, witnesses for the state have said.

The state also claims protesters never received proper authorization to demonstrate on Corps land. In a December order, Traynor appeared to side with North Dakota on this point.

Sheriff Kirchmeier characterized communication from the Corps as inconsistent and unhelpful. At one point, a Corps official asked for federal law enforcement support for one protest area, only to later reverse course and rescinded the request — despite that state and local law enforcement still wanted the help, he said.

Traynor openly criticized the Corps during Kirchmeier's testimony.

"The Corps of Engineers was playing with the law and they knew it," the judge interjected.

State and local police were waiting for the Corps to take initiative — or at least cooperate with North Dakota, said Paul Laney, then-sheriff of Cass County, said on the witness stand Wednesday.

But the Corps never made it clear to the protesters that they were breaking the law by camping on federal land, he said.

Attorneys for the United States countered that state and local law enforcement knew they had jurisdiction to enforce state law on Corps land and could have stepped in if they wanted to.

Laney, who served as a senior commander during the monthslong

protests, said he could not recall ever going onto private land to enforce the law without consent from the landowner.

Some witnesses also said they expected more from U.S. officials because the federal government routinely extends a helping hand to states during other emergencies, like natural disasters.

Attorneys for the U.S. said the federal government shouldn't be expected to respond to protests the same way it handles natural disasters.

Kirchmeier said he took his pleas for help all the way to former President Barack Obama and some of his Cabinet members.

Letters Kirchmeier sent to Obama, then-Attorney General Loretta Lynch, former Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell and former Secretary of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson were offered into evidence. Kirchmeier said at one point he spoke with Lynch over the phone, but received no follow-up.

In late 2016, he also sent a letter to President-elect Donald Trump.

Those requests for assistance never went anywhere, Kirchmeier said.

During cross examination, Kirchmeier, Laney and Pederson each said they had no prior experience working with the federal government on large protests. They also said they didn't understand who within the federal government was withholding

assistance or the reasons behind the decisions.

Another example of the federal government reversing course came from the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The FBI had deployed drones to provide surveillance of the protests but the drones were not used, according to a deposition played Thursday from Bob Perry, former assistant special agent in charge of the FBI in the Dakotas and northern Minnesota.

Perry said the drones were not used because of concerns within the FBI about surveilling First Amendment-protected activities and because there was no active FBI investigation tied to general surveillance of the protest camps.

North Dakota has already received \$25 million in compensation for the demonstrations; \$10 million from the U.S. Justice Department and the other \$15 million from pipeline company Energy Transfer Partners. Those dollars are not factored into the total North Dakota is seeking.

The pipeline has been operating since June 2017. The Corps continues environmental review of the project, with a final environmental impact statement expected at the end of the year.

Amy Dalrymple contributed to this story.

Work delay due to hitting a pipeline while digging

4½ days

Time it takes to call 811 before you dig

4½ minutes

—

Would you rather your time is saved or wasted? The fact is, you put a lot of time, thought, and effort into making every job perfect. But when you skip calling 811, you run the risk of hitting a pipeline or another underground infrastructure, placing your life in serious danger. Don't take shortcuts.

Call 811 before any digging project.

Visit enbridge.com/call811 for more information.



How Do I Pay Off Debt and Save at the Same Time?

If you have existing debt like credit cards or student loans, you may wonder if you should pay it off first or save for retirement. While everyone's financial situation is different, many experts recommend doing both at the same time. Here's one approach to consider.

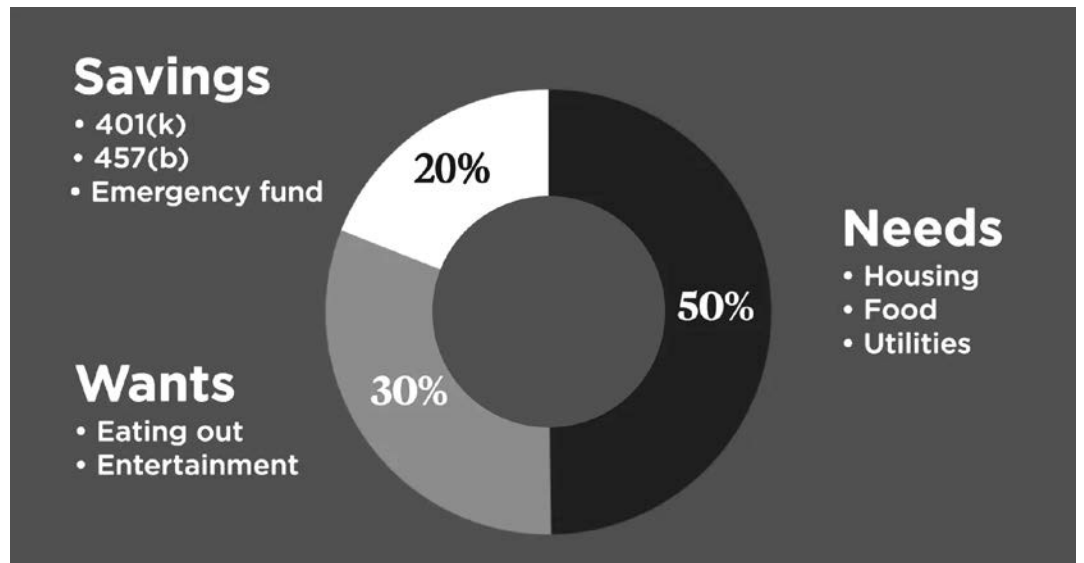
Find money in your budget

- Look for expenses to reduce or eliminate to make room for saving and paying off debt. Use our budgeting tips and worksheet* to get started. Consider optional costs you can cut back on, from streaming services to dining out.
- Calculate the total you can reduce your expenses by. If you shave \$200 from your monthly expenses, that's \$200 you can apply toward saving and debt.

Take one step at a time

1. Consider building an emergency fund **before** paying extra money toward debt. That way, you won't go into further debt if unexpected expenses occur. Initially, you might put most of your savings into an emergency fund. Keep going until you have enough to cover 3-6 months of expenses.
2. Contribute to your employer-sponsored retirement plan while building your emergency fund, **even if you start small**. The sooner you begin, the more you can benefit from compounding** — your earnings being reinvested to generate more earnings — which boosts your savings with less out-of-pocket money. Plus, you can increase your contributions anytime.
3. Once you've established your emergency fund and started your retirement contributions, focus on paying off debts. Prioritize those with the highest interest rates to pay off debt fastest and save the most on borrowing fees. Tackle smaller ones first if you're motivated by seeing quick results. Either way, as you pay off each debt, use the amount you'd been paying on it toward another one.

Once you're out of debt, you can decide what to do with the extra cash — and face the future with more confidence in your finances.



* www.nrsforu.com/rsc-web-preauth/articles/budgeting

** www.nrsforu.com/rsc-web-preauth/articles/power-of-compounding

Nationwide Retirement Solutions and Nationwide Life Insurance Company (collectively "Nationwide") have trademark and licensing services relationships with the National Association of Counties, the International Association of Fire Fighters-Financial Corporation, the United States Conference of Mayors and the National Association of Police Organizations.

Nationwide may receive payments from mutual funds or their affiliates in connection with certain investment options. Learn more about these payments.

Retirement Specialists provide information for educational purposes only. This information is not meant to be used as investment advice. Retirement Specialists are Registered Representatives of Nationwide Investment Services Corporation, member FINRA, Columbus, Ohio.



Nationwide[®]
is on your side

We're proud of our strong partnership

Supplemental retirement plans for America's workers



Nationwide[®] goes above and beyond to do the right thing at the right time for county employees and their families. Participants get better experiences, and the National Association of Counties (NACo) gets a better partner.

Our 457(b) retirement plans offer:

BETTER PARTICIPANT EXPERIENCES

We help participants **optimize** their **financial health** and drive **retirement readiness**.

ADMINISTRATIVE SIMPLICITY

Intuitive Plan Sponsor dashboard with data visualizations, KPIs, peer benchmarks and reporting.

STRENGTH AND STABILITY

Established in 1926, Nationwide is a **strong and stable mutual company owned by our members**.



We have received the DALBAR Plan Participant Service Award each year since 2014.

For more information, contact:

Levi Lathen
Lathenl@Ntionwide.com

Nationwide Retirement Solutions and Nationwide Life Insurance Company (collectively "Nationwide") have endorsement relationships with the National Association of Counties (NACo). More information about the endorsement relationships can be found online at nrsforu.com.

Nationwide and the Nationwide N and Eagle are service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. © 2022 Nationwide NRM-21962M2-NX (12/22)

ND Response Announces New Fire Map

The ND Department of Emergency Services and the ND Forest Service are pleased to present a new Burn Restrictions Map that combines burn restrictions and guidelines across the state in a much improved user experience.

The new Burn Restrictions Map launched publicly Mon, Feb 5th.

This interactive map displays daily restrictions for jurisdictional areas, such as counties and Tribal Nations, across the state.

A brief video demonstration of the new tool is available here: view.video.nd.gov/sharevideo/fd610a89-e520-43b1-ae56-9669dafc2f8f

Previously, citizens and tourists had to review information in three separate maps to determine if they

could start a campfire. To add to the confusion, counties often did not share the same language within their restrictions. The new map is more user-friendly and will help clarify many of these inconsistencies.

The new map also reflects recent legislative adjustment to language used. Previously, ND Century Code used the term ‘burn bans’, whether they were a total fire ban or simply noted that some restrictions may be in place. Now these are referred to as ‘burn restrictions’, following the format set by many of the western states.

The new interactive map combines information including the daily fire danger rating, Red Flag Warnings, and burn restrictions provided to NDDDES by local emergency managers. Selecting

an area on the map identifies burn restrictions currently in effect. Users will also be able to enable their location to get this information in real time on their mobile devices.

Currently, local emergency managers are not required to post their burn restrictions in this system. In addition, incorporated cities may have their own permanent burn restrictions based on local ordinances. Therefore, citizens and tourists should verify the most current information regarding restrictions in their area prior to burning by contacting local fire departments or emergency managers.

To view the new and improved map and to learn more when it goes online, visit NDResponse.gov/Burn.

PSC Says Law Preempts County Zoning

Clears Path to Proceed with Summit Case

Geoff Simon | WDEA Executive Director

The North Dakota Public Service Commission (PSC) approved an order this week making it clear that state law automatically supersedes and preempts any local land use or zoning regulations for a gas or liquid transmission facility route permit.

The PSC ruling was issued in response to a petition filed by Summit Carbon Solutions, asking the Commission to declare that the law [Section 49-22.1-13(2)(b)] supersedes pipeline setback ordinances in Burleigh and Emmons Counties. An attorney for Emmons County had argued that an exception in the statute addressing “requirements” was synonymous with zoning ordinances and regulations. The county contended that meant Summit would have to demonstrate that local land use or zoning regulations were unreasonably restrictive.

However, PSC Chairman Randy Christmann said the law was clear, and read it out loud during the special Commission meeting.

Christmann noted that the preemption language was changed by the 2019 Legislature. He said the law previously would have required a showing that local zoning regulations were unreasonably restrictive, leaving it up to the PSC to make that decision. But Christmann said while he’s not sure why the legislature changed the law, the PSC no longer has the flexibility to make a judgement about local zoning.

Summit submitted an application in October 2022 to construct 320 miles of CO2 pipeline in North Dakota, part of a proposed network of more than 2,000 miles of pipeline to transport CO2 from ethanol plants in five states to North Dakota for underground sequestration. The proposed route of the pipeline would cross through parts of Burleigh, Cass, Dickey, Emmons, Logan, McIntosh, Morton, Oliver, Richland and Sargent Counties. The 24-inch pipeline would terminate in Oliver County near Summit’s sequestration site. The CO2 would be pumped into underground formations by three injection wells, two in Oliver County and one in Mercer County.

The PSC will soon approve a procedural schedule to complete its rehearing of the pipeline siting application, which was initially denied last August.

Read the PSC order on local zoning jurisdiction at www.psc.nd.gov/database/documents/22-0391/440-010.pdf.

Reprinted with permission from Western Dakota Energy Association Feb 9, 2024 newsletter.

North Dakota Elections

Continued from page 1

North Dakota Only Uses Paper Ballots

As state law requires, North Dakota only uses paper ballots, which provides the counties and state an auditable paper trail post-election. There are two styles of paper ballots used in North Dakota elections:

1. Traditional paper ballot that a voter marks by filling in ovals with a pen.
2. ExpressVote paper ballot card that a voter marks using the ExpressVote assistive ballot marking device.

Each polling location has an ExpressVote assistive ballot marking device, which any qualified voter can use. The ExpressVote is not connected to the internet and has no components that would allow a connection. Voters who use the ExpressVote make their selections

via a touchscreen and can use assistive features like having a ballot read to them or making the font sizes larger. After the voter makes their selections, they can review each selection on the ExpressVote screen. If the voter is satisfied with their selections, they can print them on the ExpressVote paper ballot card and review their selections a second time. The ExpressVote paper ballot card is then inserted into the ballot tabulator and scanned like traditional paper ballots at the polling location.

Both traditional paper ballots and ExpressVote paper ballot cards are cast and counted in the DS200 Ballot Tabulator. Ballots are securely stored for 22

months, as required by federal and state law, with their respective County Recorder’s office in their vault.

In our next segment of County News, the Office of the Secretary of State will provide information on the security and testing of election equipment used in all North Dakota elections.



To use the ExpressVote, a voter inserts a blank paper ballot into the machine.



If a voter chooses to use the ExpressVote, their selections are printed on a paper ballot which they then insert into the ballot tabulator.



Pictured: Tricia Steinke, Kidder County Public Health; Theresa Schmidt, Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health; Jodie Fetsch, Western Plains Public Health (formerly Custer Health)

ND Public Health nurses represented ND SACCHO at the NSAND (Nursing Student Association of ND) at the end of January. The team creatively interacted with young health professionals to educate them on public health and planted the seed for future career endeavors. Students spun the wheel, which depicted different areas of public health and would explain how nursing fit into that public health avenue. Motivational bracelets were given as prizes.



WOLD
ENGINEERING, P.C.

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



2024 COUNTY CALENDAR

March

- 5-6 _____ ND Transportation Conference, Bismarck Event Center
- 7 _____ Judiciary Committee Meeting, Roughrider Room, Capitol
- 10 _____ Daylight Savings Starts
- 13 _____ Government Services Committee Meeting, Room 327B, Capitol
- 18 _____ Health Services Committee Meeting, Roughrider Room, Capitol
- 19 _____ First Day of Spring
- 19 _____ Juvenile Justice Committee Meeting, Harvest Room, Capitol
- 19 _____ Government Finance Committee Meeting, Roughrider Room, Capitol
- 20 _____ County Commissioners Summit, Bismarck Ramada Hotel
- 20 _____ Budget Section, Senate Chamber, Capitol
- 21 _____ Legislative Audit and Fiscal Review Committee Meeting, Roughrider Room, Capitol
- 27 _____ Information Technology Committee Meeting, Harvest Room, Capitol
- 29 _____ Good Friday (State Holiday)
- 31 _____ Easter Sunday

April

- 1-30 _____ National County Government Month: "ForwardTogether"
- 2-3 _____ ND Asphalt Conference, Bismarck Hotel & Conference Center
- 4-7 _____ ND Democratic-NPL State Convention, Fargo Avalon Events Center
- 5-6 _____ NDGOP State Convention, Sanford Health Athletic Complex, Fargo
- 8 _____ Human Services Committee Meeting, Roughrider Room, Capitol
- 17-18 _____ HR Collaborative Biennial Conference, Bismarck Hotel & Conference Center
- 24 _____ NDCCA Board Meeting, NDACo County Office Building
- 25 _____ NDACo Board Meeting, NDACo County Office Building

May

- 1-3 _____ ND Clerks of Court Association Annual Meeting, Coteau Room, Capitol



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 45 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