



North Dakota Association of Counties Board of Directors Meeting

- A G E N D A -

Cell phones ringing? Get ready to
donate \$5 to the Scholarship Fund.

Thursday, May 29, 2025 – 8:30 A.M.
NDACo County Office Building – 1661 Capitol Way

8:30 AM	CALL TO ORDER	President Trudy Ruland
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Pledge of Allegiance.....	Trudy	
Roll Call	Genny	
Approve Order of Agenda	Trudy	ACTION
Board Warm-Up Question <i>POSTED ~ Page 5</i>	Trudy	
Legislative Discussion		

CONSENT AGENDA	Trudy	ACTION
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Approve Minutes of December 12, 2024 *POSTED ~ Page 6*

Administrative Services

Financial Services

NDACo General Fund List of Checks (#38498 - 38589) *POSTED ~ Page 10*

DJS Grant List of Checks (#7959 - 7987) *POSTED ~ Page 15*

Year-to-Date Financials *POSTED ~ Page 16*

Publications Services *POSTED ~ Page 20*

Website

County News

County Officials Directory

County Salary, Staffing, Fringe Benefit & Boards Surveys

Leader Letter

Common Ground

Social Media

Legislative Blog

Other Publications

Cooperative Services *POSTED ~ Page 22*

County Financial Partnerships

Drug & Alcohol Testing Service

GIS

NDACo Mailbag *POSTED ~ Page 23*

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Financial Services		
2024 Audit <i>POSTED ~ Page 38</i>	Eide Bailly	ACTION
Dues Discussion <i>~ Page 91</i>	Aaron	ACTION
Investment Update <i>POSTED ~ Page 93</i>	Genny	

(OVER)

BACKGROUND

Governance	<i>POSTED ~ Page 95</i>	
NACo Board of Directors' Representative – Robert Wilson	Trudy	ACTION
2025 Strategic Visioning – Morning of August 28	<i>POSTED ~ Page 96</i>	Aaron

MEMBER SERVICES

Member Association Conferences	<i>POSTED ~ Page 97</i>	Aaron
Annual Conference	<i>POSTED ~ Page 98</i>	
2025 Conference Planning Status.....	Jeff	
Pre-Conference Caucus Meetings	Aaron	
Board Sleeping Rooms / Board Gathering	Michelle	
Member Outreach		
County Tours	<i>POSTED ~ Page 100</i>	Aaron

COOPERATIVE SERVICES

County Financial Partnerships	<i>POSTED ~ Page 101</i>	
Indirect Cost Reimbursement Services	Aaron	
911 Update	Jason/Teanna	

OLD BUSINESS

Public Employees Retirement System	<i>POSTED ~ Page 102</i>	Aaron
NDACo Resources Group (NRG) Update	<i>POSTED ~ Page 103</i>	Lonny/Dwight
National Participation	<i>POSTED ~ Page 104</i>	Trudy
Announcement of New Board Member – NACo Board Representative	Trudy	
Stanley Dick, Cavalier County Commissioner		
Recognition of Former Board Member – NACo Board Representative	Trudy	
Perry Turner, Former McIntosh County Commissioner		
National Participation/NACo Board/WIR.....	Scott/Aaron	

NEW BUSINESS

Next Board Meeting Date – Thursday, August 28.....	Trudy
Board Meeting Evaluation ~ <i>Turn in to Michelle</i>	Trudy

“ACTION” indicates formal motion may be required.

Mission: “The North Dakota Association of Counties provides leadership and services to foster effective and efficient government for the good of all counties.”

Vision: “NDACo will be a recognized leader in proactively addressing challenges and opportunities affecting local governments.”

- RECOMMENDED MOTIONS -

**NDACo BOARD MEETING
OF
MAY 29, 2025**

- Approve Order of Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda as presented.
- Consent Agenda: Motion to approve the items on the consent agenda as presented including approval of the minutes of the December 12, 2024 Board of Directors meetings, as well as NDACo General Fund checks 38498 through 38589, DJS Account checks 7959 through 7987 and ACH payments made from November 2024 through March 2025.
- 2024 Audit: Motion to accept the FY2024 audited financial statements as presented by Eide Bailly.
- 2026 Dues Discussion: Motion to accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee and approve a ____% dues increase for 2026.
- NACo Board Representative: Motion to ratify the reappointment of Cass County Administrative Robert Wilson as North Dakota's second representative on the National Association of Counties' Board of Directors.

REPORTS NOT PLANNED

- ❑ Personnel Services
- ❑ Excellence in County Government (EICG)
- ❑ Professional Development
- ❑ NDIRF
- ❑ Special Operations Team Reimbursement
- ❑ Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor (TSRP)
- ❑ Vision Zero Outreach Program (VZOP)
- ❑ Member Association Management Agreements (MAMA)
- ❑ Statewide Tractor Lease
- ❑ Public Administrator Support Services
- ❑ Nationwide Retirement Solutions (NRS)
- ❑ County Employer Group (CEG)
- ❑ Juvenile Justice

NDACo Board Warm-Up

May 2025

(Question submitted to the Board of Directors by President Ruland.)

*This legislative session, many legislators did not understand
(or want to understand) how local governments operate
and the crucial role we play in delivering services.
With the advent of term limits, this issue is even more concerning.*

What ideas or strategies could we implement to
not only influence the legislative process, but
become more critical to the process?

* President Ruland would like to start the May NDACo Board meeting with
a Board Warm-Up question. The question is designed to get all members
actively involved in the meeting discussions that will follow.

Please Note: There is no right or wrong answer to the Board Warm-Up question.

Meeting Minutes
NDACo Board of Directors
December 12, 2024
NDACo County Office Building

President Ruland called the meeting to order at 8:43 AM and declared a quorum based on the ILG Board roll call just taken.

Members Present:	Jayne Tenneson	Trudy Ruland
Becky Hagel	Tony Grindberg	Scott Ouradnik
Don Flaherty	Erica Johnsrud	Kim Jacobson
Dana Larsen	Shirley Murray	Robert Wilson
Nick Moser	Joshua Frey	Wanda Knutson
Kelly Palm	Chad Kaiser	Joan Hollekim

Members Absent:	Beau Anderson	Aaron Mork
	Jamee Folk	

Also Present:	Aaron Birst, NDACo Executive Director
	Genny Dienstmann, NDACo Staff
	Michelle Tabbert, NDACo Staff
	Donnell Preskey, NDACo Staff
	Linda Svihovec, NDACo Staff
	Jeff Eslinger, NDACo Staff
	Peter Halbach, NDACo Staff
	Ryan Gellner, NDACo Staff
	Angie Wentland, NDACo Staff
	Michael Casey, NDACo Staff
	Ron Henke, ND Department of Transportation

The President asked if there were any requested changes to the agenda. There were no suggested changes. Moser moved to approve the agenda as printed. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

The Board Warm-Up Question was proposed, and each Board member was given an opportunity to respond. The question was: "What steps do you think the state legislators should take (or avoid) to address the concerns about property taxes based on assessed values?" The comments included:

- A lot of discussion on personal property tax relief as well as caps. Had a meeting with the Fargo area legislators to share ideas on property tax relief and giving local officials flexibility to make decisions.
- State has provided personal property tax relief; if they want to expand on it, that would be great – this should be continued. This option keeps decisions local and provides relief to citizens.

- Look at tax credits/exemptions and see if there is more that can be done for the elderly or veterans, give it to those that really need the help. Don't want to have them mess with assessed values.
- Take measured and thoughtful action – first step is to concentrate on personal property tax relief. Encourage legislature to put together subcommittees and review the property tax bills to consolidate and vet the bills to bring forward bills that make sense, not for just one legislative session, but something that works into the future.
- New legislators and committee leads in tax committees may not have the background they need to understand property tax process. Being proactive in providing information and being a resource to them is critical.
- Complex topic; need to make sure the property tax relief does not hinder services provided to citizens. We need to help provide clarity on this issue, there is false information out there and we need to provide the facts to make sound decisions.
- Property tax credit was good idea, but the application process was not the best way to offer to citizens as some citizens didn't apply.
- Difficult to track the property tax credits for citizens. Would like to see state look at school funding to reduce mills.
- Incarceration costs are different across counties, there is no standardization of reimbursements; transfer these costs back to the state for transients. State mandates that are requiring counties to be paid should go back to the state.
- UND School of Medicine and Garrison Diversion mills should be removed from tax roll. Specials were discussed greatly with Measure 4. State could look at an infrastructure fund to assist counties in this area.
- When you look at where taxes go, a large amount is schools, so consider funding more for schools from the state. Concerned about caps, if there is a 3% and inflation is at 8%, we will be working backwards; no flexibility.
- Schools and primary residence tax relief seems to be the main discussion points with people I meet. Farm residence tax credit could be looked at, primary residence taxation could be the same across the board.
- Primary residence tax credit is a benefit, but wish you didn't have to apply. Need to look at all exemptions and get a valuation assessed on this property and have that amount paid by the state.
- To help auditors, not have changes every legislative session; leave the mechanism the same. Making sure we are proactive in educating our citizens, need to be more creative in sending our message on property taxes.
- Keep focus on citizens for property tax relief
- Need to look at the exemptions and tap into that side of it
- Should avoid shifting burden from one class to another, needs to be true relief for all.
- Focus on blanket exemptions for the state to reimburse, not discretionary exemptions.

The President next asked for consideration of the Consent Agenda. Flaherty moved to approve the Consent Agenda, including the amended NDACo minutes from the August 29 and October 21, 2024 meetings, the Delegate Council minutes from October 22, 2024, NDACo General Fund checks #38438 through #38497 and DJS Account checks #7941 through #7958 and ACH payments made from August to October 2024. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

The President called on Aaron and the legislative team to give the legislative update. Donnell spoke about the changes in legislative leadership and ways to engage with legislators. Aaron provided highlights from Governor Burgum's executive budget and shared a list of anticipated major legislative issues to be addressed during the Session.

The President then directed the Board's attention to the 2025 Budget, and Finance Committee Chair Kaiser asked Aaron and Genny to explain the proposed budget. Aaron explained the process used to develop and review the budget, highlighted various categories and items, responding to questions. Grindberg moved approval of the 2025 NDACo Budget as presented by the Finance Committee. After receiving a second to the motion and further discussion, it passed on a unanimous voice vote. One additional item for discussion was to have the Board formerly approve that the NDACo Executive Director has authority to sign contracts on behalf of the organization. Tenneson moved to approve the Executive Director having the authority to sign contracts on behalf of the organization, the motion was seconded and unanimously passed on a voice vote.

The President directed the Board members to the Governance Report, inviting Aaron to begin with a review of the New Board Member Orientation Process. Genny followed with a review of all Board Policies. Board members were asked to review, sign and return the 2024 Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement before leaving today's meeting. Ruland announced her appointments to the Finance Committee and Governance Committee. Moser followed with a summary of the Board Member Self-Evaluation results and an explanation of this year's Board Governance Appraisal, which Board members who've served for more than a year will be asked to complete before leaving today's meeting. Board members who have served less than a year will be asked to complete the New Board Member Appraisal before leaving today's meeting.

Aaron continued with plans to conduct Strategic Visioning in 2025. He noted the Association conducts strategic planning every three years. The Board discussed reviewing the timeframe of the Strategic Plan and extending it to every five to six years and completing a review session every two to three years. Dates for the 2025 session will be determined at the end of the meeting when the 2025 Board meeting dates are determined.

Jeff was invited to present the 2024 Conference Report. Attendance and registrations were highlighted, and the financial results were shared. A summary of conference feedback was noted. After further discussion and answering questions from board members, a slide show of conference photos was shown.

Aaron went on to explain the Local Government Capitol Connection that will be held in February 2025 and how it is a partnership with other political subdivisions. It was explained that this meeting will replace what was formerly the County Officials Academy and the County Day at the Capitol. He encouraged all Board members to attend.

Under Member Outreach, Aaron went on to explain the personal phone calls he made to the newly elected commissioners for whom we had phone numbers and that a welcome email is being sent as a follow-up. Trudy directed attention to the written report on County Tours, which shows the counties that were visited in 2024 and those that will be visited in 2025 and 2026.

Under County Financial Partnerships, Peter provided an update on the activities of the Traffic Safety Resource Prosecutor Program that he oversees. Ryan followed with a recap of the work being accomplished through the Vision Zero Outreach Program.

Michael Casey was next asked to give the County Employer Group (CEG) report, providing an overview of the CEG program and explaining the CEG staff's work which results in savings for the counties.

Aaron next presented the Nationwide Retirement Solutions Report, highlighting the number of participants and plan value assets.

Ruland began the National Participation Report by announcing that our state's second representative to the NACo Board of Directors, McIntosh County Commissioner Perry Turner, was defeated in the November election; and that at yesterday's meeting of the NDCCA Board, President Hollekim's appointment of Cavalier County Commissioner Stanley Dick to this position was ratified. Ruland asked Wilson and Ouradnik to continue the National Participation Report. Wilson spoke about the NACo Fall Board Meeting held last week and gave an overview of the importance of the partnership of NACo and Nationwide and their work in providing retirement opportunities to counties. Scott followed with an update on the Western Interstate Region's (WIR) work in promoting NACo's Center for Public Lands Counties. He encouraged counties who received PILT payments to consider contributing up to 1% of their PILT payment to help support the Center.

The President and Aaron then reviewed the proposed 2025 Board meeting dates and dates for conducting a Strategic Visioning review. It was moved by Ouradnik to approve the following Board meeting dates for 2025: May 29, August 28, October 27 & 28 and December 11 and requesting to have the strategic visioning review take place the morning of August 28th and conduct the Board meeting in the afternoon. The motion was seconded and passed on a voice vote.

Having reached the end of the approved agenda, the President reminded everyone of the board meeting evaluation and declared the meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM.

Approved by: _____

Date: _____

CHECK LISTING FOR NDACO GENERAL FUND

NOVEMBER 2024 - MARCH 2025

NOVEMBER			
ACH	COMMERCIAL CARD SOLUTIONS	BILLING	\$111,843.28
38498	NDIT	BILLING	\$636.83
38499	BISMARCK EVENT CENTER	CONFERENCE BILLING	\$59,299.80
38500	NOLAN JOHNSON	CEG BILLING	\$4,000.00
38501	BOBCAT HOCKEY	VZOP BILLING	\$3,600.00
38502	KMOT AG EXPO	VZOP BILLING	\$600.00
38503	ND COUNTRY FEST LLC	VZOP BILLING	\$5,000.00
38504	BRAVERA INSURANCE INC	AUTO INSURANCE BILLING	\$1,761.00
38505	WF EVENTS INC	VZOP BILLING	\$5,000.00
38506	D&S LLC	BUILDING BILLING	\$4,692.12
38507	MOORE ENGINEERING INC	GRANT CONSULTING BILLING	\$7,047.50
38508	TRANSTRASH	BUILDING BILLING	\$195.00
38509	MARY KORSMO	DOH BILLING	\$70.38
38510	WALSH COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT	DOH BILLING	\$56.98
38511	PEMBINA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH	DOH BILLING	\$615.90
ACH	GUARDIAN ANGELS INC.	PASS BILLING	\$63,720.00
ACH	BURLEIGH COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$8,413.55
ACH	CATHOLIC CHARITIES NORTH DAKOTA	PASS BILLING	\$56,592.00
ACH	DAKOTA CARRIER NETWORK	BILLING	\$14,567.41
ACH	FAMILY ADVOCACY SERVICES	PASS BILLING	\$22,140.00
ACH	GUARDIAN & PROTECTIVE SERVICES INC	PASS BILLING	\$51,840.00
ACH	LIGHTHOUSE ASSOCIATES, INC.	PASS BILLING	\$7,956.00
ACH	LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICE OF MN	PASS BILLING	\$54,846.00
ACH	VERONICA MILLER	PASS BILLING	\$4,320.00
ACH	MORGAN PRINTING, INC	BILLING	\$1,250.45
ACH	NDACO RESOURCES GROUP	BILLING	\$80.00
ACH	OPPORTUNITY FOUNDATION INC.	PASS BILLING	\$7,686.00
ACH	PRESORT PLUS	BILLING	\$285.54
ACH	WARD COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$193.60
38512	VOIDED CHECK	VOIDED CHECK	\$0.00
38513	ND LOBBYIST ASSOCIATION	LEG BILLING	\$500.00
38514	ND 911 ASSOCIATION	NG911 BILLING	\$300.00
38515	KAT & COMPANY	DOH BILLING	\$9,500.00
38516	NACO	NCCAE BILLING 2024	\$3,000.00
38517	BRIDGEMARK INSURANCE SOLUTIONS	LIABILITY INSURANCE BILLING	\$1,925.00
38518	RANSOM PUBLIC HEALTH	DOH BILLING	\$622.00
38519	ND SHERIFFS & DEPUTIES ASSOCIATION	SHERIFFS CONF BILLING	\$2,500.00
38520	CLEARWATER COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	BILLING	\$1,273.00
38521	VOIDED CHECK	VOIDED CHECK	\$0.00
38522	LINDSEY HARRIMAN SIMESSEN	CONFERENCE BILLING	\$300.16
ACH	BURLEIGH COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$8,310.26
ACH	CASS COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$8,077.54
ACH	GRAND FORKS COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$8,293.92
ACH	NDACO RESOURCES GROUP	BILLING	\$8,683.80
ACH	STUTSMAN COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$9,454.41
ACH	TRUDY RULAND	BOARD VOUCHER	\$261.30
ACH	WARD COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$8,651.00
DECEMBER			
38523	NDIT	BILLING	\$636.83
38524	WORKFORCE SAFETY	CEG BILLING	\$1,200.00
38525	TRANE U.S. INC.	BUILDING BILLING	\$179.00
38526	ND NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION	BILLING	\$150.00
38527	BEK SPORTS NETWORK	VZOP BILLING	\$10,500.00

DECEMBER			
38528	D&S LLC	BUILDING BILLING	\$8,193.00
38529	NEWVISION SECURITY, LLC	BUILDING BILLING	\$525.00
38530	TRANSTRASH	BUILDING BILLING	\$195.00
38531	WALSH COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT	DOH BILLING	\$622.00
38532	VOIDED CHECK	VOIDED CHECK	\$0.00
ACH	GUARDIAN ANGELS INC.	PASS BILLING	\$64,260.00
ACH	BECKY SUE HAGEL	BOARD VOUCHER	\$285.80
ACH	CHAD KAISER	BOARD VOUCHER	\$259.00
ACH	COMMERCIAL CARD SOLUTIONS	BILLING	\$175,042.00
ACH	CATHOLIC CHARITIES NORTH DAKOTA	PASS BILLING	\$57,042.00
ACH	DANA LARSEN	BOARD VOUCHER	\$125.00
ACH	DAKOTA CARRIER NETWORK	BILLING	\$16,313.33
ACH	FAMILY ADVOCACY SERVICES	PASS BILLING	\$22,626.00
ACH	DONALD FLAHERTY	BOARD VOUCHER	\$340.74
ACH	GUARDIAN & PROTECTIVE SERVICES INC	PASS BILLING	\$51,390.00
ACH	TONY GRINDBERG	BOARD VOUCHER	\$125.00
ACH	GRAND FORKS COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$7,204.89
ACH	JOAN HOLLEKIM	BOARD VOUCHER	\$125.00
ACH	JOSHUA FREY	BOARD VOUCHER	\$379.60
ACH	KIM JACOBSON	BOARD VOUCHER	\$139.00
ACH	ERICA JOHNSRUD	BOARD VOUCHER	\$372.90
ACH	KELLY PALM	BOARD VOUCHER	\$347.44
ACH	LIGHTHOUSE ASSOCIATES, INC.	PASS BILLING	\$7,560.00
ACH	LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICE OF MN	PASS BILLING	\$52,758.00
ACH	VERONICA MILLER	PASS BILLING	\$4,320.00
ACH	MORGAN PRINTING, INC	BILLING	\$1,057.46
ACH	NICHOLAS MOSER	BOARD VOUCHER	\$466.70
ACH	NDACO RESOURCES GROUP	BILLING	\$185.16
ACH	OPPORTUNITY FOUNDATION INC.	PASS BILLING	\$7,560.00
ACH	SCOTT OURADNIK	BOARD VOUCHER	\$332.70
ACH	PRESORT PLUS	BILLING	\$161.48
ACH	ROBERT WILSON	BOARD VOUCHER	\$1,287.88
ACH	SHIRLEY MURRAY	BOARD VOUCHER	\$212.10
ACH	STUTSMAN COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$8,556.68
ACH	TRUDY RULAND	BOARD VOUCHER	\$337.39
ACH	JAYME TENNESON	BOARD VOUCHER	\$325.46
ACH	WANDA KNUTSON	BOARD VOUCHER	\$205.40
ACH	WARD COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$8,170.67
38533	AARON MORK	BOARD VOUCHER	\$288.10
38534	TRANE U.S. INC.	BUILDING BILLING	\$480.00
38535	ND NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION	BILLING	\$150.00
38536	MOORE ENGINEERING INC	GRANT CONSULTING BILLING	\$4,345.00
38537	STONERIDGE SOFTWARE LLC	BILLING	\$117.50
38538	STEELE COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH	DOH BILLING	\$622.00
ACH	BURLEIGH COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$11,796.26
ACH	CASS COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$8,731.15
ACH	NDACO RESOURCES GROUP	BILLING	\$350.00
JANUARY			
ACH	PXC, INC.	BILLING	\$171.70
ACH	COMMERCIAL CARD SOLUTIONS	BILLING	\$161,520.22
ACH	GUARDIAN ANGELS INC.	PASS BILLING	\$64,044.00
ACH	CATHOLIC CHARITIES NORTH DAKOTA	PASS BILLING	\$56,088.00
ACH	DAKOTA CARRIER NETWORK	BILLING	\$15,795.13
ACH	FAMILY ADVOCACY SERVICES	PASS BILLING	\$22,680.00
ACH	GUARDIAN & PROTECTIVE SERVICES INC	PASS BILLING	\$50,382.00
ACH	LIGHTHOUSE ASSOCIATES, INC.	PASS BILLING	\$7,560.00
ACH	LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICE OF MN	PASS BILLING	\$53,820.00

JANUARY			
ACH	VERONICA MILLER	PASS BILLING	\$4,860.00
ACH	MORGAN PRINTING, INC	BILLING	\$1,153.11
ACH	NDACO RESOURCES GROUP	BILLING	\$2,728.40
ACH	OPPORTUNITY FOUNDATION INC.	PASS BILLING	\$7,560.00
ACH	PRESORT PLUS	BILLING	\$260.36
ACH	STUTSMAN COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$8,746.48
ACH	WARD COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$9,754.69
38539	NDIT	BILLING	\$61,988.83
38540	WORKFORCE SAFETY	CEG BILLING	\$750.00
38541	IMPACT TEEN DRIVERS	VZOP BILLING	\$11,600.00
38542	VOIDED CHECK	VOIDED CHECK	\$0.00
38543	CENTRAL REG EDUC ASSOCIATION	DJS BILLING	\$160,600.92
38544	D&S LLC	BUILDING BILLING	\$5,030.40
38545	NEWVISION SECURITY, LLC	BUILDING BILLING	\$1,770.00
38546	MOORE ENGINEERING INC	GRANT CONSULTING BILLING	\$3,052.50
38547	TRANSTRASH	BUILDING BILLING	\$195.00
38548	SARGENT COUNTY DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT	DOH BILLING	\$622.00
38549	JUSTINE BURNHAM	LEG BILLING	\$4,250.00
ACH	MONTANA-DAKOTA UTILITIES CO	BUILDING BILLING	\$4,068.81
ACH	BURLEIGH COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$8,801.48
ACH	CASS COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$9,224.10
ACH	DE NOVO CONSULTING SOLUTIONS, LLC	INDIRECT COST BILLING	\$42,866.00
ACH	GRAND FORKS COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$10,133.89
ACH	JOAN HOLLEKIM	BOARD VOUCHER	\$299.16
ACH	NDACO RESOURCES GROUP	BILLING	\$3,536.16
ACH	TRUDY RULAND	BOARD VOUCHER	\$117.60
38550	NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES	NCCAE BILLING 2025	\$3,000.00
38551	WORKFORCE SAFETY	CEG BILLING	\$250.00
38552	BURLEIGH COUNTY TREASURER	BUILDING BILLING	\$23,232.46
38553	ND ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY ENGINEERS	NDACE BILLING	\$500.00
38554	CLEARWATER COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	BILLING	\$1,312.00
38555	BAREKNUCKLE EVENTS, LLC	CONFERENCE BILLING	\$15,000.00
38556	MOORE ENGINEERING INC	GRANT CONSULTING BILLING	\$982.50
38557	TRICORNE AUDIO INC.	BUILDING BILLING	\$2,228.50
FEBRUARY			
ACH	GUARDIAN ANGELS INC.	PASS BILLING	\$63,306.00
ACH	CASS COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$11,843.66
ACH	COMMERCIAL CARD SOLUTIONS	BILLING	\$169,418.34
ACH	CATHOLIC CHARITIES NORTH DAKOTA	PASS BILLING	\$56,826.00
ACH	DAKOTA CARRIER NETWORK	BILLING	\$17,346.30
ACH	FAMILY ADVOCACY SERVICES	PASS BILLING	\$22,680.00
ACH	GUARDIAN & PROTECTIVE SERVICES INC	PASS BILLING	\$49,320.00
ACH	GRAND FORKS COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$10,206.36
ACH	LIGHTHOUSE ASSOCIATES, INC.	PASS BILLING	\$7,560.00
ACH	LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICE OF MN	PASS BILLING	\$52,074.00
ACH	VERONICA MILLER	PASS BILLING	\$4,860.00
ACH	MORGAN PRINTING, INC	BILLING	\$1,062.20
ACH	OPPORTUNITY FOUNDATION INC.	PASS BILLING	\$7,506.00
ACH	PRESORT PLUS	BILLING	\$264.37
38558	NDIT	BILLING	\$636.83
38559	WORKFORCE SAFETY	CEG BILLING	\$500.00
38560	NOLAN JOHNSON	CEG BILLING	\$4,400.00
38561	D&S LLC	BUILDING BILLING	\$4,520.00
38562	TRANSTRASH	BUILDING BILLING	\$203.00
38563	SACCHO	DOH BILLING	\$162.49
ACH	BURLEIGH COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$9,747.45
ACH	MORGAN PRINTING, INC	BILLING	\$4,730.61

FEBRUARY			
ACH	NDACO RESOURCES GROUP	BILLING	\$4,356.16
ACH	STUTSMAN COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$8,814.22
ACH	WARD COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$9,093.66
38564	ND ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY ENGINEERS	NCCAE BILLING	\$485.00
38565	AE2S	GRANT CONSULTING BILLING	\$15,000.00
38566	JUSTINE BURNHAM	LEG BILLING	\$2,125.00
38567	DICKEY RURAL TELEPHONE	ND911 FEE REFUND	\$61.75
38568	FIRST DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT	DOH BILLING	\$622.00
MARCH			
ACH	GUARDIAN ANGELS INC.	PASS BILLING	\$62,136.00
ACH	COMMERCIAL CARD SOLUTIONS	BILLING	\$196,991.82
ACH	CATHOLIC CHARITIES NORTH DAKOTA	PASS BILLING	\$57,042.00
ACH	GUARDIAN & PROTECTIVE SERVICES INC	PASS BILLING	\$49,464.00
ACH	LIGHTHOUSE ASSOCIATES, INC.	PASS BILLING	\$7,560.00
ACH	LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICE OF MN	PASS BILLING	\$41,682.00
ACH	OPPORTUNITY FOUNDATION INC.	PASS BILLING	\$6,516.00
ACH	BURLEIGH COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$8,859.42
ACH	CASS COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$8,806.25
ACH	DAKOTA CARRIER NETWORK	BILLING	\$16,827.81
ACH	EIDE BAILLY LLP	AUDIT BILLING	\$23,400.00
ACH	FAMILY ADVOCACY SERVICES	PASS BILLING	\$22,410.00
ACH	GRAND FORKS COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$11,352.54
ACH	VERONICA MILLER	PASS BILLING	\$4,860.00
ACH	MORGAN PRINTING, INC	BILLING	\$1,163.87
ACH	NDACO RESOURCES GROUP	BILLING	\$2,574.75
ACH	STANLEY J. DICK	BOARD VOUCHER	\$805.00
ACH	STUTSMAN COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$10,303.82
ACH	TRUDY RULAND	BOARD VOUCHER	\$360.40
ACH	ROBERT WILSON	BOARD VOUCHER	\$2,960.41
38569	NDIT	BILLING	\$636.83
38570	WORKFORCE SAFETY	CEG BILLING	\$1,319,325.92
38571	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	DOT REIMBURSEMENT	\$33,022.67
38572	AE2S	GRANT CONSULTING BILLING	\$5,000.00
38573	D&S LLC	BUILDING BILLING	\$4,770.00
38574	DACOTAH SPEEDWAY	VZOP BILLING	\$1,500.00
38575	TRANSTRASH	BUILDING BILLING	\$203.00
38576	VITALANT	VZOP BILLING	\$200.00
38577	BADLANDS ENVIRONMENTAL CONSLTING	CEG BILLING	\$165.00
38578	FOSTER CO PUBLIC HEALTH	DOH BILLING	\$622.00
ACH	CHAD KAISER	BOARD VOUCHER	\$114.00
ACH	JOAN HOLLEKIM	BOARD VOUCHER	\$78.40
ACH	MORGAN PRINTING, INC	BILLING	\$1,062.27
ACH	NDACO RESOURCES GROUP	BILLING	\$231.89
ACH	PRESORT PLUS	BILLING	\$269.69
ACH	WARD COUNTY AUDITOR	VZOP BILLING	\$9,476.86
38579	KAT & COMPANY	DOH BILLING	\$10,110.50
38580	BRIDGEMARK INSURANCE SOLUTIONS	CONFERENCE INS BILLING	\$31.00
38581	ND ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY ENGINEERS	NDACE BILLING	\$350.00
38582	CLEARWATER COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	BILLING	\$1,312.00
38583	MINOT INDOOR RODEO INC	VZOP BILLING	\$1,500.00
38584	AE2S	GRANT CONSULTING BILLING	\$2,500.00
38585	NEWVISION SECURITY, LLC	BUILDING BILLING	\$330.00
38586	FRAMEWORKS INSTITUTE	DOH BILLING	\$4,500.00
38587	SACCHO	DOH BILLING	\$257.92
38588	FIRST DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT	DOH BILLING	\$423.30
38589	WELLS COUNTY DISTRICT HEALTH UNIT	DOH BILLING	\$354.64

911 FEE COLLECTION PAYMENTS			
ACH	NOVEMBER ND 911 PAYMENTS	OCT 911 FEE COLLECTION	\$1,032,955.83
ACH	DECEMBER ND 911 PAYMENTS	NOV 911 FEE COLLECTION	\$1,026,075.08
ACH	JANUARY ND 911 PAYMENTS	DEC 911 FEE COLLECTION	\$1,024,940.83
ACH	FEBRUARY ND 911 PAYMENTS	JAN 911 FEE COLLECTION	\$1,038,274.45
ACH	MARCH ND 911 PAYMENTS	FEB 911 FEE COLLECTION	\$1,037,800.21

SUGGESTED MOTION: "MOTION TO APPROVE GENERAL FUND CHECKS 38498-38589 AND ACH PAYMENTS DURING THIS TIME PERIOD."

**CHECK LISTING FOR DJS GENERAL FUND
NOVEMBER 2024 - MARCH 2025**

NOVEMBER			
7959	WILLIAMS CO ADOLESCENT CARE CENTER	BILLING	\$830.15
7960	SUNRISE YOUTH BUREAU	BILLING	\$2,165.67
7961	THE CONSENSUS COUNCIL, INC	BILLING	\$29,009.95
ACH	BARRY CHALIFOUX	BILLING	\$2,963.24
ACH	ND ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES	BILLING	\$2,853.80
ACH	TURTLE MOUNTAIN ATTENDANT CARE PROGRAM	BILLING	\$477.00
7962	LISA BJERGAARD	VOUCHER	\$1,050.31
7963	CRISTIE JACOBSEN	VOUCHER	\$346.00
7964	MILINDA TURNER	VOUCHER	\$75.00
7965	OLIVIA REVELS-STROTHER	VOUCHER	\$75.00
7966	RUSSEL RIEHL	VOUCHER	\$1,227.01
DECEMBER			
7967	GRAND FORKS JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER	BILLING	\$1,963.00
7968	SUNRISE YOUTH BUREAU	BILLING	\$1,961.47
7969	KYLIE SCHULTZ	VOUCHER	\$75.00
ACH	BARRY CHALIFOUX	BILLING	\$1,617.81
ACH	ND ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES	BILLING	\$9,693.50
7970	YOUTHWORKS	BILLING	\$7,480.91
7971	GRAND FORKS JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER	BILLING	\$890.00
ACH	BLACBIRD INVESTMNTS DBA RACIAL EQUITY GROUP	BILLING	\$3,500.00
ACH	ND ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES	BILLING	\$3,483.80
JANUARY			
7972	YOUTHWORKS	BILLING	\$80,652.48
7973	SUNRISE YOUTH BUREAU	BILLING	\$1,530.29
7974	THE CONSENSUS COUNCIL, INC	BILLING	\$26,242.70
7975	DAKOTA BOYS AND GIRLS RANCH	BILLING	\$9,698.68
ACH	BARRY CHALIFOUX	BILLING	\$518.62
ACH	TURTLE MOUNTAIN ATTENDANT CARE PROGRAM	BILLING	\$1,026.00
FEBRUARY			
7976	WILLIAMS CO ADOLESCENT CARE CENTER	BILLING	\$457.54
7977	SUNRISE YOUTH BUREAU	BILLING	\$1,138.99
7978	MILINDA TURNER	VOUCHER	\$75.00
7979	THE CONSENSUS COUNCIL, INC	BILLING	\$4,118.86
7980	DAKOTA BOYS AND GIRLS RANCH	BILLING	\$2,694.69
7981	OLIVIA REVELS-STROTHER	VOUCHER	\$75.00
ACH	BARRY CHALIFOUX	BILLING	\$675.65
ACH	ND ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES	BILLING	\$8,853.80
MARCH			
7982	GRAND FORKS JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER	BILLING	\$5,078.25
ACH	BLACBIRD INVESTMENTS LLC DBA RACIAL EQUITY GR	BILLING	\$6,146.56
ACH	BARRY CHALIFOUX	BILLING	\$796.76
7983	WILLIAMS CO ADOLESCENT CARE CENTER	BILLING	\$3,051.58
7984	YOUTHWORKS	BILLING	\$16,498.54
7985	SUNRISE YOUTH BUREAU	BILLING	\$1,458.49
7986	DAKOTA BOYS AND GIRLS RANCH	BILLING	\$2,781.22
ACH	ND ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES	BILLING	\$2,853.80
ACH	TURTLE MOUNTAIN ATTENDANT CARE PROGRAM	BILLING	\$61.00
7987	YOUTHWORKS	BILLING	\$26,719.12

**SUGGESTED MOTION: "MOTION TO APPROVE DJS FUND CHECKS 7959-7987 AND
ACH PAYMENTS DURING THIS TIME PERIOD."**

North Dakota Association of Counties
Combined Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
for Period Ending March 31, 2025

	2025 Actual Year-to-Date	2025 Budget	% of Budget	See Notes:
OPERATING REVENUES				1)
County Dues	183,755.00	735,030.00	25.0%	
General Revenue	169,122.69	211,400.00	80.0%	2)
Legislative Services	0.00	11,000.00	0.0%	3)
Publication Services	16,987.20	48,300.00	35.2%	4)
Conference/Workshop Services	0.00	270,200.00	0.0%	5)
Cooperative Services	1,558,542.54	6,524,110.00	23.9%	
Subsidiary Reimbursements	6,208.71	23,000.00	27.0%	
Building Income	67,278.19	265,850.00	25.3%	
DJS-Juvenile Justice Grant	93,150.01	500,000.00	18.6%	6)
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	\$2,095,044.34	\$8,588,890.00	24.4%	1)
OPERATING EXPENDITURES				
Salaries	535,827.22	2,238,640.00	23.9%	
Overhead	220,372.06	928,350.00	23.7%	
Travel	28,893.26	124,000.00	23.3%	
Supplies	3,069.19	13,000.00	23.6%	
Fees & Services	29,079.12	58,210.00	50.0%	7)
Other Operating	10,871.46	51,930.00	20.9%	
Building Operations Expense	74,353.09	362,720.00	20.5%	
Legislative Services	7,499.41	29,700.00	25.3%	
Publication Services	13,514.42	33,400.00	40.5%	4)
Conference/Workshop Services	2,606.13	245,000.00	1.1%	5)
Cooperative Services	730,998.75	4,003,450.00	18.3%	8)
DJS Grant Pass Thru/Subgrants	93,150.01	500,000.00	18.6%	6)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$1,750,234.12	\$8,588,400.00	20.4%	1)
EXCESS REVENUES OVER EXPEND.	\$344,810.22	\$490.00		9)
NONOPERATING REVENUES				
Variable Investment Income	\$22,967.80	\$500,000.00	4.6%	10)

Suggested Motion: Motion to accept financial reports

**North Dakota Association of Counties
Combined Balance Sheet
as of March 31, 2025**

	<u>NDACo General Fund</u>	<u>DJS Fund</u>	<u>Combined Total</u>	<u>See Notes:</u>
Assets				
Current Assets				
Cash	3,996,005.88	(26,719.12)	3,969,286.76	11)
Restricted Cash	6,116,596.64		6,116,596.64	12)
Prepaid Expenses	1,113,739.12	0.00	1,113,739.12	13)
Accounts/Lease/Interest Receivable	990,124.74	40,453.14	1,030,577.88	14)
Total Current Assets	12,216,466.38	13,734.02	12,230,200.40	
Noncurrent Assets				
Investments	9,226,138.85		9,226,138.85	15)
Capital Lease Commission	5,404.78		5,404.78	16)
Land	178,558.71		178,558.71	
Furniture & Equip.	482,825.53		482,825.53	
Building & Improvements	4,849,915.30		4,849,915.30	
Vehicles	108,993.81		108,993.81	
Accumulated Depr.	(2,785,700.99)		(2,785,700.99)	
Total Noncurrent Assets	12,066,135.99	0.00	12,066,135.99	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$24,282,602.37	\$13,734.02	\$24,296,336.39	
Liabilities & Fund Balances				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable	624,002.48	13,734.02	637,736.50	17)
Accounts Payable-Restricted Programs	4,728,722.34		4,728,722.34	18)
Accrued Expenses	1,713,759.38		1,713,759.38	19)
Deferred Premiums	2,784,996.00		2,784,996.00	20)
Deferred Inflows of Resources-Lease Rev	531,524.99		531,524.99	14)
Deferred Dues Revenue	551,277.00		551,277.00	
Deferred Special Projects Revenue	298.74		298.74	
Deferred Ad Revenue	20,010.95		20,010.95	
Deferred County Officials Day	6,000.00		6,000.00	
Accrued PTO Leave	181,479.27		181,479.27	
Total Current Liabilities	11,142,071.15	13,734.02	11,155,805.17	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	11,142,071.15	13,734.02	11,155,805.17	
Fund Balances				
Net Fixed Assets	2,876,601.43		2,876,601.43	
Reserve for Workers Comp	1,000,000.00		1,000,000.00	
Unreserved:				
Undesignated	8,896,151.77	0.00	8,896,151.77	
Excess Rev Over Expenditures	367,778.02	0.00	367,778.02	
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	13,140,531.22	0.00	13,140,531.22	
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCES	\$24,282,602.37	\$13,734.02	\$24,296,336.39	

Suggested Motion: Motion to accept financial reports

North Dakota Association of Counties

March 31, 2025



Notes to the Financial Statements:

- 1) We are through 3 out of 12 months; and revenues and expenses should be near 25% of budget to be on target. Total revenues are 24.4% of budget, and expenses are 20.4% after March.
- 2) General Revenues are at 80% of budget after March. With greater investment transparency, we've been able to book more Interest Income on CD's as fixed income. We will exceed budget in this line item in 2025.
- 3) Legislative Services Revenues will be billed and booked after the session.
- 4) Publication Services Revenues and Expenses are head of budget. This is due to the Annual Directory Publication Costs and Ad Revenues being booked by this financial reporting period.
- 5) Annual Conference Revenues and Expenses won't be booked until October.
- 6) The Juvenile Justice Program is behind target at 18.6% of budget at this time. Contractual invoices are typically delayed coming in. These expenses will pick up through the end of the year.
- 7) Fees and Services include the Annual Audit fees. A majority of these costs have been paid in March, so we're ahead of target at 50%. This will be on track by year-end.
- 8) Cooperative Services Expenses are currently at 18.3% of budget. Payments for the CEG program Safety discounts, LMS credits, and dividend credits will go out in May or June, bringing this line closer to budget.
- 9) After March, the excess Revenues over Expenditures is \$344,810; compared to annual budgeted income for 2025 of \$490. Again, this is mainly due to the CEG program payments which will go out soon.
- 10) The NDACo Investments have shown gains as of 3/31/25; with income of \$22,967. The markets have been volatile. We'll see if it recovers; if not we may have trouble meeting our budgeted \$500,000 this year.
- 11) Cash contains NDACo general funds. The Juvenile Justice Account (DJS) is on a reimbursement basis, so we do not have funds on hand, and at times shows as a negative balance until funds arrive.
- 12) Restricted Cash includes the CEG Program, NG911 Fund, new 911 Fee Collection Program, PASS Funds, and Marriage License Funds; all of which are not NDACo dollars.
- 13) Prepaid Expenses include Workers Compensation premium payments, office/vehicle insurance, and paid travel for future months.
- 14) Related to GASB 87 implementation for leases in 2022: 1) the Accounts/Lease/Interest Receivable includes some NDACo lease and interest receivables, 2) Deferred Inflows are the future building lease income through future lease periods.
- 15) Investments are NDACo's Investment Portfolio for excess funds currently with Colliers. All Investment dollars have now been moved from the SIB Fund to our Colliers Investments.
- 16) Capital Lease Commission is the payment to the agency who helped us find a rental tenant which began February 2023. This commission expense is spread out over the 5 year lease.
- 17) Accounts Payable is mainly comprised of monthly credit card bills for travel and program expenses, and other operating expenses.
- 18) Accts Payable - Restricted Programs includes the NG911 Program, 911 Fee Collection Payables, PASS Program, and Marriage License Fund.
- 19) Accrued Expenses consist of accrued CEG Excess in 2024 program to be returned to counties in 2025; as well as some funds designated for Ergonomic Initiative purchases for counties.
- 20) Deferred Premiums are the CEG Premiums that will be recognized through the remainder of 2025.

**NDACO RESOURCES GROUP, INC.
BALANCE SHEET
AS OF MARCH 31, 2025**

ASSETS

	<u>CURRENT YEAR-TO-DATE</u>	<u>PRIOR YEAR-TO-DATE</u>
CURRENT ASSETS	\$1,485,276.74	\$1,179,245.77
PROPERTY, EQUIPMENT, & RIGHT OF USE ASSETS	33,871.50	54,340.61
OTHER ASSETS	488,415.53	513,480.83
	-----	-----
TOTAL ASSETS	\$2,007,563.77	\$1,747,067.21
	=====	=====

LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDER'S EQUITY

CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$917,729.64	\$789,763.32
LONG TERM LIABILITIES	15,000.00	15,000.00
STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY	1,074,834.13	942,303.89
	-----	-----
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	\$2,007,563.77	\$1,747,067.21
	=====	=====

**NDACO RESOURCES GROUP, INC.
INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDING MARCH 31, 2025**

	<u>CURRENT YEAR-TO-DATE</u>	<u>PRIOR YEAR-TO-DATE</u>
REVENUE	\$792,745.58	\$698,377.60
COST OF SALES	670,152.04	650,973.53
	-----	-----
GROSS PROFIT	122,593.54	47,404.07
	=====	=====
OPERATING EXPENSES	\$95,184.71	\$89,071.39
OTHER INCOME	17,923.15	10,736.83
INVESTMENT INTEREST INCOME/LOSS	(12,789.99)	20,543.84
OTHER EXPENSE	506.14	848.40
	-----	-----
NET INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES	\$32,035.85	(\$11,235.05)
	=====	=====

SERVICE REPORT: Publications

May 2025

(Report submitted to the Board of Directors by Jeff, Linda and Donnell.)

PROGRAM UPDATE:

- **Website**

The NDACo website redesign launched in January. As reported last year at this time, the pages are largely the same, but the changes we made are to make navigation more mobile friendly. Slightly over half of the users accessing our site are computers, but the percentage accessing it with mobile devices (phones and tablets) is increasing rapidly, so we felt it important to get away from difficult drop-down menus and make the navigation more finger-tapping friendly.

- **County News**

2025 *County News* advertising prices were raised about 3% to offset increasing printing and mailing cost. So far, revenues are on track to be above 2024, however expenses continue to rise, so the bottom line will hopefully not change much. Clearwater Communications and Morgan Printing of Grafton continue to be our vendors. We have entertained a few offers by companies wanting to take over in exchange for a piece of the ad income, including the County Officials Directory, but have not seen anything worth pursuing.

- **County Officials Directory**

The *County Officials Directory* was published in mid-February by Morgan Printing of Grafton. We printed 1,200 and attempted a bit stronger marketing effort, however it's looking like people are not as willing as they used to be to pay for a paper version, when the online is so easy to access. Ad revenue is down slightly from our projection, but ahead of last year, while printing and mailing costs were about the same as 2024.

- **County Salary, Staffing, Fringe Benefit & Boards Surveys**

The Salary, Staffing, Fringe Benefit & Boards Surveys are available in our Members Area on the NDACo website: www.ndaco.org. The salary survey consists of a more comprehensive data collection system, allowing counties to upload data that they export directly from their payroll software. The data for all 53 counties can be viewed and printed with a simple on-screen report or exported to an excel spreadsheet for more detailed use.

- **Leader Letter**

No changes to report on the *Leader Letter*. It is emailed the last week of each month to all county department heads. The biggest challenge is to keep it relevant without running too long.

- **Common Ground**

Our legislative newsletter – digital-only – is sent out to all Legislators and other subscribers through our website most months. Back issues can be found at www.ndaco.org/enewsletters/common-ground, which also has a link to add your email address to the subscriber list.

- **Social Media**

Our Facebook page continues to grow in popularity. We have reached over 2,400 followers, a slight increase over last year. We have continued the “FAQ Friday” posts, and they get good feedback. Topics cover both NDACo functions and county functions. Donnell shares the Legislative Blog updates there, which proves to be excellent cross-marketing, benefiting both publications.

- **Legislative Blog**

The NDACo Legislative Blog can be found at <https://ndcounties.blog>. It continues to be the primary source of legislative information for county related issues. A weekly report recapping the prior week’s activities, a look ahead at important hearings and links to the schedule are posted every week. We saw a great increase in individuals subscribing and accessing the information. The first post at the beginning of the session had more than 900 views! The weekly posts average about 300 views. There are currently 411 subscribers to the blog. Every week when the blog is updated, an email with information is sent to subscribers. The blog information is also posted on the NDACo website and Facebook page.

SERVICE REPORT: County Financial Partnerships (CFP)

May 2025

(Report submitted to the Board of Directors by Genny and Kaitlyn.)

PROGRAM UPDATE:

- **Drug & Alcohol Testing Service**

This program continues to have strong participation by our members with 48 counties in the DOT pool including 588 employees and in the non-DOT pool there are 29 counties and 4 human service zones with 563 employees.

Global Safety Network (GSN) continues to work with counties to meet the federal requirements of the Clearinghouse database, which tracks the drug and alcohol violations of CDL drivers nationwide.

- **Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Program**

As we are approaching Kaitlyn's third year with the GIS Program, she is grateful for her position and excited for what the coming years hold. Behind the scenes, she has been accepted to SDSU to complete her bachelor's degree in GIS, beginning this fall. In addition to that, she has begun reaching out to her peers for advice on earning her GISP accreditation.

The GIS Program is eager to share that NDIT is renewing their contract for support of the State Parcel Program. Hours billed have increased since the beginning of the year because of outreach and county tax roll vendor transitions. Also working on recording walkthroughs to address common issues across the state.

In hopes of providing a resource for all county GIS coordinators, Kaitlyn held the inaugural meeting for the NDACo GIS Standing Committee. The meeting was moderately attended, via Teams, however one person did attend in person. She is hoping to increase attendance and interest before NDACo's Annual Conference. In the future, the goal would be to have the standing committee as a building block for creating an ND GIS Association; a commonplace for GIS folks across the state to communicate and work toward a common goal.

Conference planning is almost upon us; Kaitlyn and Bob Nutsch with NDIT have agreed to have Kaitlyn lead the ND Geospatial Summit coming up in 2026. We have had the Bismarck Event Center pencil us in for October 14-15, 2026, as this will be the first year that the Summit will immediately follow NDACo's Annual Conference. We planned it in the hope that more county folks will be able to attend the Summit and take time to learn about the resources that are available.

**NDCCA Board Meeting
May 2025**

NDCCA Mailbag



**The NDCCA
Mailbag is an
opportunity for
the board to
see letters
received by the
Association
that relate
opinions of
how well we
are doing or
aren't doing
our job. Happy
reading!**

Subject:

NDPERS Debacle

Text received by Aaron from Curt Olson, McLean County Commissioner:

Aaron, I feel bad not reaching out sooner, but Thank You for all you done to steer retirement debacle to a positive conclusion. I greatly appreciate it. I too, would ask that AOC and CCA take an active role in the legislative process with this issue moving forward and in addition, I would like to be part of it as I feel the opportunity to serve must be maintained for future generations.

The two sheriffs that through me a rescue rope and between two gave me full time hours to make this work. I have been in the business so long and know it from a management perspective that going into summer is a staffing nightmare. Beings they helped, I feel it important to help them and keep up the full time hours through the summer as they're both willing to work around my commission and other meetings. After summer i plan on cutting back to a more limited part time schedule.

Again, Aaron, I cannot thank you enough for all you done.

Subject: ARPA Fund Obligation

From: Schmidt, Jaden <jadschmidt@nd.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, December 31, 2024 2:51 PM
To: Linda Svihovec <Linda.Svihovec@ndaco.org>
Subject: RE: ARPA Fund Obligation

Caution: This is an external email and has a suspicious subject or content. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments. When in doubt, contact your IT Department

Thank you so much for the insane last minute help! I'm glad I double checked before leaving today and got it all sorted out just now with an emergency commission meeting to get it done!

Jaden Schmidt
Oliver County Auditor
PO Box 188
Center, ND 58530-0188
701-794-8721

From: Linda Svihovec <Linda.Svihovec@ndaco.org>
Sent: Tuesday, December 31, 2024 2:24 PM
To: Schmidt, Jaden <jadschmidt@nd.gov>
Subject: FW: ARPA Fund Obligation

******* CAUTION:** This email originated from an outside source. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know they are safe. *********

See the MOU (attached) discussed in SLRF Final Rule FAQ 17.6 on page 95 (attached), to obligate 2025 and/or 2026 personnel costs. You will need a Board resolution authorizing the obligation of unspent ARPA funds for this purpose as well as a signed and executed MOU with the affected agency(s). This obligation will be reflected on your April 30, 2025 Treasury ARPA report including an estimate of the cost for these personnel expenses which may include wages and benefits for those designated employees. Obligating future personnel expenses with an MOU(s) is the good option for Oliver County.

Linda Svihovec
ND Association of Counties
Cell: 701-570-0082



Subject:

FW: Property Tax Reform Concerns

From: Sally Whittingham <sally.whittingham@dunncountynd.gov>**Sent:** Wednesday, February 19, 2025 3:29 PM**To:** Donnell Preskey <donnell.preskey@ndaco.org>; Linda Svihovec <Linda.Svihovec@ndaco.org>; Aaron Birst <aaron.birst@ndaco.org>**Subject:** RE: Property Tax Reform Concerns

Thank you all for the hard work you put into this information and the time to keep us all informed. I have learned a lot from each of you as we move through this legislative biennium.

*Sally Whittingham**Dunn County Auditor**701-573-9900**Courthouse Hours**M-Th 7:00 - 4:30 Friday 8:00 - 12:00**Email address now ends in .GOV***From:** Donnell Preskey <donnell.preskey@ndaco.org>**Sent:** Wednesday, February 19, 2025 2:11 PM**To:** 911 Coordinators <911Coordinators@ndaco.org>; Auditors <Auditors@ndaco.org>; Catlin Solum <solumc@casscountynd.gov>; Clerk of Courts <coc@ndaco.org>; Commissioners <Commissioners@ndaco.org>; County Administrators <CountyAdministrators@ndaco.org>; EMG Managers <EmgManagers@ndaco.org>; Eva Becker <ebecker@nd.gov>; GIS Coordinators <GISCoordinators@ndaco.org>; Highway Supts <HighwaySupts@ndaco.org>; Human Resources <HR@ndaco.org>; Jail Administrators <jailadministrators@ndaco.org>; Lindsey Harriman <lindseyh@co.williams.nd.us>; LoAnn Roshau <loann.roshau@dunncountynd.gov>; Planning and Zoning Directors <PZDirectors@ndaco.org>; Public Health <PublicHealth@ndaco.org>; Recorders <Recorders@ndaco.org>; Sheriffs <Sheriffs@ndaco.org>; States Attorneys <SA@ndaco.org>; Supt of Schools <SuptofSchools@ndaco.org>; Tax Directors <tax@ndaco.org>; Treasurers <tr@ndaco.org>; Veterans Services <VeteransServices@ndaco.org>; Zone Directors <zonedirectors@ndaco.org>**Subject:** Property Tax Reform Concerns

Good afternoon,

The attached document was emailed to legislators today in our Common Ground e-newsletter. This outlined county concerns when it comes to the property tax bills containing caps, in addition, the article highlights provisions we ask them to consider when looking at reform measures. Attached is also a document that illustrates what a 3% cap means for counties. We thought it would be valuable information for you to have and for future discussions with your local legislators.

Donnell Preskey

Subject:

Leg Wrap Up

From: Nick West <nick.west@gfcounty.org>

Date: May 16, 2025 at 4:53:33 PM CDT

To: Aaron Birst <aaron.birst@ndaco.org>, "Genny M. Dienstmann"

<gdienstmann@ndaco.org>, Donnell Preskey <donnell.preskey@ndaco.org>, Linda Svihovec <Linda.Svihovec@ndaco.org>

Subject: Leg Wrap Up

Thank you all for the legislation wrap up a couple of days ago, it helped a lot, much appreciated.
Happy Friday, hope you enjoy the weekend. Nick

Nick West, PE
Grand Forks County Engineer
Office: 701.780.8248
Mobile: 701.317.0126



Subject: FW: [North Dakota Counties Legislative Blog] Steve Lee commented on Bill Update Report

From: WordPress.com <donotreply@wordpress.com>

Sent: Friday, March 21, 2025 11:51 AM

To: Jeff Eslinger <Jeff.Eslinger@ndaco.org>

Subject: [North Dakota Counties Legislative Blog] Steve Lee commented on Bill Update Report



North Dakota Counties Legislative Blog

New comment awaiting approval!



Steve Lee just commented on [Bill Update Report](#).

As NDACo analyzes the first period of the 69th Legislative Session, the word "challenging" comes to mind. There seems to be a ...

Thank you to NDACO Staff for your time and dedication to the Legislative process and for keeping county officials informed about the many bills that affect counties and other political subdivisions.....Also, thank you to county officials who have taken time and effort to participate in the legislative process.

Moderate comment



Reply faster with the Jetpack mobile app

Approve and reply to comments with real-time notifications right on your device.

Michelle M. Tabbert

From: Jason Horning
Sent: Monday, February 3, 2025 8:17 AM
To: Aaron Birst; NDACoEmployees
Subject: RE: NG911 Institute Honor Awards

Thanks Aaron, and everyone. Kathy and I couldn't do what we do without the trust and confidence of our membership. So, thank you all for what you do to help build and maintain positive relationships with the counties.

From: Aaron Birst <aaron.birst@ndaco.org>
Sent: Sunday, February 2, 2025 1:07 PM
To: NDACoEmployees <NDACoEmployees@ndaco.org>
Subject: Fwd: NG911 Institute Honor Awards

Everyone I just thought I would share this. Our very own Jason was selected as a national government leadership award winner. It's quite the honor. Thank you Jason for your efforts. You make us all proud!
AGB

From: Executive Director <ExecutiveDirector@ng911institute.org>
Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2025 4:55 PM
To: Breuer, Jill <jbreuer@co.richland.nd.us>
Cc: 'Wright, Wesley K.' <wright@khlaw.com>
Subject: NG911 Institute Honor Awards

Ms. Breuer:

By way of quick introduction, my name is Wes Wright and I'm the Executive Director of the [NG911 Institute](#).

I'm incredibly happy to inform you that Jason Horning was selected by the Institute's Board to receive the Government Leader award at our reception in Washington, D.C. The NG911 Institute Honor Reception will be from 6-8 pm on the evening of Tuesday, February 25th in the Hart Senate Office Building. The Honor Awards are held in conjunction with NENA's [911 Goes to Washington](#) festivities. Please let me know if you have a few minutes tomorrow or early next week to chat about the event and the award.

It would be great if we could coordinate Jason's attendance for NENA's events and our reception!

Regards,
Wes Wright

NG9-1-1 Institute
1001 G St. NW, Suite 500W
Washington, DC 20001
Fax: 202.347.0130
www.ng911institute.org executivedirector@ng911institute.org

Subject: Administrative Fee Update

SLaHaise@grandforksgov.com>

Sent: Monday, March 24, 2025 10:36 AM

To: Jason Horning <jason.horning@ndaco.org>; Kathy Kottenbrock <kathyk@ndaco.org>; Angie Wentland <awentland@ndaco.org>; Jeff Eslinger <Jeff.Eslinger@ndaco.org>; Donnell Preskey <donnell.preskey@ndaco.org>

Subject: Re: Administrative Fee Update

Jason and NDACO team,

A heartfelt thank you for all the work you have done to make this process successful for not only the collection and distribution of the 911 fees, but also moving forward on finding a way to get more funds back to the counties. Your collaborative efforts are much appreciated.

Thank you,

Shannon LaHaise
Director | Grand Forks 911 Center
122 5th St S
Grand Forks, ND 58201
701-787-8040 (w)
701-215-5075 (c)

From: Jason Horning <jason.horning@ndaco.org>

Sent: Thursday, March 20, 2025 11:36 AM

To: Darin Anderson <darinlanderson@nd.gov>; LaHaise, Shannon <SLaHaise@grandforksgov.com>; Karen Kempert <kkempert@nd.gov>; Kimberly Robbins <krobbins@nd.gov>; Brandy Madrigga <madriggab@casscountynynd.gov>; Erica Johnsrud <ejohnsrud@co.mckenzie.nd.us>; Jody Kristiansen <jkristiansen@nd.gov>; Bonnie Erickson <bserickson@nd.gov>

Cc: Kathy Kottenbrock <kathyk@ndaco.org>; Angie Wentland <awentland@ndaco.org>; Jeff Eslinger <Jeff.Eslinger@ndaco.org>; Donnell Preskey <donnell.preskey@ndaco.org>

Subject: Administrative Fee Update

Good morning 911 fee committee,

HB 1096 which initially sought to reduce the administrative fee percentage from 5% to 1% was amended to 2.5%. That version passed both sides, was signed by the governor and ultimately filed with the secretary of state yesterday.

I've asked our accounting team to figure out the effective date, make sure adjustments are made in our portal and get some messaging out both in the news section and probably also via email.

We estimate that this reduction should return about \$400K back to local government, annually, for 911 purposes. It's a savings made possible by counties working together to establish and move the Collection and Remittance of 911 Fee program forward.

Jason Horning, ENP
NG9-1-1 Program Manager
North Dakota Association of Counties
1661 Capitol Way
Bismarck, ND 58501
Office: 701-425-0816



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This email has been scanned for viruses and malware, and has been automatically archived by Mimecast.

Kaitlyn:

I just want to take a moment to
Sincerely thank you for taking the time
to walk me through the steps with your
Website & ArcGIS. Your patience & willingness
to go above & beyond mean so much to me.

I'm truly amazed at the kindness &
professionalism I've encountered in ND.
It's been a pleasure working with you.
Your company should be incredibly proud of
having someone as dedicated & helpful as you
on their team. —Karen Castle

Subject: Seminar

From: Jack McDonald <jackmcdonald@wheelerwolf.com>

Date: May 20, 2025 at 1:16:07 PM MDT

To: Aaron Birst <aaron.birst@ndaco.org>

Subject: Seminar

Great job as usual, Aaron, with the seminar. Appreciate you taking the time and effort to put together your list. Know how hard that is. Tragic loss re Cindy.

Jack McDonald

WHEELER WOLF LAW FIRM

Box 1776

Bismarck, ND 58502-1776

Ph: 701-751-1776; Fx: 701-751-1777

Cell: 701-220-1996

jackmcdonald@wheelerwolf.com

Aaron Birst

From: Enget, Wade G. <WENGET@nd.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, April 1, 2025 11:40 AM

To: Aaron Birst

Subject: Senate IBL testimony today

Damn, your good, Aaron.....



WADE G. ENGET

State's Attorney
Mountrail County

☎ (701) 628-2965

✉ wenget@nd.gov

📮 PO Box 69, Stanley, ND 58784

📍 101 North Main Street, Stanley

Subject:

Board Mailbag

From: Angi Aamodt <Angi.Aamodt@k12.nd.us>

Sent: Monday, December 9, 2024 3:32 PM

To: Genny M. Dienstmann <gdienstmann@ndaco.org>

Subject: RE: 2025 SPD worksheet signature

Perfect! Thank you for the quick turnaround!

I am thankful we will continue to work together in many ways, but I wanted to be sure you know how much I appreciate you specifically in the Chairperson role! You have done an amazing job of not only keeping things on track, but when they weren't, getting together & figuring out the best way forward! You are quick to respond & always great to work with! I am not sure how you do it with everything else you have going, but you somehow make it look effortless! I am happy you are remaining on the board as you are a critical piece to the success of NDPHIT! I know you still have time left, but the days seem to fly by, so I wanted to take a moment to thank you for everything!

Have a great day 😊!

Angi

Angi Aamodt

NDPHIT Benefits & Compliance Manager

South East Education Cooperative

701-997-3853 | angi.aamodt@k12.nd.us

SEEC Office: 3170 43rd St S, #103, Fargo, ND 58104

www.ndseec.com



Subject: Thanks!

From: Miller, Tammy J. <tjmill@nd.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2024 8:49 PM
To: Mary Korsmo <Mary.Korsmo@ndaco.org>
Subject: RE: Thanks!

Hi Mary,

I appreciate your email and kind comments. It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve as Lt Governor and previously as COO. My time in state government has been very interesting and rewarding. I have learned so much, met so many great people, and hopefully made a difference.

I have enjoyed working with you Mary and getting to know you. Thanks for all you do to help us achieve our goal for North Dakota to become the healthiest state in the nation.

Please keep in touch and let me know if I can help you in anyway in the future. My contact information is as follows:

Cell phone: 701-715-5824
Email: tammymillernd@gmail.com

Enjoy the holiday season!

Tammy

Tammy J. Miller
Lieutenant Governor

701.328.2200 • tjmill@nd.gov • governor.nd.gov

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[Sign up to receive updates from Governor Burgum](#)

From: Mary Korsmo <Mary.Korsmo@ndaco.org>
Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2024 6:59 AM
To: Miller, Tammy J. <tjmill@nd.gov>
Subject: Thanks!

***** **CAUTION:** This email originated from an outside source. Do not click links or open attachments unless you know they are safe. *****

Good morning, Lt. Governor Miller

Regrettably, I'm unable to attend this morning's Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee meeting in person as I am needed at home to help my parents.

It has been a privilege working with you over the past few years in various capacities. I greatly appreciate your attention to and direction for each question asked. I am also quite inspired by the efficient way you conduct meetings and your guided follow up. It's quite remarkable!

Thank you!

Wishing you health and happiness always,

Mary Korsmo

ND State Association of City & County

Health Officials | Executive Director

ND Association of Counties | Government Relations

NDACo | PO Box 877 | Bismarck, ND 58502-0877

701.471.2264 cell

Mary.Korsmo@ndaco.org



Subject:

Vision Zero Program

From: Michael Casey <michael.casey@ndaco.org>

Date: May 7, 2025 at 3:35:29 PM CDT

To: Ryan Gellner <rgellner@ndaco.org>

Subject: Vision Zero Program

Good afternoon Ryan,

Just wanted to send you a quick note. I am somewhat aware of what Vision Zero program is but wanted to learn more about it and get a little better understanding of the work being done across the state.

Well, I want to throw you a compliment. Not that I think you need one, but because you deserve one!!!!

I took the time to plan what I wanted to sit in on and listen to at your two day conference, and I am so glad I did. From your keynote speaker to the "They just went out for ice cream" presentation, it was a fantastic few hours for me. I want you to know that it was very professional, very heartfelt, and very appropriate content. What you are doing is important, and you are making a huge difference within the state of North Dakota. I had the opportunity to sit with the parents of the first officer on the scene of the Horace accident, they were crying, shaking, and holding onto each other as their son and others spoke during the presentation. It was so touching and so impactful, that all I could say was, Wow incredible job...

If you ever need anything, let me know, I'm on board for whatever help I may be able to lend for your wonderful Vision Zero program.

Case

Michael Casey

CEG Underwriting &

Loss Control Manager

701-202-6039 (Cell)

michael.casey@ndaco.org

Subject: Retirement
Attachments: Party Invite Kevin.docx

From: Kevin Fieldsend <hwydept@gondtc.com>

Sent: Wednesday, May 7, 2025 1:37 PM

To: Highway Supts <HighwaySupts@ndaco.org>; Kevin Walford <kevinwalford@butlermachinery.com>; Brandonpadilla@butlermachinery.com; Kevin Grove <kgrove@rdoequipment.com>; 'Seidel, Paul' <PSeidel@rdoequipment.com>; 'Brett Close (Brett Close)' <ccshop@utma.com>; rwccci@utma.com; Mike Gowan <mike@gowanconstruction.com>; Robertv@gowanconstruction.com; Shelbyv@goironhide.com; 'Clay Smaaladen' <ClaySmaaladen@butlermachinery.com>; Ron Walford <ronw@leadingedgeeqip.com>; Greg Barsgard <gregb@nelsonleasing.com>; Jim McLaughlin <jimmc@bertsonline.com>; 'Jeremy Bohner' <Jeremy.Bohner@TrueNorthSteel.com>; Kahl, Brent M. <bmkahl@nd.gov>; 'Mike Kary' <mkary@signsolutionsusa.com>; helenc@dvInd.com; mark.anderson@kljeng.com; Morris Sealcoat <sealcoat@hometownsolutions.net>; rcwr@gondtc.com; Steve Griffin <steve.griffin@stratacorporation.com>; Tammy Kuk <tammy.kuk@stratacorporation.com>; johns@highplainseq.com; taronson@gondtc.com; jkhausmann@gondtc.com; Nancy Ratzlaff <lrccb@gondtc.com>; hlijones2@gondtc.com; goldpennyelk@gmail.com; lstubbe@gondtc.com; Doug Becker <dbecker@gondtc.com>; sdimmier@gondtc.com; ttollefson@gondtc.com; John Martin <jonmar@gondtc.com>; Pamela Brekke <brekkeag@polarcomm.com>; algangjr@hotmail.com; 'Kevin Frith' <kwfrith@gondtc.com>; degroat1@gondtc.com; Julie Schemionek <jschemionek@nodakmutual.net>

Subject: Retirement

Hey everyone.

Just wanted to make you all aware that I will be retiring the end of May. Ramsey County has hired Jason Kraft to be the new Highway Superintendent. Jason's email is jason.kraft@gondtc.com. Jason's cell phone number is 701-350-1927. I want to thank everyone for the opportunity to work with you over the years. It has been a great experience and education. I have made a lot of great friends and acquaintances over the last 28 years and have enjoyed every bit of it.

I am looking forward to relaxing on the deck, doing some gardening and tinkering in the wood shop.

Please feel free to share this with anyone that may be interested.

Thanks,
Kevin

Kevin Fieldsend
Ramsey County Highway Superintendent
919 5th St SE
Devils Lake, ND 58301
701-662-7015 office
701-740-8784 cell

DRAFT

Financial Statements
December 31, 2024

North Dakota Association of Counties

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North Dakota Association of Counties

Listing of Board Members (Unaudited)

December 31, 2024

North Dakota Association of Counties*

Trudy Ruland	President
Chad Kaiser	1st Vice President
Nick Moser	2nd Vice President
Kim Jacobson	3rd Vice President
Jayme Tenneson	Past President
Beau Anderson	Director
Aaron Mork	Director
Tony Grindberg	Director
Becky Hagel	Director
Scott Ouradnik	Director
Jamee Folk	Director
Josh Frey	Director
Don Flaherty	Director
Wanda Knutson	Director
Dana Larsen	Director
Shirley Murray	Director
Erica Johnsrud	Director
Kelly Palm	Director
Robert Wilson	Ex Officio
Stanley Dick	Ex-Officio
Joan Hollekim	Ex-Officio

NDACo Resources Group, Inc.

Lonny Bosch	President
Leslie Korgel	Secretary/Treasurer
Aaron Birst	Board Chair
Cole Higlin	Director
Tony Weiler	Director
Joel Rostberg	Director
Marcia Kessel	Director

*- The Institute of Local Government (ILG)'s board consists of the same members as the North Dakota Association of Counties (NDACo)'s Board except ILG's President is NDACo's Past President and ILG's Vice President is NDACo's Current President.

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Directors
North Dakota Association of Counties
Bismarck, North Dakota

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the North Dakota Association of Counties ("the Association"), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Association's basic financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Association, as of December 31, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position and, where, applicable, cash flows thereof and the respective budgetary comparison for governmental funds for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Association and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Association's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Association's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with GAAS, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collective comprise the Association's basic financial statements. The schedule of expenditures of federal awards as required by Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the audited procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. In our opinion, the schedule of expenditures of federal awards is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual report. The other information comprises the listing of board members and does not include the basic financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated **REPORT DATE**, on our consideration of the Association's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Association's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Bismarck, North Dakota

REPORT DATE

As management of the North Dakota Association of Counties (NDACo), we offer readers of NDACo's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of NDACo for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024. When discussing NDACo and its components, the term "Association" is used. When referring to a specific department, the narrative will indicate which department (NDACo, NRG, governmental funds). We encourage readers to consider the information presented here in conjunction with the basic financial statements, which can be found on pages 10-21 of this report.

Financial Highlights

- The assets of the Association exceeded its liabilities at the close of the year by \$13,886,926, which is its net position. Of this amount, \$10,940,739 is unrestricted and may be used to meet the needs of its members through programs and services.
- The Association's total net position increased by \$750,165 in 2024.
- At the close of the current fiscal year, NDACo's operating fund net position was \$12,772,753, an increase of \$656,885 compared to the prior year. Of this total, \$9,896,152 is unrestricted and is available for spending as needed by NDACo.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Association's basic financial statements. The Association's government-wide financial statements encompass four components - the parent company's financial position (NDACo), its components - Institute of Local Government (ILG), NDACo Resources Group and grant funds from the Office of Juvenile Justice. These financials distinguish between the governmental and business-type activities of the Association; they do not include fiduciary activities. Governmental activities are financed through intergovernmental revenues and other non-exchange transactions. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external entities. This report encompasses the parent company and all components and includes comparisons of current year to prior year financial information.

The *Statement of Net Position* presents information on all of the Association's assets and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, with the difference between the two reported as net position. Over time, increases and decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Association is improving or declining.

North Dakota Association of Counties
Management's Discussion and Analysis
December 31, 2024

The following table presents condensed financial information on the Association's net position as of December 31, 2024:

North Dakota Association of Counties
Net Position - 2024 & 2023

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		2024	2023
	2024	2023	2024	2023	Total	Total
Current and Other Assets	\$ 204,516	\$ 114,975	\$ 15,056,404	\$ 13,394,099	\$ 15,260,920	\$ 13,509,074
Capital Assets	-	-	2,916,828	3,061,897	2,916,828	3,061,897
Total assets	204,516	114,975	17,973,232	16,455,996	18,177,748	16,570,971
Liabilities	139,141	47,619	4,070,610	3,178,207	4,209,751	3,225,826
Deferred Inflows of Resources	-	-	81,071	208,384	81,071	208,384
Net Position						
Net Investment in Capital Assets	-	-	2,886,221	3,011,845	2,886,221	3,011,845
Restricted for Scholarships	59,966	47,336	-	-	59,966	47,336
Unrestricted	5,409	20,020	10,935,330	10,057,560	10,940,739	10,077,580
Total net position	65,375	67,356	13,821,551	13,069,405	13,886,926	13,136,761
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and net position	\$ 204,516	\$ 114,975	\$ 17,973,232	\$ 16,455,996	\$ 18,177,748	\$ 16,570,971

Governmental Activities

The Association's net position in governmental activities decreased by \$1,981 or 2.9%. The decrease is attributed to the 2024 scholarships awarded totaled more than the revenue acquired; thereby using scholarship fund reserves to offset the cost difference. The net position was decreased by this variance.

Business-Type Activities

The Association's net position in business-type activities increased by \$752,146 or 5.8%. The increase is attributed to income on NDACo's investments of nearly \$900,000.

The *Statement of Activities* presents information illustrating how the net position has changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Therefore, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g., earned but unused paid time off). The table on the following page presents condensed financial information on the Association's Changes in Net Position for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2024.

The Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities can be found on pages 10-11 of this report. In addition, financial statements specific to governmental funds and proprietary funds are also included in this report.

North Dakota Association of Counties
Management's Discussion and Analysis
December 31, 2024

North Dakota Association of Counties
Changes in Net Position - 2024 & 2023

	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		2024	2023
	2024	2023	2024	2023	Total	Total
Program Revenues						
Charges for services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,348,072	\$ 8,851,644	\$ 9,348,072	\$ 8,851,644
Operating grants and contributions	469,543	200,545	1,375,088	797,499	1,844,631	998,044
General Revenues						
Building rent and lease revenue	-	-	233,425	219,611	233,425	219,611
Investment earnings	-	-	899,074	1,007,205	899,074	1,007,205
Other general revenues	10,439	9,398	31,955	25,408	42,394	34,806
Total revenues	<u>479,982</u>	<u>209,943</u>	<u>11,887,614</u>	<u>10,901,367</u>	<u>12,367,596</u>	<u>11,111,310</u>
Expenses						
Justice Grants	469,543	200,545	-	-	469,543	200,545
Institute of Local Governments	12,420	12,425	-	-	12,420	12,425
Operating	-	-	8,292,960	7,377,040	8,292,960	7,377,040
NDACo Resources	-	-	2,842,508	2,727,785	2,842,508	2,727,785
Total expenses	<u>481,963</u>	<u>212,970</u>	<u>11,135,468</u>	<u>10,104,825</u>	<u>11,617,431</u>	<u>10,317,795</u>
Increase (Decrease) in Net Position	<u>(1,981)</u>	<u>(3,027)</u>	<u>752,146</u>	<u>796,542</u>	<u>750,165</u>	<u>793,515</u>
Net Position - January 1	<u>67,356</u>	<u>70,383</u>	<u>13,069,405</u>	<u>12,272,863</u>	<u>13,136,761</u>	<u>12,343,246</u>
Net Position - December 31	<u>\$ 65,375</u>	<u>\$ 67,356</u>	<u>\$ 13,821,551</u>	<u>\$ 13,069,405</u>	<u>\$ 13,886,926</u>	<u>\$ 13,136,761</u>

Governmental Funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as *governmental activities* in the government-wide financial statements. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are available, and expenses are recorded when the liability is incurred. The Association maintains two governmental funds. Information for these funds is presented separately in the *Governmental Balance Sheet and Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Balances* for the Institute of Local Government and the Juvenile Justice grants. The reports for *Governmental Funds* can be found on pages 12-14 of this report.

Proprietary Funds are used to account for the operations of NDACo including services provided to counties, publications and administering various programs for its members. NDACo Resources Group also falls under this fund. Their focus is providing technology support to counties, other government entities and private businesses. The reports for *Proprietary Funds* can be found on pages 15-19 of the report.

Fiduciary Funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of organizations outside the Association. Fiduciary funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funders are not available to support NDACo's programs. The basic *Fiduciary Fund* financial statements are on pages 20-21 of the report.

Governmental Funds

Justice Grants is the Association's fund used to help counties apply for and administer federal and state grant programs for juvenile delinquency prevention and enforcement. At the end of the current fiscal year, total fund balance remained at \$0 as the fund has primarily pass-through grant activities.

Institute of Local Government runs a scholarship fund and houses special grants and other projects. At the end of the current fiscal year, total fund balance was \$65,375. The total fund balance decreased by \$1,981. The decrease is attributed to the 2024 scholarships awarded totaled more than the revenue acquired; thereby using scholarship fund reserves to offset the cost difference. The fund balance was decreased by this variance.

Proprietary Funds

NDACo Operating fund tracks the services provided to counties, from publications to administering various programs. At the end of the current fiscal year, total net position was \$12,772,753. Total net position increased by \$656,885. The increase is attributed to income on NDACo's investments of nearly \$900,000.

NDACo Resources Group performs technology support for counties, state and local government, and private companies. At the end of the current fiscal year, total net position was \$1,048,798. Total net position increased by \$95,261.

Notes to the Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found on pages 22-35 of this report.

Capital Assets

Capital Assets: The Association's investment in capital assets as of December 31, 2024, amounts to \$2,916,828 (net of accumulated depreciation/amortization) compared to prior year total of \$3,061,897. The investment in capital assets includes land, buildings, building improvements, software, vehicles and equipment, and right-to-use leased property.

Additional information on *Capital Assets* can be found in Note 4 of this report.

The Association adopts an annual budget for its governmental and business-type funds on a basis consistent with GAAP.

Request for Information

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Association's finances for all those with an interest in the organization's finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional financial information should be addressed to the NDACo Operations Director, 1661 Capitol Way, PO Box 877, Bismarck ND 58502-0877.

North Dakota Association of Counties

Statement of Net Position

December 31, 2024

	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities	Total
Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 5,409	\$ 3,666,097	\$ 3,671,506
Restricted cash	4,471	-	4,471
Certificates of deposit	-	1,250,021	1,250,021
Restricted investments	55,495	-	55,495
Accounts receivable	-	498,077	498,077
Federal taxes receivable	-	7,000	7,000
Grants receivable	139,141	-	139,141
Accrued interest receivable	-	56,885	56,885
Due from fiduciary fund	-	380,094	380,094
Lease receivable	-	87,455	87,455
Inventories	-	52,742	52,742
Prepaid items	-	88,465	88,465
Long-term investments	-	8,949,568	8,949,568
Deferred income taxes	-	20,000	20,000
Capital assets not being depreciated/amortized			
Land	-	178,558	178,558
Construction in Progress	-	-	-
Capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation/ and amortization)			
Buildings and improvements	-	2,651,379	2,651,379
Furniture and equipment	-	48,246	48,246
Vehicles	-	8,168	8,168
Right-to-use leased property	-	30,477	30,477
Total assets	<u>\$ 204,516</u>	<u>\$ 17,973,232</u>	<u>\$ 18,177,748</u>
Liabilities			
Accounts payable	\$ 139,141	\$ 1,754,184	\$ 1,893,325
Accrued longevity program payable	-	5,917	5,917
Unearned revenue	-	362,693	362,693
Income tax payable	-	-	-
Accrued expenses	-	1,654,883	1,654,883
Compensated absences payable	-	256,326	256,326
Lease liability - due within one year	-	20,851	20,851
Lease liability - due in more than one year	-	9,756	9,756
Deferred income taxes	-	6,000	6,000
Total liabilities	<u>139,141</u>	<u>4,070,610</u>	<u>4,209,751</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources			
Lease related	<u>-</u>	<u>81,071</u>	<u>81,071</u>
Net Position			
Net investment in capital assets	-	2,886,221	2,886,221
Restricted for scholarships	59,966	-	59,966
Unrestricted	<u>5,409</u>	<u>10,935,330</u>	<u>10,940,739</u>
Total net position	<u>65,375</u>	<u>13,821,551</u>	<u>13,886,926</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and net position	<u>\$ 204,516</u>	<u>\$ 17,973,232</u>	<u>\$ 18,177,748</u>

North Dakota Association of Counties

Statement of Activities

Year Ended December 31, 2024

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues		Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position		Total
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities	Business - Type Activities	
Primary Government						
Justice Grants	\$ 469,543	\$ -	\$ 469,543	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Institute of Local Government	12,420	-	-	(12,420)	-	(12,420)
Total governmental activities	481,963	-	469,543	(12,420)	-	(12,420)
Business-Type Activities						
Operating	8,292,960	6,514,229	1,375,088	-	(403,643)	(403,643)
NDACo Resources	2,842,508	2,833,843	-	-	(8,665)	(8,665)
Total business-type activities	11,135,468	9,348,072	1,375,088	-	(412,308)	(412,308)
Total government	\$ 11,617,431	\$ 9,348,072	\$ 1,844,631	(12,420)	(412,308)	(424,728)
General Revenues						
				-	233,425	233,425
				-	28,440	28,440
				-	899,074	899,074
				10,439	-	10,439
				-	3,515	3,515
				10,439	1,164,454	1,174,893
				(1,981)	752,146	750,165
				67,356	13,069,405	13,136,761
				\$ 65,375	\$ 13,821,551	\$ 13,886,926

North Dakota Association of Counties

Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds

December 31, 2024

	Justice Grants	Institute of Local Government	Total Governmental Funds
Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ -	\$ 5,409	\$ 5,409
Restricted cash	-	4,471	4,471
Restricted investments	-	55,495	55,495
Grants receivable	139,141	-	139,141
Total assets	\$ 139,141	\$ 65,375	\$ 204,516
Liabilities and Fund Balances			
Liabilities			
Accounts payable	\$ 139,141	\$ -	\$ 139,141
Total liabilities	139,141	-	139,141
Fund Balances			
Restricted for scholarships	-	59,966	59,966
Assigned for scholarships	-	5,409	5,409
Total fund balances	-	65,375	65,375
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$ 139,141	\$ 65,375	\$ 204,516

North Dakota Association of Counties
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	<u>Justice Grants</u>	<u>Institute of Local Government</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
Revenues			
Grants	\$ 469,543	\$ -	\$ 469,543
Other general revenue	<u>-</u>	<u>10,439</u>	<u>10,439</u>
Total revenues	<u>469,543</u>	<u>10,439</u>	<u>479,982</u>
Expenditures			
Salaries	28,514	-	28,514
Travel	11,066	-	11,066
Other operating costs	2,852	12,420	15,272
Justice Grant Programs	<u>427,111</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>427,111</u>
Total expenditures	<u>469,543</u>	<u>12,420</u>	<u>481,963</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	-	(1,981)	(1,981)
Fund Balance - January 1	<u>-</u>	<u>67,356</u>	<u>67,356</u>
Fund Balance - December 31	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 65,375</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 65,375</u></u>

North Dakota Association of Counties

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances - Budget and Actual - Governmental Funds

Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Justice Grants			Institute of Local Government		
	Original/Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget	Original/Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
Revenues						
Grants	\$ 500,000	\$ 469,543	\$ (30,457)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other general revenue	-	-	-	9,000	10,439	1,439
Total revenues	500,000	469,543	(30,457)	9,000	10,439	1,439
Expenditures						
Current						
Salaries	-	28,514	(28,514)	-	-	-
Travel	-	11,066	(11,066)	-	-	-
Other operating costs	-	2,852	(2,852)	12,500	12,420	80
Justice Grant Programs	500,000	427,111	72,889	-	-	-
Total expenditures	500,000	469,543	30,457	12,500	12,420	80
Net Change in Fund Balances	-	-	-	(3,500)	(1,981)	1,519
Fund Balance - January 1	-	-	-	67,356	67,356	-
Fund Balance - December 31	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 63,856	\$ 65,375	\$ 1,519

North Dakota Association of Counties

Statement of Net Position - Proprietary Funds

December 31, 2024

	NDACo Operating Fund	NDACo Resources Group	Total
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,238,804	\$ 427,293	\$ 3,666,097
Certificates of deposit	1,041,918	208,103	1,250,021
Accounts receivable	442,541	55,536	498,077
Federal taxes receivable	-	7,000	7,000
Due from fiduciary fund	380,094	-	380,094
Lease receivable	87,455	-	87,455
Accrued interest receivable	53,226	3,659	56,885
Inventories	-	52,742	52,742
Prepaid items	62,901	25,564	88,465
Total current assets	5,306,939	779,897	6,086,836
Capital Assets			
Land	178,558	-	178,558
Buildings and improvements	4,847,976	-	4,847,976
Furniture and equipment	482,826	156,939	639,765
Vehicles	108,994	-	108,994
Software	-	5,909	5,909
Right-to-use leased property	-	63,273	63,273
	5,618,354	226,121	5,844,475
Less accumulated depreciation/amortization	(2,741,753)	(185,894)	(2,927,647)
Net capital assets	2,876,601	40,227	2,916,828
Other Assets			
Deferred income taxes	-	20,000	20,000
Long-term investments	8,448,362	501,206	8,949,568
Total other assets	8,448,362	521,206	8,969,568
Total assets	\$ 16,631,902	\$ 1,341,330	\$ 17,973,232

North Dakota Association of Counties

Statement of Net Position - Proprietary Funds

December 31, 2024

	NDACo Operating Fund	NDACo Resources Group	Total
Liabilities and Net Position			
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts payable	\$ 1,694,145	\$ 60,039	\$ 1,754,184
Accrued longevity program payable	5,917	-	5,917
Accrued expenses	1,630,826	24,057	1,654,883
Compensated absences payable	196,336	59,990	256,326
Lease liability	-	20,851	20,851
Unearned revenue	250,854	111,839	362,693
Total current liabilities	3,778,078	276,776	4,054,854
Noncurrent Liabilities			
Lease liability	-	9,756	9,756
Deferred income taxes	-	6,000	6,000
Total noncurrent liabilities	-	15,756	15,756
Total liabilities	3,778,078	292,532	4,070,610
Deferred Inflows of Resources			
Lease related	81,071	-	81,071
Net Position			
Net investment in capital assets	2,876,601	9,620	2,886,221
Unrestricted	9,896,152	1,039,178	10,935,330
Total net position	12,772,753	1,048,798	13,821,551
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balance	\$ 16,631,902	\$ 1,341,330	\$ 17,973,232

North Dakota Association of Counties

Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Balances - Proprietary Funds

Year Ended December 31, 2024

	NDACo Operating Fund	NDACo Resources Group	Total
Operating Revenues			
NDACo publication sales	\$ 49,868	\$ -	\$ 49,868
Cost of goods sold	(32,933)	-	(32,933)
Gross Margin	16,935	-	16,935
Charges for services			
County Dues	727,757	-	727,757
Conferences and workshops	237,831	-	237,831
Commissions	-	28,440	28,440
NDACo programs	4,727,027	-	4,727,027
Special projects	771,746	2,833,843	3,605,589
Total operating revenues	6,481,296	2,862,283	9,343,579
Operating Expenses			
Salaries	2,011,042	996,674	3,007,716
Fringe benefits	650,169	345,827	995,996
Payroll taxes	153,864	77,912	231,776
Travel	98,006	5,126	103,132
Supplies and equipment	14,440	1,395	15,835
Legislative	13,865	-	13,865
Fees and services	61,913	61,213	123,126
Building expenses	180,807	97,864	278,671
Other operating costs	25,165	51,128	76,293
Depreciation/amortization	178,054	26,640	204,694
Conferences and workshops	206,942	5,832	212,774
Special NDACo programs	3,928,833	-	3,928,833
Special Projects	735,079	1,169,759	1,904,838
Interest expense on leases	1,848	2,888	4,736
Total operating expenses	8,260,027	2,842,258	11,102,285
Operating income (loss)	(1,778,731)	20,025	(1,758,706)
Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)			
Grant revenue	1,375,088	-	1,375,088
Building rent and lease revenue	233,425	-	233,425
Investment income	823,588	75,486	899,074
Income tax expense	-	(250)	(250)
Gain on disposal of capital assets	3,515	-	3,515
Total non-operating revenues	2,435,616	75,236	2,510,852
Change in Net Position	656,885	95,261	752,146
Net Position - January 1	12,115,868	953,537	13,069,405
Net Position - December 31	\$ 12,772,753	\$ 1,048,798	\$ 13,821,551

North Dakota Association of Counties

Statement of Cash Flows - Proprietary Funds

Year Ended December 31, 2024

	NDACo Operating Fund	NDACo Resources Group	Total
Operating Activities			
Cash received for services provided to counties and other users	\$ 6,489,352	\$ 2,980,201	\$ 9,469,553
Cash paid for NDACo operations	(4,598,588)	(1,404,326)	(6,002,914)
Cash paid to/on behalf of employees	(2,821,579)	(1,416,807)	(4,238,386)
Net Cash from (used for) Operating Activities	(930,815)	159,068	(771,747)
Noncapital Financing Activity			
Cash received for building rent and other fees	233,425	-	233,425
Capital and Related Financing Activities			
Proceeds on sale of capital assets	11,100	-	11,100
Grants received	1,375,088	-	1,375,088
Purchase of capital assets	(61,199)	(6,011)	(67,210)
Payment of lease principal	(129,161)	(22,333)	(151,494)
Cash received on lease receivables	133,384	-	133,384
Net Cash from (used for) Capital and Related Financing Activities	1,329,212	(28,344)	1,300,868
Investing Activities			
Purchase of investments	(8,900,000)	-	(8,900,000)
Proceeds from maturity of investment	9,350,000	34,715	9,384,715
Dividends and interest income	701,421	33,512	734,933
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	1,151,421	68,227	1,219,648
Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents	1,783,243	198,951	1,982,194
Cash and Cash Equivalents, January 1	1,455,561	228,342	1,683,903
Cash and Cash Equivalents, December 31	\$ 3,238,804	\$ 427,293	\$ 3,666,097

North Dakota Association of Counties

Statement of Cash Flows - Proprietary Funds

Year Ended December 31, 2024

	NDACo Operating Fund	NDACo Resources Group	Total
Operating Income (Loss)	\$ (1,778,731)	\$ 20,025	\$ (1,758,706)
Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Income (Loss) to net cash from (used for) Operating Activities			
Depreciation and amortization expense	178,054	26,640	204,694
Interest expense on leases	1,848	2,888	4,736
Income tax expense	-	(250)	(250)
Changes in assets and liabilities			
Receivables	(191,841)	30,268	(161,573)
Inventories	-	(18,694)	(18,694)
Prepaid items	(8,503)	(11,584)	(20,087)
Deferred income taxes	-	5,000	5,000
Accounts payable	617,004	15,956	632,960
Accrued longevity program payable	(12,836)	-	(12,836)
Accrued expenses	691,409	4,563	695,972
Compensated absences payable	6,332	3,606	9,938
Unearned revenue	(433,551)	80,650	(352,901)
Net Cash from (used for) Operating Activities	<u>\$ (930,815)</u>	<u>\$ 159,068</u>	<u>\$ (771,747)</u>
Non-Cash Disclosure			
Increase in fair value of investments	\$ 59,906	\$ 35,178	\$ 95,084

North Dakota Association of Counties
Statement of Net Position - Fiduciary Funds
December 31, 2024

	Custodial Fund
Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,256,844
Investments	<u>1,897,438</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 4,154,282</u>
Liabilities	
Due to primary government	<u>\$ 380,094</u>
Net Position	
Restricted for NG 911	<u>3,774,188</u>
Total liabilities and net position	<u>\$ 4,154,282</u>

North Dakota Association of Counties
Statement of Changes in Net Position - Fiduciary Funds
Year Ended December 31, 2024

	Custodial Fund
Additions	
911 fee collections	\$ 16,554,981
Interest income	19,942
	<hr/>
Total additions	16,574,923
	<hr/>
Deductions	
911 fee collection payouts	15,075,509
	<hr/>
Change In Net Position	1,499,414
Net Position, January 1	2,274,774
	<hr/>
Net Position, December 31	\$ 3,774,188
	<hr/> <hr/>

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The North Dakota Association of Counties (the Association) is a nonprofit North Dakota Corporation which has received tax exempt status under section 501 (C)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code. The financial statements of the Association have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). The more significant of the Association's accounting policies are described below.

Financial Reporting Entity

For financial reporting purposes, the North Dakota Association of Counties has included all funds and has considered all potential component units for which the Association is financially accountable, and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationships with the Association are such that exclusion would cause the Association's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. The Government Accounting Standards Board has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. This criterion includes appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body and (1) the ability of the Association to impose its will on that organization or (2) the potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on the Association.

A blended component unit is a separate legal entity. The blended component unit's governing body is the same or substantially the same as the Association, or the component unit provides services entirely to or on behalf of the Association. These component unit funds are blended into those of the Association by appropriate fund type to constitute the primary government presentation.

Blended component units of the Association are as follows:

Institute of Local Government - Created as a wholly owned component unit of the Association for a scholarship fund and specific grants and other projects.

NDACo Resource Group - Created as a wholly owned component unit of the Association. It was created to perform technology support for counties, state and local governments, and private companies. It is considered a C-Corporation.

Basis of Presentation

The financial statements of the Association have been prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). The GASB is the standard setting body for governmental accounting and financial reporting.

Government-Wide Statements

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the Association. These statements include the financial activities of the overall Association, except for fiduciary activities. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double counting of internal activities. These statements distinguish between the governmental and the business-type activities of the Association. Governmental activities generally are financed through intergovernmental revenues and other non-exchange transactions. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in part by fees charged to external parties. As a general rule, the effect of interfund activity has been eliminated from the government wide financial statements.

The Statement of Net Position reports all financial and capital resources, in a net position form (Net position represents the difference between all other elements in a statement of financial position). Net Position is displayed in three components, as applicable, net investment in capital assets, restricted (distinguishing between major categories of restrictions), and unrestricted.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the Association's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each segment of the business-type activities of the Association and for each function of the Association's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include a) charges paid by recipients of goods and services offered by the programs and b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues.

Net Position

Net position represents the difference between (a) assets and deferred outflows of resources and (b) liabilities and deferred inflows of resources in the Association's financial statements. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation/amortization, reduced by the outstanding balances of any long-term debt attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets. Restricted net position consists of restricted assets reduced by liabilities and deferred inflows of resources related to those assets. Unrestricted net position is the net amount of assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources that are not included in the determination of net investment in capital assets or the restricted component of net position.

Fund Financial Statements

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide statements. Major individual governmental funds and major individual proprietary funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

Fund Balance Classification Policies and Procedures

In accordance with Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) No. 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions, the Association classifies governmental fund balances as follows:

- **Nonspendable** - includes fund balance amounts that cannot be spent either because it is not in spendable form or because of legal or contractual constraints.
- **Restricted** - includes fund balance amounts that are constrained for specific purposes which are externally imposed by providers, such as creditors or amounts constrained due to constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- **Committed** - includes fund balance amounts that are constrained for specific purposes that are internally imposed by the government through formal action of the highest level of decision-making authority and does not lapse at year-end.
- **Assigned** - includes fund balance amounts that are intended to be used for specific purposes that are neither considered restricted or committed. Fund Balance may be assigned by the Executive Director.
- **Unassigned** - includes positive fund balance within the General Fund which has not been classified within the above-mentioned categories and negative fund balances in other governmental funds.

The Association uses *restricted* amounts first when both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available unless there are legal documents/contracts that prohibit doing this, such as a grant agreement requiring dollar for dollar spending. Additionally, the Association would first use *committed*, then *assigned*, and lastly *unassigned* amounts of unrestricted fund balance when expenditures are made.

The Association does not have a formal minimum fund balance policy.

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, as are the proprietary fund financial statements. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. The Association considers all revenues reported in the governmental funds to be available if the revenues are collected within sixty days after year-end. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due.

Operating revenues consist of sales of goods and services, quasi-external operating transactions with other funds, grant revenue for specific activities that are considered to be operating activities of the grantor, and other miscellaneous revenue that should be classified as operating. Grants that would qualify as an operating activity are those that do not subsidize an existing program, rather they finance a program the Association would not otherwise undertake. All other revenues that do not meet the above criteria should be classified as non-operating.

Financial Statement Presentation

The Association reports the following major governmental funds:

Justice Grants - the Association's fund used to help counties apply for and administer federal and state grant programs for juvenile delinquency prevention and enforcement. The program assists with a variety of delinquency and youth development activities involving other government and community-based organizations.

Institute of Local Government - ILG runs a scholarship fund and houses special grants and other projects.

The Association reported the following major proprietary funds:

NDACo Operating Fund - This fund tracks the services provided to counties, from publications to administering various programs.

NDACo Resource Group - Performs technology support for counties, state and local government, and private companies.

The Association reported the following fiduciary fund:

NG 911 - Used to account for resources held for the benefit of the NG 911 fund for the running of that program for the counties, which is an organization outside of NDACo.

Budgets

Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include amounts in demand deposits, savings accounts, and money market accounts with an original maturity of three months or less.

Certificates of Deposit

Certificates of deposit consist of interest-bearing deposits with financial institutions and are carried at amortized cost.

Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable consist of amounts due from member counties for their membership dues that were billed in 2024; and amounts due from individuals, companies, or organizations for goods and services provided prior to December 31.

The Company estimates an allowance for uncollectible accounts, which is determined based on historical experience, an assessment of economic conditions, and a review of subsequent collections. Accounts receivable are written off when deemed uncollectible. At December 31, 2024, management determined that an allowance was deemed unnecessary.

Grants Receivable

The Association's grant receivables consist of grant revenue that has been earned but not received.

Inventories

Inventories consist of technology supplies to be sold to customers and are valued at cost, using the first-in / first-out (FIFO) method.

Prepaid Items

Prepaid items consist of amounts paid in advance to various vendors for rental contracts and other agreements, prior to December 31, and will be amortized over future periods.

Investments

Investments consist of certificates of deposit and monies invested with Colliers, Kirkwood Bank and Trust, and the ND State Investment Board, which include funds invested in various stock indexes, convertible securities and government/corporate domestic bond indexes; and 90-day Treasury Bills. Investments are carried at fair value in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 72, *Fair Value Measurement and Application*.

Restricted Cash and Investments

Certain items in the Institute of Local Government fund are classified as restricted cash and investments on the balance sheet because their use is limited by applicable donor restrictions for scholarships.

Capital Assets

The Association's capital assets consist of land, buildings, improvements, furniture and equipment, and vehicles. These assets are capitalized in the general fund and are depreciated over the estimated useful life of the asset on a straight-line basis. Donated capital assets are recorded at acquisition value. Acquisition value is the price that would have been paid to acquire a capital asset with equivalent service potential. The following estimated useful lives are used to compute depreciation:

Building and improvements	15-50 years
Equipment	3-10 years
Furniture and equipment	3-10 years
Software	3-5 years
Vehicles	3-7 years

The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend lives are not capitalized. The threshold for capital improvements for NDACo Operating Fund is \$2,500, while the threshold for all other assets and funds is \$1,000.

Right to use leased assets are recognized at the lease commencement date and represent the Association's right to use an underlying asset for the lease term. Right to use leased assets are measured at the initial value of the lease liability, plus any payments made to the lessor before commencement of the lease term, less any lease incentives received from the lessor at or before the commencement of the lease term, plus any initial direct costs necessary to place the lease asset into service. Right to use leased assets are amortized over the shorter of the lease term or useful life of the underlying asset using the straight-line method. The amortization period for all right to use leased assets is within three years.

Accounts Payable

Accounts payable consists of amounts on open account for goods and services received prior to December 31, 2024, but paid for subsequent to that date.

Accrued Longevity Program Payable

Accrued longevity program payable consists of amounts incurred for future distribution to staff members who have devoted years of service to the Association.

Unearned Revenue

Unearned revenue consists of grant proceeds for which asset recognition criteria have been met, but for which revenue recognition criteria have not been met; and amounts due from member counties for their 2025 membership dues and workers compensation premiums, which were billed and collected in December 2024.

Compensated Absences

Employees are paid for paid time off (PTO) up to 300 hours. Upon termination of employment, employees will be paid for vacation benefits that have accrued at the employee's rate of pay on their last day of employment. Vested paid time off (PTO) is reported as an expense of the appropriate funds. Compensated absences represent the liability of the Association for these employee benefits. No liability is recorded for nonvesting accumulating rights to receive sick leave benefits.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures (such as estimated useful lives in determining depreciation expense); accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

Lease Liability

Lease liabilities represent the Association's obligation to make lease payments arising from the lease. Lease liabilities are recognized at the lease commencement date based on the present value of future lease payments expected to be made during the lease term. The present value of lease payments are discounted based on a borrowing rate determined by the Association.

Income Taxes

For the NDA Co Resources Group, Inc., income taxes are provided for the tax effects of transactions reported in the financial statements and consist of taxes currently due plus deferred taxes related primarily to the difference between the basis of net operating loss, charitable contributions, property and equipment, and accrued expenses for financial and income tax reporting. The deferred tax assets and liabilities represent the future tax return consequences of those differences, which will either be taxable or deductible when the assets and liabilities are recovered or settled. Deferred tax assets are reduced by a valuation allowance when, in the opinion of management, it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized.

We believe the Resources Group has appropriate support for any tax position taken affecting its annual filing requirements, and as such, does not have any uncertain tax positions that are material to the financial statements. The Resources Group will recognize future accrued interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits in income tax expense if incurred. The Resources Group is no longer subject to Federal tax examinations by tax authorities for years before 2021 and state examinations for years before 2021.

Deferred Inflows of Resources

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred inflows of resources*, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will *not* be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time.

The Association has one type of item that qualify for reporting in this category. The deferred inflows of resources (revenue) related to leases where the Association is the lessor and is reported in the statement of net position – proprietary funds and statement of net position. The deferred inflows of resources related to leases are recognized as in inflow of resources (revenue) on the straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

Subsequent Events

The Association has evaluated subsequent events through **REPORT DATE**, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued **REPORT DATE**.

Note 2 - Deposits**Custodial Credit Risk**

The Association has a custodial credit risk policy in that not more than the maximum amount insurable by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) may be deposited in any particular bank unless assets are pledged by the financial institution in the amount of the funds deposited. Also, not more than the maximum amount insurable by the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation (FSLIC) may be deposited in savings and loan associations unless assets are pledged as collateral by the financial institution in the amount of the funds deposited.

At December 31, 2024 the Association's carrying amount of deposits, including certificates of deposit with financial institutions, was \$4,981,493. Of the bank balance, \$500,000 was covered by Federal Depository Insurance. The remaining balance was collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's agent in the government's name. The NG 911 fund had deposits, including certificates of deposit with financial institutions, of \$4,154,282 that are collateralized with securities.

Note 3 - Investments**Interest Rate Risk**

The Association has an investment policy that limits investments as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from changing interest rates. Cash and equivalents and certificates of deposit can make up to 10% of the portfolio balance, equities can make up to 30% of the balance and fixed income make up the remainder of the portfolio. The minimum credit rate for corporate bonds and bonds issued by agencies of the federal government, municipalities, or states are Baa as rated by Moody's or BBB as rated by the S&P. On a dollar weighted basis, the quality rating of the bond portfolio must be A or better. Preference will be given to purchasing bonds of North Dakota municipalities rated at least Baa by Moody's or BBB by S&P, respectively. No single industry group shall constitute more than 25% of the market value of the fixed income portion of the portfolio. No more than 25% of the fixed income portfolio will be "callable". Any security downgraded below its approved quality level must be disposed of in an orderly market manner within 90 days unless exception is granted by the Association's Finance Committee.

Investments	Amount	N/A	Maturity Less Than 1 Year	Maturity 1-5 Years	Maturity 6-10 Years	Maturity Over 10 Years
Fixed Income	\$ 6,720,317	\$ 10,065	\$ 1,039,990	\$ 2,164,253	\$ 2,157,515	\$ 1,348,494
Certificates of deposit	1,250,021	-	1,250,021	-	-	-
Restricted certificates of deposit	55,495	-	15,092	40,403	-	-
Equity securities	2,126,298	2,126,298	-	-	-	-
Pooled Funds in State Investment Board	102,953	102,953	-	-	-	-
	<u>\$ 10,255,084</u>	<u>\$ 2,239,316</u>	<u>\$ 2,305,103</u>	<u>\$ 2,204,656</u>	<u>\$ 2,157,515</u>	<u>\$ 1,348,494</u>

Reported on the Statement of Net Position as the following:

Long-term investments	\$ 8,949,568
Restricted investments	55,495
Certificates of deposit	<u>1,250,021</u>
Total investments	<u>\$ 10,255,084</u>

The custodial fund has restricted certificates of deposit totaling \$1,897,438 at December 31, 2024. The entire amount of restricted certificates of deposit mature in 2025.

Credit Risk

Investments that are measured at fair value using the net asset value per share (or its equivalent) as a practical expedient are not classified in the fair value hierarchy.

The investments of the Association's pooled funds are investments with Colliers and Kirkwood Bank and Trust.

The Association does not have a limit on the amount the Association may invest in any one issuer.

Fair Value Measurement

The Association categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset and give the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (level 3 measurements).

Level 1 Unadjusted quoted prices for identical instruments in active markets.

Level 2 Quoted prices for similar instruments in active markets; quoted prices for identical or similar instruments in markets that are not active; and model-derived valuations in which all significant inputs are observable.

Level 3 Valuations derived from valuation techniques in which significant inputs are unobservable.

The following table shows the fair value leveling of the Association's investment portfolio at December 31, 2024:

Investments	Fair Value 12-31-24	Fair Value Measurements Using		
		Level 1 Inputs	Level 2 Inputs	Level 3 Inputs
Fixed income investments				
Municipal bonds	\$ 1,587,342	\$ -	\$ 1,587,342	\$ -
Corporate bonds	1,511,568	-	1,511,568	-
Certificates of deposit	1,761,236	-	1,761,236	-
U.S. Treasuries	1,860,171	1,860,171	-	-
Total fixed income securities	6,720,317	1,860,171	4,860,146	-
Equity investments				
Stocks	698,504	698,504	-	-
Exchange traded funds	1,427,794	1,427,794	-	-
Total equity investments	2,126,298	2,126,298	-	-
Total Investments at fair value	\$ 8,846,615	\$ 3,986,469	\$ 4,860,146	\$ -

Investments measured at net asset value (NAV):

Short-term investment fund	\$ 102,953
Total investments measured at net asset value	102,953

Investments measured at other than fair value:

Certificates of deposit	1,250,021
Restricted certificates of deposit	55,495
Total investments measured at other than fair value	1,305,516
Total investments	\$10,255,084

North Dakota Association of Counties

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2024

Note 4 - Capital Assets

The following is a schedule of changes in capital assets during the year ended December 31, 2024:

Proprietary Funds

	Balance 01-01-24	Additions	Deletions	Balance 12-31-24
Capital assets not being depreciated/amortized				
Land	\$ 178,558	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 178,558
Capital assets being depreciated/amortized				
Buildings and improvements - NDACo	4,810,710	37,266	-	4,847,976
Equipment	482,469	23,933	23,576	482,826
Furniture and equipment - NRG	150,928	6,011	-	156,939
Vehicles - NDACo	108,994	-	-	108,994
Software - NRG	5,909	-	-	5,909
Right-to-use leased property - NRG	63,273	-	-	63,273
Total capital assets being depreciated/amortized	5,622,283	67,210	23,576	5,665,917
Less accumulated depreciated/amortized				
Buildings and improvements	2,040,315	156,282	-	2,196,597
Equipment	446,088	14,233	15,991	444,330
Furniture and equipment - NRG	141,640	5,549	-	147,189
Vehicles - NDACo	93,287	7,539	-	100,826
Software - NRG	5,909	-	-	5,909
Right-to-use leased property - NRG	11,705	21,091	-	32,796
Total accumulated depreciation/amortization	2,738,944	204,694	15,991	2,927,647
Total capital assets, net	\$ 3,061,897	\$ (137,484)	\$ 7,585	\$ 2,916,828

Depreciation/amortization expense was allocated to proprietary funds as follows:

Fund	Amount
NDACo Operating Fund	\$ 178,054
NDACo Resources Group	26,640
Total depreciation/amortization	\$ 204,694

Note 5 - Leases**Leases Receivable**

The Association has accrued a receivable for one office lease. Three office leases reached maturity in December 2024, and they were renewed subsequent to year end, effective January 1, 2025. The remaining receivable for these lease was \$87,455 for the year ended December 31, 2024. Deferred inflows related to this lease was \$81,071 as of December 31, 2024. Interest revenue recognized on all leases was \$10,987 for the year ended December 31, 2024. Principal receipts of \$133,384 were recognized during the fiscal year. The interest rate on each lease is 7%. Final receipt is expected in the fiscal year 2028.

Lease Payable

The Association has entered into three lease agreements for the acquisition and use of vehicles. The Association is required to make principal and interest payments through June 2026. The lease agreements have an interest rate of 7%.

Changes in the lease payable during the year ended December 31, 2024, are as follows:

Balance January 1, 2024	Additions	Deletions	Balance December 31, 2024	Due Within One Year
\$ 50,052	\$ -	\$ 19,445	\$ 30,607	\$ 20,851

The future principal and interest lease payments as of December 31, 2024, were as follows:

Year Ending December 31	Principal	Interest
2025	\$ 20,851	\$ 1,482
2026	9,756	182
Total	\$ 30,607	\$ 1,664

Note 6 - Risk Management

The North Dakota Association of Counties is exposed to various risks of loss relating to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters.

In 1986, state agencies and political subdivisions of the State of North Dakota joined together to form the North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund (NDIRF), a public entity risk pool currently operating as a common risk management and insurance program for the state and over 2,000 political subdivisions. The Association pays an annual premium to NDIRF for its general liability and auto insurance coverage. The coverage by NDIRF is limited to losses of \$1,000,000 per occurrence.

NDACo Resources Group is not included in the NDIRF coverage, they pay an annual premium to Acuity for its general liability and auto insurance coverage. The coverage by Acuity is limited to losses of \$1,000,000 per occurrence. NRG also has Directors and Officers Liability insurance through Philadelphia Indemnity Insurance Company with a per claim limit of \$1,000,000.

The Association also participates in the North Dakota Fire and Tornado Fund and the State Bonding Fund. The Association pays an annual premium to the Fire and Tornado Fund to cover property damage to personal property. Replacement cost coverage is provided by estimating replacement cost in consultation with the Fire and Tornado Fund. The Fire and Tornado Fund is reinsured by a third-party insurance carrier for losses in excess of \$1,000,000 per occurrence during a 12-month period. As of 2021, the Fire and Tornado Fund is administered by the North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund. The State Bonding Fund currently provides the Association with a blanket fidelity bond coverage in the amount of \$2,000,000 for its employees. The State Bonding Fund does not currently charge any premium for this coverage.

The Association participates in the North Dakota Worker's Compensation Bureau and purchases commercial insurance for employee health and accident.

Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

Note 7 - Defined Contribution Plan

The North Dakota Association of Counties contributes to the North Dakota Association of Counties 401(a) Plan, a defined contribution plan, for its full-time employees. North Dakota Association of Counties 401(a) Plan is administered by the NDACo Board of Directors. Benefit terms, including contribution requirements, for the Plan are established and may be amended by the NDACo Board of Directors. The North Dakota Association of Counties is required to contribute 12 percent of annual base salary to individual employee accounts for each participating employee. Employees are not permitted to make contributions. For the years ended December 31, 2024, 2023, and 2022, the North Dakota Association of Counties recognized expense related to the plan of \$209,606, \$206,844, and \$199,567, respectively.

Employees become vested in the North Dakota Association of Counties contributions and earnings on the North Dakota Association of Counties contributions after completion of 12 months of creditable service. Nonvested contributions are forfeited upon termination of employment and such forfeitures are used to pay a portion of the Plan's administrative expenses. For the years ended December 31, 2024, 2023, and 2022, forfeitures reduced the North Dakota Association of Counties' plan expense by \$0.

NDACo Resources Group contributes to the NDACo Resources Group Incorporated Retirement 401(k) Plan, a defined contribution pension plan, for its employees who work 1,000 hours or more per year. NDACo Resources Group Incorporated Retirement 401(k) Plan is administered by the NDACo Resources Group Board of Directors. Benefit terms, including contribution requirements, for the Plan are established and may be amended by the NDACo Resources Group Board of Directors. The NDACo Resources Group is required to contribute 10.12 percent of annual salary, exclusive of overtime pay, to individual employee accounts for each participating employee. Employees are permitted to make deferrals in addition to the employer contributions. For the years ended December 31, 2024, 2023, and 2022, the NDACo Resources Group recognized pension expense of \$98,671, \$84,196, and \$71,590, respectively.

Employees qualify for the NDACo Resources Group contributions and earnings after 12 months employment and a minimum of 1,000 hours of service. Nonvested contributions are forfeited upon termination of employment and such forfeitures are used to pay a portion of the Plan's administrative expenses. For the years ended December 31, 2024, 2023, and 2022, forfeitures reduced NDACo Resources Group's pension expense by \$0.

Note 8 - Income Taxes

The provision for income taxes charged to income for the year ended December 31, 2024, consists of the following:

Currently payable	\$ 5,250
Deferred income taxes	<u>(5,000)</u>
Income tax expense	<u>\$ 250</u>

The provision for income taxes included in the statement of revenue and expenses and changes in fund balance proprietary fund's effective income tax rate is lower than what it would be expected if the federal statutory rate were applied to income from continuing operations primarily because of expenses deductible for financial reporting purposes that are not deductible for tax purposes, revenue included for financial purposes are not included in revenue for tax purposes, and net operating loss carryforwards.

Deferred income tax assets and liabilities in the accompanying balance sheets - proprietary funds include the following components:

Deferred tax assets	
Vacation accrual	\$ 14,000
Federal NOL carryforward	4,000
Charitable contributions	<u>2,000</u>
Total deferred tax asset	<u>\$ 20,000</u>
Deferred tax liabilities	
Unrealized investment gains	<u>\$ (6,000)</u>
Total deferred tax liability	<u>\$ (6,000)</u>

DRAFT

Supplementary Information
December 31, 2024

North Dakota Association of Counties

North Dakota Association of Counties
Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
December 31, 2024

Federal Grantor / Pass-Through Grantor/Program or Cluster Title	Federal Financial Assistance Listing	Pass-Through Entity Identifying Number	Expenditures	Amounts Passed Through to Subrecipients
U.S. Department of Transportation				
Passed through the North Dakota State				
Department of Transportation				
Alcohol Traffic Safety Incentive Grant	20.608	PHSPID24100701	\$ 62,252 \$ -	\$ -
Alcohol Traffic Safety Incentive Grant	20.608	PHSPID25100701	44,979	-
Alcohol Traffic Safety Incentive Grant	20.608	PHSPID25100702	363	-
Total Alcohol Traffic Safety Incentive Grant (TSRP)			<u>107,594</u>	<u>-</u>
Vision Zero Outreach Program	20.600	PHSPCP24090301	137,821	
Vision Zero Outreach Program	20.600	PHSPCP25090301	40,157	
Vision Zero Outreach Program	20.600	PHSPCP24090302	481,836	389,898
Vision Zero Outreach Program	20.600	PHSPCP25090302	199,559	86,893
Total Vision Zero Outreach Program (VZOP) - (Highway Safety Cluster)			<u>859,373</u>	<u>476,791</u>
Total U.S. Department of Transportation			<u>966,967</u>	<u>476,791</u>
U.S. Department of Health and Human Service				
Passed through the North Dakota				
Department of Health				
Local Health Officer Training	93.391	NH75OT000095	7,562	-
Local Public Health Leadership Development	93.967	NE11OE000064	22,673	-
Local Public Health Strategic Relations	93.391	NH75OT000095	26,917	-
Total U.S. Department of Health and Human Service			<u>57,152</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Federal Financial Assistance			<u>\$ 1,024,119</u>	<u>\$ 476,791</u>

Note 1 - Basis of Presentation

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards (the schedule) includes the federal award activity of the North Dakota Association of Counties under programs of the federal government for the year ended December 31, 2024. The information is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the North Dakota Association of Counties, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net position or fund balance, or cash flows of the North Dakota Association of Counties.

Note 2 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Expenditures reported in the schedule are reported on the modified accrual basis of accounting within governmental activities and on the accrual basis of accounting within business-type activities, and subrecipient expenditures are recorded on the cash basis. When applicable, such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement.

Note 3 - Indirect Cost Rate

As of October 2024, the North Dakota Association of Counties has elected to use the 15% de minimis cost rate, implementing when each grant/program new year begins. From January 1, 2024 to September 30, 2024, the Association used the 10% de minimis cost rate.

Independent Auditor’s Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards

Board of Directors
North Dakota Association of Counties
Bismarck, North Dakota

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the North Dakota Association of Counties (“the Association”) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Association’s basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated **REPORT DATE**.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Association's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Association's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Association’s financial statements will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. We did identify a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as item 2024-001 that we consider to be a significant deficiency.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Association's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

North Dakota Association of Counties' Response to the Finding

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the Association's response to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. The Association's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Association's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Bismarck, North Dakota

REPORT DATE

Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for the Major Federal Program; Report on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance

Board of Directors
North Dakota Association of Counties
Bismarck, North Dakota

Report on Compliance for the Major Federal Program

Opinion on the Major Federal Program

We have audited North Dakota Association of Counties' ("the Association") compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on the Association's major federal program for the year ended December 31, 2024. The Association's major federal program is identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, the Association complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on its major federal program for the year ended December 31, 2024.

Basis for Opinion on the Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*); and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the Association and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for the major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the Association's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the Association's federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the Association's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS, - *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the Association's compliance with the requirements of the major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the Association's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of the Association's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control over Compliance

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. *A material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Bismarck, North Dakota

REPORT DATE

North Dakota Association of Counties
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
Year Ended December 31, 2024

Section I - Summary of Auditor's Results

Financial Statements

Type of Auditors' Report Issued Unmodified

Internal Control over Financial Reporting:

Material weakness identified No

Significant deficiencies identified
not considered to be material weaknesses Yes

Noncompliance Material to Financial
Statements Noted No

Federal Awards

Internal Control over Major Programs:

Material weakness identified No

Significant deficiencies identified
not considered to be material weaknesses None reported

Type of Auditors' Report Issued on Compliance
for Major Programs Unmodified

Any Audit Findings Disclosed That Are Required
to be Reported in Accordance with the
Uniform Guidance 2 CFR 200.516: No

Identification of Major Programs:

Name of Federal Program Federal Financial Assistance Listing

Highway Safety Cluster 20.600

Dollar Threshold used to Distinguish
Between Type A and Type B Programs \$750,000

Auditee Qualified as Low-Risk Auditee No

Section II - Financial Statement Findings

Significant Deficiency

2024-001 Preparation of Financial Statements and Proposed Journal Entries

Criteria - Proper controls over financial reporting include the ability to prepare financial statements and accompanying notes to the financial statements, including the tax accrual and disclosures, and all necessary entries.

Condition - North Dakota Association of Counties does not have an internal control system designed to provide for the preparation of the financial statements being audited. As auditors, we were requested to draft the financial statements and accompanying notes to the financial statements. Eide Bailly is also utilized to prepare the tax accrual for the NDACo Resource Group and to draft the appropriate entry and disclosure for inclusion in the financial statements. It is the responsibility of management and those charged with governance to make the decision whether to accept the degree of risk associated with this condition because of cost or other considerations.

Cause - The Association does not have staff trained in GASB reporting standards or accounting for all tax accruals and adjustments.

Effect - Inadequate control over financial reporting of North Dakota Association of Counties could result in more than a remote likelihood that the financial statements and accompanying notes to the financial statements are not materially correct without the assistance of the auditors.

Recommendation - Management and the Board should continually be aware of the financial reporting of North Dakota Association of Counties and changes in reporting requirements.

Views of Responsible Officials - We concur with the finding. At this time, NDACo does not have the resources to prepare the financial statements and accompanying notes. We will continue to evaluate our ability to prepare the statements internally; in relation to the costs associated with preparing this report.

[Date]

To the Board of Directors
North Dakota Association of Counties
Bismarck, North Dakota

We have audited the financial statements of North Dakota Association of Counties (the Association) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and have issued our report thereon dated [Date]. Professional standards require that we advise you of the following matters relating to our audit.

Our Responsibility in Relation to the Financial Statement Audit under Generally Accepted Auditing Standards and *Government Auditing Standards* and our Compliance Audit under the Uniform Guidance

As communicated in our letter dated November 21, 2024, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to form and express an opinion about whether the financial statements that have been prepared by management with your oversight are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and to express an opinion on whether the Association complied with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the Association major federal programs. Our audit of the financial statements and major program compliance does not relieve you or management of its respective responsibilities.

Our responsibility, as prescribed by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, rather than absolute, assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit of financial statements includes consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, as part of our audit, we considered the internal control of the Association solely for the purpose of determining our audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control.

Our responsibility, as prescribed by professional standards as it relates to the audit of the Association major federal program compliance, is to express an opinion on the compliance for each of the Association major federal programs based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. An audit of major program compliance includes consideration of internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, as a part of our major program compliance audit, we considered internal control over compliance for these purposes and not to provide any assurance on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control over compliance.

We are also responsible for communicating significant matters related to the audit that are, in our professional judgment, relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. However, we are not required to design procedures for the purpose of identifying other matters to communicate to you.

We have provided our comments regarding internal controls during our audit in our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* dated [Date]. We have also provided our comments regarding compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above and internal controls over compliance during our audit in our Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance with the Major Federal Program and Report on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance dated [Date].

Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

We conducted our audit consistent with the planned scope and timing we previously communicated to you.

Compliance with All Ethics Requirements Regarding Independence

The engagement team, others in our firm, as appropriate, our firm, and other firms utilized in the engagement, if applicable, have complied with all relevant ethical requirements regarding independence.

Significant Risks Identified

As stated in our auditor's report, professional standards require us to design our audit to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement whether caused by fraud or error. In designing our audit procedures, professional standards require us to evaluate the financial statements and assess the risk that a material misstatement could occur. Areas that are potentially more susceptible to misstatements, and thereby require special audit considerations, are designated as "significant risks." We have identified the following as significant risks not already communicated to you in our AU-C 260 planning communication.

Worker's Compensation Premium Revenue Estimate- We identified the worker's compensation premium revenue estimate as a significant risk due to the risk that the estimate could be recorded incorrectly and the subjectivity involved in the calculation. Management's experience surrounding the inputs to the calculation and knowledge of the significant estimate mitigate this risk to an acceptable level.

Worker's Compensation Liability Estimate- We identified the worker's compensation overpayment liability estimate to be a significant risk due to the risk that the estimate could be recorded incorrectly and the subjectivity involved in the calculation. Management's experience surrounding the inputs to the calculation and knowledge of the significant estimate mitigate this risk to an acceptable level.

Qualitative Aspects of the Entity's Significant Accounting Practices

Significant Accounting Policies

Management has the responsibility to select and use appropriate accounting policies. A summary of the significant accounting policies adopted by the Association is included in Note 1 to the financial statements. There have been no initial selection of accounting policies and no changes in significant accounting policies or their application during 2024. No matters have come to our attention that would require us, under professional standards, to inform you about (1) the methods used to account for significant unusual transactions and (2) the effect of significant accounting policies in controversial or emerging areas for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

Accounting Estimates

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's current judgments. Those judgments are normally based on knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ markedly from management's current judgments.

The most sensitive accounting estimates affecting the financial statements are:

Management's estimate of the worker's compensation premium is based on WSI's billing process which is determined by using the three-year average of payroll in each classification. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the premium estimate and determined that it is reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Management's estimate of the worker's compensation liability is based on a reconciliation of dollars collected to those expended on the program, and the excess funds over a designated floor of \$250,000 is returned back to each county based on the ratio of their County's premiums of the whole. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the estimate and determined that it is reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Financial Statement Disclosures

Certain financial statement disclosures involve significant judgment and are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. There were no financial statement disclosures that we consider to be particularly sensitive or involve significant judgment.

Significant Difficulties Encountered during the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management relating to the performance of the audit.

Uncorrected and Corrected Misstatements

For purposes of this communication, professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that we believe are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Further, professional standards require us to also communicate the effect of uncorrected misstatements related to prior periods on the relevant classes of transactions, account balances or disclosures, and the financial statements as a whole. Uncorrected misstatements or matters underlying those uncorrected misstatements could potentially cause future-period financial statements to be materially misstated, even though the uncorrected misstatements are immaterial to the financial statements currently under audit.

The attached schedule of misstatements that we identified as a result of our audit procedures were brought to the attention of, and corrected by, management.

The following summarizes uncorrected financial statement misstatements whose effects in the current and prior periods, as determined by management, are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

To adjust for credit balances in NDACo Resources Group's accounts receivable.

Understatement of accounts receivable	\$9,200
Understatement of accounts payable	\$9,200

To record the longevity benefit accrual for NDACo Resources Group.

Understatement of accrued longevity program payable	\$10,400
Understatement of longevity program expenses	\$10,400

The effect of these uncorrected misstatements, including the effect of the reversal of prior year uncorrected misstatements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, for NDACo Resources Group, is an overstatement of change in net position of approximately \$10,400, and overstatement of net position of approximately \$10,400.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, which could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. No such disagreements arose during the course of the audit.

Circumstances that Affect the Form and Content of the Auditor's Report

For purposes of this letter, professional standards require that we communicate any circumstances that affect the form and content of our auditor's report. We did not identify any circumstances that affect the form and content of the auditor's report.

Representations Requested from Management

We have requested certain written representations from management which are included in the management representation letter dated "[insert date of management representation letter]" .

Management's Consultations with Other Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters. Management informed us that, and to our knowledge, there were no consultations with other accountants regarding auditing and accounting matters.

Other Significant Matters, Findings, or Issues

In the normal course of our professional association with the Association, we generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, significant events or transactions that occurred during the year, operating conditions affecting the entity, and operating plans and strategies that may affect the risks of material misstatement. None of the matters discussed resulted in a condition to our retention as the Association's auditors.

The financial statements of the North Dakota Association of Counties include the financial statements of the Institute of Local Government and NDA Co Resources Group, blended component units of the North Dakota Association of Counties, which we considered to be significant components of the financial statements. Consistent with the audit of the financial statements as a whole, our audit included obtaining an understanding of the Association, Institute of Local Government, and NDA Co Resources Group, and their environment, including internal control, sufficient to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements of the Association, Institute of Local Government, and NDA Co Resources Group and completion of further audit procedures.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Directors and management of North Dakota Association of Counties and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Bismarck, North Dakota

Audit Adjustments

		<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
To adjust for the tax accrual			
3-1210-004	ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE - FEDERAL TAXES	7,000	
3-9010-000	INCOME TAX-FEDERAL		2,000
3-1530-000	DEFERRED TAX ASSET		14,000
3-2400-000	LT DEFERRED INCOME TAX PAYABLE	9,000	

DRAFT

SERVICE REPORT: Financial Services Report

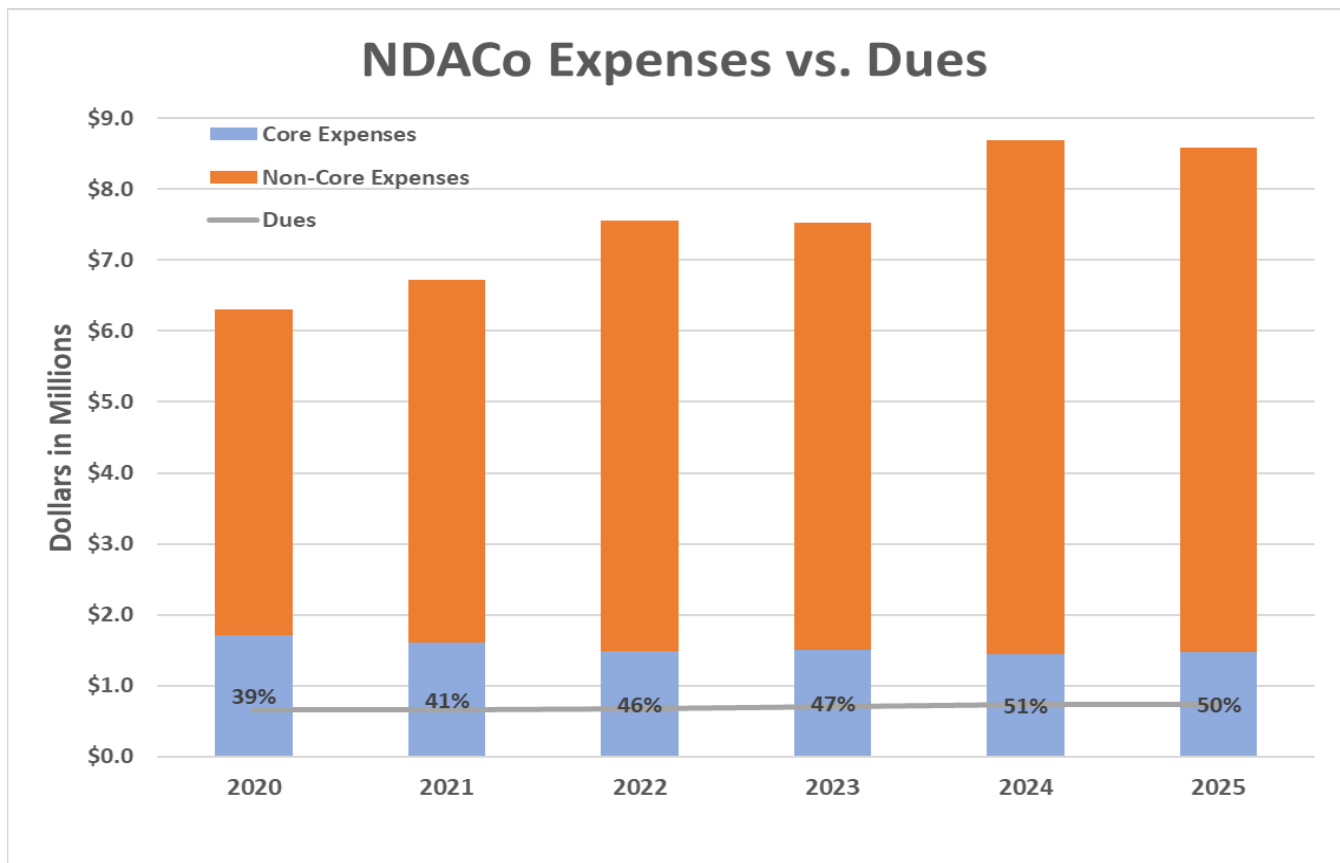
May 2025

(Report submitted to the Board of Directors by Aaron and Genny.).

NDACo DUES DISCUSSION

Association membership dues are calculated from a formula that is based on 50% of each county's relative valuation and 50% on their relative average revenue. The revenue portion is a 10-year Olympic average with the highest and lowest years thrown out. No county pays more than five times the average and the minimum is 1/3 of the average of dues.

This formula was fully implemented in 2019 but recognizing the challenging county budget situation at that time, total dues were held even, therefore several counties saw individual decreases. Total dues were held to 0% in 2021 and raised 3% in 2022, 2023 and 2024. In 2025, the board approved a 3% increase, unless the budget warranted a lower percentage increase based on proposed revenue and expenses. 2025 adjusted the dues increase to 1%.



In preparation for the Board's 2026 dues discussion, the staff has again analyzed the cost of core services, in relation to total dues and prepared the above chart. Core services include legislative, board support/strategic planning, the building, publications, and research. NDACo dues are currently covering 50% of core service expenses, which meets the Board's goal of 50%. The effects of various total single-year dues adjustment options have been calculated on the attached sheet. The Finance Committee recommends a 0% increase for 2026, due to the new legislation with property tax caps and wanting time to determine how this legislation will affect county budgets.

2026 Dues Investment

2026 Dues Investment 2.0% Increase			2026 Dues Investment 1.0% Increase			2026 Dues Investment 0.0% Increase			COUNTY
Investment	Change \$ / %		Investment	Change \$ / %		Investment	Change \$ / %		
\$5,777	\$113	2.0%	\$5,720	\$56	1.0%	\$5,664	(\$0)	0.0%	ADAMS
\$12,775	\$250	2.0%	\$12,650	\$125	1.0%	\$12,525	(\$0)	0.0%	BARNES
\$7,530	\$148	2.0%	\$7,456	\$74	1.0%	\$7,382	(\$0)	0.0%	BENSON
\$9,889	\$194	2.0%	\$9,792	\$97	1.0%	\$9,695	(\$0)	0.0%	BILLINGS
\$11,154	\$219	2.0%	\$11,045	\$110	1.0%	\$10,935	\$0	0.0%	BOTTINEAU
\$9,350	\$184	2.0%	\$9,258	\$92	1.0%	\$9,166	\$0	0.0%	BOWMAN
\$8,151	\$160	2.0%	\$8,071	\$80	1.0%	\$7,991	\$0	0.0%	BURKE
\$51,305	\$1,006	2.0%	\$50,802	\$503	1.0%	\$50,299	\$0	0.0%	BURLIEGH
\$70,730	\$1,387	2.0%	\$70,036	\$693	1.0%	\$69,343	(\$0)	0.0%	CASS
\$9,263	\$181	2.0%	\$9,172	\$90	1.0%	\$9,082	(\$0)	0.0%	CAVALIER
\$8,106	\$159	2.0%	\$8,027	\$80	1.0%	\$7,947	\$0	0.0%	DICKEY
\$10,402	\$204	2.0%	\$10,300	\$102	1.0%	\$10,198	\$0	0.0%	DIVIDE
\$20,702	\$406	2.0%	\$20,499	\$203	1.0%	\$20,296	(\$0)	0.0%	DUNN
\$5,295	\$104	2.0%	\$5,243	\$52	1.0%	\$5,191	(\$0)	0.0%	EDDY
\$7,411	\$146	2.0%	\$7,338	\$73	1.0%	\$7,265	\$0	0.0%	EMMONS
\$6,245	\$122	2.0%	\$6,184	\$61	1.0%	\$6,123	\$0	0.0%	FOSTER
\$6,228	\$122	2.0%	\$6,167	\$61	1.0%	\$6,106	\$0	0.0%	GOLDEN VALLEY
\$34,711	\$681	2.0%	\$34,370	\$340	1.0%	\$34,030	(\$0)	0.0%	GRAND FORKS
\$6,325	\$124	2.0%	\$6,263	\$62	1.0%	\$6,201	\$0	0.0%	GRANT
\$5,995	\$117	2.0%	\$5,937	\$59	1.0%	\$5,878	(\$0)	0.0%	GRIGGS
\$6,310	\$124	2.0%	\$6,248	\$62	1.0%	\$6,186	(\$0)	0.0%	HETTINGER
\$5,707	\$112	2.0%	\$5,651	\$56	1.0%	\$5,595	\$0	0.0%	KIDDER
\$8,205	\$161	2.0%	\$8,124	\$80	1.0%	\$8,044	(\$0)	0.0%	LAMOURE
\$5,520	\$108	2.0%	\$5,466	\$54	1.0%	\$5,412	(\$0)	0.0%	LOGAN
\$8,528	\$167	2.0%	\$8,445	\$84	1.0%	\$8,361	\$0	0.0%	MCHENRY
\$5,988	\$118	2.0%	\$5,929	\$59	1.0%	\$5,870	\$0	0.0%	MCINTOSH
\$49,740	\$975	2.5%	\$49,253	\$488	1.1%	\$48,765	\$0	0.0%	MCKENZIE
\$12,396	\$243	2.0%	\$12,274	\$121	1.0%	\$12,153	(\$0)	0.0%	MCLEAN
\$10,088	\$198	2.0%	\$9,989	\$99	1.0%	\$9,890	(\$0)	0.0%	MERCER
\$21,789	\$427	2.0%	\$21,575	\$213	1.0%	\$21,362	(\$0)	0.0%	MORTON
\$31,942	\$626	2.0%	\$31,629	\$313	1.0%	\$31,316	(\$0)	0.0%	MOUNTRAIL
\$6,750	\$133	2.0%	\$6,684	\$67	1.0%	\$6,617	\$0	0.0%	NELSON
\$5,574	\$109	2.0%	\$5,520	\$55	1.0%	\$5,465	\$0	0.0%	OLIVER
\$9,895	\$194	2.0%	\$9,798	\$97	1.0%	\$9,701	(\$0)	0.0%	PEMBINA
\$7,056	\$138	2.0%	\$6,987	\$69	1.0%	\$6,918	(\$0)	0.0%	PIERCE
\$10,931	\$214	2.0%	\$10,824	\$107	1.0%	\$10,717	(\$0)	0.0%	RAMSEY
\$7,575	\$149	2.0%	\$7,500	\$74	1.0%	\$7,426	\$0	0.0%	RANSOM
\$6,581	\$129	2.0%	\$6,517	\$65	1.0%	\$6,452	\$0	0.0%	RENVILLE
\$14,588	\$286	2.0%	\$14,445	\$143	1.0%	\$14,302	(\$0)	0.0%	RICHLAND
\$7,096	\$140	2.0%	\$7,026	\$70	1.0%	\$6,956	\$0	0.0%	ROLETTE
\$7,910	\$155	2.0%	\$7,833	\$78	1.0%	\$7,755	\$0	0.0%	SARGENT
\$5,166	\$101	2.0%	\$5,115	\$50	1.0%	\$5,065	(\$0)	0.0%	SHERIDAN
\$4,715	\$92	2.0%	\$4,669	\$46	1.0%	\$4,623	(\$0)	0.0%	SIOUX
\$5,826	\$114	2.0%	\$5,769	\$57	1.0%	\$5,712	(\$0)	0.0%	SLOPE
\$25,695	\$504	2.0%	\$25,443	\$252	1.0%	\$25,191	(\$0)	0.0%	STARK
\$6,626	\$129	2.0%	\$6,562	\$65	1.0%	\$6,497	(\$0)	0.0%	STEELE
\$17,269	\$339	2.0%	\$17,099	\$169	1.0%	\$16,930	\$0	0.0%	STUTSMAN
\$6,412	\$125	2.0%	\$6,350	\$63	1.0%	\$6,287	(\$0)	0.0%	TOWNER
\$9,643	\$189	2.0%	\$9,549	\$95	1.0%	\$9,454	\$0	0.0%	TRAILL
\$10,647	\$209	2.0%	\$10,543	\$105	1.0%	\$10,438	\$0	0.0%	WALSH
\$39,956	\$783	2.0%	\$39,564	\$391	1.0%	\$39,173	(\$0)	0.0%	WARD
\$8,075	\$158	2.0%	\$7,996	\$79	1.0%	\$7,917	\$0	0.0%	WELLS
\$52,190	\$1,024	2.0%	\$51,678	\$512	1.0%	\$51,166	\$0	0.0%	WILLIAMS
\$749,734	\$14,701	2.00%	\$742,383	\$7,350	1.00%	\$735,033	\$0	0.00%	TOTAL
2.00%			1.00%			0.00%			

c:\...\dues\dues2023n.xls

Suggested Motion: Motion to approve a 0% dues increase for 2026.

SERVICE REPORT: Investment Update May 2025

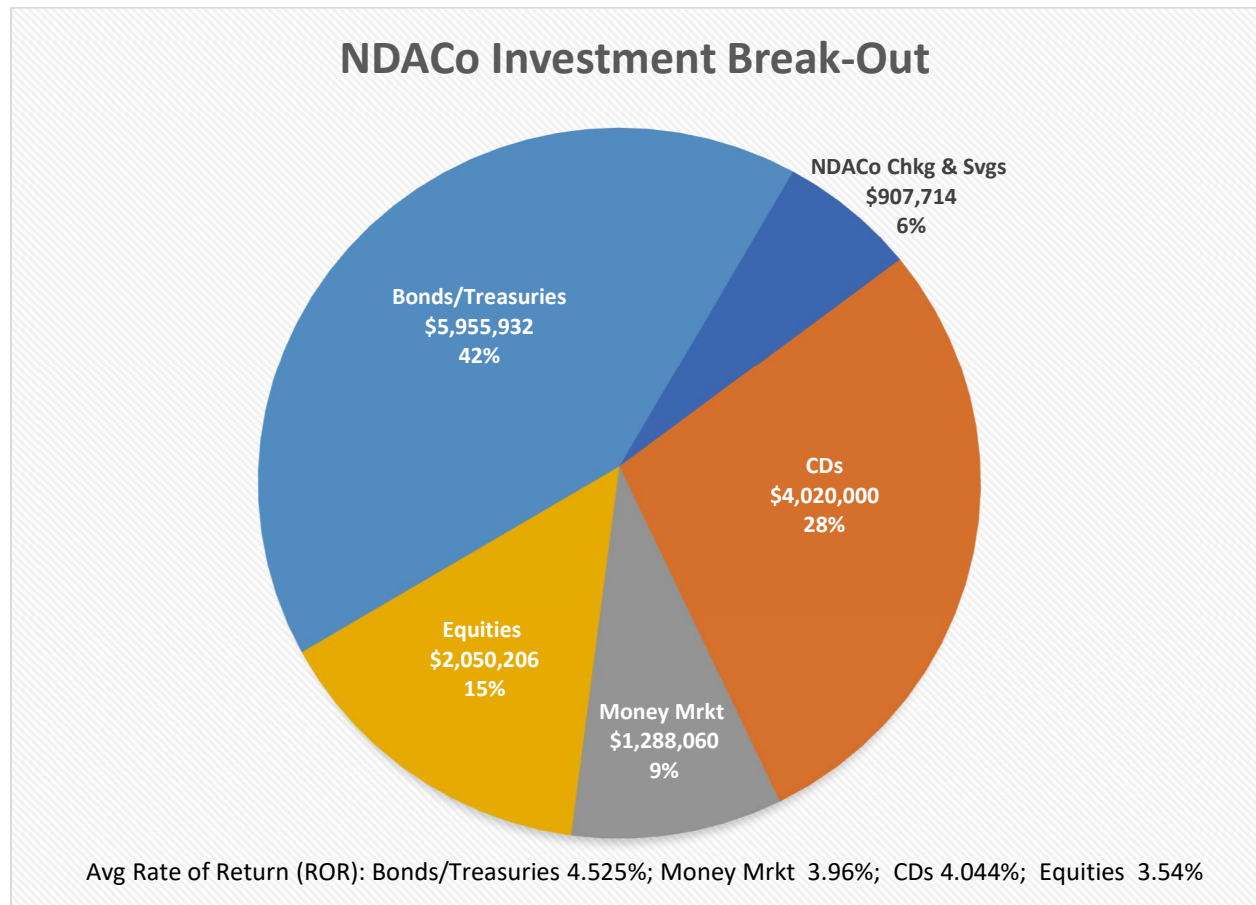
(Report submitted to the Board of Directors by Genny and Angie.)

NDACo INVESTMENT UPDATE

NDACo Investments have now been completely moved from the SIB Fund to Colliers Securities. This board-approved transition has allowed NDACo to have a more proactive approach with investment options and making more targeted investments that align with NDACo's investment goals. In addition to the Colliers Investment Portfolio, Kirkwood Bank holds NDACo's checking and savings accounts as well as short-term CDs for operating expenses.

Total NDACo cash and investment balances as of March 31, 2025, are \$14,221,912. As illustrated in the pie chart below, only 15% of all investments are allocated to equities. The remaining 85% are in secure funds including bonds, CDs, treasuries, savings and checking accounts, which is well within the limits of the investment policy.

With greater transparency of investments, NDACo has been able to increase Operating Fixed Interest Income by recording earnings from all investments except Equities. Equity gains or losses are recorded under Variable (non-operating) Investment Income.



NDACo Investments as of March 31, 2025:

Type	Amount	Security Description	Maturity	Coupon
Municipals	205,000.00	BURLEIGH CNTY N D HEALTH CARE REV 03.15000% 11/01/2026 BDS MISSOUR	11/1/2026	3.150%
Municipals	220,000.00	BURLEIGH CNTY N D HEALTH CARE REV 03.30000% 11/01/2027 BDS MISSOUR	11/1/2027	3.300%
Municipals	320,000.00	BURLEIGH CNTY N D HEALTH CARE REV REF 03.75000% 11/01/2030 BDS MISS	11/1/2030	3.750%
Municipals	150,000.00	CASS RURAL WATER USERS DISTRICT ND IMPR 3.45000% 05/01/2028	5/1/2028	3.450%
Municipals	100,000.00	GRAFTON ND REF IMP 4.00% 05/01/2048 AGM INSURED 4.30% YTM	5/1/2048	4.000%
Municipals	100,000.00	GRAND FORKS ND HEALTH CARE SYS ALTRU 4.000% 12/01/2051	12/1/2051	4.000%
Municipals	200,000.00	GRAND FORKS ND SR HSG 7 NURS VALLEY HOMES 5.00% 12/01/2036	12/1/2036	5.000%
Municipals	10,000.00	HETTINGER ND PUB SCH DIST NDSDC 3.00% 08/01/2026	8/1/2026	3.000%
Municipals	15,000.00	JAMESTOWN N D PK DIST SALES TA X REV 04.00000% 07/01/2033 REV BDS TW	7/1/2033	4.000%
Municipals	40,000.00	MANDAN N D PUB SCH DIST NO 1 GO BLDG 03.00000% 08/01/2032 BDS SER. 20	8/1/2032	3.000%
Municipals	25,000.00	MCLEAN SHERIDAN WATER DIST ND 2.125% 09/01/2046 ASSURED GUARNTY	9/1/2046	2.125%
Municipals	100,000.00	MINOT ND PUB SCH DIST ND TAXABLE 4.50% 08/01/2035	8/1/2035	4.500%
Municipals	160,000.00	MINOT ND PUB SCH DIST ND TAXABLE 4.70% 08/01/2037	8/1/2037	4.700%
Municipals	100,000.00	MINOT ND PUB SCH DIST ND TAXABLE 4.85% 08/01/2040	8/1/2040	4.850%
Municipals	105,000.00	MINOT ND PUB SCH DIST ND TAXABLE 6.00% 08/01/2028	8/1/2028	6.000%
Municipals	100,000.00	MOORHEAD MINN HEALTH CARE REV BDS 05.00000% 09/01/2032 EVERCARE	9/1/2032	5.000%
Municipals	25,000.00	NORTH DAKOTA STATE BRD HIGHER ED MINOT UNIV YTM 4.65%	8/1/2040	2.000%
Municipals	200,000.00	WEST FARGO, ND REF IMPT 4.00% 05/01/2043	5/1/2043	4.000%
Municipals	150,000.00	WILLISTON ND REF IMPT 3.10% 05/01/2027	5/1/2027	3.100%
Municipals	50,000.00	WILLISTON ND PKS & REC 4.00% 03/01/2032	3/1/2032	4.000%
Corporates	600,000.00	BANK AMERICA CORP SER P MTN 5.10000% 09/16/2036	9/16/2036	5.100%
Corporates	100,000.00	BANK OF MONTREAL MED SER 5.50% 01/10/2035	1/10/2035	5.500%
Corporates	100,000.00	CITIGROUP INC 5.75% 01/23/2045	1/23/2045	5.750%
Corporates	100,000.00	DEUTSCHE BANK AG FIXED NOTE 5.15% 02/27/2032	2/27/2032	5.450%
Corporates	150,000.00	DEUTSCHE BANK AG 6.00% 02/8/2037	2/28/2037	6.000%
Corporates	500,000.00	FORD MOTOR CREDIT COMPANY SER B MTN 4.85000% 09/20/2029	9/20/2029	4.800%
Corporates	100,000.00	GENERAL MOTORS FINANCIAL COMPANY 5.15% 02/20/2029	2/20/2029	5.150%
Corporates	150,000.00	GENERAL MOTORS FINANCIAL COMPANY 5.60% 02/20/2033	2/20/2033	5.600%
Corporates	100,000.00	GOLDMAN SACHS NOTES 5% 5YR 2 YR NC	12/31/2029	5.000%
Corporates	200,000.00	GOLDMAN SACHS NOTES 5.25% 8 YR 2 YR NC	12/31/2032	5.250%
Corporates	100,000.00	NATL BANK OF CANADA 5.40% 02/28/2030	2/28/2030	5.400%
Corporates	100,000.00	NATL BANK OF CANADA 5.50% 01/14/2033	1/14/2033	5.500%
Corporates	100,000.00	NATL BANK OF CANADA 6.00% 01/17/2040	1/17/2040	6.000%
Corporates	100,000.00	TORONTO-DOMINION BANK 5.15% 01/17/2030	1/17/2030	5.150%
Corporates	150,000.00	WELLS FARGO & COMPANY NOTES 5.20% 15 YR 5 YR NC	12/23/2039	5.200%
Governments	200,000.00	FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANKS BOND 5.12000% 10/03/2035	10/3/2035	5.120%
Governments	275,000.00	FEDERAL HOME LOAN BA SER FP-2034 5.62500% 02/14/2034	2/14/2034	5.625%
Governments	600,000.00	FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANKS BOND 5.15000% 09/26/2034	9/26/2034	5.150%
Governments	250,000.00	FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK BOND 5.00% 11/29/2034	11/29/2034	5.000%
Governments	150,000.00	UNITED STATES TREASURE SER AU-2027 4.125% 11/15/2027 4.151% YTM	11/15/2027	4.125%
Governments	200,000.00	UNITED STATES TREASURE SER BJ-2026 4.125% 10/31/2026	10/31/2026	4.125%
Governments	200,000.00	UNITED STATES TREASURE SER F-2028 3.125% 11/15/2028 4.13% YTM	11/15/2028	3.125%
CD	240,000.00	ALLY BANK SANDY UTAH CD 4.00% 12/31/2027	12/31/2027	4.000%
CD	150,000.00	AMERICAN EXPRESS NATL BANK CD 4.05% 04/02/2027	4/2/2027	4.050%
CD	100,000.00	BANK OF AMERICA NA CD 4.00000% 09/25/2025	9/25/2025	4.000%
CD	240,000.00	CELTIC BANK SALT LAKE CITY UTAH CD 4.15% 12/20/2032	12/20/2032	4.150%
CD	240,000.00	GOLDMAN SACHS CD 4.00% 06/24/2026	6/24/2026	4.000%
CD	100,000.00	SIMMONS BK PINE BLUFF ARK CD 4.10000% 06/27/2025	6/27/2025	4.100%
CD	150,000.00	TRANSPORTATION ALLIANCE BANK CD 4.10% 07/01/2026	7/1/2026	4.100%
CD	1,000,000.00	KIRKWOOD BANK & TRUST 4% 03/18/2026	3/18/2026	4.000%
CD	1,800,000.00	KIRKWOOD BANK & TRUST 4% 04/29/2025	4/29/2025	4.000%

Market Value

Equities:	\$820,705.78	BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY
	\$482,360.19	INVESCO QQQ
	\$313,342.90	VANGUARD INDEX GROWTH ETF
	\$433,797.60	VANGUARD INDEX S&P 500 ETF

SERVICE REPORT: Governance

May 2025

(Report submitted to the Board of Directors by Michelle.)

PROGRAM UPDATE:

- **NACo Board of Directors' Representative**

Cass County Administrator Robert Wilson currently serves as North Dakota's second representative on the NACo Board of Directors. He would like to continue to serve on the National Board. NDACo President Trudy Ruland would like the Board to ratify her decision to reappoint Robert.

Suggested Motion: Motion to ratify the reappointment of Robert Wilson as North Dakota's second representative on the National Association of Counties' Board of Directors.

SERVICE REPORT: Strategic Visioning May 2025

(Report submitted to the Board of Directors by Aaron.)

- **2025 Strategic Visioning**

Thursday, August 28
8:00am – Noon

NDACo will conduct a brief strategic plan in conjunction with the August Board meeting to review where NDACo needs to be focused for the next few years. NDACo will look to also partner with additional government associations in its strategic plan and will discuss with the Board the possibility of inviting those other governmental association directors to join us in our planning process.

The NDACo Board of Directors will have their board meeting that afternoon. All NDACo Board members are strongly encouraged to participate in both meetings.

SERVICE REPORT: Member Services
Member Association Conferences
May 2025

(Report submitted to the Board of Directors by Aaron and Michelle.)

Member Association Conferences

Below is a list of upcoming 2025 member association annual meetings, as well as those already held. The date(s) for the **Commissioners' Summit** is yet to be determined.

Upcoming Conferences:

June 17-19	ND County Recorders Association Conference Radisson Blu, Fargo
June 17-19	ND State's Attorneys Association Summer Conference Radisson, Bismarck
June 25-27	ND County Auditors & Treasurers Association Conference Roughrider Center, Watford City
July 8-10	ND Human Service Zone Directors Annual Meeting Human Service Zone Office, Grand Forks
August 11-14	ND Tax Directors Association Conference Ramada by Wyndham, Bismarck

Past Conferences:

January 29-31	ND Association of County Engineers Conference Holiday Inn, Fargo
February 18-19	Local Government Capitol Connection Bismarck Event Center
May 14-15	ND Clerks of Court Association Conference Coteau Room, State Capitol
May 15-16	ND Sheriffs & Deputies Association Annual Meeting Burleigh Morton Detention Center, Bismarck

SERVICE REPORT: Member Services

Annual Conference Report

May 2025

(Report submitted to the Board of Directors by Jeff, Aaron and Michelle.)

DRAFT - DO NOT SHARE



2025 Conference Planning Status
2025 Annual Conference
October 26 - 28 Bismarck Event Center

General Conference Information

Our theme for this year's conference is that of a good old-fashioned "County Fair." The sights, sounds and smells of a county fair will permeate the Event Center. Think corn dogs, mini donuts and more! The logo above needs some tweaking but will be close.

We will again contract with Funatix. They have a bit larger staff now; and we (and they) feel that with the last two years of experience, they will be able to integrate their people with ours more seamlessly and take on more responsibilities. They will begin marketing to sponsors and exhibitors very soon.

We are excited to announce our Opening Session keynote speaker will be Adrienne Haslet. Adrienne stood, unknowingly, next to one of the Boston Marathon bombers, and minutes later took the full brunt of one of the explosions. Her story of resilience and recovery is as inspiring as any you'll hear.

Back by popular demand:

- Sunday evening social and all Member Association events at the Event Center
- Monday evening busing by West River
- Light continental breakfasts at the Event Center – no hotels
- Full breakfast at Delegate Council meeting only
- Streamlined registration process introduced last year worked and will be repeated

Exhibitors/Sponsors

The exhibitors/sponsors registration portion of the website will be up and running soon. Marketing emails will go out to all the sponsors and exhibitors from last year to give them first opportunity. Another email will go out a week or so after to all past exhibitors and sponsors and any new company contacts. We have had several new companies reach out to us asking about the conference and exhibiting/sponsoring opportunities.

Pre-Conference Caucus Meetings

NDACo will again conduct preconference caucus meetings in all eight regions prior to our annual conference October 26-28. This being an odd-numbered year means the odd-numbered regions (Region 1 – Beau Anderson, Region 3 – Nick Moser, Region 5 – Tony Grindberg and Region 7 – Jamee Folk) will have to conduct elections for their NDACo regional representative. A member of NDACo will begin coordinating with each region's county commissioner representative to find a time that works best for that region. Hybrid meetings are planned so that commissioners unable to attend in person can participate virtually.

Room Block for Board Members

Since all activities associated with the NDACo Annual Conference are now held at the Bismarck Event Center, the decision has been made to NOT hold a block of rooms at the Radisson for NDACo or NDCCA Board members. Michelle sent an email to the county auditors of all Board members, informing them of this change so that reservations can be made for you along with your fellow county officials.

Board Gathering

A Board Gathering is traditionally held on the Opening Day (Sunday) of the NDACo Annual Conference. This is an opportunity for NDCCA and NDACo Board members to get together, network and for the outgoing President(s) to give their final words to the members of their Board. If we continue this tradition in 2025, we'll work with the Event Center staff to find a location that better accommodates the gathering. At the May Board meetings, we'd like to get direction on whether to continue the Board Gathering or not.

SERVICE REPORT: County Tours

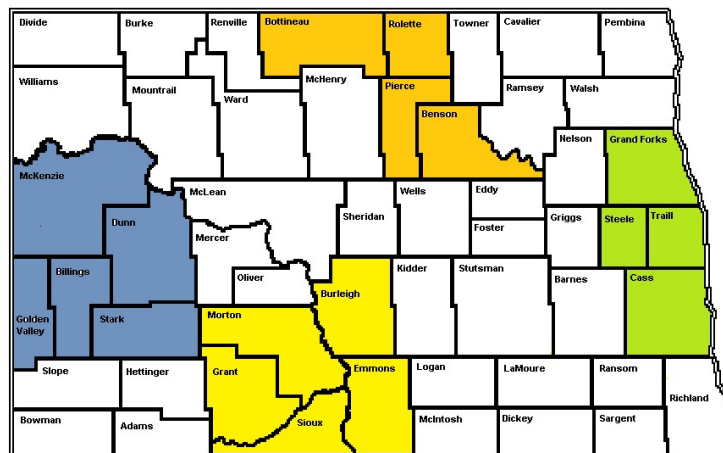
May 2025

(Report submitted to the Board of Directors by Aaron and Michelle.)

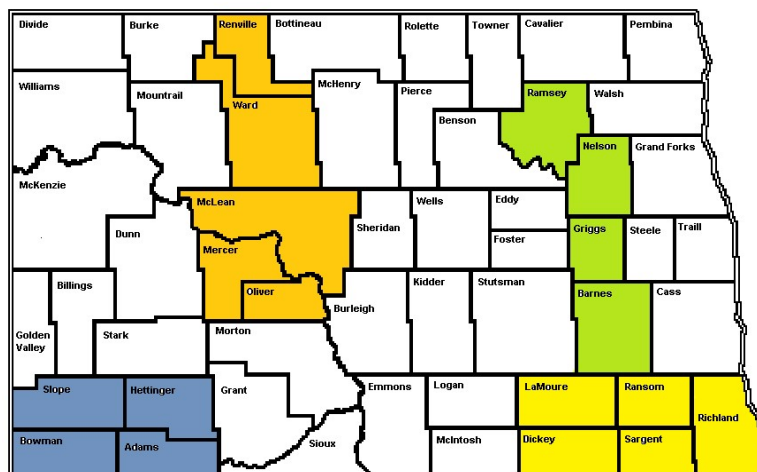
PROGRAM UPDATE:

- Four county tours are planned for 2025. Dates have been selected for all four tours. Below is a list of the counties that will be visited in 2025, as well as maps showing the counties ~~to~~ visited in 2026 and 2027.
- **June 11-12, 2025**– Cavalier, Pembina, Towner and Walsh
- **July 30-31, 2025** – Burke, Divide, Mountrail and Williams
- **September 24-25, 2025** – Kidder, Logan, McIntosh and Stutsman
- **October 15-16, 2025** – Eddy, Foster, McHenry, Sheridan and Wells

2026 County Tours – Proposed



2027 County Tours – Proposed



SERVICE REPORT: County Financial Partnerships (CFP)

May 2025

(Report submitted to the Board of Directors by Aaron, Linda, Jason and Teanna.)

PROGRAM UPDATE:

- **Indirect Cost Reimbursement Services**

NDACo has for decades subcontracted with a company in Minnesota to provide indirect costs calculations. Over the last few years feedback from that service has brought NDACo to a decision point to explore new options to continue to provide for this service in a more customer centered way. NDACo has not renewed the contract with Abacus and is in the process of finding someone who could do this work in-house at NDACo. This is a developing situation.

- **Next Generation 9-1-1 / 9-1-1 Fee Collection Program**

The NG9-1-1 Program continues to work with telephone companies to modernize their 911 circuits. Recently the NG91-1 Program submitted a request to the FCC announcing its readiness for IP-based calling from all telecommunications companies (wireless, wireline and VoIP). Over the next year, all remaining analog 911 connections from the phone companies will be replaced by new digital IP connections.

Due to the efficiency gains of the new NG9-1-1 Collection and Distribution program, the State Legislature agreed that a reduction in the amount of administrative fee retention should be reduced. This fee was previously set at 5% but was reduced to 2.5%, returning an estimated \$400K back to the counties for support of 9-1-1. The counties should expect to receive this additional 2.5% in their monthly deposits starting in September of this year.

The Collection and Distribution program has successfully completed a full year of reporting on the new system. Currently there are 165 telecommunications companies reporting on a monthly basis, in addition to 3 companies reporting on a quarterly basis. In 2024, \$18,056,794.35 in 9-1-1 fees was collected and remitted back to North Dakota counties, SORN and the NG9-1-1 Program.

SERVICE REPORT: Other Business
ND Public Employees Retirement System (NDPERS)
May 2025

(Report submitted to the Board of Directors by Aaron.)

- **NDPERS Update**

In the beginning of 2025 counties were made aware of some potential conflicts of state and federal law by NDPERS. NDPERS concluded a retired county employee was not eligible to receive retirement benefits if they went on to become an elected county commissioner in the same county. NDACo worked with NDPERS and various other stakeholders and presented at the NDPERS Board meeting on May 13th. I am happy to report NDPERS reversed their decision and will allow those who previously were receiving benefits to continue to do so.

SERVICE REPORT: NDACo Resources Group (NRG)

May 2025

(Report submitted to the Board of Directors by Lonny.)

PROGRAM UPDATE:

- **NDACo Resources Group (NRG)**

NDACo Resources Group or NRG Technology Services (NRG) is a fully owned subsidiary of NDACo established in 2000. NRG has been around since 1992, first as NDCAT then NDACo Automation Technology and later as NRG.

NRG is an MSP, managed service provider, meaning we proactively service PCs, servers and networks for our customers. We work closely with North Dakota Information Technology (NDIT), meeting every six weeks to discuss topics that may affect all counties and human service zones.

NRG currently has 81 contracted clients (up 3 from last year). The clients consist of the following:

- 22 Counties
- 11 Cities (up 1 from last year)
- 9 Human Service Zones (down 1 from last year)
- 8 Public Health Offices (up 2 from last year)
- 3 Associations
- 28 Other Clients (ranging from financial, retail, recreational and other non-profits)

Eight to ten counties have their own IT staff.

NRG employs 17 full-time employees.

SERVICE REPORT: National Participation May 2025

(Report submitted to the Board of Directors by Robert, Stanley and Michelle.)

PROGRAM UPDATE:

National Participation Match Program

Regions 4, 6 and 8 have been awarded their NDACo National Participation Match Program dollars in 2025. Griggs County (Region 6) State's Attorney Jayme Tenneson used the program to attend the NACo Legislative Conference in Washington DC in February. Billings County (Region 8) Tax Director/Planning Director/911 Coordinator/GIS Coordinator Stacey Swanson used the program to attend the WIR Annual Conference in Rapid City SD in May. Pembina County (Region 4) Tax Director Lisa Keney is using the program to attend the NACo Annual Conference in Philadelphia PA in July.

Region 2 has been awarded their NDCCA National Participation Match Program dollars in 2025. Bottineau County Commissioner Nathaniel Buynak used the program to attend the NACo Legislative Conference in Washington DC in February.

National Participation/NACo Board

Following is Stanley Dick's report from the NACo Legislative Conference:

Note: The first part of my report has been generated by AI. It's been put together using my experience with the Agriculture & Rural Affairs Policy Steering Committee. We've been encouraged to start using artificial intelligence, and when I got help to do this, I found that the report that was generated was spot on. The artificial intelligence part of my report ends after the first four bullet points.

The 2025 NACo Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. focused on several key issues that directly impact rural communities and agricultural livelihoods:

- **Support for Local Agriculture:** One of the major resolutions called for increased federal investment in local agriculture and regional food systems. This is crucial for farmers seeking better infrastructure, market access, and resilience in food supply chains.
- **Rural Development:** The conference emphasized strengthening rural economies, which could mean more resources for broadband expansion, rural healthcare, and transportation—areas essential to modern farming operations.
- **Disaster Relief Reform:** Farmers have faced mounting losses from natural disasters. A proposed restructuring of FEMA aims to improve how rural counties prepare for and recover from such events, potentially leading to quicker and more efficient aid.

- Permitting Reform: Simplifying the permitting process for infrastructure projects could benefit farmers by improving rural roads and bridges used for transporting goods.
- Artificial Intelligence in Agriculture: Though still emerging, discussions on AI included its potential for improving farm operations through smarter land management, crop analysis, and financial planning tools.

Overall, the conference highlighted farmers' needs within broader county policy conversations and pushed for stronger federal support to sustain rural communities and agricultural businesses.

Currently, the NACo Board of Directors are reviewing sub-committee resolutions. Every five (5) years the governance committee does a look-over of NACo's bylaws. This should be completed before the national convention this summer.

Before the executive board meeting, I had a very good conversation with NACo Executive Director Matt Chase and NACo President James Gore. They are finding it extremely difficult to represent NACo and NACo's position when the counties of this country are so diverse.

I am looking forward to the WIR Conference in Rapid City and the Annual NACo Conference in Philadelphia, PA. Similarly to North Dakota, we will be selecting a new 2nd Vice President and the Honorable J.D. Clark of Wise County, Texas, will become our new President.

Following is Robert Wilson's report from the NACo Legislative Conference:

The NACo Board met on Monday, March 3rd in Washington, D.C. during the Legislative Conference. Most Board meeting discussions focused on the Association's efforts to track the new administration's actions and their potential impacts on counties.

Most of the Board and Executive focus was on budget reconciliation efforts that were underway and proposals for an omnibus spending bill that is a priority of the new administration. At the time of the Board meeting NACo legislative staff described differences in the processes House Majority and Senate Majority leadership appeared to favor in pursuing the new administration's goals. The House favored a single omnibus bill that would be one of the largest bills in congressional history, while Senate majority leadership appeared to favor breaking the spending package up into several smaller bills.

NACo legislative staff expressed concern that although lawmakers were not discussing specific cuts that would directly impact counties, the targeted funding level reductions could only be achieved by involving some of the largest federal budgets. NACo legislative staff expressed concerns that the only pathway to achieve the targeted funding reductions had to include 'big ticket items' such as Tax-Exempt Municipal Bonds and/or potentially restructuring some Medicaid reimbursement rates. Legislative leaders who addressed conference attendees strongly disputed any discussion that Medicaid cuts were being considered. The Board meeting at May's WIR conference should give a clearer picture of what one or several omnibus spending bills will actually look like.

NACo continues to prioritize the various NACo Edge products. NACo Edge is part of the Association's revenue-producing division that generates income that is rolled back into providing additional member services. (NACo leadership openly describes this philosophy and financial structure as 'following the North Dakota model.') Membership dues provide only a small fraction of the overall NACo budget, and the more successful NACo Edge is, the more responsive the organization can be to members. We may want to consider a review of products available through the NACo Edge program at a future NDACo Board meeting.

More up-to-date information will be provided following the WIR Board meeting on May 22nd.

Following is Robert Wilson's report from the WIR Conference:

The NACo Board met on Thursday, May 22nd as part of the Western Interstate Region Conference in Pennington County (Rapid City), South Dakota. There was plenty of information to communicate based on the active federal landscape.

Financially NACo is in good shape. 2024 year-end financials show the organization outperforming budget expectations by more than \$1.7M. This is due to market growth, transitioning several assets to higher earning investments and continued growth of revenue-generating products marketed under the NACo Edge umbrella.

At the Annual Conference in Philadelphia this summer the membership will be asked to approve several technical changes to the NACo by-laws. The Board reviewed the changes and recommended the adoption of the changes. In my review of the proposals, they all appear to be style and form updates.

The "meat" of the meeting focused on the federal policy update, including the latest developments on executive orders, reconciliation, updated federal spending proposals and the effort to review and provide update recommendations for FEMA. NACo leadership is committed to 'staying in our lane' and being a resource for federal policy makers related to the impacts of various proposals on counties' abilities to serve residents.

One item of North Dakota interest was 'ICE Detainer Requests.' This relates to law enforcement and involves individuals taken into custody related to alleged criminal activity. Once they are initially processed through the system and bonded out or receive a personal recognizance (PR) pending the outcome of their cases, they are otherwise released. However, if the individual is in the country illegally ICE may issue a detainer request asking the jurisdiction holding the person to continue holding them in custody up to an additional 48 hours. These are civil requests and not an order of a court. Counties who have held individuals on these requests have been sued – and lost. A county in New York was ordered to pay \$60M related to a detainer request.

So, what's the North Dakota connection? During the Board meeting NACo Executive Director Matt Chase pointed out that North Dakota is one of 13 states as well as various cities and counties designated as "sanctuary jurisdictions" by the Center for Immigration Studies. (A link is provided for your review: [Map: Sanctuary Cities, Counties, and States](#).) Essentially, organizations are described as sanctuary jurisdictions if they do not have ICE Detainer agreements in place. Apparently, there are no current detainer agreements in place in ND. In follow-up conversations NACo staff is concerned that jurisdictions that appear on this list will

face additional federal scrutiny in the future. I will continue to look into this and share any additional information I receive.

The Reconciliation Bill that passed the House last week and now moves to the Senate was another topic of significant discussion. Most impactful for counties will be provisions that impact state administrative costs for Medicaid and SNAP. Because of ND's Zone structure, I need to further look into this to understand the potential impacts. Obviously, this is an on-going discussion as the Senate will take up the bill in the coming weeks. One bit of significant good news is that the tax-exempt status of Tax-Exempt Municipal Bonds no longer appears to be in question. At the Legislative Conference NACo legislative staffers were concerned that this infrastructure financing program could be in danger of losing its tax-exempt status.

The President's FEMA Review Council also met last week for the first time. The group is expected to make recommendations by November. Counties have advocated for a review of FEMA, so this is seen as a positive step. Some of the concepts or potential changes NACo staff are hearing about include potentially transitioning assistance from reimbursements to a grants-type reporting process, creating a universal application process for all disaster relief and pulling FEMA out of DHS and making it its own cabinet-level agency.

The Administration also released its 'skinny budget' several weeks ago. NACo calculates this budget as a 23% reduction to non-defense discretionary spending. Cuts would include HUD Home and CDBG programs, Essential Air Service and wildfire mitigation and forest service funding.

There will be much more to come in the following months as many of these topics must work through the legislative process.

Western Interstate Region (WIR)

The 2025 WIR Conference was held May 21-23 in Rapid City, SD. The following county officials and NDACo staff attended:

- 1) Aaron Birst, NDACo Executive Director
- 2) Stanley Dick, Cavalier County Commissioner (NACo Board Member)
- 3) Genny Dienstmann, NDACo Director of Operations
- 4) Joan Hollekim, Mountrail County Commissioner (NDCCA President)
- 5) Jim Kapitan, Cass County Commissioner (NDCCA Board Member)
- 6) Neal Messer, Stark County Commissioner (NDCCA Board Member)
- 7) Scott Ouradnik, Slope County Commissioner (WIR Board Member & NDACo Board Member)
- 8) Stacey Swanson, Billings County Tax & Zoning Director
- 9) Robert Wilson, Cass County Administrator (NACo Board Member)

NACo Annual Conference

Registration for the 2025 NACo Annual Conference, scheduled for July 11-14 in Philadelphia County, Philadelphia, PA is now open at <https://www.naco.org/event/2025-naco-annual-conference-exposition>. The following county officials and NDACo staff are currently registered to attend:

- Tony Grindberg, Cass County Commissioner
- Bob Henderson, Cass County Director of Information Technology
- Jim Kapitan, Cass County Commissioner
- Brandy Madrigga, Cass County Finance Director
- Tracy Peters, Cass County HR Director
- Robert Wilson, Cass County Administrator (NACo Board Member)
- Stanley Dick, Cavalier County Commissioner (NACo Board Member)
- Alice Grinsteinner, Mercer County HR Director (Winner of NACo Free Trip)
- Joan Hollekim, Mountrail County Commissioner (NDCCA President)
- NDACo Staff: Aaron Birst, Jeff Eslinger, Donnell Preskey and Linda Svihovec

Committee Membership / Appointments

Michelle is working to make sure everyone from North Dakota interested in serving on a NACo committee, whether in a leadership position or as a member, gets their name submitted. The deadline to apply for a presidential appointment to a committee was April 30, 2025.

General membership on NACo's ten steering committees is not a part of the presidential appointment application process. These are made each year after the NACo Annual Conference. Other than in-person meetings held during the NACo Legislative and Annual Conference, monthly meetings are held virtually. Committee terms run for one year from July to July. All county elected officials and staff can apply. Any Board member who wishes to be newly nominated to one of the committees should notify Michelle. The ten committees are listed below.

- Agriculture & Rural Affairs
- Community, Economic & Workforce Development
- Environment, Energy & Land Use
- Finance, Pensions & Intergovernmental Affairs
- Health
- Human Services & Education
- Justice & Public Safety
- Public Lands
- Telecommunications & Technology
- Transportation

2026 NACo Conferences

Following are the dates and locations of the 2026 NACo Conferences:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|------------------------|
| ○ Legislative Conference | February 21-24 | Washington, DC |
| ○ Western Interstate Region | May 2026 | <i>To Be Announced</i> |
| ○ Annual Conference | July 17-20 | New Orleans, LA |