

# County Commissioner

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**Daryl Dukart**

**Dunn County Commissioner**

# Serving Your County as an Elected Commissioner

- ▶ Always remember you share that responsibility with a few other people.
- ▶ Your largest responsibility to your county is its budget and planning.
- ▶ Learn about your departments and what their duties and the services they provide for the public, employees, other elected officials and the region.
- ▶ Become involved with NDACo and NACo
- ▶ Be good at listening, ask questions if you don't understand the directive
- ▶ Be transparent
- ▶ Understand the importance of portfolio's
- ▶ Your leadership can often give direction to a county, region, community and your state.

Always remember you share that responsibility with other people

- ▶ All counties have three or five commissioners who you serve with.
- ▶ Many other committees and other boards within the county have three to 13 board members.
- ▶ There are other elected officials in your county.
- ▶ **You represent your county in general, not as or with a special group of citizens, political party or on the behalf of any one single association or organization.**



One of your largest responsibilities to your county is its **budget** and future planning.



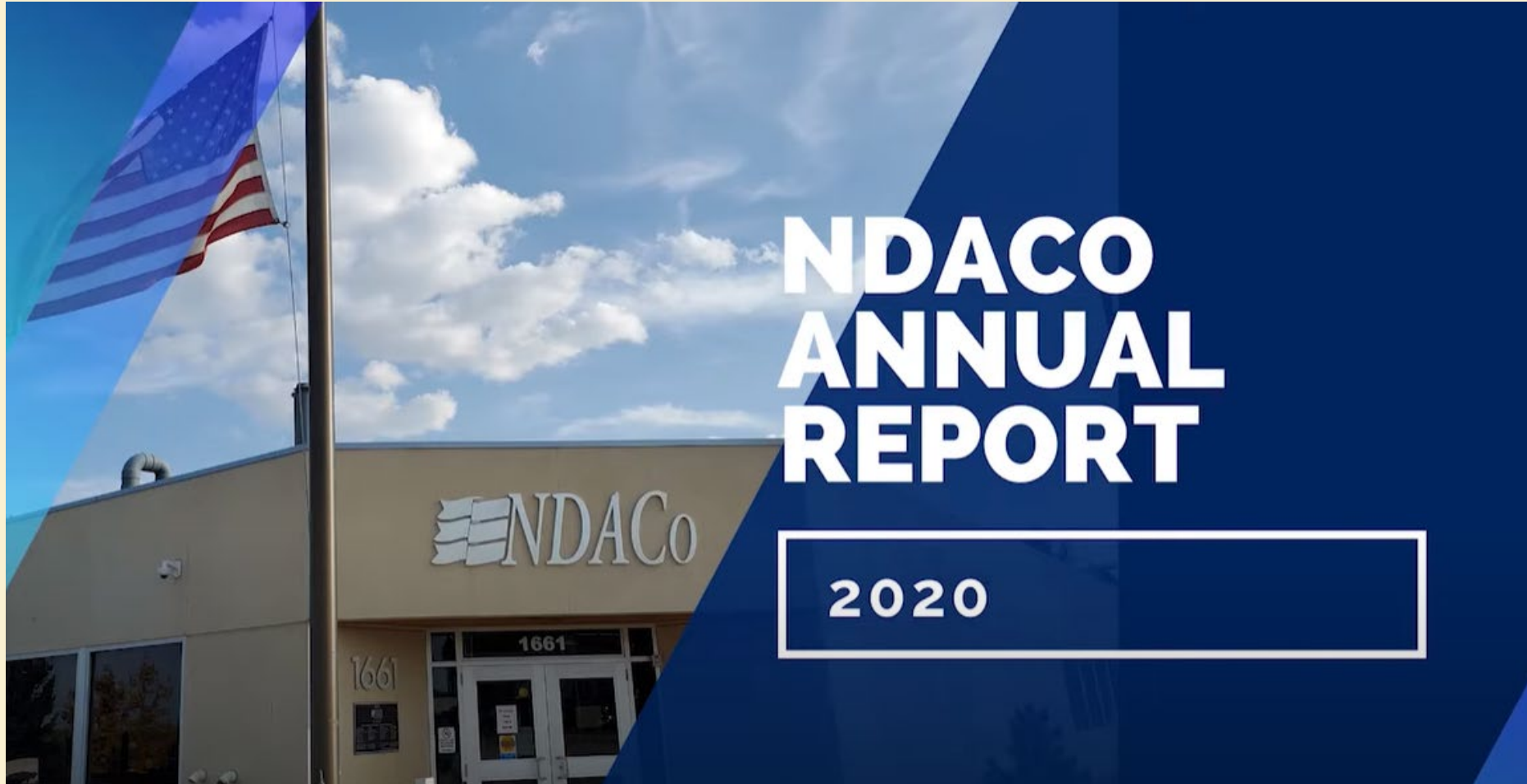
- ▶ As a commissioner your duty is to learn and understand the budget process and how it serves your counties at every department level.
- ▶ Remember county government does not serve for just one year and then go away. It is a continuing process and observe what your past commission did, what has been develop a use a strategic plan reaching into the future.



► Learn about your departments and what their duties and the services they provide for the public, employees, understand your other elected officials budget request. Observe what becomes successful and what is unsuccessful in your county and the counties that surround you.

Network with departments, employees, the public and other elected officials to move ideas and projects forward.

Become involved with NDACo and even with NACo



# Be a good at listening, ask questions if you don't understand the directive

- ▶ Always listen to any individual who wishes to have a conversation with you as a county patron, any committee member, your fellow commissioners, other area board members, other elected offices in your county and your employees.



# Continued



**Social media is a good tool which is used by many of us today in many ways.**



**A:** As we participate, share or like a page or make a comment, remember it may reflect something positive or negative in someone's perspective about you, your family or your county.



**B:** If you are not digital savvy, you need to learn the basics and become involved enough to look at and understand your counties website.



**C:** The transferring of information in the now aggressive world of electronic media use and so many are dependent on these digital electronic resources now available.



# Be transparent

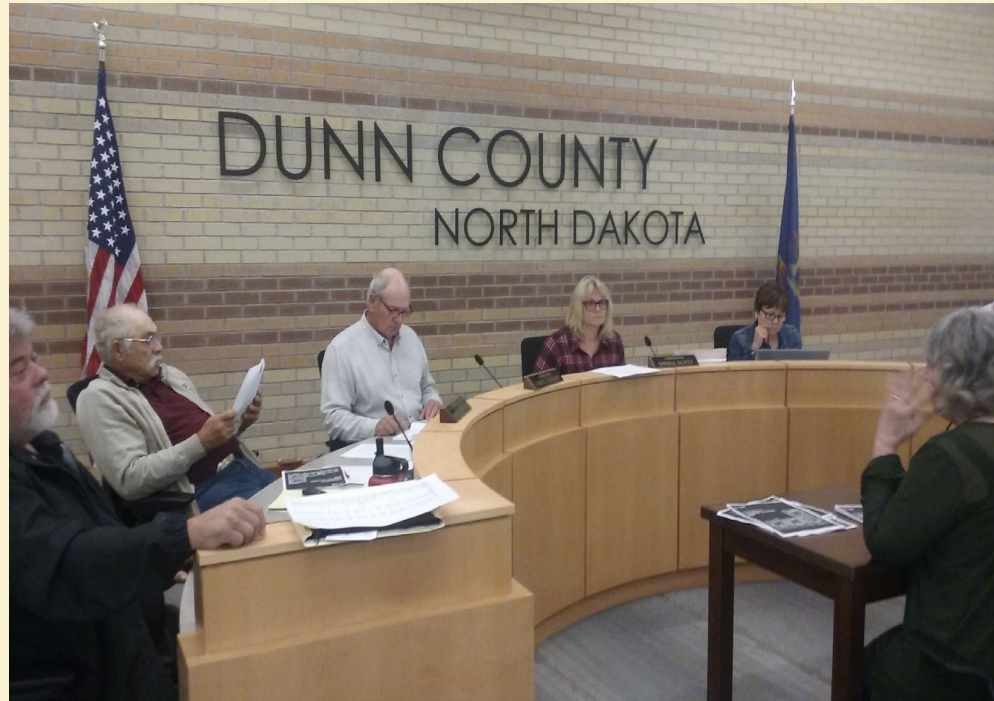
- ▶ Minutes, income and expenses and all other transactions.
- ▶ Committee and other board reports within departments.
- ▶ Information is always available at someone's department.
- ▶ Be careful with what you say and how you say it (make sure your facts are in order and true).



## Understand the Importance of Portfolio's

Be the best listening person in the room.

Keep records of everything discussed and make sure you or someone from the committee reports that information to your commission. Written brief or oral reports work well.



# Leadership



- ▶ Be positive
- ▶ Share with those when and who ever asked
- ▶ Support your commission's final decision even if you disagreed
- ▶ Be involved

**Great people, Great places  
and Growing businesses is  
North Dakota!**

**I am proud to be from North Dakota**

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