

January 16, 2026



# The Ninety-Three

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## Looking Ahead: 2026 NACO Board Officers Share Goals & Priorities

The 2026 NACO Board of Directors officers are focused on advancing our mission and guiding our organization forward. Head to the blog to read about their priorities and goals for the upcoming term.

[NACO Blog](#)



# Register for the NACO County Chair Workshop

The 2026 County Chair Workshop will be held on Friday, February 13, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Younes Conference Center North in Kearney. The workshop is for County Board Chairs and Vice Chairs.

Click the button below to register and view the workshop agenda. Please note that this is a draft of the agenda and is subject to change.

[Register Here](#)

## NACO Legislative Bill Review Webinar

The NACO Board of Directors will discuss and take positions on legislative bills on January 23 at 8:30 am Central Time. Register for the webinar by clicking [here](#).

[Legislative Bill Webinar Registration](#)

# 2026 UPCOMING EVENTS

**Feb. 13**

County Chair Workshop  
Kearney

**March 12**

Southeast District Meeting  
Lincoln

**March 13**

Northeast District Meeting  
Norfolk

**March 19**

Central District Meeting  
Kearney

**March 25**

Panhandle District Meeting  
Bridgeport

**March 26**

West Central District Meeting  
Ogallala

**April 1**

NACO County Legislative Day  
Lincoln

**April 2**

County Government Accounting  
Basics Workshop - Lincoln

## 2026 Understanding Medicare Webinar Dates

Get the information you need to manage your health care costs and navigate the Medicare transition with confidence. [Attend a free webinar](#) to learn more.



You're Invited to a **FREE** Educational Zoom Workshop  
**Understanding Medicare**

**Attend this free educational Medicare workshop to learn:**

- The different parts of Medicare
- How to enroll
- How to fill coverage gaps
- Open to the public – *invite your friends and family!*

**Choose a date and time that's convenient for you:**

THURSDAY,  
**Jan. 22, 2026**

THURSDAY,  
**Feb. 19, 2026**

THURSDAY,  
**March 19, 2026**

THURSDAY,  
**April 16, 2026**

THURSDAY,  
**May 21, 2026**

THURSDAY,  
**June 18, 2026**

THURSDAY,  
**July 16, 2026**

THURSDAY,  
**Aug. 20, 2026**

THURSDAY,  
**Sept. 17, 2026**

**On each date, presentations will be held at 12 P.M. CST and 6 P.M. CST**



Scan or  
click on the  
QR code to  
join the Zoom  
workshop

Questions? Contact:  
**Amy Begley**  
[amyb@proinsuranceresources.com](mailto:amyb@proinsuranceresources.com)

NACO is a licensed agency and is not connected with or endorsed by the U.S. government or federal Medicare program.  
For accommodations of persons with special needs at meetings, call TTY: 711. **22347\_1225**

**County Legislative Day at the Capitol - April 1st in Lincoln**

## County Legislative Day - April 1, 2026

Join us in Lincoln on April 1, 2026, as we kick off County Government Month with a fun-filled County Legislative Day. Participants will connect with state senators, hear from state leaders, and explore the Capitol while learning more about the legislative process and the NACO platform.

Those interested in participating are encouraged to register in advance.

If lodging is needed, the closest hotel to the Capitol is the Cornhusker Hotel. Please note that there is no NACO room block available.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

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## **County Government Accounting Basics Workshop - April 2nd in Lincoln**

### County Government Accounting Basics Workshop – April 2, 2026

NACO will host a full-day County Government Accounting Basics Workshop for County Clerks' and Treasurers' Offices on Thursday, April 2, 2026, at the Cornhusker Marriott.

This free workshop will feature sessions led by the Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts, focusing on best practices in county financial management. Lunch will be provided and is generously sponsored by NPAIT/PTMA.

A NACO hotel block is available at the Cornhusker Hotel for attendees who require lodging.

Additional details and registration information will be shared soon.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

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## **NACo Rural Energy Academy Launches New Technical Assistance Cohort**

NACo's Rural Energy Academy is excited to launch a new technical assistance cohort.

The Rural Energy Academy is a **free three-month technical assistance cohort designed for rural counties navigating wind, solar, and/or battery energy storage systems (BESS)**. In partnership with Mana Group Consulting, this cohort combines a structured mix of live virtual sessions, self-paced resources, peer engagement, and 1:1 technical assistance to help counties strengthen their approach and advance their unique community goals. Through technical

assistance and learning opportunities, counties will work towards one of the following implementation-ready products tailored to local needs:

Draft zoning or siting ordinance

Community engagement plan

Framework for community benefit agreements

For more details, please review the attached information sheet. [\*\*Apply here by January 30, 2026 \(11:59 p.m. ET\)\*\*](#) to be considered for this opportunity.

Any questions, email [bgardiner@naco.org](mailto:bgardiner@naco.org).

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## **Now Accepting Interim Policy Resolutions for the 2026 NACo Legislative Conference**

Members are encouraged to get involved and have their voices heard in Washington by [submitting an interim policy resolution](#).

**Why it matters:** The resolutions process allows counties to participate directly in national policy decisions affecting county governments. During the [2026 Legislative Conference](#), NACo's 10 policy steering committees and Board of Directors will consider legislative and policy resolutions to guide advocacy until the Annual Conference in July.

**Submit a resolution:** All interim policy resolutions must be submitted electronically by Tuesday, Jan. 20, using the [online submission form](#).

**View a sample:** A [sample policy resolution](#) is available to demonstrate the format and scope of interim resolutions.

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## **Reorganization Meetings to Occur in January 2026**

In supervisor counties, the regular meetings of the county board are to be held in January. At its regular meeting of each year, the board must organize by choosing one of its number as chairman, who shall preside at all meetings of the board during the year; in case of his absence at any meeting, the members present must choose one of their number as temporary chairperson. Sections 23-272, 23-274. Similarly, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 23-156 provides the board of county commissioners at its regular meeting in January of each year must elect a chairperson of the board to serve for the ensuing year, and such chairperson shall sign all warrants on the treasurer for money to be paid out of the county treasury.

An individual can vote for himself or herself for county board chair. See [Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission \(NADC\) Advisory Opinion #202](#), adopted by the Commission June 2017 addresses a series of questions related to conflicts of interest, financial gain and compensation. County board members may vote for themselves for the position of

chair of the county board even if the chair has a higher salary. There are no “financial gain” and no conflict of interest involved in such a vote where the enhanced compensation for the chair is compensation provided by law.

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## Grant Opportunity: 2026 AARP Community Challenge

The AARP Community Challenge grant program is now open for its 10th year! This initiative funds quick-action projects that make communities more livable and spark long-term change.

**If your organization is interested in applying, I've attached a few helpful resources to get you started.**

### **Key Details:**

**Application Deadline:** March 4, 2026 at 4:00 p.m. CT

**Submission site:** [AARP.org/CommunityChallenge](https://AARP.org/CommunityChallenge)

**Project Completion Deadline:** December 15, 2026

**Eligibility:** 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), 501(c)(6) nonprofit organizations, government entities, and other organizations on a case-by-case basis

### **2026 Grant Opportunities:**

#### ***Flagship Grants***

Support projects that improve **public places; transportation; housing; digital connections; and disaster resilience**. Awards range from a few hundred dollars to \$15,000.

#### ***Capacity-Building Microgrants***

\$2,500 grants paired with expert support, webinars, and cohort learning. Focus areas include **walk audits, bike audits, HomeFit® Guide modifications, and disaster preparedness training**.

#### ***Demonstration Grants***

Designed to replicate promising local efforts. Topics include **pedestrian safety (funding support from Toyota Motor North America), high-speed internet (funding support from Microsoft), and housing design competitions**. Awards typically range from \$10,000-\$20,000, and will not exceed \$25,000.

Since 2017, AARP has awarded over \$24.3 million through 2,100 grants across all 50 states, D.C., Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Many projects have gone on to attract additional funding, influence local policy, and inspire replication.

Visit [AARP.org/CommunityChallenge](https://www.aarp.org/CommunityChallenge) to explore past grantees and see how they've revitalized alleyways, created vibrant public spaces, improved crosswalk safety, and more.

Feel free to reach out with any questions – or contact the AARP Community Challenge team directly at [communitychallenge@aarp.org](mailto:communitychallenge@aarp.org).

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## 2026 NACO Business Members

Support provided by our generous business members helps NACO expand our educational programming for Nebraska county officials. Business members enjoy a number of benefits, including features on our website and social media pages. We also offer our business members a complimentary exhibit booth at the County Board Workshop, discounts on sponsorships, and 15% off the cost of booking our NACO West Training Center in Ogallala.

2026 business memberships are still open. Click the button below to learn more.

**2026 Business Memberships**

# 20 BUSINESS 26 MEMBERS



## ELITE MEMBERS



## PREMIUM MEMBERS



PTMA  
FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS



PIPER | SANDLER



RESOURCES

County Employment Opportunities

Legal Calendar

2026 Election Calendar

Property Assessment and Taxation Calendar



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