

June 14, 2024



The Ninety-Three

Horacek Recognized as Outstanding County Board Member of the Year



Nance County Supervisor, Ralph "Butch" Horacek, was honored as the Outstanding County Board Member of the Year at the recent County Board Workshop in Kearney.

Butch has been serving as a Nance County Supervisor since 2013. He is being recognized for his exceptional dedication and active involvement in Nance County and on the Nance County Board of Supervisors.

Criteria used for selecting the 2024 receipt includes: member will have been in office for at least two (2) terms, active on regional boards, been chairperson of their county board, participated in the legislative process, or appointed to a statewide committee. Regular attendance at NACO educational opportunities, events and meetings, is also required.

County Board Members Earn Level One Certification



At this year's NACO County Board Workshop, NACO recognized Bill Maendele of Buffalo County, Raegan Hain of Seward County, and Robin Darnell of Banner County for successfully earning their level one County Board Member Certification.

The NACO County Board Member Certification Program enhances the professional development of county board members, ensuring they are well-equipped to meet the challenges of their roles and provide effective governance.

To achieve the level one certification, county board members must complete 30 credit hours of educational workshops and training sessions over two years. Board members can upgrade their certification every two years, supporting a continuous path of lifelong learning.

"One of NACO's priorities is providing educational opportunities for county officials across the state," said Jon Cannon, NACO Executive Director. "We have found that the more education our county officials are exposed to, the more ably they can serve the citizens of their counties."

For more information about the certification program, please visit <https://nebraskacounties.org/services/education>.

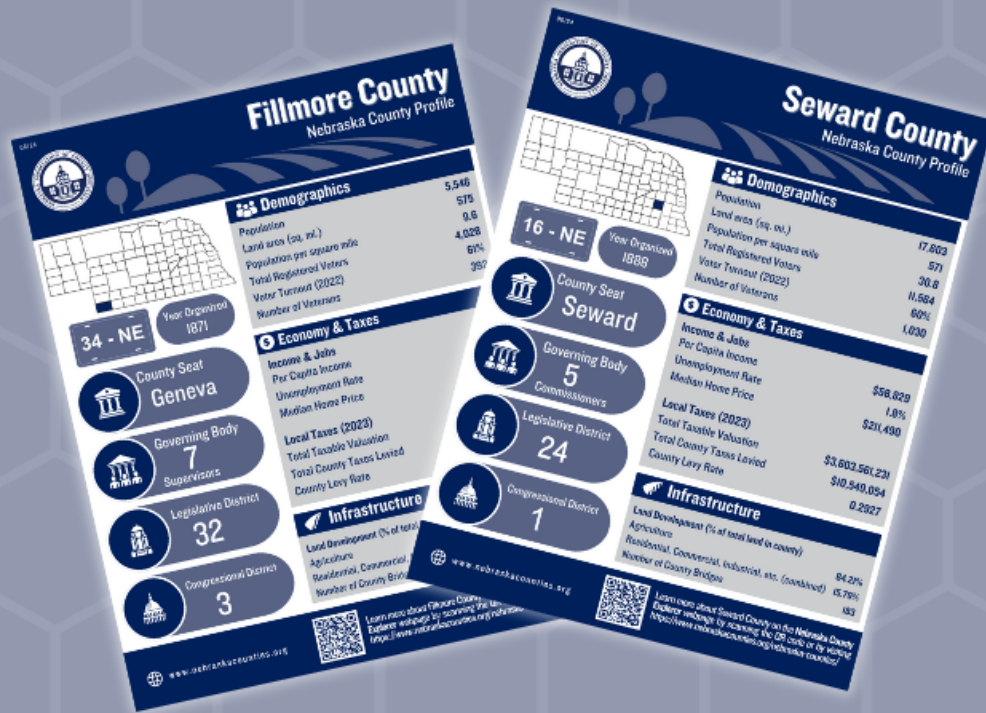
2024 County Budget Handbook

A digital download of the 2024 County Budget Handbook is available now.

Physical copies will not be distributed.

[Download the Budget Handbook Here](#)

Nebraska County Fact Sheets



Available for Download
on the County Explorer

Visit your county on the Nebraska Counties Explorer webpage for your county fact sheet then click 'Print County Fact Sheet'.

[County Explorer Webpage](#)

[View All 93 Fact Sheets](#)



Upcoming JPH Postcard and Hearing Prep Webinar

NACO will be hosting a webinar to review the process of preparing for postcards and joint public hearings.

When: July 18, 2024 - 10:00 AM Central Time

[Register for the Webinar Here](#)

Is Your County Broadband Ready?

NACO is developing a **toolkit** aimed at preparing counties to be "**Broadband Ready**". Over the past month, we've collaborated with stakeholders from across Nebraska to explore strategies for leveraging the county's authority to safeguard our infrastructure and right of ways and building collaborative partnerships with internet providers while ensuring reliable and sustainable internet services for our citizens. In partnership with Universal Broadband Consulting, NACO is in the process of developing a toolkit to aid counties in achieving Broadband Ready status.

If your county is interested in piloting the Broadband Ready program, please reach out to Candace Meredith.

[Broadband Terminology Information](#)

ARPA SLFRF Obligation Guidance Resource

The NACo ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Obligation Updates and Guidance resource provides an in-depth overview of the flexibilities provided by the U.S. Department of Treasury's obligation guidance for the ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund.

NACo tirelessly advocated for the additional flexibilities and protected them from repeal last month via a Senate Congressional Review Act (CRA) vote. The overview provides additional clarification on some key topics including obligations around personnel expenses, reclassifying funds and subrecipients.

[ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund Obligation Updates & Guidance | National Association of Counties \(naco.org\)](#)

National Center for Public Lands Counties

Resource

Open to all county leaders, the hub serves as a clearinghouse for resources that advance the policy and practice study for public lands counties. Engage with resources, connect with county leaders from across the country and share updates on the most pressing issues emerging related public lands management, use and access.

[National Center for Public Lands Counties](#) | [National Association of Counties \(naco.org\)](#)

NACo Public Lands Policy Steering Committee

Interested in being a member on the NACo Public Lands Steering Committee?

Please contact Candace Meredith for more information.

<https://www.naco.org/committee/public-lands-policy-steering-committee>

Assessor Workshop / NCRAAO Conference Registration

Monday, August 19, 2024 - Thursday, August 22, 2024

Younes Conference Center North, Kearney

Assessor Workshop / NCRAAO Conference



NACO West Update

The concrete for the parking lot and sidewalks are completed. The crew continues to hang drywall. New photos coming next week.



NACO BENEFIT SERVICES



YOUR PARTNER IN COUNTY EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

As stewards of taxpayer dollars, ensuring the well-being and satisfaction of your dedicated officials and staff is key. That's where NACO Benefit Services steps in, offering tailored solutions designed to meet the unique needs of counties across the state. NACO Benefit Services mission is to align with counties to assist in delivering efficient, cost-effective benefit services that alleviate administrative burdens and optimize resources. We understand the significant role benefits play in attracting and retaining employees, that in turn provides the continued success and growth of your county. NACO Benefit Services is available to assist counties with the ever-growing complexities of benefit management. Together, we are committed to providing quality benefits to all Nebraska counties.

BENEFITS FOR ALL NACO POOL MEMBERS AT NO COST TO THE GROUP

- \$15,000 life insurance with Double Indemnity for Law Enforcement
- Long-Term Disability up to \$1,500 a month with Buy-Up options
- COBRA administration
- Employee Assistance plan
- Identity Theft Protection plan
- Student Loan Forgiveness program
- Benefits enrollment platform
- Assistance with federal filing requirements
- Medicare Assistance

CARRIERS WE WORK WITH

UnitedHealthcare
 Aetna
 Medica
 Blue Cross Direct

PRODUCTS



- Health Reimbursement Arrangements
- Health Savings Accounts
- Cash In Lieu Options
- Section 125 Flexible Spending Accounts
- Supplemental Life Insurance Plans
- Medical Transportation Coverage



- Vision Insurance
- Senior Insurance Options
- Benefits Enrollment Platform
- Wellness Programs

NEED TO EXPLORE OTHER OPTIONS

In addition to the Pool health and dental plans, NACO provides access to insurance plans outside of the Pool as well. If the Pool plan is not the right fit, we can shop for health plans from UnitedHealthcare, Aetna, Medica and Blue Cross direct. We can also bring you a variety of funding options for your health plan – fully insured, level-funded and self-funded.

YOUR NACO BENEFIT SERVICES TEAM

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LEARN MORE



NACO Benefit Services

THANK YOU TO OUR 2024 NACO BUSINESS MEMBERS

ELITE



PREMIUM



RESOURCES

[Legislative Newsletter](#)

[County Employment Opportunities](#)

[Legal Calendar](#)

[2024 Election Calendar](#)



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