

April 3, 2026



The Ninety-Three

This edition of The Ninety-Three is sponsored by NACO Elite Business Member First Concord Benefits Group.

County Officials Kick Off County Government Month in Lincoln

Happy National County Government Month!

County officials from across Nebraska gathered for the NACO Legislative Day at the Capitol to meet with senators, speak with state leaders, learn more about the legislative process, and engage in NACO's advocacy efforts.

In recognition of the essential role counties play in helping Nebraska thrive, Governor Jim Pillen signed a proclamation declaring April as County Government Month in Nebraska. The proclamation was presented to NACO President Valery Bell by Lieutenant Governor Joe Kelly.

If you're doing something to celebrate, use the hashtags [#NCCGM](#), [#WeAreCounties](#), and [#CountyGovernmentMonth](#) on Facebook to join NACO and the National Association of Counties in telling the county story!





Fire Response Resources - Department of Agriculture

Below, you can find information on resources available to farmers and ranchers impacted by the Nebraska wildfires. Additional information will be added when available. If you'd like to suggest any additional resources, please email agr.webmaster@nebraska.gov.

[Disaster Relief Information Sheet](#)

[Emergency Oversize/Overweight Permit Executive Order](#)

Mental Health Resources:

Rural Response Hotline: 800-464-0258, 8am to 5pm CT, Monday through Friday

988 Suicide & Crisis Hotline: Call, Text, or Chat for 24/7 Support

Disaster Distress Helpline: Call or text: 1-800-985-5990

Español: Llama o envía un mensaje de texto 1-800-985-5990 presiona "2."

For Deaf and Hard of Hearing ASL Callers: Please text or call the Disaster Distress Helpline at 1-800-985-5990 using your preferred Relay provider.

Register for 2026 COOL Network

In collaboration with the University of Nebraska Extension, the [County Official Online Learning \(COOL\) Network](#) is a hybrid educational course that includes a three-week online unit in May 2026, followed by one in-person session in Kearney, NE, on June 3, 2026.

During the online portion, participants will use a learning management system to access videos and reading materials provided by professors, as well as insights from county and state officials. Participants can engage with the content at their own pace throughout the week, with opportunities for online discussion forums with fellow learners and a one-hour live webinar with the professor at the end of each week. The expected time commitment for learners is three to five hours per week.

The final session will take place in person at the Younes Conference Center North in Kearney, NE, on June 3, from 9:00 to 11:00 AM.

Topics covered include:

- The purpose, structure, and funding of county government
- Government finance, expenditures, and mandates
- Courthouse infrastructure, Information Technology risk management
- Visioning and strategic planning

New county officials and emerging leaders are especially encouraged to participate! [Click here to register.](#)



N
EXTENSION

Week 1
May 4-8

Structure

Week 2
May 11-15

Taxation

Week 3
May 18-22

Management

Week 4
June 3
In-Person Session, Kearney

Vision

COOL NETWORK

County Official Online Learning Network

This course offers participants a chance to connect with fellow county officials, university professors, and local government experts through online content, discussion forum, weekly live webinars, and final in-person session.

Registration Fee: \$100

Session Starts: May 4, 2026

Enrollment Deadline: April 17, 2026



Register Now
nebraskacounties.org

Register for the COOL Network

2026 NACO Outstanding County Board Member Award Nominations Open

Nominations for the 2026 Outstanding County Board Member Award are open to county board members who have been in office for at least two (2) terms. Criteria used to select the 2026 recipient include: the member will have been active on regional boards, served as chairman of their county board, participated in the legislative process, or been appointed to a statewide committee. Regular attendance at NACO educational opportunities, events, and meetings is also required.

Announcement of the recipient of this award will be made after the Wednesday evening meal at the County Board Workshop in Kearney on June 3, 2026. Submit the [nomination form](#) to candace.meredith@nebraskacounties.org by April 24, 2026.

County Budget Prep Refresher Webinar — May 28, 2026

You are invited to register for a Zoom webinar!

When: May 28, 2026, 02:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Topic: County Budget Prep Refresher

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Gw6L3cvnQ4WS8eFRIZ-5EA

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Registrations for County Board Workshop & Land Use Permit Forum Now Open

[Land Use Permit Forum](#)

Date: Wednesday, June 3, 2026 - 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Location: Younes Conference Center North, Kearney

Registration Fee: \$0

Deadline: 5/27/2026 at 11:59 pm

[County Board Workshop](#)

Dates: Wednesday, June 3 – Thursday, June 4, 2026

Location: Younes Conference Center North, Kearney

Registration Fee: \$125 in Advance, \$150 at the door

(Registration includes dinner on 6/3, breakfast and lunch on 6/4)

Guest dinner ticket for 6/3: \$35

Registration Deadline: 5/27/26 at 11:59 pm CST

Cancellation Policy: Registrants who submit a written cancellation prior to the 5/27/2026 deadline are eligible for a full refund. Registrants who do not submit a written cancellation prior to the 5/27/2026 deadline, do not attend, and did not pay are subject to a \$50.00 administrative fee, including No Shows. Registrations are non-transferable.

Submit cancellation notices to peggy.brass@nebraskacounties.org.

NACO Hotel Block at Crowne Plaza, \$149.95, 308-238-7000

ARPA SLFRF Quarterly & Annual Reporting Deadline Fast Approaching – April 30, 2026

All counties receiving SLFRF funding must submit a Project and Expenditure (P&E) report. These reports are cumulative and must reflect the most current and complete information on obligations and expenditures. Here's what you need to know:

- ARPA State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds reports are due April 30, 2026.
- Failure to submit a report by the deadline could result in adverse action from Treasury, including federal recapture of funds.
- Counties that were invited to close out but did not complete the process must continue to submit required reports and will be re-invited to close out at a later date.
- Counties must submit their annual or quarterly American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Local and State Fiscal Recovery Fund (SLFRF) reports by April 30, 2026, if they have not yet closed out with the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury). Counties have until December 31, 2026, to expend all funds, except for surface transportation and Housing and Community Development Act Title I projects, which need to be completely spent by September 30, 2026.
- Failure to submit required reports by April 30 may result in adverse action, including the potential recapture of funds by Treasury.

[Click here for more information.](#)

2027 Title II and Prevent Grant Programs

The Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice is pleased to announce the availability of the **SFY 2027 Title II and Prevent Grant Programs [Title II]**.

The Request for Application [RFA] outlines general guidelines, eligibility, funding requirements, and application instructions. You are encouraged to distribute and post the announcement to other interested parties. Please read the RFA thoroughly to ensure all requirements are met in the application. The necessary documents are located at the following website: <https://ncc.nebraska.gov/grant-apps>.

FY2027 Title II and Prevention Grant Program

****At this time, Title II and Prevention grant funds under this opportunity will be targeted only to programs addressing delinquency prevention and positive youth development within their community.***

****At this time, Prevention grant funds under this opportunity will be targeted only to programs reducing justice system involvement of status offenders (DSO) **ONLY** within their community.***

All applicants applying for the FY2027 Title II and Prevention Grant Programs [Title II] must apply via the Euna (formerly Amplifund) application link below:

<https://ne.amplifund.com/Public/Opportunities/Details/4091e478-1e01-41e9-a7db-cc48870eacc4>

Title II - \$321,724

Delinquency Prevention - \$182,064

Positive Youth Development - \$139,660

Prevention - \$307,500

Reducing Justice System Involvement of Status Offenders (DSO) ONLY

Application Deadline: Tuesday, April 28, 2026, by 5:00 PM (CDT)

IMPORTANT: If you already have a profile in Euna, do not create a new one. If you are unsure or have issues logging into your profile, reach out to the AmpliFund Customer Support.

*****NO EXTENSIONS WILL BE GRANTED*****

*****NO EMAIL APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED*****

*****NO PAPER APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED*****

Application Training and Technical Assistance

AmpliFund Application Instructional video:

<https://streamlinksoftware.wistia.com/medias/2j9ul4o1kx>

For assistance or questions regarding the Title II and Prevention Program, please contact John Turner at john.turner@nebraska.gov or Erin Wasserburger at erin.wasserburger@nebraska.gov

For assistance with Euna, reach out to Nebraska Euna Support at (844) 735-0239 or support@ne-amplifund.zendesk.com. Applicants may also access resources and chat with Euna Support staff through the Euna Customer Support Portal at <https://ne-amplifund.zendesk.com>.

Deadline: Tuesday, April 28, 2026 - 5:00 PM

Elite Business Member Spotlight - First Concord Benefits Group



WE ARE A PLAN SERVICE PROVIDER with a passion for simplicity and people



First Concord Benefits Group breaks down the complexities of consumer-directed benefits and simplifies the administration of pre-tax benefits by calling on decades of expertise and a reputation for outstanding client service. We're proud to be NACO-endorsed.

Our NACO-endorsed Programs

Cash In Lieu

Cash in Lieu (CIL) is a program under our Flexible Retiree Plans created specifically by First Concord Benefits Group for NACO members to help control the rising cost of health care.

Section 125

A benefit provided to employees allowing them to set aside a certain amount of pre-tax income, which can then be used during the year to be reimbursed for qualified healthcare and dependent care expenses.

Deductible Buy-Down

This solution can save counties thousands of dollars in premium costs and quickly provide reimbursement dollars to employees.

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



RESOURCES

[Legislative Newsletter](#)

[County Employment Opportunities](#)

[Legal Calendar](#)

[2026 Election Calendar](#)

[Property Assessment and Taxation Calendar](#)



Need to Update Your Email Information For This Newsletter?

Click 'Manage' in the options below.

[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt Out](#) using TrueRemove™
Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.
View this email [online](#).

1335 H Street | Lincoln, NE 68508 US

This email was sent to .
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.