

# Governor Pillen Issues Statewide Burn Ban in Response to Brown County Fire

On April 23, Governor Jim Pillen issued Executive Order No. 25-08 suspending burn permits until midnight April 30, 2025. The emergency declaration and statewide burn ban come in response to severe drought conditions and the uncontrolled Plum Creek Fire near Johnstown, NE.

Further updates will be provided through the <u>Nebraska Emergency Management Agency</u> and local emergency services. <u>Click here</u> to read the full Executive Order.

# 100-Year Rededication of the Richardson County Courthouse

On Wednesday, April 23, Richardson County hosted community members at a rededication ceremony for the county courthouse. The day included a proclamation by county commissioners, a meet and greet, a performance by the Falls City High School chorus, and much more!







### **NACO Benefit Services Renewal Update**

This month, the NACO Benefit Services Committee met to review the Health and Dental Pool renewal. Following this, the NACO Board of Directors finalized the renewal rates during their meeting on Thursday, April 24.

For counties currently participating in the NACO Benefit Services Pool, please watch for your renewal letter during the week of April 28.

If your county is interested in learning more about the NACO Benefit Services Health and Dental Pool and the additional benefits it offers, please contact Mike Boden at <a href="mailto:mike.boden@nebraskacounties.org">mike.boden@nebraskacounties.org</a>.



### **Morrill County Celebrates County Government Day**

This week, students in Morrill County got to participate in a mock trial and other County Government Day activities to learn about what their county does to serve our communities.

Send your County Government Day photos or photos of your courthouse to <a href="mailto:lauren.franken@nebraskacounties.org">lauren.franken@nebraskacounties.org</a> for a chance to be featured on our social media or in the newsletter!









#### **Register for the County Board Workshop!**

Register for the 2025 County Board Workshop! Attendees can look forward to two days of informative presentations and collaborative discussions, including a great presentation from <a href="Tim Wynn">Tim Wynn</a> from Perfect Rules Inc. County Board members can also receive 8 continuing education credit hours to count toward their NACO County Board Certification.

Make sure to join us Wednesday night for our banquet, awards, Pitch tournament, and featured keynote speaker <u>Tom Turcich</u> - the man who walked around the world. We also have a great lineup of sponsors, business members, and vendors that you can network with in our exhibit hall. If you haven't already submitted a nomination for Outstanding County Board Member of the Year, submit a <u>nomination form</u> to <u>candace.meredith@nebraskacounties.org</u> by May 2nd.

Click the button below to register!

**Register Here** 



### **NACO Launches Preferred Partner Inquiry Form**

<u>Preferred Partners</u> are companies that enter into a contractual agreement with NACO and typically provide volume pricing, discounts, and other cost-saving benefits to counties or county employees. We're excited to announce that we've launched a new form on our website that allows interested companies to inquire about becoming a NACO Preferred Partner.

If you know of any businesses that offer products, services, or programs that could benefit counties, taxpayers, and the general public, encourage them to fill out an inquiry form!

Click Here to View the Inquiry Form

**Congress Considers Reauthorization of County** 

#### **Cybersecurity Program**

Authorized under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the <u>State and Local Cybersecurity</u> <u>Program</u> (SLCGP) provides critical funding to state and local governments to enhance cybersecurity readiness and protection. The \$1 billion program is set to expire on September 30, 2025, unless it is reauthorized by Congress.

**Benefits to counties:** The SLCGP requires state recipients to pass through 80% of funding to local governments, strengthening counties' cybersecurity readiness and ability to respond to and protect against cybersecurity threats.

**Take action:** County leaders should <u>reach out to their members of Congress</u> to <u>urge them to reauthorize the program</u> and ensure continuity of funding for critical cybersecurity efforts.

### **Register for a Budget Workshop!**

Registration closes soon for our May 2025 Budget Workshops!

Both workshops will include sessions led by the Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts, interactive discussions on budgeting best practices, and other key topics to support counties in preparing budgets under the new cap formula. A digital copy of the 2025 Budget Handbook will also be available for download. County Treasurers can earn up to 5 continuing education credit hours.

The May 8 Budget Workshop will take place at the Holthus Convention Center in York from 9am-3pm. **Registration closes May 1.** Click here to register and view the agenda.

The May 15 Budget Workshop will take place at our NACO West Training Center in Ogallala from 9am-3pm. **Registration closes May 8.** <u>Click here to register and view the agenda.</u>

# Order Your 2025-2026 NACO Directory of County Officials!



Are you looking for a resource that tells you who's who in Nebraska county government? The 2025–2026 NACO Directory of County Officials in Nebraska is your go-to guide.

This comprehensive publication includes names, addresses, emails, and phone numbers of every county official in the state, along with a listing of county board meeting days, NACO districts, and county seats.

Click the button below for more details and to fill out an order form.

Directory Order Form

# 2024-2025 PRO-AG Round 2 Grant Application Window Open Until May 6

The Precision Agriculture Infrastructure Grant (PRO-AG) is a State-funded program created pursuant to the Precision Agriculture Infrastructure Grant Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 86-1401 – 1406,

to propel Nebraska agricultural producers to lead the nation in precision agriculture connectivity, sustainability, traceability, and autonomy to accelerate rural economic development and to provide high-speed Internet service to farm site in unserved areas of the state.

The Nebraska Public Service Commission has the authority to grant awards to assist applicants with eligible costs for qualifying projects.

Click here for more details: <a href="https://psc.nebraska.gov/2024-2025-pro-ag-round-2-c-5600">https://psc.nebraska.gov/2024-2025-pro-ag-round-2-c-5600</a>

## Outstanding County Board Member Nominations Close Soon

Nominations for the 2025 Outstanding County Board Member Award are open to county board members who have been in office for at least two (2) terms. Criteria used for selecting the 2025 recipient includes: member will have been active on regional boards, been chairman 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. Please keep your answers concise but be sure to include all pertinent information.

Announcement of the recipient of this award will be made after the Wednesday evening meal at the County Board Workshop in Kearney.

Submit nomination form to candace.meredith@nebraskacounties.org by May 2, 2025.

**Nomination Form** 

#### What is a NACO Business Member?

Support provided by our generous business members helps NACO continue to 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.

Click the button below to learn more about becoming a NACO Business Member!

**NACO Business Memberships** 

### 20 BUSINESS 25 MEMBERS



### **ELITE MEMBERS**



















#### **PREMIUM MEMBERS**





































**Legislative Newsletter** 

**County Employment Opportunities** 

**Legal 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 None | 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.