

June 5, 2026



The Ninety-Three

County Board Members Attend 2026 NACO County Board Workshop

This week, county board members from across Nebraska attended the 2026 NACO County Board Workshop, where they participated in educational sessions, connected with their peers, and networked with associations and businesses.

On Wednesday, June 3rd, NACO hosted a Land Use Permit Forum that highlighted the work of the [LB663/Land Use Committee](#) in developing accessible data tools and best practices to support Nebraska counties in making informed permitting decisions. Experts led discussions on livestock, energy, and broadband infrastructure, and attendees gave feedback that informed the continued development of the toolkit. Nebraska State Senators Stan Clouse and Tanya Storer gave overviews of current legislative interest in county land use, local control, development pressures, and state policy considerations.

The workshop's other educational sessions addressed recent challenges faced by counties, including a wildfire response and recovery discussion that explored key takeaways from this spring's historic Nebraska wildfires. Participants heard about what worked well, where significant challenges arose, and the role of communication systems during disaster response. Board members also attended a session on navigating labor and HR issues, a Nebraska EMS Task Force update, and a fireside chat between NACO Executive Director Jon Cannon and Nebraska State Senator Paul Strommen.

On Wednesday evening, NACO recognized 21 county board members for earning their County Board Member Certification, which requires 30 credit hours of educational workshops and training sessions over two years.

NACO is pleased to announce that Holt County Supervisor Bill Tielke won the 2026 Outstanding County Board Member of the Year Award after being nominated and selected by fellow county officials. Joined by his family, Supervisor Tielke was presented with the award at Wednesday night's banquet.





Congratulations to the Recipients of the 2026 NACO Scholarship!

Congratulations **TO THE WINNERS**



Taylor Bright
Banner



Alayna Gerdes
Nemaha



Kotner Koch
Cedar



Aiva Koenigsberg
Garfield



Kynzee McConaughey
Cherry



Carson McLaughlin
Thayer



Brady Myers
Merrick



Ameila Nelson
Washington



Madeline Pearson
Burt



Drake Power
Buffalo



Whitley Rasmussen
Thomas



Danica Watts
Polk



Elizabeth Robertson
Madison

**RONDA DIX MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP WINNER**

Joint Public Hearing Refresher Webinar

Join us on **July 24 at 2:00 p.m. Central Time** for a refresher webinar reviewing new legislation, preparing the pink postcard, and conducting the joint public hearing.

[Register Here](#)

USDA Announces \$44 million in Rural Broadband Connectivity Grant Opportunities for FY 2026

On May 13, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) [announced](#) available grant funding under the Community Connect Grant Program for Fiscal Year (FY) 2026. Earlier this month, USDA also released a [Notice of Funding Opportunity \(NOFO\)](#) for the Distance Learning and Telemedicine (DLT) Grant Program for FY 2026. In total, \$44 million is available in financial assistance between these two programs.

Together, both programs provide opportunities to help rural communities expand broadband access, strengthen telehealth services, and improve educational opportunities across rural America. Eligible applicants for grant funding include counties, internet service providers, and other eligible entities.

Visit [NACo's website](#) to learn more about these funding opportunities.

[NACo: USDA Grant Opportunities](#)

Surface Transportation: *BUILD America 250 Act* Introduced with Major County Wins

NACo secured the introduction of the *BUILD America 250 Act* ([H.R. 8870](#)), the surface transportation reauthorization package, which includes significant wins for counties. The legislation incorporates the *Bridges and Safety Infrastructure for Community Success (BASICS) Act*, guaranteeing direct, formula-based federal funding for county-owned roads and bridges — a top NACo priority. The bill's introduction was timed alongside NACo's Infrastructure Fly-In, where county officials met directly with members of Congress and committee staff to press for county priorities ahead of markup. Current surface transportation law expires September 30, 2026. Use [NACo's template letter](#) to contact your U.S. House representative to express support for the *BUILD America 250 Act* ([H.R. 8870](#)) and urge them to revise or remove the heavier truck pilot program provision before a final floor vote. Click the button below to read more.

AFAN Scholarship for North American Manure Expo Available to County Officials

Scholarship FOR COUNTY OFFICIALS

2026 NORTH AMERICAN MANURE EXPO
JULY 28-30 WAYNE, NEBRASKA

AFAN WILL COVER REGISTRATION COST IN FULL!

HIGHLIGHTS

- LIVE MANURE APPLICATION DEMONSTRATIONS
- ON-FARM TOURS OF MODERN LIVESTOCK FARMS
- GAIN REAL-WORLD CONTEXT ON ODOR, DUST, AND FLY CONCERNS
- SEE FIRSTHAND HOW MANURE IS RESPONSIBLY MANAGED
- REAL-WORLD INSIGHT TO INFORM PRACTICAL POLICY DECISIONS

APPLY NOW!

If interested in attending,
please email Mindy at
mindyr@a-fan.org

limited scholarship available, so apply TODAY!



Email Mindy - mindyr@a-fan.org

Eakes Office Solutions 2026 County Envelope Sale Open Until June 30th

Eakes Office Solutions is running a sale on custom-printed business envelopes. Prices listed below are good through June 30, 2026.

Fill out an order form [here!](#)

SAVE

Custom-Printed Business Envelopes

Prices good through June 30, 2026

Prices for 1 color imprint—Black		Sale Price per Box of 500			
Item #	Description	2 Boxes	5 boxes	10 Boxes	20 Boxes
10REG1COL	#10 Plain	\$43.99	\$39.99	\$35.99	\$32.99
10REG1COLSS	#10 Self-Seal Plain	\$55.99	\$50.99	\$46.99	\$44.99
10WIN1COL	#10 Window	\$48.99	\$44.99	\$40.99	\$38.99
10WIN1COLSS	#10 Self-Seal Window	\$61.99	\$57.99	\$54.99	\$50.99
10TINT1COL	#10 Security Tint	\$47.99	\$43.99	\$40.99	\$38.99
10TINT1COLSS	#10 Self-Seal Security Tint	\$65.99	\$61.99	\$57.99	\$55.99
10WTINT1COL	#10 Window & Security Tint	\$52.99	\$48.99	\$44.99	\$41.99
10WTINT1COLSS	#10 Self-Seal Window & Tint	\$72.99	\$69.99	\$65.99	\$62.99
9REG1COL	#9 Plain	\$42.99	\$39.99	\$36.99	\$33.99

Item #	Quantity	Ink Color	Set-Up
		<input type="checkbox"/> Black	<input type="checkbox"/> Left Justified <small>ABC Company 123 South Street City, State 68888-0001</small>
			<input type="checkbox"/> Centered <small>ABC Company 23 South Street City, State 68888-0001</small>
Logo—Please provide art in electronic format at minimum 300 dpi, 600 dpi preferred. A \$25 set-up charge may be applied if imprint needs clean-up.		Clearly write or type exactly what you want printed on each line:	

Eakes Order Form

Strengthen Your Community Impact Through

Early Childhood Leadership

The application window is open for the 2025–26 Nebraska Early Childhood Policy Leadership Academy. This program equips local leaders, including county officials and community partners, with the tools to engage in public policy discussions affecting child care access, workforce participation, and community well-being. Join a statewide network working to strengthen Nebraska communities. Meals, mileage, and lodging expenses are reimbursed. **Applications close June 12.** Learn more at <https://firstfivenebraska.org/advocacy/pla/>.

LEADERS WANTED

Join Nebraska's premier
early childhood policy
leadership initiative.



Nebraska Early Childhood
Policy Leadership Academy

Apply online now!
FirstFiveNebraska.org

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 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



Nebraska Safety Center
EST. 1978



RESOURCES

[Legislative Newsletter](#)

[County Employment Opportunities](#)

[Legal Calendar](#)

[2026 Election Calendar](#)

[Property Assessment and Taxation Calendar](#)



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