

NACO E-Line



August 27, 2021



A Message from NACO Executive Director Jon Cannon

To all County Board Chairs, County Clerks, and County Treasurers:

I am very pleased to announce that your Nebraska Association of County Officials, at the direction of the NACO Board, have engaged Lutz & Company – a CPA firm headquartered in Omaha with offices in Lincoln, Grand Island, and Hastings – to provide assistance to counties in the administration of those State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds as part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Lutz will provide consulting services for any county in need of assistance in its use of the ARPA funds. Here are some of the kinds of services they can offer:

- Setting up processes and internal controls for best practices for receipt of funds;
- Consulting and identification of eligible uses of funds;
- Consulting, monitoring, and reporting of eligible programs;
- Compliance, documentation, and reporting of all necessary report filings;
- Assistance with grant/contracts pre-approval processes;
- Assistance with strategic planning;
- Assistance with newly required Single Audits of ARPA funds.

This list is non-exhaustive, so if you aren't sure if the assistance you require would be covered, just ask!

Also, it is important to note that **fees paid for these kinds of consulting services are also eligible uses of ARPA funds.**

NACO remains available for any questions you may have regarding the administration of ARPA funds; however, we very quickly realized that there were some questions we did not have the expertise to answer. We may refer you on to Lutz if we determine it would be appropriate.

Lutz & Company was founded in 1980 and has become the largest locally owned CPA firm in Nebraska. They have 300 professionals who make up their team, and will be devoting a significant part of their resources to assisting Nebraska counties. They are also a member of PrimeGlobal, a coalition of 288 independently owned global firms, which gives them access to and contacts with many of the policy-makers at the state and federal levels.

If your county can benefit from this service, please feel free to contact Mark DeDiana at mdediana@lutz.us or 402.462.3200.

As always, feel free to reach out to me directly if you have any questions.

Thanks!

Jon

Upcoming Events

Central District Meeting – 9/16, Kearney*
Northeast District Meeting – 9/17, Norfolk*
Panhandle District Meeting – 9/22, Gering
West Central District Meeting – 9/23, Ogallala*
Maintenance Exchange Workshop – 10/7, North Platte
NACO Legislative Conference – 10/14, Holdrege*
Southeast District Meeting – 10/18, Lincoln
NACO Annual Conference – 12/8-10, Kearney*

[*Register Today](#)

Your County, Through the Lens

Every E-Line will feature a photograph submitted by one of our readers of their county.

[Click Here to Submit a Photo of Your County](#)



Scotts Bluff County, submitted by Linda Grummert

Annual Conference Awards Nominations Forms

Nomination forms for our 2021 **County Official of the Year**, **Lifetime Achievement**, and **Next Generation Awards** are now live on the NACO Website under Latest News. The awards will be presented at the 2021 NACO Annual Conference in December.



Treasury Releases Walkthrough Of Recovery Fund Reporting Portal Recovery Fund Reports Due August 31

Counties that receive funding from the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund are required to meet **compliance and reporting responsibilities**. On August 31, both the Interim Report and the Recovery Plan Performance Report are due to the U.S. Treasury Department.

The Interim Report must be completed by all counties that have certified for Recovery Funds. Additionally, the Recovery Plan Performance Report must be completed by counties that have a population of 250,000 and above.

The U.S. Treasury released a recorded presentation providing a walkthrough of the reporting portal and instructions on completing required reports.

[Watch the Webinar Here](#)

Visit NACo's Recovery Fund Resource Hub for more information related to reporting and ask our experts a question.

[Learn More Here](#)

Sustaining Member Spotlight: Ceres



Ceres delivers innovative engineering and manufacturing solutions to customers who work within many industries. With extensive experience in the heavy equipment industry, our team of engineers, technicians, welders and fabricators work together to help our customers develop products that increase productivity, reduce costs, and improve safety.

[Visit Ceres Online for More Information](#)



Congratulations to The Graduates of the NACo Leadership Academy

Benson Elmore, Veterans Service Officer Douglas County
Colleen Fredrickson, Compensation/Benefits Manager Douglas County
Dave Collins, Lead Teacher Douglas County
DeDe Will, Finance Director Douglas County
Delora Vaughn, Juvenile Detention Supervisor Douglas County
Doretha Scott, Juvenile Detention Supervisor Douglas County
Eric Carlson, Purchasing Agent Douglas County
Erin Nelson, Health Center Administrator Douglas County
Jackie Neighbors, Admin. Support Manager Douglas County
Jan Hankey, Director of Support Services Douglas County
Jeannine Mulligan, Compliance Officer Douglas County
John Mack, Safety and Security Coordinator Douglas County
Kent Holm, Environmental Services Director Douglas County
Layla Block, Billing and Admissions Manager Douglas County
Leia Baez, Public Information Officer Douglas County
Lindsay Stangl, Human Resources Generalist Douglas County
Mark LeFlore, Manager of Admin. Services Douglas County
Matt Warta, Department Supervisor Douglas County
Megan Hefley, Community Program Manager Douglas County
Melissa Sewick, General Assistance Director Douglas County
Michelle Horton, Assistant Purchasing Agent Douglas County
Molly O'Neil, Program Director Douglas County
Norwood Tillery, Juvenile Detention Supervisor Douglas County
Pamela Agee-Lowery, Nurse Manager Douglas County
Ranae Manning, Chief Nursing Officer Douglas County
Ray Goodman, Juvenile Detention Supervisor Douglas County
Reggie Alexander, Juvenile Detention Supervisor Douglas County
Rondy Woodard, Detention Facility Manager Douglas County
Ryan Prusha, Human Resources Analyst Douglas County
Shantel Hoelscher, Social Detoxification Program Manager Douglas County
Shawne Johnson-Coonfare, Juvenile Assessment Center Director Douglas County
Sherie Peterson, Assistant Chief Deputy Douglas County
Tiffany LeColst, Admin. Support Specialist Douglas County
Wayne Lovett, Facility Operations Manager Douglas County
Whitney Shipley, Assistant Emergency Management Director Douglas County
Zach Craft, Juvenile Detention Supervisor Douglas County
Julie Sestak, Perkins County
Nic Vancura, Dawson County
Celeste Cattin, Clerk of District Court Dawes County

Developed by General Colin Powell, the Professional Development Academy and NACo, the High Performance Leadership Academy is an online 12-week program that helps your workforce develop fundamental, practical leadership skills to deliver results for counties and our residents.

[Click Here to Learn More and Enroll](#)



Broadband Bridge Act Grant Program

Working to Expand Broadband to all Nebraskans

On May 26, 2021, the Governor signed the Nebraska Broadband Bridge Act (the Act), LB 388, which created the Nebraska Broadband Bridge Program (NBBP) to facilitate and fund the deployment of broadband networks in unserved and underserved areas of Nebraska. The NBBP is designed to assist with costly deployment projects that might not otherwise occur without public assistance. The Nebraska Public Service Commission has the authority to grant awards to assist applicants with eligible infrastructure installation costs for qualifying projects. Qualifying projects must provide broadband Internet service scalable to one hundred megabits per second for downloading and one hundred megabits per second for uploading, or greater (100Mbps/100Mbps). Applicants are required to provide matching funds equal to at least fifty percent of the total development costs of the project.

[Learn More Here](#)

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Latest News & Featured Links**