



The National Association of County Administrators

Idea Exchange

ICMA Annual Conference

San Antonio/Bexar County, Texas

Monday October 23, 2017

12:45 – 2:45 p.m.

Henry B. González Convention Center, Room 224

List of Attendees

Name	Organization	Name	Organization
Tom Anderson	County of Deschutes, Oregon	Jonathan Lewis	County of Sarasota, Florida
Ryan Baird	ECivis, Inc.	James Martin	County of Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Jonathon Bazan	County of Dallas, Texas	Chandler Merritt	County of Tarrant, Texas
Bill Bilyeu	County of Collin, Texas	Kristi More	Ferguson Group, LLC
David Bone	County of Martin, North Carolina	Rita Soler Ossolinski	ICMA
Vivian Calkins-McGettigan	County of York, Virginia	Jeff Parks	Performance Breakthroughs
Rebecca Clemons	County of Williamson, Texas	Ryan Pelletier	County of Aroostook, Maine
Emily Colon	County of Pasco, Florida	Sarah Plinsky	County of Douglas, Kansas
Ian Coyle	County of Livingston, New York	Greg Porter	City of Cedar Hill, Texas
Peter Crichton	City of Auburn, Maine	Lance A. Pyle	County of Curry, New Mexico
Gordon Criswell	Unified Government of Wyandotte County-Kansas City, Kansas	Sean Quincey	County of Humboldt, California
Carmen Davis	County of Hinds, Mississippi	Ted Rhinehart	County of DeKalb, Georgia
Roger Desjarlais	County of Lee, Florida	Stephanie Rodriguez	ECivis, Inc.
Robert C. Donnan	NACA/ICMA	Rick Rudometkin	County of Eddy, New Mexico
Kennie Downing	County of Baker, Florida	John Saeli	ICMA-RC
Gregory Dyson	ICMA-RC	Sharon Schallhorn	County of Bureau, Illinois
Jeff Earlywine	County of Boone, Kentucky	Kathy Schauf	County of Eau Claire, Wisconsin
Veronica Ferguson	Retired - County of Sonoma, California	Mahesh Sharma	County of Scott, Iowa

Bill Ferguson	Ferguson Group, LLC	John Slaughter	County of Washoe, Nevada
Shannon Flanagan-Watson	County of Arlington, Virginia	Phil Smith-Hanes	County of Ellis, Kansas
Mike Gallagher	County of Lea, New Mexico	Scott Sorrel	County of Peoria, Illinois
David Garcia	Cameron County, Texas	Tom Sullivan	County of Routt, Colorado
Mike Garvey	ICMA	Steve Taylor	County of Sherburne, Minnesota
Raymond H. Gonzales	County of Adams, Colorado	Ken Terrinoni	County of Boone, Illinois
Bridgette Gransden	County of Midland, Michigan	Randy Terronez	County of Rock, Wisconsin
James Ha	ECivis, Inc.	Patrick Thompson	County of St. Croix, Wisconsin
Rick Haffey	County of Nevada, California	Susan Thorpe	County of Yuma, Arizona
Tim Harper	County of Marion, South Carolina	Al Vanderberg	County of Ottawa, Michigan
Tim Hemstreet	County of Loudoun, Virginia	Ted Voorhees	County of Powhatan, Virginia
Bentley Henderson	County of Archuleta, Colorado	Jim Walker	County of Catoosa, Georgia
Matt Hilgart	Minnesota Association of Counties	Bill Wasson	County of McLean, Illinois
Bryan Hill	County of James City, Virginia	Joe Waters	County of Johnson, Kansas
Yoko Igawa	Foothill Transit Zone, California	Alyssa Watkins	County of Teton, Wyoming
Christina Iskandar	National Association of Counties	Jeff Weckbach	County of Hamilton, Ohio
Zach Israel	Ferguson Group, LLC	Craig Weinaug	County of Douglas, Kansas
Jimmy Jayne	County of Coconino, Arizona	Dan Weinheimer	County of Routt, Colorado
Jestin Johnson	Athens-Clarke County Unified Government, Georgia	Chuck Whiting	County of Polk, Minnesota
Tadayoshi Kawawa	County of Sedgwick, Kansas	Randell Woodruff	County of Pender, North Carolina
Bob Lawton	County of Yates, New York	Ashley R. Wooten	County of McDowell, North Carolina
Lance Leonhard	County of Marathon, Wisconsin	Douglas Wurster	County of Charleston, South Carolina
		Hannes Zacharias	County of Johnson, Kansas

➤ Introduction & Issues

- Hannes Zacharias, NACA President, welcomed members and guests, and extended thanks to Friends of NACA.
- Attendees listed the following issues facing their respective communities:
 - Population shifts
 - School funding incongruent with rising student population
 - Meeting the infrastructure needs of a rapidly growing population
 - Demographics shifting to a senior population
 - Creating adequate housing and affordable housing
 - Healthcare

- Opioid epidemic
 - Mental health care
 - Homelessness
 - Zika virus
- Workforce development
 - Recruitment and retention of top talent
- Cybersecurity
- Natural disasters
 - Rebuilding the community after a natural disaster
 - Flood insurance
- Funding and revenue
 - Education funding
 - Sales tax revenue
 - Dark stores
- Overcrowded jails
- Broadband access
- Improving the public's trust in management
- Consolidated government / regional efforts
 - Redevelopment and meeting residents' expectations
 - Metrorail expansion/maintenance and the regional issues
- Shortage of law enforcement officers
- Zoning issues
- Utility disputes with the state
- Cannabis management
- State legislatures impeding local control
- Sale of a landfill to a university

Topics Discussed

1) Cybersecurity

- County A
 - Testing employees with phishing scams which would allow an actual scammer access to county systems.
- County B
 - Uses videos to train employees with a self-testing component. [View these here.](#)
- County C
 - The National Guard Cyber Brigade has a battalion that offers free cybersecurity resources and systems tests. Learn more through these links:
 - [Resource 1: Virginia Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security](#)
 - [Resource 2: Virginia National Guard Public Affairs Office](#)
 - [Resource 3: Virginia National Guard](#)

- [Resource 4: Virginia National Guard](#)
- County D
 - Offers annual training for employees utilizing multiple videos and tests. Employees have issued positive feedback.
- County E
 - Purchased cybersecurity insurance at a discounted rate due to the number of departments covered. After insurance was required by the state, counties found that deductibles were lower when multiple counties pooled together.

2) Upcoming U.S. Supreme Court Cases

- NACA/ICMA Staff
 - Counties will need to keep their eye on two U.S. Supreme Court cases coming up in 2018.
 - The first case will determine whether public-sector unions can collect dues from non-union member employees. It is expected that the Court will rule that they will not be able to continue this practice.
 - The second case will potentially redefine rules pertaining to redistricting plans. This case will directly address the issue of gerrymandering.
- County A
 - There is a case in South Dakota that will be brought to the Supreme Court's consideration for review. This potential Supreme Court case would impact the collection of sales tax from out-of-state retailers with no physical in-state presence (online sales).
 - County B
 - State sales taxes are being collected, but not local taxes.
 - County C
 - There are policies in place to collect online sales tax, but there is no enforcement
 - County A
 - If a retailer has a physical presence, they must build the state sales tax into their price. The challenge is in collecting the local tax.
 - County D
 - This issue relates back to corporate welfare policies. The incentive era of the business life cycle ended long ago. Now corporations should stop receiving breaks.

3) Managing Growth and the Impact on County Services

- County A
 - Tax breaks for municipal bonds may be ending with proposed tax reforms.
- County B
 - A Public Private Partnership legislative deal was struck in the state but received no interest from private investors.

- County C
 - State faces multiple home rule issues.
- County D
 - State ramped up the removal of a competitive advantage.

4) Collecting Revenue: Methods and Problems

- County A
 - The state always overrides local tax revenue efforts.
- County B
 - A wheel tax was introduced, and all related revenue must be used for infrastructure projects. The state collects the tax when registrations are added or renewed, keeping local administrative costs very low.
- County C
 - Municipalities in the state can set property taxes. Use tax is the fastest growing source of tax revenue at the local level.
- County D
 - Special districts can easily be established per state law (individuals can create them), but they can easily go bankrupt.
- County E
 - Special districts are used for a fair amount of funding but most of the revenue must go towards tourism per state law. Some flexibility with special taxes would be helpful.

5) Affordable Housing

- County A
 - County funds research and underwrites developments.
- County B
 - Affordable housing should be considered in two areas: workforce housing and supportive housing.
- County A
 - Funding allows them to support workforce and supportive housing.
 - Other projects included a tiny house development and changing regulations on granny flats.

6) Homelessness

- County A
 - HUD asked the county to accept many homeless individuals into their care with supportive federal funding.
- County B
 - The community formed focus groups comprised of homeless individuals to help develop their programs.
- County C
 - Federal housing policies have not kept up with shifts in homelessness trends.

7) The Opioid Crisis

- County A
 - Created a Quick Response Team (QRT) that responds to crises, then follows up with individuals to offer any necessary support.
- County B
 - EMS, hospitals, and 911 services were connected to help identify “frequent flyers” and directly intervene.
- Counties C
 - State association has been drafting a resolution to file lawsuits against pharmaceutical companies so that counties can receive a portion of the settlements.
- County D
 - Efforts have been made to work with addicts positively instead of simply punishing them under the law.
- County E
 - It is helpful to have individuals or groups from the county, law enforcement, hospitals, EMS, and the community get together to address the issues.
- County F
 - Specialized courts have been developed that have the capability to follow up with individuals with addiction issues.
- County G
 - The female jail population has been surging recently due to opioid related crimes.