

**WIR Board of Directors Meeting  
2019 WIR Conference  
Spokane County, Washington**

**9:00 a.m.**

Supervisor Kevin Cann opened the meeting, led the Pledge of Allegiance

**9:10 a.m. Welcome from Host County**

Welcome from the Hon. Mary Kunej, Commissioner, Spokane County, Wash.

**9:15 a.m. U.S. Small Business Administration**

Jeremy Field, Regional Administrator, Region X, U.S. Small Business Administration discussed resources available to local communities and the SBA's current plans to help grow local economies around the nation. The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) was created in 1953 as an independent agency of the federal government to aid, counsel, assist and protect the interests of small businesses, to preserve free competitive enterprise and to maintain and strengthen the overall economy of our nation. The SBA provides a broad array of resources to small businesses, including access to financing, counseling and training, government contracting and advocacy on behalf of small business before policymakers.

**9:30 a.m. Rural Development Initiatives**

USDA Colorado State Director for Rural Development and former NACo President Sallie Clark spoke about available USDA Rural Development programs and changes to these programs under the 2018 Farm Bill. U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Office of Rural Development offers loans, grants and loan guarantees to help create jobs and support economic development and essential services including housing, health care, first responder services and equipment, and water, electric and communications infrastructure in rural America.

**9:50 a.m. Bureau of Land Management's Wild Horse and Burro Program**

Steve Tryon, Acting Deputy Assistant Director for Resources and Planning at the U.S. Department of the Interior discussed updates to the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Wild Horse and Burro Program unveiled in March 2019. BLM manages and protects our nation's wild horses and burros across 10 western states. The goal of the program is to ensure healthy wild horses and burros on thriving public rangelands, using all available management tools under the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act.

**WIR Business Meeting**

**10:10 a.m. Update from the Western Governors Association**

The Western Governors Association is a great partner of NACo and WIR. James Ogsbury, Executive Director of WGA, provided an update on the progress of the invasive species initiative spearheaded by Hawai'i Governor and WGA Chairman David Ige, as well as other efforts to elevate the western voice in the national dialogue.

**10:30 a.m. NACo TestIT App**

NACo has partnered with the Local Initiatives Support Corporation and the Rural Community Assistance Partnership to develop a mobile app designed to identify areas with low or no connectivity to help ensure adequate funding for broadband infrastructure. "TestIT" is a mobile app that leverages a broadband sampling tool to aggregate broadband speeds across the country from app users. NACo Associate Legislative Director Arthur Scott discussed the TestIT app and demonstrated its use.

**10:40 a.m. Legislative and WIR Financial Update**

Jonathan Shuffield, NACo Associate Legislative Director for Public Lands and WIR Liaison, provided an update on the legislative priorities and finances of the Western Interstate Region.

**10:55 a.m. Creating a Modern, Integrated Law Enforcement Dispatch and Record Management Platform**

Initiatives that involve and impact multiple agencies require unique levels of buy-in from diverse stakeholders, who often have competing needs or expectations. When Spokane, Washington, decided to replace its legacy law enforcement system with a new computer-aided dispatch and records management platform, more than 15 stakeholders from across nine agencies needed to weigh in. Ariane Schmidt, Regional Project Manager for the City and County of Spokane, Washington and Erin Miller, Vice President of Client Success at Tyler Technologies, focused their presentation on how the city, county, and vendor worked together to effectively set direction, engage executive stakeholders, and secure organizational buy-in for a successful program.

**11:15 a.m. U.S. Forest Service**

The FY 2018 Omnibus Appropriations bill and 2018 Farm Bill granted new authorities to the U.S. Forest Service to better manage the National Forest System. After one year with these new authorities, the agency is looking for innovative ways to utilize these tools to improve the landscape. Mary Farnsworth, Deputy Regional Forester, U.S. Forest Service Region 4 provided an update on how the Forest Service is working within this new forest management framework.

**11:30 a.m. U.S. Department of Homeland Security**

Adrian Cotsworth, Division Chief of Operations for U.S. Border Patrol, Michael Freeman, Assistant Director for Operations for U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), and Victor de Leon, Branch Chief of Intergovernmental Affairs at the Office of the Commissioner of CBP, wrapped up the meeting by discussing the unique challenges in securing the northern border and how local officials coordinate resources with DHS to meet shared goals.

**Meeting Concluded – 12:15 p.m.**