

COUNTY NEWS

Our Prayer...
The Wisdom to Know
and the Courage to Defend
the Public Interest

Vol. 6 No. 12

March 25, 1974

Washington, D.C.



ATTENDING THE MASS TRANSIT Funding Coalition were, among others, (l to r) Joseph Haines, Commissioner, Greene County, Ohio; Coalition Chairman Ralph Caso, County Executive, Nassau County, N.Y.; Norman Thompson, Director, Tri-County Transit Authority, Hillsborough, Pinellas, and Charlotte counties, Fla.; Howard Watkins, Washington Representative, Santa Clara County, Calif.

County Officials Planning Action Coalition Strategy

Elected county officials and staff met in NACo's Washington offices last week to begin planning strategy for three new County Action Coalitions.

County representatives from Florida, Ohio, Michigan, New York and California met Wednesday, March 20, to discuss legislative strategies to obtain adequate funding to assist counties with public transit.

A coalition of county representatives interested in manpower funding met Thursday, and the community development action coalition met Friday.

The transit action coalition members agreed that they must concentrate their efforts on obtaining immediate capital and operating assistance for mass transit. A transit bill which NACo supports has been approved by a House-Senate Conference Committee, but has been indefinitely postponed by the House Rules Committee.

Nassau County Executive Ralph Caso, chairman of the transit coalition will testify before the House of Representatives Public Works Subcommittee Tuesday, April 3, when the coalition rallies in Washington, D. C. Other members of the coalition, the group decided will meet near Capitol Hill in the morning, then divide into small groups to talk with key Senators and Congressmen, the Congressional leadership, and important members of the Administration, to discuss county mass transit needs.

The mass transit group also agreed that they would draft and distribute model speeches, outline public information ideas, compile a checklist of information county officials will need to present their

cause to Congress and the Administration, and distribute frequently asked questions and answers to interested county officials.

They decided to try to arrange county representation at a series of Congressional hearings on mass transit. The regional hearings will take place on the weekend of April 5 and 6 in Chicago, Boston, Los Angeles, Atlanta and Sacramento.

Rural Action Coalition

Both large and small counties having development pressures in rural areas have started signing up for the Rural Action Coalition.

The Rural Action Coalition will be a group effort aimed at securing full funding for the Rural Development Act of 1972 and continuation of Economic Development Act funding for projects in rural areas.

Don Cleveland, Executive Director of the Iowa State Association of Counties who is heading the Rural Action Coalition is meeting with staff members of state associations and individual counties as we go to press.

Strategy will be developed for conducting an action campaign for testimony and meetings both in Washington and "at home" in the key congressional districts during the next several months.

As many meetings as possible will be scheduled with Senators and Congressmen in their home towns where county officials can demonstrate rural needs. These meetings will be coordinated by the state associations in each state.

(Continued on page 2)

Counties Voted In On Community Funding

by John C. Murphy
Legislative Representative

The House Subcommittee on Housing late last week voted unanimously to include urban counties in the formula distribution of funds under new community development block grant legislation.

A modified block grant bill passed the Senate on March 11, although it did not contain formula shares of funds for either cities or counties.

The subcommittee's action came after five days of debate on alternative ways to allocate and distribute block grant funds among cities and counties. By its action the subcommittee adopted a long-standing NACo policy advocating equitable treatment between metropolitan cities (over 50,000 in population) and urban counties (over 200,000, exclusive of the population of metropolitan cities within the county) in the distribution of the funds.

The subcommittee has before it two bills, H.R. 7277, the Administration's proposed "Better Communities Act," and H.R. 10036, the "Housing and Urban Development Act of 1974," introduced by Congressmen William Barrett (D-Pa.) and Thomas Ashley (D-Ohio). Both bills are designed to consolidate community development categorical programs (urban renewal, model cities, water and sewer, open space, etc.) into a single block grant program, with funds distributed on the basis of a needs formula.

The Better Communities Act (BCA) proposes to distribute block grants directly to urban counties and metropolitan cities by a formula including population, poverty, and overcrowded housing.

In contrast, the Barrett/Ashley bill would give priority to urban counties in the distribution of discretionary funds.

Funds authorized under the subcommittee's agreement are to be distributed on the basis of 80 percent to metropolitan areas and 20 percent to non-metropolitan areas. In fiscal 1975 a total of \$2.45 billion is authorized, with this amount rising to \$2.65 billion in fiscal 1976 and \$2.95 billion in fiscal 1977. The subcommittee agreed to retain the BCA approach of distributing funds by formula within metropolitan areas directly to urban counties and metropolitan cities.

In fiscal 1975, of the \$2 billion (80 percent) earmarked for metropolitan areas, \$1.05 billion would flow to urban counties and metropolitan cities; \$791 million would be available to meet hold harmless needs of cities and counties; the remainder \$153 million, would be available as discretionary funds for distribution by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development among

metropolitan areas.

An urban county, under the subcommittee's decision, would be defined as one over 200,000 in population, exclusive of the population of metropolitan cities, and authorized under state law to carry out housing and community development activities.

In instances where smaller cities and counties concurrently exercise housing and community development powers, smaller cities would be required to specifically exempt themselves from the county's community development plan and application. If such a community opted out, its population would not be counted as part of the county's, and it would be eligible to apply for discretionary funds.

(Continued on page 10)

Regional Hearings On Mass Transit Set By House Unit

House Public Works Committee Chairman John Blatnik has authorized hearings and studies of public mass transportation needs and problems, the adequacy of existing systems, and the potential for effective future development.

To accomplish its purpose and looking toward the drafting of major legislation, the committee has elected to send five separate groups to five key regions for field hearings and on-the-spot inspections on the weekend of April 5 and 6.

The first group, under the chairmanship of Rep. John Klaczynski, will visit Chicago and take testimony from public officials and others in that area.

The second group, under Rep. Bob Jones, will visit Boston and take testimony as to the needs in that area and the Northeast.

The third group, under Rep. James V. Stanton, will examine the problems in the greater Los Angeles area and visit San Diego for briefings on innovative developments by industry.

The fourth group, under Rep. James J. Howard, will visit Atlanta to study transit needs and take testimony from local public officials.

The fifth group, under Rep. Jim Wright, will hold hearings in Sacramento and study the Bay Area Rapid Transit System centered in San Francisco.

County officials wishing to appear before the committees should contact the committee at 202/225-4472. It would be appreciated if those appearing before one of the groups would also contact Ralph Tabor at NACo.

County Action Coalition Goals

Community Development Block Grants

As the Congress considers legislation consolidating various community development categorical programs into a single block program, NACo strongly recommends: that counties be eligible recipients of guaranteed formula share of community development block grant funds; that the legislation authorize and provide financial incentive for multi-jurisdictional community development applications from units of general purpose local government; and that the Congress promptly enact community development block grant legislation at an adequate funding level. — Washington, D.C. Rally April 4.

Rural Development Funding

NACo urges the Congress to give top priority to appropriating the full annual amounts for the following grant programs authorized by the Rural Development Act of 1972: \$300 million for rural water and waste disposal grants; \$30 million for rural water and waste disposal planning grants; and \$10 million for rural comprehensive planning grants. — Seattle, Washington Rally (WRD Meeting) April 29.

Manpower Funding

NACo congratulates the Congress for enacting the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1973. This legislation provides the basic vehicle to respond to the manpower needs of county residents. In view of rising unemployment in part due to the energy crisis, NACo urges Congress to promptly appropriate sufficient additional funds in the FY '74 supplemental appropriations for Title II. NACo also urges Congress to carefully review the level of unemployment in providing sufficient funds for the 1975 appropriations. — Washington D. C. Rally April 8.

Transit Operating Funds

NACo urges Congress and the Administration to agree quickly on legislation giving counties and cities transit operating cost assistance. At least \$800 million per year is needed. In transit assistance and other local transportation decisions Congress should define local officials as ones locally elected, publicly accountable with capability to raise matching monies for federal funds. — Washington D. C. Rally April 3.

Action Coalition

(Continued from page 1)

Coalition meetings with key federal officials, have already been scheduled in Washington. Included are meetings with Assistant Secretary for Rural Development William Erwin and Assistant Secretary for Economic Development William Blunt to brief them on Coalition goals.

Another important date for the coalition will be April 29 in Seattle, Wash. at the 1974 Western Region Conference. A conference workshop session is scheduled to coordinate coalition efforts with the Rural County Task Force.

To help county governments can:

Provide staff assistance in setting up meetings and preparing testimony;

Have county officials can come to Washington, D.C. for meetings or to testify;

Help arrange or participate in "at home" meetings with key congressional leaders;

Send to NACo specific examples of Rural and Economic Development needs — expressed in dollar amounts for water and sewer grants, etc.

Pass a resolution supporting full funding of the Rural Development Act and extension of the Economic Development Act.

To sign up or for further information call NACo collect (202) 785-9577 and ask for the Rural Action Coalition or for Jim Evans, the legislative representative who will coordinate staff efforts.

The manpower funding and the community development action coalitions were making similar plans as County News went to press.

The date of the manpower funding action coalition rally was changed to April 8. At that time, elected officials will meet in Washington to talk with Congressman about the need for

supplemental manpower funding for the rest of fiscal year 1974 and adequate funding for fiscal year 1975 manpower programs. More information about the current status of manpower funding is included in the "Manpower Talk" article on page 10.

Two Books Out On Aging Problems

There are two recent publications of interest to counties actively involved in providing service to the aging.

The Senate Committee on Aging has published a check list of itemized deductions to protect older Americans from overpaying their income taxes. Witnesses testifying before this committee have indicated that possibly as many as half of all elderly taxpayers might be overpaying their taxes.

The committee's publication, "Protecting Older Americans Against Overpayment of Income Taxes: A Checklist of Itemized Deductions", which has large type to make it easier for elderly persons to read, can be obtained by sending 35 cents to the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C. 20402 (Stock Number 5270-02228).

Published by the National Council on the Aging, *Revenue Sharing and the Elderly: How to Play and Win* provides a clear statement on the use and goals of revenue sharing. It offers excellent guidelines about the expenditure of revenue sharing dollars for services to the aging. The booklet is available through the National Council on the Aging, 1828 L Street, NW, Washington, D. C. 20036.

Will Affect Funding Labor Changing Way To Figure Jobless Rate

by Jon Weintraub
Manpower Project Director

The U.S. Department of Labor has changed the process they are using to calculate the unemployment rate.

They are moving from the base of where people work to the base of place of residence in calculating the labor force. Concurrent with this change is the desire to integrate the best data they have, (i.e., the 1970 census data and updates) for use in calculating the unemployment rate. They have defined a new methodology known as the "census-share method" to calculate the unemployment rate for local jurisdictions. The results of this methodology have raised numerous questions during the debate in the House and Senate appropriations committees.

A description of the census-share method, using 1970 census data follows:

Steps:

1. From 1970 census data determine the number employed in the sub-area.

2. From 1970 census data determine the number employed in the entire labor market area.

3. Divide the total obtained in step 1 by the total obtained in step 2. The result will be the ratio of the employed residing in the sub-area to employment in the entire labor market area as of April 1970. (Ratio should be carried to four decimal places.)

4. Using the appropriate standard methodology, develop total current employment estimates by place of residence for the entire labor market area. Add those involved in labor idspates to the employment estimates.

5. Multiply the results obtained in step 4 by the ratio developed in step 3. This will yield an estimate of the employment in the sub-area for the current period. (Round to nearest whole number.)

6. From the 1970 census data determine the number of unemployed in the sub-area.

7. From the 1970 census data determine the number unemployed in the entire labor market area.

8. Divide the figure obtained in step 6 by the figure in step 7. The result is the ratio of the sub-area's unemployment to the labor area as a whole as of April 1970. (Ratio should be carried to four decimal places.)

9. Develop the current unemployment level for the entire labor market area.

10. Multiply the results obtained in step 9 by the ratios developed in step 8. This will yield an estimate of current total unemployment in the sub-area. (Round to the nearest whole number.)

11. Add the employment estimate obtained in step 5 to the unemployment estimate obtained in step 10. This will yield an estimate of the civilian labor force in the sub-area for the current period.

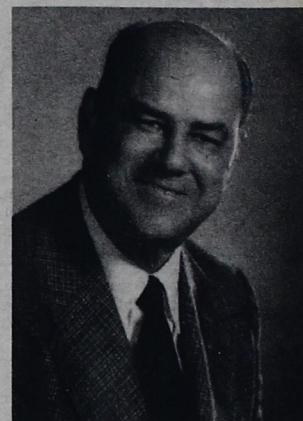
12. Divide the level of unemployment obtained in step 10 by the civilian labor force estimate obtained in step 11. This will yield an estimate of the unemployment rate for the sub-area for the current period. Express the rate as a percentage carried to one decimal place.

Two basic assumptions are inherent in this methodology: the number of employed in a sub-area increases at the same rate over a period of time as the

number of employed for the total labor market area; and, the number of unemployed in any sub-area increases at the same rate as the number of unemployed for the total labor market area.

NACo's Manpower Project has been trying, without success, to get information from the Bureau of Labor Statistics as to whether this has been statistically validated against the previous methodology for calculating the unemployment rate.

Early Leader In COG Movement Dies In Houston



Gerard H. Coleman

Gerard H. Coleman, formerly executive director of the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC), serving a 13-county area around Houston, died suddenly March 19 in Houston.

Prior to his work with H-GAC, Coleman organized and served as executive director of the Greater Detroit Supervisors Intercounty Committee, the country's first council of governments.

After five years with H-GAC, Coleman became vice president — governmental affairs for the Mitchell Development Corporation of the Southwest.

For Mitchell Development, Coleman served in a liaison capacity with local, state and federal governments.

He also was president of the newly-formed Mitchell subsidiary, New Community Resources Inc., which provides real estate consulting, planning, and management services.

He was a member of the board of directors of the Rice Center for Community Design and Research, as well as the National Association of County Administrators and the American Society of Public Administrators.

Mr. Coleman is survived by his wife, Mrs. Constance E. Coleman, and daughters Constance Diane Coleman and Susan Ellen Coleman, all of Houston; his mother Mrs. Merriel Parker and step-father Mr. Allen Parker of West Palm Beach, Florida.

New Western Region Representative



OFFICERS OF NACo's Western Region District welcomed their new representative, Jim Evans, to the NACo staff recently. Evans, formerly assistant county administrator in Santa Cruz County, Calif., will also serve as a NACo legislative representative. Pictured above are (from left) Arch Mahan of Mono County, Calif., WRD second vice-president; Henry Haws of Maricopa County, Arizona and WRD first vice-president; Jack Abrams of Okanogan County, Wash. and President of the WRD; and Evans.



the Ballot Box by Richard G. Smolka

National Association of County Recorders and Clerks
American University Institute of Election Administration

Model Election Law

The Citizens Research Foundation headed by Herbert E. Alexander, the nation's leading authority on campaign spending, has developed a model election law which is now available to interested parties.

Each section of the law is based on several well stated criteria. For example, in developing the contribution section of the law each provision was tested against fair, workable, and specific criteria for this section: will the program make it easy for an individual to give money to politics; will the program provide an incentive adequate to make individuals want to use it; will the individual retain control over the money until he decides to give it to a candidate or political committee; and will the individual choose the recipient freely, and be subject only to the disclosure provisions of the model act?

The model provides for voter registration by mail and for changes of address to be accomplished through notification of the U. S. postal service which will in turn notify the Board of Elections. The Board will, within 72 hours of receiving a change of address notification, update its voter registration file and notify the registered voter of a change in election district, if any.

Copies of the Model State Statute Politics, Elections and Public Office are available for \$3 from the Citizens Research Foundation, 245 Nassau St. Princeton, N.J., 08540.

Several weeks ago, California county clerks raised questions about the right of a former resident of a state to register and vote for president under the Voting Rights Amendments of 1970.

In May 1971, the Department of Justice issued a memorandum interpreting that section of the law. Justice advised state officials that the circumstances under which former residents could claim the right to vote for president were limited.

When an individual moves to a new state or political subdivision within thirty days prior to a federal election, the place where he will be eligible to vote depends

upon the registration deadline applicable to voting for president and vice-president in the new location. If that deadline permits registration within the thirty-day period and if the individual, by virtue of his new residence, is able to meet the deadline, then he must vote at his new location and has no claim to vote at the former address. There has been no change in the law or in the opinion of the Department of Justice in this question.

There is, of course, nothing in the federal law to prevent a state from permitting former residents who do not claim the right to vote in another state from voting in the state of their former residence even though they no longer maintain a domicile there. Most states do require that a prospective voter maintain a physical or a legal residence or at the very least have the intention of returning to the state at some time in the future.

Difficulties in registering and voting experienced by United States citizens residing overseas has resulted in the introduction of national legislation by Senators Clairborne Pell (S. 2384) and Charles McC. Mathias (S. 2102). Companion legislation (H.R. 9023) has been introduced in the House of Representatives by Peter W. Rodino, Jr. and Thomas Railsback.

The proposed legislation provides that no citizen of the United States residing overseas can be denied the right to register and vote absentee in Presidential and Congressional elections in the state in which he last voted or was registered to vote, or if he were a first time voter, in his last state of domicile solely because such a citizen is domiciled or is otherwise residing outside of the United States and is without a place of abode or other address in the state.

The provision is intended to protect those citizens who have been residing overseas and who have no intention of returning to the state of previous residence, regardless of how long they have been away from the state.

The International Institute of Municipal Clerks Executive Committee adopted a resolution opposing the

(Continued on page 10)

New Directions

Scott Franklin
Research Intern
New County, U.S.A. Center

Computerized Title Searches Sought

Costly land title searches, a necessary inconvenience for all new home owners, might soon be eliminated in Fairfax County Va. The Board of Supervisors has voted to seek funding from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to institute a program which would computerize land records and eventually save county home buyers hundreds of dollars. If funds are available the system could become operative as early as July 1975.

Two Counties Consider Changes in Form

Public hearings will begin soon to allow citizens of Muskegon County, Mich. to express their opinion on a proposed elected executive form of government. The Board of Commissioners, presently split on the issue, is anxious to get public reaction before final decisions are made.

Citing a growing number of committees and boards combined with an increasing complexity of county government, a Yellowstone County (Mont.) commissioner has suggested the adoption of a county manager form of government. Under the present commission structure, he claims, policy making decisions are difficult to reach because the three commissioners simply don't have time to attend all committee meetings.

Cancelled Checks Are Money Savers

Glenn Stapley, the Maricopa County (Ariz.) Treasurer, has urged that property tax receipts currently mailed to every county taxpayer owning land, be eliminated in order to save Arizona counties several thousand dollars a year. Cancelled checks, Stapley claims, serve as receipts and thus make formal receipts unnecessary. Smaller counties with a large number of parcels are hardest hit by the expenses of mailing receipts.

Nassau County Praised by N.Y. Times

The New York Times has praised Nassau County's (N.Y.) Office of Cultural Development for instituting a cultural program which should be considered as a model for other suburbs around the country. The office, organized in 1971 by County Executive Ralph Caso, provides assistance to community cultural organizations, supports professional ventures in the performing and fine arts, and offers students a wide exposure to cultural programs. NACo presented Nassau County with an achievement award last year for this outstanding project.

Judicial Transformation is Urged

A district court system which would transfer judicial power from city units to the county is presently being studied by the Arizona State Legislature. Designed to improve the quality of justice in Arizona's lower court system, the proposed plan would abolish city courts throughout the state in favor of district courts in each one of Arizona's fourteen counties.

Presently a lengthy appeal process exists since the lower court is not a "court of record" and a defendant has the option of appealing to the Superior Court for a whole new trial. Lawyers, judges, legislators and city councilmen support the proposal as a means of improving court proceedings and alleviating the current backlog of cases.

New Post Created

An innovation in South Dakota county government, position of executive secretary, has been established by the Pennington County Board of Commissioners. The responsibilities include preparation of the commissioners' agenda, supervision of all county officials, and co-ordination of the budget. The position is analogous to the appointed administrator in other states.

Changing Gears

With gas sales reduced, why not tax bicycles? This suggestion comes from the League of American Wheelmen in Nevada, who claim that serious cyclists would be willing to pay \$5 a year for property protection licensing. Under the proposed system, the tax gathered by the counties would be state matched and provide a tidy revenue for Nevada's counties.

A county-wide intergovernmental relations committee is studying a proposal to create a 100-mile bicycle route in King County, Wash. The route, tentatively scheduled for completion by 1976, the nation's bicentennial, will follow waterways and provide stops along sites with historical significance.

NACTFO Plans Convention Agenda

Recently 16 officers and directors of the National Association of County Treasurers and Finance Officers met in the NACo offices to plan this July's annual convention program. Chaired by President William Feldmeier, the members reviewed possible program subjects. Following recommendations from each member the group discussed consensus areas.

Major subjects to be included in this year's program are: mobile home taxation, tax payment systems, legislative activities, circuit breaker programs, interest paying and escrow accounts, a speech by the Florida Secretary of State.

Arrangements for the convention are fast taking shape. NACTFO will be housed in the Fontainebleau Hotel and a record turnout is expected.

In attendance for the meeting were: Douglas R. Aurand, Winnebago County, Ill.; B. P. Babineaux, Calcasieu Parish, La.; Oren L. Brady, Jr. Spartanburg County, S.C.; Don Couch, Jefferson County, Colo.; Dale E. Davis, Miami County, Ohio.

Curtis Ezelle, Hardee County, Fla.; William J. Feldmeier, Maricopa County, Ariz.; Connie Hunter, Bingham County, Idaho; Kenneth Istre, Calcasieu Parish, La.; Marjorie Jonasson, Ada County, Idaho; Jeff Littman, Norfolk, Va.

Adam E. Nowakowski, Macomb County, Mich.; Robert L. Roderer, Montgomery County, Ohio; Elsie Thayer, Stevens County, Wash.; John Thomas, NACo-NACTFO Liaison; Rudy J. Ulrich, Hancock County, Iowa.

County News

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Equity Realized

As we have said editorially many times, it is imperative that the Congress recognize cities and counties as equal partners in the solution of urban problems. The House Subcommittee on Housing did just that last week. It unanimously agreed to amend pending community development block grant legislation to provide urban counties a formula share of funds. (See story page 1.)

The subcommittee's action must be viewed as a victory for urban counties. It allocated funds on the same basis to metropolitan cities and urban counties. This is squarely in line with NACo policy, something urban county officials have been advocating for the past two years.

Unfortunately, the Senate failed to agree to distribute funds on a formula basis to counties or cities. Instead, it looked backwards — to what a community had received in federal assistance through

"grantsmanship" as a measure of current need. Our preference is obvious — distribution of funds on the basis of an objective formula, uniformly distributing funds to areas of need.

If the House subcommittee's action is sustained in the full House Committee on Banking and Currency and on the House floor (and we hope it will be), a battle is likely to ensue in the House-Senate conference committee. Through NACo's Community Development Action Coalition, we hope to get the Senate to drop its approach in favor of that of the House. If successful, urban counties and metropolitan cities can get about the solution of housing and community development problems with the appropriate federal support to do the job.

Our hats are off to the members of the House Subcommittee on Housing.

Denver County Took Early Action In Energy Shortage

Counties throughout the United States have taken action to meet the energy crisis. The City and County of Denver, Colo. was an early leader in planning for an energy shortage. The government of Denver began to take a serious look at their energy situation. Beginning in January, 1973, Denver did three things: identified nonessential users of fuel; prepared check list to facilitate a 15 percent reduction of fuel if necessary; and developed alternate plans for using nonelectrical sources of energy in the event of a power blackout.

This initial planning greatly benefited Denver in the energy crisis.

Denver's response to the crisis was the formation of "Project Energy" with the Emergency Preparedness Director of the City and County of Denver as coordinator. His initial action was to look at fuel oil and electricity consumption by all city and county departments to find where cuts could be made for conservation by the local government.

Secondly, each city and county agency was directed to put this program into operation so maximum conservation

would be achieved through good management. Each agency designated an "Energy Manager" to work with the coordinator in carrying out "Project Energy," and to implement federal and state regulations.

Finally, an 18-member Citizens Energy Management Advisory Council was named. This group worked with the project coordinator to develop plans to be used by the private sector to conserve energy. The Advisory Council helps coordinate private conservation plans with federal and state agencies and reports periodically on the status of energy use and availability within Denver. Additionally, the Council advises the mayor on ways to keep the public informed of energy conservation measures. The project coordinator, serving as Chairman of the Advisory Council, is able to coordinate all aspects of "Project Energy." This allows the project coordinator to bring the public and the government together to speak as one to the mayor.

Payments In Lieu Of Taxes Bill



PUBLIC LAND PAYMENTS — Congressmen John A. Blatnik (D-Minn.) and Don Clausen (R-Calif.) discuss the effects of a bill introduced by Congressman Blatnik and co-sponsored by Congressman Clausen that would compensate county governments for the federally-owned, tax-exempt land within their boundaries. The bill reflects the policy of NACo and its Western Region District in that it offers each county an option of choosing their new system of "payments-in-lieu of taxes" or staying with the present system of shared revenues on public land that they might now be using. NACo is encouraged about the possibility of this bill being successful. It has the bi-partisan support of some 30 Congressmen from both the West and East.

Letters to NACo

Dear sir:

It was with much interest that I read Casper Weinberger's eloquent "Report on New Welfare Program" i.e. the Supplemental Security Income Program in *Outlook*, Feb. 18, 1974. However, I, as Commissioner of the Westchester County Department of Social Services, and from my vantage point, have a completely different view of the federal government's Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program. I regard SSI as a Hydra-headed monster which is resulting in the creation of a parallel system with all the lines of communication and true assignment of responsibility severed.

I genuinely believe that Congress made a grave error in judgment when it decided to categorically transfer Aid to the Blind and Dependent (ABD) recipients out of a needs program — that is, the Department of Social Services — and deposit them into SSI, a benefit program without the tools, manpower and training to handle the multitude of problems attendant to the transfer. ABD recipients have multi-human needs that require continuous servicing, and the Social Security Administration must do far more than merely be a dispenser of monthly checks.

The Westchester County Department of Social Services is presently trying to handle all emergency SSI situations. We cannot afford this indefinitely. It is unfair to local taxpayers who already are overburdened and believe they have been relieved of direct financial responsibility.

As of today, Mr. Weinberger notwithstanding, SSI means that many old and handicapped people are losing out. In addition, I am concerned about the inflexibility that prevents humane attention to this most unfortunate segment of our population.

While I favor the principle of income support, the Federal government must reset its guidelines sufficiently to assume real and fiscal responsibility for the Supplemental Security Income Program immediately.

Leonard Berman
Commissioner
Department of Social Services
Westchester County, N.Y.

Dear Bernie:

I feel that our 1974 Legislative Conference was a tremendous success. And because we sometimes overlook the little courtesies that really count, I would again like to take this opportunity to thank you and each member of our great staff that made it possible.

Sincerely,
Gil Barrett, President
National Association of
Counties

Dear Bernie:

Your "HOTLINE" is the most innovative new operation in Washington, D. C.

You may be assured that I will post the number to personally keep informed — that kind of service should be of great interest and value to all concerned.

Have just listened to your message — about asphalt, etc. — which reminds me that you better put in a supply of "that greasy kid stuff" — before that is in short supply!

Gordon Sharp
U. S. Dept. of Transportation

Dear Sir:

I want to congratulate you for your fine editorial "Rural County Survival" in the March 11, 1974 issue of *County News*. You have pinpointed an area which has been of great concern to our organization. If rural communities are to survive as healthy, viable places to live, then certainly the basic elements for human existence must be provided.

When Congress passed the Rural Development Act in 1972 they recognized that many rural communities required grant funds in order to provide water and sewer systems as well as other community facilities. Without grant funds, the basic need for clean water and adequate waste disposal cannot be met for many rural areas. By denying grant funds as part of the Rural Development Act, the Administration insures the death of many rural communities.

Gordon Cavanaugh
Executive Director
Housing Assistance Council, Inc.

OUTLOOK

On Issues Affecting Counties

SSI program needs additional refinement

Editor's note: Charlotte Williams is vice chairperson, Genesee County Michigan Board of Commissioners and chairperson of NACo's Welfare and Social Services Steering Committee. Her remarks are in response to OUTLOOK's February 18 article by HEW Secretary Caspar Weinberger on the Supplemental Security Income program (SSI).

As a staunch advocate for the federal takeover of assistance payments programs, I had the highest hopes for the January 1 birth of the Supplemental Security Income program (SSI). Now having the perspective to sort out the damages done by birth-trauma, I feel I must deal with the lasting scars and current adjustment problems.

There have been numerous, unanticipated problems to deal with in the first months of the program — problems which the federal agencies placed, and intend to leave, in the hands of the counties.

The major corrective measure that I would recommend is that the federal government quickly assume responsibility for administrative details and reimburse counties for costs encountered over details which were left dangling in our laps and relieve us of problems inherent in a program over which we no longer have financial authority.

Unless the on-going errors in program administration are rectified, they will continue to produce intolerable drains on county budgets.

Specifically, it is not consistent for the federal Social Security Administration (SSA), in taking over these programs, to provide on-going assistance and expect counties to provide, out of their own funds, all forms of emergency assistance.

Many counties already have reported spending gross amounts of money on emergencies such as appliance repair and moving. Most have reported excessive costs in providing emergency grants, needed because of errors in delivery and/or amount of the SSI check, for meeting basic needs or providing loans, loans which have not and will not be repaid — because of the absence of any ability to recoup at the local level.

County boards are finding themselves under heavy criticism by private assistance groups for not supplementing the federal assistance payment.

In my own county, Genesee, our county board learned through a news

article that the Legal Services of Eastern Michigan was planning to either sue or institute a strong lobby to get the money needed to help those under the SSI program. Unless federal government funds can be obtained for continuing emergency assistance, then many county boards will find themselves under similar criticism or suits by private and or individual SSI recipients.

The case in Genesee was prompted by the discovery that three widows receiving SSI payments were found near starvation and had to be admitted to nursing homes because they lacked funds for food after paying their utility, medical and other bills.

The SSI program has attempted to resolve the inequities among individual cases under the old system. However, many inequities still exist. These inequities are just some of the problems incurred in the transition from a specific needs program to a flat grant system.

In his article Secretary Weinberger pointed out that "many persons on public assistance preferred to pay more than the top amount allowed for rent and scrimp on food. But if they moved to housing which cost less than the maximum allowed, their checks were reduced."

To alleviate this problem, Weinberger said, the new system was based on income not expenditures. "SSI accords every eligible person identical treatment. The amount each receives depends, not on expenditures, but on income."

The federal takeover also meant, Weinberger said, that former inequities of individual state requirements were eliminated by assuring "equitable treatment by the federal government for all citizens, regardless of where they live."

According to the law, states are required to supplement the federal payments up to previous levels, for all persons who were receiving assistance as of December 31, 1973. This provision was added to insure that no recipient lost assistance by the federal takeover.

However, counties are finding that they must share supplementing the federal program to raise the SSI payments to the standard of living in that area and to make up for costs not covered in the SSI payments.

Hennepin County, Minn. had to establish an administrative loan procedure to attempt to meet the needs of the crisis of their elderly. Under Minnesota law, no unit of government, federal, state, or county has the legal authority to expend public funds to meet the crisis needs of the elderly. The



Charlotte Williams

county, to fill the breach until such a time as the state legislature could act or the federal system was operating properly, had to set up the loan procedure — without legal authority.

Hennepin also is hampered by the excessive costs of supplementation, up to the high standard formerly maintained by Minnesota of maintenance of medical assistance payments, and the danger of setting up three different administrative units to handle three types of situations.

The federal takeover has not solved the inequities of the old system's individual state requirements.

Without regional differential payments, counties will have to continue to supplement the federal payment program. A precedent has been established by HEW for regional differences within states to recognize differences in living costs. In addition, a system of national health insurance would replace the need for state and county financial participation in providing medical care for the medically indigent.

The relationship between the SSI program and other programs serving the same individuals has not been fully defined by the Social Security Administration and thus caused confusion among recipients and staff.

In the transition to a flat grant system, a number of individuals (such as those whose house payments dramatically increase) are finding their converted grants unable to cover the increased expenses they may incur. The recipients are finding this hard to understand.

In many instances, moves by recipients into housing which costs more is simply not possible. In addition, moves (such as from independent living to domiciliary care) which are recognized under the SSI levels of payments are also not possible to make because there is no way to obtain supplemental SSI payment to meet the increased costs for the month in which the move occurs, although increased payment can be arranged for the following month. The result is, a large number of persons who cannot leave the hospitals, institutions, or inadequate living arrangements in which they currently find themselves.

Special needs for recipients are not covered in the federal program. Under SSI there is no provision for stoves, refrigerators, washing machines, hot water heaters, heating equipment and furances, home repairs, and emergency situations. Most of the SSI recipients have too much income to qualify for county direct relief assistance and there is no

(Continued on page 6)

Recouping indirect costs on federal grants

San Diego County, (Calif.), like other local and State governments, received the impetus to move into modern accounting and resource evaluation by the publication of Circular A-87 by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in 1968.

Under A-87, governments below the federal level could recover essentially all their indirect costs associated with federal grants, contracts and subventions beginning January 1, 1970 by developing an approved cost allocation plan. This was a substantial departure from previous federal policy under which relatively little indirect cost was allowable for claiming. The indirect costs of a program are those costs not readily identifiable with the program itself but nevertheless incurred by the locality for the joint benefit of the program and of other activities carried on by the organization. Indirect costs may include certain costs incurred by both a local government agency performing under a grant or contract and by a local government agency providing central services.

The need for better identification of resources required to perform services and of accounting for those resources had long been recognized by local grants managers. The growth of local government, the diversity of services rendered and the complexities of partnership programs with the state and federal governments had severely strained traditional budget and cost presentations in terms of what was being accomplished, what resources were being used and at what cost. With the broadening scope of governmental activities, operational complexities had developed to a level once only found in private industry. However, it was also recognized by local finance officials that a suitable information and costing system would be

very expensive; not only in dollars but in executive and staff orientation and training.

In essence, the cost allocation plan provides a methodology to distribute all indirect costs on a consistent and equitable basis among all direct services and activities of a state or local government. For example, building cost for multiple occupancy facilities (including utility charges, depreciation, maintenance, etc.) can be apportioned on the basis of the square footage of space occupied. The cost rates applied would have to be uniform for all occupants and the basis for determining area occupied must be consistent (i.e. exclude hallways, public lobbies, etc.). Similar methodology is required for distribution of other indirect expenses such as postage of vehicle operations.

Probably the key to the acceptability of the cost allocation plan by federal officials devised by any local agency is the reasonableness of the method used to apportion any element of support cost and the consistency with which the apportionment is made to all operations and activities with which the county government is involved. Therefore, the federal government (and others) when billed for services, are assured that they will absorb only their pro-rate portions of indirect cost.

Until A-87 appeared, San Diego County, although it maintained the usual governmental records of expenditures against the appropriations of the various budget units, had not previously related a full fiscal year's expenditures, including those for support activities, to the direct services performed for its citizens.

We found that the first study provided a unique fiscal glimpse of our county's operations from a new viewpoint. We also found that the development of A-87 data

created some problems as it solved others. Although evaluating the county as a cost structure and developing the first Cost Allocation Plan was a challenging fiscal problem, preparing the county administrative structure to receive it, to utilize it and to appreciate its future potential developed into a far more challenging administrative problem.

Our administrative staff, like those in governments everywhere, were used to administering appropriation budgets that were little more than departmental spending plans, and revenue budgets, where they existed, were largely based on easily-developed direct cost providing for partial recoveries only. A-87, with its infusion of complex indirect cost concepts and its leanings toward a total program cost-revenue orientation would make advanced fiscal concepts a part of regular departmental administration. It was a new order that was only marginally accepted and was to a great extent treated by county employees as a temporary phenomenon and a federal bureaucratic nuisance. The need to identify the full financial implications and obtain administrative support to provide the needed resources to develop and install the necessary system was a stubborn educational problem.

The stakes were substantial; San Diego County currently recovers an additional \$5½ million per year due to A-87 and our recoveries continue to expand. Although the county has a \$340 million budget and 12,000 employees, we found a dearth of personnel who were familiar with the county's over-all operations and who also had experience in developing industrial-type cost structures. We also found that although some budget units contained both direct services and allocable indirect services, the county's records and existing accounting systems

were not adequate to make the required cost segregations.

Our problems, however, were not all internal. Even though A-87 appeared to provide a firm directive to establish an approved Cost Allocation Plan and the branches of the federal government appeared to have a clear directive to honor those plans, some segments of the federal bureaucracy found ways to circumvent the plans' application through a variety of devices, including direct refusal to accept claims for indirect cost or for only selected portions of indirect costs. Then too, receiving actual approval of a plan, or certain of its segments, by appropriate federal branches is unduly cumbersome.

The State of California mandated that each county develop a Cost Allocation Plan but it too, is quite selective in the plans' acceptance. On the post audit end of the claiming process we have found a surprising number of federal and state auditors that were either unaware of the existence of the cost allocation plan concept or oblivious to the fact that it was to apply to their audit. Some asked for detailed support data for audit purposes; the specific routine that the Cost Allocation Plan approval process was specifically designed to avoid.

It is apparent that the federal and state governments also have an internal education problem. However, the drift is toward wider acceptance, rather than narrower, so we can probably look forward to future universal acceptance of indirect cost. The recent action of the General Accounting Office (GAO) to institute the National Inter-governmental Audit Forum provides an opportunity to achieve better coordination between federal agencies and presents state and

(Continued on page 7)

Intolerable drains produced on county budgets

(Continued from page 5)

other governmental assistance available. Private resources (utilized heavily for these emergencies) may not be able to meet the more extensive and expensive needs which arise every spring and summer.

Additional problems which have arisen in the first months of the federal takeover are the exclusion among eligible individuals of "needy spouses" and "essential persons". These individuals were covered by former assistance programs but are not under SSI. Counties in North and South Carolina are expending local funds to meet the needs of these individuals.

A major problem for the counties in Iowa is that the SSI law prohibits persons in public institutions from receiving supplemental security income payments. This means that residents in county homes in Iowa, numbering approximately 4,000 are excluded from receiving these payments. However, inmates in private institutions in the state are eligible for SSI payments.

And, since care in the county facilities has traditionally been provided at a lower per patient cost; the less costly operation

of county homes and the patients themselves are being penalized, while the more expensive treatment in the private sector is being heavily subsidized.

An amendment to the Social Security Act, itself, is recommended because the law is highly preferential to private care industry, and places a penalty on counties that provide custodial and nursing facilities.

Incorrect payment amounts, incorrect addresses, incorrect ZIP codes, and other items of incorrect payment information have occurred in a significant number of cases. The SSA (with the cooperation of the local Department of Social Services (DDS) where appropriate) is attempting to identify and correct these systems problems.

Correction itself is often difficult, with the cause of the error sometimes impossible to isolate. Identification of the payments needing correction is exceedingly difficult, because many recipients are confused and do not recognize or report mistakes and because confirming edits have apparently not yet become fully operational. In addition, the rules and procedures are still being developed,

implemented and changed. We suspect that there are many incorrect payments, but we cannot even define the extent of the problem until edit and verification procedures become effective and predictable.

I've learned that in some counties the SSA staff is striving to master the technical problems of the SSI system and to learn how to cope with the types of requests which must now be referred for service to the Department of Social Services. The fact that much of the working procedural material for both SSA and DSS is still being finalized and changed, increased the confusion for both staffs and inevitably for the recipients.

Both SSA and DSS staffs, whose communication and cooperation are vital to any level of success, are only now beginning to utilize the referral forms and procedures properly, information on these forms having been available for so short a time.

Putting into perspective the thousands of checks delayed, inaccurately authorized, lost and stolen during the very difficult initial month of the program — and attributing those to the

natural accompaniments of the birth process, the residual problems are separate and identifiable.

I suggest that all of these recommendations be considered seriously by the Social Security Administration, and the necessary revisions and adjustments be made expeditiously.

I support the intentions of the concept of the SSI program: the provision of an income floor, a guaranteed basic level of income for all individuals in need; equitable treatment for applicants for assistance, without wide-ranging diversification of eligibility between jurisdictions; and the elevation of the standard of living available to the poorest of the poor.

NACO, its Welfare and Social Services Steering Committee, and I as a representative of those groups and as a Genesee County Commissioner have long awaited such a federal program, continue to have high hopes for its success, but urge that problems be solved and errors rectified as soon as they are identified so that the program will be as successful as possible, as soon as possible.

Establishing a cost allocation plan

(Continued from page 6)

local governments with a place to air problems and achieve uniform resolutions. In response to a resolution passed by NACo at its 1973 Annual Convention, the General Services Administration (GSA), in cooperation with GAO and OMB conducted its first Grant Financial Management Workshop in Atlanta, Ga. March 20 and 21. This was the first of what will probably be a nationwide effort to assist states and localities in understanding A-87, other financial circulars, and federal auditing.

Following implementation, it was recognized by the county that, although the A-87 concept offered a means of recovering indirect cost, it was not an efficient one for an organization of our size and complexity. Our plan allocated indirect cost to the department level but the development of program cost within a department required time-consuming cost studies. As the requirement for an

automatic program-oriented cost distribution system became pressing for us, some other governments were moving toward the same goal.

Sacramento County, (Calif.) was successful, on July 1, 1973, in implementing a computerized financial management system that is currently one of the most advanced in the country. The County of San Diego, will implement a more sophisticated version of that system this July. All input is dually coded and simultaneously entered in the computerized financial accounting and program accounting modules. The financial accounting module satisfies the requirements for statutory reporting and encompasses traditional governmental fund accounting designed to control the receipt and expenditure of public funds. The program accounting module provides program accounting, project cost accounting and is moving toward

accumulating workload distribution statistical data. The dual coding feature ensures that the financial and program systems remain in continuous balance. A 13-period year is used to make all accounting periods a uniform four weeks for comparability. Most input is entered daily and all reports are delivered three working days after the end of the accounting period.

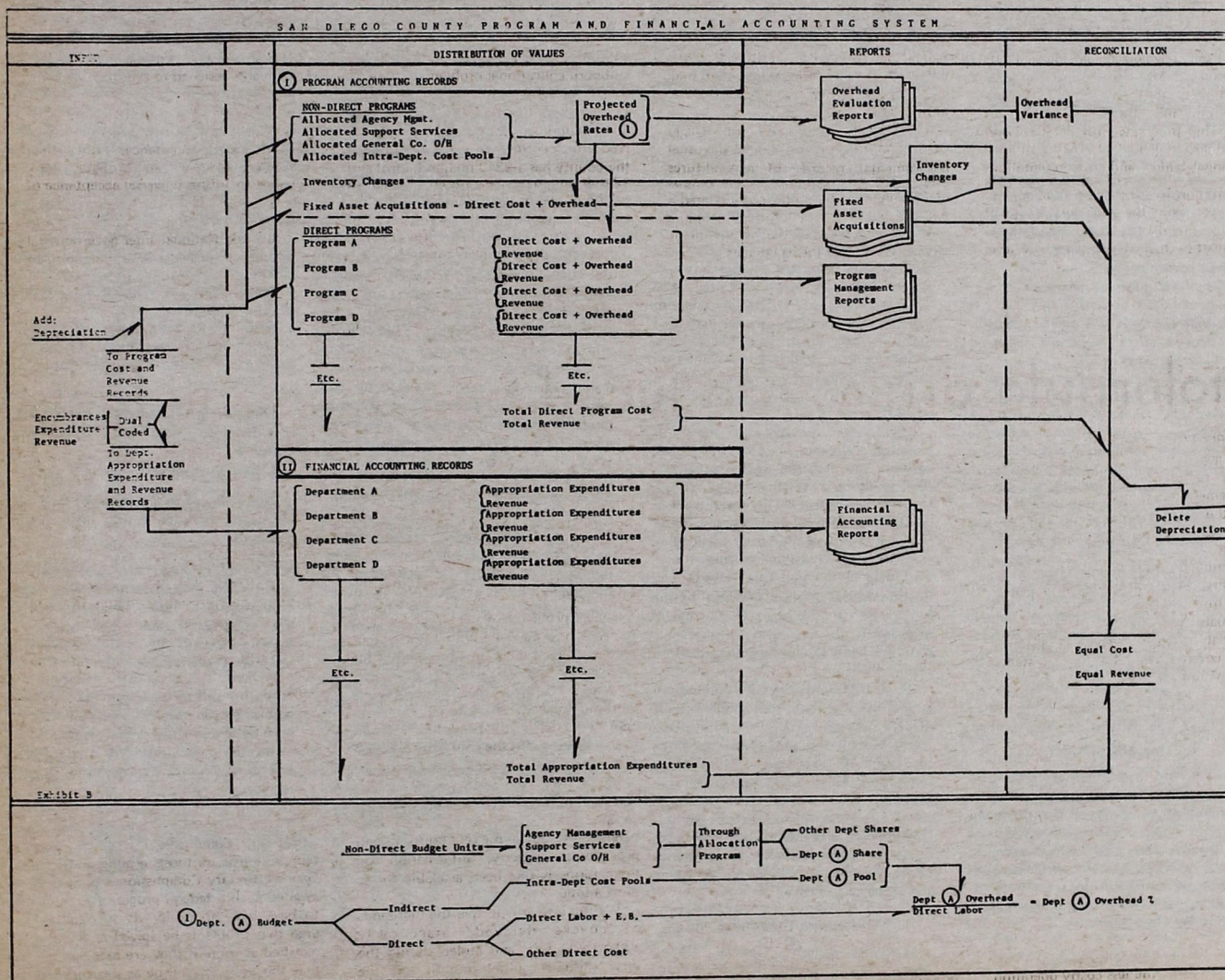
San Diego County's financial management system contains a significant refinement. In the program module, non-direct activities (i.e. agency management, support services and general county overhead, as defined in the Cost Allocation Plan) are segregated from direct activities which are distributed along with internal overhead in direct departments to project full comprehensive overhead rates for direct service departments. Thus programs from direct service departments will be

developed at full cost in conformance with our county's Cost Allocation Plan. Revenue will also be accumulated by program thereby providing an on-going fiscal analysis of program operations.

By July 1, 1974 we will have brought San Diego County to a level of accounting and fiscal reporting effectiveness used by many well-operated corporations. For the first time all of our county's operations will be defined in terms of direct programs that relate to the citizens, and those programs, as well as their component activities, can be evaluated fiscally on an on-going basis at full cost which will be in conformity with our county's Cost Allocation Plan.

Gerald Lonergan, auditor and controller of San Diego County, Calif., is chairman of the National Intergovernmental Audit Forum's the federally assisted programs committee.

San Diego County Program And Financial Accounting System



Coping with the environment

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following article is a summary of a handbook for local officials entitled "Coping with the Environment." The handbook was prepared by Michael Gemmell, project director; and Judy Campbell Bird, research assistant; through the National Association of Counties Research Foundation. Additional information is available through Gemmell at the National Association of Counties.)

- Major highway improvements transformed an isolated rural coastal community into a popular vacation area. Growth rates soared and local officials allowed the use of septic tanks to meet the demands of visitors and new residents. Soon drinking water supplies were contaminated and large parts of the community were without water.

- A local government ordered a massive closing of private dumps. Much greater volumes of solid waste were then hauled to public sanitary landfills. As a result, the landfills were filled long before their projected closing, and new sites had to be chosen on a crisis basis.

- Slum housing was cleared in an urban renewal project. Residents were relocated, houses were leveled, but rats were not exterminated. The rats relocated too, into nearby rural areas, causing a serious, wide-spread problem.

These true situations have a common theme: Our environment is an interrelated system and man's activities will always affect his environment in many, diverse ways.

Authority and expertise to manage a totally interrelated environment is fragmented among different levels of government and among different departments at each level. Elected officials who want to know and consider the total environmental consequences of their decisions are ending fragmentation by establishing and maintaining environmental management systems.

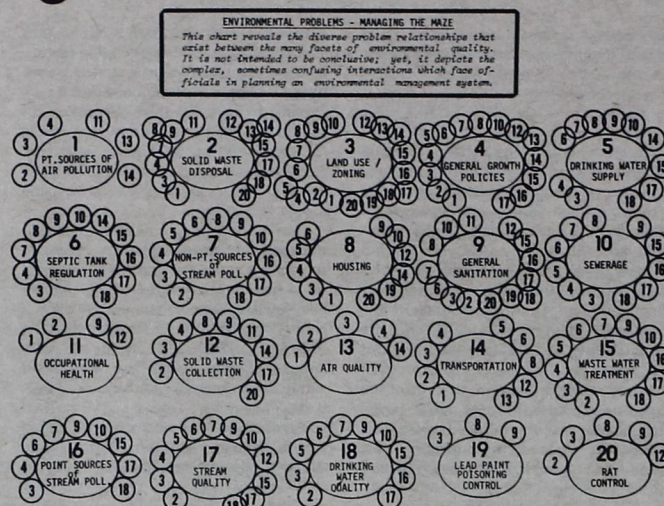
A good environmental management system may require a massive office reorganization and additional staff, or a simple informal coordination among departments. No arrangement is perfect. But elected county officials are responsible for choosing a system which best fits their county's needs, then implementing it and using it for their important role as final decision makers.

The Alternatives

There are two general types of environmental management systems — those which administer all environmental activities within one umbrella department or agency; and those which establish formal or informal coordination between several departments of local government. Both types have several variations, according to local needs.

Health Umbrellas

Public health departments historically



have been the main local government agency dealing with environmental quality. Health programs vary widely, but Erie County (Pa.), and Palm Beach County, (Fla.) are excellent examples of counties which have built an environmental management system within their health departments.

Concerned citizens and county commissioners in Erie County convinced the state of Pennsylvania to decentralize its environmental programs to the county's Bureau of Environmental Health in 1970. The bureau operates both state and county environmental services in Erie County — governing industrial wastes, public water supplies, sewage facilities, water pollution, air pollution, and occupational health. Special divisions include sanitation, which inspects and licenses public institutions; housing and rodent control, which concentrates on those problems; and enforcement, which puts "teeth" into environmental regulations.

Even when an umbrella agency is formed, though, communications between the umbrella agency and other departments are most important. In Erie County, an informal task force method ensures the integration of environmental considerations into housing, subdivision control, planning and public works.

Special state legislation allows the Environmental Services Division of the Palm Beach County (Fla.) health department to implement and enforce state and local environmental regulations within the county.

Special sections include a community sanitation office to license and inspect migrant worker camps, restaurants and public institutions; and an environmental engineering section, principally responsible for air and water quality. A planning review and permit section coordinates the Environmental Services Division's activities with the zoning, plat, building and planning departments. Coordination with municipalities within the county is informal.

Planning Umbrellas

The Muskegon County (Mich.) Metropolitan Planning Commission, faced with the need to upgrade wastewater

treatment, established an environmental management system based on planning.

A major project they are completing under the management system is wastewater treatment in which the effluent can be used by agricultural irrigation hopefully improving the area's agricultural industry. A resource recovery system and sanitary landfill are connected with the wastewater treatment, and the entire system is designed to benefit the local economy by attracting industries whose pollutants cannot be treated by traditional methods.

Task Forces

Special task forces directly responsible to local elected officials insure departmental coordination in environmental decisions, too. In Nashville-Davidson County (Tenn.) an environmental management task force brings together the director of planning, the director of health, the director of public works, the director of law, and the director of the metropolitan planning commission. They study environmental programs on a case-by-case basis, then provide information and recommendations to county decision makers.

In St. Louis County, (Mo.), a task force plans and implements community improvement projects. Representatives of the departments of planning, finance, law, highways, and health, the land clearance for redevelopment authority, and the chairman of the board of supervisors form the steering committee, thus utilizing the resources of each county department for the planned improvements.

Environmental Impact Reviews

The federal government and some state and local governments require

environmental impact reviews for public (and in some cases private) projects which significantly affect the environment. Since these reviews require the participation of all departments of government and the public, an excellent environmental management system can be established around the environmental impact review process.

In Santa Cruz County, (Calif.) an environmental review committee is chaired by an environmental planner, with participation from the planning, public works, environmental health, parks and recreation, assessment and law departments. Advisors from two colleges in the county assist the environmental review committee. The committee prepares environmental impact reports and recommendations about proposed projects to the planning commission and the county board of supervisors.

An Office of Environmental Management in San Diego County, (Calif.), supervises the preparation of environmental impact reports and coordinates input from related county agencies. The report is reviewed by a board composed of the county's environmental management director, engineer, health department director and planning director. A public hearing usually follows the board's review, then recommendations are forwarded to the county board, commission or officials which must make the final decision.

A Custom-Made System

County officials who wish to establish an environmental management system should include the following basic elements:

- Mechanisms to integrate all elements of the human environment.

- Methods to provide elected officials with usable information for policy making and specific project decisions.

- Flexibility.

- Methods for integration of regional considerations with local plans and decisions.

- Citizen involvement.

- And methods to use expertise available through private and educational resources.

County officials also will need to evaluate the present status of their local environment, their short-term and long-range goals, their legal authority, funding possibilities, staff and training needs, and public support.

Environmental management systems will vary from county to county. No two may be alike — the major responsibility of elected county officials is to design a system which best fits the needs of their county.

OUTLOOK

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Police, Court Computer Use Under Scrutiny

by S. Anthony McCann
Criminal Justice Specialist

The burgeoning criminal justice information network has become the topic of widespread national scrutiny during the last few weeks. On Feb. 5, Senators Sam Ervin, Jr. (D-N.C.) and Roman Hruska (R-Neb.) introduced bills which require that automated criminal information records be complete and disseminated only to criminal justice agencies for criminal justice purposes.

The Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) and the Department of Justice are interested in information networks too — they proposed rules about criminal justice information systems Feb. 14. These rules, along with the proposed legislation, will probably cause a review of the nation's entire criminal justice telecommunications policy.

Regulation of criminal justice information systems is of direct interest to a number of counties which operate those systems. In some counties, criminal justice information shares time on a single county computer. In others, they are run solely by a criminal justice agency. But even when a criminal justice agency operates the system solely, the county is usually the recipient of federal aid and is ultimately responsible for use of the computer.

Both Senate bills and the LEAA rules are outlined below, with notes about how each proposal will affect county government.

The Ervin Bill

The Ervin bill prohibits the dissemination of all criminal justice information except under conditions specifically outlined in the bill.

It prohibits the automation of intelligence information and requires that such information be kept separate from other criminal justice information. In addition, except for federal crimes, individuals with records in more than one state and individuals with foreign records, the Ervin bill would limit the federal role to maintenance of index of records and action as a message switcher. (Inquires would trigger a search of the federal index. When the individual was identified and his records located, the inquiry would be referred to the appropriate state.)

The bill allows the dissemination of criminal justice information to officers and employees of criminal justice agencies for criminal justice purposes only. Conviction records may be made available to non-criminal justice agencies, but only when specifically authorized by state or federal law.

As a general rule, in fact, the bill would limit most information dissemination to conviction records only. And information could be released only upon positive identification of the suspect. Inquiries based on type of crime, physical characteristics, etc., would have to be authorized by a warrant issued by a judge.

The bill also requires that agencies operating information systems adopt rules to insure against unauthorized disclosures. They must also insure that records are complete, accurate and sealed or purged at the end of a five to seven year period depending on the crime, the individual's record and the disposition of the case.

The Ervin proposal would permit the individual to review his records and would require that procedures exist to hear complaints and correct errors.

Actions in federal district court for equitable relief and damages are provided, as are criminal penalties for willful violation of the proposed act.

The act would be administered by an independent "Federal Information Systems Board" composed of representatives of the Department of Justice and other federal agencies, representatives of other state information systems and citizens. No provision is made for participation by local elected officials. This board would have the authority to issue rules, to seek declaratory judgments and cease and desist orders against agencies operating information systems, to operate the information system at the federal level and to conduct random audits of information systems.

The Hruska Bill

The Hruska Bill, which was introduced for the Department of Justice, applies to all systems operated or funded by the federal government, interstate systems and systems which receive information from any of the above systems. By this definition, virtually all information systems operated by states, cities, regions and counties would be covered. It does not apply to information systems used solely for the identification and apprehension of fugitives.

Like the Ervin proposal, the bill states that access to criminal justice information is limited to authorized officers or employees of criminal justice agencies for criminal justice purposes.

Criminal intelligence information is also available only to criminal justice agencies. However, for intelligence information, specific need must be demonstrated. Reports used to process the individual through the criminal justice system are disseminated under similar restraints as intelligence information. Processing information is also available to non-criminal agencies when specifically authorized by state or federal law. Information on criminal records is available to criminal justice agencies and non-criminal justice agencies expressly authorized by state or federal law.

Sen. Hruska's bill also would provide that records be kept about persons requesting information and the nature of information requested. It also requires that individuals be permitted to review their records and provides procedures whereby records can be challenged and corrected. As in the Ervin bill, the individual can seek relief in the federal courts and there are criminal penalties for willful violation of the act. In addition, when an individual's records are requested by a non-criminal justice agency, the individual must be notified and informed of his right to review his records.

No arrest records can be disseminated without indication of final disposition, if available, and, as a general rule, criminal record information containing arrest records cannot be disseminated unless a conviction was obtained.

The bill requires that criminal justice information be sealed within five to seven years depending on the seriousness of the crime, the individual's criminal record and the disposition.

The proposed act also requires that the security of information systems be maintained through the "management control" of the system by a criminal justice agency. It also requires that the latest technology be employed to provide physical security and protect against unauthorized access. *This provision would mean that county government*

itself could not operate criminal justice information systems and would eliminate shared use of single county computers. In addition, the bill mandates that procedures be established to insure accuracy and prevent unauthorized dissemination of criminal justice information.

Proposed Rules

LEAA and the Department of Justice, on Feb. 14, published proposed rules that would apply to all criminal justice information systems receiving LEAA funds or which access Department of Justice information systems. As in the Hruska bill, these rules would apply to virtually all criminal justice information systems at the local level.

These rules would require each state to submit a comprehensive plan for the establishment of a criminal justice information system by July 1, 1974 to be fully implemented by July 1, 1976. The plan must assure that all relevant facts relating to any pre-trial, trial or post-trial proceedings are included in the

information system, and that any transaction must appear within 30 days.

In the interim, each state must certify within 30 days of the promulgation of the rules, that to the maximum extent feasible: information collected, stored or disseminated includes dispositions; all information is complete, current and accurate; information is disseminated only to criminal justice agencies or other agencies expressly given access by state or federal law; non-criminal justice agencies are receiving only serious offender data; and information on cases that did not result in conviction is available only to criminal justice agencies.

In addition, each state must certify that the security of criminal justice information systems is secured through the use of equipment solely dedicated to criminal justice purposes or by the management control of the system by a criminal justice agency. *Like the Hruska bill, this provision would virtually eliminate county or other local government administered information systems — either single purpose or shared use.*

NACE "Matter and Measure"

National Association of County Engineers

How Do You Number County Roads?

We receive frequent requests for information about numbering systems for county roads. If your county has a numbering system for its roads, please send information describing the system to Marlene Glassman at NACE.

"Improving Traffic Services;"

"Maintaining Bridges After Inspection."

Please send ideas and suggestions to Marlene Glassman at NACE.

Electric-Powered Vehicles

Under Secretary of Transportation, John W. Bamum, speaking before the Third International Electric Vehicle Symposium, has asked the electric vehicle industry to redouble its efforts to aid transportation needs. Bamum stressed the electric-powered vehicle's "great potential" for "reducing the world's dependence on petroleum-based fuels," and also noted that nuclear power plants are necessary for practical large-scale energy-savings conversion to electric cars, trucks and buses.

In his speech Bamum also reported on the state-of-the-art commuter rail cars progress and the new Advanced Concept Train (ACT) under development. The ACT will be powered by a flywheel propulsion system designed to store and reuse electric power. According to Bamum "a successful energy storage system could reduce peak hour transit power requirements by one-third, saving the New York subway system \$10 million a year in operating costs."

NACE-NACE Meeting

Send in hotel reservations now for NACE's 39th Annual Convention, July 14-17, 1974 in Miami Beach (Dade County), Florida. The theme of the convention is a vital one: "States and Counties: Partnership for Progress." NACE will meet in conjunction with the NACE convention and has already planned an exciting and informative program for you. NACE's headquarters is the Fontainebleau Hotel, the same as NACE's, and over 1000 reservations have been received to date. Reserve rooms now. Reservations must be made directly with the Miami Beach Tourist and Convention Bureau, 555 17th Street, Miami Beach, Florida 33139. Reservation forms appear regularly in County News.

International Journal Uses

NACE Action Guide Series

The January-February 1974 issue of *Modern Government*, "A Journal for those Responsible for all Sectors of a Nation's Growth," contains an article, "How to Pinpoint Costs in Road System Management." The article is adopted from our very own *NACE Action Guide Series*, specifically Volume II, "Cost Records and Budgets".

If you do not have a set of the Guides or if you wish to order additional sets, they are available according to the following price list:

number of 17-volume sets ordered	price per set
1 - 4	\$30.00
5 - 9	\$24.00
10 or more	\$21.00

To order sets, make checks or money orders payable to NACE, enclose a purchase order, or request to be billed. Send order to William Harrington, NACE Secretary-Treasurer, 308 Jacolyn Drive, N.W., Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52405.

Developments in NACE Project

NACE project staff is meeting with the six NACE committees which will develop content and format for the project's training instruments. All meetings will be completed by the end of March; then the actual writing of the training instruments will begin. We welcome ideas and suggestions for the following training instruments. Remember these are directed primarily to crew foremen:

"NACE Handbook for Training in County Road Departments;"

"Blading Aggregate Surfaces;"

"Tips for Conserving the Environment and Energy;"

"How to Talk and Communicate at the Same Time;"

Marin County Visitor



SUPERVISOR GARY GIACOMINI of Marin County, California recently visited NACo headquarters to discuss with NACo Executive Director, Bernie Hillenbrand, crucial issues on Capitol Hill that impact on California counties.

Community Development

(Continued from page 1)

Where an urban county lacked the authority to carry out housing and community development activities, it would be required to enter into cooperative agreements with smaller communities to undertake or assist in such activities.

Under the Senate-passed version of community development block grant consolidation legislation (S. 3066), communities which had conducted an urban renewal or model cities program during 1968-72 would be "held harmless" at the five-year average of federal assistance received under these programs. Cities or counties which had not conducted an urban renewal or model cities program would be required to

compete for remaining discretionary funds.

The Secretary of HUD is directed to encourage submission of multijurisdictional community development applications. One participating jurisdiction must be an urban county (over 200,000 in population or constituting 75 percent of a metropolitan area). These multijurisdictional applications are to be funded from the discretionary fund.

The House Subcommittee expects to complete mark up of an omnibus housing and community development bill prior to the Easter recess. Action by the full House Committee is uncertain at this time.

Post Western Region Tour Set

Following the Western Region Conference in Seattle, Wash., there will be a tour of Victoria and Vancouver, Canada.

The tour departs May 1 from Seattle and goes across Puget Sound by ferry to Bremerton and then to Victoria, capital of British Columbia. On May 2, after sightseeing in Victoria, the tour will go to Vancouver. The last day will be spent in Vancouver.

Airplane connections can be made to most major American cities from Vancouver.

The price of the tour is \$125 per person double occupancy or \$150 per person single occupancy. More information can be received from Group Convention Planner, 1112 4th Ave., Seattle, Wash. 98101, telephone: 206/624-5995.

Reservations should be made by April 1.

Ballot Box

(Continued from page 3)

legislation "on the grounds that it is not feasible to administer and not possible to protect the integrity of the ballot. Furthermore the constitutionality of such legislation is questionable."

Sponsors of the legislation believe that there are about 750,000 Americans of voting age, exclusive of the military, residing overseas who could benefit from the legislation.

Manpower Talk

Edited by Barbara Hunting

Appropriations Schedule

Congress is expected to appropriate funds for public service employment programs authorized in Title II of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) by late April.

Funds for the operation of youth manpower programs this summer will also be appropriated then. Although full implementation of CETA will take place during FY 75, the act permits prime sponsors to begin operating Title II programs in areas with at least 6.5 percent unemployment during the remainder of FY 74.

Senate and House appropriation subcommittees on labor have completed hearings on the Administration's manpower supplemental request for FY 74. This request includes \$250 million in Title II programs and \$208,584,000 for summer youth programs. As part of an all inclusive supplemental appropriations bill, manpower funds will not be considered on the House and Senate floors until all appropriation subcommittees have completed their respective hearings.

The House is expected to pass the full supplemental bill by April 11, just prior to the Easter recess. The full Senate Appropriations Committee is expected to complete its markup during the week of April 15, with final passage expected during the week of April 22. It is unlikely, therefore, that manpower funding for the remainder of FY 74 will be available before May.

Unemployment Rate List

The State of New Jersey has filed a legal action against the use of a new unemployment rate calculation method which threatens to disqualify many counties from eligibility under Title II of CETA. The new technique is based on the Current Population Survey (C.P.S.) taken by the Census Bureau. The 70-step Employment Service methodology which is still used in 35 states apparently qualifies many more jurisdictions for Title II than the C.P.S. method.

Since funding eligibility depends on recognition of areas with more than 6.5 percent unemployment, the results of this legal action will be important to all local governments. A hearing on the matter will take place before a federal magistrate in Trenton, N.J. on April 2, 1974.

Manpower Section at Western Region Conference

Elected officials and manpower professionals will share a two-day Manpower Section at the Western Region Conference in Seattle, Wash., April 29-30. This section will run concurrent with the conference.

The Manpower Section will discuss two major topics. Under "Comprehensive Manpower Programs" it will consider the responsibilities of prime sponsors, the place of manpower programs in county organization, manpower consortia, exemplary service deliverers such as OIC, SER and Urban League, CMP experience and some model county programs or parts of programs. Under "A Flexible and Decentralized System", the section will consider county relations with national and regional federal offices, county-state relations, county-city relations, and county-county support and assistance.

A final period will be devoted to consideration of a proposed NACo affiliate for county manpower officials.

There will be no separate registration for the Manpower Section. Interested persons should use the form elsewhere in the edition to register for the Western Region Conference.

McFatter to Lead Manpower Group

At an organizational meeting in New Orleans March 7-8, 1974, the fledgling Southwest Association of Manpower Planners elected Baton Rouge Manpower Director Dan McFatter as its first president.

Bringing together manpower professionals from cities and states as well as counties in Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas and New Mexico, the new association is designed to provide a system of information exchange and to develop technical competence in the field of manpower planning.

County staff were named to two other positions. Joe Maggiore of Jefferson Parish, La., will serve as parliamentarian, and Harrison County's Jeff Campbell will represent Texas on the Executive Committee.

Other officers include William Cheshire, Amarillo, Texas, first Vice President; Jo Jackson, Little Rock Ark., second Vice President; Bob Lamb, Texarkana, Texas, Secretary/Treasurer. Other Executive Committee members include Pat Jacobs, Oklahoma City; Malcolm Martin, Little Rock, Ark.; Bobbie Jones, Albuquerque, N. M.; Richard Hardy, Shreveport, La.

Federal Regulations Reviewed

Proposed federal regulations have been received by NACo for review and comment. These regulations are currently being analyzed by county officials and NACo staff to determine their impact on counties. Due to the size of some of the regulations, NACo is unable to provide copies of all issues. At the end of each description it is noted whether or not copies are available.

If copies are available, please write to Carol Shaskan at NACo. As an added service we will be separately listing final issuances which are available from agencies.

74-16 — EPA — "Water Strategy Paper". This second edition of EPA's Water Strategy Paper is a statement of policy for implementing the requirements of the 1972 Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments. It presents an overview of the total program direction and sequence. Limited copies available from: Walter S. Groszyk, Jr., Water Planning Division-EPA, 815 East Tower, 401 M Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20460.

74-17 — DOT-FHA — "Federal Aid Highway Program Manual". This directive prescribes policies and procedures for preparation and submission of programs for utilization of funds apportioned or allocated under the Federal Aid Highway legislation. Copies available.

74-18 — HUD — "Proposed Procedure for Consultation with Local Officials on Flood Elevation Studies". This sets forth procedures which the Federal Insurance Administration will use to consult with local officials about flood elevation studies. Copies available.

74-19 — HUD — "Procedure for Appeals from Flood Elevation Determination and Administration Hearings on Those Appeals." These are procedures by which communities which disagree with flood elevation determinations made by contractors conducting flood elevation studies can appeal those determinations to the Federal Insurance Administrator before they become binding on the community.

74-20 — DOT — FHWA/UMTA — "Interstate System Revisions." These regulations concern the modification and revision of the Interstate System of highways, including removal, withdrawal and substitution of public mass transit projects in lieu of interstate segments. Limited copies available from: Roslyn Knapp, Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590.

74-21 — EPA — "Grant Regulations for Section 208 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (FWPCA) of 1972." These regulations establish policies and procedures for grants under Section 208 of the FWPCA to an approved planning agency for development and operation of a continuing planning process required for development of an area-wide waste treatment management plan. Copies are available.

Hillenbrand's Washington Report

202/785-9591

County Government Job Opportunities

Park Planner, Santa Clara County, Calif. Salary Range: \$1179-1433/mo. Requires graduation from college with a major in landscape architecture, park management, recreation or related field with 3-4 years experience in the planning and design of large or regional parks and recreation areas. Deadline for applications May 15, 1974. Send resume to County of Santa Clara, Personnel Department, 70 W. Hedding Street, San Jose, Calif. 95110.

Director of County Development, Hillsborough County, Fla. Salary Open. Directs overall program implementation, administration and project development for county development activities. Will coordinate all activities in the department of right of way expressway, county land acquisition, engineering, water resource management, county improvement and utilities. Qualified applicant must have proven administrative ability and experience in the field of public works. Send detailed resume to Rudy Spoto, County Administrator, P.O. Box 1110, Tampa, Florida 33601.

Director of Planning and Research, City of Tallahassee, Fla. Salary Range: \$14,160-\$18,108. Position open in new department within the Tallahassee Police Department. Applicant must have a bachelor's degree in business administration, public administration or substantial background in research methodology in conjunction with a management related degree. In addition, qualified person must have no less than five years of law enforcement experience and three years of planning experience for a major metropolitan law enforcement agency. Send detailed resume to Robert W. Carter, Executive Director, Personnel and Training, City Hall, Tallahassee, Fla. 32304.

Staff Director, Monroe County Environmental Management Council, New York Salary Range: \$16,328-\$21,034. The three-year old council is seeking an experienced, capable administrator able to provide strong leadership to the 40-member EMC and its present staff of three. The council's major focus is to prepare a county environmental plan in cooperation with county departments. Applicants should have either a bachelor's or graduate degree and at least four year's demonstrated experience in environmental management. Send resume to Monroe County Environmental Management Council, Room 305, County Office Building, 39 Main Street West, Rochester, New York 14614 or phone 454-7200, ext. 536.

Engineer/Public Works Director — Aiken County, S.C. Salary Open. Qualified person will serve as county's engineering officer and also operational director of county's Improvement Services Group. Duties include assuring implementation of engineering policies and programs and planning, coordinating and directing the activities and programs of five major line divisions and one staff section. Requires graduation from an accredited school of engineering with major course work in civil engineering; registered licensed engineer with State of South Carolina or ability to obtain same within one year of appointment; progressive public works management experience; capacity for innovative

problem-solving and decision-making. Send detailed resume and salary requirements to County Administrator, Aiken County, P.O. Box 897, Aiken, S.C. 29801.

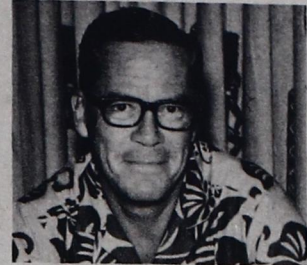
Assistant Director, Arlington County Social Services Agency, Va. Salary: \$16,400. Requires MSW, MPA or MBA, plus a minimum of two years of administrative and supervisory experience, preferably in a public social service agency. Send resume to Arlington County Department of Personnel, 2100 No. 14th Street, Arlington, Va. or call 558-2167.

State Association Profile

Bennett Heads Hawaii Group

Ron Bennett, executive assistant to the Honolulu Councils, considers himself the "overworked and indentured" part time executive of the Hawaii State Association of Counties. Formerly a newsman, Bennett covered Honolulu's local government and other eruptions of the volcanic variety between 1949 and 1960. A Navy journalist in World War II, he fought the Pacific battle with a typewriter. Before drifting back to the Islands, he worked briefly on daily newspapers in his native state of Washington.

Ron's favorite sports are tennis and Budweiser (?).



Ron Bennett

Make Your Room Reservations Now For

NACo's 1974 Western Region Conference

April 28-30, 1974

Washington Plaza Hotel

King County (Seattle), Washington

This Year's Theme Is

"ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT: A DELICATE BALANCE"

◆ KEYNOTE SPEAKERS & WORKSHOPS ◆

Energy Topics:

- *Energy Sources
- *Energy Conservation
- *Fuel Allocation & Rationing
- *Energy Needs & Environmental Considerations

Other Topics:

- *Comprehensive Manpower Services
- *Public & Private Land Use Program
- *Planning Our National Forests
- *Urban & Rural Community Development
- *Solid Waste Management
- *Human Services
- *Criminal Justice

◆ CONFERENCE REGISTRATION ◆

- *Registration at hotel on April 28 & 29
- *No pre-registration
- *Make room reservations directly with Washington Plaza Hotel on form below
- *Fees: \$75 for delegates; \$40 for spouses and children

CLIP & MAIL TO: Room Reservations
Washington Plaza Hotel
5th at Westlake
Seattle, Washington 98101

◆ PROGRAM OUTLINE ◆

Sunday, April 28

- 12:00 noon Registration
- 5:00 p.m. Opening Session
- 6:30 p.m. President's Reception

Monday, April 29

- 9:00 a.m. Workshops
- 2:00-8:00 p.m. Boat Cruise on Puget Sound & Salmon Feed

Tuesday, April 30

- 9:00 a.m. General Session
- 10:45 a.m. Workshops
- 12:30 p.m. Reception & Lunch
- 2:45 p.m. Workshops
- 6:00 p.m. Annual Reception & Banquet

National Association of Counties WESTERN REGION CONFERENCE April 28-30, 1974			
NAME _____			
TITLE _____			
ADDRESS _____			
CITY/STATE/ZIP _____			
ARRIVAL DATE _____	TIME _____	a.m. p.m.	GTD _____
LENGTH OF STAY _____		NIGHTS _____	
PLEASE CIRCLE DESIRED ACCOMMODATION			
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN SECTION		TOWER SECTION	
ACCOMMODATIONS			
SINGLE ONE PERSON	\$19	\$27	
DOUBLE (One Bed) TWO PEOPLE	\$25	\$33	
TWIN (Two Beds) TWO PEOPLE	\$25	\$33	
SUITE		\$75 - \$100	
PLEASE NOTE:			
1. Reservations held until 6:00 p.m. unless guaranteed for later arrival.			
2. Reservations should be received 3 weeks prior to arrival.			
3. Check-out time is 2:00 p.m. Date _____			
WASHINGTON PLAZA HOTEL		PHONE: 206/MA-4-7400	

AMERICAN COUNTIES TODAY

Dear County Official:

The National Association of Regional Councils met in Los Angeles, California, March 10-13 and elected 13 county officials to their Board. NACo Past President Conrad Fowler served as Chairman of the Nominating Committee.

Eugene Gaulco, Supervisor, Sacramento County, Calif., was elected President; Barbara Culver, Judge, Midland County, Texas, second Vice President; and elected to the Board of Directors were, Bill W. Frazier, Chairman of the Board, Scott County, Va.; Kenneth M. Davis, Judge, DeKalb County, Mo.; Norton Younglove, Supervisor, Riverside County, Calif.; Harry Ruvin, Commissioner, Dade County, Fla.

Arch Lamb, Commissioner, Lubbock County, Texas; Frank Pokorny, Commissioner, Cuyahoga County, Ohio; Gladys Spellman, Councillor, Prince George's County, Md.; Ken Omlid, Commissioner, Lane County, Ore.; Bernard F. Hillenbrand, Executive Director of Naco; and, Frank Francois, Councilor, Prince George's County, Md. Immediate Past President of NARC.

County Action Coalition Meetings

County officials who plan to attend one or more of our County Action Coalition rallies next month can make room reservations now. The only definite dates we have are: April 3, Rally for Transit Funding Coalition; April 4, Rally for Community Development. NACo has rooms at the Quality Inn on Capitol Hill for the nights of April 2 and 3, so if you wish to reserve one, call the Quality Inn at 202/638-1616. Be sure to mention you're with NACo.

Western Region Conference

Plans are well underway for our annual Western Region Conference which will be held April 28-30, 1974 at the Washington Plaza Hotel, King County, Seattle, Wash.

The highlights of the conference are major addresses by Governor Dan Evans; Lance Marston, Director, Office of Land Use and Water Planning, Department of the Interior; and Robert Ryan Director, Office of Legislation, United States Environmental Protection Agency.

Workshop topics will include panels on energy, Human Services, manpower reform, payments-in-lieu of taxes, National Land Use Policy and Criminal Justice.

We expect this to be our largest WRD Conference, so if you haven't made your reservations, clip the coupon on page 11 and send it to the Washington Plaza Hotel.

New Shortages

One of the new items of critical shortage that faces our county governments is chlorine. This is used to purify drinking water and to eliminate bacteria and other organisms in sewage treatment processes. Of critical importance, too, is the fact that chlorine is used in our swimming pools, and there is a deep concern that if the supply doesn't become more plentiful we will have to close county and municipal swimming pools for this summer.

This latter development can be all the more aggravating since it appears that a great number of American families are cancelling out-of-town vacations in favor of staying home and conserving gasoline.

The figures on the tourist business are nothing but bad for those counties that are

highly dependent on this economic activity. In the District of Columbia, for example, it is estimated that as a result of the energy crisis there has been 30 percent drop in the 25 million visitors per year.

County Leadership

San Diego County, Calif. is taking the lead in requiring controls over escaping vapors in the fossil fuels. The devices which will be required to be installed at bulk tanks, service stations and other places have the two-fold purpose of preventing increased air pollution through escaping vapors and also recapturing the vapors as an energy conservation measure.

There's great interest in the San Diego experiment and indications are that 25 states and a great number of other counties are watching the San Diego program with an eye toward enacting similar vapor control rules. Interested counties are advised to contact Jack Walsh, Supervisor, County Administration Center, San Diego, Calif. 92101.

Home Rule Bill Passes

Commissioner Robert R. Davis of Johnson County, Kansas sends us the good news that the Kansas Legislature has passed a Comprehensive Home Rule Bill for counties. It gives each board of county commissioners the complete power to govern their own counties unless specifically prohibited in certain areas by the legislature or the constitution.

This is the culmination of a long hard struggle and a real tribute to the county officials in Kansas. We will be carrying a detailed analysis of the new law in the *New County Times*.

Will Not Seek Re-election

NACo Board member Lawrence K. Roos, County Supervisor (County Executive) of St. Louis County, Mo. has announced that he will not seek re-election when his present term expires. He has been in office almost 12 years and has represented NACo on the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations for the past four years. Larry plans to stay very active in regional affairs and community activity in the St. Louis metropolitan area.

Quote of the Week

"Only put off until tomorrow what you are willing to die having left undone."

Pablo Picasso.

Good News

Former Westchester County Executive and Past President of NACo Edwin G. Michaelian has been appointed by New York Governor Malcolm Wilson as a member of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority for a term that expires on June 30, 1978.

Sincerely yours,

Bernie Hillenbrand

Bernard F. Hillenbrand
Executive Director

Coming Events

MARCH

28 - 29 NACo Disaster Preparedness Conference St. Louis, Missouri Charlie Wall 202/785-9577

31 - Apr. 3 County Officers Association of State of New York Annual Meeting Grossinger, New York Herb Smith 518/465-1473

APRIL

28 - 30 NACo Western Region District Conference Seattle, Washington Jim Evans 202/785-9577

Association of County Commissioners of Georgia Annual Convention Atlanta, Georgia Hill Healan 404/522-5022

MAY

1 - 3 Utah Association of Counties Annual Convention Salt Lake City, Utah Jack E. Christiansen 801/359-3332

2 - 4 New Mexico Association of Counties Annual Convention Albuquerque, New Mexico P. Larragoite 505/983-2101

5 - 8 American Society for Public Administration Annual Convention Syracuse, New York Hotel Syracuse Richard Legon 202/785-3255

15 - 16 Region III Federal Aid Briefing Baltimore, Maryland Hunt Valley Inn Stephen Collins 301/494-3317

JULY

14 - 17 NACo National Convention Miami Beach, Florida Rod Kendig 202/785-9577

Hillenbrand's
Washington Report
(202) 785-9591

If you have any questions on Federal Energy Office regulations, difficulty in determining which federal office to contact, or complaints regarding FEO decisions, write or call:

Harry Johnson
Federal Energy Office
c/o NACo
1735 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 254-8550

Change of Address

If the County News is incorrectly addressed, please give the correct address below and return to NACo.

Name _____
Title _____
Address _____

Attach old label here