

This Week

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Vol. 9, No. 46

COUNTY NEWS

"The Wisdom to Know and the Courage to Defend the Public Interest"

Nov. 21, 1977



Washington, D.C.

Counties Take Energy Lead

WASHINGTON, D.C.—County spokesmen have met with congressional and Administration leaders to urge passage of energy legislation this year and to include county leaders in all federal discussions of energy issues affecting local government.

Energy and Environment Steering Committee Chairman James Hayes, Los Angeles County, Calif. supervisor; Subcommittee Chairman for Energy Harvey Ruvin, Dade County, Fla. commissioner; and Subcommittee Vice Chairman for Energy Norman Gustavson, Orange County, N.C. commissioner met with White House, Department of Energy and House and Senate Energy Conference Committee members to stress that "counties are the implementing agents" in energy planning and the "success of any plan will rest in the cross-play of local issues and national needs."

The county spokesmen also called a press conference to outline the following five county needs in energy legislation this year: (A comparison of House and Senate energy bills is on page 3.)

- Impact aid for many counties facing rapid energy-related growth.
- Incentives for energy conservation and alternative energy use.
- Exemption of asphalt from any measure that would increase county costs.
- Utility rate restructuring to reward conservation.
- Funding for conversion of solid waste into useful energy.

In meetings with Department of Energy (DOE) Intergovernmental Relations Director William Peacock and his assistants, John Keto, Tom Dennis and Kay Winn, the county officials congratulated DOE for recognizing the need for county task forces on energy issues. "We need to be involved at the beginning, not as afterthoughts," Hayes said.

The NACo representatives made it clear that the task forces of local government officials should be parallel to and separate from state-level task forces.

Peacock stressed that counties and other local governments must coordinate positions and "speak with one voice."

Hayes, Ruvin and Gustavson assured him that counties would move quickly to coordinate local government "input."

During the press conference, Ruvin stressed that counties can bring about national awareness of the energy problem and change the fact that "only 57 per cent of the nation thinks we have a problem." He cited energy conservation in local government operations as a basic way to raise awareness.

Hayes added that energy saving techniques have saved Los Angeles County taxpayers \$4 million per year, a dramatic way to relate energy conservation to citizens.

Gustavson and Hayes both pointed out that counties have "first-hand knowledge" of the energy problem and the "wisdom" to find solutions. Hayes cited the "energy element" in the land use plan for LA County: "What's the use of a 50-year plan for development if there isn't going to be any energy. We have to find the solutions."

During talks with Reps. Harley Staggers (D-W.Va.), Clarence Brown (R-Ohio), and Thomas L. Ashley (D-Ohio), the county officials again stressed the need for congressional action before the end of the year and called attention to the critical need of many counties facing rapid energy-related growth. They said "local governments can promote the use of alternate energy technologies, both in sponsoring local government demonstration projects and in providing incentives for consumers and industries." They asked for federal incentives for conservation and alternative energy use. The spokesmen termed the current legislation as serving a "fundamental need that has been lacking too long." But they asked the Congress and Administration to consider the following crucial issues during the early months of 1978:

Local energy management capacity: Citizens will look to local officials for guidance on energy problems, and federal and state governments will look to cities and counties to implement mandatory programs. Local jurisdictions need financial and technical assistance, either in the form of direct grant programs or mandatory pass-through provisions in all federal-state programs.

Impact assistance: Energy development impact programs need to be consolidated, to include existing impact funds and to add new programs for communities not



Energy and Environment Steering Committee Chairman James Hayes, Los Angeles county supervisor (left), talks with Rep. Harley Staggers (D-W.Va.) during intensive county efforts for energy legislation. Dade County, Fla. Commissioner Harvey Ruvin, subcommittee chairman for energy, and Orange County, N.C. Commissioner Norman Gustavson, energy vice chairman, also took part in the talks.

provided for by existing or proposed legislation.

Energy facility siting: Local governments should be involved in the early planning of energy facility siting decisions. Laws to override local land use and growth decisions have been passed by several states and are under consideration by the federal government. The consequences could be disastrous. A far better approach is to work with local officials in paving the way for new energy facilities and to resolve differences and problems before rather than after the fact.

Conservation and alternative sources: Greatly expanded assistance program to encourage conservation retrofit and alternative energy use in local government facilities is needed. Assistance measures may include grants or refundable credits to local governments for their investments in solar, geothermal, and resource recovery technologies and for conservation retrofit materials.



County spokesmen with Rep. Clarence Brown (R-Ohio).

IN LEAA BUDGET REQUEST

Planning Funds Threatened

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Department of Justice is requesting a \$20 million cut in Part B planning funds for the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) for fiscal '79, according to Washington sources.

The \$30 million requested for fiscal '79 is half of the '77 planning allocation and 40 per cent less than the \$50 million provided in fiscal '78.

The LEAA budget request has been submitted to the President's Office of Management and Budget for review, but most observers believe the request will be upheld by the President's budget advisers.

Information on the other LEAA budget request items, particularly the block grant programs for fiscal assistance to state and local governments, is not available at this time.

The block grant program, however, has sustained major cuts since 1975 in the face of increasing

congressional disenchantment with LEAA and its programs. Reliable congressional sources indicate that additional attempts will be made this year to cut those programs.

MUCH OF the impetus for budget cuts comes from increased speculation that the Administration will attempt a major overhaul of the federal criminal-justice fiscal assistance program by 1979 when LEAA's authorization runs out. In light of an apparent preference on Capitol Hill for a "revenue sharing" approach rather than the LEAA-demonstration program emphasis, many congressmen see appropriations for the current program as throwing good money after bad.

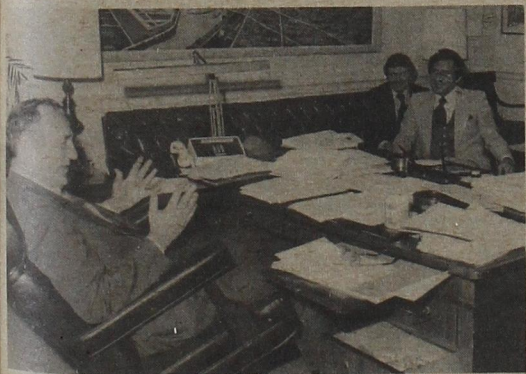
There is uncertainty that a direct assistance program will replace current LEAA efforts and doubt that LEAA as an agency will go out of business. There has been little action taken on a direct assistance

program except by the Justice Department and Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.), both of whom have proposals in rudimentary stages. Second, this program would still need an agency to administer it, especially since it may include some components which would require planning as well as special emphasis grants.

NEVERTHELESS, there is time for a major change in the federal government's criminal-justice program. Much will depend on the President's position, although it may not be made known until after the first of the year. A major address on criminal justice is being prepared.

The Justice Department has finished a study which is highly critical of LEAA and that coupled with U.S. Atty. Gen. Griffin Bell's dissatisfaction with the federal agency may be early clues to the official Administration stance on LEAA.

—Bill Bertera



Rep. Thomas L. Ashley (D-Ohio) makes a point about energy legislation.

Caucus Cites Rural Needs

In an attempt to dramatize the needs of rural America, the Congressional Rural Caucus held its first conference in Lexington, Ky. on Nov. 10 and 11.

Rep. John Breckinridge (D-Ky.), chairman of the Caucus, said, "We need to get rural America moving, and to do this the Congressional Rural Caucus urges full funding for the Rural Development Act programs."

One of the aims of the conference was to explore the development and credit needs of rural communities. The Caucus has recommended a total funding level of \$16.5 billion for all rural grant and loan programs.

Reps. Breckinridge and James T. Broyhill (R-N.C.) emphasized the job creation potential of these programs in rural communities. They estimated that for every \$2 billion in loans, over 200,000 jobs would be created in the private sector. They see additional benefits in more community facilities, a rise in the rural

standard of living, and increased tax revenues.

Federal, state, and local officials, as well as public and private groups brought their varied perspectives to the examination of rural needs. Separate panels were devoted to community facilities, including water and sewer; housing programs; business and industrial development; and farm credit.

Fred Creasey, executive director of the Kentucky Association of Counties, described the needs in that state. "We cannot finance these programs alone. Rural counties need increased and improved assistance from the federal government to provide our citizens with water, sewer and community facilities."

Those who participated in the conference will also be making a major effort to achieve equity for rural areas in grant and loan programs.

The Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) is the agency primarily responsible for assisting

rural areas. The Rural Development Act of 1972 gave that agency major program responsibility but set restrictions on the type of assistance it could provide. Not more than 50 per cent of project cost may be provided through grants. Applicants must therefore finance the remainder of the cost through loans.

On the other hand, the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finance projects with 100 per cent grants and 75 per cent grants respectively.

Since two-thirds of the nation's substandard housing is in rural communities, the Caucus addressed the need to provide greater housing assistance and to develop new delivery mechanisms. It is expected that the Rural Housing Act of 1977 will be reintroduced early in 1978.

The Congressional Rural Caucus, composed of 101 congressmen, was founded in 1973 by Rep. Charles

Rose (D-N.C.) to "insure orderly growth and development of rural communities." The North Carolina congressman served as its first chairman.

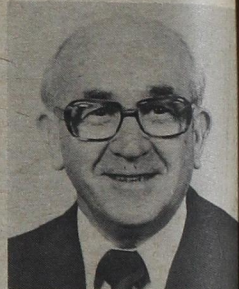
Rep. Breckinridge has chaired the Caucus since 1975. Reps. Broyhill and Ed Jones (D-Tenn.) are vice chairmen. On the Caucus Executive Committee are Bill Alexander (D-Ark.), Max Baucus (D-Mont.), Gillis Long (D-La.), Gunn McKay (D-Utah), Larry Pressler (R-S.D.), and Charles Rose (D-N.C.).



Breckinridge



Broyhill



Jones

EDA Proposes Loan Regs

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Economic Development Administration (EDA) has issued proposed guidelines for its new Redevelopment Area Loan Demonstration Program. The program was authorized by Section 204 of the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965, as amended in 1976.

Congress provided \$15 million for the program for fiscal '78, while the act authorizes \$125 million annually. The appropriations act mandates the \$15 million to be equally divided among urban and rural areas. It specifies a population level of 100,000 to distinguish between urban and rural applicants. The overall

objective will be the comprehensive economic development of deteriorating areas.

EDA has balanced the newness of the program and the relatively small appropriation and chosen to initially make this a demonstration program. This will enable the agency to achieve quick results in a limited number of localities.

County and city governments designated as redevelopment areas by EDA will be eligible to apply. An unemployment rate exceeding the national average over the last 24 months is necessary to qualify.

THE PROGRAM will provide interest-free loans to carry out an economic development plan prepared by the applicant and approved by the assistant secretary. The applicant county or city, in turn, reloan the funds to organizations or individuals to carry out specific components of the plan.

Eligible projects are defined broadly as activities to accelerate the recycling of land and facilities for economic development. They must be consistent with existing Overall Economic Development Plans.

Some potential uses of the loans include:

- Acquisition and assembly of land, land banking;
- Acquisition of surplus government property, abandoned property with development potential;
- Development of real estate including redevelopment and rehabilitation of historic buildings for industrial or commercial use;
- Rehabilitation and renovation of useable empty factory buildings for industrial and commercial uses;
- Investments to accelerate recycling of land and facilities for job creating activity, such as assistance to firms to locate or expand in such facilities;
- Local share for other federal programs to accomplish the aforementioned purposes.

All funds received by an applicant must be reloaned. The only way in which the direct recipient could receive loans would be to establish or utilize a separate agency or authority, such as a county development authority.

In reloaning the funds, the local government may charge interest and set its own conditions. As loans are repaid, they are to be placed into a revolving fund to be reloaned again within the redevelopment area.

The loans may extend for up to 40 years or the useful life of the collateral, whichever is less. Reloans can be made to public and private non-profit organizations; private profit-making firms, including developers; and governmental units.

Where state law precludes a county from making loans, or it chooses not to add to its debt or receive the loan, it may designate a countywide authority or neighborhood organization to be the direct recipient and administer the program.

EDA expects to finalize the regulations and publish them in the *Federal Register* by the end of November. The agency anticipates a first year demonstration program that will include a relatively small number of communities.

Further information can be obtained through the EDA regional office or Elliott Alman of the NACO staff.

New County Role in Health Service

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The prospect of a broader role for county government under a system of National Health Insurance (NHI) was presented by Cindy Maisel, budget director for King County, Wash., in testimony before the Advisory Committee on National Health Insurance. The commission is chaired by Under Secretary Hale Champion, the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

Representing NACO on a panel with state and local officials, Maisel detailed the range of health prevention and medical care services provided by King County to counter the image of county health departments as part-time, antiquated agencies.

"We are initiators providing services no other sector is either willing or able to provide—and that encompasses medical care services to the working poor who are not covered through private or public insurance," she said.

The provision of health promotion and preventive care services was identified as essential to any system of NHI. Maisel joined other panel members in stressing that a financing mechanism will not automatically correct the current problem of access to care.

Citing the successful experience of Multnomah County in the neighboring state of Oregon, Maisel outlined the potential new roles counties could play in ensuring access to mainstream care.

In its "Project Health" program Multnomah County has discontinued the direct provision of personal health care services. Instead, the county serves as a broker offering seven health care plans including membership in local pre-paid Health Maintenance Organization plans to eligible county residents. The group includes extending coverage to medical eligible and the working poor who elsewhere are tracked into a system of care separated from the mainstream.

Appropriate county roles under a system of NHI would include, in addition to this brokerage function, outreach, instruction on how to use the system, cost containment in terms of negotiating fees with health care providers, advocacy and financing. Maisel told the commission, "We're willing to do our share in the total system," she added, but cautioned members about adopting any

recommendations that would draw on the already burdened local property tax, pointing out its regressive nature.

The committee which consists of representatives from all levels of government, public and private health organizations, the academic business and labor communities has been holding forums across the country since it was appointed by Secretary Califano last June.

Book Perceives Commissioner As Policy Maker

The recorded perceptions of 253 Florida and Georgia commissioners about problems facing their counties and the solutions are the basis for a new book, *The Forgotten Governments: County Commissioners as Policy Makers*.

Authors Vincent L. Marando, an associate professor at the Institute for Urban Studies of the University of Maryland and Robert D. Thomas, an associate professor of political science at Florida Atlantic University, have surveyed the responses to public problems for the book.

They then assess types of services most frequently provided in responses to urbanization, federal impact and the two states' constitutional limitations. The book costs \$8.50 and can be ordered through the University Presses of Florida, 15 N.W. 15th St., Gainesville, Fla. 32603.

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What does the future hold for county government?

An outstanding group of elected officials, academicians, and businessmen have offered their predictions and ideas on intergovernmental relations, finances, functions, structure, and the future. And these have been collected in *Decade for Decisions: 1976-1986*. This report on the Bicentennial Symposium on the Future of County Government—sponsored by the National Association of Counties and the National Association of County Administrators—includes the 15 papers which set the background for symposium discussions and offers more than 400 suggestions on:

- The future direction of county government
- Objectives which county officials should be pursuing
- Specific programs to accomplish these goals

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House/Senate Energy Conferees

HOUSE CONFEREES

Reps. Harley O. Staggers (D-W.Va.), Thomas L. Ashleby (D-Ohio), Al Ullman (D-Ore.), Richard Bolling (D-Mo.), Thomas S. Foley (D-Wash.), John D. Dingell (D-Mich.), Paul G. Rogers (D-Fla.), Bob Eckhardt (D-Tex.), Philip R. Sharp (D-Ind.), A. Toby Moffett (D-Conn.), Charles Wilson (D-Tex.), Henry S. Reuss (D-Wis.), Daniel Rostenkowski (D-Ill.), Charles A. Vanik (D-Ohio), James C. Corman (D-Calif.), Joe D. Waggoner Jr. (D-La.), Charles B. Rangel (D-N.Y.), John B. Anderson (R-Ill.), Clarence J. Brown (R-Ohio), Frank Horton (R-N.Y.), John W. Wydler (R-N.Y.), Garry Brown (R-Mich.), William A. Steiger (R-Wis.), James M. Collins (R-Tex.), and William R. Archer (R-Tex.).

SENATE CONFEREES

Coal Conversion: Sens. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.), Floyd K. Haskell (D-Colo.), Wendell H. Ford (D-Ky.), J. Bennett Johnston (D-La.), James Abourezk (D-S.D.), John A. Durkin (D-N.H.), Howard M. Metzenbaum

(D-Ohio), Clifford P. Hansen (R-Wyo.), Mark O. Hatfield (R-Ore.), Dewey F. Bartlett (R-Okla.), and Paul Laxalt (R-Nev.).

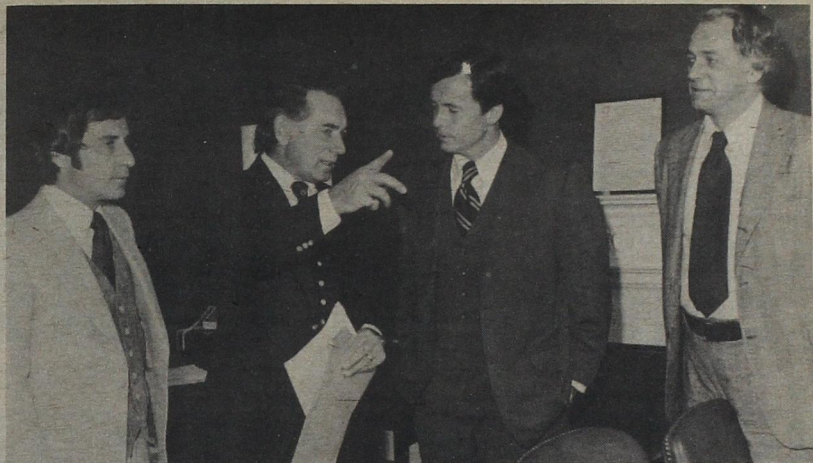
Energy Conservation: Sens. Jackson, Johnston, Durkin, Lee Metcalf (D-Mont.), Haskell, Dale L. Bumpers (D-Ark.), Metzenbaum, James A. McClure (R-Idaho), Bartlett, Pete V. Domenici (R-N.M.), and Laxalt.

Natural Gas: Sens. Jackson, Frank Church (D-Idaho), Metcalf, Johnston, Abourezk, Haskell, Bumpers, Ford, Durkin, Metzenbaum, Spark M. Matsunaga (D-Hawaii), Hansen, Hatfield, McClure, Bartlett, Lowell P. Weicker Jr. (R-Conn.), Domenici, Laxalt.

Electricity Rate Reform: Jackson, Johnston, Durkin, Metcalf, Haskell, Bumpers, Metzenbaum, McClure, Bartlett, Domenici, and Laxalt.

Tax Provisions: Expected to be the entire Senate Finance Committee.

*The House has one comprehensive bill; the Senate has five.



NACo Energy and Environment Steering Committee chairmen met with Department of Energy officials to call for full participation in energy planning. Pictured from left: Harvey Ruvin, Dade County, Fla. commissioner and energy subcommittee chairman; James Hayes, energy and environment chairman; William Peacock, Department of Energy intergovernmental assistant; and Norman Gusaveson, Orange County, N.C. commissioner and energy subcommittee vice chairman.

FOOD STAMPS

Regulations Slowed

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The elimination of the purchase requirement (EPR) provisions for food stamps will not be implemented ahead of other regulations, according to a recent announcement by the Department of Agriculture (USDA). The target date for full implementation is July 1, 1978. Over 40 national groups had petitioned for a Jan. 1 implementation date.

NACo has supported rapid implementation of changes which simplify program provisions, such as eligibility, benefit determination, and coupon issuance.

The simultaneous implementation of both eligibility simplification and EPR provisions would minimize administrative burdens on local governments. NACo also asks that such schedules allow sufficient time for counties to prepare for implementation after a state plan is approved.

THE PURPOSE of the food stamp program is to help low-income households obtain nutritionally adequate diets by supplementing their food budgets. Federal and state governments share the responsibility for administering the program, although many local governments share the cost and actually carry out the daily administration of the program.

Since 1971, the federal government has assumed substantial responsibilities for the food stamp program. It sets the policies and rules governing eligibility, benefit levels, fair hearings, payment of improperly denied benefits, work registration, outreach, issuance, and the printing, shipping, and redemption of food stamps.

USDA approves state operation plans and pays 50 per cent of total state administrative costs, excluding costs of certifying eligibility for public assistance recipients. Approval of retailers, wholesalers and meal services, investigations and audits to spot irregularities and abuses, and "quality control" activities are all under the control of the federal government.

IN ESSENCE, state welfare agencies are responsible for daily administration of the food stamp program, and for a substantial portion of their administrative costs. In a number of states, these responsibilities are passed down to the local level. These local agencies are either under the

states' general supervision or directly under the states' welfare agency.

The sharing of costs is handled in a variety of ways. In states such as California, New Jersey, and Wyoming, the counties equally share the administrative costs with the state. The counties pay all costs of certification and issuance, while state agencies pay for state supervision costs in Maryland, Minnesota, and Iowa. In Massachusetts, Illinois, and Georgia, state agencies pay all administrative costs.

Oregon bases its costs on a percentage—70 per cent state, 30 per cent county. In Tennessee, the state pays 40 per cent; the county, 60 per cent. Regardless of the amount of county participation the state remains ultimately responsible, and it's the one with whom USDA deals.

UNDER THE program, all states have local responsibilities which include eligibility certifications for all applicants, issuance of food stamp allotments, operation of outreach programs designed to inform people about the program, provision of quality control and efficiency and effectiveness review, and the payment of 50 per cent of all administrative costs.

The new food stamp program, enacted in late September, contains significant reforms which NACo has supported two years. Of greatest importance are the provisions simplifying the eligibility and benefit determinations, and eliminating the purchase requirement (EPR).

It is estimated that between one and four million new persons will be attracted to the program due to the elimination of the purchase requirement. Instead of contributing cash to purchase stamps, households will now receive the "bonus value" of their stamps free. For example, a family which would have paid \$100 a month to purchase coupons worth \$166 will now receive without charge \$66 worth of stamps.

During October, the USDA held hearings in each of its seven regions to seek advice on the content of the proposed regs. NACo is forming a task force to review and respond to the proposed regs, which are expected to be published Dec. 15. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Aliceann Fritschler at NACo.

—Diane Shust
NACo Legislative Intern

Highlights of House and Senate Positions on Energy Act

On Oct. 19, the House and Senate conferees began to resolve disagreements on the National Energy Act. Both houses have finished their separate deliberations. The House voted on one comprehensive bill and followed the President's recommendations rather closely. The Senate enacted five separate pieces of legislation—energy conservation, coal conversion, utility regulation, natural gas, and tax provisions—that bear little similarity to the President's recommendations.

Brief summaries of the House and Senate provisions, and conference committee status follows. Precise details cannot be known until final language is printed of the conference agreements. Then the House and Senate will vote on the conference report. If accepted by both Houses, the compromise will go to the White House.

CONSERVATION

Section	Status	Provisions
Energy Conservation Program for Local Government Buildings	Approved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DOE makes grants for up to 50 per cent of costs of preliminary energy audits and technical assistance in local government buildings. Local grant applications must be submitted through the states and be consistent with state plans. Authorization: \$32.5 million each year for fiscal '78 and '79. Of that amount, \$7.5 million is earmarked for preliminary energy audits of local public buildings and \$25 million for technical assistance.
Energy Conservation for Schools and Hospitals	Approved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Similar to program for local government buildings; plans must be approved by State Board of Education, State Hospital Board, and State Energy Office. Authorization: for grants to states for preliminary energy audits—\$20 million for fiscal '78, \$5 million for '79; for technical assistance grants to states, schools and hospitals—\$60 million for fiscal '78, \$45 million for '79, \$20 million for '80; for project grants to schools and hospitals—\$220 million for fiscal '78, \$250 million for '79, \$280 million for '80.
State Conservation Programs	Approved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extends state conservation programs under ECPA and supplemental state plans under ECPA. Authorization: \$50 million each for ECPA, and ECPA for fiscal '79.
Weatherization	Approved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amends existing ECPA program by raising eligibility levels, broadening definition of allowable materials, raising limit per dwelling from \$400 to \$800, and requiring that CETA workers be available for program. Establishes new program for public housing. Authorization: \$130 million for fiscal '78, \$200 million each year for both fiscal '79 and '80.

COAL CONVERSION

Impact Aid	Approved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact aid to coal and uranium-impacted counties with 8 per cent increase in employment levels from 1976. Senate version only; House bill lacks any provisions, so House will have to approve entire measure. Authorization: \$60 million for fiscal '78, \$120 million for '79.
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CONSERVATION-TRANSPORTATION

Section	Status	House Version	Senate Version
"Gas-Guzzler" Tax	Deferred during discussions of conservation legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taxes fuel-inefficient automobiles on a gradual basis depending on fuel consumption 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bans manufacture of least efficient automobiles. No taxes involved.

UTILITY REGULATION

Rate Reform	Under consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mandates state-regulated utilities to offer cost-of-service and interruptible rates. Prohibits discriminatory rates against solar, wind, and small electric generating systems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does not permit federal pre-emption of state PUCs, but allows DOE intervention in state regulatory proceedings. DOE cannot appeal to the courts any state PUC decisions. Elderly cannot be charged more than industrial users.
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NATURAL GAS

Deregulation	Will be considered next	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports President's proposal to raise price limits but to continue regulation of natural gas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supports complete deregulation of natural gas prices.
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ENERGY TAXES

Crude Oil Equalization Tax	Will be considered last	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Controlled price of domestic oil raised by a three-stage tax to current "world price" by 1980. Provide refunds to homeowners, hospitals, churches, and schools that heat with oil. New oil is exempted from equalization tax. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides for no crude oil tax. Allows refunds for homeowners and non-profit institutions that heat with oil. If crude oil tax is enacted, provides for a \$400 million fund to be given to states to help repair federal aid highways.
Business Tax Credits	Will be considered last	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extra investment credit (beyond existing 10 per cent) of 10 per cent through 1982 for investments in equipment, coal conversion, air pollution control, coal gasification, biomass, solid waste recycling, and solar energy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extra investment credit (beyond existing 10 per cent) of 15 per cent. List of eligible equipment was expanded. Credits would be refundable and available to schools, hospitals, charitable institutions, and state and local governments.
Energy Trust Fund	Will be considered last	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Money from gas-guzzler tax will be used to reduce the public debt. Money from crude oil taxes would be rebated to consumers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portion of any energy taxes would go to a fund to encourage new forms of energy other than oil and gas, including conservation, conversion, and public transportation. Provides refundable credits to low-income elderly taxpayers.

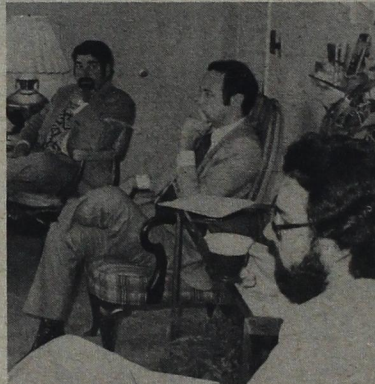
Your Staff in Action



Executive Director Bernard F. Hillenbrand leads NACo's congressional activity for counties. Deputy Executive Director Rodney L. Kendig (right) is his chief administrator.



Bernard F. Hillenbrand
Executive Director



Public Affairs Director Beth Denniston and Associate Director for Welfare and Social Services Alicann Fritschler coordinate plans.



Associate Directors for Employment Jon Weintraub; for Criminal Justice and Public Safety Bill Bertera; and for Home Rule and Regional Affairs, Labor-Management, and Taxation and Finance Bruce Talley confer.

Rodney L. Kendig, Deputy Executive Director. Formerly the director of County Resources, Kendig's responsibilities as the new deputy executive director are to assist in the management and coordination of the



Rodney L. Kendig

associate directors and public affairs. He will continue to carry the primary responsibility for planning, coordinating and executing NACo's annual conferences.

Kendig began his experiences with county government in 1962 when he was a NACo research assistant while doing graduate studies in government at the University of Maryland. From 1966-67, he was an assistant director of the Michigan State Association of County Supervisors. Upon returning to NACo, he served as director of membership services, assistant director and director of NACo's New County Center. In September 1973, he became director of County Resources where he managed technical assistance and research programs.



Beth Denniston

Beth Denniston, Public Affairs Director. Denniston has carried out a variety of public relations activities in NACo since 1975. As director, she coordinates NACo news media efforts, publications, graphics, audio/visual, and

County News to achieve county goals. Before joining NACo in 1975, Denniston developed similar nationwide public relations programs for the 450,000 member national youth organization, Future Homemakers of America. She also has daily newspaper reporting experience assigned to the Board of Education and Lancaster County, Neb. affairs. As an information specialist for the Department of Agriculture, she developed press releases and magazine articles on economic studies and agriculture research.

Denniston holds a master's degree from the University of Nebraska with majors in journalism and English.

John Murphy, Associate Director for Community Development. Murphy is the staff coordinator for the Urban Affairs Committee as well as a legislative representative for community development issues. He will continue to fill these responsibilities and direct NACo community development activities such as redevelopment, housing, building and housing codes, development of new communities, and subdivision regulation.



John Murphy

Murphy joined NACo in 1972 and has specialized in economic development regulations, funding issues and legislation. He has done graduate study in public administration and served as an administrative assistant to a city manager.

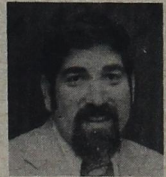


Bill Bertera

Bill Bertera, Associate Director for Criminal Justice and Public Safety. Bertera joined NACo in 1975 as the lobbyist for labor-management relations. He holds a master's degree in urban affairs from American University. Before joining NACo, he was the assistant director of membership services for International City Management Association. He also has experience in private industry.

As associate director for Criminal Justice and Public Safety, Bertera will oversee activities related to law enforcement, courts and corrections, civil disturbances, firearm control, juvenile delinquency and emergency preparedness. He also will represent the county positions on these subjects to Congress.

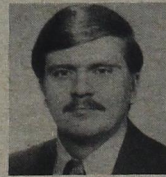
Jon Weintraub, Associate Director for Employment. Manpower project director since 1971, Weintraub will continue to direct the planning and implementation of NACo's manpower service to prime sponsor counties. He also will direct employment and training activities related to youth jobs, public service jobs, vocational education, migrant and Native American programs, rural manpower, employment security and unemployment insurance.



Jon Weintraub

Weintraub, who spent two years with the Department of Labor as a manpower specialist, will represent NACo employment policy to Congress. He has a Ph.D. from Brandeis University and has been a Peace Corps volunteer. He also has directed research for the Office of Economic Opportunity on youth programs.

Robert Weaver, Associate Director for Environment, Energy and Land Use. Weaver will direct NACo activities related to air, water and noise pollution, solid waste management, conservation of natural resources, energy



Robert Weaver

conservation and development and related land use issues including the planning and legislating of growth. He will be assisted in representing NACo policy on these diverse, but inter-related issues to Congress by a lobbyist.

Before joining NACo in an environmental research position, Weaver was a staff assistant in the Department of Interior Office of Land Use and Water Planning. He has a law degree from the University of Nebraska and a master of law from the University of Georgia.



Michael Gemmell

Michael Gemmell, Associate Director for Health and Education. Health care, health insurance systems, and childhood and adult education are the basic concerns in Gemmell's activities as he directs related research and presents NACo's position on these matters to Congress.

Gemmell has been associated with human services issues since joining NACo as a researcher in 1968. From 1971 to 1973 he directed the then Human Resources Center which focused on health, education, welfare, mental health, drug abuse, and alcohol abuse services to counties. He became a legislative representative in 1973 for health and education concerns of counties. His undergraduate degree is in political science from Millsaps College and he holds a master's degree in government and politics from Catholic University.

Jim Evans, Associate Director for Public Lands. All matters relating to federally owned public lands including tax immunity problems and federal land management programs will be directed by Evans. He will represent the NACo position to Congress on such specific issues as payments-in-lieu of taxes, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, Agricultural Lands Protection, and the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Evans joined NACo four years ago and is the Western Region District staff liaison. His prior experiences include former assistant county administrative officer for Santa Cruz County, Calif. and administrative analyst for Los Angeles County, Calif. Evans is a public administration graduate of the University of California in Los Angeles.



Jim Evans

Bruce Talley, Associate Director for Home Rule and Regional Affairs, Labor Management Relations and Taxation and Finance. Talley will direct NACo activities that encompass the structure, the management and the finances of counties. Specific responsibilities include regionalism, equal employment, retirement systems, federal grants, tax reform and technical assistance to counties on modernization of specific departments and home rule. He will be assisted in federal legislation representation by Ann Simpson for Labor Management and Elliott Alman for Taxation and Finance.



Bruce Talley

Talley has been with NACo since 1973 and has worked with state associations of counties, surveyed urban county community development programs and collected and analyzed data on intergovernmental contracting for services and materials. He holds a masters degree in urban government/public administration from Drew University.



At left, Associate Directors for Environment and Energy and Land Use Bob Weaver; for Transportation Marian T. Hanker; and for Community Development John Murphy take part in morning planning sessions. Above, Associate Directors for Health and Education Michael Gemmell and for Public Lands Jim Evans share recent travel experiences.

Staff Directory

National Association of Counties
1735 New York Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 785-9577

EXECUTIVE

Bernard Hillenbrand..... Executive Director
Rodney Kendig..... Deputy Executive Director
Dorothy Byars..... Administrative Assistant
Pat Baldus..... Administrative Assistant

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

Bill Maslin..... Contract and Management Officer
Charles Oglebay..... Comptroller
Louis Ervin..... Personnel Officer
Hugh Cheatham..... Accountant
Robert Graham..... General Services Officer
Jo Crichton..... Conference Coordinator
Meg Gianessi..... Membership Coordinator
Marietta Bush..... Personnel Assistant
Margaret Taylor..... Research Assistant
Ida Piccirillo..... Secretary
Marie Reid..... Circulation Coordinator
Marlene Christian..... Accounting Technician
Trude Jones..... Accounting Technician
Ernest Ebi..... Accounting Technician
Joyce Strickler..... Secretary
Evelyn Wise..... Secretary
Rebecca Mill..... Secretary
Linda Metro..... Receptionist
Katie Washington..... Mail and Publications Clerk
Lesley Murray..... Clerk Typist/Receptionist
Gregory Woodland..... Mail Room/Copy Machine Clerk
Richard Ruiz..... Mail Room/Copy Machine Clerk

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

John Murphy..... Associate Director
Karen Frey..... Secretary

CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Bill Bertera..... Associate Director
Donald Murray..... Project Director
Duane Baltz..... Assistant Project Director
Rod O'Connor..... Research Associate
Barbara Rice..... Writer/Editor
Wendy Gressman..... Research Assistant
Mary Rieger..... Secretary
Rochelle Kossack..... Intern

EMPLOYMENT

Jon Weintraub..... Associate Director
Nancy ReMine..... Project Director
Geoff Trego..... Research Associate
Pat Elston..... Research Associate
Karen King..... Research Associate
Carol Cox..... Research Associate
Chris Duba..... Research Associate
Tom Cagle..... Research Associate
Servando Cuellar..... Research Associate
Phyllis Dawson..... Research Associate
Pat Jones..... Administrative Secretary
Linda Salter..... Secretary
Barbara Jackson..... Secretary

HEALTH AND EDUCATION

Mike Gemmell..... Associate Director
Mike Benjamin..... (Mobility Assignment)
Tony McCann..... Project Director
Jacqueline Rosenberg..... (Mobility Assignment)
Brenda Smallwood..... Administrative Secretary

HOME RULE AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS, LABOR-MANAGEMENT AND TAX AND FINANCE

Bruce Talley..... Associate Director
Terry Schutten..... Project Director
Florence Zeller..... Research Associate
Linda Ganschientz..... Research Associate
Robert Platky..... Research Assistant
Joan Paschal..... Administrative Secretary
Violet Ollis..... Secretary
Naomi Carson..... Secretary
Jeff Thurston..... Intern
Carol Berenson..... Research Associate Tax and Finance
Elliott Alman..... Legislative Rep. Tax and Finance
Linda Church..... Grantsmanship and Regs Coordinator
Ann Simpson..... Legislative Rep. Labor-Management
Debbie Shulman..... Research Associate Labor-Management

LAND USE/ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

Robert Weaver..... Associate Director
Vacancy..... Legislative Representative
Sue Guenther..... Project Director
Donald Spangler..... Research Associate
Cliff Cobb..... Research Associate
Chris Goddard..... Research Associate
Lynda Given..... Research Assistant
Felicity Evans..... Research Assistant
Arleen Shulman..... Research Assistant
Geraldine Hill..... Secretary
Jacquette Scholls..... Secretary

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Beth Denniston..... Director of Public Affairs
Cindy Kenny..... Public Relations Coordinator
Christine Gresock..... News Manager
Michael Breeding..... Graphics Coordinator
Gary Huffman..... Publications Coordinator
Lee LaPrel..... Photo Editor
Joan Amico..... Writer/Editor
Avis Mayfield..... Audio Visual Writer/Editor
Robert Curry..... Typesetter
Robert Redding..... Graphic Artist
Mary Duncan..... Graphic Artist
Lynn Webster..... Secretary

PUBLIC LANDS

Jim Evans..... Associate Director
Michelle Cunningham..... Secretary
Linda Bennett..... Intern

TRANSPORTATION

Marian Hanker..... Associate Director
Tom Bulger..... Legislative Representative
Marlene Glassman..... Research Assistant
Susan Thornhill..... Research Secretary
Andrew Fusso..... Intern

WELFARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Aliceann Fritschler..... Associate Director
Vacancy..... Legislative Representative
Scott Forsyth..... Project Director
Mary Brugger Murphy..... Project Director
Elizabeth Rott..... Research Associate
Phil Jones..... Research Associate
James Koppel..... Research Associate
Carol Ott..... Research Assistant
Le Palmer..... Secretary
Sharon Plater..... Secretary
Nancy Dawson..... Secretary
Diane Shust..... Intern
Al Templeton..... (Mobility Assignment)

Marian T. Hanker, Associate Director for Transportation. Hanker will coordinate transportation issues in planning, highway improvements and safety, railroads, waterways, bridges and mass transit planning. She will continue to conduct the research activities through which counties, states and the federal government improve communications through workshops, regulation review and information exchange. She will be assisted in presenting the transportation policy of counties to Congress by lobbyist Tom Bulger. Hanker joined NACo in 1972 from the Automotive Safety Foundation. She holds a master's degree from George Washington University and a Ph.D from the University of Pittsburgh in Public and International Affairs.



Marian T. Hanker



Aliceann Fritschler

Aliceann Fritschler, Associate Director for Welfare and Social Services. Immediate and long-range welfare reforms, community action, older Americans and social services are included in her responsibilities.

Her primary efforts will be to achieve welfare reform in the 95th Congress, NACo's top priority. She will be assisted by a lobbyist for welfare reform.

Fritschler directed NACo's efforts to renew general revenue sharing, the top priority for counties in the 94th Congress. She also has represented the NACo position on all federal taxation and finance matters and federal aid reform. Fritschler has served as a consultant to the National Governors Association and several other state, county and city commissions.

Her first position with NACo was in 1964 managing research projects in pollution control. As a researcher for the mayor of Syracuse, N.Y., she conducted organization and management studies and wrote the city's housing code. She holds a master's degree in public administration from the Maxwell School, Syracuse University.

Newsmakers

POLK COUNTY, Ga.—Commissioner Don Williams will represent the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia on the State Advisory Council for Mental Health and Retardation. Georgia Gov. George Busbee made the appointment. The council advises the governor, the Board of Human Resources and the Statewide Coordinating Council on mental health and retardation programs.

NEW JERSEY—The New Jersey Association of Counties has named James R. Heaney as its first legislative coordinator. A 10-year veteran of all three branches of state government, he will monitor legislation for the 21 New Jersey counties and draft legislation for the association and its 35 affiliated organizations.

MICHIGAN—Thomas Cooper, Newago County commissioner, has been re-elected president of the Michigan Association of Boards of Health. Other officers elected during the group's annual session at Shanty Creek are: Vice President Dayton Willard, Benzie County commissioner; Secretary Ruth Price, member of the Macomb County Health Board; and Treasurer John LaLonde, chairman of the Midland County Health Board.

MICHIGAN—Sam Grey, St. Clair County administrator, has been elected president of the Michigan Association of County Administrative Officers. Other officers elected at the association's annual meeting held in connection with the Michigan Association of Counties meeting at Boyne Mountain are: Vice President Marvin Baldwin of Saginaw County and Secretary-Treasurer Edwin M. Johnson of Jackson County.

MICHIGAN—Donald R. Sandbrook, Isabella County register of deeds, is the new president of the Michigan Association of Registers of Deeds. Other officers elected during the group's annual meeting in Valley Plaza, Midland, are: First Vice President Doris A. Bauthier of Alcona County; Second Vice President Judith Litke Hecht of Berrien County; Third Vice President Howard Ferris of Barry County; Secretary Sally A. Foust of Cass County; and Treasurer John Marshall of Tuscola County. Richard Diment of Midland County is the immediate past president.

SHELBY COUNTY, Tenn.—Sheriff Gene Barksdale has been elected national president of the prestigious FBI Convention, composed of graduates of the FBI Academy in Washington.

FLORIDA—Thomas Frame of Charlotte County has been elected president of the State Association of County Planning and Zoning Directors for 1977-78. Other officers are: Vice President Martin Kreidt of Orange County and Secretary-Treasurer Ned R. Brooke of Collier County. Directors named include Neno Spagna of Collier County, Al Lewis of Alachua County, Richard R. Walker of Sarasota County and Ken Davis of Leon County.

MISSISSIPPI—Hushel L. Moss of Smith County became president of the Mississippi Chancery Clerks' Association during the group's 54th annual convention held in Tupelo. Other officers are: Vice President G.N. "Nicky" Creel of Harrison County and Secretary-Treasurer John W. "Bill" Permenter of Clay County.

MONTANA—Retired Pondera Commissioner Joe Preputin has been selected by Pondera, Teton and Toole counties as District 6 state senator. Preputin replaces Senate President Gordon McComber who has been appointed state commissioner of agriculture.

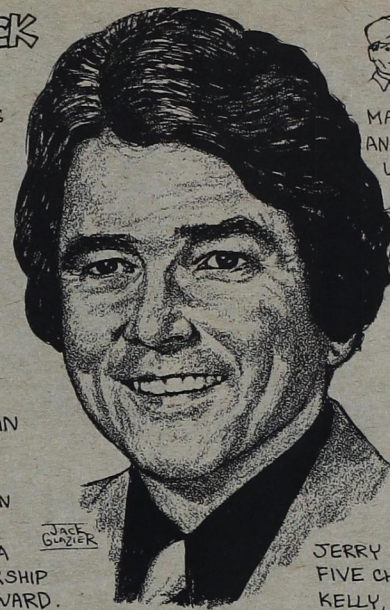
P. Jerry ORRICK

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ASSOCIATION OF OREGON COUNTIES

BORN AUGUST 30, 1935, BAKERSFIELD CALIFORNIA. GRADUATED 1953 FROM BAKERSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL WHERE HE PARTICIPATED IN BAND AND FOOTBALL. HE WAS ALSO STUDENT BODY VICE-PRESIDENT.

HE ATTENDED BAKERSFIELD COLLEGE AND WAS GIVEN THE "OUTSTANDING STUDENT OF THE YEAR" AWARD. HE WAS PRESIDENT OF THE FRESHMAN CLASS AND STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT.

IN 1957 HE EARNED A B.S. DEGREE IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AND AN "INTERFRATERNITY SCHOLARSHIP AWARD AND A LIFETIME ATHLETIC AWARD."



JACK GONZIEK

HE WAS ASSISTANT TO THE KERN COUNTY LAW LIBRARIAN, A LOCOMOTIVE FIRE-MAN FOR SOUTHERN PACIFIC LINES AND A STAFF SERGEANT IN THE U.S. ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ACTIVE RESERVE.

IN 1959 HE BECAME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT FOR THE COUNTY OF KERN. IN 1960 HE WAS SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST FOR THE COUNTY OF ORANGE AND IN 1963 THE ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR. IN 1967 JERRY BECAME EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ASSOCIATION OF OREGON COUNTIES

JERRY AND HIS WIFE LINDA HAVE FIVE CHILDREN: KRISTIN, TROY, KELLY, TYLER AND STEFANI.

MIXED CHARTER RESULTS

Elections Bring Change to Counties

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Off-year elections held last Tuesday brought many changes to county governments.

Essex County, N.J. became the 79th charter county in the country as voters approved the establishment of the office of elected executive. The office of county executive, one of 143 nationally, will be filled at the next general election, with the new government taking office in January 1979.

VOTERS IN two Maryland counties, Charles and Washington, rejected proposed council-manager charters. Apathy was a factor at the polls

in Washington County, while anti-charter forces in Charles County succeeded in amassing votes to overwhelmingly defeat the measure.

Summit County, Ohio voters rejected a proposal to establish an elected county executive under Ohio's alternate forms law. Island County, Wash. rejected establishment of a government study commission to draft a charter.

Charter amendments met with mixed results. Multnomah County, Ore. reinstated four-year terms and at-large elections for county commissioners. Last year, voters passed an amendment establishing two-year terms and district elections. No elec-

tions were held under the provisions of the now defunct amendment.

IN CHEMUNG County, N.Y. voters defeated a charter amendment that would have replaced the county elected executive with an appointed county manager.

Three Missouri counties repealed the state "Blue Law," which prohibits the sale of certain items on Sunday. Clay, Jackson and Platte counties (the Kansas City area) were given special authorization by the state legislature to put this measure before the voters.

Two states voted on establishment of state constitutional conventions. New York voters approved such a convention, while in Kentucky—where the last convention was held in 1890—voters overwhelmingly rejected the call for a new convention.

ELEVEN COUNTIES elected county executives last week—three for the first time. Erie, Lehigh and Northampton Counties, Pa. elected their first county executives after establishing the office last year. The new executives are: Russell Robison in Erie; David Bauch in Lehigh; and Martin Bechtel in Northampton.

In other county executive races,

the following were re-elected: John Spellman, King County, Wash.; Joseph Gerace, Chautauqua County, N.Y.; William Murphy, Rensselaer County, N.Y.; and Alfred Del Bello, Westchester County, N.Y. New executives are Francis Purcell, Nassau County, N.Y., and Louis Heinbach, Orange County, N.Y. James Amato was elected mayor of Lexington-Fayette County, Ky. Ernest N. Morial was elected mayor of New Orleans-Orleans Parish, La.

In other elections, Rockville County, Ga. increased the membership of their county board from one to three. Ohio and Washington voters rejected changes in election procedures. Ohio voters decisively defeated a proposal to allow same-day registration for elections. Washington voters rejected postcard registration by a two-to-one margin. Washington voters repealed the sales tax on food and drugs—at a cost of about \$18 million to counties and cities in that state.

—Robert A. Platky
Research Assistant
New County Center, NA CoRF

—Margaret I. Taylor
State Association Liaison

Keeping Up with the States

IOWA—The Iowa State Association of Counties (ISAC) is well represented on the "Governor's Coalition on Iowa Issues." Gov. Robert Ray formed the special coalition of county, city and state officials to deal with legislative issues facing the three groups.

ISAC's representatives are: Beverly Anderson, Cherokee County auditor, ISAC president; Ralph Nelson, Clay County supervisor and ISAC vice president; Bob Burke, Clinton County supervisor and ISAC treasurer; Bob Sandy, Warren County engineer and ISAC board member, and Don Cleveland, ISAC executive director.

President Anderson has requested the following items be added to the coalition's agenda: coordination of budget cycle and new budget requirements; costs of caring for the developmentally disabled; the state's using county funds as a state match for federal funds without county sign-off or consent; reduction of federal paperwork requirements in Iowa, and county home rule as an instrument of providing better governmental cooperation at the local level.

SOUTH DAKOTA—Effective July 1, the state's Division of Civil Defense has been renamed the Division of Emergency and Disaster Service.

MISSISSIPPI—The Mississippi Sheriffs' Association (MSA) has signed a lease agreement with the Lowndes County Board of Supervisors to lease a 320-acre farm owned by the county for development of the first boys' ranch in the state.

Supervisors agreed to lease the property in west Lowndes County, which was used as a county farm between 1920 and 1940, to MSA for \$1 per acre for 99 years.

WASHINGTON—Lincoln County Commissioner Gordon G. Kunz was elected president of the Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) at the association's annual conference held in Wenatchee.

Other officers are Vice President Mike Lowry, King County councilman, and Secretary-Treasurer F.D. "Frenchy" O'Donnell, Grant County commissioner.

Former King County Councilman Dave Mooney was the recipient of WSAC's Excellence in Achievement Award. He resigned his King County Council seat earlier this year to accept an appointment by Gov. Dixy Lee Ray to the State Pollution Control Hearings Board. Mooney had served as the association's secretary-treasurer and would have advanced to the presidency if he had not resigned as councilman.

Job Opportunities

Employment and Training Program Director, Orange County, N.Y. \$16,220 to \$20,220. Excellent fringe benefits. Requires bachelor's degree in public administration, business administration, social services or related field, plus five years experience including two years in a supervisory capacity in personnel manpower development, or a related field. Resume to: Orange County Department of Personnel, Government Center, Goshen, N.Y. 10924.

Director, Area Agency on Aging, Cuyahoga County, Ohio. \$17,900 to \$22,800 per annum. Responsible for direction of the agency, as prescribed by the Older Americans Act, throughout the five-county area comprised of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Grain, and Medina. Duties include: analyzing, modifying, and recommending contracted programs with local providers, service agencies, and Golden Age groups related to services for elderly in the community; assesses needs in the elderly community; researches funding sources; develops programs to satisfy these needs within funding constraints. Requires master's degree in public or business administration, social work administration or equivalent; five to seven years administrative experience in human service agency; excellent verbal and public relations skills and proven managerial ability. Apply at: Personnel Office, Room 317, County Administration Building, 1219 Ontario St., Cleveland, Ohio 44114.

Supervisor of Youth Employment, Oakland County, Mich. \$15,758 to \$18,715. To develop and administer \$1.5 million program designed to provide jobs for unemployed young people. Applicants must possess a bachelor's degree in a social science, secondary or vocational education, business administration or related area, and have at least three years of full-time paid experience in job or career development programs, one year of which must have been in a supervisory capacity. Resume to: Oakland County, Personnel Department, 1200 N. Telegraph Road, Pontiac, Mich. 48053. (313) 858-0530.

Chief Tax Assessor, Chatham County, Ga. salary negotiable. Appointed to the unclassified service and responsible to the Chatham County commissioners, 1977 operating budget of \$500,640. Current staff of 35. Responsible for accuracy and equity in the appraisal of real and personal property throughout Chatham County for tax assessing purposes, and preparing and defending a timely county tax digest. Chatham County has approximately 68,000 parcels of land, 6,000 business accounts, and 8,000 lots. Requires combination equivalent to graduation from college with major coursework in financial accounting, quantitative methods or a related field, and eight years experience in property appraisal. Resume to: Chatham County Commissioners, P.O. Box 8072, Savannah, Ga. 31402.

COUNTY MEETS ITS MATCH

Powhatan Planning Features Objectivity

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Richmond Regional Planning District Commission developed last year a Comprehensive Planning Guide for one of its members. The following article, submitted by William E. Ishmael, deputy director, describes a unique process whereby policy makers can discuss growth and development issues in a situation approximately their own, but without the emotions often involved in discussing one's county.

Powhatan County is a rural county of about 10,000 people on the edge of metropolitan Richmond, Va. In the last five years the county has been among the fastest growing in the state with annual population increases of up to 10 per cent per year. This rapid increase has caused changes in the nature of the county and forced the county to deal with a rapid succession of increasingly complex growth and development issues. In 1976, the county decided it was time for a comprehensive plan.

Since the county had no such plan and was faced with a variety of issues, a decision was made to make the plan development a two year process. The first year of work would result in a Comprehensive Planning Guide; the second year would result in a more formal plan. The Richmond Regional Planning District Commission was chosen as the consultant for the first year.

Basically, the work schedule set out to develop a set of policies to guide the county's growth and development and to test those policies and the developmental patterns that resulted for their impacts. A steering committee composed of members of all of the county's authorities, boards, commissions, and citizen appointees was selected to guide the planning process.

After initial meetings with the committee, it became apparent that for a variety of reasons—the per-

ceived lack of support from the board of supervisors, the lack of experience of the committee as a functioning group, and the diversity of opinions operating on the process within and without the committee—the committee would not be able to achieve a set of goals and objectives without some integrating technique.

In addition, the problem of trying to deal with some real time development issues was complicated by the probability of rapidly getting to "how Uncle John's farm gets zoned" instead of dealing with the larger issues if the actual county map and data base were used.

The technique selected by Richmond Regional Planning District Commission (RRPDC) to address both these problems was termed the Hypothetical County. The Hypothetical County was in fact, unknown to the committee, a real county in another state which was selected because of its similar topography, area, degree of development and proximity to an expanding metropolitan area.

The Hypothetical County data base was placed into a computerized, geocoded information system, ADAPT. (ADAPT is an acronym for Area Design and Planning Tool). The information placed into ADAPT for the Hypothetical County included: several categories of existing land use, the soil types (including their suitability for agriculture and for development), the location of streams and roads, and existing population centers. This was stored in a non-uniform triangular grid system which serves as the basic storage cell and a basic digital terrain model. Since the terrain is stored, a computer-generated contour map could be readily produced.

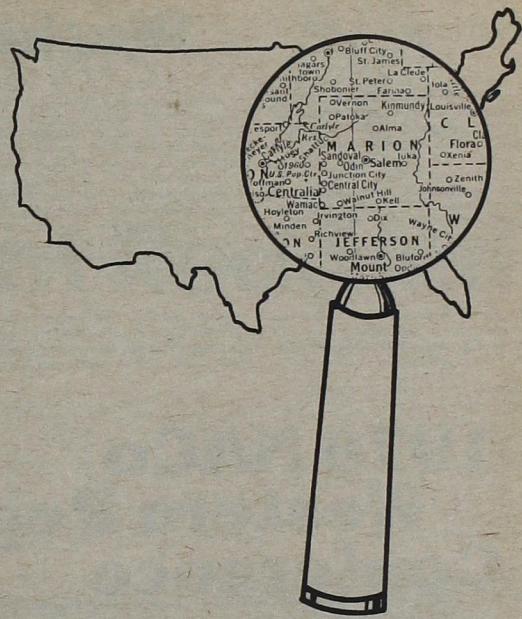
Given a contour map—a base map with major streams, political boundaries, and the highway network, a series of computer printouts

describing attributes of the triangles—the committee had a description of the Hypothetical County to work from that both they and the computer could read.

The committee was then presented with the problem: Hypothetical County will be adding 20,000 people in the next 20 years. Certain characteristics were specified, but each committee member was basically faced with the problem of how they would deal with the problems/opportunities these new people presented to the county.

In order to prevent those with more experience in development and planning from unduly swaying the committee to their point of view, each member took the information home for a couple of weeks to sort out the problem on his own time and to think through the issues. The committee then met again to develop a consensus county for analysis. At that point the divergent opinions of the members were on the table and had to be dealt with by the group trying to come to a consensus of how to proceed. The member who had drawn all low density development with no improvements in services had to deal with the member who had opted for cluster development with sewers in order to provide services to attract industry.

From that meeting and the individual maps, an initial set of policies and a filled-in consensus map was developed by the RRPDC staff. The intention at that point was to perform a technical analysis of the consensus county. When the policies "agreed upon" were laid side by side, the "agreement" was filled with contradictions and conflicts. The staff found that in order to draw a consensus county, additional assumptions had to be made by the staff—an unacceptable role. The staff then presented the conflicts carefully laid out to the committee. In dealing with



RRNA 77Co

those conflicts and the realities of some of the policies and assumptions laid out on a map, the committee began earnest negotiations again. With these results and one more round to hammer out the details, the committee was ready to recommend a set of policies, goals and mechanisms to achieve those goals to the board of supervisors, and to move on to testing those policies with the Powhatan County data base.

Using the Hypothetical County approach accomplished several objectives, all of which were necessary to achieve a successful study:

- It enabled the committee to coalesce at some level around a basic set of policies to be pursued without

the potentially divisive character of dealing with the "home" county situation.

- The approach provided a comfortable situation for a diverse group of citizens to deal with one another's ideas and approaches to solutions without being constrained by their special interests.

- The Hypothetical County enabled the committee to develop as a group which has considered a range of concepts and approaches unconstrained for a time by the political realities of "what will sell" in the county and is, therefore, more sophisticated and able to deal with the range of issues which the county may face—rather than just those they currently do face.

Matter and Measure



Message to Presidents and State Associations of County Engineers:

The Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) recently sent information packages to each state association president (counties as well as county engineers) to procure comment from local officials on the effects of proposed rail line abandonment in their states.

This package contains what ICC calls the consolidated rail systems diagram package, a series of 41 color-coded maps designating rail lines pending abandonment. The maps present an overview of present and future rail systems within individual states.

The package also contains a book entitled "Rail Systems Diagram." The book explains the 4-R Act—the Railroad Revitalization and Regulatory Reform Act—which contains provisions for a program supporting rail planning at the state level.

We hope you will let your concerns be known regarding the proposed rail line abandonments—whether you support or oppose the plans.

For more information and to comment, contact your state rail planning office or your state public utilities commission.

—Marian T. Hankerd
Transportation Project Director

COMMENTS SOUGHT ON GREAT RIVER ROAD NEGATIVE DECLARATION

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is requesting comments on the proposed Negative Declaration of Environmental Impact for the Great River Road Project along the Mississippi River. This highway is to be constructed as a scenic and recreational route.

The FHWA notice appeared in the *Federal Register*, Nov. 3, Jan. 3, 1978 is the deadline for comments sent to FHWA Docket No. 77-14, Federal Highway Administration, Room 4230, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590.

Further information may be obtained from: Robert E. Gatz, Office of Environmental Policy, FHWA, at the above address, 202/426-4093.

EDA FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR FHWA PROJECTS

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) of the Department of Commerce will provide funds for some Federal Highway Administration projects under an agreement announced recently by the Department of Transportation. These grants are authorized under the Public Works Employment Act of 1977 and will be administered by FHWA.

State highway departments may apply for supplemental grants on behalf of local government applicants. If FHWA lacks funds for a project otherwise eligible under their programs, the state may apply for direct assistance from EDA.

This agreement went into effect on Sept. 26. For more information, contact: Lawrence J. Roth, Office of the Chief Counsel, Federal Highway Administration, 400 Seventh St., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590, 202/426-0754.

For general information on this and other FHWA grants, contact your state highway department.

RAILROAD IMPROVEMENT HEARINGS SET

The Department of Transportation has announced November hearings on Northeast Corridor passenger railroad improvements. These improvements are described in an environmental impact statement which can be examined at local libraries and city halls in the eight states affected by the improvements.

These hearings are scheduled as follows:

Nov. 28, 1:30 p.m., Conference Room, 44th Floor, World Trade Center, 2 World Trade Center, New York, N.Y.

Nov. 29, 7 p.m., Poly-Western High School, Cold Spring Lane, Baltimore, Md.

Nov. 30, 1:30 p.m., FAA Auditorium, 800 Independence Ave., Washington, D.C.

For more information, contact: Beverly Silverberg, 202/426-0881. Written comments should be sent to: Kenneth T. Sawyer, Director, Northeast Corridor Improvement Program, Federal Railroad Administration, 2100 Second St., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590.

Transportation for Elderly Gets Assistance from IPA

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Simply by writing a three-page letter that outlines a current problem involving transportation services for the elderly, county officials may apply for free technical assistance from a Washington-based institute known for its expertise in the field.

The Institute of Public Administration (IPA), which has published several studies and a guidebook on transportation services for the elderly, received a grant earlier this year from the federal Administration on Aging to provide technical assistance to about 20 local transportation systems serving the elderly.

Applicants may require assistance in all phases of planning or operating transportation programs, including: survey preparation, writing funding applications, budgeting, selecting or maintaining vehicles, and overcoming legal problems such as franchises.

Any public or private agency "concerned with providing transportation services to the elderly" may receive assistance, although IPA expects about 20 to 30 per cent of a system's riders to be elderly or a large number of elderly to be served.

Other criteria, according to Deputy Project Director Alex Eckmann, include the availability of local officials to work from three to 20 days with IPA consultants and a close working relationship with the state agency on aging.

About eight sites have already been chosen, Eckmann continues, adding that IPA will continue to consider letters until about next February.

Whether or not an applicant is accepted for an on-site visit, all applications, he says, will be reviewed by the federal Administration on Aging to determine what kind of transportation problems exist throughout the nation.

IPA requests that all applicants' letters describe 10 basic features:

- Name of area, population, elderly population, and urban-rural character;
- Name of present or proposed project;
- Stage of development requiring assistance, e.g., planning, operation, etc.;
- Nature of project requiring assistance;
- Project size (number of vehicles, passengers);
- Nature and type of assistance requested;
- Sponsorship of project, level of existing coordination, resources in area;
- Date of requested assistance;
- Staff available;
- Name, title, address, and phone of contact person.

Letters should be sent as soon as possible to Alex Eckmann, Deputy Project Director, IPA, 1717 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, (202) 667-6552.

Washington Briefs

• **Welfare Reform.** Special House subcommittee on welfare reform expected to mark up welfare concepts Nov. 28. Field hearings continue.

• **Energy.** Deliberation continues by conferees. Utility rate reform under consideration. Electric lifeline for elderly in rate reform proposed. Outcome uncertain since proposal not in House bill. NACo supports program.

• **Clean Water Act of 1977.** Conferees reached agreement on a bill which will receive final approval after Thanksgiving.

• **Transportation Policy.** The Department of Transportation has submitted a major legislative proposal to President Carter that details the department's future transportation initiatives. The proposal is being examined by the White House and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Details of proposal unavailable at this time. Watch for full report in upcoming *County News* issues.

• **Food Stamps.** Elimination of the purchase requirement (EPR) will not be implemented ahead of other regulations. USDA will lower pur-

chase price for households with high utility bills. See page 3.

• **Economic Development.** EDA has issued proposed regulations for the new Section 204 Redevelopment Area Loan Program. The \$15 million program will provide long-term, interest-free loans to designated redevelopment areas. The loans will be equally divided among urban and rural areas. Population level of 100,000 to distinguish urban from rural. See page 2.

• **Rural Planning.** Rural Development Service is refining proposed

regulations on \$5 million rural planning program, section 111 of the Rural Development Act. Agency anticipates December date for final regulations and applications to be issued.

• **Rural Development.** County officials testified before the House subcommittee on conservation and credit in opposition to proposed increases in the interest rate for rural loan programs (H.R. 8315). The provisions would drop the 5 per cent interest rate on water and waste disposal and community facility loans and substitute the private

market rate of 9 to 10 per cent. The Senate subcommittee on agricultural credit and rural electrification deleted a similar provision during markup of S. 312 and S. 2126. No markup date has been set for the House bill.

Congressional Rural Caucus conducted first conference to address problems of rural communities. Caucus is proposing full funding of rural development programs in fiscal year '79. See page 2.

• **Social Security Financing.** The Senate passed H.R. 9346 Nov. 4, by a vote of 42 to 25. Major differences will be worked out in a joint conference after Thanksgiving. A NACo-supported amendment offered by Sen. John C. Danforth (R-Mo.) passed 57 to 28. The amendment provides for a delayed increase in government employer taxes in 1979, and reduces by 10 per cent the increased employer tax in 1980 and thereafter. The House passed its bill by a vote of 275 to 146.

• **Minimum Wage.** The President signed the minimum wage bill Nov. 2. The final version increases the minimum wage from \$2.30 an hour to \$2.65 in January and in steps thereafter, reaching \$3.35 in 1981.

• **Uniform Selection Guidelines.** The EEOC has released a draft of the uniform selection guidelines for A-85 review. Comments are due to EEOC by Nov. 28. NACo is reviewing these guidelines and will make copies available to counties that are interested.

1978 NACo Western Region Conference

Sponsored by NACo Western Interstate Region
**Riverside County
 Palm Springs, California
 Riviera Hotel
 February 8-10, 1978**

Featuring workshops and speakers on public lands legislation, health care, welfare reform, employment programs, criminal justice issues and transportation needs.

Special sessions will be held on: payments-in-lieu of taxes, energy impact, Indian/county concerns, urban development, rural development, and unemployment insurance.

(Complete a separate form for each delegate.)

Conference Registration (Make payable to NACo)

- To take advantage of the conference advance registration fee, a personal check, County voucher or equivalent must accompany this form payable to **National Association of Counties.**
- All advance conference registrations must be postmarked by **Jan. 7.** After Jan. 7, registration will be at the on-site rate at the hotel. (No conference registrations made by phone.)
- Refunds of the registration fee will be made if cancellation is necessary, **provided that written notice is postmarked no later than Jan. 24.**

Conference registration fees: \$75 advance \$95 on-site
 \$30 spouse \$125 non-member

Please print:

Name _____
 (Last) (First) (Initial)

County _____ Title _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Tele. (____) _____

Hotel Reservations (Make payable to Riviera Hotel)

- To guarantee hotel reservations, requests must be postmarked by **Jan. 7.** (No housing reservations made by phone.)
- Guaranteed housing in the Riviera Hotel will be available only to those who preregister for the conference.
- A one night room deposit is required by the hotel and a check made payable to the **Riviera Hotel** must accompany the form below.

Please print:

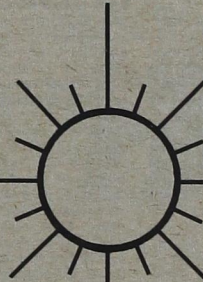
Single (\$43) Occupant's Name _____
 Arrival Date/Time _____ Departure Date/Time _____

Double/Twin (\$55) Occupant's Names _____
 (2 people)
 Arrival Date/Time _____ Departure Date/Time _____

Suites available upon request.

Send preregistration and hotel reservations to: **National Association of Counties—Western Region Conference**, 1735 New York Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

For further **housing information** call NACo Registration Center: **(703) 471-6180.**



Tentative Schedule Outline

Tuesday, February 7

- 2-5 p.m. Steering Committee Meetings
- 3-6 p.m. WIR Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 8

- 9 a.m.-12 noon Steering Committee Meetings
- WIR Resolutions Committee
- 2-4 p.m. Affiliate Meetings
- NACo Board Meeting
- 5-6 p.m. Opening General Session
- 6-7:30 p.m. WIR President's Reception

Thursday, February 9

- 9-10:30 a.m. Four concurrent workshops
- 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Four concurrent workshops
- 2:15-4 p.m. Two concurrent workshops
- 4-6 p.m. Two concurrent workshops

Friday, February 10

- 9-10:30 a.m. Four concurrent workshops
- 10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Four concurrent workshops
- 2-4 p.m. WIR Business Meeting
- 7-10 p.m. Annual Banquet

Humanities Subject of Seminars

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The National Endowment for the Humanities, a federal agency, will conduct another program of humanities seminars for public administrators during the summer of 1978 at selected colleges and universities.

Administrators will meet for a month of full-time study under the direction of distinguished political scientists, historians, and others. The seminars are designed to explore humanistic dimensions through the study of such topics as contemporary demands on governmental institutions, American political values and their evolution, and new directions in the U.S. political economy.

From 12 to 15 persons will attend each seminar tuition-free, receiving a stipend of up to \$1,200 to cover expenses, plus reimbursement for travel. Administrators at the local, state, and federal levels of government and in quasi-public agencies are eligible. The application deadline is tentatively set for April 17, 1978.

For more information about the seminars, application forms, and selection criteria write: Professions Program, Division of Fellowships, National Endowment for the Humanities, Washington, D.C. 20506.

Call

(202) 785-9591

NACo's Hotline for a legislative update.