



Western Interstate Region Board of Directors Business Meeting Agenda

Egan Convention Center, Anchorage, Alaska

Summit Hall 1, Lower Level

Wednesday, May 18, 2022

10:00 am—12:00 pm

President:

Western Interstate Region Board of Directors Executive Committee

The Hon. Mark Whitney, Commissioner, Beaver County, Utah

First Vice President:

The Hon. Dan Joyce, Judge, Malheur County, Ore.

Second Vice President:

The Hon. John Espy, Commissioner, Carbon County, Wyo.

Immediate Past President:

The Hon. Greg Chilcott, Commissioner, Ravalli County, Mont.

Meeting Agenda

10:00 a.m. – 10:05 a.m. Pledge of Allegiance and Welcome

- **The. Hon. Mark Whitney**, Commissioner, Beaver County, Utah

10:05 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. U.S. Forest Service

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Region 10 covers over 22 million acres across Alaska. Deputy Regional Forester Chad VanOrmer will discuss how USFS works with borough governments to better manage the region's national forests, improve rural economies and reduce the threat of wildfire.

- **Chad VanOrmer**, Deputy Regional Forester for Region 10, U.S. Forest Service

10:30 a.m. – 10:55 a.m. Western Governors Association

The Western Governors Association (WGA) is a longtime partner of NACo and WIR. James Ogsbury, Executive Director of WGA, will provide an update on the new Working Lands, Working Communities Initiative spearheaded by Idaho Governor and WGA Chairman Brad Little, the Western Prosperity Roundtable Forum and other efforts to elevate the western voice in the national dialogue.

- **James Ogsbury**, Executive Director, Western Governors Association

10:55 a.m. – 11:20 a.m. U.S. Department of the Interior

The U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) owns more than 200 million acres of land within Alaska. From famous national parks to remote, sparsely populated areas, DOI plays a major role in the economy and environment of the 49th state. TBD from DOI will discuss how the Department coordinates the needs of the various agencies with large landholdings in Alaska.

- **TBD**, Title, U.S. Department of the Interior

11:20 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Alaska Native Corporations

In 1971, Congress passed the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), which divided Alaska into 12 geographic regions. Alaska Natives then organized Regional Corporations, which contain smaller Village Corporations. Native corporations hold title to 44 million acres of land, making

them the largest private landholders in Alaska. Hallie Bissett, Executive Director of the Alaska Native Village Corporation Association will discuss how Native corporations help to generate jobs and economic growth in Alaska Native communities.

- **Hallie Bissett**, Executive Director, Alaska Native Village Corporation Association

11:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Legislative Update

An update on WIR's legislative priorities and discussion on future WIR Conference sites.

- **Jonathan Shuffield**, Legislative Director, NACo

12:00 p.m. Good of the Order

Meeting Concludes – 12:00 p.m.

Staff contact: Jonathan Shuffield, Legislative Director, 512.965.7268 or jshuffield@naco.org