



A research and advocacy association, supporting efficient, responsive county government in Arizona.

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NACo 2017 Annual Conference



CSA's President, Gila County Supervisor Tommie Cline Martin, and CSA's representative to the National Association of Counties (NACo) Board of Directors, Santa Cruz County Supervisor Manny Ruiz, led a delegation of Arizona supervisors and staff participating in the NACo Annual Conference in Franklin County, Ohio, last week.

Arizona delegates spent much of the conference working to develop policy positions regarding issues affecting counties, including: information technologies, the opioid crisis, reforming criminal justice, disaster management, and early childhood policies. CSA will distribute a full list of NACo's adopted policy positions as soon as they become available.

In addition, newly sworn-in NACo President, Commissioner Roy Charles Brooks, of Tarrant County, Texas, appointed members from across the country to leadership and steering committee positions in NACo, including Arizona supervisors to (*alphabetical by county*):

- Coconino County Supervisor Liz Archuleta was appointed as an At Large NACo Board of Director Member and was also appointed as a Vice-chair of the Public Lands Steering Committee
- Gila County Supervisor Tommie Cline Martin was appointed as the Chair of the Public Lands Steering Committee
- Mohave County Supervisor Buster Johnson was appointed Vice-chair of the Information Technology Standing Committee
- Santa Cruz County Supervisor Manny Ruiz was appointed Chair of the Immigration Reform Task Force

Please [click here](#) to view the complete list of all appointed Arizona officials.

To view a video recap from the conference, please [click here](#).

NACo is the only national organization that represents county governments in the United States. Founded in 1935, NACo provides essential services to the nation's 3,069 counties.

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Coconino County Manager Seelhammer Wins Gabe Zimmerman Service Award

The Center for the Future of Arizona (CFA) awarded Coconino County Manager Cynthia Seelhammer (pictured at right) the 2017 Gabe Zimmerman Civic Leadership Award.

The Gabe Zimmerman Public Service Awards are a statewide competition created to recognize outstanding, non-elected, public servants in three categories – Community Builder, Emerging Leader, and Civic Leader. The awards recognize the commitment and dedication of more than 100,000 professional public servants across Arizona.

The Civic Leadership Award recognizes extraordinary leaders who have demonstrated knowledge, skills, and commitment to addressing Arizona's long-term issues and the personal leadership capacity to make Arizona a better place for future generations.

Seelhammer has more than 30 years of experience working for small towns, large cities, and counties in three different states. As County Manager, she advances the organizational excellence of Coconino County by instituting many programs and policies demonstrating her passion for the employees, citizens and the organizational effectiveness.



"CFA is an innovative organization that exemplifies public service and the need to bring the people of Arizona together," said Seelhammer. "Our current form of local government was invented in the US about 100 years ago to end cronyism, be fair to taxpayers and build trust. It's an honor to receive this award that recognizes the importance of building and keeping trust among the citizens we are dedicated to help. My success is due to the good work of colleagues who work every day to help make things better."

In 2002, CFA was established as a nonpartisan, nonprofit resource to provide impartial analyses to identify long-term solutions to challenging issues. It combines research with collaborative partnerships to drive the state's economic prosperity, quality of life, and civic health.

CSA extends our congratulations!

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Arizona County Staff Attends Harvard Government School Senior Executives Program

This month, county elected officials including Yavapai Assistant County Administrator Jack Fields, Navajo Assistant County Manager Bryon Layton and Pascal Berlioux the Executive Director at Eastern Arizona Counties Organization attended the Harvard University Senior Executives in State and Local Government Program.

They joined executives from across the country, including Arizona State Senator Kate Brophy McGee for the three-week program. The intensive, interactive program is designed to help participants learn innovative ways of managing the real-world challenges and crises of government.



L-R: Bryon Layton, Senator Kate Brophy McGee, Harvard Faculty Chair David King, Jack Fields, Pascal Berlioux, and Buckeye Police Chief Larry Hall

The Senior Executives in State and Local Government program at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government provides a balance of traditional and hands-on learning experiences to help seasoned public officials meet the changing needs of their constituents and communities.

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CSA Interim Committees

With the interim in full swing, committees, workgroups, and hearings are occurring throughout the state on a variety of issues. Recently, the following three committee descriptions were posted:

- [Study Committee on Incompetent, Nonrestorable and Dangerous Defendants](#): This committee seeks to research and make recommendations for a program to provide short-term and long-term treatment and supervision of persons who have been charged with crimes involving violent or dangerous behavior and who have been found incompetent and nonrestorable.
- [House Ad Hoc Study Committee on Public Safety Personnel Retirement System](#) (PSPRS): This committee will study the PSPRS system, including employer contributions over the last 20 years and the impact to cities, towns, and fire districts across the state due to increasing pension contribution rates.
- [Livestock Loss Board](#): This board is tasked with addressing the depredation of wolves on livestock operations.

CSA is also attending various conferences and meetings we will continue to report on through our newsletter as the summer continues.

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JLBC Monthly Fiscal Highlights

The Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) released their July Monthly Fiscal Highlights report for the month ended June 2017 this week announcing monthly General Fund revenues of \$1.3 billion, an increase of 10.6 percent over prior year. June General Fund revenue was \$23.7 million above forecast, or 1.8 percent. JLBC cited strong sales tax and lottery sales. General Fund revenues for the year were down \$(17.4) million below forecast, a (0.2) percent shortfall. Total YTD General Fund revenue collections are \$9.5 billion.

The slightly lower than expected revenue for the year was more than compensated for by lower than expected spending. Agencies underspent by \$20 million with a delay in highway construction spending saving another \$38 million for FY 2017. June General Fund spending totaled \$674.3 million with YTD spending of \$9.56 billion. This represents a \$(174.3) million decrease compared with June 2016 and a \$(4.3) million YTD decrease from FY2016.

Highway User Revenue Fund (HURF) collections were \$122.2 million for the month, a 5.9 percent increase compared to June 2016. YTD collections are up 3.6 percent over the prior year.

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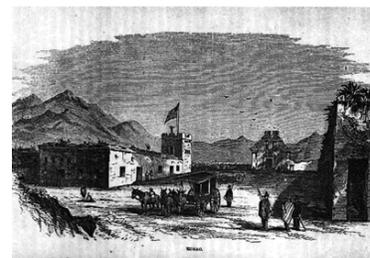
CSA on the Road



This week, Executive Director, Craig Sullivan, continued his outreach to the various counties across the state to brief county supervisors, administrators, and staff on the recently adjourned legislative session and CSA's efforts throughout the year in support of the counties. As CSA visits each of the counties, we will be taking a little time to feature each county and share some interesting local information.

Santa Cruz County

Nearly a quarter century before the signing of the Declaration of Independence, Spanish conquistadors began exploring present day Santa Cruz County. Established in 1752, the Presidio San Ignacio de Tubac became the first European settlement in what later would become the state of Arizona. By 1766, the presidio, or fort, had 51 officers and men, and a settlement of over forty families. In 1774, Tubac's commander, Captain Juan Bautista de Anza, assembled an expedition that explored a land route from the Santa Cruz Valley to California.



Following Mexico's independence in 1821, the presidio remained largely abandoned until Americans traveling west for the California Gold Rush chose to settle on the grounds. Tubac became an American settlement after the Gadsden Purchase in 1853.

The Tubac Presidio is one of only three in the state of Arizona, and because of preservation efforts, the remains are still largely intact. The grounds are currently the site of the Tubac Presidio State Historic Park.

Pinal County



The beautifully restored Pinal County Courthouse historically dominates the town of Florence, Arizona, and is the current headquarters for the Pinal County Board of Supervisors. The building was meticulously restored in 2012, but the one place that remains unchanged from the day it was built in 1891 is the foundation.

The Pinal County Courthouse sits on the former site of the Florence town cemetery. On February 1, 1890, Ed Bouvaille was awarded the contract for the removal of the bodies from the old cemetery. Though many of the deceased were claimed, one of the nameless bodies removed from the old cemetery, was actually mummified and, unfortunately, the very well preserved gentleman was never identified, even though he was stood up for identification. Since many of the graves were not marked, it is likely a few bodies remain beneath the striking, historic building.

The courthouse was completed on February 2, 1891. Built in American-Victorian architecture and totaling 15,000 square feet, the building houses the offices of the County Court, Supervisors, the Recorder, the Treasurer, the Assessor, the Sheriff's Office, and county jail.

Our outreach continues on August 7 and 8, in Mohave and Gila counties. Over the course of the summer, we will visit each of the 15 counties to brief them on the recent legislative session and our work going into 2018.

Sources: <http://tubacpp.com/presidio.html>; [Wikimedia Commons](#); Pinalcountyaz.gov; AZpbs.org

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This Month in Arizona History

The right to vote is central to the equality of all Americans, and is a critical piece of this great country's history. For Native Americans, just as it was for women and African Americans, the path to gaining the right to vote was long and arduous.



Pres. Calvin Coolidge & 4 Usage Indians; White House, 1925

In 1924, The Indian Citizenship Act declared for all non-citizen Native Americans born in the USA to be citizens with the right to vote. Unfortunately, Native Americans were still prevented from participating in elections because the United States Constitution left it up to the states to decide who had the right to vote.

When they returned from World War II, many Indian veterans were upset that they risked their lives in war, yet were still unable to participate in the democratic process. This encouraged a movement among Native Americans to being lobbying Congress and the state legislatures to allow them suffrage rights.

In July of 1948, the Arizona Supreme Court struck down a provision of its state constitution that kept Native Americans from voting. Other states eventually followed suit, concluding with New Mexico in 1962, which was the last state to emancipate Native Americans. Even with the lawful right to vote in every state, Native Americans suffered from the same mechanisms and strategies that kept African Americans from exercising their right to vote, including poll taxes, literacy tests, fraud, and intimidation.

In 1965, with passage of the Voting Rights Act and subsequent legislation in 1970, 1975, and 1982, many other voting protections were reaffirmed and strengthened for all citizens, and is still as important as ever.

Sources: [Library of Congress](#); [History of Voting Rights](#)

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County Supervisors Association of Arizona

1905 W. Washington, Suite 100
Phoenix, Arizona 85009

www.countysupervisors.org

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