



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



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Navajo County BOS Swears in Daryl Seymore



On Tuesday, the Navajo County Board of Supervisors (BOS) held a swearing in of Daryl Seymore to represent District 4, effective December 16, 2019. On November 12, 2019 the BOS appointed to replace former Navajo County Supervisor Steve Williams, who resigned after Governor Ducey announced his appointment to the Arizona Court of Appeals.

Seymore has served as the Mayor of Showlow since June 2012 and as a council member since June 2004. He also owns an insurance business specializing in commercial coverage.

CSA extends our congratulations and welcomes Supervisor Seymore.

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CSA Board of Directors Briefed on Arizona Complete Count Committee

The CSA Board of Directors met on Thursday for its final meeting before the new year. The meeting kicked off with presentations by Debbie Johnson, Chairman of the Arizona Complete Count Committee (Committee) and Yuma County Recorder Robyn Stallworth Pouquette, who currently serves as the County Government Liaison for the Committee. The Committee consists of 23 members appointed by Governor Ducey, tasked with ensuring Arizona's 2020 Census count is as complete and accurate as possible.

Ms. Johnson briefed the membership on the structure of the Committee, including the various liaisons, subcommittees, and what type of assistance the Committee offers, while also explaining which individuals must be counted and how. Recorder Stallworth Pouquette described the makeup of the County Subcommittee and explained its education and motivation priorities, while also informing the Supervisors how they may be of assistance in getting an accurate count in their community.



For more information on the Arizona Complete Count Committee's 2020 Census efforts, please click [here](#).

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Board Receives Congressional Update from NACo



The Board also heard a presentation from NACo Associate Legislative Director Jonathan Shuffield, who provided an update on existing federal legislation, as well as what may be on the docket for Congress in the upcoming new year. Mr. Shuffield suggested a new federal appropriations bill may be passed soon, if not another continuing resolution, and also stated an infrastructure package may not be outside the realm of possibility, as discussions between parties are now picking up. He also discussed Waters of the United States, PILT, the reauthorization of SRS, and the protection of federal health benefits for individuals about to face trial.

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Arizona USDA Director Jack Smith Discusses Rural Development

On Thursday, former Yavapai County Supervisor and current State Director of the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development presented and conducted a roundtable discussion with the CSA Medium County Caucus.

Director Smith spoke briefly about his new role and what he hopes to accomplish for the state, including increased broadband infrastructure, workforce housing, and economic development in rural communities. Director Smith also conducted a Q&A and lead a roundtable discussion about various issues such as mental health facilities, increased investment in rural special taxing districts, and working with Native American tribes.



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Coconino County Conducts Legislative Roundtable

Coconino County hosted members from the Legislature on Tuesday for a roundtable discussion regarding issues facing the county. Those in attendance included Representative Walt Blackman, Representative Bob Thorpe and Senator Sylvia Allen of LD 6, in addition to all five Coconino County Supervisors.

Discussion included eliminating the Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections fee for all 15 counties, containing costs of the Arizona Long Term Care System, increasing investment in transportation and the importance of ensuring full funding of the state mandated Presidential Preference Election.



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CSA Hosts Legislative Staff for Annual County 101 Roundtable



On Monday, CSA was pleased to host more than 30 attendees from legislative staff of both the Senate and House of Representatives for our annual County 101 presentation and roundtable. In attendance was both House and Senate Research staffs, as well as Policy and Leadership staffs.

Robin Hillyard, Legislative Research Program Manager kicked off the event by giving a brief overview of county government and functions, in addition to sharing the importance of the partnership between county government and the Legislature, as well as the invaluable work of legislative staff. Michael Madden, Legislative Liaison and Vanessa Fielder, Budget and Fiscal Analyst, also presented.

The roundtable examined the role of CSA, the importance of county government, CSA's legislative package and the challenges ahead in 2019.

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Interim Legislative Meetings

Mohave County West Basin Water Users Study Committee



On Monday, the Committee convened at the House of Representatives. The Committee is tasked with analyzing groundwater withdrawal data and providing recommendations regarding programs and policies for the basin to the Director of the Department of Water Resources, the Governor and the Legislature.

Discussion at the hearing largely surrounded Peacock Ranch Operations. The project currently has 850 acres planted with a goal of planting a total of 4200 acres of Pistachio trees in the Hualapai Basin within the next four years. The project also establishes some opportunities for water recharge, wildlife

corridors and soil additives to conserve water.

La Paz County West Basin Water Users Study Committee

The Committee convened on Tuesday at the House of Representatives. CSA-backed HB 2467 created the Committee during the 2019 session, along with a complementary committee investigating water issues Mohave County.

The Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR) provided a presentation on irrigation non-expansion areas (INA). There are three INAs in Arizona, two created by the Legislature and one by the Director of ADWR. Irrigation of new land is prohibited in an INA unless previously established surface water rights are used or if the land in the previous 5 year had substantial capital investment (drilling of wells or clearing or leveling of land). INAs have mandatory metering and reporting of water with a mandatory capacity of 35 gallons per minute on all non-exempt wells or a total of 10 acre-feet of groundwater per year for non-irrigation use.



* An INA is a groundwater basin or sub-basin where the irrigation of new lands is prohibited, and where metering and reporting are required for most large wells.

* Two INAs have been created by the Arizona Legislature and one INA has been created by the Director of ADWR.

Joint Committee on Capital Review



The Joint Committee on Capital Review (Committee) reviewed and approved the following agenda items: 1) the University of Arizona Review of Deferred Maintenance projects; 2) the Arizona Department of Administration FY 2019 Building Renewal Appropriations and FY 2020 Partial Rent Exemptions; 3) the Arizona State Lottery Commission Building Renewal Plans; and 4) the Arizona Pioneer's Home Capital Improvements.

The Secretary of State's request for a full rent exemption in FY 2020 was approved. The Committee approved a request by the Arizona Department of Transportation

improvements to a materials testing lab and maintenance buildings with a requirement that a report be provided at the next Committee meeting. The Arizona Department of Corrections request for the replacement of locks, fire alarm and suppression systems, and HVAC systems in the Lewis and Yuma prisons was approved with a requirement to provide an update at a future Committee meeting.

To view the meeting packet please click [here](#).

Joint Appropriations Committee of Reference

On Wednesday, the Joint Appropriations Committee of Reference met briefly to approve the continuation of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee for an additional 10 years until 2030.

To view an archived recording of any of the committee meetings please click [here](#).

Upcoming Legislative Committee hearings:

- [Study Committee on Special Education Weights and Funding for Gifted Pupils](#) Monday, December 16, 2019 1:00 P.M. House Hearing Room 1
- [Joint Ad Hoc Committee on the Impact of Short-Term Rentals on Arizona Communities](#), Monday, December 16, 2019, at 5:00 P.M., in Senate Hearing Room 1
- [Senate Finance Committee of Reference](#) Tuesday, December 17, 2019, at 8:30 A.M. in Senate Hearing Room 1
- [House Ad Hoc Committee on Abused and Neglect of Vulnerable Adults](#) Tuesday, December 17, 2019, at 1:30 P.M. in House Hearing Room 1
- [Arizona Opioid Use Disorder Review Council](#) Wednesday, December 18, 2019, at 2:00 P.M. in Senate Hearing Room 1
- [Joint Legislative Income Tax Credit review Committee](#) Thursday, December 19, 2019, at 3:00 P.M. in Senate Hearing Room 1

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County Spotlight: Gila County Uses 'Kids at Hope' Model to Guide Troubled Youth

Gila County Juvenile Probation has adopted the Kids at Hope philosophy in reforming troubled youth and guiding them to a bright future. The Kids at Hope philosophy is that all children are capable of achieving their own success and often perform better when they are held to high expectations. The methodology came from a seven-year long study that explored the question of why some children succeed, while others fail. It is meant to reduce the habit of labeling any children as "troublemakers," which generally forces children to stay on the wrong path, and instead requires them to go above and beyond the minimum. The Gila County Probation Department states, "The Gila County Probation Department is steadfast in our commitment to create a cultural framework of hope within our organization and we will continue to partner with Kids at Hope to provide the best possible services to our youth." After witnessing success from youth in its juvenile probation program, using the Kids at Hope method, the Gila County Probation Department hopes to expand its efforts and open a new teen center in Payson.

For more information on Gila County's efforts, please click [here](#).

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2020 NACo Legislative Conference Workshops

The 2020 NACo Legislative Conference will take place from February 29th through March 4th in Washington D.C. This week, NACo announced more than two dozen workshops on policy areas critical to county government, including:

- Federalism & Intergovernmental Relations
- County Community & Public Infrastructure
- County Economies, Competitiveness, Equity & Opportunity
- County Resident Care & Services
- County Finances & Administration
- Technology
- Leadership



For more information on the NACo Legislative Conference, please click [here](#). The discounted early-bird registration rate ends today, December 13th. Register before the rate increases again on 02/15/20.

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