



U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

EMPLOYEE POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM Original Amendment

This form is for disclosing the receipt of travel expenses from private sources for travel taken in connection with official duties. This form does not eliminate the need to report privately-funded travel on the annual *Financial Disclosure Statements* of those employees required to file them. In accordance with House Rule 25, clause 5, you **must complete this form and file it with the Clerk of the House, by email at gifttravelreports@mail.house.gov**, within 15 days after travel is completed. Please **do not** file this form with the Committee on Ethics.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

1. Name of Traveler: Willie Lyles, III
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ OR None
 b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: June 28, 2023 Return: June 30, 2023
 b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ OR None
4. Departure City: Charleston, SC Destination: Coconino, Arizona Return City: Los Angeles, CA
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: National Association of Counties
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended:
We met with officials from Coconino County and the Forest Service to discuss their partnership re: flood control and wildfire management. Additionally, we met with the City of Flagstaff and representatives from Babbitt Ranch for a briefing on a wind energy project. We were also provided an aerial overview of a watershed project.
7. Attached to this form are **each** of the following, *signify that each item is attached by checking the corresponding box*:
 - a. a completed *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form*;
 - b. the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* completed by the trip sponsor **prior** to the trip, **including all attachments and the Additional Sponsor Form(s)**;
 - c. page 2 of the completed *Traveler Form* submitted by the employee; **and**
 - d. the letter from the Committee on Ethics approving my participation on this trip.
8. a. I represent that I participated in each of the activities reflected in the attached sponsor's agenda.
Signify statement is true by checking the box.
 b. If not, explain: My arrival for the trip was delayed by official business.

I certify that the information contained on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Traveler: Date: 07/20/2023

I authorized this travel in advance. I have determined that all of the expenses listed on the attached *Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form* were necessary and that the travel was in connection with the employee's official duties and would not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Name of Supervising Member: Leader Hakeem Jeffries Date: 07/20/23

Signature of Supervising Member:



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SPONSOR POST-TRAVEL DISCLOSURE FORM

Original Amendment

This form must be completed by an officer of any organization that served as the primary trip sponsor in providing travel expenses or reimbursement for travel expenses to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form must be provided to each House Member, officer, or employee who participated on the trip within ten days of their return. You must answer all questions, and check all boxes, on this form for your submission to comply with House rules and the Committee's travel regulations. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in the denial of future requests to sponsor trips and/or subject the current traveler to disciplinary action or a requirement to repay the trip expenses.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

- Sponsor(s) who paid for the trip: National Association of Counties (NACo)
- Travel Destination(s): Flagstaff, Ariz.
- Date of Departure: June 28, 2023 Date of Return: June 30, 2023
- Name(s) of Traveler(s): Willie Lyles III

Note: You may list more than one traveler on a form only if all information is identical for each person listed.

- Actual amount of expenses paid on behalf of, or reimbursed to, each individual named in Question 4:

	Total Transportation Expenses	Total Lodging Expenses	Total Meal Expenses	Total Other Expenses (dollar amount per item and description)
Traveler	\$1,125.90	\$306.86	\$165.63	\$298.19
Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

- All expenses connected to the trip were for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. Signify statement is true by checking box.

I certify that the information contained in this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Matthew D. Chase Date: 07/20/2023

Name: Matthew D. Chase Title: CEO/Executive Director

Organization: National Association of Counties (NACo)

I am an officer of the above-named organization. Signify statement is true by checking box.

Address: 660 North Capitol St. NW, Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20001

Email: mchase@naco.org Telephone: (202) 393-6226

Committee staff may contact the above-named individual if additional information is required.

If you have questions regarding your completion of this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103.



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TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Willie Lyles III

2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip:
National Association of Counties

3. City and State OR Foreign Country of Travel : Sedona, Arizona; Flagstaff, Arizona

4. a. Date of Departure: June 27, 2023 Date of Return: June 30, 2023

b. Yes No Will you be extending the trip at your personal expense?
If yes, list dates at personal expense: _____

5. a. Yes No Will you be accompanied by a family member at the sponsor's expense? If yes:
(1) Name of Accompanying Family Member: _____

(2) Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____

(3) Yes No Accompanying Family Member is at least 18 years of age:

6. a. Yes No Did the trip sponsor answer "Yes" to Question 8(c) on the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* (i.e., travel is sponsored by an entity that employs a registered federal lobbyist or a foreign agent)?

b. If yes, and you are requesting lodging for two nights, explain why the second night is warranted:

7. Yes No *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* is attached, including agenda, invitee list, and any other attachments and Additional Sponsor Forms.

NOTE: The agenda should show the traveler's individual schedule, including departure and arrival times and identify the specific events in which the traveler will be participating.

8. Explain why participation in the trip is connected to the traveler's individual official or representational duties. Staff should include their job title and how the activities on the itinerary relate to their duties. As Senior Advisor and Counsel to the Assistant Democratic Leader, this fellowship opportunity has provided deep insight on the issues facing counties across the country from homelessness and availability of mental health treatment to infrastructure needs and management of elections. In all of the areas of focus for the fellowship, the federal government, particularly Congress, has a role and can be a partner with localities in addressing these pressing issues.

9. Yes No Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip?

10. For staff travelers, to be completed by your employing Member:

ADVANCED AUTHORIZATION OF EMPLOYEE TRAVEL

I hereby authorize the individual named above, an employee of the U.S. House of Representatives who works under my direct supervision, to accept expenses for the trip described in this request. I have determined that the above-described travel is in connection with my employee's official duties and that acceptance of these expenses will not create the appearance that the employee is using public office for private gain.

Signature of Employing Member 

Date 05/25/2023



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PRIMARY TRIP SPONSOR FORM

This form should be completed by private entities offering to provide travel or reimbursement for travel to House Members, officers, or employees under House Rule 25, clause 5. A completed copy of the form (and any attachments) should be provided to each invited House Member, officer, or employee, who will then forward it to the Committee together with a *Traveler Form* at least 30 days before the start date of the trip. The trip sponsor should NOT submit the form directly to the Committee. The Committee website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form.

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Failure to comply with the Committee's Travel Regulations may also lead to the denial of permission to sponsor future trips.

1. Sponsor who will be paying for the trip:
National Association of Counties (NACo)
2. I represent that the trip will not be financed, in whole or in part, by a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent. Signify that the statement is true by checking box.
3. **Check only one.** I represent that:
 - a. The primary trip sponsor has not accepted from any other source, funds intended directly or indirectly to finance any aspect of the trip: **OR**
 - b. The trip is arranged without regard to congressional participation and the primary trip sponsor has accepted funds only from entities that will receive a tangible benefit in exchange for those funds: **OR**
 - c. The primary trip sponsor has accepted funds from other source(s) intended directly or indirectly to finance all or part of this trip and has enclosed disclosure forms from each of those entities.
If "c" is checked, list the names of the additional sponsors:
4. Provide names and titles of ALL House Members and employees you are inviting. For each House invitee, provide an explanation of why the individual was invited (include additional pages if necessary):
Please find attached
5. Yes No Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?
6. Date of departure: June 27, 2023 Date of return: June 30, 2023
7. a. City of departure: Washington, D.C
b. Destination(s): Sedona, Ariz.; Flagstaff, Ariz.
c. City of return: Washington, D.C.
8. **Check only one.** I represent that:
 - a. The sponsor of the trip is an institution of higher education within the meaning of section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965: **OR**
 - b. The sponsor of the trip does not retain or employ a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent: **OR**
 - c. The sponsor employs or retains a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent, but the trip is for attendance at a one-day event and lobbyist / foreign agent involvement in planning, organizing, requesting, or arranging the trip was *de minimis* under the Committee's travel regulations.
9. **Check only one of the following:**
 - a. I checked 8(a) or (b) above; **OR**
 - b. I checked 8(c) above but am not offering any lodging; **OR**
 - c. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for one night; **OR**
 - d. I checked 8(c) above and am offering lodging and meals for two nights. If you checked this box, explain why the second night of lodging is warranted:



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10. Attached is a detailed agenda of the activities House invitees will be participating in during the travel (i.e., an hourly description of planned activities for trip invitees). *Indicate agenda is attached by checking box.*

11. **Check only one of the following:**

a. I represent that a registered federal lobbyist or foreign agent will not accompany House Members or employees on any segment of the trip. *Signify that the statement is true by checking box; OR*

b. *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is a U.S. institution of higher education.

12. For *each* sponsor required to submit a sponsor form, describe the sponsor's interest in the subject matter of the trip *and* its role in organizing and/or conducting the trip:

NACo is a 501(c)(4) nonprofit that is the only national organization that represents the nation's 3,069 counties, parishes and boroughs. NACo works to advance county priorities in federal policymaking and enrich the public's understanding of county government. NACo is responsible for recruiting, coordinating and executing this trip.

13. **Answer parts a and b. Answer part c if necessary:**

a. Mode of travel: Air Rail Bus Car Other (specify: _____)

b. Class of travel: Coach Business First Charter Other (specify: Charter Bus)

c. If travel will be first class, or by chartered or private aircraft, explain why such travel is warranted:

14. I represent that the expenditures related to local area travel during the trip will be unrelated to personal or recreational activities of the invitee(s). *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*

15. **Check only one.** I represent that either:

a. The trip involves an event that is arranged or organized *without regard* to congressional participation and that meals provided to congressional participants are similar to those provided to or purchased by other event attendees; **OR**

b. The trip involves events that are arranged specifically *with regard* to congressional participation.

If "b" is checked:

1) Detail the cost *per day* of meals (approximate cost may be provided):

Tuesday: \$119.43; Wednesday: \$133.13; Thursday: \$137.14; Friday: \$37.60

2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip:

Yavapai and Coconino Counties were selected because both have unique responsibilities and services as rural communities that they provide residents and visitors. Maricopa County was chosen due to its unique role in elections and because it's a major transportation hub in Arizona.

16. Name, nightly cost, and reasons for selecting each hotel or other lodging facility:

Hotel Name: Poco Diablo Resort City: Sedona, Ariz. Cost Per Night: \$226.66

Reason(s) for Selecting: Within close proximity to programming and offered rate below GSA per diem (pre-tax)

Hotel Name: DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Flagstaff City: Flagstaff, Ariz. Cost Per Night: \$153.43

Reason(s) for Selecting: Within close proximity to programming and offered rate below GSA per diem (pre-tax)

Hotel Name: _____ City: _____ Cost Per Night: _____

Reason(s) for Selecting: _____

17. I represent that all expenses connected to the trip will be for actual costs incurred and not a per diem or lump sum payment. *Signify that the statement is true by checking the box.*



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18. Total Expenses for each Participant:

<input type="checkbox"/> Actual Amounts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Good Faith Estimates	Total Transportation Expenses per Participant	Total Lodging Expenses per Participant	Total Meal Expenses per Participant
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$1,074.70	\$533.52	\$427.30
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A	N/A

	Other Expenses (dollar amount per item)	Identify Specific Nature of "Other" Expenses (e.g., taxi, parking, registration fee, etc.)
For each Member, Officer, or Employee	\$476.72	Please find attached
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A

NOTE: Willful or knowing misrepresentations on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 1001.

19. Check only one:

- a. I certify that I am an officer of the organization listed below; **OR**
- b. *Not Applicable.* Trip sponsor is an individual or a U.S. institution of higher education.

20. I certify by my signature that

- a. I read and understand the Committee's Travel Regulations;
- b. I am not a registered federal lobbyist or registered foreign agent; and
- c. The information on this form is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: Matthew D. Chase Date: 07/20/2023
 Name: Matthew D. Chase Title: CEO/Executive Director
 Organization: National Association of Counties (NACo)
 Address: 660 North Capitol St. NW, Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20001
 Email: mchase@naco.org Telephone: (202) 393-6226

INSTRUCTIONS

Complete the *Primary Trip Sponsor Form* and submit the agenda, invitation list, any attachments, and any *Additional Trip Sponsor Forms* directly to the Travelers.

Written approval from the Committee on Ethics is required before traveling on this trip. The Committee on Ethics will notify the House invitees directly and will not notify the trip sponsors.

Willful or knowing misrepresentation on this form may be subject to criminal prosecution under 18 U.S.C. § 1001. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

For questions, please contact the Committee on Ethics at:

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

ethicscommittee@mail.house.gov | 202-225-7103
More information and forms available at ethics.house.gov

Michael Guest, Mississippi
Chairman
Susan Wild, Pennsylvania
Ranking Member

David P. Joyce, Ohio
John H. Rutherford, Florida
Andrew R. Garbarino, New York
Michelle Fischbach, Minnesota

Veronica Escobar, Texas
Mark DeSaulnier, California
Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland



ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust
Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Keelie Broom
Counsel to the Chairman

David Arrojo
Counsel to the Ranking Member

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328
Telephone: (202) 225 7103
Facsimile: (202) 225-7392

June 15, 2023

Mr. Willie Lyles, III
Office of the Minority Leader
274 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Lyles:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Sedona and Flagstaff, Arizona, scheduled for June 27 to 30, 2023, sponsored by National Association of Counties.

You must complete an Employee Post-Travel Disclosure Form (which your employing Member must also sign) and file it, together with a Sponsor Post-Travel Disclosure Form completed by the trip sponsor, with the Clerk of the House within 15 days after your return from travel. As part of that filing, you are also required to attach a copy of this letter and both the Traveler and Primary Trip Sponsor Forms (including attachments) you previously submitted to the Committee in seeking pre-approval for this trip. If you are required to file an annual Financial Disclosure Statement, you must also report all travel expenses totaling more than \$480 from a single source on the "Travel" schedule of your annual Financial Disclosure Statement covering this calendar year. Finally, Travel Regulation § 404(d) also requires you to keep a copy of all request forms and supporting information provided to the Committee for three subsequent Congresses from the date of travel.

If you have any further questions, please contact the Committee's Office of Advice and Education at extension 5-7103.

Sincerely,

Michael Guest
Chairman

Susan Wild
Ranking Member

MG/SW:mc

National Association of Counties

2023 FEDERAL FELLOWSHIP INITIATIVE

MARICOPA/YAVAPAI/COCONINO COUNTY, ARIZ. | JUNE 27-30, 2023

TUESDAY, JUNE 27 – ARRIVAL & MARICOPA/YAVAPAI COUNTY

7:26 AM – 9:17 AM

FLIGHT FROM DCA TO PHX (AMERICAN AIRLINES, FLIGHT NO. 713)

9:17 AM

ATTENDEES ARRIVE & ARE GREETED AT PHOENIX AIRPORT

10:00 AM – 11:45AM

TOUR OF MARICOPA COUNTY TABULATION AND ELECTION CENTER

The nation's 3,069 counties traditionally administer and fund elections at the local level, including overseeing polling places and coordinating poll workers for federal, state and local elections. Counties are responsible for funding and managing over 100,000 polling places staffed with over 630,000 poll workers each election cycle. Maricopa County is widely recognized as a national leader in elections. Throughout the 2020 General Election and 2022 Midterm Elections, the county provided voters with the option to vote by mail, by dropping of their mail ballot at any secure drop box located throughout the County, or in-person early or on Election Day at any one of the vote anywhere vote centers. At the same time, the county has been required to conduct lengthy audits, testify in front of Congress and respond to public inquiries about election administration activities. Participants will hear from the Maricopa County Recorder and other election officials about how the county has responded to these criticisms and ultimately demonstrated they have continuously run safe and secure election.

- **Hon. Bill Gates**, Supervisor, Maricopa County
- **Hon. Stephen Richer**, Recorder, Maricopa County
- **Scott Jarrett**, Elections Director, Maricopa County

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Scorpion Bay Grill

LUNCH BRIEFING & TOUR OF LAKE PLEASANT

Maricopa County has one of the largest regional park systems in the United States at more than 120,000 acres of Sonoran Desert open space. The system includes hundreds of miles of trails, campgrounds, and nature centers. The park system has grown from 400 acres in the early 1950's to its current size in large part due to partnerships with several federal agencies. As the county continues to grow at an exponential rate, these federal partnerships will be critical in providing adequate recreation opportunities in the future. Lake Pleasant Regional Park is a 23,000-acre outdoor recreation area straddling the Maricopa and Yavapai county border and serves as a major recreation hub for the northwest Phoenix metropolitan area. Lake Pleasant is used as a major water sports recreation center, as well as serving as an important storage reservoir for the rapidly growing region. Maricopa County has a 50-year management agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation to attract certain recreational financial and

development opportunities around the Lake. Scorpion Bay Marina is a third-party concessionaire that not only provides visitors with a unique experience, but also has a focus on conservation and provides the county with diversified revenue streams to off-set park operating and development costs. Participants will hear from Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Director while enjoying lunch on the water.

- **Hon. Clint Hickman**, Chairman, Maricopa County
- **R.J. Cardin**, Parks & Recreation Director, Maricopa County

2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

TOUR OF ANTHEM TEST BED DEMONSTRATION

Several years ago, the Maricopa County Department of Transportation (MCDOT), in concert with the University of Arizona and the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT), established a test bed for connected vehicle (CV) technologies in Anthem, Arizona to field test dedicated short-range communications (DSRC) deployments. The goal of the Program is to identify how new technology applications could enhance traffic signal operations, incident management and traveler information. Participants will tour the Anthem test-bed site and see how these new technologies are working to solve transportation challenges and integrate CV technologies to reduce crashes, improve vehicle prioritization and much more.

- **Hon. Jack Sellers**, Vice Chairman, Maricopa County
- **Jesse Gutierrez**, Director, Maricopa County Department of Transportation
- **David Lucas**, Traffic Technology Branch Manager, Maricopa County Department of Transportation
- **Dr. Larry Head**, Professor, University of Arizona

4:15 PM – 5:00 PM

TOUR OF YAVAPAI COUNTY BROADBAND PROJECT

Broadband development and connectivity is a key priority for Yavapai County, as its Board of Supervisors committing nearly half of its American Rescue Plan Act State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds towards bridging the digital divide. Through its Broadband Final Mile Initiative, Yavapai County has partnered with the Yavapai County Education Service Agency to become the first county in the state to connect all of its schools to high-speed broadband internet. The county is also working with internet service provider Cox Communications to connect unserved and underserved residents and businesses in unincorporated communities. Participants will be joined by county officials and representatives from Cox Communications who will provide an overview of this initiative before attending the county's broadband ground-breaking event in the rural community of Black Canyon City.

- **Hon. James Gregory**, Chairman, Yavapai County
- **Hon. Tim Carter**, School Superintendent, Yavapai County Education Service Agency
- **Corey Christians**, County Librarian, Yavapai County Free Library District
- **Joe Huot**, Special Projects Manager, Yavapai County

- **Frank Vander Horst**, E-Rate Manager, Yavapai County Education Service Agency
- **Susan Anable**, Phoenix Market Vice President, Cox Communications

6:00 PM ATTENDEES ARRIVE AT YAVAPAI COUNTY

7:00 PM PARTICIPANT DINNER (OPTIONAL)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28 – YAVAPAI/COCONINO COUNTY

6:00 AM – 7:00 AM BREAKFAST

7:30 AM – 12:30 PM OHV RIDE & FEDERAL LANDS MANAGEMENT BRIEFING

Sixty-one percent of counties have federal lands within their boundaries. Even though they are not able to collect property taxes on federal land, county governments must still provide essential services for our residents and those who visit public lands each year. Such services include road and bridge maintenance, law enforcement, search and rescue operations, fire protection, solid waste disposal and environmental compliance. To gain a better understanding of the types of services Yavapai County (74 percent federally owned) provides, participants will take part in an OHV ride through the Coconino National Forest and hear from county law enforcement and search and rescue officials about the need for a long-term, sustainable revenue-sharing solution such as dedicated and full funding for Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) and Secure Rural Schools (SRS) programs. Participants will also hear from officials from the U.S. Forest Service about how federal and local partners work together to achieve the shared goal for responsible forest management. Please note that there will be a short hike during the day to Devils Bridge –hiking shoes are required.

- **Hon. Donna Michaels**, Supervisor, Yavapai County
- **Hon. David Rhodes**, Sheriff, Yavapai County
- **John Johnson**, Sergeant, Yavapai County
- **Aaron Mayville**, Forest Supervisor, Coconino National Forest
- **Becki Ross**, Owner, Windmill Mountain Ranch
- **DeAnna Bindley**, Trustee, Keep Sedona Beautiful

12:30 PM – 2:00 PM

LUNCH BRIEFING

After the ATV tour, participants will hear from local experts about the challenges in the administration of Yavapai County's grazing program, highlight opportunities for the county, state and U.S. Forest Service to collaborate on expand rangeland monitoring and how the county is creating a framework for drought resiliency through ranching.

- **Hon. Harry Oberg**, Vice Chairman, Yavapai County
- **Maury Thompson**, County Administrator, Yavapai County
- **Andy Groseta**, Past President, Arizona Cattle Growers Association
- **Becki & Dustin Ross**, Owner, Windmill Mountain Ranch

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

DEPART & DRIVE TO COCONINO COUNTY VIA OAK CREEK CANYON

5:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Lowell Observatory

DINNER BRIEFING ON COCONINO COUNTY DARK SKY ORDINANCE

The Lowell Observatory was established in 1894, placing it among the oldest observatories in the United States. Since its inception, the Observatory has been home to many discoveries, including the first detection of the expanding nature of the universe; the discovery of Pluto and its atmosphere; moon mapping for the Apollo moon mission; the rings of Uranus and many more. The Observatory also plays a major role in one of Coconino County's key efforts – reducing light pollution through education and best practices. Participants will hear about the County's Dark Sky Ordinance which aims to protect the region's skies and have the opportunity to stargaze through the Observatory's telescopes from the Giovale Open Deck Observatory.

- **Hon. Patrice Horstman**, Chair, Coconino County, Ariz.
- **Dr. Jeff Hall**, Executive Director, Lowell Observatory

THURSDAY, JUNE 29 – COCONINO COUNTY

8:30 AM – 9:15 AM

BREAKFAST

9:30 AM – 11:15 AM

BRIEFING AT NORTHERN ARIZONA CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND TECHNOLOGY

With 18,661 square miles and a population of just under 145,000 residents, Coconino County is the second-largest county in the United States and the largest in Arizona, but is one of the most sparsely populated. Given Coconino County's geography, the county has implemented unique programs, practices and services to support its communities and residents from economic and workforce development to behavioral health and flood mitigation.

During this briefing, participants will hear from Coconino County elected officials and department directors about the county's day-to-day operations and how its working to support the county's residents and communities.

- **Hon. Patrice Horstman**, Chair, Coconino County
- **Hon. Jim Driscoll**, Sheriff, Coconino County
- **Matt Fowler**, Chief Information Officer and IT Director, Coconino County
- **Billy Francis**, Executive Director, Coconino County Workforce Development Board
- **Kim Musselman**, Health and Human Services Director, Coconino County
- **Chris Pasterz**, Economic Development Manager, Coconino County

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

LUNCH AT BUFFALO PARK

1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

TOUR OF COCONINO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT AND CITY OF FLAGSTAFF STORMWATER PROJECTS

The Coconino County Flood Control District (FCD) is charged with reducing the risk of flood loss, minimizing the impact of floods on human safety, health and welfare and restoring and preserving the natural and beneficial values served by floodplains. Over the last year, Coconino County has experienced over 45 post-wildfire flood events that have impacted neighborhoods as a result of catastrophic wildfire occurring in unhealthy forests on steep slopes on federal lands. Although the District has secured significant federal funding to assist with addressing these disasters, the District and the County have still had to invest significant funding in disaster response and flood mitigation, which results in other priorities not being funded. The City of Flagstaff Stormwater Section maintains several regional flood control mitigation basins including the Schultz Creek Regional Flood Basins constructed in 2022 immediately after the Pipeline Fire. The Stormwater Section has worked hand-in-hand with the Flood Control District since the 2019 Museum Fire in planning, communicating, and producing post-fire flood mitigation. Participants will see the importance of NRCS Emergency Watershed Protection (EWPP) funding by touring the Flood Control District's Park Way Sediment Basins Project and the City of Flagstaff's Stormwater Schultz Creek Detention Basins Project funded by NRCS Exigency funding after the 2022 Pipeline Fire.

- **Jay Smith**, Forest Restoration Director, Coconino County Flood Control District
- **Aaron Mayville**, Forest Service, Coconino National Forest
- **Julie Leid**, Principal, Peak Engineering, Inc.
- **Ed Schenk**, Stormwater Manager, City of Flagstaff

2:30 PM – 3:30 PM

BRIEFING OF BABBITT RANCHES ENERGY CENTER

Babbitt Ranch Energy Center is a new 161-megawatt (MW) wind facility consisting of 50 GE wind turbines that will produce enough energy to power nearly 40,000 homes. Approved by the Coconino County Planning and Zoning Commission in August 2021, construction began in January 2023 and is set to be completed in early 2024. It is estimated that the wind energy project will generate low-cost, homegrown energy and provide millions of dollars in additional tax revenue to Coconino County over the life of the project. Participants will hear a general overview of the Coconino County renewable energy ordinance, the Babbitt Ranch Energy Center project layout, design and general workings of the components to produce green energy.

- **Jess McNeely**, Assistant Director and Planning Manager, Community Development, Coconino County

4:00 PM – 5:30 PM

TOUR OF BABBITT RANCHES & RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS

Established in 1886, Babbitt Ranches is one of Arizona's largest and most historic ranches, raising calves with approximately 8,000 head of grass-fed, open range, hereford cattle grazing on 700,000 acres of private, federal

and state land. Babbitt Ranches, a family business and pioneering land company, raises livestock, manages natural resources, promotes science and participates in the broader community. Participants will tour Babbitt Ranches to see the construction site associated with the Babbitt Ranch Energy Center wind project that will have a 161MW capacity powered by 50 GE wind turbines. The group will see general road construction and site preparation for the arrivals of the wind turbines this summer.

- **Jess McNeely**, Assistant Director and Planning Manager, Community Development, Coconino County
- **Clinton Spencer**, Senior Project Manager, NextEra Energy
- **Prairie Handyside**, Site Manager, Blattner Energy

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

DINNER AT ARIZONA NORDIC VILLAGE

Owned and operated by Babbitt Ranches and located in the Coconino National Forest, the Nordic Village is northern Arizona's premier outdoor recreation area. Participants will have dinner and hear from local leaders about tourism in Coconino County.

FRIDAY, JUNE 30 – COCONINO COUNTY & DEPARTURE

6:00 AM – 6:30 AM

BREAKFAST

6:30 AM – 9:30 AM

HELICOPTER TOUR OF WATERSHED WITH SALT RIVER PROJECT

Arizona's forests are unhealthy and overgrown, and catastrophic fires are almost a certainty without action — putting the state's physical beauty, economic vitality and water supplies at risk. Since 2002, more than 2.9 million acres of forests in or around the Salt, Verde and East Clear Creek watersheds have been burned by wildfires, including megafires such as the Rodeo-Chediski and Wallow fires. Participants will take a helicopter tour with the Salt River Project (SRP) to view the current state of the watershed and forests and hear how SRP is working with Coconino County to prevent future catastrophic wildfires.

- **Buchanan Davis**, Director of Local Relation, Salt River Project
- **Kristen Hutchcraft**, Senior Administrative Technician, Salt River Project

10:44 AM – 8:40 PM

PARTICIPANTS DEPART: FLIGHT FROM FLG to DCA (AMERICAN AIRLINES, FLIGHT 2929 | 2006)



BREAKDOWN OF OTHER EXPENSES

National Association of Counties (NACo)

2023 Federal Fellowship Program – Maricopa, Yavapai and Coconino Counties, Ariz.

June 27-30, 2023

Room Rentals: \$40.70 per person

- The cost of renting rooms at hotels/event venues for meetings and meals

All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) Rental: \$215.92 per person

- The cost of renting all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) for tour of public lands and forests in Yavapai County, Ariz., including vehicles, gas, helmets, goggles, coolers with water bottles and ice, map/GPS tablets and tips. ATVs are necessary due to the educational role they will play in demonstrating the impact of off highway vehicles (OHVs) and recreation tourism on public lands management. It will also help reduce travel time across Coconino National Forest to incorporate more content into the trip.

Catering Services Fees: \$117.68 per person

- The cost of service fees for meal set up and attendants.

Audio/Video Costs: \$2.42 per person

- The cost of wi-fi and audio/visual components for breakfast briefings.

Printing, Shipping, Daily Refreshments and Tips: \$100.00 per person



LIST OF INVITEES

National Association of Counties (NACo)
2023 Federal Fellowship Program – Maricopa, Yavapai and Coconino Counties, Ariz.
June 27-30, 2023

The National Association of Counties (NACo) is a 501(c)(4) national nonprofit that was formed in 1935 to serve and strengthen America's counties. As an association of public elected officials, NACo is not a specific interest group but a major partner in our nation's Federalism system of intergovernmental entities. The participants listed below play a critical role in this system, working for elected officials, congressional committees and federal agencies that appropriate funds or develop federal policy and regulations that affect counties. For many of these individuals, this trip will complement NACo's inaugural site visit to Miami-Dade County, Fla. in 2022 by showcasing the critical programs and services that rural counties provide to our residents. For others, this trip will serve as the first opportunity to enhance their understanding of county government by witnessing the role they play in their residents' lives every day.

TITLE	OFFICE	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME
Policy Advisor	House Democratic Caucus	Josephina	Amusa
Legislative Director	Office of Congressman Eli Crane	Christina	Barry
Floor Assistant	Office of the House Minority Whip	Allison	Blankenship
Legislative Assistant	Office of the House Majority Whip	Dorothy	Clark
District Director	Office of Representative Gerry Connolly	Marlon	Dubuisson
Senior Legislative Assistant	House Democratic Caucus	Israel	Garcla
Policy Analyst, Democratic	House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management	Lauren	Gros
Staff Director, Republican	House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment	Ryan	Hambleton
Deputy Policy Director	House Republican Conference	Ryan	Hofmann
Energy Policy Advisor	Office of Congresswoman Debbie Lesko	Lou	Hrkman
Senior Counsel, Democratic	House Committee on Agriculture	Joshua	Loberst
Senior Advisor	Office of the Majority Whip	Willie	Lyles

Legislative Director	Office of Congresswoman Veronica Escobar	Zahraa	Saheb
Policy Advisor	Office of the House Majority Leader	Eric	Schmitz
Chief of Staff	Office of Congressman Morgan McGarvey	Amy	Soentksen
Chief of Staff	Office of Congressman Salud Carbajal	Jeremy	Tittle
Legislative Director	Office of Congressman Marcus Molinaro	Connor	Torossian

**Attendees subject to change based on participant's availability*