

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: Abigail McGovern
2. a. Name of Accompanying Relative: _____ **OR** None
b. Relationship to Traveler: Spouse Child Other (specify): _____
3. a. Dates: Departure: Tuesday, June 17, 2025 Return: Friday, June 20, 2025
b. Dates at Personal Expense, if any: _____ **OR** None
4. Departure City: Washington, DC Destination: Jackson Hole, Wyoming; Bozeman, Montana Return City: Washington, DC
5. Sponsor(s), Who Paid for the Trip: National Association of Counties (NACo)
6. Describe Meetings and Events Attended: Meetings included discussions with local officials regarding housing solutions, resilient infrastructure, and the county's role in federal land management, conservation, and tourism support.
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: _____

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

Signature of Traveler:  Date: 07/03/2025

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: Richard Neal Date: 07/03/2025

Signature of Supervising Member: 

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

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 in the trip within 10 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 or provided in-kind support for the trip: National Association of Counties (NACo)
- Travel Destination(s): Jackson Hole, Wyoming; Bozeman, Montana
- Date of Departure: Tuesday, June 17, 2025 Date of Return: Friday, June 20, 2025
- Name(s) of Traveler(s): Please see attached.

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	\$975.28	1,177.98	515.87	Total: \$275.00 See attached for details
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: *Matt Chase* Date: 07/02/2025

Name: Matt Chase Title: CEO/Executive Director

Organization: National Association of Counties

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

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

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

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.

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

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's website (ethics.house.gov) provides detailed instructions for filling out the form. The Committee will notify the House invitees directly of its decision and will not notify the trip sponsors.

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. Signatures must comply with section 104(bb) of the Travel Regulations.

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, services, or in-kind assistance 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 see attached.

5. Yes No Is travel being offered to an accompanying family member of the House invitee(s)?

6. Date of Departure: Tuesday, June 17, 2025 Date of Return: Friday, June 20

7. a. City of departure: Friday, June 20, 2025

b. Destination(s): Jackson Hole, Wyoming; Bozeman, Montana

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. _____

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 the statement is true by clicking the 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 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: Air is coach, bus is charter.)
- 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 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): Tues., June 17 - \$141; Weds., June 18 - \$156; Thurs., June 19 - \$130; Fri., June 20 - \$55

2) Provide the reason for selecting the location of the event or trip: Teton County was selected because of its unique responsibilities and services it provides to residents as a rural community with high tourism. Gallatin County was chosen due to its high rate of natural disasters, economic development and public lands.

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

Hotel Name: Jackson Lake Lodge City: Jackson Hole, Wyo. Cost Per Night: \$419.00

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

Hotel Name: AC Hotel Bozeman Downtown City: Bozeman, Mont. Cost Per Night: \$349.00

Reason(s) for Selecting: Within close proximity to programming and offered closest rate to 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.*

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	\$970.00	\$1,187.00	\$482.00
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	\$275.00	Please see attached.
For each Accompanying Family Member	N/A	N/A

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:  Date: 07/02/2025
 Name: Matt Chase Title: CEO/Executive Director
 Organization: National Association of Counties
 Address: 660 N. Capitol St NW, Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20001
 Email: mchase@naco.org Telephone: (202)393-6226

If there are questions regarding this form, please contact the Committee on Ethics at 202-225-7103 or travel.requests@mail.house.gov.



BREAKDOWN OF OTHER EXPENSES

National Association of Counties (NACo)

2025 Federal Fellowship Program – Teton County, Wyo. and Gallatin County, Mont.

June 17-20, 2024

Room/Event Rentals: \$50.00 per person

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

Catering Services Fees: \$125.00 per person

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

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

National Association of Counties

2025 FEDERAL FELLOWSHIP INITIATIVE

TETON COUNTY, WYO. & GALLATIN COUNTY, MONT. | JUNE 17-20, 2025

TUESDAY, JUNE 17 – ARRIVAL & TETON COUNTY

7:00 AM ET – 12:24 PM MT **FLIGHT FROM WASHINGTON, D.C. (DCA) TO TETON COUNTY, WYO. (JAC)**
AA2304; AA3278

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM
300 So. Batch Plant Rd.
Jackson, WY 83001

Teton County Disaster Prevention, Response and Recovery

*Nearly 900 counties – representing almost one-third of all counties experience at least one natural disaster each year. As disasters intensify across the country, county governments play a crucial role on the front lines of emergency management and recovery. In June 2024, a landslide on Teton Pass, a vital route for Teton County's workforce, disrupted commuting and created significant economic impacts. The county, in collaboration with the federal government, declared an emergency to repair the highway and address the broader challenges, underscoring the need for resilient infrastructure and affordable housing solutions. During this discussion, participants will hear from the Wyoming Department of Transportation along with county law enforcement and search and rescue officials about current operations and federal programs that support the county's ability to respond to events like these, including the Payment in Lieu and Taxes (PILT) and Secure rural Schools (SRS) programs. **Lunch will be provided.***

- **Hon. Natalia Macker**, Commissioner, Teton County
- **Hon. Mark Newcomb**, Commissioner, Teton County
- **Matt Carr**, Sheriff, Teton County
- **Mike Estes**, Search and Rescue Coordinator, Teton County
- **Mike Moyer**, Chief, Jackson Hole Fire/EMS, Teton County
- **Darin Westby**, Director, Wyoming Department of Transportation

3:30 PM – 5:00 PM
200 S Willow St, Jackson,
WY 83001

Housing Solutions for Teton County

As a gateway community, Teton County faces significant challenges in providing affordable housing for its workforce and residents. The high demand for housing, driven by job growth and limited land availability due to federal protections, has led to escalating property values and a shortage of affordable options. As of 2022, there was an estimated need for approximately 5,300 additional housing units by 2027 to meet the community's requirements. Counties across the

country play a key role in housing by managing zoning, funding affordable housing programs, partnering with private developers and administering federal assistance like CDBG and Section 8. For example, the Teton County/Jackson Affordable Housing Department oversees various initiatives aimed at increasing affordable housing. They manage a variety of programs, such as deed-restricted housing, where homes are reserved for residents who meet certain income and employment criteria. Participants will hear from local officials about the various strategies to mitigate the housing shortage and develop sustainable solutions that ensure a diverse and functioning community.

- **Hon. Natalia Macker**, Commissioner, Teton County
- **April Norton**, Director, Jackson/Teton County Affordable Housing Department
- **Tyler Davis**, Managing Partner, Keller Williams Jackson Hole
- **Matt Faupel**, Realtor, Compass Real Estate

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

101 Jackson Lake Lodge Rd.
Moran, WY 83013

Welcome Dinner at Jackson Lake Lodge

Teton County officials will provide an introduction to their county, highlighting the unique role the county plays as a gateway to high-traffic public lands while still delivering essential services to year-round residents. Participants will hear about the county's partnerships with state and federal agencies, and how these relationships help manage the intersection of tourism, conservation, and essential public services. This session offers valuable insight into how counties like Teton navigate challenges facing the region, including housing affordability and natural disaster preparedness, as well as the complexities of federal land management.

- **Hon. Mark Newcomb**, Commissioner, Teton County
- **Hon. Natalia Macker**, Commissioner, Teton County

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18 – TETON COUNTY

7:30 AM – 8:00 AM

101 Jackson Lake Lodge Rd.
Moran, WY 83013

Breakfast at Hotel

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM

Drive from Hotel to Grand Teton National Park

8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Jenny Lake Cabin,
Moose, WY 83012

Tour Grand Teton National Park: Tourism, Endangered Species and Gateway Communities

Counties play an essential role in supporting federal agencies such as the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the U.S. National Park Service (NPS) in

*managing national parks, public lands and the conservation of endangered species. These partnerships are vital for maintaining infrastructure, providing services to residents and visitors and ensuring the stewardship of natural resources. Counties collaborate with federal agencies to develop policies, plan initiatives and implement resource management strategies that align with both federal laws and local priorities. This collaboration is especially important in balancing tourism and conservation efforts, as counties help facilitate responsible tourism while preserving endangered species and promoting sustainability. The shared goal is to maintain public access and protect these valuable ecosystems for future generations. By integrating local expertise with federal resources, counties contribute significantly to the conservation of Grand Teton National Park and surrounding areas. Participants will hear from both county leaders and officials from the NPS about their collective efforts to protect wildlife and manage public lands. **Lunch will be provided.***

- **Hon. Natalia Macker**, Commissioner, Teton County
- Hon. Mark Newcomb, Commissioner, Teton County
- **Palmer "Chip" Jenkins Jr.**, Superintendent, Grand Teton National Park, NPS
- **Maria King**, Management Specialist, Grant Teton National Park, NPS

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM

Lunch Briefing: Understanding the Intergovernmental Partnership on Federal Lands

Participants will gain insight into the most pressing challenges facing Grand Teton National Park, including forest management and search and rescue operations. The presentation will highlight how federal and local partners collaborate to balance conservation efforts with the demands of a thriving tourism economy.

- **Palmer "Chip" Jenkins Jr.**, Superintendent, Grand Teton National Park, NPS

2:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Tour of Bridger-Teton National Forest: Gateway Communities and Forest Planning

Sixty-two 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, including law enforcement, search and rescue operations, fire protection and much more. Spearheaded by Teton County and the U.S. Forest Service, the Bridger-Teton National Forest is currently undergoing a comprehensive revision of its Land Management Plan,

which has not been updated since 1990. This revision aims to address significant ecological, social and economic changes over the past three decades, including increased recreational use, wildlife habitat conservation and impacts of a changing climate. Participants will take the gondola up to the top of Snow King Mountain to hear from representatives of the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service and county leaders about the challenges and opportunities in managing federal lands in partnership with local governments and will have the opportunity to hike the surrounding grounds. The session will conclude at Aurora restaurant with refreshments overlooking the Teton Mountains.

- **Hon. Mark Newcomb**, Commissioner, Teton County
- **Hon. Natalia Macker**, Commissioner, Teton County
- **Todd Stiles, District Ranger**, Bridger-Teton National Forest, U.S. Forest Service
- **Mary Cernicek**, Public Affairs Officer, Bridger-Teton National Forest, U.S. Forest Service
- **Sean McGinness**, Recreation Special Use Program Manager, U.S. Forest Service
- **Ryan Stanley**, General Manager, Snow King Mountain Resort
- **Micah Christensen**, Natural Resource Counsel, Wyoming County Commissioners Association

4:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Reception at Aurora Restaurant

Building off previous conversations, participants will hear from the U.S. Forest Service about ongoing efforts around permitting reform and federal lands management. The session will also explore how multiple federal agencies are working in coordination with Teton County to streamline processes and improve land use outcomes.

- **Todd Stiles, District Ranger**, Bridger-Teton National Forest, U.S. Forest Service
- **Mary Cernicek**, Public Affairs Officer, Bridger-Teton National Forest, U.S. Forest Service
- **Sean McGinness**, Recreation Special Use Program Manager, U.S. Forest Service

6:30 PM – 9:00 PM

Dinner at Jackson Lake Lodge

THURSDAY, JUNE 19 – TETON COUNTY & GALLATIN COUNTY

6:30 AM – 7:00 AM

Breakfast at Hotel

101 Jackson Lake Lodge Rd.
Moran, WY 83013

7:00 AM – 8:30 AM

Drive from Teton County to Yellowstone National Park

8:30 AM – 1:00 PM

41 Clover Ln,
Yellowstone National Park,
WY 82190

Touring South Yellowstone National Park: Public Lands and the Federal-Local Partnership

*When it comes to the management and preservation of national parks, counties serve as a key partner with federal agencies in balancing the needs of park conservation with those of residents, businesses and visitors. To continue the conversation from the previous day, participants will partake in a half-day briefing while hiking throughout southern Yellowstone National Park to get a firsthand look at local issues on the ground. As we travel from Teton County towards Gallatin County via the Yellowstone National Park, participants will hear how these counties support essential services like transportation, emergency response and more. We will hear from new agency representatives from the NPS to gain a better understanding of the unique challenges and solutions in federal lands across the country, and how counties serve as intergovernmental partners. **Lunch will be provided.***

- **Hon. Jennifer Boyer**, Commissioner, Gallatin County
- **Hon. Zach Brown**, Commissioner, Gallatin County
- **Cam Sholly**, Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park, NPS
- **Tami Blackford**, Executive Coordinator, Yellowstone Coordinating Committee, NPS
- **Stephanie Carter**, Interpretive Ranger, Yellowstone National Park, NPS
- **Clarice Doughty**, Interpretive Ranger, Yellowstone National Park, NPS

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Lunch Briefing: Recovering After a Disaster and Intergovernmental Coordination

Participants will hear firsthand from Yellowstone National Park representatives and Gallatin County leaders about the 2023 flood at the park's North Entrance, including the challenges faced and the coordinated intergovernmental response. The discussion will also explore strategies to spur economic recovery and address long-term infrastructure needs in the region.

- **Hon. Zach Brown**, Commissioner, Gallatin County
- **Cam Sholly**, Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park, NPS
- **Tami Blackford**, Executive Coordinator, Yellowstone Coordinating Committee, NPS

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Touring West Yellowstone National Park: Gateway Communities,

Tourism and Infrastructure Planning

Counties that border public lands often face distinct challenges related to tourism-driven infrastructure needs, seasonal population surges, economic development and natural resource management. During this on-the-ground briefing in West Yellowstone, participants will hear how Gallatin County, its neighbors and the federal government are working together to addressing these issues through a mix of local strategies and federal support. Gallatin County officials will share how communities like their own—which is home to just a few thousand year-round residents—manage peak-season demands from tens of thousands of visitors. Discussion topics will include tourism and economic development, growth moratoriums and transportation pressures, including airport and road infrastructure needs.

- **Hon. Zach Brown**, Commissioner, Gallatin County
- **Hon. Jennifer Boyer**, Commissioner, Gallatin County
- **Dan Walker**, Town Manager, West Yellowstone

3:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Touring Big Sky: Tourism, Transportation and Housing Developments

In Big Sky, where luxury tourism meets natural wonders, participants will continue to explore how Gallatin County is addressing the pressures of rapid growth and seasonal demand. The session will highlight the county's use of a Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) grant to improve transportation in high-traffic areas, alongside broader infrastructure efforts to support tourism and development. Local officials will share how the county is partnering with the U.S. Forest Service to maintain public access, protect natural resources and ensure safety in popular recreation zones. The conversation will also cover the challenges posed by an influx of homebuyers and vacation property owners in this resort town, which have driven up housing costs for locals and tourists alike, as well as limitations at the Gallatin County airport, which must accommodate a high volume of seasonal visitors. Participants will gain a firsthand look at the intergovernmental coordination and strategic planning needed to sustain vibrant gateway communities on the edge of America's most iconic public lands.

- **Hon. Zach Brown**, Commissioner, Gallatin County
- **Hon. Jennifer Boyer**, Commissioner, Gallatin County

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Dinner at est. 1864

Gallatin County officials will provide an overview of county operations in Montana's fastest growing and most populous county, where the demands of a rapidly expanding population intersect with

the challenges of service delivery in rural communities. Officials will explain how the county—which covers more than 2,500 square miles of diverse terrain—balances infrastructure needs, housing pressures and economic development while coordinating closely with state and federal agencies that manage nearly half of the county’s land. Participants will gain insight into the challenges and opportunities of managing growth, preserving natural resources and maintaining essential services in a rural region known for its scenic beauty and outdoor recreation.

- **Hon. Zach Brown**, Commissioner, Gallatin County
- **Hon. Greg Chilcott**, Commissioner, Ravalli County
- **Eric Bryson**, Executive Director, Montana Association of Counties

FRIDAY, JUNE 20 – GALLATIN COUNTY & DEPARTURE

9:00 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.

STRENGTHENING TRIBAL-COUNTY PARTNERSHIPS IN GALLATIN COUNTY AND THE GREATER YELLOWSTONE REGION

Gallatin County and surrounding jurisdictions are working to deepen partnerships with neighboring Tribal Nations to promote shared stewardship, mutual respect and regional resilience. From coordinating on emergency response and land use planning to preserving cultural resources and advancing health and education initiatives, these relationships reflect a growing commitment to intergovernmental collaboration. By building trust and aligning priorities, Gallatin County and Tribal governments in the Greater Yellowstone region are laying the groundwork for more inclusive, effective governance that benefits all communities.

- **Hon. Zach Brown**, Commissioner, Gallatin County

10:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

LUNCH BRIEFING AND BRIDGER AEROSPACE DEMONSTRATION

With the rising frequency and severity of natural disasters such as wildfires, counties are under increasing pressure to strengthen local emergency response and recovery capabilities. Bridger Aerospace is a prime example of how counties can utilize tax-exempt municipal bonds to meet these growing challenges. Through a partnership with Gallatin County and the use of tax-exempt conduit financing, Bridger Aerospace expanded its operations and now provides critical aerial firefighting and surveillance services nationwide. Municipal bonds are a cornerstone of county infrastructure financing, helping local governments fund essential projects such as emergency services, roads, water systems and public safety initiatives. Counties invest over \$50 billion annually in infrastructure, with municipal bonds serving as a key financing mechanism that saves taxpayers an

*estimated \$9 billion each year due to their tax-exempt status. The success of Bridger Aerospace illustrates how counties can leverage these bonds to support innovative public-private partnerships, enhance disaster resilience and drive economic growth in their communities and beyond. **Lunch will be provided.***

- **Hon. Zach Brown**, Commissioner, Gallatin County
- **Dylan Rhoades**, Business Operations Analyst, Bridger Aerospace
- **Mel Holtz**, Director of Business Development, Bridger Aerospace

1:45 PM MT – 10:15 PM ET

FLIGHT FROM GALLITIN COUNTY (BZN) TO WASHINGTON, D.C. (DCA)

AA1501; AA1787



LIST OF ATTENDEES

National Association of Counties (NACo)
 2025 Federal Fellowship Program – Teton County, Wyo. and Gallatin County, Mont.
 June 17-20, 2025

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. The following individuals attended the site visit:

TITLE	OFFICE	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME
Policy Advisor	Office of the House Minority Leader	Josephine	Amusa
Senior Policy Adviser	Office of Congressman Ted Lieu	Zach	Atran
Legislative Correspondent	Office of Congresswoman Terri Sewell	Brandan	Belser
Legislative Aide	Office of Congressman French Hill	Ryan	Carreiro
Professional Staff Member	Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure	Logan	de La Barre-Hays
Floor Assistant	Office of House Majority Whip	Brenna	Elliott
Professional Staff Member	Committee on Energy and Commerce	Seth	Gold
Floor Assistant	Office of House Majority Whip	Bryson	Henriott
Member Services Coordinator	Office of the Speaker of the House	John	Lanning
Chief of Staff	Office of Congressman Troy Carter	Willie	Lyles
Legislative Assistant	Office of Congressman Richard Neal	Abby	McGovern
Legislative Director	Office of Congressman Greg Steube	Reed	Powell
Energy and Environment Policy Adviser	Office of Congressman Katherine Clark	Shelby	Prettiman
Coalitions Director	House Republican Conference	Garrett	Puckett
Legislative Assistant	Office of Congressman Pete Aguilar	Maryana	Sawaged

Floor Assistant	Office of the House Majority Whip	Justin	Shockey
Professional Staff	House Committee on Agriculture - Majority	Josh	Stull
Legislative Correspondent	Office of Congressman Salud Carbajal	Tommy	Vo

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



March 19, 2025

Dear Abby,

As the Executive Director and CEO of the National Association of Counties (NACo), it is my pleasure to extend an invitation to you as a leader in federal policymaking to participate in NACo's 2025 Federal Fellowship Initiative. This is an invitation-only cohort that will be comprised of congressional staff, White House officials and other federal agency representatives. County governments play a critical role as public service providers for America's citizens. Since 1935, NACo has represented the interests of all of America's 3,069 counties and assisted them in the pursuit of excellence in public service.

NACo's Federal Fellowship Initiative focuses on the importance and structure of America's intergovernmental system, with a specific emphasis on the roles, responsibilities, operations and policy priorities of county governments across the country. As part of the initiative, NACo aims to educate members of Congress, Congressional staff and federal policy officials about the roles and responsibilities of counties across the country.

As important partners in our nation's intergovernmental system, county governments employ one out of every 50 workers, invest more than \$660 billion each year in our local communities and provide vital public services that are the foundation of our society. To provide a clearer picture of the full county landscape and the essential role counties play in fostering safe, vibrant and health communities across the nation, NACo recently released an updated [County Landscape Report](#) and accompanying [Executive Summary](#).

Members of the cohort will meet several times throughout the year-long Initiative:

- **NACo Federal Fellowship Initiative Pre-Trip Event:** Thursday, May 15, 2025
- **Teton County, Wyo. and Gallatin County, Mont. Rural Counties Site Visit:** Tuesday, June 17 – Friday, June 20, 2025
- **Urban Counties Site Visit:** Fall 2025 (*Location TBD*)

During the June in-person, field-based tour located in Teton and Gallatin Counties, participants will engage with federal, state and local leaders, and visit tour sites including the Teton County Housing Authority, Teton County Emergency Operations Center, Grand Teton National Park, Bridger-Teton National Forest, Yellowstone National Park and Gallatin County Airport Authority/Bridger Aerospace. **NACo will cover all costs for participant travel, lodging and meals for this site visit and other events associated with the Fellowship Initiative.** More information about the Federal Fellowship Initiative can be found [here](#), and related Ethic Committee documents will be sent to participants in the coming weeks.

NACo Managing Director of Government Affairs Eryn Hurley and NACo Legislative Associate Naomi Freel are available to assist you in any way possible to coordinate your participation. Please contact Ms. Hurley at ehurley@naco.org or 571.262.9015 and Ms. Freel at nfreel@naco.org or 574.440.9952 with any specific questions.

We hope you will be able to accept our invitation and look forward to your participation in our Federal Fellowship Initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew Chase". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "M".

Matthew Chase
Executive Director/CEO

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TRAVELER FORM

1. Name of Traveler: Abigail McGovern
2. Sponsor(s) who will be paying or providing in-kind support for the trip: National Association of Counties (NACo)
3. City and State **OR** Foreign Country of Travel: Jackson Hole, Wyoming; Bozeman, Montana
4. a. Date of Departure: Tuesday, June 17 Date of Return: Friday, June 20
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, invitation, 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 a Legislative Assistant responsible for policy areas including Education, Health, Science and Technology, Transportation, and Housing, my participation in this trip is directly related to my official duties. The trip will strengthen my understanding of how rural counties support essential services such as transportation, emergency response, and affordable housing programs. Each segment of the itinerary, including the discussion on housing solutions in Teton County and the tour of Bridger Aerospace, provides valuable context and real-world application for the policy areas I support, equipping me with practical knowledge to better inform legislative decisions.
9. Yes No Is the traveler aware of any registered federal lobbyists or foreign agents involved in **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: 04/02/2025

Michael Guest, Mississippi
Chairman
Mark DeSaulnier, California
Ranking Member

John H. Rutherford, Florida
Andrew R. Garbarino, New York
Ashley Hinson, Iowa
Nathaniel Moran, Texas

Deborah K. Ross, North Carolina
Glenn F. Ivey, Maryland
Sylvia R. Garcia, Texas
Suhas Subramanyam, Virginia



ONE HUNDRED NINETEENTH CONGRESS

U.S. House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

Thomas A. Rust
Staff Director and Chief Counsel

Jordan Downs
Chief of Staff to the Chairman

David Arrojo
Counsel to the Ranking Member

1015 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-6328
Telephone: (202) 225-7103
<https://Ethics.House.gov>

June 13, 2025

Ms. Abigail McGovern
Office of the Honorable Richard E. Neal
372 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ms. McGovern:

Pursuant to House Rule 25, clause 5(d)(2), the Committee on Ethics hereby approves your proposed trip to Jackson Hole, Wyoming, and Bozeman, Montana, scheduled for June 17 to 20, 2025, 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

Mark DeSaulnier
Ranking Member

MG/MD:nl