

CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3065 / TELEPHONE 547-7000

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June 10, 2008

RECEIVED
2008 JUN 19 A 9:30
CITY COUNCIL
HONOLULU, HAWAII

TO: Mr. Clayton Wong, Fiscal Administrator
FROM: Councilmember Donovan M. Dela Cruz *DMC*
RE: Report on 2008 Western Interstate Region (WIR) Annual Conference –
Washington County, St. George, Utah, May 21-23, 2008

Attached is a copy of the report and findings of the 2008 Western Interstate Region (WIR) Annual Conference attended in Washington County, St. George, Utah, May 21-23, 2008.

If you have questions regarding the foregoing, please do not hesitate to call me directly.

Attachment

WIR Annual Conference – St. George, Utah

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Attended NACo/WIR Board of Directors Reception

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Attended Opening General Session

- Speaker – Leonard Blackham, Utah Commissioner of Agriculture and Food
 - Highlights of discussion:
 - Rural economies have high agriculture dependence
 - Grazing on public land is critical to Utah's economy
 - Nationally, 70% of land is owned by agriculture
 - Utah implemented a Grazing Improvement Program (GIP):
 - Focuses on improving the productivity and sustainability of Utah's rangelands and watersheds
 - Involves ranchers in the state's policy process and works to improve management of ranches by offering training and scholarships
- Speaker – Hyrum Smith, co-founder and chairman of the board, FranklinCovey
 - Highlights of discussion:
 - Provided analysis of today's work place and the principles driving the country today
 - Focused presentation on the abundance model which suggests there are enough resources in the world to go around

Educational Session Block II

- **Attended Session – Building a High Performance Work Team**
 - The session provided opportunities to analyze how effective individual leadership style and behaviors are in producing a quality product or service

Attended Conference Wide Event

Friday, May 23, 2006

Attended General Session

- Speaker – James Taylor, Senior Fellow at the Heartland Institute
 - Highlights of discussion:
 - Focused on debunking the “alarmist models” of global warming
 - Stated that there is plenty of science that contradicts the science used to support the theory of global warming

- Urged attendees to look at the science and make their own judgment about the existence of global warming
- Speaker Dr. Laura Nelson, Vice President, Energy and Environment EcoShale
 - Highlights of discussion:
 - EcoShale is a technology to develop oil shale. EcoShale's technology has been singled out as promising by the U.S. Department of Energy.
 - EcoShale is about 5 years out of producing oil to the U.S. market
 - U.S. could produce 800 billion barrels of oil from its oil shale reserves
 - Focused on reasons why the U.S. needs to extract oil from the nation's oil shale reserves

Educational Session Block III

- **Attended Session – Climate Change and Western Counties: Issues and Options**
 - The session provided an opportunity for counties to share their policies and programs to address environmental issues related to reducing carbon dioxide emissions
 - The workshop panelists shared their experiences of implementing such policies and the fiscal implications of their initiatives
 - The panelists also described how current Federal legislative proposals may affect local government

Attended Luncheon

- Speaker – C. Stephen Allred, Assistant Secretary, Department of the Interior
 - Highlights of discussion:
 - Expressed his views on the Department of the Interior's challenges faced in Washington, D.C., i.e. high price of gasoline and natural gas
 - Suggested that the U.S. should focus on developing all its resources, like oil shale reserves, to help stabilize oil prices in the U.S.
 - Stated that 60 percent of the Federal Government resources can not be developed for various legal reasons
 - Highlighted efforts to protect the Sage Grouse Habitat, an endangered species

Attended NACo/NACoRF Board of Directors Meeting

- Discussed various topics such as:
 - Nominations to the NACo/NACoRF Board of Directors
 - Hon. Wilson H. Parran replacing Hon. Marilyn Praisner

- Approval of minutes from the Board of Directors' meeting at the Legislative Conference, March 3, 2008
- Adopted the following committee reports:
 - Audit Committee
 - Financial Report
 - For the first quarter of 2008, NACo had a net income of \$1,088,454 on revenue of \$5,414,517 and expenses of \$4,326,063
 - Net income is \$580,944 lower than first quarter 2007 as a result of unrealized losses on the reserve portfolio in 2008
- Reviewed proposed bylaws amendments
 - Proposed Amendment 1:
 - Amendment would clarify that the NACo President, rather than the "chair", determines that the annual conference business meeting is open for business and that a quorum is present
 - Proposed Amendment 2:
 - Amendment would repeal the sunset provision regarding the restrictions on uses of monies in the Board Designated Building Options Fund, which were scheduled to expire on December 31, 2007
 - Proposed Amendment 3:
 - Amendment would require the Audit Committee to make a report to the Board of Directors at least once a year
 - Proposed Amendment 4:
 - Amendment would correct affiliate acronyms and names referred to the section of the bylaws relating to the Finance Committee
 - Proposed Amendment 5:
 - Amendment would rename the Members Programs and Services Committee to the Programs and Services Committee
 - Proposed Amendment 6:
 - Amendment would specify that the chair and vice chair of the Programs and Services Committee are ex-officio members of the Membership Committee
 - Proposed Amendment 7:
 - Amendment would require that two weeks prior to the convening of the conference, NACo staff shall post on the NACo website lists of those counties not registered for the conference and of those counties that are registered for the conference but for which written proxies have not been filed

- Reviewed Finance Committee Report
 - Provided update on NACo's progress on NACo's Succession Planning
- Reviewed Membership Committee Report
 - Membership Numbers:
 - As of April 25th, NACo had 2,367 county, parish, and borough members
 - NACo Prescription Drug Discount Card Program:
 - As of April 25th, 995 counties, parishes and boroughs have signed on to the program
- Executive Session Item:
 - Recommendation on the Performance Evaluation of the Executive Director of NACo

WIR Awards Banquet and Installation of Officers

City Council
City and County of Honolulu

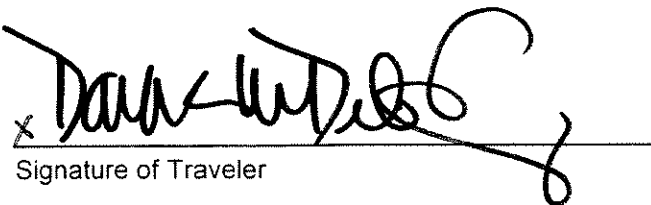
CLAIM FOR TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

Date: June 5, 2008

Traveler: Donovan Dela Cruz
 Event: 2008 NACO WIR Conference
 Location: St. George, UT
 Dates: From May 21 To May 23, 2008

Description	Amount	Notes
1. Registration Fee	420.00	
2. Airfare	674.75*	* to be reimbursed by HSAC: CW 06-07-08
3. Hotel	468.72	Rate: No. of Billable Days:
4. Meals	68.26	
5. Ground Transportation	10.00	
6. Tips	12.00	
7. Other	9.95	Travel Delay
Other	9.95	Baggage Insurance
Other	14.99	Airflight Insurance
8. Adjustment		
TOTAL REIMBURSEMENT	\$1,688.62	
		TOTAL REIMBURSEMENT: \$1,688.62

This is to certify that the above data, based upon receipts submitted to Council Administrative Support Services via a CCLTRVL02 form, is accurate. Further, I am claiming reimbursement for expenses associated with a trip in which City business was conducted and personal funds were used to advance payment:


 Signature of Traveler

JUN 9 2008
 Date