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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 23, 1976

MEETING WITH THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

Monday, January 26, 1976  
Cabinet Room  
2:00 p.m. (30 minutes)

From: Jim Cannon

I. PURPOSE

To discuss the consolidation of various programs as suggested in your State of the Union Message, and to provide an opportunity for you to underscore the fact that County government is an integral part of our Federal-State-Local relationship.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS PLAN

A. Background

The National Association of Counties (NACo) has felt for sometime excluded from the Executive branch's relationship with State and local government. This is not an intentional oversight, but it is due in part to the media attention given to Governors and big-city Mayors when they visit the White House.

As you know, NACo was a vital factor in the enactment of General Revenue Sharing and can certainly be regarded as an ally in that effort in 1976. NACo which represents some 3,100 counties has indicated a willingness to undertake with us a procedure in developing the legislation necessary for the consolidation of various programs as mentioned in your State of the Union Message. Paul O'Neill, Steve McConahey and others on the White House staff are now working with NACo in this effort.

NACo officials and leaders have not been to the White House since your briefing on the energy crisis in January 1975, and they were not included in your recent meeting with Governors and Mayors because of the nature and limited participation of the event. They have been asking for some time for an executive order on County involvement in the federal partnership. At this time we are reviewing this proposal and alternative ways of achieving the NACo objective.



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There is no doubt that the Counties will be helpful on General Revenue Sharing and consolidation of the various programs and other initiatives for 1976.

B. Participants

See Tab C.

C. Press Plan

Photo opportunity to be announced.

III. TALKING POINTS

1. I am pleased to have this opportunity to meet with this group of county officials and representatives of NACo. I recognize your increasing role in local government. I also want to indicate my continuing interest in maintaining an effective liaison with your organization and county officials.
2. Stephen McConahey has recently taken over our inter-governmental activities, and I assure you that you will have the proper contact and attention in the months ahead as we work on a number of vital issues.
3. As Minority Leader, I saw the amount of work that you did in the enactment of General Revenue Sharing, and I want you and your executive committee to know that your support in the reenactment of this vital program is essential if we are to have passage this year.
4. I understand you are currently developing some information and analysis which relate directly to the proposed grant consolidations. I am hopeful that working together we can develop these concepts into consolidated legislative proposals.
5. I understand you have been concerned over the relative standing you have had vis-a-vis Mayors and Governors. My staff is currently reviewing your request for a special order or statement. I am sympathetic with your concern, but I want to be sure that we take action that has the most effective long term impact.

PARTICIPANTS

NACO Executive Committee

Vance Webb, President  
Dan Lynch  
William O. Beach  
Louis Mills  
Charlotte Williams  
Eugene Dishner  
Stanley Smoot  
Gill Barrett  
Frank Francois  
Joseph Toner  
Lloyd Owens  
J. S. Stevens  
John Morrissey  
Guy Millard  
Bernie Hillenbrand, Executive Director

Staff

James Cannon  
Steve McConahey  
Paul Myer  
Pat Delaney  
Paul O'Neill

R. W. Naco

1/26/26

Revenue showing =

Block grants

nutrition - 700,000 children under

James Walsh

has about states & cities,  
but not about countries

sep 188 yr of 205 - or 93%

either the government or private are  
for these 188 yr people

More is put into planning.

ask the united now a part

Applying



Pres

MAG

leaf - who

state legislators

As to being included.

↓  
Q - from you that actual  
will be reviewed

There is no question about  
that -

Vann - wants Exec order  
to be reviewed, delayed

we put in to C.

As to programs related

As to  
CFA  
MAG

Q - I think it's a little  
overstated.



Louis Mills

~~to~~ unpaid taxes 3x now  
than 1 yr ago

~~except~~  
reduced person 2%  
taxes debts free 10%

Input into Director Council

Manufacturing -

William 14% unemployed  
hour to lay off CETA

Save - made at least

Co's receive money ad  
valorem (Brown Co's)

Pros through





Low Mills -

WFO can support  
program, we will for  
Czo -

P W are programs, it  
seems to me ought to  
be some central authority,  
now look of coordinated direction.  
Tries to pull them together  
on parallel basis.

P

Just take life's

when do his best

