



2021
LEGISLATIVE
POWER BRUNCH
EVENT

58TH LEGISLATURE | 1ST SESSION

MARK W. SWEENEY, AICP | EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JANUARY 26, 2021

acog

WELCOME

THE HONORABLE STEVEN J. GENTLING

MAYOR OF GUTHRIE

CHAIR OF THE ACOG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

INVOCATION

THE REVEREND DR. LORI WALKE

SENIOR MINISTER, MAYFLOWER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

THE HONORABLE REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS KANNADY, DISTRICT 91

LTCOL, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

OKLAHOMA FLAG SALUTE

THE HONORABLE REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS KANNADY, DISTRICT 91
LTCOL, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

*I salute the flag of the State of Oklahoma.
Its symbols of peace unite all people.*

COMPLIMENTARY BRUNCH

ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA GOVERNMENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ATTENDEES

THE HONORABLE MAYOR STEVEN J. GENTLING

MAYOR OF GUTHRIE

CHAIR OF THE ACOG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JOHN M. SHARP

ACOG DEPUTY DIRECTOR

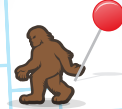
INTRODUCTION

MARK W. SWEENEY, AICP

ACOG EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ACOG VIDEO PRESENTATION

4M's



4M's



Medicaid



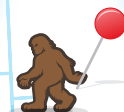
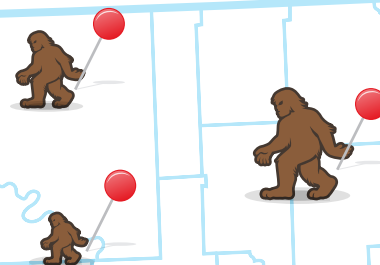
Masks



Meetings



Monsters





2021 ACOG
LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

9-1-1 & PUBLIC SAFETY

- Support the creation of public safety protection districts, which would provide ad valorem tax funding for municipal police and fire services (Support HB1970 – Nollan)
- Endorse reforms to current policies within the Department of Mental Health regarding patient transports by law enforcement agencies, including reimbursement rates and third-party services (Support SB3 – Bullard; HB1021 – Worthen)
- Add municipal EMS as a qualifying entity for the Warrant Intercept program via the state income tax collection process (Support SB240 – Hall)
- Protect local government regulations by promoting one comprehensive bill that would amend and clarify various statutes impacting where and how an Oklahoman can carry a firearm (Monitor HB1897 – Robert [Sean])

CONTINUED | **9-1-1 & PUBLIC SAFETY**

- Back amendments to the Medical Marijuana laws that make smoking marijuana in public places illegal (Support SB445 – Paxton)
- Support legislation that allows local governments to regulate the location and spacing of medical marijuana dispensaries (Monitor HB2217 – McDugle)

AIR QUALITY | CLEAN CITIES

- Extend economic incentive legislation that accelerates alternative fuel vehicle adoption; including tax credits to long-term battery storage companies and vehicle or auto part manufacturers who hire engineers (Support HB 1719 & 1720 - Hill)
- Ensure Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) fees only be used to fund environmental improvement programs (Appropriation Request)
- Back legislation that would enable the ODEQ to not require the use of an air curtain incinerator for fires purposely set for the burning of clean wood waste or yard brush except in counties or areas that are designated nonattainment the National Ambient Air Quality Standard or are located within a metropolitan statistical area and have a population of greater than 500,000 people (Support SB246 - Allen)

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Increase ACOG's REAP share from 4.5% to 9% in order to provide more funding for rural community projects located in a metropolitan area (Appropriation Request)
- Over the last decade, REAP funding through the COGs has declined from \$17.9 million to \$13.1 million. Support holding the REAP program harmless and expand funding incrementally to previous funding levels (Appropriation Request)
- Improve the allocation of sales tax revenue by implementing the use of the nine-digit zip code, then the five-digit zip code to ensure that the correct local government receives their fair share of the sales tax revenue (Not A Filed Bill)
- Revise state statute to allow smaller communities to secure biennial audits to reduce costs without compromising fiscal accountability and transparency (Support HB1058 - Boles)

CONTINUED | **COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- Establish one uniform bidding process for all Oklahoma governmental entities, which would make the bidding process more efficient, encourage interlocal agreements on common projects and only involve one set of paperwork (Support SB299 – Bergstrom)
- Restore funding to the Rural Fire Coordinator Contract through the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry (ODAFF) to \$75,000 for each of the eleven COGs. This funding would restore the ACOG Rural Fire Coordinator position (Appropriation Request)
- Support fraud prevention by requiring every company or entity holding a sales for resale permit to renew permits annually, which would cut down on sales tax fraud, put an end to companies and entities being held responsible for unpaid sales tax, and potentially increase sales tax revenue. (Support HB2744 – Ford)

CONTINUED | COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Advocate legislation that will promote the implementation/installation of 5G networks especially in under-served areas and rural communities in Oklahoma
(Support HB1124 – Phillips; HB1129 – Phillips)
- Allow municipalities the authority to require contact information from property owners to be used in addressing public safety concerns. This will allow municipal governments to enforce public safety regulations developing out of public nuisances and dilapidated properties (Support SB277 – Montgomery)

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING SERVICES

- Fully fund ODOT's 8-year construction plan with an emphasis on the repair of structurally deficient bridges and the repaving of roads by ODOT in Central Oklahoma (Appropriation Request)
- Hold harmless the funding of the County Improvements for Roads and Bridges (CIRB) Revolving Fund and expand incrementally to previous funding levels (Appropriation Request)
- Endorse the Oklahoma Department of Transportation's Plan to implement a complete streets policy to publish rules and regulations that will require counties and municipalities to include components of complete streets in any project utilizing funds provided by the state (Support SB618 - Hicks)
- Support safety legislative initiatives for all modes of transportation (Support SB240 - Hicks and SB184 - Hicks)

CONTINUED | TRANSPORTATION PLANNING SERVICES

- Endorse efforts by the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA) of Central Oklahoma to bring commuter rail and enhanced bus transit to our region by including an indemnification provision for non-commercial purposes which would ensure that Class I Railroads are not held liable (Support HB1924 - Martinez)
- Support the creation of the Oklahoma Road User Charge Program that would explore alternative revenue sources, including the potential for a road usage charge, that can be implemented in place of the current gas tax structure (Support HB1712 - Hill)
- Back efforts to ensure all vehicles utilizing Oklahoma highways are contributing to the cost of maintaining the Oklahoma State Highway system; establishes EV annual fee and other tax credits (Monitor HB2234 - Hilbert, Roberts, Hill, Frix and Fetgatter)

WATER & WASTEWATER PRIORITIES

- Require the Oklahoma Water Resources Board to update the Oklahoma Water Quality Standards to allow for watershed trading programs (Support HB1093 - Kerbs)

OTHER RELEVANT ISSUES

- Extend expiration date allowing entities who hold public meetings and hearings that require a quorum to be allowed to continue to conduct necessary business via teleconference software that fosters greater access & transparency for public meetings
(Support HB2038 – McCall; HB1758 – Ranson; SB507 – Dossett; SB1030 and SB1031 – Treat)
- Allow cities and counties to publish public meeting notices online & not require mandatory publishing in a local newspaper (Support SB254 -Bullard)
- Enhance ACOG’s ability to leverage federal and state funds by restoring funding to Sub-State Planning Districts (Councils of Governments) to the original \$50,000 level (ACOG will only receive \$6,818 in FY 2021) (Appropriation Request)
- Oppose any legislation that would prevent cities and towns the right to regulate mask mandates (Against SB224 – Dahm)

580 SHELL BILLS FILED



QUESTIONS, ANSWERS & COMMENTS

CLOSING REMARKS

ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA GOVERNMENTS

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MARK W. SWEENEY, AICP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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