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## Roseau County Commissioner Jack Swanson Welcomes Legislative Leaders to Statewide Conference of County Officials

(St. Paul, MN)--- Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC) 2016 president Roseau County Commissioner Jack Swanson delivered his 'State of the Counties' address to nearly 300 county officials from across Minnesota who gathered in St. Paul last week for the association's annual legislative conference.

During his speech, Swanson stressed the importance of engagement at the local, state and national levels. He also encouraged members to continue finding opportunities to network with other commissioners and staff from across Minnesota in order to discover different ways to improve service for our customers.

"When elected local officials carry a message from their communities to their legislators at the state or national level, it carries tremendous weight with legislators," Swanson said. "We must never forget that we are all on the same team as elected officials and we are all responsible for fulfilling our duties to the best of our abilities for all citizens of our state."

The theme of Swanson's address carried through the conference as the group was addressed by a number of notable names in Minnesota politics, including **U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar, Lt. Gov. Tina Smith, Minnesota Secretary of State Steve Simon, Speaker of the House Kurt Daudt, and Senate Majority Leader Tom Bakk.**

AMC has been serving Minnesota's 87 counties since 1909. AMC is a voluntary statewide organization that assists the state's 87 counties in providing effective county governance to the people of Minnesota. The association works closely with the legislative and administrative branches of government in seeing that legislation and policies favorable to counties are enacted. In addition, the association provides educational programs, training, research and communications for county officials.

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**Editors: Photos Attached**

**Caption #1:** *(From left to right) Senate Majority Leader Tom Bakk, AMC President and Roseau County Commissioner Jack Swanson, and Speaker of the House Kurt Daudt last week at the AMC Legislative Conference in St. Paul.*

**Caption # 2:** *(From left to right) AMC President and Roseau County Commissioner Jack Swanson, Lt. Gov. Tina Flint Smith, and AMC Executive Director Julie Ring at the AMC Legislative Conference in St. Paul.*

**Caption # 3:** *U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar addressed the nearly 300 county officials and staff in attendance at the AMC Legislative Conference on Friday morning.*