



**83rd Annual Conference & Expo
July 22-25, Nashville TN
Renaissance Nashville Hotel**

Schedule At-A-Glance

FRIDAY, JULY 21

9 am - 5 pm MTAS Elected Officials Foundations

SATURDAY, JULY 22

9 am - 5 pm MTAS Elected Officials Operations
12 noon - 5 pm Conference Registration
1 - 4:30 pm CMFO & Utility Board Training Workshops
1- 4:30 pm TML Policy Committees

SUNDAY, JULY 23

8:45 - 10:15 am Women in Government
9 - 10 am Small Cities Mixer
9 am - 5 pm Registration
9:30 am - 3 pm Exhibit Hall Open
10:30 - 11:30 am Workshops
11:30 am - 1:30 pm Lunch
2 - 2:45 pm District Meetings
3 - 5 pm Opening Session
6 - 8 pm Welcome Reception

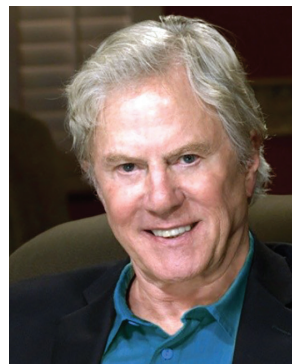
MONDAY, JULY 24

7:15 - 8:15 am Breakfast
8:30 am - 3 pm Exhibit Hall Open
8:30 - 9:30 am Workshops
9:45 - 11 am Second General Session
11:15 am - 12 pm Annual Business Meeting
12 - 1:30 pm Lunch
12:45 - 2:15 pm J.R. Wauford Ice Cream
2 - 2:30 pm Vendor Door Prizes
2:45 - 3:45 pm Workshops
4 - 5 pm Workshops
6:30 - 11 pm Public Entity Partners Social

TUESDAY, JULY 25

8 - 10 am Awards Breakfast

**Opening General Session
Sunday, July 23, 3 - 5 pm**



Joe Elmore

Joe Elmore, host of NPTs *Tennessee Crossroads*, will serve as the keynote speaker for the opening general session on Sunday, July 23. He will share some of his favorite stories from his travels throughout the state.

Tennessee Crossroads is a magazine-style, travel show that celebrates the interesting people and places mostly found on the back roads of the state. The show takes viewers on a journey exploring all of the unique personalities, crafts, food, destinations and events that make our state such a special place to live and visit. Each unique subject highlighted by the show is not only a point of pride for our state but is taking place in one of the 345 municipalities you call home.

Mr. Elmore has hosted the show since its inception at WNPT, Nashville, in 1987. "Crossroads" – now aired on stations throughout Tennessee and the Southeast – reigns as one of the highest-rated PBS-based shows in the nation.

Also on Sunday's agenda is Clarence Anthony, National League of Cities executive director. He will update city officials on key happenings on the federal level and share his insights as to what's over the horizon for towns and cities across the country.



Clarence Anthony

Anthony has served as NLC's executive director since 2012. Before joining NLC, he served for 24 years as the mayor of South Bay, Fla.

2023 Conference Agenda

FRIDAY, JULY 21

9 am – 5 pm

MTAS EOA Foundation

SATURDAY, JULY 22

9 am – 5 pm

MTAS EOA Operations

12-5 pm

Conference Registration

1 – 2 pm

Workshop 1. *Governing Water/Wastewater Utility Systems Utility Policies and Operations*

Speaker: Steve Wyatt, MTAS Utility Operations Consultant

Improving your knowledge of municipal water/wastewater operations can improve how you govern and make decisions regarding your community's water supply. This course will provide insight into the laws and regulations for water and wastewater utilities, introduce challenges utilities are facing, and explore some policy examples for utility boards.

Utility: 1 hour (must attend all 4 sessions)

Workshop 2. *Overview of Internal Controls*

Speaker: Cassie Wheeler, MTAS Finance Consultant

What are internal controls? Why are they important for your municipality and who is responsible for them? This session will answer your burning questions about internal controls and review common internal control deficiencies in municipalities.

CMFO: 1 hour

2:15 – 3:15 pm

Workshop 3. *Compliance and Regulation Challenges*

Speaker: Steve Wyatt, MTAS Utility Operations Consultant

Utility: 1 hour (must attend all 4 sessions)

Workshop 4. Revenue Collections

Speaker: Tonya Travis, MTAS Finance Consultant

This session will explore the various types of revenues that a municipality can collect. A brief description will be provided along with any recent changes.

CMFO: 1 hour

3:30 – 4:30 pm

Workshop 5. *Treatment and Distribution Basics*

Speaker: Steve Wyatt, MTAS Utility Operations Consultant

Utility: 1 hour (must attend all 4 sessions)

Workshop 6. *Drug Fund Administration*

Speaker: David Moore, MTAS Police Management Consultant

This workshop will cover all aspects of drug fund administration including the accounting process; allowable expenditures; budget requirements; and maximizing drug fund revenues.

CMFO: 1 hour

1 – 4:30 pm

TML Policy Committees

SUNDAY, JULY 23

S.T.I.R. Events (Socialize, Talk, Interact and Reconnect)

8:45 - 10: 15 am

Women in Government

9 – 10 am

Small Cities

9 am – 5 pm

Registration

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Exhibit Hall Open

10:30 – 11:30 am

Workshop 7. TBA

Workshop 8. *IT Budgeting for Non-Technical Leaders*

Speaker: Bill Piper, Regional Vice President, VC3

How do you provide budget leadership for your city's IT when you don't understand how IT works? Municipal leaders face the daunting task of equipping themselves to lead with authority in this area and make the best choices, often with limited resources. Join us for a workshop on IT Budgeting that will provide you with an easy-to-apply framework to: provide budget leadership for your city's IT; provide helpful accountability to your IT provider/staff; articulate an intelligent cybersecurity strategy without understanding how to do it; and know when you should bring IT in-house (and what functions make the most sense)

CMFO: 1 hour

Workshop 9. Ongoing and Emerging Challenges

Speaker: Steve Wyatt, MTAS Utility Operations Consultant

Utility: 1 hour (must attend all 4 sessions)

11:30 am - 1:30 pm Lunch

2– 2:45 pm

District Meetings

District 1: Darrell Duncan, Alderman, Kingsport

District 2: David Smoak, Town Administrator, Farragut

District 3: Stefanie Dalton, Vice Mayor, Red Bank

District 4: Keith Morrison, City Administrator, Algood

District 5: Ann Schneider Williams, Mayor, Springfield

District 6: Blake Lay, Mayor, Lawrenceburg

District 7: Mike French, Alderman, Somerville

District 8: Bethany Huffman, Vice Mayor, Millington

3 - 5 pm

Opening General Session

Keynote Speakers:

Clarence Anthony, *NLC Executive Director*

Joe Elmore, *Tennessee Crossroads*

6 - 8 pm

Welcome Reception:

National Museum of African American Music

2023 Conference Agenda

MONDAY, JULY 24

7:15 – 8:15 am
8 am – 3 pm

Breakfast
Exhibit Hall Open

8:30 – 9:30 am

Workshop 10. *The Sales Ratio Surprise: What You Don't Know about Next Year's Property Tax Collections But Should*
Speaker: Will Denami, Executive Director, TN Association of Assessing Officers

The Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury adopted a new rule change to the Sales Ratio Study that will impact market values assigned to certain properties. This workshop will define what a sales tax ratio is and why is it relevant to cities; what has changed and what are the consequences of the change; and what local governments can do about the change.

CMFO: 1 hour / Utility: 1 hour

Workshop 11. *Changes in the Retail Landscape*

Speakers: Lena Geraghty and Julia Glickman, NLC Sustainability and Urban Innovation specialists

As communities continue to recover from the pandemic and establish a new normal, the state of retail has changed. This workshop will detail the trends affecting small businesses, e-commerce, and the retail workforce. NLC has just published new research that confirms that retail is rebounding, but downtowns continue to be affected by the growth in flexible work-from-home schedules and the persistent struggles to hire and retain workers in retail, warehousing, and delivery services. Come learn creative strategies for promoting downtown and main street vitality in a post pandemic world.

CMFO: 1 hour / Utility: 1 hour

Workshop 12. *Social Media and the First Amendment*

Speaker: Attorney, Spencer Fane McAllester Bone

Facebook, Twitter, Reddit, Instagram, and other social media platforms are great ways to engage with your community. But what can an elected official do when a citizen responds negatively? Can you just delete a message you don't agree with? Are there First Amendment implications? Are these public forums? This session analyzes how to handle these issues, what can and can't be done, and much more.

Utility: 1 hour

9:30– 9:45 am

Break

9:45 – 11 am

Second General Session

The Future of Electric Power in Tennessee

Panelists:

- Brian Solsbee, CEO, TN Municipal Power Assoc
- Mike Knotts, CEO, TN Electric Coop
- Justin Mairehofer, Regional Vice President, TVA

Electric power is essential to all aspects of our lives, economy and future. Tennessee has historically benefited from access to low-cost, highly reliable electric power, positioning the state as one of the most attractive for economic investment and quality of life for its residents. However, rapidly changing technologies, consumer demand, concern for climate change, and unprecedented population growth are challenging to



Brian Solsbee



Mike Knotts



Justin Mairehofer

day's electric energy providers. What is the electric industry doing to meet these and other challenges, and how can cities best adapt to ensure their own competitiveness and livability? Our panelists are leaders in all aspects of Tennessee's electric power industry and will share their insights into these issues.

CMFO: 1 hour / Utility: 1 hour

11:15 am – 12pm

Annual Business Meeting

Installation of 2023-24 TML Board of Directors

12– 1:45 pm

Lunch

12:45 - 2:15 pm

J.R. Wauford Ice Cream

2– 2:30 pm

Door prizes

2:45 - 3:45 pm

Workshop 13. *From Conflict to Conversation: Public Engagement*

Speaker: Matt Lehrman, Social Prosperity Partners

TML's 2021 conference in Chattanooga showcased an inspiring opening keynote titled "From Conflict to Conversation," which encouraged local leaders to harness the power of courageous conversations to build communities where individuals feel connected, respected, and heard. TML has invited Mr. Lehrman back for a deep-dive workshop that focuses on practical tools and strategies for navigating real-life situations. The first hour of the workshop will be dedicated to public engagement, while the second hour will focus on intra-council relations. Attendees are welcome to join either or both sessions. Utility: 1 hour

Workshop 14. *Catching the Blue Oval Wave: Site Selection & Recruiting*

Speaker: Chassen Haynes, TnEcd, Business Development

With the development of Blue Oval City in Stanton, TN, there will be plenty of opportunities for communities to land automotive suppliers – and it's not just limited to West Tennessee. Come hear from economic development officials how suppliers could be coming to communities across all three grand divisions of the state. Municipalities with active industrial development boards, ready sites, and those that can quickly provide data on community assets will have substantial recruitment advantages. The state currently has 50 state-certified sites, but TNECD officials estimate more will be needed to meet the demand of suppliers interested in providing parts to Blue Oval City. Come learn how you can ready your community and catch the wave.

CMFO: 1 hour / Utility: 1 hour

Workshop 15. *What is a Utility Rate Study and Do I need One?*
Speaker: Brad Harris, MTAS Finance Consultant

Some utilities proactively contract for a comprehensive utility study, while others are required by the State to do so. This session will discuss the need, what triggers a study and what to expect once it is complete.

CMFO: 1 hour / Utility: 1 hour

4 - 5 pm

Workshop 16.

From Conflict to Conversation: Intra-Council Relations

Speaker: Matt Lehrman

Amidst unprecedented disruption and uncertainty, there's never been a more necessary time for community leaders to learn how to tackle complex and sensitive issues. This workshop will focus on intra-council relations.

Utility: 1 hour



Matt Lehrman

Workshop 17.

How does Historic Preservation bring in tourism dollars?

Speakers: Philip Staffelli-Suel and Lane Tillner, Preservation Coordinators, TN Historical Commission

Taking an active role in preserving your communities' historical sites can be an economic boon for your municipality, as well as highlight what makes your community unique. The Certified Local Government (CLG) program was established in 1980 with the goal of helping local governments, state preservation offices, and the National Parks Service partner together to provide resources to local governments that can be used for historic zoning programs, and renovation and rehabilitation of historic sites. For smaller municipalities, this can be an important economic tool for bringing more visitors to your community. There are numerous credits, grants, and other financial benefits by becoming a member city in the CLG program. Come learn how you can join this federal, state, and local partnership and help preserve your communities' historic assets.

CMFO: 1 hour / Utility: 1 hour

Workshop 18.

Understanding Audited Financial Statements

Speaker: Brad Harris, MTAS Finance Consultant

While finance directors and city recorders work every day with the 'numbers', elected officials, departments heads and others often struggle to understand what is included in, and what is really important to understand about the annual Audit Report. This session will teach what is really important to know and how to read the information.

CMFO: 1 hour / Utility: 1 hour

6:30 -11 pm

PE Partners Social

TUESDAY, JULY 25

8:00 – 10:30 am

Awards Breakfast

TML Achievement Awards

TCAPWA Murphy Snoderly

TCMA City Manager

Bob Kirk Local Government Award

Mayor of the Year

Conference Special Events

- **Sunday, July 23, 8:45 - 10:15 am**
Women in Government S.T.I.R event
- **Sunday, July 23, 9 - 10 am**
Small Cities S.T.I.R event
- **Sunday, July 23, 6 - 8 pm**
Welcome Reception:
National Museum of African American Music
- **Monday, July 24, 6:30 -11 pm**
Public Entity Partners Social
- **Tuesday, July 25, 8-10 am**
Annual Awards Breakfast



Sunday night's welcome reception will be held at the National Museum of African American Music. The museum's curated collections share the story of the American

soundtrack by integrating history and interactive technology. Visitors will be able to explore the museum at their own pace and let the music guide you! Light refreshments will be served.

Need some CMFO or Utility Board Training Hours?

Several conference sessions at TML's Annual Conference will meet the continuing education requirements for the Certified Municipal Finance Officers (CMFO) and Utility Board Member Training. A total of 11 workshops sessions have been approved as CMFO courses and 14 sessions have been approved as Utility Board Training credits. Sign up sheets will be available in each session. All sessions are opened to registered attendees.