



Management Messenger



TEXAS CITY MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION • DECEMBER 2009



TCMA Statewide Offices

The TCMA Nominating Committee will be accepting recommendations for prospective candidates for the following 2010-2011 statewide offices: **president elect, vice president, and TML Board representative.**

As you think about candidates for these statewide TCMA Board positions, we encourage you to consider the following factors: active involvement in TCMA, active involvement in the TCMA region, years of municipal government service, TCMA committee service, desire to serve, level of regional support, and prior TCMA Board service. The committee will consider each person's candidacy in light of the current composition of the Board and will strive to achieve a balance among such factors as geography, size of city, ethnicity, and gender.

Please see Election Calendar on page 2.

The Texas City Management Association is pleased to send you this month's edition of the *Management Messenger*. It features recent changes in city management positions around the state, current job listings, names of new members, information about upcoming educational events, and news about our colleagues. This newsletter and past issues are also posted at <http://www.tcma.org/newsletter.htm>.

You play an important role in the ethics process. Acquaint yourself with the Code of Ethics at http://www.tcma.org/dev_ethics.html and its Rules of Procedure for Enforcement at http://www.tcma.org/dev_rules.html.

Please remember to browse through YOUR Web site, <http://www.tcma.org>.

If you have some interesting news that you would like to see included in the *Management Messenger*, please e-mail messenger@tml.org.

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The Texas City Management Association (TCMA) Presents

The 2010 William “King” Cole Effective Local Government Series



About the William “King” Cole Series

This nationally respected educational program—named posthumously in honor of William “King” Cole, a respected friend to TCMA and former Texas city manager—focuses on knowledge, commitment, and ethics in the spirit of “King.”

Session I of the William “King” Cole Series introduces the fundamentals of city management—the basic, core duties and responsibilities of today’s city management professional—and Session II continues to build on this foundation by presenting different educational modules to complement what was learned previously. Both sessions feature comprehensive discussion, top-notch instruction, and ample networking opportunities.

Please note that these two sessions are independent of each other. Although most people attend both sessions, attendance at Session I is not a prerequisite for attending Session II.



Election Calendar

We encourage you to familiarize yourself with the following schedule:

January 4

Provide sample of petition through the TCMA Web site.

February 26

Receive membership recommendations through this date either by U.S. mail or e-mail.

March 1–12

TCMA Nominating Committee meeting during this time to discuss membership recommendations, verify petitions, and identify, when appropriate, committee’s selection for the ballot.

March 15–April 2

Provide ballots to membership with biographical information on each candidate and how he/she was placed on the ballot.

April 5–16

Sub-committee (appointed by TCMA president) of Nominating Committee canvasses votes.

April 19–April 23

If a tie occurs, forward a second ballot to voting members this week.

May 7

Complete and return second ballot to TCMA headquarters through this date.

May 10–14

Sub-committee (appointed by TCMA president) of Nominating Committee canvasses votes.

June 26

Announcement of election results is made no later than at the annual business meeting during the TCMA Annual Conference in Galveston and through the TCMA online newsletter.



2010 TCMA Scholarship and Award Programs



Each year, TCMA provides opportunities to recognize and honor colleagues. Several programs are now underway to promote the ideals of the association. Please take time to review and promote each of these programs in your region. The deadline for application for each program is January 15, 2010. For more

information and an application form for each of these programs, please visit www.tcma.org. Click on the "Programs" link and select the program you wish to view.

Membership Dues Renewals

Membership dues renewals are in progress. Members can renew online at www.tcma.org. Click on the "About TCMA" link and select "Membership Renewal." A box will be provided to indicate whether you have fulfilled the ethics requirement, along with a field to state when and where the requirement was fulfilled (see TCMA Code of Ethics below). Dues can be paid with a credit card, and member profiles can be updated from the same link. If you have not fulfilled the ethics requirement, there is still time. An online version is available at www.esslearning.com/tcma. **The deadline for renewals is December 31.**

Just as a reminder, on March 6, 2009, the TCMA Board made changes to the TCMA Code of Ethics Guidelines and Rules of Procedure for Enforcement as they apply to the ethics requirement for membership renewal. Please review Tenet 8 and the Guidelines as provided below. The change has been highlighted to assist you in determining how this affects you.

Tenet 8. Make it a duty continually to improve the member's professional ability and to develop the competence of associates in the use of management techniques.

Guidelines: Self-Assessment. Each member should assess his or her professional skills and abilities on a periodic basis. Professional Development. Each member should commit at least 40 hours per year to professional development activities and ethics that are based on the practices identified by the members of ICMA. Documentation of completed ethics training must accompany new member applications **and current members must attend two hours of ethics training every two years to maintain TCMA membership.** Only Full and Associate members are required to take this training. Life, Distinguished, Cooperating, and Student/Intern members are encouraged, but not required, to take this ethics training.



Management Transitions

Jan Belcher is no longer the city manager for the City of Tomball. **Christal Kliewer** is the interim city manager for that city.

Joni Clarke is the new town manager for the Town of South Padre Island.

Ron Crabtree will retire February 26 as the city manager for the City of Deer Park.

Juan Antonio Garza is no longer the city manager for the City of San Juan. **Tirso Garza** is the interim city manager for that city.

Ramiro Garza is the new city manager for the City of Edinburg.

Tom Ginter is the new city manager for the City of Beeville.

Tony Johnston (current assistant city manager) is the interim city manager for the City of The Colony.

Michael Jones is no longer the city administrator for the City of Howe.

Peter Kampf is the city manager for the City of Colorado City.

Michael Kovacs has resigned from his position as city manager for the City of Port Aransas. He will be the new assistant city manager for the City of Park City, Utah.

Kelvin Knauf is the city manager for the City of Rockdale.

Craig Lonon is no longer the city manager for the City of Harlingen. **Gabriel Gonzalez** is the interim city manager for that city.

David Miller is no longer the city manager for the City of Forest Hill. **Debbie Maness** (current city secretary) is the interim city manager for that city.

Judy Miller is the new city manager for the City of Sonora.

Johnny Price is the new city administrator for the City of Caldwell.

Hector Saenz is the new city administrator for the City of Cockrell Hill.

Ashley Stathatos is no longer the city manager for the City of Oak Point.

Chuck Upton is no longer the interim city manager for the City of Whitney.

Brandon Wade is the new city manager for the City of Pflugerville, effective January 4, 2010.

Donald Warschak is the new city manager for the City of Columbus, effective December 14.

Visit [tcma.org](http://www.tcma.org) to see if you qualify for TCMA In-transition Services. For a list of current city management job openings in Texas, please visit http://www.tcma.org/jobs_openings.html.



Management Messenger

Meet Your Colleagues

The TCMA *Management Messenger* introduces and welcomes **Joni Clarke** to her new position as the town manager for Town of South Padre Island. Her appointment began on November 4, and prior to her appointment, Joni served as the city's acting city manager and assistant city manager. It is a very exciting time for the Town of South Padre Island, passing its Home Rule Charter during the November election.

Joni also served as the assistant city manager for the City of Hutto. Joni began her public sector career working as an accountant for Kalamazoo County Government in Michigan. She relocated to Colorado, where she accepted a position as sales tax auditor for the City of Longmont. During her tenure in Longmont, she became president of the Colorado Association of Municipal Tax Auditors and worked with the Colorado Municipal League on special projects.

Joni enjoys living on the Island with her two dogs, Spanky and Nakita. She is an avid equestrian and competes on her American Quarter Horse Elans Stargate (his friends call him "Dino") in the working cow horse and reigning events.

The Town of South Padre Island will be hosting the 2012 TCMA Annual Conference, and Joni encourages her colleagues to attend for some fun in the sun.

Congratulations

The TCMA *Management Messenger* congratulates **Larry Fields** for celebrating 30 years as the city manager for the City of Graham.

The National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA) has announced the election of Plano City Manager **Thomas H. Muehlenbeck** as a NAPA Fellow. He now joins a pool of Fellows who have demonstrated distinguished experience and/or scholarship in public administration and who serve as the cornerstone of the organization.

Fellows members encompass current and former public managers and scholars, members of Congress, governors, mayors, state legislators and diplomats from around the nation. They provide insight and experience as they oversee Academy projects and provide general guidance. They are also the Academy's primary vehicle for addressing emerging issues and contributing to the intellectual discourse on governments.

A 2007 NAPA Public Service Award recipient, Mr. Muehlenbeck is nationally known for his brand of visionary local government management and his strong support of mentoring those entering the field of public and municipal administration.

(Press release provided by the City of Plano, November 20, 2009.)

New Member Applications

TCMA Board policy requires that names of new member applicants be published each month in the Management Messenger. Any written objection during the subsequent 30-day period will be reviewed by the TCMA Membership Committee. If no objections are received during this time, the names will be submitted for Board approval at the next scheduled Board meeting. Written objections can be mailed to TCMA, Attention: Membership Committee, 1821 Rutherford Lane, Suite 400, Austin, TX 78754.

Applications received for the month of November:

Full: **Robert E. Cervenka**, City Manager, Robinson

Cooperating 2: **William L. Turk**, Director, Master of Public Administration Program, University of Texas Pan American, McAllen

Member News

Julie Johnston, city administrator for the City of Dickinson, is struggling with cancer. She will be undergoing Herceptin and Zometa treatments. Please keep her in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

City News

The Glen Rose City Council approved an ordinance to create the position of city administrator. Discussions regarding qualifications and a date to begin the selection process are being determined.

TCMA Educational Events: Save the Dates

William "King" Cole Series—Session I: Basics
January 28-29, 2010, Texas Municipal Center, Austin

Texas City Management Clinic
February 18-19, 2010, Stagecoach Inn, Salado

William "King" Cole Series—Session II: Advanced
March 25-26, 2010, DoubleTree Hotel Campbell Centre, Dallas

TCMA Annual Conference
June 25-27, 2010, Moody Gardens, Galveston



TML Tidbits

Please make a note of these upcoming TML educational events:

Texas Municipal League Presents
**Positioning Your Community for Retail: Bringing
Retail to Underserved Markets**
Friday, December 11, 2009
Austin Marriott North at Round Rock

The Texas Municipal League Presents a Webinar
**Communicating Effectively with the Public,
Constituencies, and Internal Stakeholders!**
January 6, 2010 10:30 a.m.

TML Webinar: Communicating Effectively with the Public,
Constituencies, and Internal Stakeholders, January 6, 2010

TML
SMALL CITIES' PROBLEM-SOLVING CLINIC

TML Small Cities' Problem-Solving Clinic, Rio Hondo, February 5, 2010

The Texas Municipal League and the Association of
Mayors, Councilmembers and Commissioners

**2010
Elected Officials'
Conference**

February 12-14, 2010 • Camino Real Hotel • El Paso

We also encourage you to visit the entire TML Web site at www.tml.org.