

MTAS Municipal E-News

JUNE 2013 • ISSUE 48

CITY SPOTLIGHT:

ATOKA

Tipton County

West Tennessee

Incorporated in 1838

2012 Population: 8,387

Municipal Management Consultant

Ronnie Neill

ronnie.neill@tennessee.edu

CLASS LISTINGS AND INTERACTIVE TRAINING CALENDAR

Mark your calendar! MTAS training events and conferences are listed here along with information and how to register for upcoming training events on your Solution Point account. [READ](#)

RESEARCH/INFORMATION CENTER NEW MATERIALS

MTAS' Research and Information Center is always adding new materials to its collection. See what's new for this month. [READ](#)

PAST ISSUES OF THE MUNICIPAL E-NEWSLETTER

[READ](#)

TWO NEW MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS JOIN MTAS

We are pleased to announce that the MTAS staff is being joined by two fine professionals in Tennessee municipal management — **Honna Rogers** and **Jeff Broughton**. Honna joined MTAS on June 3 and Jeff will begin work with MTAS on June 24. Look for more information on Honna and Jeff in the next issue of the Municipal E-News. Welcome Honna and Jeff!

NEW ELECTRONIC DATABASE INCLUDES INFORMATION FROM PUBLICATIONS

On April 1, MTAS launched an electronic database containing the information formerly found in our publications. The information is organized by topic and is easily searchable making it a great way to find answers to questions about Tennessee municipal government. [READ](#)

CITIES ARE NOT EXEMPT FROM HEALTH CARE REFORM

Cities are not exempt from health care reform. This includes cities that participate in the state of Tennessee health plans. [READ](#)

MTAS HELPS SIGNAL MOUNTAIN FIND NEW TOWN MANAGER

The town of Signal Mountain began the search for a new town manager when Honna Rogers announced her resignation in early March. [READ](#)

NEW TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY BOARD MEMBER MIKE McWHERTER SPEAKS AT TREEDC–JOHNSON CONTROLS LUNCHEON IN JACKSON

Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) Board Member Mike McWherter spoke at the Tennessee Renewable Energy Economic Council (TREEDC) Renewable Energy Luncheon on April 22 in Jackson. [READ](#)



New Electronic Database Includes Information from Publications



On April 1, MTAS launched an electronic database containing the information formerly found in our publications. The information is organized by topic and is easily searchable making it a great way to find answers to questions about Tennessee municipal government. The MTAS Online Resource (MORe) is a mobile application capable of being used on a laptop, tablet or smartphone bringing this important information to you when and where you need it.

MORe can be found on the left-hand navigator of the MTAS website. To access MORe, go to www.mtas.tennessee.edu and select Access MORe from the left-hand menu.

The MORe database organizes information into 17 categories. The drop-down menu can be used to view all sub-topics as well as pages for each topic. Clicking on a page title will open the relevant page of information.

Each page in MORe has a reference number. This unique number (e.g. MTAS-65) is listed in the header information of each page. Searching for a particular reference number results in the exact same MORe page the next time it is needed.

Searching for keyword(s) allows all information related to the search term(s) to be displayed regardless of where it is stored within MORe. Remember to enclose multiple words in quotation marks to search for a specific phrase. Clicking on a page title within the search results list will open the relevant page of information.

Information in MORe may be printed by the page, by the section as a PDF file or sent to others via e-mail. The information will be updated as needed by MTAS field consultants. Review dates, which are being added to the database, will alert you to new changes. While the content within MORe remains the sole property of MTAS, we encourage its sharing and use to assist Tennessee municipalities.

We strongly recommend contacting your municipal management consultant with any questions as well as reviewing *Tennessee Code Annotated* and other relevant laws or regulations before taking actions based on the information within MORe.

Cities Are Not Exempt from Health Care Reform



“Cities are not exempt from healthcare reform. This includes cities that participate in the state of Tennessee health plans. All cities need to understand how this comprehensive legislation will affect their entity. To help educate cities on this reform, we have a four-hour video training available (see below). [CLICK HERE](#) to go to our health care blog.”

Bonnie Jones, Human Resources Consultant



Bonnie Jones

Impact of Affordable Care Act Seminar — Presentation Slides and Recording Available

The County Technical Assistance Service (CTAS) and MTAS collaborated on an important seminar concerning the Affordable Care Act. In case you missed it or need a refresher, the presentation slides are available as well as the recorded session. To watch the four-hour presentation, [CLICK HERE](#). (Note: The presentation starts about eight minutes into the video. You may also elect to review the slides only.) To view the slides, [CLICK HERE](#).

MTAS Helps Signal Mountain Find New Town Manager

The town of Signal Mountain began the search for a new town manager when Honna Rogers announced her resignation in early March. The town called upon Lynn Wampler, who served as the interim manager before Rogers was hired and who had been the city administrator for Fayetteville before his retirement in 2006.

MTAS team members were in the midst of assessment center training, so Wampler and MTAS teamed up to create an assessment center for the town manager position. An assessment center is a compilation of exercises and interviews to assess how well candidates meet the core competencies for a specific position and to help determine who the best candidate is to fill a job. The assessment center was conducted for five candidates on April 30 and May 1.

MTAS team members included Pat Hardy, Gary Jaeckel, Bonnie Jones, Warren Nevad, Margaret Norris, Sharon Rollins, Amber Sanderson, Lisa Shipley and Richard Stokes, and they were joined by instructor Dr. Gary Kaufman. Assessors for the center included Lynn Wampler, Mike Tallent (retired MTAS executive director) and Ted Rogers (Collegedale city manager).

At the conclusion of the assessment center, the assessors recommended a short list to the city council who then conducted their own interviews on May 7. Positive comments were received about the process and the candidates.



Assessors for the center: Mike Tallent (retired MTAS executive director), Ted Rogers (Collegedale city manager), Lynn Wampler and Honna Rogers, former town manager for Signal Mountain

New Tennessee Valley Authority Board Member Mike McWherter Speaks at TREEDC–Johnson Controls Luncheon in Jackson

Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) Board Member Mike McWherter spoke at the Tennessee Renewable Energy Economic Council (TREEDC) Renewable Energy Luncheon on April 22 in Jackson. A total of 80 attendees also witnessed the TREEDC launch of Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's (TDEC) Energy Education Initiative. This initiative will be delivered in connection with TREEDC Diamond Member Pathway Lending and other statewide energy resource providers and will provide in-depth training and educational tools. TREEDC will be providing five forums across the state as part of this program.

(continued on page 4)



Seated, left to right: Jenny Wright, TVA; Jackson City Councilman Ernest Brooks II; and Mike McWherter, TVA. Standing, left to right: Penny Judd, TVA; Bill Owen, TREEDC; and Warren Nevad, UT-MTAS/TREEDC.

New Tennessee Valley Authority Board Member Mike McWherter Speaks at TREEDC–Johnson Controls Luncheon in Jackson

(continued from page 3)

Joe Bond of Johnson Controls and Greg Palko of Oak Ridge National Laboratory provided a powerpoint presentation of ORNL’s energy efficiency and renewable energy programs. [CLICK HERE](#) to view the luncheon powerpoint. Attendees also participated in an interactive energy survey conducted by Rick Marsh, director, Industrial Energy Efficiency Network. Molly Cripps and Katie Southworth of TDEC shared details of the state’s qualified energy conservation bond program, which has a \$64 million allocation. UT Center for Industrial Services (CIS) Consultant Keith Groves also discussed his agency’s E3 initiative. The E3 Initiative, which stands for Economy, Energy and Environment, is an innovative program that supports manufacturing leadership through sustainability. Pat Riley, with TREEDC Gold Member Tennessee Gas Association, gave a thorough presentation about the environmental and economic benefits of natural gas for fleets.

McWherter also expressed his appreciation to the University of Tennessee, Johnson Controls, the TREEDC mayors and TREEDC Legal Affairs Coordinator/Jackson Councilman Ernest Brooks II for organizing the luncheon. He added that TREEDC has successfully helped signed up more than 100 new TVA Green Power switch customers last year and urged TVA to continue its support of the 92 TREEDC mayors. The Tennessee Soybean promotion Board also sponsored the luncheon forum.

MTAS Training Calendar



■ MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATOR PROGRAM

July – November 2013

PRIVACY AND CYBER RISK EXPOSURES

July 10-31

2013 MUNICIPAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

August 6-23

CONSIDERATIONS WHEN LOOKING AT WATER AND SEWER RATES AND FEES

September 11-23

INTERNAL CONTROL: IDENTIFYING AND MINIMIZING RISKS FOR GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES

October 9-21

PLANNING AND ZONING’S IMPACT ON MUNICIPAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

November 6-22

All classes are from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Classes are held in locations across the state. Check for a location near you. For information, [CLICK HERE](#).

■ MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT ACADEMY LEVEL I

MMA LEVEL I – SPRING HILL OPEN ENROLLMENT

Northfield Building, 100 Northfield Lane, Spring Hill

8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. • June 11

For information, [CLICK HERE](#).

■ CERTIFIED MUNICIPAL FINANCE OFFICER PROGRAM OPEN ENROLLMENT

FINANCIAL REPORTING

Knoxville • June 26

Jackson • June 26

For information, [CLICK HERE](#).

(more Training Calendar Events continued on page 5)

MTAS Training Calendar



MTAS OFFERINGS AT THE 2013 TML ANNUAL CONFERENCE

■ ELECTED OFFICIALS ACADEMY LEVEL II TML PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS • JUNE 21-22 • MEMPHIS REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JUNE 13

[CLICK HERE FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION](#)

The UT Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) will host pre-conference sessions this year at the Tennessee Municipal League (TML) Annual Conference in Memphis. The sessions offered are part of Level II of the Elected Officials Academy program. Each session is designed specifically for the elected official and allows time for networking and sharing ideas with other cities. These sessions will be informative for both seasoned and newly elected officials in Tennessee. Participants will also earn hours toward completing Level II of the Elected Officials Academy program. **Please note that participants must complete five sessions to receive the Elected Officials Academy Level II certificate. The cost is \$200 per person.** This one-time fee includes registration for Elected Officials Academy Level II. Meals and snacks will be provided both days.

- June 21 • Municipal Human Resources (4-6 p.m.)
- June 21 • Municipal Water and Wastewater Operations (6:30-8:30 p.m.)
- June 22 • Municipal Fire Service Review (8-10 a.m.)
- June 22 • Municipal Public Works (10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.)
- June 22 • Municipal Police Review (1-3 p.m.)

For more information, contact Kurt Frederick at (615) 253-6385 or e-mail kurt.frederick@tennessee.edu

CERTIFIED MUNICIPAL FINANCE OFFICER (CMFO) PROGRAM CLASSES AT TML CMFO credits available through conference workshops. [CLICK HERE](#)

Mark Your Calendar!

TENNESSEE MUNICIPAL LEAGUE (TML) ANNUAL CONFERENCE

June 22-25 • Memphis
[CLICK HERE](#) for information.

JUNE

GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL CONFERENCE

June 2-5 • San Francisco
[CLICK HERE](#) for information.

IPMA-HR JOINT CENTRAL-SOUTHERN REGION CONFERENCE

June 6-12 • New Orleans
[CLICK HERE](#) for information.

JULY

TENNESSEE FIRE CHIEFS ANNUAL MEETING

July 14-17 • Airport Marriott, Nashville
[CLICK HERE](#) for information.

KENTUCKY-TENNESSEE WATER PROFESSIONALS CONFERENCE

July 14-17 • Louisville, KY
[CLICK HERE](#) for information.

June 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

July 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

The Municipal E-News is produced by the Municipal Technical Advisory Service, an agency of the University of Tennessee Institute for Public Service, in an effort to meet the challenge of providing timely, valuable information and assistance to Tennessee cities to build better communities. The University of Tennessee is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA institution in the provision of its education and employment programs and services. MTAS1794 • E4-1050-000-050-13