

Shaping the Future of our
Cities and Villages with
Leadership & Vision



2024 MIDWINTER CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 26-27, 2024

CORNHUSKER MARRIOTT HOTEL, LINCOLN



Deb VanMatre
League President
Mayor, Gibbon



2024 MIDWINTER CONFERENCE

LEAGUE OF NEBRASKA MUNICIPALITIES

Cornhusker Marriott Hotel, Lincoln

February 26-27, 2024



MUNICIPAL TREASURERS AND MUNICIPAL ATTORNEYS: The League will let you know as soon as the State Auditor's Office and the Mandatory Continuing Legal Education Commission informs us of the number of hours each will receive.

Tentative Conference Program (subject to change)

Monday, February 26, 2024

- 7:30–8 am** **Registration:** Visit Display Areas (coffee and rolls available)
- 8–9 am** **Welcome**
League President Deb VanMatre, Mayor of Gibbon
Attorney General's Update: Be informed about important cases, legislation, and work of the Nebraska Attorney General's Office affecting municipal operations and public safety.
Nebraska Attorney General Mike Hilgers
- 9–9:15 am** **Break:** Visit Display Areas
- 9:15–10:30 am** **EPIC Option:** Learn more about the consequences of enacting the EPIC Option to “Eliminate Property, Income, and Corporate” (EPIC) Taxes.
Korby Gilbertson, Partner, Radcliffe Gilbertson & Brady
Dylan Grundman O'Neill, Senior State Policy Analyst, Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy
- 10:30–10:45 am** **Break:** Visit Display Areas
- 10:45–11:45 am** **League Legislative Update**
L. Lynn Rex, Executive Director, LNM
- 11:45 am–12 pm** **Break:** Visit Display Areas
- 12–1:30 pm** **Luncheon**
Keynote Address: Understanding the “Art of Compromise” to Minimize the “Politics of Division”
Former U.S. Senator and Nebraska Governor E. Benjamin Nelson
- 1:30–1:45 pm** **Break:** Visit Display Areas
- 1:45–2:45 pm** **Concurrent Sessions:**
- A. Community Partnerships:** Learn how the Nebraska Military Department is partnering with municipalities across the state.
(Session repeated at 3 pm)
Major General Craig Strong, Adjutant General of the Nebraska Military Department which includes the Air National Guard, Army National Guard and the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency
 - B. Artificial Intelligence (AI):** Learn about the practical and transformative potential of AI and how it can benefit your city or village.
(Session repeated at 3 pm)
Google Representative
 - C. Social Media Policies and Related Issues:** Be informed about the importance of a social media policy and upcoming cases before the U.S. Supreme Court.
(Session repeated at 3 pm)
Moderator: Christy Abraham, Legal Counsel, LNM
Danielle Myers-Noelle, City Attorney, Norfolk
Laura McAloon, City Administrator, Grand Island
Nebraska Information Technology Commission Representative
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Monday, February 26, 2024 (con't.)

1:45–2:45 pm

Concurrent Sessions: (con't.)

D. DED Grants: Update on timelines and requirements for affordable housing grants, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), Civic and Community Center Financing Fund (CCCFF) grants, and grants related to Creative Districts.

(Session repeated at 3 pm)

Jenny Mason, Director, Disaster Recovery Division, Nebraska Department of Economic Development

Rachel Morgan, Program Specialist, Nebraska Arts Council

2:45–3 pm

Break: Visit Display Areas

3–4 pm

Concurrent Sessions:

A. Community Partnerships: Learn how the Nebraska Military Department is partnering with municipalities across the state.

(Repeat of 1:45 pm session)

Major General Craig Strong, Adjutant General of the Nebraska Military Department which includes the Air National Guard, Army National Guard and the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency

B. Artificial Intelligence (AI): Learn about the practical and transformative potential of AI and how it can benefit your city or village.

(Repeat of 1:45 pm session)

Google Representative

C. Social Media Policies and Related Issues: Be informed about the importance of a social media policy and upcoming cases before the U.S. Supreme Court.

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Moderator: Christy Abraham, Legal Counsel, LNM

Danielle Myers-Noelle, City Attorney, Norfolk

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Nebraska Information Technology Commission Representative

D. DED Grants: Update on timelines and requirements for affordable housing grants, Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), Civic and Community Center Financing Fund (CCCFF) grants, and grants related to Creative Districts.

(Repeat of 1:45 pm session)

Jenny Mason, Director, Disaster Recovery Division, Nebraska Department of Economic Development

Rachel Morgan, Program Specialist, Nebraska Arts Council

4–4:15 pm

Break: Visit Display Areas

4:15–5:30 pm

Section Meetings:

Mayors and Village Board Chairs

Smaller Cities and Villages

Larger Cities

Clerks

City Managers/Administrators

Utilities Section

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Tuesday, February 27, 2024

7–8 am **NCMA Membership Breakfast**

8 am **Registration:** Visit Display Areas (coffee and rolls available)

8:15–9:15 am **Concurrent Sessions:**

A. EPIC Panel: Learn how to educate municipal officials and others about the proposed legislation and constitutional amendments to “Eliminate Property, Income and Corporate” (EPIC) Taxes.

(Session repeated at 10:45 am)

Jeff Hofaker, City Administrator, Sutton

Melissa Harrell, City Administrator, Wahoo

Layne Groseth, City Administrator, North Platte

B. Cybersecurity: Best practices to prevent cyber threats, important training for employees, and recommendations for employer policies, password management, safe web browsing, secure file sharing, and options for implementing multi-factor authentication (MFA).

(Session repeated at 9:30 am)

Ed Knott, President, Applied Connective Technologies

Jarod Dendinger, Relationship Manager, Applied Connective Technologies

Kenley Silhacek, Senior IT Network Engineer, Applied Connective Technologies

C. Top 10 Questions Asked with No Clear Answer in State Law

Christy Abraham, Legal Counsel, LNM

Lash Chaffin, Utilities Section Director, LNM

D. Effective Security Measures: Learn how to better protect citizens, municipal officials, and employees attending public meetings and events. *(This session is sponsored by the League Association of Risk Management.)*

James Kelley, Loss Control Specialist, LARM

John Hobbs, Loss Control Specialist, LARM

9 am–4 pm **Fire Chiefs Section Meeting**

9:15–9:30 am **Break:** Visit Display Areas

9:30–10:30 am **Concurrent Sessions:**

A. Preventative Internal Controls Necessary to Safeguard Municipal Assets: What elected and appointed officials need to know.

(Session repeated at 10:45 am)

Craig Kubicek, CPA, CFE, Deputy Auditor, Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts

B. Cybersecurity: Best practices to prevent cyber threats, important training for employees, and recommendations for employer policies, password management, safe web browsing, secure file sharing, and options for implementing multi-factor authentication (MFA).

(Repeat of 8:15 am session)

Ed Knott, President, Applied Connective Technologies

Jarod Dendinger, Relationship Manager, Applied Connective Technologies

Kenley Silhacek, Senior IT Network Engineer, Applied Connective Technologies

C. Infrastructure: Learn about the importance of creating an ongoing infrastructure maintenance plan.

Lash Chaffin, Utilities Section Director, LNM

D. Strategic Planning: How to develop a vision and blueprint of your municipality's goals, planned projects to achieve these goals, and benchmarks to increase success!

(Session repeated at 10:45 am)

Steve Rathman, Police Chief, Plattsmouth

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Tuesday, February 27, 2024 (con't.)

- 9:30–10:30 am** **Concurrent Sessions: (con't.)**
E. League Insurance Government Health Team (LIGHT) Board of Directors Meeting: Everyone is welcome to attend this meeting. Please take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about LIGHT and the partnership with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska and Mutual of Omaha. (This meeting may last more than one hour.)
- 10:30–10:45 am** **Break:** Visit Display Areas
- 10:45–11:45 am** **Concurrent Sessions:**
- A. Preventative Internal Controls Necessary to Safeguard Municipal Assets:** What elected and appointed officials need to know.
(Repeat of 9:30 am session)
Craig Kubicek, CPA, CFE, Deputy Auditor, Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts
 - B. EPIC Panel:** Learn how to educate municipal officials and others about the proposed legislation and constitutional amendments to “Eliminate Property, Income and Corporate” (EPIC) Taxes.
(Repeat of 8:15 am session)
Jeff Hofaker, City Administrator, Sutton
Melissa Harrell, City Administrator, Wahoo
Layne Groseth, City Administrator, North Platte
 - C. Risk Management:** Learn why markets are hardening in Nebraska and across the United States with increasing costs for property coverages. *(This session is sponsored by the League Association of Risk Management.)*
Justin Swarbrick, Senior Vice President, Alliant Insurance Services
 - D. Strategic Planning:** How to develop a vision and blueprint of your municipality’s goals, planned projects to achieve these goals, and benchmarks to increase success!
(Repeat of 9:30 am session)
Steve Rathman, Police Chief, Plattsmouth
- 11:45 am–12 pm** **Break:** Visit Display Areas
- 12 pm** **Designated Delegates with White Ribbons on Their Name Badges:** Greet your State Senator.
- 12–1:10 pm** **Senator Appreciation Luncheon**
- 1:10 pm** **Adjournment – Thank you for coming! Please drive safely!**
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Conference Information

Designed for elected or appointed officials, the focus of the **2024 Midwinter Conference** will be current and proposed legislation and how it affects local governments. A highlight of the two-day conference will be the Senator Appreciation Luncheon, which offers municipal officials an opportunity to meet and visit with their State Senators.

- ❑ All conference sessions will be held at the Cornhusker Marriott Hotel, 333 South 13th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508.
- ❑ To make room reservations at the Cornhusker, call 1-866-706-7706 or 402-474-7474. When calling to reserve a room, please state that you are attending the League's conference to obtain the special room rate. The deadline for reserving a room is **Feb. 5**.
- ❑ The room rate is \$112 for a single or double room with Government ID card. If you need an ID card, contact the League office. Individual guest accounts are payable at check out by cash or credit card.
- ❑ Check in time is approximately 4 p.m.; check out time is 11 a.m.
- ❑ The preregistration deadline is **Feb. 9**. Registrations received after this date will incur higher registration costs. Advance registrations not cancelled by this date or "no shows" will be billed since the sessions will be recorded and sent to registered delegates.
- ❑ If you need special accommodations or equipment at this conference, contact the League office by **Feb. 9**.
- ❑ To meet printing schedules for the conference materials, sponsor fund or display table information must be returned by **Feb. 9**.
- ❑ For your comfort, we recommend that you wear layered clothing or bring a jacket because heating and cooling conditions may vary.



Join us!

February 26-27, 2024 | Cornhusker Marriott Hotel - Lincoln

League of Nebraska Municipalities 2024 Midwinter Conference Sponsor information & registration

Display Tables

If your organization wishes to participate in the conference as an exhibitor, the League offers a *limited number of display tables, which are assigned on a first reserved basis*. Associate members will receive priority of the registrations received by Feb. 9, 2024.

Displays will be set up in the Atrium and lower level near the coffee and soft drink break areas to ensure the best exposure to municipal delegates. Display tables are 8 feet long. *You may set up your display any time between 12-8 p.m. on Feb. 25 or the morning of Feb. 26.* The League and hotel are not responsible for any items or equipment.

Sponsor Fund

If you don't want a display table, you are welcome to contribute to this fund and help sponsor the conference, including coffee, rolls, and soft drink breaks.

What are the perks?

- organization name will appear in the conference handbook, the conference program, and in the Nebraska Municipal Review magazine following the conference
- special recognition during the conference
- conference sessions on Monday and Tuesday
- a conference list of registered delegates will be emailed to you before the conference
- organization logo featured in a sponsor video shown before General Sessions on Monday

New in 2024!



The registration fee covers up to three representatives from your company with a \$50 charge for each additional representative. The meals are not included in the conference registration fee but may be purchased separately.

For more information about registration fees and meal tickets, please see the registration form. "No shows" or cancellations made after Feb. 9, 2024, will be billed for reserved display table and meals. **PREPAYMENT IS REQUIRED FOR NON-ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.**

TO MEET PRINTING SCHEDULES, SPONSOR INFORMATION MUST BE RETURNED BY FEB. 9, 2024.

Thank you for your support! We look forward to seeing you at the 2024 League Midwinter Conference! If you have questions, contact the League office.

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Sponsor Registration

Firm name (as you want it to appear on program): _____

Representatives attending (sponsorship includes registration for up to 3 representatives):

Name: _____ Title: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

Additional Representatives (\$50 per person):

Name: _____ Title: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

Type of product or service your company provides: _____

Firm Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

PLEASE NOTE: Display tables will be available for setup between 12-8 pm Feb. 25 or the morning of Feb. 26.

Display Backdrop (please check one): Free Standing Display Board _____ Tabletop Display Board _____
Table for Literature Only _____

Associate Members: (includes registration for up to 3 representatives, **meals are extra**)

	Through Feb. 9	After Feb. 9
_____ Contributing to Conference Sponsor Fund, but no display table	\$300	\$325
_____ Contributing to Conference Sponsor Fund, reserve a display table	\$700	\$775
Sponsorship includes registration for up to 3 representatives; each additional representative x \$50		\$ _____
_____ Number of 110 Volt Outlets needed at \$60 each		\$ _____
_____ Number of 220 Volt Outlets needed at \$100 each		\$ _____
Contact the Cornhusker Marriott Hotel for information about phone lines/fees	Conference Total:	\$ _____

Non-Associate Members: (**PREPAYMENT REQUIRED**; includes registration for up to 3 representatives, **meals are extra**)

	Through Feb. 9	After Feb. 9
_____ Contributing to Conference Sponsor Fund, but no display table	\$425	\$450
_____ Contributing to Conference Sponsor Fund, reserve a display table	\$975	\$1,050
Sponsorship includes registration for up to 3 representatives; each additional representative x \$50		\$ _____
_____ Number of 110 Volt Outlets needed at \$60 each		\$ _____
_____ Number of 220 Volt Outlets needed at \$100 each		\$ _____
Contact the Cornhusker Marriott Hotel for information about phone lines/fees	Conference Total:	\$ _____

Meals: (indicate the number of tickets needed and who will use them by **Feb. 9**)

Name(s):	Number:	Meals:	Meal Total:
_____	_____	Monday Luncheon – \$30	\$ _____
_____	_____	Tuesday Senator Appreciation Luncheon – \$30	\$ _____

Mail registration and payment to: League of Nebraska Municipalities, 1335 L Street, Lincoln, NE 68508; fax 402-476-7052
To meet printing schedules for conference materials, sponsor fund or display table information must be returned by **Feb. 9**.

“No shows” or cancellations made after Feb. 9 will be billed for reserved display table and meals.

[Click here](#) to register online with a credit card. ***PLEASE NOTE -- There is a credit card processing fee included for each item.***



ATTENTION CONFERENCE SPONSORS & EXHIBITORS!

The League of Nebraska Municipalities will insert your promotional material in all conference packets to be handed out at our 2024 League Midwinter Conference.

As conference attendees go through their packets, your material will be in their hands. Promote your service or product. Create interest and invite delegates to visit you at your exhibit booth.

➔ This service is provided only for conference sponsors and exhibitors.

➔ Insert material is limited to an 8½x11 one-page brochure or flyer (front and back printed sheet). If you have more than a one-page brochure, please call our office to see if it is possible for us to include and for the additional cost.

➔ A sample of your material, this form, and payment must be submitted to our office for approval by Feb. 9. We will contact you with the number of inserts we will need for the packets.

➔ Copies of the approved material must be in our office by **Feb. 16**.

➔ Cost: \$200

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2024 League Midwinter Conference
Promotional Material for Packets

Firm: _____ Contact: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone/Fax: _____

Email: _____