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# League of Nebraska Municipalities

## 2016 MIDWINTER CONFERENCE



*Cities and Villages  
Working Together  
Toward Tomorrow*



**Feb. 22-23, 2016**  
**Cornhusker Marriott Hotel**  
**Lincoln, Nebraska**

**Alan Michl**  
**League President**  
**Chairperson, Exeter**





# 2016 MIDWINTER CONFERENCE



LEAGUE OF NEBRASKA MUNICIPALITIES  
**Cornhusker Marriott Hotel, Lincoln**  
February 22-23

## Tentative Conference Program (subject to change)

### Monday, February 22, 2016

- 7:15–7:45 am**      **Registration:** Visit Display Area (coffee and rolls available)
- 7:45–8 am**      **Welcome**  
*Welcome by League President Alan Michl, Board Chairperson of Exeter*  
*Host City Welcome by Chris Beutler, Mayor of Lincoln*
- 8–9 am**      **Nebraska Innovation Campus:** Don't miss this opportunity to be inspired and learn how the entire State of Nebraska benefits from this exciting public-private research campus, which continues to connect private business partners with the talent of university faculty for the purpose of transforming ideas into innovations!  
*Ronnie D. Green, Ph.D., Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, UN-L; Vice President, Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Nebraska; Harlan Vice Chancellor, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, UN-L*  
*Daniel J. Duncan, Executive Director, Innovation Campus*
- 9–9:15 am**      **Break:** Visit Display Area
- 9:15–10:15 am**      **(1) Nebraska Dept. of Roads Update on Transportation Infrastructure Initiatives**, including legislation to accelerate the completion of the expressway system, create an "Infrastructure Bank," authorize "Design-Build" and create an "Economic Opportunity Program" to finance transportation improvements that attract or expand businesses; **(2) Nebraska Dept. of Economic Development Update** on initiatives and recommendations to strengthen the partnership between DED and municipalities to enhance community and economic development opportunities across the state.  
*Kyle Schneweis, P.E., Director, Nebraska Dept. of Roads*  
*Courtney Dentlinger, J.D., Director, Nebraska Dept. of Economic Development*
- 10:15–10:30 am**      **Break:** Visit Display Area
- 10:30-11:45 am**      **League Legislative Update**  
*L. Lynn Rex, Executive Director, LNM*
- 11:45 am-12 pm**      **Break:** Visit Display Area
- 12–1:30 pm**      **Luncheon**  
*Special Keynote Address*
- 1:30–1:45 pm**      **Break:** Visit Display Area
- 1:45–2:45 pm**      **Concurrent Sessions:**
- A. Limit Your Personal and Municipal Liability:** Lessons learned from a case study on local government ethics, audits, media relations, change and control in government operations.  
*(Session repeated at 3 pm)*
  - B. TeamMates:** Learn about the "Mayors for Mentoring" program and ways other elected and appointed municipal officials can become mentors to help young people reach their full potential by providing support, friendship and a positive example!  
*(Session repeated at 3 pm)*
  - C. CORE TOPIC – Labor Law and Employment Law Developments Affecting Municipalities:** Limit your liability by being informed on these important issues.  
*(Session repeated at 3 pm)*
  - D. Affordable Care Act (ACA):** Learn about the reporting requirements and what municipalities have to file pursuant to the ACA.  
*(Session repeated at 3 pm)*
- 2:45–3 pm**      **Break:** Visit Display Area

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## Monday, February 22, 2016 (con't.)

3–4 pm

### Concurrent Sessions:

- A. **Limit Your Personal and Municipal Liability:** Lessons learned from a case study on local government ethics, audits, media relations, change and control in government operations.  
*(Repeat of 1:45 pm session)*
- B. **TeamMates:** Learn about the “Mayors for Mentoring” program and ways other elected and appointed municipal officials can become mentors to help young people reach their full potential by providing support, friendship and a positive example!  
*(Repeat of 1:45 pm session)*
- C. **CORE TOPIC – Labor Law and Employment Law Developments Affecting Municipalities:** Limit your liability by being informed on these important issues.  
*(Repeat of 1:45 pm session)*
- D. **Affordable Care Act (ACA):** Learn about the reporting requirements and what municipalities have to file pursuant to the ACA.  
*(Repeat of 1:45 pm session)*
- E. **Nebraska Expressways for Economic Development (NEED) Meeting:** Be updated on the critically important role of NEED in the coalition’s lobbying effort to pass legislation in 2016 to expedite completion of Nebraska’s expressway system; NEED was instrumental in passing LB 84 in 2011 and LB 610 in 2015 to provide additional funds for transportation infrastructure.

4–4:15 pm

**Break:** Visit Display Area

4:15–5:15 pm

### Section Meetings:

City Managers/Administrators  
Clerks  
Larger Cities  
Smaller Cities and Villages  
Utilities Section

## Tuesday, February 23, 2016

6:30-8 am

**Meeting of Mayors and Village Board Chairs**

8 am

**Registration:** Visit Display Area (coffee and rolls available)

8:15–9:15 am

### Concurrent Sessions:

- A. **Nebraska Community Energy Alliance (NCEA):** Learn how the NCEA is building and promoting advanced technologies for housing and transportation that save energy, reduce CO2 pollution and cut costs. Help your municipality keep more energy dollars at home.
- B. **The Importance of Public Power:** It is important to separate “fact from fiction”; learn how Nebraska’s residential rates, retail rates and “industrial class” rates compare with surrounding states.  
*(Session repeated at 10:45 am)*
- C. **Limit Your Liability – Be Informed About Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events:** Municipalities must be prepared! Learn what other municipalities and public agencies are doing.  
*(Session repeated at 9:30 am)*
- D. **CORE TOPIC – LB 840 Economic Development Programs:** Learn more about the history, purpose and laws governing this important economic development program to help shape the destiny of your city or village.  
*(Session repeated at 9:30 am)*
- E. **Preservation of Historic Properties:** In 2014, the Legislature passed LB 191, the “Nebraska Job Creation and Mainstreet Revitalization Act,” which provides tax credits and incentives for qualifying historically significant real property. Learn how your local redevelopment projects can benefit!  
*(Session repeated at 9:30 am)*

8:30 am–12 pm

**Fire Chiefs Section Meeting**

9:15–9:30 am

**Break:** Visit Display Area

9:30–10:30 am

### Concurrent Sessions:

- A. **Public Health Issues:** As the healthiest state in the United States, Nebraska elected and appointed municipal officials play a significant role in public health issues relating to economic development, climate change and other challenges.  
*(Session repeated at 10:45 am)*
  - B. **Leverage Your Local Funds with State and/or Federal Grants and Loans:** Learn how other cities and villages are financing important projects by taking advantage of state and federal grants and loans, including the “Civic and Community Center Financing Fund” (CCCFF), Community Development Block Grants (CDBGs) and funds from the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Rural Development (USDA). Are your applications ready?  
*(Session repeated at 10:45 am)*
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## Tuesday, February 23, 2016 (con't.)

9:30–10:30 am

**Concurrent Sessions: (con't.)**

- C. Limit Your Liability – Be Informed About Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events:** Municipalities must be prepared! Learn what other municipalities and public agencies are doing.  
*(Repeat of 8:15 am session)*
- D. CORE TOPIC – LB 840 Economic Development Programs:** Learn more about the history, purpose and laws governing this important economic development program to help shape the destiny of your city or village.  
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10:30–10:45 am

**Break:** Visit Display Area

10:45–11:45 am

**Concurrent Sessions:**

- A. Public Health Issues:** As the healthiest state in the United States, Nebraska elected and appointed municipal officials play a significant role in public health issues relating to economic development, climate change and other challenges.  
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*(Repeat of 9:30 am session)*
- C. Law Enforcement Security Issues Update:** Learn how some municipalities are designating certain parking lots as “Transaction Safe Zones” to prevent violence when children are “exchanged” for parental visitation or when completing transactions for online sales and purchases; be informed about “best practices” for protecting citizens, municipal officials and staff during village board or city council meetings or other public events.
- D. CORE TOPIC – Lid Law and Levy Limits:** Be informed on how and why the statutory levy limits and “lid law on restricted funds” affect your city or village budget.
- E. The Importance of Public Power:** It is important to separate “fact from fiction”; learn how Nebraska’s residential rates, retail rates and “industrial class” rates compare with surrounding states.  
*(Repeat of 8:15 am session)*

11:45 am–12 pm

**Break:** Visit Display Area

12 pm

**Designated Delegates with White Ribbons on Their Name Badges**

*Prepare to pick up your Senator’s nametag at the registration desk and greet your State Senator at the door.*

12–1:10 pm

**Senator Appreciation Luncheon**

1:10 pm

**Adjournment – Thank you for coming! Please drive safely!**

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