

AML Preliminary Program & Workshop Descriptions

Wednesday, November 16

7:00a.m. – 8:30 a.m. **AML Investment Pool Annual Meeting & Gourmet Breakfast**

All delegates are welcome to attend.

8:00a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Conference Registration**

8:00a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Exhibit Hall Open**

9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. **AML Opening Ceremonies**

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Keynote

Reinvention Made Easy

A personally challenging and value-changing presentation that will change your city's/town's strategic outlook. *Change is happening!* With recent city bankruptcies and defaults, it is clear that your realities have changed due to changes in the economy, social/cultural transition, mobile public, technological advances and modern trends. Answer questions and hear stories about government organizations (and private organizations) who reinvented themselves that you can implement to make necessary changes in your city and municipality. **Keynote: Jim Mathis, J & L Mathis Group**

11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. **Opening Day Luncheon – Guest Speakers**

1:30 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. Concurrent Session I

1) **Change Your Strategy**

Reinvention is easy for city/town mayors, managers, leaders and clerks through an interactive dialogue with attendees. Leaders at all levels combine their intuitive creativity to leave with step by step actions to take immediately following the meeting. They will answer **Critical questions** dealing with how citizens feel “punished” for doing business with you; what policies, practices or programs have become “dinosaurs” in our city business; what has changed in our town; and what is “kindling” our method of operations are dealt with in small group discussion.

Keynote: Jim Mathis, J & L Mathis Group

2) **The Policy and Politics of Alaska's Fiscal Challenge**

Why is the State of Alaska in such a deep hole? What are the options for getting out? What are the political factors affecting when and how the State of Alaska will resolve its fiscal challenge? Presenter: **Cliff Groh, Attorney, Chair of Alaska Common Ground; Bob Loeffler, Visiting Professor of Public Policy, ISER**

3) **Issues in Running a Small, Remote Municipality**

Even though the requirements for municipalities tend to be similar across the board, regardless of size and/or location, small communities often find it much more difficult to fulfill the state and federal requirements placed on them. A small staff; lack of support; very little money; tend to make many small issues look overwhelming. Come and listen to our panel of managers and council members who have been overseeing small municipalities for many years and we can all discuss ways to make the job easier and more effective. **Panel: Gary Hennigh, City Administrator, City of King Cove; Ray Gillespie, Municipal Lobbyist; Layton Lockett, City Manager, City of Adak; & Evelyn Trefon, Council Member, City of Newhalen; Commissioner Hladick, Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development**

4) **DEC Water – What you need to know.**

Director of DEC's Division of Water Michelle Bonnet Hale will provide an update of the Water Division that impacts municipalities. Her talk will range from "death by a thousand cuts" – how to prevent nonpoint source pollution from polluting our streams, to the Clean Harbors Program, to water quality standards update on Tier 3 waters and Human Health Criteria (fish consumption). Ms. Hale will discuss common wastewater discharge compliance issues experienced by municipalities and how to prevent DEC enforcement actions. She will also describe grant and loan programs administered by her division. **Presenter: Michelle Hale, Director, Division of Water, DEC**

3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Session II - General Session
Heroin Epidemic – Killing Alaskans One Dose at a Time

Help us address one of the largest health issues to ever face Alaskans – Heroin! The drug is present in each and every community. Its victims are from all social/economic levels; all cultures; etc. Listen to experts from the different facets of available help – Education, Treatment and Enforcement. **Panel: Colonel Jim Cockrell, Alaska State Troopers; Dr. Joshua Sonkiss, Medical Director, Fairbanks Community Mental Health Services; J. Kate Burkhart, Executive Director, Advisory Board on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse and Alaska Mental Health Board; Desire' Shepler, Director, R.O.C.K Mat-Su (Raising Our Children with Kindness)**

5:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. Resolution Committee Meeting

5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Position Statement Committee Meeting

5:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. AML Nominating Committee

6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Welcome Reception

Thursday, November 17

7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. **AML Joint Insurance Association Annual Meeting & Gourmet**

Breakfast - All delegates are welcome to attend

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Conference Registration**

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Exhibit Hall Open**

9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Concurrent Session III

1) **Lobbying the Legislature**

This coming Legislative Session will include many new Legislators. They will be, quite often, uninformed about your municipality and your issues. What do you need to know to talk to them, as well as the State Administration, in an effective way? How can you best use your time in Juneau to accomplish what will best serve your municipality? Get some tips on the "do's" and "don'ts." Also learn about the basic Legislative Committee structure and the State budget timeline. **Presenter: Ray Gillespie, Municipal Lobbyist**

2) **The Time is Now to Plan for Census 2020**

An accurate 2020 Census count in each community requires a complete address list. Through the Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) program, the U.S. Census Bureau provides an opportunity for tribal, state, and local governments, who agree to confidentiality and security guidelines, to review and update the Census Bureau's list of living quarters addresses prior to 2020. This presentation will focus on participation requirements, program timelines, material options and suggested activities to prepare for LUCA and update on early operational preparations for the 2020 Census. **Presenter: Linda Akers Smith, Geographer, Census Bureau**

3) **Are You Prepared for Fiduciary Liability Exposures?**

Anyone who's responsible for pension or benefit plans is considered to be a fiduciary, with responsibility toward the plan's members, your employees. Find out how you may have a fiduciary liability exposure and how to avoid errors & omissions claims and breach of fiduciary duty claims. **Presenter: Shawn Kraatz, First Vice President, Alliant Insurance Services, Inc.**

4) **Budget 101**

After your Finance Officer and/or your City Manager/Clerk puts your budget together, before you take a vote on it, are you confident that you understand all of it? Are you even sure you understand half of it? What is the system used to come up with your municipal budget? Someone on staff may have written it, but you as an elected official are ultimately responsible. Come learn what goes into municipal budgeting. Hear the "layman's" version (not in high "finance speak."). **Panel: Jay Sweeney, Chief Finance Officer, City & Borough of Sitka; Sam Thompson, Assurance Manager BDO; & Troy Tankersley, Finance Director, City of Wasilla**

10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. **Concurrent Session IV**

1) **Basics of Legislative Research**

The Alaska Municipal League works hard to give you the information and the tools with which to work on municipal issues. However, even though Kathie and Ray provide a daily presence in the Legislature during session, it is up to each member municipality to also help monitor and provide information to the State. How do you stay informed on a daily basis? BASIS!! Learn how to operate the state information system, helping you to stay current on bills, schedules, and legislative members. **Presenter: Ray Gillespie, Municipal Lobbyist**

2) **Alaska Council on the Homeless: A Resource for Your Community**

This session will provide an introduction to the Alaska Council on the Homeless and explore ways the Council can be a resource for communities. Participants will be introduced to potential partnerships and tools to address issues of homelessness including exploration of the different types of homelessness and solutions to consider in their community. **Presenters: Suzi Pearson, Executive Director, Abused Women's Aid in Crisis (AWAIC) and on the Alaska Council on the Homeless; Dave Kuiper, Assoc. Director, Christian Health Associates & on the Alaska Council on the Homeless; Carrie Collins, Planner, Alaska Housing Finance Corporation**

3) **Bang for your Buck**

AML provides many services. We provide training; lobbying; state and federal updates; risk insurance on municipal property and assets; the ability to invest your money in a pool; etc. Come hear about all these services and find out how to take advantage of them.

AMLIP - Interest income as a line item to your budget is back!

(But it has changed – the things you need to know)

Dear Interest Income,

It has been a long time since I've seen you. You don't know how much I need you now that compressed local and state budgets have been hard on me. You look different and I think things have changed since you have been gone. It still is easy to love you and we just need to understand how.

Love, Your municipal budget

Please join us for this humorous and very important look at how you can increase your budget safely with the tools you already have access to and are probably already allowable for your use. **Presenter: Laura Bruce, Senior Vice President, Alaska Permanent Capital Management and AMLIP Investment Pool Advisor.**

AML – What do your AML dues cover? What kind of a savings are you realizing? **Presenter: Kathie Wasserman, Executive Director, AML**

AMLJIA – Need help with insurance info and costs? AMLJIA furnished required Worker's Comp and risk property insurance. **Presenter: Kevin Smith, Executive Director, AMLJIA**

4) **Monitor – Analyze – Understand – Save**

As budgets shrink radically around the state, money for essentials like electricity and heat take on greater roles in accomplishing organizational missions. Good stewardship of funds means making sure every dollar spent returns useful service. This session will help organizational facility owners and managers look at low cost means to find where unnecessary dollars are being spent on utilities, and help to trim energy use. Making energy efficiency an issue, and challenging maintenance and operational staff to find inefficiencies is step one, Scott will walk through tools, techniques, tips and traps of finding energy leaks, and developing efficiency solutions. **Presenter: Scott Waterman, Energy Program Manager, Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC)**

12:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. Second Day Luncheon

1:45 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. Break & Drawing with Exhibitors

2:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. General Session

1) **How will “Lands Into Trust” affect municipalities?**

Gov. Walker has decided to accept a federal court's decision to allow the U.S. Interior Department to accept private lands put into trust with the federal government on behalf of Alaska Native Tribes. Lands-into-trust could have wide ramifications for the legal status and governmental powers over many land tracts in Alaska, or it could wind up being minor in its significance. Either way, it will take time for this to play out. What might be the ramifications for municipalities? How

can boroughs/cities and tribes work together through this change? If there are things that need to be ironed out, let's talk about it now rather than in the courts.
Panel: **Jahna Lindemuth, Attorney General; Don Mitchell, Attorney; & Bruce Botelho, Former Attorney General & Former Juneau Mayor; Katherine Eldemar, Director, Alaska Division of Community and Regional Affairs; Richard Peterson, President, Tlingit & Haida Central Council; James Debergh, Attorney, Department of the Interior.**

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. AML President's Reception & ACoM Silent Auction

7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Awards Banquet

[Friday, November 18](#)

8:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. AML Board of Directors Elections & Gourmet Breakfast

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. AML Annual Business Meeting

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. AML Board Organizational Meeting

Preliminary Program Subject to Change!