

THE ALABAMA MUNICIPAL JOURNAL

May 2007

Volume 64, Number 11



2007 Convention Review



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THE ALABAMA MUNICIPAL JOURNAL

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May 2007 • Volume 64, Number 11

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Editor: CARRIE BANKS

For a complete list of the ALM staff, visit www.alalm.org.

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ACTIVE MEMBERS (451)

Abbeville, Adamsville, Addison, Akron, Alabaster, Albertville, Alexander City, Aliceville, Allgood, Altoona, Andalusia, Anderson, Anniston, Arab, Ardmore, Argo, Ariton, Arley, Ashford, Ashland, Ashville, Athens, Atmore, Attalla, Auburn, Autaugaville, Avon, Babbie, Baileton, Baker Hill, Banks, Bay Minette, Bayou La Batre, Bear Creek, Beatrice, Beaverton, Belk, Benton, Berry, Bessemer, Billingsley, Birmingham, Black, Blountsville, Blue Springs, Boaz, Boligee, Bon Air, Branchville, Brantley, Brent, Brewton, Bridgeport, Brighton, Brilliant, Brookside, Brookwood, Brundidge, Butler, Calera, Camden, Camp Hill, Carbon Hill, Cardiff, Carrollton, Castleberry, Cedar Bluff, Center Point, Centre, Centreville, Chatom, Chelsea, Cherokee, Chickasaw, Childersburg, Citronelle, Clanton, Clay, Clayhatchee, Clayton, Cleveland, Clio, Coaling, Coffee Springs, Coffeeville, Coker, Collinsville, Colony, Columbia, Columbiana, Coosada, Cordova, Cottonwood, County Line, Courtland, Cowarts, Creola, Crossville, Cuba, Cullman, Dadeville, Daleville, Daphne, Dauphin Island, Daviston, Dayton, Deatsville, Decatur, Demopolis, Detroit, Dodge City, Dora, Dothan, Double Springs, Douglas, Dozier, Dutton, East Brewton, Eclectic, Edwardsville, Elba, Elberta, Eldridge, Elkmont, Elmore, Emelle, Enterprise, Epes, Ethelsville, Eufaula, Eunola, Eutaw, Eva, Evergreen, Excel, Fairfield, Fairhope, Fairview, Falkville, Faunsdale, Fayette, Five Points, Flomaton, Florala, Florence, Foley, Forkland, Fort Deposit, Fort Payne, Franklin, Frisco City, Fulton, Fultondale, Fyffe, Gadsden, Gainesville, Gantt, Garden City, Gardendale, Gaylesville, Geiger, Geneva, Georgiana, Geraldine, Gilbertown, Glen Allen, Glencoe, Glenwood, Goldville, Good Hope, Gu-Win, Goodwater, Gordo, Gordon, Gordonville, Goshen, Grant, Graysville, Greensboro, Greenville, Grove Hill, Guin, Gulf Shores, Guntersville, Gurley, Hackleburg, Haleyville, Hamilton, Hammondville, Hanceville, Harpersville, Hartford, Hartselle, Hayden, Hayneville, Headland, Heath, Heflin, Helena, Henagar, Highland Lake, Hillsboro, Hobson City, Hodges, Hokes Bluff, Holly Pond, Hollywood, Homewood, Hoover, Hueytown, Huntsville, Hurtsboro, HyTop, Ider, Indian Springs, Irondale, Jackson, Jackson's Gap, Jacksonville, Jasper, Jemison, Kansas, Kellyton, Kennedy, Killen, Kimberly, Kinsey, Kinston, Lafayette, Lake-view, Lanett, Langston, Leeds, Leesburg, Leighton, Lester, Level Plains, Lexington, Lincoln, Linden, Lineville, Lipscomb, Lisman, Littleville, Livingston, Loachapoka, Lockhart, Locust Fork, Louisville, Lowndesboro, Loxley, Luverne, Lynn, McIntosh, McKenzie, Madison, Madrid, Magnolia Springs, Malvern, Maplesville, Margaret, Marion, Maytown, Mentone, Midfield, Midland City, Midway, Millbrook, Millport, Millry, Mobile, Monroeville, Montealvo, Montgomery, Moody, Mooresville, Morris, Mosses, Moulton, Moundville, Mount Vernon, Mountain Brook, Mountainboro, Mulga, Munford, Muscle Shoals, Myrtlewood, Napier Field, Natural Bridge, Nauvoo, Nectar, Needham, Newbern, New Brockton, New Hope, New Site, Newton, Newville, North Courtland, North Johns, Northport, Notasulga, Oak Grove, Oak Hill, Oakman, Odenville, Ohatchee, Oneonta, Onycha, Opelika, Opp, Orange Beach, Orrville, Owens Cross Roads, Oxford, Ozark, Paint Rock, Parrish, Pelham, Pell City, Pennington, Petrey, Phenix City, Phil Campbell, Pickensville, Piedmont, Pike Road, Pinckard, Pine Apple, Pine Hill, Pine Ridge, Pisgah, Pleasant Grove, Pleasant Groves, Pollard, Powell, Prattville, Priceville, Prichard, Providence, Ragland, Rainbow City, Rainsville, Ranburne, Red Bay, Red Level, Reece City, Reform, Rehobeth, Repton, Ridgeville, River Falls, Riverside, Riverview, Roanoke, Robertsdale, Rockford, Rogersville, Rosa, Russellville, Rutledge, Saint Florian, Samson, Sand Rock, Sanford, Saraland, Sardis City, Satsuma, Scottsboro, Section, Selma, Sheffield, Shorter, Silas, Silverhill, Sipsey, Skyline, Slocumb, Smiths Station, Snead, Somerville, South Vinemont, Southside, Spanish Fort, Springville, Steele, Stevenson, Sulligent, Sumiton, Summerdale, Susan Moore, Sweet Water, Sylacauga, Sylvan Springs, Sylvania, Talladega, Talladega Springs, Tallassee, Tarrant, Taylor, Thomaston, Thomasville, Thorsby, Town Creek, Toxey, Trafford, Triana, Trinity, Troy, Trussville, Tuscaloosa, Tuscumbia, Tuskegee, Twin, Union, Union Grove, Union Springs, Uniontown, Valley, Valley Grande Valley Head, Vance, Vernon, Vestavia Hills, Vina, Vincent, Vredenburgh, Wadley, Waldo, Walnut Grove, Warrior, Waterloo, Waverly, Weaver, Webb, Wedowee, West Blocton, West Jefferson, West Point, Westover, Wetumpka, Wilsonville, Wilton, Winfield, Woodland, Woodstock, Woodville, Yellow Bluff, York.

Convention snapshots...



... Huntsville 2007

MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS CAN'T AFFORD TO BE PASSIVE REGARDING LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

By Lew Watson, Mayor, Lincoln
Immediate Past President

Mayor Penhale, Mayor Spencer, Councilmember McCollum, Treasurer Ivey, Ladies and Gentlemen, I am honored to stand before you this morning as we formally open our 2007 annual convention. It has been a privilege to have served as your president this past year. I appreciate the opportunities you have given me and I thank you for your confidence and support. But most of all, I thank you for your friendship.

Mayor Spencer, as usual the hospitality of the Rocket City has been exceptional. I want to personally thank you, the Huntsville City Council and your staff, for welcoming us with open arms. Saturday's dinner was superb and I think everyone enjoyed the festivities planned by the City.

I also want to thank Mayor Sonny Penhale of Helena, who has represented us well as our League vice president this past year. Sonny is a long-serving, dedicated mayor. The citizens of Helena are fortunate to have such a tireless leader.

Treasurer Ivey, we certainly thank you for being with us this morning. Your schedule is no doubt *quite* busy this time of year. Thank you, also, to Councilmember McCollum, who is here not only representing the City of Madison, but *all* municipal officials as the First Vice President for the National League of Cities. Cynthia is the first elected official from Alabama to be in line for the presidency of NLC. This is a tremendous honor, not only for Cynthia but for all of Alabama. The gavel will be passed to her in November during NLC's annual Congress of Cities. I've known Cynthia for a number of years, having served with her on the League's Executive Committee, and I know you agree with me when I say we couldn't ask for a better representative at the national level. I've no doubt she'll continue to make us proud! Please join me in honoring Cynthia with a round of applause for a job well done!



This has truly been a rewarding year. It's gone by so quickly, I can hardly believe my term is over. It has been my honor to represent municipalities in Alabama as I have traveled with League staff to meetings in Washington Reno and Little Rock. My tenure as president of the League has deepened my respect for Perry Roquemore and his entire staff. Our League is highly respected by the National League of Cities for its operations in Alabama and its ability to engage its membership on state and national issues affecting local governments. We are fortunate to have an organization representing our interests that is so well managed and professionally staffed.

In fact, the League staff is constantly looking for ways to strengthen our municipalities and to enhance information exchange between our cities and towns. For example, this past winter, the League implemented a Municipal Achievement Awards program designed to recognize successful, impressive municipal improvement programs. Eleven entries were submitted in three categories and the winners were recognized during yesterday's general session with an award ceremony and a video highlighting the three winners. Guntersville took first place in the Public Works Category for its unique recycling program; Daphne's Grease Recycling and Biodiesel Program won in the 10,000 to 20,000 population category; and Dutton's "Night Out Against Crime" program was the winner in the under 1,000 population category. I know you join me in congratulating these municipalities for their achievements. Information on all eleven entries is posted on the League's website at www.alalm.org. I encourage each of you to consider entering the 2008 Municipal Achievement Awards program when entry forms are mailed to every city and town this fall.

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Minutes of the General Business Session

Alabama League of Municipalities, Huntsville, Alabama

April 24, 2007

The General Business Session of the Convention of the Alabama League of Municipalities was called to order promptly at 2 p.m., April 24, 2007, by President Carroll L. Watson, Mayor of Lincoln, at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Huntsville, Alabama. Mayor Watson thanked everyone for their attendance at the annual business session and for their efforts on behalf of the League during the past year. He also thanked the membership for giving him the opportunity of serving as president during the past year.

The president then called upon Perry C. Roquemore, Jr., Executive Director of the Alabama League of Municipalities, for his annual report. Mr. Roquemore expressed his appreciation for the support of the officers, staff and membership during the past year. He stated that the League membership was now at 451 cities and towns and that League finances would be adequate for fiscal year 2006-2007. He also discussed the current legislative session and numerous League services and programs. A copy of his report is on page 17 of this publication.

President Watson then called on Mayor Leon Smith of Oxford, President of the Municipal Workers' Compensation Fund, Inc., for an annual report. Mayor Bobby Payne of Tallassee, Chair of the Alabama Municipal Insurance Corporation (AMIC), was then called on to make AMIC's annual report. Mayor Roy Dobbs of Berry, Chair of the Alabama Municipal Funding Corporation (AMFund) was called upon to make the AMFund annual report.

The President then called upon Mayor Bob Bunting of Ozark, chairman of the Resolutions Committee, for the committee's report. Bunting reported that the Resolutions Committee had met on Saturday, April 21, and had recommended that the League's *Policies and Goals for 2007* be adopted with the following amendments:

1. Amend Policy Position **F-3.24** by deleting the word "urges" in line 1 and by substituting in lieu thereof the following: "**strongly urges the Alabama Legislature to mandate**"

2. That Policy Position **F-3.25** be deleted.

3. That Policy Position **F-5.16** be amended to read as follows: "That the League propose legislation to authorize an alternative method for publishing license, zoning and planning ordinances by means of a synopsis published in the newspaper."

4. That Policy Position **P-8.3** be amended by striking the letters "CJIS" on the last line and by substituting in lieu thereof the letters "**ACJIC**".

5. That Policy Position **H-1.1(e)** be amended by inserting after the word "legislation" in line 1 the word "**to**".

6. That Policy Position **H-3.5(a)** be amended on line 3 by deleting the word "sufficient" and by inserting in lieu thereof the word "increased".

Council Member Charlie Johnson of Luverne moved that the change to Policy Position **H-3.5(a)** changing the word "sufficient" to "increased" be rejected and that the original language using the word "sufficient" be retained. Mayor Johnny Ford of Tuskegee seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Council Member Karyl J. Rice of Pelham moved that Policy Position **F-3.25** relating to property reappraisals be restored. Council Member Elaine Junkins of Guin seconded the motion. The motion was defeated and Policy Position **F-3.25** will remain deleted.

Mayor Bunting moved adoption of the *Policies and Goals for 2007*, as amended, and the motion was seconded by Mayor Johnny Ford of Tuskegee. The motion carried.

Mayor Bunting then presented the resolutions for adoption. He pointed out that members were given summaries of 52 resolutions recommended by the Resolutions Committee. Council Member Edward H. Carroll, Sr., of Orange Beach moved adoption of Resolutions 1 through 46, 48, 49 and 50. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ed Scott of Adamsville. The motion was adopted.

Mayor Bunting moved adoption of Resolution No. 47 memorializing former State Senator Charles Langford. The motion, which was seconded by Council Member Ed Scott of Adamsville, passed unanimously.

Mayor Bunting moved adoption of Resolution No. 51 memorializing those active and former officials who passed away since the last convention. Mayor James Perkins of Selma seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Bunting moved adoption of Resolution No. 52 honoring Mayor Carroll L. Watson of Lincoln for his service as President of the League. The motion, which was seconded by Council Member Edward H. Carroll, Sr. of Orange Beach, passed unanimously.

The President then called upon Mayor Bobby Payne of Tallassee to present the report of the Nominating Committee. Mayor Payne said the Nominating Committee had a tough assignment choosing officers for the next year from an abundance of very qualified candidates. He reported the

continued next page

Nominating Committee had met and had recommended the following persons:

President – Mayor Charles W. “Sonny” Penhale, Helena
Vice President – Mayor Melvin Duran, Priceville
Executive Director – Perry C. Roquemore, Jr., Montgomery

For Chair and Vice Chair of the Standing Committees of the League:

Committee on State and Federal Legislation
Chair – Councilmember Charles Woods, Childersburg
Vice Chair – Mayor Bobby Bright, Montgomery

Committee on Finance, Administration and Intergovernmental Relations
Chair – Councilmember Debbie Quinn, Fairhope
Vice Chair – Mayor Garry Fuller, Opelika

Committee on Energy, Environment and Natural Resources
Chair – Mayor Ron Davis, Prichard
Vice Chair – Mayor Howard Shell, Atmore

Committee on Community and Economic Development
Chair – Councilmember Thomas O. Moore, Demopolis
Vice Chair – Mayor Dan Deason, Scottsboro

Committee on Transportation, Public Safety and Communications
Chair – Councilmember Bobby Phillips, Calera
Vice Chair – Mayor Cecil Williamson, Demopolis

Committee on Human Development
Chair – Councilmember Isabell Boyd, Brundidge
Vice Chair – Council President George Evans, Selma

Executive Committee

First Congressional District:
Mayor G. Richard Long, Jackson
Mayor Ken Williams, Saraland
Mayor Tim Kant, Fairhope
Mayor Sam Jones, Mobile
Mayor Jim Trout, Chickasaw

Second Congressional District:
Mayor Jay Jaxon, Eufaula
Mayor Frank Houston, Coosada
Mayor Fred McNab, Pinckard

Councilmember Dean Argo, Prattville
Mayor Jo Glenn, Wetumpka

Third Congressional District:
Mayor Charles Fagan, Piedmont
Mayor Joseph K. Roberson, Ohatchee
Council Member Sadie Britt, Lincoln
Councilmember Ray Edwards, Valley
Councilmember Mack Arthur Bell, Roanoke

Fourth Congressional District:
Councilmember Robert Earnest, Winfield
Mayor Charles O’Rear, Attalla
Mayor Roy Dobbs, Berry
Mayor Wally Burns, Southside
Councilmember Bill Stewart, Gadsden

Fifth Congressional District:
Mayor Loretta Spencer, Huntsville
Councilmember Cynthia McCollum, Madison
Council Member Wayne Dunkin, Priceville
Mayor Kenneth Copeland, Littleville
Mayor David Bradford, Muscle Shoals

Sixth Congressional District:
Mayor Bernard Kincaid, Birmingham
Mayor Harvey Fretwell, Northport
Councilmember Lee Garrison, Tuscaloosa
Mayor Tom Henderson, Center Point
Councilmember Ed Scott, Adamsville

Seventh Congressional District:
Mayor John Lammers, Carrollton
Councilmember Roberta Jordan, Pine Hill
Mayor James Perkins, Selma
Councilmember Jesse Matthews, Bessemer
Councilmember Don Moore, Uniontown

Ex Officio Members (Active Past Presidents)

Mayor Johnny Ford, Tuskegee
Mayor Henry V. Bonner, Roanoke
Mayor Bobby Payne, Tallassee
Mayor Leon Smith, Oxford
Mayor Ted Jennings, Brewton
Mayor Billy Joe Driver, Clanton
Mayor George Roy, Calera
Mayor Dan Williams, Athens
Mayor Jim Byard, Prattville
Mayor Bobby Hayes, Pelham
Mayor Carroll L. Watson, Lincoln

Mayor Payne moved adoption of the Nominating Committee report. The motion was seconded by Mayor Leon Smith of Oxford. Following a request for nominations from the floor and having none, Mayor Dan Williams moved that nominations be closed. The motion, which was seconded by Mayor Roy Dobbs of Berry, passed unanimously.

The President declared all officers elected. A copy of the full report is attached to these minutes.

Mayor Loretta Spencer of Huntsville was called upon to present the report of the Site Selection Committee. She stated that the League Convention would be held in future years as follows: May 17-20, 2008, Birmingham; May 2-5, 2009, Montgomery; May 15-18, 2010, Mobile; and April 30-May 4, 2011, Huntsville. Mayor Spencer moved adoption of the report, which was seconded by Mayor Roy Dobbs of Berry. The Site Selection Committee report was approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Perry C. Roquemore, Jr.
Acting Secretary

RESOLUTION NO. 1

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they express their deep appreciation to Mayor Loretta Spencer and members of the Huntsville City Council and their spouses, and their respective staffs for their hospitality and assistance in planning and promoting this convention, and for their help in the daily operation of a very successful convention. Their work and dedication has made this year's convention one of the most successful and enjoyable in recent years.

RESOLUTION NO. 2

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they express their deep appreciation to State Treasurer Kay Ivey for her excellent address at the Opening Session on Monday during our convention.

RESOLUTION NO. 3

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they express their deep appreciation to Cynthia McCollum, Councilmember, Madison, Alabama, First Vice President, National League of Cities, for her outstanding address during the Opening Session on Monday morning of our convention.

We wish the best for her and our national organization as they continue, at the federal level, to oversee the interests of municipal government throughout the country.

RESOLUTION NO. 4

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do thank the members of the Not Ready for Anytime Players for their Mock Council Meeting presentation on Monday morning of this convention.

RESOLUTION NO. 5

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they sincerely thank the Alabama Congressional Delegation, namely Congressman Jo Bonner, Congressman Terry Everett, Congressman Michael Rogers, Congressman Robert Aderholt, Congressman Bud Cramer, Congressman Spencer Bachus, Congressman Artur Davis, Senator Richard Shelby and Senator Jeff Sessions for their interest in promoting the affairs of Alabama municipalities in the Congress of the United States. We urge them to continue the spirit of unity which prevails in our Congressional Delegation.

RESOLUTION NO. 6

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they thank the leadership of the Alabama House of Representatives for supporting League legislation and assisting the League when possible during the legislative process, namely: Seth Hammett, Speaker of the House; Demetrius Newton, Speaker Pro Tempore; Representative Ken Guin, Chairman of the House Rules Committee; Neal Morrison, Chairman of the House Special Order Calendar subcommittee; and Representative Bill Dukes, Chairman, House County and Municipal Government Committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they thank the House Members which sponsored League legislation: Representative Bill Dukes, Representative Ron Johnson, Representative Mike Ball, Representative Rod Scott, Representative Marcel Black, Representative Steve McMillan, Representative Cam Ward and Representative Warren Beck.

RESOLUTION NO. 7

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in

continued next page

Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do wish to thank the leadership of the Alabama Senate for supporting League legislation and for assisting the League when possible during the legislative process, namely: Jim Folsom, Lieutenant Governor; Hinton Mitchem, President Pro Tempore of the Senate; Senator Lowell Barron, Chairman of the Senate Rules Committee; and Senator Wendell Mitchell, Chairman of the State Governmental Affairs Committee. We also want to thank the Senators who chaired committees vital to local government legislation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do thank the Senators who sponsored League legislation: Senator Zeb Little, Senator Harri Ann Smith, Senator Jabo Waggoner, Senator Parker Griffith, Senator Linda Coleman, Senator Ted Little, Senator Wendell Mitchell and Senator Larry Means.

RESOLUTION NO. 8

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do thank Woody Sanderson of Lanier, Ford, Shaver & Payne, P.C. for his presentation during the Annual Meeting

of the Alabama Municipal Insurance Corporation on Saturday afternoon of this convention.

RESOLUTION NO. 9

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do thank the following persons for their presentations during the first set of concurrent sessions held on Monday afternoon of this convention: Paul Mellor, President, Success Links; Rob McElroy, PE, General Manager, Daphne Utilities; Larry Fillmer, Executive Director, Auburn University Institute of Natural Resources; Dr. Steve Tayler, Director, Auburn University Center for Bioenergy and Bioproducts; Brad Bain, Southeastern Regional Manager, Insurance Services Offices' Community Mitigation Services; and Cindy Yarbrough, Field Office Director, Birmingham HUD Office.

RESOLUTION NO. 10

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do thank the following persons for their presentations during the second set of concurrent sessions held on Monday afternoon of this convention: Brian Barksdale, CPA, Carr,



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RESOLUTION NO. 11

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they express their appreciation to the Honorable Brenda Flowers Smith, Assistant Attorney General, for her considerable help during the past year and for her continued assistance in answering the requests of Alabama municipalities. We also thank Brenda Smith for participating in the program of this convention.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Honorable Troy King, Attorney General, State of Alabama.

RESOLUTION NO. 12

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do express their sincere appreciation to Lt. Governor Jim Folsom, Jr. for his presentation to delegates and guests during the Monday luncheon.

RESOLUTION NO. 13

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they express their thanks to the participants on the Municipal Clerks Program and particularly do they thank Brian Hilson, President and CEO, Huntsville-Madison County Chamber of Commerce, Huntsville; Ann Kennamer, Director, Impact Learning Center, City of Scottsboro; Cynthia McCollum, Councilmember, Madison, Alabama and First Vice President, National League of Cities; and Jeff Thompson, Senior Business Advisor, Office of Economic Development, University of Alabama- Huntsville.

RESOLUTION NO. 14

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do thank Mayor Sonny Penhale of Helena for his service during the past year as Vice President of the League. His attention to duty was most commendable.

RESOLUTION NO. 15

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in

Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do thank the Chairs, Vice Chairs and members of the League's standing committees for their excellent work during the past year. We thank them for their work on the League's Statement of Policies and Goals.

RESOLUTION NO. 16

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do express their sincere appreciation to the mayors, councilmembers, clerks and administrators who presided over the programs during this convention and to those who made presentations during the sessions of this convention.

RESOLUTION NO. 17

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they express their thanks to Ken Smith and Sharon Carr for arranging the Municipal Masters Golf Tournament and for their work during the tournament.

RESOLUTION NO. 18

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do thank Mayor Bobby Payne of Tallassee for serving as master of ceremonies at the Spouses Breakfast.

RESOLUTION NO. 19

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they thank Mayor Leon Smith of Oxford, Councilmember Cynthia McCollum of Madison, Mayor Ted Jennings of Brewton, Mayor George Roy of Calera and Mayor Dan Williams of Athens for their excellent work as directors of the Municipal Workers Compensation Fund, Inc. We also wish to thank Steve Martin and Faith Ann Gunn for their dedicated attention to duties in the management of the workers compensation program. This company has been an outstanding success and we urge other cities to participate in its program and utilize its services.

RESOLUTION NO. 20

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007 that they thank Mayor Bobby Payne of Tallassee, Mayor Billy Joe Driver of Clanton, Mayor Melvin Duran of Priceville, Mayor David Bradford of Muscle Shoals and Mayor Charles

continued page 24



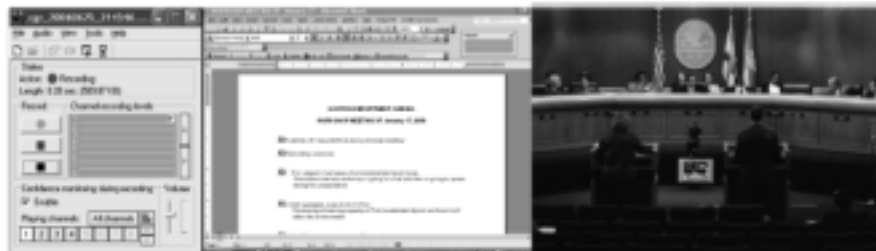
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Distinguished Service Awards Presented April 24th

Each year, the League presents Distinguished Service Awards to municipal officials who have completed 20, 30 and 40 years of service in municipal government. A total of 24 awards were announced this year during the closing night ceremonies at the League Convention in Huntsville. Pictured below are the recipients of the 2007 Distinguished Service Awards.



*Councilmember Wayne Dunkin, Priceville
20-year service award*



*Mayor W. C. Hayes, Jr., Maplesville
20-year service award*



*City Clerk Debbie Orange, Clanton
20-year service award*



*Mayor Stevan H. Parsons, Sylvan Springs
20-year service award*

continued page 20

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nothing
to do
with it.



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The President's Report

Sonny Penhale
Mayor of Helena

Address – President's Banquet 2007 League Convention

I have been an active member of the League since I was first elected Mayor of Helena nearly 40 years ago and so I'm humbled by the great honor you've bestowed upon me, my family and my community this evening. I thank you for your confidence and I proudly accept the gavel of the office of President of the League of Municipalities. I pledge to all of you tonight that I will do my best to live up to the trust you have placed in me and I promise to work hard over the next year to maintain your faith in my abilities and to meet your expectations of this respected office.

There are several people I'd like to recognize and thank as I take office tonight. My sincere gratitude goes out to Mayor Loretta Spencer, members of the Huntsville City Council and their spouses and staffs for the genuine hospitality shown to all our delegates during this year's



Immediate Past President of the League, Mayor Lew Watson of Lincoln, passes the gavel to newly-elected League President, Mayor Sonny Penhale of Helena.



Mayor Sonny Penhale delivers his acceptance speech during the President's Banquet on Tuesday night of the convention.

convention. I congratulate Mayor Spencer and the Huntsville City Council for their hard work and a job well done.

Serving next to Mayor Lew Watson this past year was an honor and privilege. I'm sure that each of you will join me in thanking him for his willingness to always do more than what was expected.

I'd also like to thank the members of the Helena City Council for their hard work and devotion to our community. They work together to ensure the well being of our hometown and I sincerely appreciate their efforts. In addition, I want to thank my wife, Sarah, for her support and encouragement. She's always been my biggest cheerleader.

Lastly, I want to thank Perry Roquemore and his fine staff. No matter what the issue, the League staff stands prepared to do what is necessary to promote and protect our municipalities. They are always professional and polite and we as elected officials couldn't ask for a more dedicated or more dynamic resource than our staff headquartered in Montgomery.

Thank you again for honoring me with your trust and confidence. I look forward to working closely with the League staff and our membership over the next year.

God bless. ■

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Municipal Overview

By
PERRY C. ROQUEMORE, JR.
Executive Director

Director's Report League Convention, April 24, 2007

It's my pleasure to bring you up-to-date on the operations of your League for the past year. Since we met in Mobile last year, your League officers and staff have been busy implementing new programs and trying to protect the interests of Alabama municipalities at both the national and state levels.

League Committees

The Executive Committee, presided over by our able President Lew Watson and Vice President Sonny Penhale, met three times during the past year and dealt with numerous issues on each occasion. Our five policy committees met on separate days at League Headquarters to hear resource advisors speak on issues of importance to the committee. Following the presentations, the committee members revised their respective policy statements. The revised policy statement, created through the hard work of these committee members, is ready for your final consideration today. Our *Policies and Goals* document is very important as it is used to guide your League staff throughout the year and to assist the Committee on State and Federal Legislation when it meets each year to develop the League's legislative package. I want to personally thank our Committee chairs and vice chairs for their leadership and hard work. I also want to thank all the officials who served on our committees this year for their valuable input. Would all of the participants on our committees please stand up so that we can applaud you for your effort? I also would encourage any of you who did not serve on a League committee to let us know if you would like to serve. We would love to have your involvement and ideas.

NLC Activities

The Alabama League of Municipalities continues to be well represented at NLC meetings and activities during the past year. The League had one of the largest state delegations at the National League of Cities Congress of Cities in Reno, Nevada, in December, and at the NLC Congressional-City Conference in Washington, D.C. in March. In December, one of our own, Council Member Cynthia McCollum of Madison, Alabama, was elected First Vice President of NLC and is in line to become President of NLC in November. Mayor James Perkins of Selma was elected to serve a second year on the NLC Board of Directors and Mayor Leon Smith of Oxford and Mayor Ted Jennings of Brewton continue to serve on the NLC Advisory Committee.

Council Member Debbie Quinn of Fairhope has been named Chair of the NLC Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Committee. Mayor Perkins of Selma was named Chair of the NLC CityFutures Panel on Equity and Opportunity and Council Member Janet May of Montgomery was named Chair of the NLC Central Cities Council.

League President Lew Watson of Lincoln serves on the NLC Information Technology and Communications Steering Committee and Council Member Ben Reed of Gadsden serves on the NLC Community and Economic Development Steering Committee.

Alabama has been well represented on the NLC Small Cities Advisory Council for many years by Mayor Billy Joe Driver of Clanton and Mayor Jay Jaxon, Jr. of Eufaula. This year they were joined by Council Members Terry Adams of Midfield, Elaine Lewis and Kevin Walker of Wetumpka. A number of other Alabama officials serve on NLC Policy committees. I ask that all Alabama officials who serve on NLC boards and committees to stand and be recognized.

Membership

The League's membership now stands at 451 municipalities representing over 99% of Alabama's urban population. This is an increase of 8 municipal members since this time last year. Although the number of participating municipalities is very high, we believe there are other small communities in our state that could benefit from League membership. We encourage officials in League member cities and towns to urge their neighbors who are non-members to join the League.

Finances, Property and Equipment

The League's finances for the current 2006-2007 budget year are expected to be adequate to meet the Executive

continued next page

Committee's budget that was adopted last July. Last year I reported that we had purchased a lot of equipment, built a secure, temperature-controlled room to house the equipment, and had hired a full time IT person to keep it all running smoothly. This year I can tell you that we have added a second IT person and doubled the size of the room to house our computer infrastructure. We are well on the way to converting a lot of our information into a digital format. This is quite an undertaking when you consider the thousands of documents and records that we maintain. Most of our programs have been updated to run the latest software. We have spent a lot of time and effort to insure that our data is completely and accurately backed up and that the security of our system is top notch.

We have also purchased equipment and have the expertise on staff to develop League-produced videos. Our first production was shown on Sunday afternoon announcing the 2007 Achievement Award winners. I expect our investment in technology to produce significant benefits for our members in the coming months.

We have just completed a project to remodel certain areas in the League Headquarters building and to add new carpet or tile floors in much of the building. We have also opened an Archives Room to display the history of your League for visitors to see.

Let me encourage all municipal officials to drop by your League Headquarters building anytime you are in Montgomery.

League Services

The League is a service organization. In addition to our lobbying efforts and our efforts to assist municipal officials by providing information, advice and training, the League also has several programs in place to save money for our member municipalities. These include the Municipal Workers Compensation Fund, the Alabama Municipal Insurance Corporation, the Municipal Revenue Service program for collecting delinquent insurance license taxes, our computer software programs – the *ALM Library* and *MunicipaLaw on Disc*, and the Alabama Municipal Funding Authority or AMFund, which became operational this year and will be providing an additional financing alternative for our members.

The League continues to endorse several other programs such as the AIG-VALIC deferred compensation program, the City Net long distance telephone program through Delta Com, the Gov Deals online auction service, the Debt Recovery Program, and the Cable Franchise Management Program.

If you need any of these services, I recommend you contact the League or the endorsed providers. Most of them have had displays in our trade show. The League officers

and staff will continue to look at new and innovative programs to assist our member municipalities.

Legislative Program

We had just completed the 2006 Regular Session when we met in Mobile last year. The League Committee on State and Federal Legislation, led by its Chair, Mayor Bob Bunting of Ozark, and its Vice Chair, Council Member Charles Woods of Childersburg, met in November and adopted an ambitious League Legislative Package for the 2007 Regular Session. Today marked the 14th day of the 2007 Regular Session. After today, there are only 16 legislative meeting days left. Due to the dispute between the two sides over Senate rules and committee assignments, nothing of great significance has passed this session. I'm happy to report that most League bills are moving and are in a position to be passed should the parties in the Senate reach a compromise. If a compromise is not reached, then I expect very little to be enacted.

CMO Program

Our Education Program for the Elected Municipal Official, which gives every elected municipal official in Alabama the opportunity to obtain the designation of Certified Municipal Officer (CMO), is completing 12 years. Since the program began, we have had **2783** officials participate in the program, **1406** of whom are active. As of last week, **712** officials have obtained the required 40 credit hours of training for Basic CMO certification and **282** officials have earned their Advanced CMO designation. At this Convention, additional officials will earn their Basic and Advanced CMOs. The names of this year's graduates will be announced at dinner tonight. A ceremony will be held in Montgomery this summer for this year's graduates.

Publications and Information

The *Alabama Municipal Journal* continues to be one of the country's best municipal publications. The League's Web Page has been significantly improved this year to give members another method of obtaining needed assistance. We are getting a tremendous amount of hits to our site together with many compliments on it. If you haven't had the opportunity, please check out our web site at www.alalm.org. It has quite a few features to assist League members.

This year we established our new Municipal Achievement Awards Program. I feel the first program was highly successful and I urge each of you to submit an entry in this program when we seek applications this fall.

Legal Services

Our Legal Department continues to provide top notch

legal assistance to our members. Last year, approximately 8,000 of your inquiries were fielded by our legal team. In addition to answering your legal questions, they also provide two training workshops annually for city attorneys and are in constant demand to speak at meetings for lawyers and non-lawyers throughout the state. Our legal staff also prepares monthly articles for the web page and the *Alabama Municipal Journal*.

League Staff

League employees are assigned to work in one or more of the followings areas or departments – Legal and Research, Finance, Legislative, Communications, Member Services, CMO, IT, or Insurance. Although I am biased, I am certain that I have the best staff in America. These extremely competent people provide excellent service our members on a daily basis. Please join me in thanking them for a job well done.

Looking Ahead

Our League is recognized as one of the most successful in the country. The reason is simple — the untiring efforts of our membership. Your President and Vice President have

done a super job on your behalf. Your past presidents continue to offer needed advice as we move forward.

The next year will be full of challenges for municipalities. We will have to find ways to deal with rising fuel costs, rising health care and pension costs, and the threat of legislation to eliminate or restrict municipal power to control our own affairs. The League will work hard to improve all of our services and develop new services to meet the challenges facing our cities and towns.

In closing, I want to thank all of our municipal officials who have participated in League activities during the past year. Individuals from large cities and small towns from all parts of Alabama have worked together for the common good of municipal government in Alabama. Alabama municipalities are truly blessed with dedicated officials. Remember, this is your League. Our ability to produce positive results for our members depends upon the involvement and teamwork of our municipal officials. If you know of municipal officials in your area that do not get actively involved in League activities, encourage them to do so. This League is only as strong as its members.

Thank you! ■

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AND SECONDS COUNT

Service Awards continued from page 13



*City Clerk Sandra G. Donahoo,
Childersburg; 30-year service award*



*City Clerk Gail Duffey, Scottsboro
30-year service award*



*Councilmember James Jett, Warrior
30-year service award*



*Councilmember Rickey Jones,
Sylvan Spring; 30-year service award*



*Mayor Fred McNab, Pinckard
30-year service award*



*Councilmember Willard Payne, Pelham
30-year service award*



*City Clerk Janice Wilhite, Hueytown
30-year service award*



*Mayor Sonny Pehhale, Helena
40-year service award*

The following service award winners were unable to attend the closing ceremonies.

20 Year Award:

- Bill Ham, Jr., Mayor, Auburn
- Ernest Hester, Attorney, Guin
- Betty Marshall, Clerk/Treasurer, Decatur
- Robert Turner, Councilmember, Sulligent
- Martha Walker, Clerk, Oneonta
- Robert Wilson, Councilmember, Georgiana

30 Year Award:

- Theodore Jackson, Councilmember,
Coosada
- Edmon McKiney, Attorney, Thomasville
- Keith Smith, Council President, Scottsboro
- Pam Spencer, Administrative Assistant/
Court Clerk, Guin

40 Year Award:

- Norma Nelson, Clerk, Guin
- John Phillips, Attorney, Oxford

Congratulations!

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Congratulations, Lew!



Mayor Sonny Penhale of Helena (right), incoming League president, presents Mayor Lew Watson of Lincoln (left), immediate past president of the League, with a plaque of appreciation for his service.

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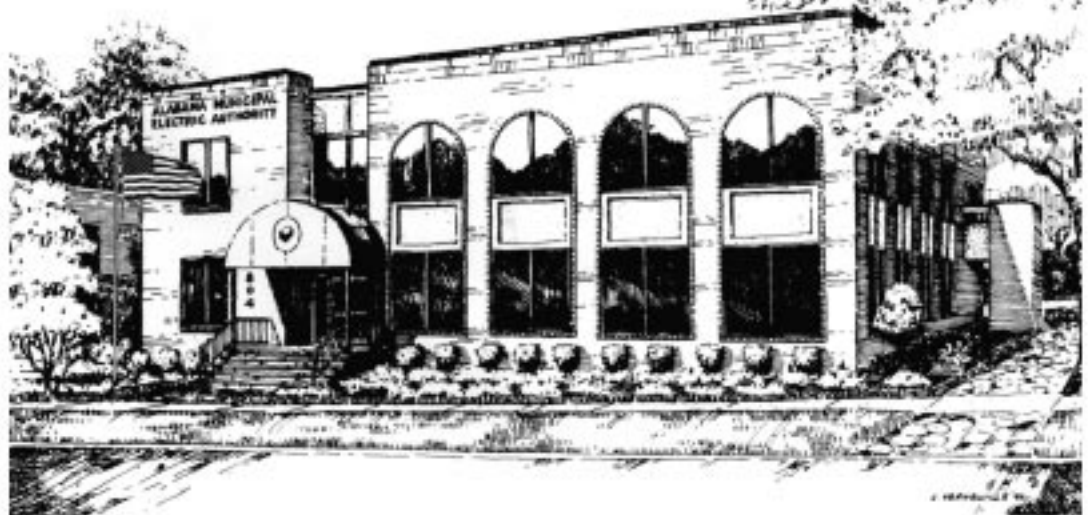
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President's Address continued from page 5

Throughout my years of public service, this year as your League president stands out as one of the most memorable. I've had the opportunity to make new friends, encourage old ones and work to impact legislation benefiting local government.

This week we will hit the midway point of the 2007 Regular Session. Nothing of major significance has been enacted thus far; however, the League is currently monitoring 193 House bills and 117 Senate bills that, if enacted, would effect municipal government. Although most of these bills would provide positive changes in the law, there are always some bills that could seriously effect the administration of municipal government. The League lobbying team has been working diligently to kill or have amendments placed on these bills to address municipal concerns.

The Committee on State and Federal Legislation adopted an ambitious legislative package of bills for the League to pursue. These bills are currently moving through the legislative process. Our lobbyists are working hard to get our bills in position to be passed should a window open later this session.

However, our great lobbying team cannot do the job alone. They need our assistance. What can we do?

First, several times a week make it a point to check the State Legislation section on the League's web page for the latest developments. It's easy to do this. Go to the League web site at www.alalm.org. When you reach the Home Page, look to the right side of the screen and click on the button labeled STATE LEGISLATION. This will take you to the section containing the latest Legislative Bulletin and the latest status of every bill being tracked by the League. Pay particular attention to any calls for contacts.

Second, read the summaries of all of the newly-introduced bills. If one causes you concern, contact the League and your legislators to make them aware of your concerns.

We can't afford to be passive officials when it comes to legislative issues. Follow these two simple instructions and become an active member of the League lobbying team. When the League asks us to contact the Alabama Legislature regarding important issues, please take the time to make those calls to let our senators and representatives know where we stand. It is imperative that we work together because, while it may be easy to brush off one or two mayors with a message, it is *impossible* to ignore 450 mayors and more than 2,000 councilmembers who are united in their efforts to be heard.

I want to take a moment to give you a quick update on the League's newest program – the Alabama Municipal Funding Corporation, or AMFund, which was launched in 2005 to help municipalities obtain funding for projects to benefit their communities. AMFund issues tax-exempt bonds. The proceeds from these bonds fund AMFund, from which individual League members can borrow at low tax-exempt

interest rates to fund almost any municipal equipment or project. AMFund takes advantage of the economies of scale offered through pooled financing, which allows municipalities to share issuance costs to reduce each borrower's costs, and participates in bond issues of sufficient size to enable the borrowers to achieve attractive pricing.

AMFund made its first bond issue in January 2006, loaning over \$17 million to seven municipalities. Since then, AMFund has loaned approximately \$25 million to 14 municipalities.

AMFund is managed by a board of directors composed of municipal elected officials. Mayor Roy Dobbs from Berry chairs this board and Councilmember Charles Woods from Childersburg serves as Vice Chair. The other members of this board are Mayor Jim Byard of Prattville, Mayor Wally Burns of Southside and Mayor Howard Shell from Atmore. We are grateful for their assistance with and sound management of AMFund.

The League and AMFund look forward to working to invest in the future of Alabama's municipalities for years to come so please take advantage of this program. Ken Smith and Greg Cochran of the League staff are available to answer your questions, so give them a call.

Another League program I want to call your attention to is the Alabama Municipal Insurance Corporation. As many of you know, AMIC has offered affordable, reliable insurance coverage to our municipalities for nearly 20 years – thanks to the foresight of League officials who created AMIC during a time when insurance was difficult for cities to come by. When Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast – the insurance market became extremely chaotic. Some coastal areas have experienced up to an eighteen hundred percent – you heard me correctly, I said an EIGHTEEN HUNDRED PERCENT – increase in insurance premiums; that is, if insurance is even available. AMIC, however, *has* not and *is* not pulling coverage from Alabama's coastal region and continues to provide a quality insurance product at a reasonable cost to its members. Be sure to contact this fine organization if your municipality has a question about liability or property insurance.

The League's Municipal Workers Compensation Fund, which is the second oldest insurance pool in the nation, recently celebrated its 30-year anniversary. More than 600 members strong, the Municipal Workers Comp Fund consistently gives a renewal credit to those members who had an average loss ratio of 75 percent or less, resulting in substantial savings for the Fund's members.

I would be remiss if I did not thank the members of the Lincoln City Council and all of the City staff. They have graciously allowed me serve you this year, and have always been behind me and our League. Again, I thank you for the privilege of serving as your League president. May God bless you and your communities. ■

Murphy of Robertsedale for serving on the Board of Directors of the Alabama Municipal Insurance Corporation. We also wish to commend the work of Steve Wells, AMIC's President. Because of the work of these officials, AMIC has proven to be extremely successful and of tremendous benefit to the cities and towns of Alabama. We urge other municipalities to participate in this service offered through the League.

RESOLUTION NO. 21

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they thank Mayor Roy Dobbs, Berry, Chair; Councilmember Charles Woods, Childersburg, Vice Chair; Mayor Wally Burns, Southside; Mayor Jim Byard, Prattville; and Mayor Howard Shell, Atmore for serving on the Board of Directors of the Alabama Municipal Funding Authority, Inc. (AMFund). AMFund is the League's newest venture and we urge our municipalities to participate in this new program.

RESOLUTION NO. 22

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they express their appreciation to the clerks of the cities and towns of this state for the outstanding work they do on our behalf. We also commend them for their excellent and timely program at this convention.

RESOLUTION NO. 23

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do thank the city managers and city administrators for the work they perform for the cities and towns of Alabama.

RESOLUTION NO. 24

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they thank the various departments and agencies of the state and federal government that have been most helpful to the cities and towns of this state during the past year. We commend them for their cooperation and thank them for their assistance.

RESOLUTION NO. 25

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in

Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they thank the Huntsville Police Department for their participation in the Opening Session of this convention.

RESOLUTION NO. 26

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they thank Capt. Kinney Bryant of the Huntsville Police Department for singing the National Anthem during the Opening Session of this convention.

RESOLUTION NO. 27

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they commend Perry Roquemore and the members of the League staff for their deep devotion to the interests of the municipalities of this state and that we thank them for their unselfish labors in fulfilling the responsibilities of their assignments.

RESOLUTION NO. 28

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do express their appreciation to AMFund; Bradley Arant & White, LLP; Lawrenson Services, Inc.; Sterne, Agee & Leach; Thornton Farish, Inc.; and US Bank for co-sponsoring the League's Reception held in the Expo Hall on Sunday night of this convention.

RESOLUTION NO. 29

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they thank the Alabama Municipal Insurance Corporation, Municipal Workers Compensation Fund and Millennium Risk Managers for sponsoring the coffee breaks for delegates during the convention.

RESOLUTION NO. 30

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, thank Alabama Municipal Electric Authority; Alabama Electric Cooperative, Inc.; Tennessee Valley Authority; and Electric Cities of Alabama for sponsoring the luncheon on Monday afternoon of this convention.

RESOLUTION NO. 31

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do sincerely thank Alabama Gas Corporation for sponsoring the reception on Monday night of our convention.

RESOLUTION NO. 32

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do thank Alabama Power Company for co-sponsoring the entertainment for Monday night of the convention.

RESOLUTION NO. 33

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do thank Honeywell for sponsoring the President's Banquet on Tuesday night of the convention.

RESOLUTION NO. 34

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do thank Alabama Manufactured Housing Association for co-sponsoring the entertainment for Tuesday night of the convention.

RESOLUTION NO. 35

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do sincerely thank Bancorp South Equipment Finance for co-sponsoring the box lunches on Tuesday of our convention.

RESOLUTION NO. 36

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do express their appreciation to Wachovia Bank for sponsoring the reception preceding the Presidents Banquet on Tuesday night of the convention.

RESOLUTION NO. 37

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do thank the City of Huntsville for sponsoring both the Casino Night Welcome Party on Saturday night and the banquet on Monday night of this convention. Their

sponsorship is another example of the excellent hospitality shown by the city during our convention this year.

RESOLUTION NO. 38

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do thank Jenny Nolen for her performance at the Spouses Breakfast on Monday morning of this convention.

RESOLUTION NO. 39

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they express their sincere appreciation to the companies and businesses which sponsored parties for delegates on Sunday night of the convention.

RESOLUTION NO. 40

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they express their deep appreciation to the Alabama Telecommunications Association for their sponsorship of the Spouses Breakfast.

RESOLUTION NO. 41

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do thank Dr. Tom Harris for his presentation to delegates during the Sunday General Session.

RESOLUTION NO. 42

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do hereby express their appreciation to the exhibitors at this convention for their participation and note that their contributions have meant much to the success of this convention. Specifically, we thank the following exhibitors: ACS, ADS Environmental Services, AL City / County Management Assoc., Alabama Cable Telecommunications Assoc., Alabama Correctional Industries, Alabama Manufactured Housing Institute, Alabama Mountain Lakes Tourist Assoc., Alabama Municipal Electric Authority, Alabama Municipal Funding Corporation, Alabama Municipal Insurance Corporation, Alabama Municipal Revenue Officers Association, Alabama One Call, ALACAD, Alamo Industrial, ALATAX Revenue Discovery Systems, Allied Waste, AME Engineers, Inc., AMEC- Earth and Environmental, ARCADIS, Arrow Disposal Service,

continued next page

Asphalt Zipper Inc., AT&T, AUM Alabama Training Institute & Center for Govern, Aviation Council of Alabama, Badger Meter, Inc., BancorpSouth Equipment Finance, Barge Waggoner Sumner & Cannon, BBI, Inc, Be Regions, Behavioral Health Systems, Inc., Best Way, BIS Digital, Brick SouthEast Association, Burk- Kleinpeter, Business Interiors, Buxton, Cabinet NG, CDG Engineers & Associates, CGI Communications, City of Dutton, CityTech, Civil Systems, Inc., CSI McAleer: Technology Outfitters, D&D Case Management, Dixie Decorations, Inc., EAP Lifestyle Management, LLC, Empire Pipe and Supply, Garver Engineers, LLC, GovDeals, Grasshopper Company, Hadco, Hancock Bank, HdL Software, Holiday Designs, Inc., Honeywell, Ingenuity, Insurance Services Offices, J A Dawson Co., Inc., Judicial Correction Services, Junior Davis & Associates, Key To City, Local Government Corporation, Local Government Services, LLC, Long Lewis Sterling, Magnolia River Services, Inc., Municipal Code Corp., MCCi, Municipal Workers Compensation Fund, N&L Enterprises, NAFECO, National Cable & Telecommunications Consulting, Office Max, Pac-MAC, Paul B. Krebs & Associates, Inc., Polyengineering, Professional Probation Services, Inc., Pro-Fire Equipment, RDK Truck, Sales & Service, Sansom Equipment Co., Inc., Schwarze Industries Inc., Sentell Engineering Inc., Severn Trent Services, Slaughter & Associates, Southern Playgrounds, Inc., Steve Ellis, Sunbelt Fire, Sunflower Waste, Tank Pro, Technology America, The Bank of New York, The McPherson Companies, Inc, The Traylor Group, Thompson Engineering, Thompson Tractor, Traffic Logix, Triton Water Technologies, TTL, Inc., Tudor Custom Recreation Equipment, Inc., Tyler Technologies, U.S. Department of Labor, Universal Concepts, Utility Engineering Consultants, LLC, Utility Service Co., Inc., Veolia ES Solid Waste South East, Volkert & Associates, Inc., Vortex Truck and Equipment, Wachovia Bank and Wiser Company.

RESOLUTION NO. 43

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do hereby express their appreciation to the state and federal agencies that had exhibit booths in the Expo Hall at this convention. Specifically, we thank the following agencies: ADECA, ADECA- Office of Water Resources, Agriculture & Industries, AIDT, Alabama Advantage for Relocation and Retirement, Alabama Association of Municipal Clerks and Administration, Alabama Association of Regional Councils, Alabama Chapter of the American Planning Association, Alabama Chapter, National Safety Council, Alabama Clean Fuels Coalition, Alabama Cooperative Extension System, Alabama Department of Archives and History, Alabama Department of Environmental Management, Alabama

Department of Revenue, Alabama Development Office, Alabama Forestry Commission, Alabama Public Library Service, All Kids- Alabama Department of Public Health, Attorney General's Office of Consumer Affairs, Center for Economic Development, Jacksonville State University, Center for Governmental Services, Auburn University, DesignAlabama, Inc., Geological Survey of Alabama / State Oil & Gas Board, Governor's Office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives, Huntsville Career Center, Municipal Revenue Services, Retirement Systems of Alabama, Scenic Alabama, STATE EMPLOYEES' INSURANCE BOARD, U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development and USDA Rural Development.

RESOLUTION NO. 44

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they sincerely thank Carr, Riggs and Ingram, LLP for providing the Hole-In-One prize for the Municipal Masters Golf Tournament. Also, we are most appreciative to Municipal Revenue Service for providing the golf prizes for tournament winners.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that they do thank the following for their sponsorships: Gold: Goodwyn, Mills & Cawood, Inc. Silver: Maynard, Cooper & Gale, P.C.; Neel-Schaffer, Inc.; North Alabama Mayors Association; and Robert Gottlieb, Jr. Bronze: Ball, Ball, Matthews & Novak; Black & Hughston, P.C.; Lanier, Ford, Shaver & Payne; Lusk & Lusk, Attorneys at Law; Porter, Porter & Hassinger, P.C.; Stanley A Martin Law Office; TTL, Inc.; and Turnbach, Warren, Roberts & Lloyd, P.C.

RESOLUTION NO. 45

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do thank the members of the 2006-2007 Executive Committee for their expertise, advice and assistance regarding League operations.

RESOLUTION NO. 46

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do thank ABC-LEO for hosting a reception on Sunday evening of the convention.

RESOLUTION NO. 47

WHEREAS, the State of Alabama and the Alabama League of Municipalities lost a great friend and supporter when the late Senator Charles Langford passed away; and

WHEREAS, Senator Langford represented Montgomery and the surrounding area for many years in the Alabama Legislature in both the House and the Senate; and

WHEREAS, while in the Legislature, he served as Vice Chair and Chair of the State Legislature's Interim Committee on Municipal Government; and

WHEREAS, he also served as Chair of the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee; and

WHEREAS, in his positions of leadership he was able to sponsor and obtain passage of more than eighteen (18) League bills; and

WHEREAS, these bills improved municipal laws relating to unfunded mandates, competitive bid laws, credit card use, military leave, adoption of codes by reference, investment of surplus funds, taxation of financial institutions and validation of prior incorporations and annexations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on the 24th day of April, 2007, that we do hereby wish to recognize the outstanding public service of the late Senator Charles Langford for his loyal service to the Alabama League of Municipalities and the citizens of Alabama.

RESOLUTION NO. 48

WHEREAS, interference-free broadcast spectrum and reliable and interoperable wireless communications are essential to the public safety role of local officials; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has a responsibility in providing adequate telecommunications spectrum to enhance interoperable communications among public safety and emergency services; and

WHEREAS, past federal public safety frequencies and channels have been scattered and inadequate, resulting in a fragmented public safety spectrum; and

WHEREAS, the federal government must provide funding to purchase the necessary equipment and training; and

WHEREAS, federal funding of interoperable public safety equipment continues not to meet the new needs and requirements of the post September 11th environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on the 24th day of April, 2007, that the federal government must lead the efforts to resolve interoperability problems that affect emergency communications and data systems throughout the nation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the federal government must remedy the current shortage of broadcast spectrum availability for public safety needs across the nation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the federal government must provide adequate funding for interoperable equipment to better facilitate coordinated and effective emergency response in cities and across jurisdictions.

RESOLUTION NO. 49

WHEREAS, Avian Flu virus, known as the H5N1, has the potential of becoming a "Pandemic Flu" virus, a virulent human flu that causes a global outbreak of serious illness in which humans have no immunity to nor a vaccine for; and

WHEREAS, with more than 200 known cases worldwide of the H5N1 Avian Flu since 2003, researchers are trying to better understand and prevent the genetic changes that would allow the Avian Flu virus, the H5N1, to cause a global outbreak and serious problems worldwide; and

WHEREAS, if the scenario were to occur, the pandemic flu could cause an estimated 1.5 to 5 percent decline in U.S. gross domestic product, an estimated 89,000 to 207,000 deaths; 314,000 to 734,000 hospitalizations; 18 to 42 million outpatient visits; 20 to 47 million additional illnesses; and a large reduction in workforce; and

WHEREAS, the pandemic flu could overwhelm the public safety, health and medical infrastructure, educational facilities, public institutions and private businesses of cities and towns; and

WHEREAS, local and regional infrastructure and operations will be very difficult because the "continuity of operations" in all sectors of local government, community and private business will be compromised and under great pressure from workforce shortages from actual illnesses, community school closures, lack of produce in local groceries, emergency surplus needs in the health and safety professions, lack of communications facilities and postal service workers, among other things.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on the 24th day of April, 2007, that the United States government, in coordination with the international community, should further develop and coordinate a comprehensive research and containment strategy that involves commitments of funding, supplies, equipment, training, expertise, personnel, countermeasures and animal and public health measures; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in the event of a pandemic flu, the federal government must provide clear guidance, criteria and decision tools to inform state, local and private sector agencies as to protective measures, planning and response actions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the federal government is hereby urged to continue to provide information and aid to maintain the continuity of operations

continued next page

in all state and local governments; and asks the federal government to provide detailed information and aid to local public health care so that preparedness information and aid is readily available to the community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in the event of a pandemic flu, the federal government must be prepared to supplement and support state and local efforts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that there must be clear and appropriate division of responsibilities between local, state and federal governments, with clear channels and protocols for communications between local, state and federal leaders, including maintaining the appropriate role of U.S. military forces in supporting emergency responses.

RESOLUTION NO. 50

WHEREAS, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) recently adopted an order on video franchising that would severely restrict the ability of local governments to protect their citizens, rights-of-way, community channels and public safety networks; and

WHEREAS, the FCC order could lead to a tremendous reduction in the revenues received by local governments for use of their rights-of-way, as well as loss of cable services to many governmental buildings and schools; and

WHEREAS, local governments want competition in the video marketplace but feel the FCC's order ignores local interests, provides regulatory advantages for a few of the largest telecommunications companies in the country and is simply contrary to the law in many respects; and

WHEREAS, local government organizations representing municipal and county officials across America have asked the Federal courts to reverse the recent franchising order;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on the 24th day of April, 2007, that they applaud the Alliance for Communications Democracy (ACD), Alliance for Community Media (ACM), National Association of Counties (NACo), National League of Cities (NLC), National Association of Telecommunications Officials and Advisors (NATOA) and The United States Conference of Mayors (USCM) for taking this action and wish them well.

RESOLUTION NO. 51

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they memorialize the following persons who have died in office since our last convention, namely: Arvell Kornegay, councilmember, Woodstock; Charles Henderson, councilmember, Dadeville; Bobby Nelson, mayor, Red Bay; and Ed Blair, councilmember, Heflin.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following former officials be memorialized: James M. Oliver, mayor, Phil Campbell; Charles C. Vickrey, mayor, Abbeville; Robert W. Parrett, councilmember, Sylacauga; Donald L. LeQuire, councilmember, Scottsboro; Carl C. Morgan, Jr., mayor and city council president, Selma; Reginald Minter, mayor, Millbrook; James Dean, councilmember, Alexander City; Edna Merle Shambo, clerk/treasurer, Loxley; Hoyt D. Cabaniss, councilmember, Sylacauga; Cecil "Bubba" Langford, mayor, Notasulga; Margie M. Wilson, mayor, Prichard; James E. Driskell, mayor, New Brockton; Joseph F. Stegall, mayor, York; Amon C. Williamson, city clerk, Northport; Joe L. Kiker, mayor, Lake View; Douglas N. Bowman, councilmember, Clio; Joseph P. "Joe" Dark, mayor, Sylacauga; Harold J. Gayle, mayor and councilmember, Warrior; Guy Thompson, mayor, Opelika; John H. Smith, mayor, Prichard; Jack R. Hancock, councilmember, Scottsboro; Sam Slade, mayor, Eufaula; Joe Wallace, mayor and councilmember, Linden; Judge Stringer, mayor, Hobson City; Maurice "Mushie" Nichols, mayor, Athens; Tom H. Kennedy, Sr., councilmember, Prattville; Alfred T. Sims, councilmember, Talladega; Dorothy W. Aydelott, councilmember, Linden; Leonard O. Allen, Jr., mayor, Russellville; Ellis Farrington, councilmember, Dadeville; Robert B. Donaldson, mayor, Riverside; Roland "Racehouse" Johnson, mayor, Garden City; James O'Neal Pogue, councilmember, Prichard; Marvin Wilson, mayor, Russellville; Ernest Willingham, mayor, Collinsville; William Beck, councilmember, Valley; Robert Burns, mayor, Tarrant; R.C. Hagood, mayor, Phil Campbell; William A. (Bill) Winters, mayor, Satsuma; and Dolores Postver, retired League employee who worked for 10 years in the League's finance department.

RESOLUTION NO. 52

WHEREAS, Lew Watson, Mayor of Lincoln, Alabama, has served as President of the Alabama League of Municipalities for the past year; and

WHEREAS, Mayor Watson's diligent attention to duty and outstanding leadership on behalf of the League and its members has led to the growth and well-being of the League especially during the past year; and

WHEREAS, the members of the League shall always be most grateful for Mayor Watson's years of unselfish service and untiring efforts to promote the programs, projects and philosophy of the League;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Delegates of the Alabama League of Municipalities in Convention assembled in Huntsville, Alabama, on this the 24th day of April, 2007, that they do recognize and commend Mayor Watson for his service as a municipal official in the State of Alabama and as a leader of our state organization and that they do wish him well in all of his future endeavors.

Mayor Melvin Duran, Priceville, Elected League Vice President



On Tuesday, April 24, Melvin Duran, mayor of Priceville, was elected League vice president during the League's General Business Session.

Duran has been an active participant with the League and currently serves on the League's Executive Committee as well as the Committee on Transportation, Public Safety and Communication. He is a member of the Board of Directors for the Alabama Municipal Insurance Corporation and has attended numerous meetings held by the National League of Cities. In addition, he has completed both the Basic and Advanced CMO programs through the League.

Duran was elected mayor of Priceville in 1980. He is retired from the Salutia Chemical Company where he'd worked since 1965. ■

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– Jeff Barrom, President, Sunnyside Economic Development Association Board, Sunnyside WA

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AMIC/MWCF Safety Video Library

Any municipal official who has ever put together a safety meeting knows scheduling can be a daunting task. Regardless of city policy, some employees will not, for various work or non-work related reasons, be able to make these meetings.

To deal with this, supervisors must schedule several meetings or sessions so that all employees requiring the safety training can benefit from it, a process that uses up resources and becomes repetitive for whoever conducts the training. However, through a MWCF and AMIC program, training can be much easier than holding long sessions and demonstrations or having city employees read through safety manuals.

Since 1999, MWCF has maintained a safety video center, an in-house library with 356 titles on municipal issues. Within the library, municipal officials can find information on nearly any local concern that may arise, from animal control to proper lower back care and injury prevention for workers. A complete list of video titles is available on the AMIC website at www.AMICentral.org or by visiting www.alalm.org and clicking on the MWCF link.

Rachel Wagner, League research librarian and the program's coordinator, says having employees view videos in place of having them read through manuals or sit through demonstrations alone can be a great benefit to supervisors.

"It makes the information more accessible," Wagner said, "and meetings are a good place to show the videos and have high viewership."

Studies suggest that video learning helps employees learn as much as 55 percent faster and helps them remember up to 70 percent more information than oral instruction alone allows. Myra Forrest, MWCF/AMIC safety consultant, says member municipalities need to supplement safety training videos with other exercises to reinforce the information, using tactics like group discussions, practice demonstrations or even tests to drive the point home.

"Videos are an excellent means of communicating to employees a message or a skill," Forrest said, "[but] just sitting in front of the VCR for 10 to 15 minutes without reinforcement by management is not an effective learning environment."

Besides keeping city employees up to date on the safest ways of doing their jobs, video learning eliminates some of the repetition that goes along with training sessions. Instead of supervisors having to cover the same information in the same fashion over and over, the safety video library helps break up that monotony. An official may still have to hold more than one meeting, but being able to press a button and sit back and relax is easier than just lecturing for half an hour.

A number of Alabama's municipalities have taken advantage of this valuable and cost-free safety program, and

MWCF and AMIC would like more of their members to follow suit.

MWCF and AMIC members can check out videos from the library in much the same way as they would from a mail order video rental service. Members put in a written request to the League for a maximum of three videos and, depending on availability, have them in hand in about four days. Members may keep videos checked out for two weeks before they have to mail them back.

If the League library doesn't have the video a municipality requests on hand, MWCF and AMIC members have another option. As a result of AMIC's sponsoring usage of the National Resource Safety Center's video library a few years ago, member cities can also access the more than 9000 titles the national center has in stock. Between this and the League's library, municipalities should be able to find safety information on any issue that may arise.

To order from in house:

1. Call Rachel Wagner at ALM: 334-262-2566
2. Ask for a list of in-house videos/dvds
3. Fill out order form for specific video/dvd
4. Receive video/dvd after approximately four days
5. Keep video/dvd for 14 days
6. Mail back to: ALM, 535 Adams Avenue, Montgomery, AL 36102

To order from NRSC:

1. Go to www.nrsc.com to view NRSC video selection
2. Call, fax or e-mail your request to Rachel Wagner at: 334-262-2566, rachelw@alalm.org or 334-263-0200 (fax)
3. Fill out order form for specific video
4. Receive video after approximately four days
5. Keep video for 14 days
6. Mail back to: NRSC, 3621 S. Harbor Blvd., Suite 250, Santa Ana, CA, 92704

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Councilmember Cynthia McCollum First Alabama Official in Line for NLC Presidency



National League of Cities (NLC) First Vice President Cynthia McCollum addressed delegates during Monday's Opening Session. Cynthia, who has served on the Madison City Council since 1989, will be sworn in as NLC President during the 2007 Congressional City Conference, which will be held in New Orleans November 13-17.

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For information on the League's Certified Municipal Official (CMO) Program, contact Theresa Lloyd, CMO Program Administrator, at 334-262-2566 or via e-mail at theresal@alalm.org.

Constitutional Officers Address Convention Delegates



State Treasurer Kay Ivey addressed convention delegates during Monday's Opening Session.



Lt. Governor Jim Folsom, Jr., addressed delegates during the Monday Luncheon.

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After 61 Years of Service, Faye Hosey Leaves City Hall

By Denise Sinclair; reprinted with permission from the March 24, 2007 edition of *The Daily Home*

SYLACAUGA — She's known around City Hall as a "book of knowledge" and a "living archive." After 61 years of service to her city, Faye Hosey is retiring from the city clerk's office.

She has served 13 mayors since she began working at City Hall in 1945 and served as interim city clerk twice.

Mayor Sam Wright said Hosey has always treated the community of Sylacauga like family, along with everyone at City Hall.

"These 61 years of service to Sylacauga is her gift of love to the community. It is rare to have people spend 20 years on a job, but just think, she has spent 61 years providing a service to her community. That is truly unbelievable," he said.

Wright has worked with Hosey not only as mayor but as a councilman in the 1960s and as a businessman.

"Several years ago when I heard she was thinking of retiring, I told her she had a job with Wright-Sprayberry if she did retire. She is so dedicated," he said.

Wright said Hosey has looked after the city's finances as if they were her own.

"She will be missed. I am sure there will be times when we will call her for guidance," he said.

Once she is retired, Hosey hopes to find something to keep her busy and that is pleasing to God.

She calls the retirement reception (held in her honor on March 28) a "so long, been good to know you party. All I want is my friends to come – people I've worked with through the years, elected officials and others."

City clerk Patricia Carden has worked with Hosey the longest of any city employee. Former city clerk John Newberry hired Carden in July 1977. She has spent nearly 30 years working with Hosey.

"I learned over the years from Miss Hosey and Mr. Newberry. I've always said if you needed an answer, Miss Hosey could find it for you. She is a living archive. She can find something so easily, when it takes me a while. She has always helped customers so much. You can't replace someone like that with 61 years of city knowledge," Carden said.

Hosey said for a long time she and Newberry were the only two employees in the city clerk's office.

Hosey was born near Marble Valley in Coosa County. Her parents were Allen and Minne Deason Hosey.

She attended elementary school at Marble Valley and still remembers one of her early teachers, Esther Atkinson, who is now dead.

After graduating from Weogufka High School in 1942,

Hosey's first job was as a clerk at Woolworth's Five and Ten.

Later that year, she accepted a job with the office of Price Administrations Local Rationing Board as a clerk/secretary.

It was the height of World War II, and Hosey turned down other, more attractive jobs to do her part in the war effort, according to a story about Hosey written by the late Bill Edwards in *The Daily Home* in September 1997.

When the war was over, Hosey went to work for the employment office in Sylacauga. She attended Perry Business College and Reynolds Business College, and with her background and experience, she soon became well known for her skills in city business circles.

She was approached by city officials about joining the city clerk's office. In December 1945, then city clerk Francis Pearson offered Hosey a job on his office staff.

Miles Motes was mayor at that time.

When Pearson left to become city clerk in Brewton in the late 1940s, C.J. Johnson was employed. He served until his death, and in 1967, John Newberry became city clerk.

continued next page



Faye Hosey at her retirement party held on March 28 in honor of her 61 years of dedicated service to the City of Sylacauga.

He was succeeded by John Ham, who was followed by David Cohen, and then Carden.

Hosey served as interim city clerk in 1966 and again when Cohen left. She was appointed assistant city clerk in 1949.

Hosey remembers many duties she became associated with in her job. "You know, the clerk's office also handled all the functions before there was a separate Sylacauga Utilities Board.

"I did investments, kept books on all special accounts, worked with grants on the state and national levels and also worked at the counter with our customers. I learned my position by doing, along with the excellent assistance of Mr. Johnson and Mr. Newberry. Both were outstanding city officials."

Up until the last year or so, Hosey attended almost all of the City Council meetings and kept the minutes for many years.

Even during her six decades as an employee of the city, Hosey still found time to take part in other civic events.

She was a member and past secretary of the Sylacauga Beautification Council, served on the Board of Directors for the South Talladega County Chapter of the Salvation Army, served on the American Red Cross Board and the United Way.

She has also been a member of the Sylacauga Area Council on Arts and Humanities, Sylacauga Pilot Club and was a charter member of the Alabama Association of Municipal Clerks and Administrators.

In 1980, she was given the Distinguished Service Award by the Alabama League of Municipalities, and the late Mayor Joe Dark gave her a key to the city after 25 years of service with Sylacauga.

She was honored as the grand marshal for the Sylacauga Christmas Parade in 1995.

She received the "Achievement in Government Award" from the Sylacauga Business and Professional Women's Club during the 1975 observance of International Women's Year by the organization.

Hosey is active in First Baptist Church of Sylacauga, where she has served on a number of committees and served as president and assistant teacher for the Ruth Sunday School Class.

She jokingly said she is not sure how many years she has been a member of First Baptist Church. "Probably a 100 years," she said.

In addition to serving under Mayors Dark and Motes, Hosey worked with Ed Howard, Earl Atkinson, John Gann, Curtis Liles, Gene Stewart, Ross Payton, John Floyd, James Payton, Jesse Cleveland, Bruce Carr and now Wright.

Hosey's wish is that the city have continued success with its programs and improve through the years.

She said she will miss her association with city employees and officials. "It has been very pleasant, even though lots of times I didn't agree with them," she said. "I will continuously be interested in Sylacauga and its future."

Hosey said Sylacauga has been good to "me and I hope in my own small way I have been able to help the citizens of Sylacauga."

She said she never dreamed she would spend 61 years at one job.

She is hoping some of the former city officials come to see her March 28.

One tip she offered employees and officials as she prepares to leave her six decade post with the city, "If you don't know the answer to a question, ask someone. The Alabama League of Municipalities has always been a big help."

Hosey said her years with the city and its employees have been like "one big family."

Council President Doug Murphree has worked with Hosey 10 years. He is in his third term on the council.

"I hate to see her leave. She knows so much about everything. I have often sought answers from her. She will give you her opinion. She is so helpful. She is a book of knowledge. One thing is for sure, she knows how to keep the finances of the city in order. She has always been good at what I call 'rat holing' our money. She has done a lot for this city," Murphree said. ■

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