



MnGFOA Newsletter

October 2026

Excellence and Leadership in Government Finance

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President's Message

By: Tina Lannes

With the 62nd MNGFOA Annual Conference behind us, I want to revisit this year's theme, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame: Keeping Government Finance in Tune. Just because the conference is over doesn't mean the message ends! Remember to make time for a little fun (Rock and Roll), continue striving for excellence in government finance (Hall of Fame), and maintain the delicate balance between revenues, spending, long-term planning, and financial stability (Keeping Government Finance in Tune).

What a great conference! I want to take a moment to recognize and thank everyone who helped make our 62nd Annual Conference a success. First and foremost, thank you to all our volunteers! MNGFOA is a 100% volunteer organization, and without your time, dedication, and willingness to get involved, we wouldn't be able to put on such a rockin' conference. A special thank-you goes out to:

- Jackie, Josh, and the entire Conference Committee for putting together a fantastic lineup of presenters and providing us with so many opportunities to learn, connect, and expand our knowledge.
- Kari, Michelle, and the Social Committee for planning some great events and making sure we had plenty of opportunities to have fun at Cragun's.
- The Technology Committee for jumping in and helping us develop and implement our new conference sponsorship opportunities.

- All of our conference sponsors for your generous and continued support. Your contributions help make not only our annual conference possible but also so much of what MNGFOA does throughout the year. Be sure to check out our Annual Conference Sponsorship page on the MNGFOA website and support those who support us!

To everyone who attended, I hope you enjoyed the conference, gained valuable knowledge, made new connections, and had a little fun along the way! Don't forget to submit your CPE forms and complete the conference survey. For those who were unable to join us, conference presentations (where permission has been granted) are available on the Conference Information page of our website.

Please join me in congratulating Korrie Johnson, Finance and Administrative Director for the City of Champlin, on being selected as our 2027 MNGFOA Treasurer and future 2030 President! Korrie has been a member of MNGFOA for over 20 years and has served on numerous committees throughout that time. She attended the GFOA Leadership Academy in 2022 and currently serves on the GFOA Committee on Treasury and Investment Management.

October has arrived, bringing cooler temperatures, colorful leaves, pumpkin spice, and, of course, a little spooky fun. Halloween happens to be one of my favorite holidays. Some people might even consider me a "Frightswold" — the Halloween version of the Griswolds. Let's just say I don't believe there's such a thing as too many Halloween decorations. It's time to dust off the



skeletons, hang up the cobwebs, carve the pumpkins, and let the ghosts and ghouls take over!

Whether you go all out transforming your home into a haunted house or keep things simple with a few pumpkins and friendly ghosts, Halloween is the perfect excuse to get creative, embrace your spooky side, and have a little fun.

But speaking of scary things, there's something even more frightening than the ghosts, goblins, and things that go bump in the night...Cyberattacks! October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month, and while I love a good Halloween scare, cyberattacks are one fright none of us wants to experience! As we learned during the conference, cyber threats continue to evolve alongside emerging technology, creating new risks and challenges for our government entities. Protecting public resources, sensitive information, and the financial stability of our organizations is more important than ever.

So, before you get too wrapped up in Halloween festivities, don't forget to register for our October 21 Monthly Meeting on Forensic Audit/Cybersecurity. It's a great opportunity to continue the conversation, expand our knowledge, and learn how to better protect our organizations from threats that are far scarier than anything lurking in a haunted house!

As we head into October, let the spooky season begin and watch out for those things that go bump in the night — especially the ones hiding behind a computer screen! Happy Halloween, everyone! Stay safe.

NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING

DATE: November 18, 2026

TIME: 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

LOCATION: Zoom Meeting



COST: Members - Free
Non-Members - \$10.00

CPE: 1.0 on request. Please complete the online form to request an emailed certificate: [CPE Request Form](#)

Topic: State Demographer

A State Demographer will cover aging, population growth/decline, and population projections.

Speakers: Dr. Jeff Howison

Jeff Howison is Senior Research Analyst in the Minnesota State Demographic Center. After receiving his doctorate in sociology in 2010 from the State University of New York at Binghamton, Jeff was assistant professor of sociology at Yeditepe University in Istanbul, Turkey, where he lived and worked for six years. In 2016, Jeff became the lead demographer in the state government of Ohio, where he worked primarily on state and local population projections. Jeff joined the Minnesota State Demographic Center in October of 2023, and his work will further the office's mission to foster public access to and understanding of demographic data and population trends. When he's not working, Jeff enjoys playing chess, cooking, and the outdoors.



October Government Accounting Classes

The October Accounting classes are posted and ready for registering on the MNGFOA website. The classes are taught by Government Finance Professionals who provide real world examples and insights.

The classes cost \$40/person for MNGFOA members, and \$50/person for non-members. Classes run from 9 am to 3 pm and lunch is provided during the day.

Each location and time is listed as a separate event. Please [visit the Events page](#) to register or for more information.

Beginning Governmental Accounting – This class starts with Basic Accounting Theory: Classification of account types, chart of accounts, accounting systems & records, fund accounting, basis of accounting (cash, accrual, modified accrual), and basic budgeting.

Tuesday, October 6th from 9 am to 3 pm
Bunker Hills Activities Center – Andover
550 Bunker Lake Blvd NW
Andover, MN 55304

Wednesday, October 7th from 9 am to 3 pm
Paradise Commons Sun Room – Waconia
8170 Paradise Ln
Waconia, MN 55387

Intermediate Governmental Accounting – This class will cover Government vs. Private Business, fund accounting, cash & investments, assessments, capital assets, bonds, fund equity, revenue/expenditure recognition, GASB vs. GAAP, interfund transactions and financial reporting.

Monday, October 19th from 9 am to 3 pm
Paradise Commons Sun Room – Waconia
8170 Paradise Ln
Waconia, MN 55387

Thursday, October 22nd from 9 am to 3 pm
Bunker Hills Activities Center – Andover
550 Bunker Lake Blvd NW
Andover, MN 55304

Advanced Governmental Accounting – This class will cover GASB updates, internal controls, a more in-depth look at the ACFR preparation process, including government-wide conversion, cash flow statements and internal service funds.

Tuesday, October 27th from 9 am to 3 pm
Eagan Community Center – Eagan
1501 Central Parkway
Eagan, MN 55121

Wednesday, October 28th from 9 am to 3 pm
Bunker Hills Activities Center – Andover
550 Bunker Lake Blvd NW
Andover, MN 55304



MNGFOA invites you to a

Holiday Card-Making Service Project

Join us for an evening of creativity, connection, and holiday cheer as we make handmade cards together.



Thursday, November 5th



4:00–7:00 p.m.



City of Lino Lakes Community Room
600 Town Center Parkway, Lino Lakes

Genna Helms of Brown Dog Craft Company will guide us step by step in creating fall, holiday, and winter-themed cards. No card-making experience is necessary, and all supplies will be provided.

At the end of the class, the handmade cards will be donated to residents at Lyngblomsten at Lino Lakes to share encouragement, kindness, and joy this season.



After class, join us for **appetizers**, compliments of the Social Committee, at **Don Julio's**, 701 Apollo Drive #130, Lino Lakes.



Please sign up on the MNGFOA website under **Events**
by October 15th.



What to expect:

- Fall, holiday & winter-themed cards
- Step-by-step instruction from Genna Helms of Brown Dog Craft Company
- All supplies provided
- Cards donated to Lyngblomsten at Lino Lakes
- Appetizers afterwards at Don Julio's, compliments of the Social Committee

*Come craft with us and help spread joy,
one handmade card at a time!*

MNGFOA Mentoring Program



"To help engage our members in developing our future and the future of local government finance in Minnesota."

The MNGFOA Mentoring Program will run from approximately December 2026 to September 2027 and is a critical component to the future of local government finance leadership within our State. Please consider being a part of this program. We need your participation to make this a successful program! **Applications are due by October 6, 2026.** We will be hosting an in-person Mentor Program Training Luncheon on Thursday October 29, 2026, from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at Springbrook Nature Center in Fridley. Please visit the MNGFOA website and click on the MNGFOA Mentor Program Tab for details.

Mentor

- Gain personal satisfaction
- Facilitate growth in the mentee
- Share resources and networks
- Give back
- Build your leadership skills
- Improve your communication skills
- Build your network
- Share your knowledge & experiences

Mentee

- Build your network
- Learn new perspectives
- Advance your career
- Improve your communication skills
- Build your resume
- Develop greater self-awareness
- Help provide direction in your career
- Gain valuable advice

If you are interested or know of someone who would be an excellent mentor or mentee, please contact any of the Program Leadership Team Members for more information and an application. Appointments will be made in early October. For application and program dates, please visit www.mngfoa.org and select MNGFOA Mentor Program from the menu on the left side.

Program Leadership Team Members

Nate Reinhardt nreinhardt@shakopeemn.gov	Cory Kampf cory.kampf@anokacountymn.gov	Lynn Cornwell lynn.cornwell@moretoncm.com
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"In learning you will teach, and in teaching you will learn." – Phil Collins



Have a question? Ask the Membership!

Have a question you'd like to run by fellow government finance peers? Looking for a recommendation, resource, or someone who has dealt with a similar situation?

Did you know that you can use our website to **email all active members**?

Simply sign in to the member area of the website and look for the option to "Email All Active MNGFOA Members." It's an easy way to cast a wide net and tap into the knowledge and experience of our organization.

Whether you're looking for advice on a tricky finance issue, wondering how another organization handles something, or searching for a resource - **ask your fellow members!**



Member Area

Update My Profile

Email All Active MNGFOA Members

View My Order History

Pay My Balance

Member Directory

Student Resumes

Monthly Meeting Presentations

JOB POSTINGS

Summary of Current Job Openings:

Position Title	Entity	Closing Date
Utility & Admin Clerk	City of Stacy	October 2, 2026
Deputy City Clerk	City of Stacy	October 2, 2026
Accounting Assistant (Accounts Payable)	City of Bloomington	October 4, 2026

Links and further details can be found on the [Jobs & Volunteering](#) page

2026 OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

President

Tina Lannes
City of Albertville
763.496.6802

At-Large

Dalton Larson
Anoka County
763.324.1755

President-Elect

Gina Foschi
City of New Brighton
651.638.2105

At-Large

Tyler See
ABDO
952.939.3230

Secretary

Joel Merry
City of Waconia
952.442.3108

State Representative

Sarah Rathlisberger
City of Monticello
763.271.3201

Treasurer

Justin Juergensen
City of Hutchinson
320.234.4256

Past President

Mark Ebensteiner
City of Becker
763.200.4250

Join a Committee

As we look ahead to 2027, our committees are getting ready to start planning for another great year. We'd love your help!

MNGFOA's committees are a great way to get involved, meet other government finance professionals, and share fresh perspectives. You don't have to be an expert or have years of experience – just bring your ideas and a genuine interest to participate.

Reach out to a committee chair at any time to learn more!

2026 Committee Chairs & Vice Chairs

Conference Committee – plans and coordinates topics, speakers, and all other aspects of the annual fall conference

Co-Chairs Jackie Heinz, City of Montrose 763-575-7435
Josh Kent, City of Buffalo 763-684-5465

Social Committee – plans and organizes social activities for the membership through the year

Co-Chairs Kari Carlson, City of Bloomington 952-563-8725
Michelle Hoffman, Minnesota Sports Facilities Authority 612-335-3513

Program Committee – plans and coordinates topics and speakers for the monthly meetings

Chair Hannah Lynch, Moreton Capital Markets 952-777-7930

Education Committee – plans and coordinates October accounting classes and other training sessions during the year other than the fall conference

Co-Chairs Brandon Zabel, Carver County 952-361-1938
Brent Foiles, City of Eagan 651-675-5018

Student Outreach Committee – The Student Outreach Committee is responsible for connecting with students to introduce them to career possibilities in government finance. Committee members attend career fairs and on-campus events, and also promote the John B. Lilja Undergraduate Scholarship.

Chair Dalton Larson, Anoka County 763-324-1755

Technology Committee – operate and improve the organization's website and other technology

Co-Chairs Jeanette Boit-Kania, Ramsey County 651-266-8057
Janice Brandt, City of Coon Rapids 763-767-6442

Mentorship Committee – The committee helps engage our members in developing our future and the future of local government finance in Minnesota

Co-Chairs Cory Kampf, Anoka County 763-324-1751
Lynn Cornwell, Moreton Capital Markets 952-777-3227
Nate Reinhardt, City of Shakopee 952-233-9326

Please contact any member of the Board or the Committee chairs directly if you are interested in participating on any of the committees. Committee participation does not require a lot of time and is a great way to meet people and share ideas.

Message from the Editor

This is YOUR newsletter. If you wish to share items of interest with the membership, such as job openings, career moves, or retirements, please email them by the 21st of the month for inclusion in the next newsletter. Thank you!

Gina Foschi
MNGFOA President Elect
651-638-2105

