

\$\$ MONEY TALK \$\$

The Alabama Journal of Government Finance



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FROM THE PRESIDENT...

If you can't be an athlete...

"Be an athletic supporter!" That is one of my favorite lines from what is possibly one of the greatest movies of all time, *Grease*, and I laugh every time I think about those words being announced over the intercom at Rydell High!

Every Monday morning, several members of our department meet to discuss the various tasks that we have on our agendas for the week. Often, as has been the case in recent weeks, my list is long. In fact, it can sometimes be downright overwhelming. Things such as budget meetings or preparing for year-end can fill the days and make it difficult to get the normal, everyday jobs completed on time. Thankfully, I work with people upon whom I can rely for the help needed when things get hectic. Many times, if not for the support of others, there would not be enough hours in the day to get it all done.

We all have times when we find ourselves on both sides of that fence. Sometimes, we are the ones in need of support and encouragement. Other times, we might be the support system for family and friends or co-workers. It may not always be possible to drop everything we are doing at a moment's notice. However, even something small can usually be done to offer encouragement or support. Often, a kind word will mean more than we might ever know. In the upcoming months, I urge you to take the time to recognize all

that you have received from others and be willing to repay it in kind to someone else.

Sometimes, we are the athlete... sometimes, we are the supporter. Either way, it takes everyone to win the game.

In June, several of us attended the National GFOA Conference in San Francisco. This being my first national conference, I was amazed at the number of attendees, as well as the vast amount of information available to us. If you have never attended a national conference, I strongly encourage you to try to do so. The conference was highly informative and provided a great opportunity to hear different viewpoints of our profession from our colleagues around the country. Also, I would like to thank those of you who attended the Alabama delegate breakfast hosted by GFOAA. It was nice to be able to take a break and get together to enjoy a time of food and fellowship.

Finally, Melinda Lopez and her team have a fantastic time planned for us at the Summer Conference next week, August 14th-16th, in Orange Beach. We will be once again meeting at the Hampton Inn & Suites, and there is no doubt that this will be both educational as well as fun. This has grown to be a favorite event for many of us, and I look forward to seeing you all at the beach!

Until next time...

Derek

107TH GFOA ANNUAL CONFERENCE SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA



The 107th GFOA Annual Conference, “Bridges to Financial Sustainability,” was held June 2–5, 2013, in San Francisco, California. GFOAA President Derek Reeves hosted a breakfast for the GFOAA delegates attending. Save the date for GFOA’s 108th Annual Conference to be held May 18–21, 2014, at the Minneapolis Convention Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Registration will open in late fall on GFOA’s website.



UPCOMING EVENTS

CGAT Classes

August 29, 2013—Purchasing/Accounts Payable
November 7, 2013—Billing/Accounts Receivable

All classes to be held at the University of Alabama Bryant Conference Center
Tuscaloosa, Alabama from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Registration fee \$150.00
(Includes Lunch)

Registration forms available by clicking [here](#) or by email to tcroom@tuscaloosa.com

GFOAA Quarterly Board Meeting

August 14, 2013
9:30 a.m.

Hampton Inn and Suites
25518 Perdido Beach Boulevard
Orange Beach, AL 36561

26th Annual Governmental Accounting and Auditing Forum

December 11–12, 2013

Birmingham Marriott
3590 Grandview Parkway
Birmingham, AL 35243



GFOAA Summer Conference

August 14–16, 2013

*Hampton Inn and Suites
Orange Beach, Alabama*

*Click [Here](#) for Hotel and
Registration Information.*



QUARTERLY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA
FEBRUARY 27, 2013

The Quarterly Board of Directors meeting was held February 27, 2013. President Russell Raney called the meeting to order at 9:50 a.m. in a private meeting room at the Renaissance Hotel located in downtown Montgomery, Alabama.

Minutes of the December 5, 2012 board meeting held in Birmingham, Alabama were reviewed and approved.

Treasurer's Report

Carol Heggeman presented the Combining Statement for the period April 1, 2012 through January 31, 2013, along with the Annual Budget (a budget to actual report through 1/31/13). Carol then presented the Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 for our review. Melinda Lopez remarked that last year, we had increased dues amounts to offset expenses. There are five scholarships, at \$3,000 each, available for awarding annually. Much discussion ensued. Carol will ask Jamie Moyers for a list of the current membership makeup; from there, we can determine actual dues revenue and whether we need to consider another dues increase, a reduction in the number of scholarships to award, or a combination of these. Melinda moved to approve the combining statement and the budget to actual report, while postponing action on the 2013-2014 budget until we can determine the impact of the dues structure and scholarships.

Certification Board

Sarah Williams reported there was no update since the previous board meeting to CGAT. The CGFO program has 39 renewals and zero revocations this year.

Scholarships

These will be presented at Thursday's Annual Business Meeting Luncheon by Charla Doucet, Immediate Past President. GFOA National awarded a \$5,000 scholarship to Ms. Katherine Ching Ho who will be present at tomorrow's luncheon to be recognized. We discussed the wording in our scholarship criteria. The consensus was that we should remove the word "intermediate" [referring to a level of accounting courses] so that its equivalent terminology can be accepted in the scholarship application process. Additionally, we recognized that the department head or chair, rather than the "dean", should be authorized to sign their approval as to the level of required courses completed by the scholarship applicant. This will be addressed at the next quarterly board meeting.

2013 Annual Conference

Chair Sarah Williams reported 123 attendees registered as participants, plus an additional 51 individuals from our sponsors including six from Regions Bank and 10 from BBVA Compass Bank.

2013 Summer Conference

Melinda Lopez reported that she is working on speakers and will have more information in the near future. Conference dates are Wednesday through Friday, August 14-16, 2013 at the Hampton Inn in Orange Beach.

2014 Annual Conference

Russell Raney reported that the event will be held February 24-26, 2014 (before mardi gras) at the Renaissance Riverview. Incoming GFOAA director Relya Mallory will assist and needs additional committee members.

New Business

Articles of Incorporation amendment - Will change the requirement for continued membership from 10 to 20 years in order to be considered for emeritus status. Change effective April 1, 2013. [See Article IV - Classes of Members] Karen Herman asked about the current reference to "former" member: should it read "retired" member to clarify that emeritus status means "retired status". The motion passed unanimously.

Russell Raney read the slate of officers and directors nominated by the Executive Committee when it met in January 2013. Sarita Tapscott moved to accept the slate which will be presented for approval at Thursday's business meeting. We thanked and bid farewell to Scott Rearden for his service as Associate Director (representing Regions Bank). Sarah Williams reminded everyone that successive Director terms will be three years, with staggered entry dates. Dr. Lane Sauser and Karen Herman have requested emeritus status since they have both retired. Russell Raney asked the board to consider an executive director position part-time in GFOAA.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m.

For a complete copy of the minutes, contact Derek Reeves or any of the committee chairs.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

APRIL 1, 2013—MARCH 31, 2014

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Please notify Jamie Moyers to change your address, or other pertinent information, at the following address:

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COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

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Scholarships & Service

Russell Raney

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COMMITTEE FUNCTIONS

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee shall promote and encourage membership in GFOAA and is responsible for the annual membership directory.

Government Relations Committee

The Government Relations Committee shall monitor and report on legislative action affecting governmental finance and promote intergovernmental cooperation.

Education Committee

The Education Committee shall establish, organize and promote educational programs within the membership.

Scholarship, Awards and Service Committee

The Scholarship, Awards and Service Committee is responsible for the administration of the scholarship and awards program. The committee is also responsible for implementing and monitoring service projects as assigned.

Strategic Planning Committee

The Strategic Planning Committee is responsible for preparing the long-range plans to meet the organization's goals and objectives. The committee is also responsible for communicating the plan to each committee. The committee will serve as the monitoring entity for the committee projects associated with the strategic plan.

**Government
Finance Officers
Association of
Alabama**

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The Alabama Journal of Government Finance

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Mission Statement

The mission of the Government Finance Officers Association of Alabama is to provide a professional association for government finance personnel dedicated to enabling its members to provide quality professional service to their constituents with the highest level of integrity.