



CALIFORNIA MUNICIPAL TREASURERS ASSOCIATION

Serving California Since 1959

February 2018

Hello to all of my CMTA colleagues. I was at the California State Municipal Finance Officers Association conference last week and my mind started to think about CMTA and our upcoming conference. It is hard to believe that it has been almost one year since we last met and I became the president of CMTA. This year has been a bit more challenging than I anticipated but also much more rewarding. In fact, the past 10 months have been fantastic. I have had so many wonderful experiences and I am so grateful for this incredible opportunity. I would like to share with you some of the highlights for the year:

- Working monthly with the CMTA Board of Directors and committee chairs has allowed us to come together and continue to move forward the purposes of CMTA. We have been able to build upon the work that has been done by prior presidents and board members. I have been so pleased with these individuals and the work that each person has done to advance our association. I have benefitted greatly from the knowledge, experience, and wisdom of these wonderful leaders.
- We had a very successful Advanced Investment training in conjunction with CDIAC in January at the Carmel Mission Inn. We had an intimate group of almost 60 treasury and investment professionals together for a day and a half and it was great. We had the opportunity to network with a good mixture of seasoned, intermediate, and relatively new colleagues in our field.
- The Board and committee chairs have reviewed the purpose and focus of each committee to determine if it was aligned with our strategic plan. This process has resulted in the elimination of some committees, the combination of others and redefining the focus of each committee so that we can work within the strategic plan.
- I have had the opportunity to sign many certificates for those agencies whose investment policies have qualified under CMTA's investment policy certification program. CMTA has developed the standards based upon the CA Government Code and industry best practices. As I review the results of the approved applications, I have been delighted not only by the number of agencies that now have sound policies but also the quality of the policies. I have also been very grateful for the team of treasury and investment professionals who have volunteered their time to review these policies.
- I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the members of the program development committee for the 2018 CMTA conference. I cannot say enough about this group of CMTA members and our commercial partners. What a great group of individuals! They have put in so much time to develop a fantastic conference program and I can hardly wait for the conference to begin! I hope that every one of you will join us April 25-27 in Oakland.
- Finally, our Board has been able to rewrite the Standing Rules that govern how our organization functions. This culminates the multi-year process to review and update the Bylaws, Code of Ethics, Mission Statement and the Standing Rules. The existing document has not been revised for 12 years and much of the information has changed significantly in that time. We have met in person, in phone conferences, and provided individual input to this document. Through this, I have developed many friendships and incredible respect for each person that has participated in the process.

These are only a few of many wonderful things that have been happening this year. Most of these efforts have occurred in the background but all of us benefit from this work. Interestingly, there is one common feature in all of these efforts that I have mentioned. **Each of these involves the most important part of CMTA, which is the personal interaction with our members and our commercial partners.** I have absolutely loved these interactions and I will cherish them forever.

I started participating in CMTA in 2011 and I am so happy to be a member. Our organization provides training and networking that no other organization provides. It is specific to the needs of CA municipal treasurers and investment officers. In 2011, I attended my first conference and did not know anybody at the conference. I was welcomed by some members who introduced me to others and I was befriended and encouraged to participate. In 2016, I participated on the conference committee for the first time and then attended the 2016 conference, where I was asked by several people, and the State Treasurer, to be a part of the Board. I left the conference as the President-elect and I have been so grateful for that opportunity.

As discussed above, the Board has made a lot of progress and I know from personal experience how important it is to participate and to form relationships with other members and vendors. Now I am requesting your help and now you have an opportunity to make a difference. At last year's conference I mentioned three points of focus for my presidency:

1. Everyone should get involved with CMTA.
2. Bring a friend to the trainings, conference, and into membership in CMTA,
3. Have many people doing a lot of little things instead of a few people doing lots of things.

I invite each of you to step up and be part of moving this organization to a new level. Please join us in whatever capacity that you can and I promise that you will enjoy this opportunity. Additionally, you will be able to develop relationships that will last a lifetime. We currently have the President-Elect, and Director of the North Division positions open on the Board. Please let me know which committee you would like to be part of and if you would like to be part of the Board, please respond to the call for elections.

Finally, I look forward to seeing each of you at the 2018 CMTA conference April 25-27 at the Oakland Downtown Marriott. Our theme is Muniball: The Art of Winning. We have developed a fantastic program that you will not want to miss. Please join us and invite someone from inside or outside your organization to join us as well.

Thank you,

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