

**FCCMA**  
**State of the Association – May 2013**

**Overview:**

The 2012-13 Program Year was active and fruitful for the Association, now in its 67<sup>th</sup> year. President Joyce Shanahan worked closely this year with the Board of Directors, task force and committee chairpersons and volunteers to achieve the goals set forth for the year.

**Fiscal Report on the Association:**

A summary of the 2012 audit was given to conference attendees as part of the Business Meeting report on May 24, 2013. Assets as of 9/30/12 totaled \$482,805. The board of directors adopted a new investment policy in 2012 and a portion of the association's fund balance has been invested in Vanguard Funds effective January 2013.

**Committee programs, task forces and related work:**

**Fiscal & Administrative Responsibility Committee:**

Chairman Bob LaSala and co-chair Judith Zimomra divided the committee's tasks as follows:

**Budget issues** – Bob LaSala attended the officers' budget strategy session and offered several suggestions that were developed by his committee prior to the meeting. Some of the suggestions were philosophically related to association policies, and some were fiscal toward the association's future revenues and expenditures. The budget discussions were continued at the August board of director's meeting and the budget was approved.

**CFLGE sustainability** – Suzanne Sherman studied the Center's fiscal structure and gave a thorough summary to the board of directors along with possible avenues that might be used to secure recurring funding so that the Center's current programs can be continued and new programs can be added.

**Association dues and budgeting concerns** – Bob LaSala and Bob Koncar worked with staff to gain a better understanding of dues as a percentage of the association's revenue structure. A six-month budget review was conducted via teleconference to see if any budget amendments were needed, but none were.

The committee will be continuing several of its projects into the 2013-2014 program year, including the association's reserve policy, the annual conference's purpose related to both educational events and as a revenue generator, and the dues structure.

**Awards Committee:**

Chairperson Jeff Brown and his committee worked to revise the awards by eliminating the Program Excellence Awards. In the past, these awards were the work of the city or county management team, but the committee realized that FLC and FAC awards would be better recognitions for these programs. The number of submittals had decreased each year due

primarily to budget cuts and staff reductions among local governments. The Committee also worked on promoting nominations for the other awards, which are listed below:

B. Harold Farmer Scholarship Award  
Emerging Leader Scholarships  
Michael J. Roberto Award for Career Development  
Award for Career Excellence  
Assistants Award for Excellence in Leadership  
Honorary Award

### **Conference Task Force:**

Past President Carl Harness chaired a task force to determine if the FCCMA annual conference is meeting member needs. Using the evaluations of the 2012 conference and results from a survey, the task force determined that time of year, days held, and locations were all as members desired. The board of directors has secured hotel contracts in central Florida locations for the next three years, which helps make the conference a drivable event for many members.

The committee also gave feedback to the board of directors and conference planning committee regarding the need to let members know topics in advance for those seeking credentialing, and to keep all professional development practice areas in mind as workshops are developed.

### **Conference Planning & Winter Institute Committee:**

Chairperson Russ Blackburn and co-chair Jill Silverboard developed the Winter Institute, which was held in Lake Mary in February with a theme of “Change: Are You Up for it?” Felicia Logan of ICMA served as facilitator for the two-day event. Attendance was sold out and evaluations were very favorable.

The Committee also developed the annual conference theme, “Loving Your Community” and sent out requests for case studies and presentations to the membership. This is a new approach to the annual educational sessions, and the responses received were used in planning the workshops. The committee planned the general sessions, networking and social events. Host chairperson Horace McHugh coordinated local volunteers, with assistance from Desiree Matthews, to help with the conference.

### **Intergovernmental/Organizational Partnerships Committee**

Chaired by Joyce Shanahan and co-chaired by Desiree Matthews, the committee worked with the Florida Local Government Coalition on its programs and projects. The priority issue was advocacy for 2012-13, and the Coalition joined with several associations in efforts to defeat Amendment #4, which was done during the November elections. This Constitutional amendment would have been fiscally devastating to cities and counties. Joyce Shanahan and Desiree Matthews represented FCCMA at the Coalition’s strategic planning sessions and helped keep FCCMA involved in the three subcommittees: Advocacy, Professional Development and Shared Knowledge. At the post-election strategic planning meeting held November 2012, the steering committee chose civic education and civic engagement as its new priority issue. A kick-off for the Coalition is tentatively scheduled for July 26, 2013 in Orlando.

### **Legislative Committee:**

Chairperson Rich Reade and co-chair Doug Thomas developed legislative priority issues from the Florida League of Cities' and Florida Association of Counties' legislative priorities, and held conference calls with committee members prior to the beginning of session. Rich Reade coordinated a visit by the committee in January with House and Senate staff directors and analysts in Tallahassee. This very successful meeting resulted in the committee's assistance with several pieces of analysis during the session at request of the staff directors. Rich Reade and Doug Thomas also helped staff develop the legislative workshop for the annual conference. In addition, Doug Thomas continued to serve on the advocacy subcommittee within the Florida Local Government Coalition.

### **Membership/MIT Committee:**

Under chairman Rich Reade, the committee divided its work between the membership and MIT tasks. Kurt Bressner offered considerable assistance with the MITs. Also, the 2012-revised MIT handbook was very well received within the membership. The committee focused on outreach to non-members and recruitment across the age and professional levels of the spectrum. They had a very successful year netting 10 new members.

As of May 1, 2013, the Association has 533 members, which puts our ranking behind California, Texas and North Carolina within the ICMA state association affiliates.

### **Professional Development/Training Committee:**

Led by Faye Outlaw as chair and co-chair Michael Pleus, the Committee designed and produced the two symposium events for the 2012-13 program year. The committee worked with the Center for Florida Local Government Excellence (CFLGE) to design coaching webinars and on-site training events. This year's symposium was titled, "Tools for the Next Five Years" and was held in Port Orange and Sarasota. Each district held at least one on-site training event. The webinars continue to be highly rated and very well-attended monthly events.

The Committee also planned the "So You Want to Be..." annual day-long workshop and the career development luncheon, under Charlotte Presensky's leadership.

The Student Council, led by Michael Pleus, continued its scholarship discussions, classroom visits, career fair attendance, and explored other means to promote the profession at colleges and universities. They have assumed responsibility for creating student chapters of ICMA at several of the Florida universities' public administration schools and will report that progress at upcoming board meetings.

### **Information Technology Committee:**

During the 2012 summer, the committee worked on the design and content of the FCCMA website with its new host. Once the site was up and running, this committee turned its attention to electronic *Manager* newsletters and weekly electronic updates.

### **Partnership Notes:**

**ICMA** – Florida continues to be an affiliate of ICMA with Martha Perego as the state liaison. Ken Parker, recently retired city manager of Port Orange, has agreed to serve as an ICMA Senior Advisor, effective March 2013. Lee Feldman, city manager of Fort Lauderdale, is in his third year as regional vice president of ICMA for the Southeast.

**Alliance for Innovation** – Tracy Miller, the Florida director of AIF, announced in April 2013 that she has taken a position with Sarasota County. A new regional director will soon be named.

**Center for Florida Local Government Excellence and the Florida Institute of Government (IOG)** Dr. Bob Lee, the center's executive director, announced in February that he will begin a professorship with Florida Gulf Coast University (FGCU) in Fort Myers for the Fall 2013 term. The FCCMA and IOG are developing a new agreement for the Center's administration through the IOG through FY 2014. The Center's certificate in Florida City and County Management will continue to be offered at FSU.

**Historic Notes:**

Dan Kleman, Kenneth Parker and Linda Weldon were given Honorary Awards for the 2012/2013 year, which includes lifetime membership in the association.

Range Rider Emeritus Dick Simmons, also a past president, passed away March 19, 2013 and his funeral was attended by many of his protégées, FCCMA members and staff. Former Range Rider Dick Black, considered by many to be a founder in the county management profession, died December 2012.