

Education & Training Committee and Outreach Conversation Notes

Wednesday, February 13 @ 8-9am

Intercontinental Hotel, St. Paul Riverfront
Kellogg Suite, Lobby level

8:00am Gary Hendrickx, Education & Training Chair and Swift County Commissioner, welcomed the committee. He then invited attendees to share about work in their counties related to education and research.

Mike Slavik, Research Chair and Dakota County Commissioner, also welcomed the group.

8:05am **Ryan Erdmann, new Member Engagement Coordinator**, introduced himself to the committee and explained his transition from MACCAC Executive Director, after over eleven years at AMC.

Ryan described his role in relation to growth of education and research initiatives with the generous, ongoing support of committee members. He will be working on a series of projects in the short-term, including District meetings; Connections with newly elected Commissioners; Communications with AMC Affiliates; and, Support for statewide partnerships.

Committee members then discussed evolving needs of counties related education and research. Two primary themes emerged:

- **Community college partnerships to support public and private sector demographic shifts and growth across the state:** Counties suggested regional conversations to leverage program development for high-need fields and opportunities for ongoing professional development.
- **Strategies to use data for county decision-making:** Counties requested that education components be added to new data resources to help them to make decisions regarding trends across their region and associated programmatic needs.

8:50am **Heather Bandeen, Research and Program Development Manager**, provided an update on:

- **The May/June cohort of “Time to Lead” within the LEAD Academy:**

Public Sector Supervision Certificate in May/June 2019. This new initiative, in partnership with LMC, Sourcewell, and Metro State University, was launched with extensive committee feedback throughout 2018. Only a few seats remain across one section in Staples and two sections in St. Paul.

- **Regional Census 2020-prep sessions** with Susan Brower, MN State Demographer, are continuing during the first few months of 2019.
- **MN Bureau of Mediation sessions** with Dave Bartholomay, Coordinator and Mayor of Circle Pines, will be held regionally in May.
- **In response to committee suggestions, events for newly-elected County Commissioners (and all Commissioners) are also offered** this year. As a follow-up to County Government 101, there was a special breakfast at the AMC Legislative Conference and there will also be two roundtables in Staples and Mankato in March.

Jill Suurmeyer, Research Analyst, also reviewed her work with the first **Minnesota County Commissioner Demographic survey**. AMC now has stats to tell the story of those who serve locally while also leveraging expertise for legislative advocacy. Jill also provides extensive policy support during the legislative session on pressing issues.

8:55am

Closing & Thanks to Committee Members