



## Agenda Commentary

**Item Title/ Subject:** OMAG Governing Body Training Workshop

**Staff Source:** City Manager, Steve Hewitt

**Date:** Feb. 13, 2014

### **Background/Subject Information:**

I have provided the OMAG Governing Body Training information a few months past. This past fall at the OML (Oklahoma Municipal League) Conference this was promoted by OML as a great tool to help Council and staff members create a solid and effective working relationship. Clearly OMAG has a vested interest (being the City's insurance carrier) in the Governing Body's education and actions. Protecting communities from potential liabilities along with creating a quality environment for public decisions is the goal OMAG is hoping to achieve. At the City Managers Association annual winter conference last month, CMAO endorsed this training/workshop so that roles are clear and the challenges of communities are resolved in an efficient manner.

OML provides some basic training which is very helpful to all new Councilmembers. However, continuing education isn't required. This OMAG Training program is free and truly engages our Board and charter specifically. In reality, we have an inexperienced Council. This workshop can only benefit and help our efforts to be effective public officials.

### **Recommendation:**

Mayor Adams and City Attorney Meacham endorsed the training.

At this point David Weatherford and OMAG have February 25<sup>th</sup> and March 4<sup>th</sup> available. I hope by Tuesday's meeting I have some additional option of dates. Staff hopes Council sees the benefits and we schedule a special meeting/workshop training very soon.

**Price/Cost:** No Cost...

**TO:** Steve A. Hewitt, Clinton City Manager

**FROM:** Jonathan D. Woods, OMAG Deputy General Counsel

**RE:** Governing Body Training Program

**DATE:** 2/12/14

### **Memorandum**

As one of its free Value Added Services, the Oklahoma Municipal Assurance Group (OMAG) offers Governing Body Training to the participants in its Municipal Liability Protection Plan. OMAG has contracted with Municipal Consultants, LLC, to provide this valuable training. The program is based on a training program that has been used in a number of cities in Northeast Oklahoma and has been developed over the past decade. The program is presented by David Weatherford, who is the Municipal Attorney for Sand Springs, Coweta and Mannford.

The primary goal of the program is to build better working relationships between the elected official, staff and the public, so that municipal government can operate in a more stable environment, allowing all associated with the municipality to make better decisions, avoid liability, and better serve the public.

The program is unique in that it is offered on-site at the specific municipality, is conducted as a workshop, is Oklahoma and local government specific, and allows a relaxed exchange of information that will enable elected officials to better understand their roles.