



April 2023

President's Corner

As my term as President of IAMMA comes to a close, I would like to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to all of you for your commitment to the advancement of our profession. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your President over the past year, and I am immensely proud of the progress we have made together.

First and foremost, I would like to thank the individual board members for their dedication and collaboration. Brian, Sam, Glen, Trevor, Hannah, and Jessica—your hard work, adaptability, and passion have been instrumental in driving IAMMA forward. It has been a year of personal growth and professional change for us all. Your partnership and friendship have made this journey both enjoyable and incredibly rewarding.

As I prepare to pass the baton to Sam Barghi, I am confident that IAMMA is poised for even greater success in the coming years. Our association is moving in an exciting direction, and I eagerly anticipate watching IAMMA continue to flourish under the next generation of leadership. I encourage each of you to stay involved and engaged.

Once again, thank you for the trust you have placed in me as your President. It has been an unforgettable experience, and I am grateful for the friendships and memories we have made together. I look forward to continuing to contribute to IAMMA and facilitating all your next steps.

Looking forward to what's next,

Evan Michel

Soon to be Past-President

Illinois Association of Municipal Management Assistants

26th Annual IAMMA Conference

THANK YOU to all of the 26th annual IAMMA Conference attendees, speakers, sponsors, and volunteers! It takes a village and this event could not be accomplished without you!



During the lunch break, IAMMA President-Elect Sam Barghi of Village of Lincolnshire highlighted upcoming events, thanked our Board members and committee chairs, and expressed gratitude for the sponsors who generously support IAMMA's goals and initiatives. He recognized several members for their service to their peers, communities, and the local government profession:



- Gregory F. Ford Outstanding Member Award - Brian Southey, Elk Grove Village, IL
- Future Leader Award - Erin Baynes, Village of Libertyville
- Innovative Community Program or Special Project Award - Hannah Lipman, Village of Tinley Park
- Distinguished Mentor Award - Matthew Bajor, Village of Algonquin, Illinois (not pictured)



Interested in serving on a committee? Fill out an interest form [here!](#)

IAMMA Board Elections

The IAMMA Nominating Committee reviewed applications for the IAMMA Board of Directors, and at the recommendation of the Nominating Committee and the unanimous consent of the current IAMMA Board, the following candidates were selected to be placed on the 2023-2024 IAMMA Board of Directors ballot. This is an uncontested election.

President: Sam Barghi, Village of Lincolnshire (elected in 2022)

President-Elect: Glen Cole, City of Rolling Meadows

Director at Large: Hannah Lipman, Village of Tinley Park

Director at Large: Jessica Chernich, Village of Fox Lake

Director at Large: Ashley Monroe, Village of Riverside

Director at Large: Erin Baynes, Village of Libertyville

Intern Representative: Yates McLaughlin, City of Lake Forest

Please vote through the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6NLNQ9V>

Voting remains open until April 28. If you have any questions, please contact Brian Southey, IAMMA's Past-President and Nominating Committee Chair, at bsouthey@elkgrove.org.

Successful Joint Event





We had a BLAST learning all things OSHA with our friends at [IRMA](#) and [APWA Chicago Metro Chapter](#) - Lake County at the "Is Your Village Ready for an IDOL (OSHA) Inspection?" event.

**ASIAN
PACIFIC
AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH**

May celebrates Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States. Visit [Asian Pacific Heritage](#) to learn more!



Journey into the Profession

After graduating from University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign with a bachelors in political science I wasn't sure which direction to go. A family friend, whom also happened to be the Mayor of Skokie, invited me to lunch and told me all about the City Management profession. I immediately signed up for the MPA program at UIC. At first, I wasn't able to secure an internship so I started volunteering in the City of Evanston's budget office and also began attending IAMMA events. I knew nobody at the first IAMMA events I attended but everyone was always so welcoming, so I kept returning. I eventually met Jenny Maltas, who would be my future boss, at an IAMMA event. About six months after meeting Jenny, I interviewed with her for an Administrative Internship position at the Village of Deerfield and the rest is history. She taught me so much and gave me so many great opportunities - I'll always be grateful to her for giving me a chance.

How did you become involved with IAMMA, and overall what did you get out of your experience with IAMMA?

Almost none of my graduate school classmates were pursuing a career in local government. At that time, most of the students in the MPA program at UIC were interested in federal and state government or non-profit organizations. I wanted to meet people in the profession and I knew that IAMMA was the best place to begin networking. I gained knowledge, friendship, leadership skills, public speaking skills, budgeting skills, and the art of negotiation and compromise while in IAMMA - not to mention the large sense of fulfillment I felt by giving back to the organization that gave me so much.

What committees were you involved with in IAMMA?

Intern Representative, Communications Committee Co-Chair, Next Generation Committee Co-Chair, Board of Directors; President (2018-19).

Why is local government a good career path?

A career in local government is a career in problem solving. It allows an individual to use the resources of government to improve the general welfare of the community. Everyday is a new challenge and the variety of work keeps it interesting.

Fun fact about yourself:

I'm an Illinois licensed real estate broker and have had my license since 2010.

If you could give one piece of advice to future local government leaders, what would it be?

Get involved early. That applies to so many things both internally and externally from your organization. Internally: Join work committees, volunteer for projects and find ways to get into rooms as a minute taker, etc. just to be a "fly on the wall", as they say. Externally: Get involved in extracurriculars like IAMMA and take on leadership roles.

Shows/music/books you're currently watching/listening to/reading:

Mostly watching Paw Patrol and reading 5-minute Disney story time books with my children. Otherwise, I just finished reading the French Detective by James Patterson and I'm currently reading The 6 types of Working Genius: A Better Way to Understand Your Gifts, Your Frustrations and Your Team by Patrick Lencioni.

Hobbies:

Slalom water skiing in the warm months, snowboarding in the cold months, and playing piano and percussion in between.



[GovHRUSA](#) is a certified woman-owned business that provides comprehensive executive recruitment, interim staffing, human resources consulting and organizational analysis consulting services for local governments, intergovernmental organizations, school districts as well as other governmental and non-profit entities.



[IRMA](#) offers public entities an opportunity to stabilize costs, reduce risk and better serve their constituencies. As a member-owned, self-governed public risk pool, IRMA exist solely to provide high quality risk management services at substantial savings to municipalities.

Save the Date

- **May 04** - ILCMA - May Professional Development Event, [Grant Writing Tips and Tricks for Beginners](#)
- **May 16** - ILCMA and WCMA Webinar, [Code of Ethics](#)
- **May 19** - [12th Annual Women's Legacy Conference](#)
- **June 07** - [ILCMA Summer Conference 2023](#)



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<https://www.ilcma.org/about-ilcma/affiliate-organizations/iamma-2/>

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