

Municipal Human Resources Association

Spring Meeting April 24, 2025

Cooperative Conference Center
169 Laurelhurst Ave.
Columbia, SC 29210

8:00 – 8:50 a.m.

Registration, Networking and Continental Breakfast

Start your day by joining us for registration to pick up your name badge and meeting packets. Enjoy a complimentary continental breakfast while networking with fellow attendees and meeting sponsors.

8:50 – 9:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

President Lynn Smith, Human Resources Director, City of Conway

9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Humor in the Workplace

Connor Wentling, Speaker, Hip Pocket Consulting

In this engaging and dynamic session, Connor Wentling delves into the power of humor as a tool for connection, communication and personal growth. With a blend of wit and insight, Connor will explore how humor can bridge divides, lighten the heaviest moments, and help us navigate life's challenges with resilience. Attendees will learn the science behind what makes something "funny" and how to harness humor in both professional and personal contexts. Expect a lively conversation filled with hilarious anecdotes, practical tips, and an invitation to find humor in the most unexpected places.

10:30 – 10:45 a.m.

Break

10:45 – 11:45 a.m.

Panel Discussion: Enhancing Employee Wellbeing Through Effective Employee Assistance Programs

Rachel Bradley, Account Executive, MYgroup

Alston Van Dyke, Director of Sales & Marketing, MYgroup

Laurie Fallaw, Executive Director, Cornerstone

Lucy Henry, Vice President of Business Development, First Sun EAP

In today's fast-paced and often stressful work environments, the wellbeing of employees has become a critical priority for organizations. Employee Assistance Programs are an essential resource that provides employees with support in managing personal and work-related challenges. Join us for an insightful

panel discussion where experts from various industries will explore the role of EAPs in promoting mental health, improving productivity and fostering a positive workplace culture.

11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Networking Luncheon and Sponsor Introductions

Attendees will hear from meeting sponsors during the luncheon.

12:45 – 2:00 p.m.

Retirement and Insurance Updates: Key Changes from SC Public Employee Benefits Authority

George Hazin, Field Services Manager, SC Public Employee Benefit Authority

Join us for an engaging session hosted by the South Carolina Public Employee Benefit Authority, where we'll cover the latest updates on retirement and insurance benefits for public employees. This session will provide crucial insights into key changes, upcoming enhancements and important deadlines that could impact your benefits.

2:00 – 2:15 p.m.

Break

2:15 – 4:15 p.m.

Handling Tough Conversations: Strategies for Resolving Workplace Incivility and Conflict

Deana Keever, Human Resources Director, City of Rock Hill

Workplace incivility and unresolved conflicts can erode morale, productivity and retention. This interactive two-hour session equips HR professionals with practical tools to address incivility, manage conflict effectively and facilitate tough but necessary conversations. Through guided discussions and real-world scenarios, participants will learn strategies to de-escalate tension, foster psychological safety and promote a culture of respectful communication. Whether mediating disputes or coaching employees through conflict, this session provides actionable insights to turn difficult conversations into opportunities for growth and resolution.

4:15 p.m.

Adjourn

Who We Are

The main objectives of the SC Municipal Human Resources Association are to promote sound personnel administration, encourage innovative programs, and provide information and the opportunity to exchange ideas. For more information, visit www.masc.sc (keyword: MHRA).

Contact Information

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Deana Keever
Human Resources Director
City of Rock Hill

Continuing Education Credit

MHRA has been approved as a Society for Human Resource Management Recertification Provider for the two-year term from April 1, 2023 – April 30, 2025. Information about submitting this meeting for credit from SHRM will be available in the meeting program.

Upcoming Meeting

Annual Meeting

November 12 – 14, 2025
Sonesta Resort, Hilton Head Island



Municipal Association
of South Carolina

1411 Gervais Street
PO Box 12109
Columbia, SC 29211
www.masc.sc

*The SC Municipal Human Resources Association is an
affiliate of the Municipal Association of SC.*

Registration Information

Online registration is available for the spring meeting. Save time and postage by logging on to www.masc.sc to register. Online registrations must be paid by Visa or MasterCard. Registration fees are \$110 for members and \$130 for nonmembers, and include meeting registration, educational materials and lunch. **The registration deadline is Thursday, April 10.**

Register online at www.masc.sc, or mail completed registration form and check made payable to the Municipal Association of SC to:

MASC
PO Box 12220
Columbia, SC 29211
ATTN: MHRA

Cancellations must be received by 5 p.m. on April 10.
Refunds will not be given after this date.

Conference attire is business casual. The session rooms may be cool, so you may want to bring a sweater or jacket.

For special needs requests, contact Dawn Dukes at 803.933.1240 or ddukes@masc.sc by April 10, and we will accommodate if possible.

MHRA Registration Form

Spring Meeting ♦ April 24, 2025

Name Badge Information

The following information will appear on your name badge for this meeting.

First name (example: Bill) ☐ Mr. ☐ Ms. ☐ Dr.

Full name (example: William J. Smith, Jr.)

Title ☐ New

Local government/business name

Birth month/day Last four digits of SSN

This combination of numbers is used as the official's personal identification number to access online services, simplify event registration and ensure proper recording of participation in Association training programs.

Local government/business name

Preferred mailing address ☐ New Type: ☐ Municipal ☐ Business

City/State Zip

Preferred phone ☐ New Type: ☐ Municipal ☐ Business ☐ Mobile

Email address ☐ New

For additional attendees, make a copy of this form.

Registration Fees

☐ Member \$110

☐ Nonmember \$130

Includes meeting registration, educational materials and lunch.