OPEN GOVERNMENT AND PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

2011-12 WisLine Teleconference Series

Understanding Open Government Laws

January 19, 2012 (Thursday), 2-4 pm. OPEN MEETINGS LAW (#1783-1) - Discover the basics of Wisconsin's Open Meetings Law from a panel of attorneys recognized as the "go-to" sources on this topic. Includes discussion of cases and opinions interpreting and applying the law. Presented by Claire Silverman, League of Wisconsin Municipalities; Carol Nawrocki and Lee Turonie, Wisconsin Towns Association; and Bruce Olsen, Office of the Attorney General.

January 26, 2012 (Thursday), 2-4 pm. PUBLIC RECORDS LAW (#1783-2) - Learn the requirements of Wisconsin’s Public Records Law and the court and attorney general opinions applying it from a seasoned panel of attorneys. Presented by Claire Silverman, League of Wisconsin Municipalities; Carol Nawrocki and Lee Turonie, Wisconsin Towns Association; and Mary Burke, Office of the Attorney General.

February 2, 2012 (Thursday), 2-4 pm. ETHICS AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (#1783-3) - Discover the ethics and conflict of interest laws that apply to local officials as they conduct government business. Presented by Philip Freeburg, Local Government Center Law Educator, and Jonathan Becker, State Ethics Board.

February 9, 16, 23, and March 1, 2012 (Thursdays), 3-4:20 pm. (#1783-4) Presented by Professor Larry Larmer, UW-Madison Professor Emeritus and Edgewood College, Local Government Center Outreach Specialist.

This four-program course provides a basic understanding of the traditional rules of procedure that local government officials use when conducting meetings. Each program is organized around basic principles and will address many of the more frequently asked questions about parliamentary procedure, such as:

- Where do I turn when I have a problem with meeting procedures?
- What powers and authority can the chairperson assume?
- When can the chairperson vote?
- What can you do without a quorum?
- When is more than a majority required to take action?
- How can previous decisions be reconsidered?
- What should the minutes of meetings contain?

Course materials are provided and include the book A Guide to Parliamentary Procedure for Local Governments by Larry Larmer. Specific examples, are used throughout the course, and, as always, participation is encouraged.

Parliamentary Procedure for Local Governments

February 9 - Principle of Parliamentary Authority

February 16 - Principles of A Meeting and Majority Rule

February 23 - Principle of Order

March 1 - Minutes of Local Government Meetings

What is a WisLine?

A WisLine is a live teleconference offered by the University of Wisconsin-Extension. Register by mail, fax or phone to attend at a public WisLine site convenient to you. You will receive a packet of printed materials that will be referred to throughout the program.

If you cannot attend the live session, you have the option to purchase a materials bundle. These are available in one of two formats:

- a CD recording of the program and a copy of the printed materials
- an online audiostream and PDF of the materials

Please visit our website for more information: http://lgc.uwex.edu/WisLines/index.html