

Michigan Municipal Electric Association



2019 Fall Conference Agenda October 8-11, 2019

**Hosted By:
Traverse City
Light & Power**

**Grand Traverse
Resort and Spa**

Michigan Municipal Electric Association
809 Centennial Way, Lansing, MI 48917
517.323.8346, MMEA@Mpower.org
mmeanet.org
[Twitter.com/MiPublicPower](https://twitter.com/MiPublicPower)
[Facebook.com/MiPublicPower](https://facebook.com/MiPublicPower)

Baraga
Bay City
Charlevoix
Chelsea
Clinton
Coldwater
Croswell
Crystal Falls
Daggett
Dowagiac
Eaton Rapids
Escanaba
Gladstone
Grand Haven
Harbor Springs
Hart
Hillsdale
Holland
L'Anse
Lansing
Lowell
Marquette
Marshall
Negaunee
Newberry
Niles
Norway
Paw Paw
Petoskey
Portland
St. Louis
Sebewaing
South Haven
Stephenson
Sturgis
Traverse City
Union City
Wakefield
Wyandotte
Zeeland

Welcome...
from the MMEA Board of Directors

Ray Anderson, President
City of Norway

Kevin Cornish, Vice President
Village of Clinton

Jeff Davis
City of Petoskey

John Griffith
City of Sturgis

Patty Martindale
City of Bay City

John Peck
Croswell Light & Power Department

Richard Peffley
Lansing Board of Water & Light

Tom Tarkiewicz
City of Marshall

NON-VOTING MEMBER

Jeff Budd
Coldwater Board of Public Utilities

Thank You to our Platinum Sponsors

Barton Malow

Dickinson Wright

Jennings Strouss

NextEra Energy Marketing

Utility Financial Solutions



Thank You to our Gold Sponsors

ACS Power
Border States Electric
Clark Energy
Elus Company
Fishbeck Thompson Carr & Huber
GRP Engineering, Inc.
HDR Engineering company
Irby Company
Michigan CAT
Power Line Supply
Premier Power Maintenance
Utility Instrumentation Solutions
Utility Sales and Service
Wolverine Power Cooperative
WPPI Energy





BORDER STATES
Supply Chain Solutions™



Engineer - Install - Maintain



An Indra company

Michigan **CAT**





Wednesday, October 8, 2019

8:00 am - 4:00 pm Registration Opens

8:00 am - 5:00 pm Vendor Displays Open

9:00 – Welcome to the MMEA Fall Conference
Michigan ABCD

9:30 - 10:30 Break Out Session #1

Electric System 101 & How Costs are Recouped- Dawn Lund, Utility Financial Solutions

Electric sales are declining with changes in electric usage patterns resulting from energy efficiency, rooftop solar and other customer installed generation. Improper rate structures shift costs between rate-payers causing subsidization among the rate classes. Learn how to correct the pitfalls.

Defending Your Grid from Cyber Threats- Jason Miller & Jason Nachreiner, BitLyft Security

In this interactive session, we will cover the cyber-threats facing the grid and actionable steps you can take. Discussion around how risk exposure, and reputational damage can be reduced. We will also cover how SCADA systems and other software controlling the grid can be affected by cyber-attacks.

Electric Vehicles: Impacts to the Grid and Society- Fernando Garcia, PE & Angela Piner, HDR, Inc.

This presentation will cover the state of electric mobility and how it can impact your stakeholders and municipalities. Learn how Michigan compares to the rest of the industry, what the market challenges are, and potential regulatory approaches for utilities. A case study will share some of the benefits and potential challenges to rural communities and municipalities.

Overcoming Ecological Hurdles to Energy Development & Asset Maintenance- Rob Bates, NTH Consultants, Ltd.

As the state shifts its focus to renewable energy there are many ecological considerations to anticipate and address when planning a new project and conducting routine asset maintenance. This presentation will step through navigating permitting and agency requirements and the distribution of the natural resources impacting these critical projects.

10:30 - 10:45 Networking Break

10:45 - 11:45 Break Out Session #2

Financial Planning for Decision Makers: Boards, Councils & Management- Dawn Lund, Utility Financial Solutions

Utilities are under pressure to minimize rate impacts on customers while maintaining financial health. What role do Boards, Councils and Managers play? Learn about key financial targets to help ensure the utility's long-term financial stability, ways to assess current financial conditions, and areas for improvement while minimizing rate change impacts.

Improving the Citizen Experience Through Technology- Abess Makki & Nathan Christie, CityInsight

Today, technology rests at the heart of strategy as a means to generate revenue, increase productivity, and drive services. A Minimum Viable Product (MVP) strategy can enable municipal utilities to leverage existing investments and orchestrate vendors through one platform. In this session, CityInsight will share successful case studies and provide a live demonstration of their citizen-facing technology.

How Micro Hybridization Can Green your Fleet for Less- Jack Johnson, Volta Power Systems

Volta Power Systems is helping fleets improve performance, reduce emissions and reduce costs through micro-hybridization of service vehicles. The presentation will cover the types of lithium chemistry and their applications, how to differentiate between types of lithium ion storage, advantages of 58V auxiliary systems over traditional 12V systems, and financial case/benefits for electrified PTO's and cabs vs. traditional idle driven systems.

Pole Inspection Basics: What You Do Not Know Can Hurt You- Council Paul Brewster, Osмосе Utilities Services

Robust inspection programs for in-place utility poles pay dividends in public safety, reduction of liability exposure, improved reliability, increased system resiliency, and reduction of pole plant operating costs. We examine industry standard pole inspection techniques, best practices for application of remedial treatments, and restoration options.

12:00 - 1:30 Luncheon Buffet (Sponsored by MMEA Associates & Private Affiliates)

1:30 - 2:30 Break Out Session #3

Community Solar 101- Chris Lund, Utility Financial Solutions

What are the valuation methods for Community Solar; determining what solar is worth to the utility and to the end user. We will discuss buy-in alternatives, crediting methods, and the difference in value of community vs rooftop solar strategies. An interactive case study will be presented.

Implementing Battery Energy Storage- Top 6 Lessons Learned- Kristi A. Vilminot, PE- Power Generation & Energy, Commonwealth Associates

Battery Energy Storage is the talk of the town, but how well is it understood? The potential pitfalls to executing a project can be avoided with the appropriate planning. This primer discusses the six most common pitfalls associated with contracting and executing a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project.

Active Grid Management- Ed Kobeszka, Advanced Control Systems

Distributed Intelligence: A grid architecture built on advanced distribution automation and the optimization of distribution systems. These systems can be treated as highly coordinated yet independent nodes. A layered approach will be introduced which is designed to manage various business rules and programs from a customer perspective while optimizing the operation of the distribution system for both planned and unplanned events.

Maintenance of Your Electrical System for Maximum Reliability- Alan A. Holt, P.E., Premier Power Maintenance

This Presentation will discuss the following, Reliability Principles, Reliability Needs/Desires, System Assessment, Design Flaws, Batteries, Transformers, Circuit Breakers, and Cables

2:30 - 2:45 Networking Break**2:45 - 3:45 Break Out Session #4****Electric Rate Trends & Future Rate Structures - Mark Beauchamp, Utility Financial Solutions**

Movement toward more accurate rate structures allows customers the opportunity to reduce electric bills and the utility having a corresponding reduction in costs. This session will discuss how to develop a strategic rate plan considering the objectives of the electric utility and customer impacts. This session discusses industry trends and how other utilities are developing five and ten-year strategic rate plans for their utility. This session discusses current rate structures and how rates need to be modified or restructured over time to remain financially viable and competitive.

Taking Your Data Analysis to the Next Level: Building a Network Connectivity Model to Get the Most Out of Your Data- Jason Brown, mPower Innovations

Explore the process of building a network connectivity model and learn about the benefits it can bring to your utility. Real world examples will be used to show how to start building and testing a parent-child connectivity model to identify the flow of energy in your system.

Reliability Challenges and the Unique Advantage of Municipal Utilities- Lea Maurer, S&C Electric Company

The reliability of the US electrical distribution grid has remained flat for over a decade despite significant investment. Often, the top initiatives are piecemeal solutions aimed at fixing the worst-performing areas, but those targets change every year so it's hard to get ahead. Municipal utilities have a unique advantage due to their size and ownership structure, and they can act differently than electric cooperatives or investor-owned utilities. Everyday reliability can be improved, and recovery from storms can be much quicker and less costly. This talk will present case studies on how reliability improvements have impacted local economies and tools that can help develop business cases to invest in reliability.

Introduction to NFPA 70E- Electrical Safety in the Workplace Arc Flash & Shock Risk Awareness- Justin Weinberg P.E., Utilities Instrumentation Service, Inc.

With tens of thousands of arc flash incidents and hundreds of them resulting in fatalities annually in the United States, it's crucial that this topic be brought to the foreground of all safety programs. This very brief introductory seminar for site electricians, equipment operators and managers will cover the following: What is an arc flash? What causes an arc flash? How to mitigate arc flash potential? What are the arc flash boundaries? What is personal protective equipment (PPE)? What is an arc flash study? How to read an arc flash label?

4:00 pm - Associates/Affiliates Meeting

Directors Room

**5:00pm - Associates/Affiliates Sponsored
Reception & Dinner Buffet**

Michigan Ballroom ABCD

Thursday, October 10

**All Presentations in
Michigan Ballroom ABCD**

8:00 - noon Registration

8:00 - 5:00 Exhibitor Booths Open

8:00 - 9:15 Continental Breakfast

8:15 - 8:30 Welcome to MMEA Fall Conference

**8:30 - 9:45 Keynote: John Fikany, Behind
the Curtain**

John Fikany is the Founder and CEO of The Fikany Group, a passionate keynote speaker, change agent and industry thought leader.

With 27 years' experience in the technology industry he has thrived in complex and dynamic environments. He has worked directly with, or been coached by, generational leaders like Bill Gates, Larry Ellison, Bill Ford Jr., Alan Mulally, Warren Buffet and many others.



Fikany shares first hand stories from the field, where his teams helped transform the largest companies and literally changed industries and the

front page of the Wallstreet Journal. He also shares his losses and big mistakes for you to avoid. He provides specific examples and takeaways that are enabling companies to lead in this hyper competitive environment, while humanizing business. Prepare to be engaged, entertained, and to be excited about recalibrating personally and professionally.

9:45 - 10:00 - Break

10:00 - 10:45 - USDA Funding for Broadband - Chad Rupe, Administrator for Rural Utilities Service; Jeff Case, State Director of Missouri; Pat Sarver, General Field Representative, Michigan; Ray Anderson, City Manager, City of Norway, Michigan

Chad Rupe is Administrator for Rural Utilities Service. Previously, he served as USDA Rural Development State Director of Wyoming. He was a leader for rural broadband, serving on the Rural Development State Directors Broadband Working Group and assisting states with efforts to deploy broadband in rural Wyoming.



Jeffrey Case has spent his career working in the Ag industry in the areas of Production, Finance and Education. Case also served as Chairman of the Missouri Agricultural and Small Business Development Authority actively participating in providing value-added lending opportunities to the agriculture industry and rural communities.



Pat Sarver started as a USDA General Field Representative in 2007 covering Missouri, then relocated to the Michigan service area in 2014. Prior work experience includes time with USDA in Washington D.C. as a program analyst and time spent at the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio working on transmission and fuel cost issues.



Ray Anderson is the City Manager and Utilities Director of Norway, Michigan. Along with these duties he is also the Downtown Development Director, Code Administrator, and Zoning Administrator. Anderson served a 3-year term on the Michigan Municipal League Board of Directors. He currently sits on the WPPI Energy PCLC Committee and the Michigan Municipal Electric Association's Board of Directors.



10:45 - 11:30 - The Electric Vehicle Charging Landscape in Michigan

Mr. Jackson oversees the State of Michigan's State Energy Program (SEP), Light Duty Zero Emission Vehicle Investments (VW Settlement/Mitigated Trust Fund), Energy Revolving Loan Program and Sustainability Program. Jackson is planning an electric vehicle charging station infrastructure along Michigan highways. He is also working with Michigan communities to help them become EV Ready.



11:30 - Noon - ITC Update - Simon S. Whitelocke, Vice President of ITC Holdings Corp. and President of ITC Michigan

Mr. Whitelocke is Vice President ITC Holdings Corp. and President of ITC Michigan, which includes the responsibility for both ITC Transmission and METC operating companies. Prior to this role, he was Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer for ITC Holdings Corp.



Noon - 1:15: Lunch (Lunch Buffet sponsored by MMEA Associates & Private Affiliates)

1:15-2:00 - Jennings Strouss, MISO & FERC Update, Deb Roby and Al Robbins

Ms. Roby has extensive experience in Energy Law and chairs the Jennings Strouss Energy Practice Group. Super Lawyers lists her among Washington DC's top Energy and Natural Resources lawyers. Her work focuses on the generation and transmission of electric power, interconnection matters, transmission infrastructure and pricing policies, energy markets, transactional matters, and energy-related litigation and appeals.



Mr. Robbins is a career energy lawyer with a focus in electric resource and transmission management, operation, and regulation for electric utilities (principally municipal and cooperative electric systems), and large end-users of electric power. He has been selected by his peers



for inclusion in The Best Lawyers in America, in the category of Energy Law. He has also been named as a Washington, D.C. Super Lawyer in the area of Energy and Natural Resources, Utilities, and Administrative Law.

2:00 - 3:00 - APPA Toolkit - Michael J. Hyland, Senior Vice President of Engineering Services, American Public Power Association (APPA)

Mr. Hyland covers engineering issues faced by public power, including Research & Development; Engineering and Operations; Distributed Resources; Safety; Smart Grid; Cyber and Physical Security Operations.



5:00pm – Hospitality Reception sponsored by Associates & Private Affiliates

**5:30pm – Dinner Buffet
Entertainment provided by the David Chown Duo**

**Friday, October 11
General Membership Meeting**

7:30 - 8:30 Breakfast Michigan Ballroom BCD

**8:30 am – noon Michigan Ballroom A
General Membership Meeting (MMEA Municipal Members only)**

Board of Directors Meeting (Following the General Membership meeting)