**Water and Wastewater Utility Board Member Training**

MTAS has three 4-hour approved training modules. The modules are provided as MAP classes throughout the state. MTAS also offers the Modules as a custom class for a city or a group of cities at their location during an agreed upon date and time. There are fees for these modules. Please contact either you MTAS management consultant or Sarah Curtis (615-532-6827 for further information. The MTAS training catalog: <http://www.mtas.tennessee.edu/sites/default/files/2018-MTAS-Training-Catalog%20v11.pdf>

The 12 hour class has three distinct 4-hour sessions which cover the overall management of a water and wastewater utility from a Board members perspective.

Module A is entitled “Board Governance, Human Resources, Ethics and Open Meetings”.

Module B is entitled “Utility Finances”.

Module C is entitled “Water and Wastewater Regulations and Challenges, Policy Making”.

**Utility Board Member Training- Statutory History**

On April 12, 2017 Governor Haslam signed into law House Bill 0088/Senate Bill 0138 as Public Chapter No, 118. Under Public Chapter 118, all board members of municipalities, counties, and authorities who oversee a water and or wastewater system are required to attend training. Board members are required to have 12 hours of training within 12 months of their initial election or appointment (or re-election/reappointment) and 12 hours every three years thereafter (this is referred to as a continuing education period). The initial 12 hours is only required for the first election or appointment and not every election or appointment after the April 12, 2017. Once a board member has satisfied their initial 12 hours after election of appointment, their continuing education period of three years begins on the following January 1st. Training must be approved by the Comptroller’s Office prior to the training date to count toward the required hours. The Comptroller’s Office will provide regional training at no cost to board members. If a board member misses their required training, they can apply to the Comptroller’s Office for a six month extension. ([utilities@cot.tn.gov](mailto:utilities@cot.tn.gov)). The chairperson of each board shall certify annually that the board members have met the required training through the link to the Water and Wastewater Financing Board’s website. (<http://comptroller.tn.gov/WWFB/>

There were slight modifications to the Public Chapter in 2018. The modifications require the Comptroller’s Office to have on-line classes available in 2019. Utility District Board members have been required to attend training for the last few years.

**Comptroller’s Q & A**

A Memorandum from the Comptroller’s Office dated May 22, 2017 had the following question and answer.

**Q: What if a board member fails to receive the required training and fails to receive an extension?**

A: If a board member of an authority fails to receive the required training and fails to request an extension, they are ineligible to be reappointed.

A: If an elected board member of a municipality fails to receive the required training and fails to request an extension, the municipality is referred to the Water and Wastewater Financing Board.

A: If an appointed board member of a municipality fails to receive the required training and fails to request an extension, they are ineligible to be reappointed.

A: If an elected board member of a county fails to receive the required training and fails to request an extension the county is referred to the Water and Wastewater Financing Board.

A: If an appointed board member of a county fails to receive the required training and fails to request an extension, they are ineligible to be reappointed.