



**Texas City Management Association  
City Management Clinic  
February 22-23, 2018**

**Speaker Biographies**

**Chris Coffman**

Chris Coffman has been in public service for 20 years beginning with his first city manager appointment to the City of Panhandle. Chris is currently the city manager of the City of Granbury and has served there since May of 2015. In addition, Chris has served as the city manager for the cities of Borger and Sealy. Also mixed in with this public service, he has served as the Local Government Service Director at the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission (PRPC) in Amarillo serving 62 cities and the 26 county governments. In particular and related specifically to city management while serving at the PRPC, he provided interim and part-time city management services for multiple member cities in the Panhandle region.

Chris is a 1997 graduate of the West Texas State University with a bachelor's degree in public administration under the leadership/mentorship of Dr. J. Pat Stephens. He is also a graduate of the Certified Public Management Program from Texas Tech University under the leadership of Dr. Montgomery Van Wart.

Chris is currently serving as the President-Elect of the Texas City Management Association (TCMA), has served as past president of the TCMA Region, and has served many terms on both the TCMA Ethics and Professional Development Committees.

Chris and his wife Brenda have been married 38 years and are originally from the Panhandle area of the state.

**David Harris**

David Harris is the city administrator of the City of Balcones Heights. He has more than 26 years experience in management including 21 years in local government management. His experience reflects work in Alamo Heights as interim city director and community development services over seven years as assistant city manager of City of Schertz, six years at Hill Country Village and four years at Bexar County. Before receiving his MS in Urban Administration from Trinity University in San Antonio, he worked in the tourism industry with Holland America Line/Westours in Alaska and Washington State. In addition to his Masters degree, he has a BA from Whitworth University in Spokane, Washington. He is a native San Antonian.

David is a credentialed manager and member of the International City/County Management Association. He is an active member of the Texas City Management Association currently serving at the TCMA President. He is a member of the International Hispanic Network, Government Finance Officers Association, and serves as the Texas Municipal League Region 7 Secretary. David is active in the Alamo Heights Rotary Club, and has been active with the New Braunfels Rotary Club, the Schertz Chamber of Commerce, the Schertz Sweetheart Court, the

Fiesta San Antonio Commission Executive Committee and the Miss Fiesta San Antonio Scholarship Pageant.

David enjoys the outdoors, running, backpacking, skiing, and spending time with his family, particularly his two young nieces.

### **Stephen Gousie**

Stephen Gousie is a Partner at Sciens LLC, Management Consulting and is a nationally recognized expert in project management, business process design, technology acquisition and change management. He has more than 25 years' experience in the public and private sectors. Well-versed on quality management systems, he has conducted numerous detailed business process reviews of organizations, and has led an organization to have its processes ISO 9001 certified. He has developed new organizational structures, governance mechanisms and technology directions.

Stephen is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP) and Process Design Engineer, as well as EXIN Certified in ITIL. He earned a B.A. in Economics from The George Washington University, and an M.S. in Management from Lesley University.

### **Kent Hutchison**

A recognized leader, facilitator, and trainer, Kent Hutchison has more than 25 years of experience in employee development and training. He is currently the principal consultant and senior partner with C.J. Baxter Group, LLC ([www.cjbaxtergroup.com](http://www.cjbaxtergroup.com)), an employee development consultant firm based in Nacogdoches, Texas.

Kent regularly facilitates leadership and team retreats for community organizations and businesses. Kent is popular with both executive and blue collar leaders – utilizing his experience as both a former university administrator and as a former manager in the petrochemical/construction environment.

In addition to his consulting practice, one can find Kent keynoting at conferences, and banquets and corporate events. You will also find him facilitating public workshops/programs at both Lamar State College-Orange as well as Stephen F. Austin State University (SFA); along with guest lecturing at the University of North Texas.

Originally from Orangefield, Texas; this fifth-generation Texan, who now calls Nacogdoches, Texas home, is very involved as a community volunteer. Kent is currently engaged with several non-profit boards of directors where he holds multiple leadership roles.

## **Colonel David J. Lewis**

Colonel David J. Lewis, USAF (Retired) is the director of the Strategic Studies graduate program at Texas Tech University. He was a career military officer with extensive operational and staff experience and served as a Professor of Strategy at the United States Naval War College. He received a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Southern California, an MBA from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, and an MA (with distinction) in National Security and Strategic Studies from the US Naval War College. He teaches courses in strategy, intelligence, terrorism, counterinsurgency, national security, and public sector strategy.

## **Bill Longley**

### **Legislative Counsel, Texas Municipal League**

Bill Longley graduated from the University of Richmond in 2004 with a degree in political science and sociology. In 2007, he received his law degree from the University of Texas School of Law. Bill worked as a law clerk at TML while in law school. Prior to joining the TML Legal Department, Bill served as an Assistant Attorney General in the Open Records Division of the Office of Attorney General.

In his eight years at TML, Bill has worked on a variety of legal and legislative issues as they relate to Texas cities. He co-authored the *TML Revenue Manual* and *TML Economic Development Handbook*, and has spoken on numerous topics, with a focus on economic development, municipal revenue, open government, and elections.

## **Dr. Christine A. Nix**

### **Sgt., Texas Ranger (Ret., 2004), Co. F., Waco**

Dr. Nix received a Bachelor of Science degree and a commission as a U.S. Army Reserve second lieutenant in 1977 from Hardin Simmons University. She attained the rank of major with twenty three years of reserve military service. In 2004, she received her Master of Science in Criminal Justice Management and in May 2014 graduated with a Doctor of Philosophy in Criminal Justice; both from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas.

Dr. Nix began her career in law enforcement in 1979 as a patrol officer with the City of Temple in Temple. In 1984, she graduated from the Texas Department of Public Safety as a State Trooper. She served five and a half years in the driver's license service in the cities of Pasadena, Houston, Temple, and Waco. Dr. Nix went on to serve five and a half years as the DPS Region Six recruiter. In 1994, she promoted into the Texas Ranger Division where she served Bosque, Falls, and McLennan counties until retirement in October 2004.

As a Texas Ranger, Dr. Nix, trained as a forensic hypnotist, composite artist, and interviewer/interrogator. She is a current member and past president of the Texas Association of Investigative Hypnosis. In addition, while serving as a Texas Ranger, Dr. Nix conducted classes

for Sexual Assault and Family Violence Investigators, Weapons of Mass Destruction Awareness, Crisis Intervention, Hypnosis, and Cognitive Interviews.

In the fall of 2005, Dr. Nix was invited to join the faculty at the University of Mary Hardin Baylor in Belton as the full time criminal justice program professor and coordinator. Dr. Nix, an associate professor, contributes the continued growth and success of the program to students and their interest in building a legacy for future majors and minors. Her research interests include forensic hypnosis, specialized units within law enforcement, victim services, and specialized courts. Dr. Nix is a past secretary and current member of the Southwestern Association of Criminal Justice, Academy of Criminal Justice, and Texas Association for Investigative Hypnosis.

Her proudest accomplishment and title is that of “mom” to her adult children, Niki and Matthew.

### **Ernest Pages**

Ernest Pages is Founder and Partner of Sciens LLC, Management Consulting. He is an authority in information technology management. For more than 30 years, he has worked with to local governments – both local government and county – to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of their operations, optimize their processes, and better leverage the technologies available. He has earned extensive accreditations to ensure his clients benefit from his well-rounded knowledge. He is a Microsoft® Certified Systems Engineer (MCSE), a certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA), as well as certified in the Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL), in Governance of Enterprise IT (CGEIT), and the State of Florida Professional EIT.

Ernest earned a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering (BSME) from Florida Atlantic University, as well as a Master of Business Administration (MBA) and a Master of Science in Industrial Engineering (MSIE) from the University of Miami.