

MIDDLE TENNESSEE PUBLIC PURCHASING ASSOCIATION



February, 2007



CURRY'S CORNER:

Wow! What a way to kick off our first Middle Tennessee Public Purchasing Association meeting for 2007. We had approximately fifty attendees present and not every one was able to make it. Thanks Amanda Cochran for getting our programs segment off to a great start with such a dynamic guest speaker as Nancy Vincent.

As you know February is a short month and March is set aside as "Purchasing" month. I would appreciate any organization that is planning activities and events in observance of Purchasing month to share them at our February 15th meeting. Also bring your ideas and suggestions of what you would like to see our chapter do.

Thanks again to "ALL" for such an impressive turn out. If January's trend continues you might want to come early to get a seat.

Curry

Curry Corder, Chapter President

FEBRUARY MEETING

Who is the Speaker? Carolyn Lazenby

What is the program? "Contractor's Licensing in Tennessee"

Where is the meeting? Nashville Electric Service, 13th Avenue (D.B. Todd) & Church Street

When will it be? 11:30 a.m. Thursday February 15th Finished before 1 p.m.

Why are we meeting? To hear a good speaker, network with others, and professional development

How can I make a reservation? Email Chapter Secretary **Jay Thompson**
jethompson@nespower.com





Minutes of the Middle Tennessee Public Purchasing Association January 18, 2007

President Curry Corder called the meeting to order at 12:00 noon. At this time he welcomed members and visitors to the first meeting of the New Year.

The first order of business was Curry asking former President Stan Melton to swear in Ken Hackett as the 2007 Treasurer. Ken was unable to attend the December 2006 meeting.

Curry handed out "Perfect Attendance" certificates to Stephen Yates, Mark McKeel, Dave Hatcher and Darin Anderson.

Curry then asked if everyone received the minutes from the December 2006 meeting, and if there were changes that needed to be made. The minutes were accepted by a voice vote.

Ken Hackett gave the treasure's report with a balance of \$7,260.24. The report was accepted by a voice vote.

Dave Hatcher, VP of Professional Development, said that he is gathering information to have a class in the spring of '07.

Robin Dieterich, VP of Membership reported that we had 25 paid members.

In other business, Sheila Douglas reported that the TAPP Spring Conference will be April 18-20, 2007 in Chattanooga, TN.

Curry had all members introduce themselves.

Curry then turned the meeting over to VP of Programs, Amanda Cochran. Amanda introduced our guest speaker, Nancy A. Vincent of Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell, and Berkowitz. Nancy did a wonderful job answering questions from the membership dealing with disparity studies, diversity programs, partnering, wife vs. husband ownership of businesses, franchises vs. franchisees, protests and confidentiality.

Before adjourning for the day, Curry asked if anyone had any guests to introduce. Helen Crowley introduced Tammy White, Terry Hill and Sharon Pope.

Amanda Cochran announced that Carolyn Lazenby, Executive Director for the TN Board for Licensing Contractors and Home Improvement, would be our guest speaker for the February meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:52 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jay Thompson

Jay Thompson, Secretary



FEBRUARY SPEAKER

**Carolyn Lazenby, Executive Director,
Tennessee Board for Contractor
Licensing, Department of Commerce and
Insurance**

FROM AMANDA COCHRAN- VICE PRESIDENT PROGRAMS

Tennessee is a member of the “National Association of State Contracting Licensing Agencies” ([NASCLA](#)) The Board's mission is to assure that quality and fair construction practices exist in all phases of the industry in order to protect the safety and welfare through the regulation of contracting by means of examination, licensure and disciplinary action. The Board was originally established in 1931 and today remains a bridge between the consumers and contractors of Tennessee. Licensing offers the consumers of the State a mechanism to voice their concerns.

Some of our chapter members regularly deal with contractor licensing questions and concerns in their procurement duties. For those members, this meeting should be a good opportunity to clarify any issues that you have. For those that aren't familiar with the Tennessee Contractor Licensing Law, this will be an excellent opportunity for a brief orientation.

To learn more about the Tennessee Board for Contractor Licensing, go to the chapter web site at www.mtppa.net look under links for a direct link to their home page.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Thursday February 15, 2007 Lunch Meeting at NES

March, 2007 is Purchasing Month

Thursday, March 15, 2007 Lunch Meeting at NES

April 18-20 TAPP Spring Seminar Chattanooga, TN

The 2007 NIGP Annual Forum will be held August 4-8 in Hartford, Connecticut. For information on Hartford, go to: www.enjoyhartford.com/index.cfm



PURCHASING AND THE ECONOMY

Studying and keeping up with the economy should be an important part of the decision making and strategy process in procurement. Chapter member Jeff Gossage is an active member of the Institute for Supply Management (ISM) as well as our chapter. As the Purchasing Agent for the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Jeff periodically summarizes ISM data for his purchasing staff. The link to ISM's web site is one of several links on our web site (www.mtppa.net) where information about our economy may be found. Below is the latest summary Jeff prepared.

Updates on Business for Budgeting

Below is a summary of information from ISM (Institute for Supply Management), the private sector purchasing group. Use as you see fit.

Overall what we see is that for Services (non-manufacturing) business activity is on the rise, prices are on the rise, inventories are still rising but backlogs are shrinking. That would indicate we are at or nearing the peak of a price climb. With the backlog shrinking and the inventories on the rise, a leveling or decline in cost can be expected.

There were no significant changes in Manufacturing to suggest overall changes to the status quo. Prices should not move significantly in either direction. Remember, this is a broad based statement and any one industry could see significant change. However, no one industry was singled out. Should be good for forecasting.

December Non-Manufacturing ISM *Report On Business*®: Business Activity at 57.1%

Business activity in the **non-manufacturing sector** increased at a slower rate in December 2006, say the nation's purchasing and supply executives in the latest **Non-Manufacturing ISM Report On Business**®.

Non-manufacturing business activity increased for the 45th consecutive month in December. Business Activity increased at a slower rate in December than in November. Employment, Inventory, Exports and Imports all increased at a faster rate. The Prices Index increased 3.5 percentage points this month to 59.1 percent. Nine of 18 non-manufacturing industries reported increased activity in December. Members' comments in December are generally positive concerning current business conditions. The overall indication in December is continued economic growth in the non-manufacturing sector, but at a slower pace than in November.

To read the entire release [click here](#).

Latest JPMorgan Global PMI: Global Report on Manufacturing

Global Manufacturing Expansion Steadied in December, After Easing Through Much of H2 2006. Input Price Inflation at Seventeen-Month Low.

After easing through much of 2006, the rate of expansion of the global manufacturing sector steadied in December. This was highlighted by the **JPMorgan Global Manufacturing PMI** posting 53.3, unchanged from November's fifteen-month low. National PMI data suggested that slightly slower growth in the Asia-Pacific region was offset by a recovery in the US manufacturing sector (following the contraction recorded in the previous month). Expansion remained robust in the euro area.

For the complete JPMorgan release [click here](#).

Member Spotlight- Almetta Bonds



Almetta Bonds is the Supplier Diversity Coordinator for the Supplier Diversity Program at Nashville Electric Services. She has been an active chapter member for many years and a member of the procurement profession for almost 31 years. NES contracts and purchases a wide variety of goods and services every day. One of their strong goals is to provide small, minority, and women owned businesses (MN/WBE's) with equal opportunity to participate in the process.

Almetta likes buying but said that the area closest to her heart was the Supplier Diversity Program because of the unique opportunity it gives you to help businesses become more successful. There are many obstacles, challenges, and successes that make the position particularly rewarding.

Almetta offers the following words of wisdom to those new to procurement "Learn, learn, learn, all you can about procurement and don't be afraid to ask questions if you don't know the answer".

Almetta's professionalism and hard work have been recognized as follows:

She received the R.H. Boyd Minority Representative of the Year award during MEDWEEK activities in 1996. In 2005 she received a "Prestigious Award from the Tennessee Minority Supplier Council for being Corporate Representative of the Year. She was honored six years in a row for recruiting the most businesses at the Marketplace of Opportunities sponsored by the Tennessee Minority Supplier Council.

Goodlettsville is where Almetta and her family call home. Her husband is William Bonds and they have two children, a daughter Tiffani, a son Monliette (Monti), and three precious grandchildren. Almetta's hobbies include walking, working with word find puzzles, reading the Bible, and singing in the choir.

Chapter members can network with Almetta at abonds@nespower.com or phone 747-3720.

Don't forget to use our new web site: (www.mtppa.net) The following local professional organizations now have our web site listed in the links sections of their web site: Tennessee Association of Public Purchasing (TAPP), Nashville Chapter Association of Government Accountants, Middle Tennessee Chapter Association of Certified Fraud Examiners and Tennessee Government Finance Officers Association. Please email our webmaster, Donna Melton, if you have comments or suggestions about our web site at donnajmelton@comcast.net



CELEBRATE YOUR VALUE DURING MARCH – “PURCHASING MONTH”



Get ready to celebrate Purchasing Month during the month of March! This is your month to get noticed for all your hard work. Your efforts to get the word out on why your professional services are critical to your agency, helps not only to promote you, but your profession as well. Let's get the public and your co-workers aware of what public purchasing is all about!

The events and activities we produce during the month accomplish the goal to promote the importance of the profession. Please take this opportunity to plan and implement activities in your area. Plan events that involve your whole department, agency and community. Partner with other agencies or pool your resources with a chapter event. Be creative in finding sponsors to help offset cost.

Members can obtain information, sample documents and activity resources at the NIGP Web links on this page. Below are just a few ideas to get the brainstorming started in your department or local NIGP Chapter.

Get involved and plan for some fun and important activities:

- Encourage your county, township, city, etc., to proclaim March as Purchasing Month.
- If you've already obtained a proclamation, see if you can get it renewed and/or announced again.
- Try making a presentation in your community colleges or universities on Purchasing as a profession.
- Send a press release to your local press on all the activities happening in your area.
- Partner with other agencies, or your chapter to generate a public event. See if you can find sponsors to offset costs.
- Make sure your agency knows that March is Purchasing Month by announcing it at your staff meetings; sending a notice of events to your HR office and to your boss.
- Generate a fundraising activity for a local charity or scholarship fund that lets the public know who you are and why you care.
- Hold events in your department every week. They can be as simple as having a "P" day where you have popcorn and purchasing bingo in the afternoon, a pizza party, and Peach or Pistachio ice-cream to something more complex like a scavenger hunt.

If you need any assistance, your National staff is here to help. Please contact NIGP at PurchasingMonth@nigp.org for more information

Above article from "NIGP Buy Weekly" January 24, 2007

\$\$\$ From the Treasurer-Ken Hackett: Membership dues are only \$15 per year and are for the calendar year. Please use the attached membership form and send to me along with your check. Thanks. Ken



Mid-TN Public Purchasing Association
A Chapter of NIGP
2007 Membership Application
January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2007

Circle one: **New Member** **Renewal**

NIGP Member **yes** **no**

NAME & CERTIFICATION: _____

TITLE: _____

AGENCY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

Phone # _____ **Fax #** _____

E-mail _____

Dues are \$15.00 per person.

Mail completed application and payment to:
Mr. Ken Hackett, Treasurer
Metro Purchasing
222 3rd Avenue North, 6th Floor
Nashville. TN 37201

Mid-TN Chapter of NIGP provides professional enrichment and leadership for men and women employed in the field of public purchasing.

Meetings are the third Thursday of the month. For a schedule of meeting programs and locations, contact the chapter vice-president or visit our web site: www.MTPPA.net .



MTPPA 2007 Chapter Officers

President-----Curry Corder: 271-1743 curry.corder@mnps.org
Vice President-Program Chair-----Amanda Cochran: 747-3759 acochran@nespower.com
1st Vice President-Professional Development Chair--Dave Hatcher: 862-6748 dave.hatcher@nashville.gov
2nd Vice President – Membership Chair-----Robin Dieterich: 741-1010 robin.dieterich@state.tn.us
Secretary-----Jay Thompson: 747-3758 jethompson@nespower.com
Treasurer-----Ken Hackett: 862-6648 ken.hackett@nashville.gov



Remember Wednesday February 14th is Valentines Have a great one!!!!

2007 Annual NIGP Forum Hartford, Connecticut By LaWann Terry, NIGP Conferences Manager

It's hard to believe that the 62nd Annual Forum and Products Exposition sponsored by the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIGP) will soon take place in Hartford, Connecticut, August 4-8, 2007. The theme for this year is "Insure Your Success in New England's Rising Star".

The NIGP Annual Forum will offer a host of educational opportunities to address the demands of the purchasing profession. These offerings include pre-forum seminars, CPPB/CPPO reviews and testing, networking opportunities, plenary and workshop sessions and an excellent products expo.

The standard member registration fee is \$625. As an early-bird registrant, a \$50 discount will apply if you register by April 30, 2007. You can register online by using your NIGP PIN and password and receive immediate confirmation. You can even request housing online. A print/fax form is also available as another option. All attendees, once registered, have the ability to make changes to their registration using our online registration system. Workshop topics and networking sessions will be announced in early April!

For more information regarding the Annual Forum, please visit our Website at <http://www.nigp.org/events/Forum.htm>. Email questions to forum@nigp.org or call 1-800-FOR-NIGP, x242 or x227.

Don't miss out on this special opportunity to register early and receive a \$50 discount. Why not take a moment and register today!



Skyline of Hartford, Connecticut

MIDDLE TENNESSEE PUBLIC PURCHASING NEWS

Editor – Stan Melton

A monthly publication of the Middle Tennessee Public Purchasing Association

Please send chapter news items and articles of interest to:

Stan.melton@nashville.gov



JUST IMAGINE DEPARTMENT

Just imagine you are in charge of new ship construction and procurement for the U.S. Navy. You receive a call from the Secretary of the Navy who says we want a new amphibious assault ship and we want it to contain materials from the World Trade Center Towers. What a challenge you would have. Well, it will soon be a reality. You will be hearing a lot about this ship in the future.



The Navy's amphibious assault ship USS New York has already made history twice. It was built with 24 tons of scrap steel from the World Trade Center, and it survived Hurricane Katrina. It is the fifth in a new class of warship - designed for missions that include special operations against terrorists. It will carry a crew of 360 sailors and 700 combat-ready Marines to be delivered ashore by helicopters and assault craft.

Steel from the World Trade Center was melted down in a foundry in Amite, LA to cast the ship's bow section. When it was poured into the molds on Sept. 9, 2003, "those big rough steelworkers treated it with total reverence," recalled Navy Capt. Kevin Wensing, who was there. It was a spiritual moment for everybody there. Junior Chavers, foundry operations manager, said that when the trade center steel first arrived, he touched it with his hand and the "hair on my neck stood up." "It had a big meaning to it for all of us," he said. "They knocked us down. They can't keep us down. We're going to be back."

The ship's motto? "Never Forget"

