



# SUMMER CONFERENCE

*UTILITY LEADERSHIP AT THE SPEED OF CHANGE*

**AUGUST 18–20,  
2025**

*Kahler Grand Hotel,  
Rochester, MN*

**MMUA**  
Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association

## Monday, August 18

- 8:00 am–  
6:00 pm      **Registration**  
*Green Room (next to Heritage Hall Foyer)*
- 8:00 am–  
11:30 am      **Pre-conference workshop—Practical AI applications for utilities\***  
Brian Lindamood, VP, Content and Marketing Strategy, Questline;  
Tim McCollough General Manager Rochester Public Utilities;  
Brian Taylor, General Manager, CDE Lightband (*Windsor Hall III*)
- 8:00 am–  
11:30 am      **Pre-conference option—Tour of Rochester Public Utilities**  
*Meet in hotel lobby by 7:50 am. Transportation courtesy of Rochester Public Utilities will depart at 8:00 am.*
- 11:30 am      **Golf tournament**  
*Willow Creek Golf Course*  
*1700 48th St SW, Rochester*  
Check-in and buffet lunch at 11:30 with shotgun start at 1:00 pm.  
Lunch is included.
- 1:00 pm      **Trail hike**  
*Quarry Hill Nature Center*  
*701 Silver Creek Rd NE, Rochester, MN 55906*  
Led by MMUA's Mike Willetts. Group will depart at 1:00 pm from parking lot 1.
- 4:00 pm      **Hotel check-in opens**
- 6:30 pm–  
8:30 pm      **Welcome reception**  
*Kahler Grand Hotel Peace Plaza*  
Reception is included with registration to the full 3-day conference. Members planning to attend only the golf tournament or trade show are invited to join us with the purchase of a reception ticket. Tickets available for purchase at the door.  
In case of rain, the reception will be held at the *Elizabethan Hall* next to the hotel lobby.

\* Professional development hours (PDH) are available.  
Attendee is responsible for tracking their PDHs.

## Tuesday, August 19

- 7:00 am      **Registration opens**  
*Green Room (next to Heritage Hall Foyer)*
- 7:15 am      **Continental breakfast served**  
*Heritage Hall Foyer*
- 8:00 am      **Welcome and opening remarks**  
Scott Grabe, MMUA Board President/City of Staples,  
and Karleen Kos, MMUA CEO (*Heritage Hall I—II*)
- 8:15 am      **Keynote: Future proof—navigating change with confidence and excitement**  
Dr. Mark DeVolder, international change management expert and author of *Perpetual Pivot: How the Best Leaders Adapt to Exponential Change* (*Heritage Hall I—II*)
- 9:30 am      **Refreshment break**
- 9:45 am      **Networking sessions and round table discussions**  
Two 30-minute sessions. See networking sessions and round table topics options on pages 8. (*Heritage Hall I—II*)
- 11:00 am      **Federal and state legislative update**  
MMUA Government Relations Team (*Heritage Hall I—II*)
- 12:00 pm      **Luncheon and awards presentation**  
*Marriott Ballroom*
- 1:30 pm      **Sub-plenary content sessions\*** See list on page 9.  
See full list on page 9. There are two learning tracks available:
  - Leveraging eSafety Tracker to enhance safety culture—*Heritage Hall I-II*
  - Planning and executing capital projects—*Windsor Hall II—III*
- 2:30 pm      **Sub-plenary content sessions\***  
There are two learning tracks available:
  - BESS systems for utilities: Promises and pitfalls—*Heritage Hall I—II*
  - Leadership at the intersection of operations and the utility customer—*Windsor Hall II—III*
- 3:30 pm      **Refreshment break**
- 3:45 pm      **Sub-plenary content sessions\***  
There are two learning tracks available:
  - The new tariffed reality—*Heritage Hall I—II*
  - Implementing Minnesota's Family Leave Act— *Windsor Hall II—III*
- 5:00 pm—  
7:00 pm      **Trade show and reception**  
*Heritage Hall Foyer and Heritage Hall III*

## Wednesday, August 20

- 7:30 am      **Registration opens**  
*Green Room (next to Heritage Hall Foyer)*
- 7:15 am      **Continental breakfast served**  
*Heritage Hall Foyer*
- 8:00 am      **Business meeting and MMUA update**  
*Heritage Hall I—II*
- 9:00 am—  
 11:00 am      **Learning tracks\***  
 See list on page 10 for session breakdown. There are five learning tracks available:
- Electric— *Heritage Hall I—II*
  - Leadership— *Heritage Hall III*
  - Governance commissioner— *Windsor Hall I*
  - Water/wastewater— *Windsor Hall II*
  - Human Resources/administration— *Windsor Hall III*
- 11:00 am      **Keynote: Generating engagement—strategies to keep your top talent from becoming someone else's**  
*Lisa Ryan, CSP and employee expert (Heritage Hall I—II)*
- 11:00 am      **Hotel check-out**
- 12:15 pm      **Closing remarks**  
*Karleen Kos, MMUA*

*See you next year in St. Cloud!*

**MMUA Summer Conference**  
**River's Edge Convention Center**  
**August 17–19, 2026**

<b>Gas School</b>	October 7–9, 2025
<b>Technical and Operations (T&amp;O) Conference</b>	December 9–11, 2025
<b>Transformer School</b>	December 15–18, 2025
<b>Cyber and Physical Security Workshop</b>	January 20, 2026
<b>Governance in Action</b>	January 23, 2026
<b>Meter School and Pre-conference Workshop</b>	February 3–6, 2026
<b>Emergency Preparedness and Restoration Conference</b>	February 17–18, 2026
<b>Substation School</b>	March 10–12, 2026
<b>Electrical Skills Training for Water/Wastewater Operators</b>	March 18–19, 2026
<b>Legislative Conference</b>	March 24–25, 2026

Check out events open for registration by viewing the event page [mmua.org/events](http://mmua.org/events) or scan the QR code.



## Trade show vendors

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**Adtran** table 4

**Advanced Engineering &  
Environmental Services** table 40

**All In One Accounting** table 18

**Altec Industries** table 50

**American Power &  
Communications Group** table 10

**Bolton & Menk** table 13

**Border States Electric  
Supply Company** table 24

**Cooperative Response Center** table 6

**Core & Main** tables 1-2

**Cypress Engine Accessories** table 39

**DGR Engineering** table 54

**ElectroTech** table 47

**EMS Partners** table 23

**Energy Product Sales** table 48

**Fairbanks Morse Defense** table 8

**FlagShooter** table 44

**Frontier Energy** table 29

**FS3, Inc.** table 53

**HDR Engineering** table 5

**HM Cragg** table 41

**Invoice Cloud** table 27

**Irby Utilities** table 33

**JJ Kane** table 49

**KGPCo** table 19

**Metering & Technology Solutions**  
table 37

**Midwest Electrical Solutions** table 7

**Milwaukee Tool** table 22

**MMUA** table 55

**Mountain Power Reps** table 42

**MP Technologies** table 52

**mPower Innovations** table 35

**NISC** table 3

**Northland Securities, Inc.** table 14

**The Okonite Company** table 32

**OnSite Partners, LLC** table 28

**Open Access Technology** table 43

**Orbia (Dura-Line)** table 9

**Power System Engineering** table 46

**Preferred Sales Agency** table 20

**Premier Power Maintenance** table 36

**Pro-Tech Power Sales** table 31

**Professional Computer Solutions**  
table 38

**PTMA Financial Solutions/4M Fund**  
table 17

**RESCO** tables 11 and 12

**Rouzer Group** table 16

**Short Elliott Hendrickson** table 25

**Signature Systems** table 26

**Stella Jones** table 21

**Sunbelt Solomon** table 45

**T & R Electric Supply** table 15

**Tallman Equipment** table 51

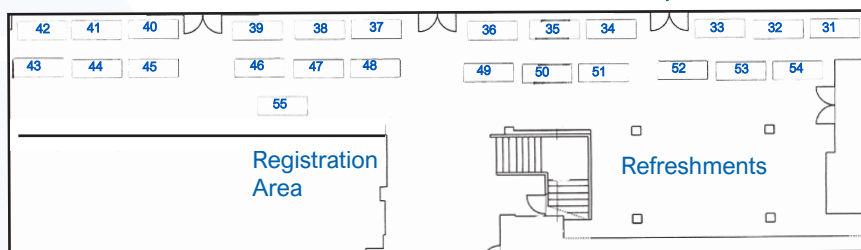
**TE Connectivity** table 34

**Ziegler Power Systems** table 30

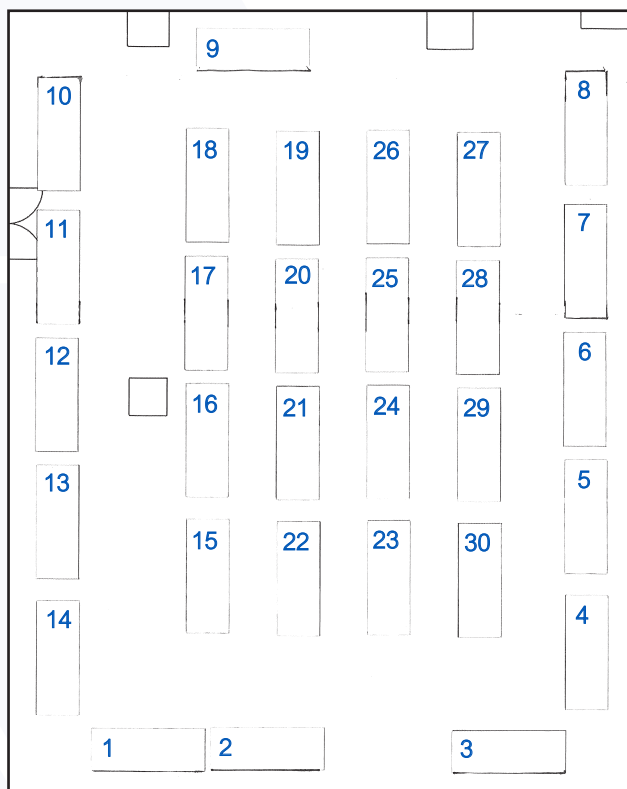
## Trade show floor plan

### Heritage Hall Foyer

Entrance to  
Heritage Hall III  
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### Heritage Hall III



## Networking and round table sessions

Room	Session	Presenter(s)
<i>Windsor III</i>	Networking: General managers and other utility leaders	Karleen Kos, MMUA
<i>Windsor II</i>	Networking: HR staff leaders	Shelly Dau, MMUA
<i>Windsor I</i>	Networking: Commission/council leaders	Kent Sulem, MMUA
Heritage I-II Table #	Session	Presenter(s)
<b>1</b>	Power planning twice	Kyle Haemig, GDS
<b>2</b>	Remote AI—SCADA systems and keeping them safe from cyber attacks	Chris Watkins, Office of Energy Reliability and Security MN Department of Commerce Angela Hary, MNIT Partners in Performance
<b>3</b>	Interconnecting with customer owned solar	Bill Black, MMUA
<b>4</b>	Micro-grids: Distributed energy resources and disaster recovery—opportunities and threats	Matt Kiesow and Marc Meeden, OATI
<b>5</b>	Key performance indicators for utilities: Reporting to your commission	Roger Warehime, Owatonna Public Utilities Larry Pederson, MMUA
<b>6</b>	Planning for excellence: Update on nation wide table tops and implications for your utility	Mike Willetts, MMUA
<b>7</b>	Is RP3 for you? Lessons from members	Dave Hunstad, Hutchinson Utilities Christian Fenstermacher, Owatonna Public Utilities
<b>8</b>	Simple social media hacks to enhance communication for public utilities	Jen Williams and Libby Simpson, MMUA
<b>9</b>	Partnering for sustainable water solutions	Geoffrey Slick, AE2S
<b>10</b>	Green financing with Minnesota's Green Bank	Kari Groth Swan, Minnesota Climate Innovation Finance Authority



## Sub-plenary content sessions

Start time	Session Name	Presenters	Location
1:30 pm	Leveraging eSafety Tracker to enhance safety culture	Greg Labbé, APPA	Heritage I–II
	Planning and executing capital projects	Ted Cash, ALP Utilities Tom Wacholz and Pat Connolly, ORB Management Corp.	Windsor II–III
2:30 pm	BESS Systems for utilities: Promises and pitfalls	Victor Hoerst, Onsite Partners Dave Krause, Electrical Power Systems	Heritage I–II
	Leadership in the intersection of operations and the utility customer	Mike Smith, Utility 2030 Luke Peterson, Hibbing Public Utilities Sylvia Davis City of Topeka	Windsor II–III
3:45 pm	The new tariffed reality	Cody Faulk, Spencer Fane	Heritage I–II
	Implementing Minnesota's Family Leave Act	Genevieve Frazier, Maguire Agency Evon Spangler, Spangler and de Stefano	Windsor II–III

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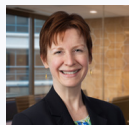
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**FS3<sup>INC</sup>**

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## Spencer Fane

is proud to  
support **MMUA**.



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Learning tracks

Start time	Track *	Session name	Presenters
9:00 am	Electric	Unlocking distributed energy solutions	Ryan Fedie and Spencer Allen, Nokomis Energy
	Governance	Electricity 101: How it works and how it doesn't	Tim McCollough, Rochester Public Utilities
	Human Resources	Building a workforce that stays, thrives, and delivers	Lisa Ryan, CSP and Employment Engagement Expert
	Leadership	Transforming financial statements into actionable insights for executive leaders and commission	Dean Dalzell and Jerry Frick, All in One Accounting
	Water/ wastewater	Bio-solids and land application rules: Analyzing for PFAS	Cory Schultz, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
10:00 am	Electric	Big stuff going on: Don't let your rates get left behind	Dave Berg, Dave Berg Consulting
	Governance	Governance fundamentals in a changing world	Kaela Brennan, Spencer Fane
	Human Resources	Current workforce trends in Minnesota's municipal utility sector	Amanda Blaschko, MN Department of Employment and Economic Development
	Leadership	Direct pay tax credits: Funding opportunities for municipal utilities	Lori Brown and Lissa Pawlisch, MN Department of Commerce Elise Kelly and Bryant Katta, Deloitte
	Water/ wastewater	Utility rates and trends for water and wastewater: Navigating the future together	Miranda K. Kleven, AE2S

\* Professional development hours (PDH) available.  
Attendee is responsible for tracking their PDHs.

## Conference sponsors

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**Altec Industries**—reception hors d'oeuvres

**Bolton & Menk**—golf hole, reception hors d'oeuvres, refreshment breaks

**Core & Main**—welcome reception, awards luncheon

**Dave Berg Consulting**—putting contest, golf team prizes

**DGR Engineering**—refreshment break

**FS3, Inc.**—golf hole, round table sessions

**HDR Engineering**—keg of beer

**Irby**—reception hors d'oeuvres

**MP Technologies**—reception hors d'oeuvres

**Northwest Lineman College**—reception hors d'oeuvres

**Open Access Technology**—round table sessions

**Spencer Fane**—reception hors d'oeuvres

**T&R Electric Supply Co.**—refreshment break

## Hospitality room

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**Ziegler Power Systems and Frontier Energy**

Tuesday, August 19 at 7:00 pm

*Elizabethan Room (main floor next to the hotel lobby)*

## MMUA Annual sponsors

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### **Gold sponsors**

Bolton & Menk

Core & Main

FS3, Inc.

### **Silver sponsors**

Dave Berg Consulting

DGR Engineering

HDR Engineering

Spencer Fane

### **Bronze sponsors**

Avant Energy

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Frontier Energy

Irby Utilities

MP Technologies

National Information Solutions Coop

NextEra Energy Power Marketing

Northland Securities

Northwest Lineman College

OnSite Partners, LLC

Power System Engineering

Professional Computer Solutions

T&R Electric Supply Company

Tallman Equipment

Ziegler Power Systems



## HUMAN FACTORS AT THE SPEED OF CHANGE

**T&O CONFERENCE  
DECEMBER 9–11, 2025**

*St. Cloud,  
Minnesota*

### MINNESOTA MUNICIPAL UTILITIES ASSOCIATION

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