

2026 WIN Conference

The Next Chapter : Women Leading the Way

March 5 – 6, 2026

The Nittany Lion Inn, State College, PA



10TH ANNIVERSARY Celebrating the 10th Anniversary of the PMAA WIN Conference

WHY ATTEND

This annual event draws dynamic and committed women professionals from across the Commonwealth together to learn and grow through mentorship, collaboration, and networking.

The theme of the 2026 conference is ***The Next Chapter: Women Leading the Way.*** Join us as we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the PMAA WIN Conference and the next chapter of women in the industry!

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Thursday

2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Education:

- *Financial Cybersecurity*
- *Ransomware Case Study*
- *Cybersecurity Insurance Trends*

5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Reception

Dinner on Your Own

Friday

8:00 – 8:30 a.m.

Breakfast/Networking

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Education:

- *Finance Panel*
- *Active Shooter/Safety*
- *How My Career Found Me*
- *HR/Employment Trends*
- *Customer Service Panel*

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

*Lunch/Networking/
Roundtable Discussions*

municipalauthorities.org/education/womens-conference/

THE HOTEL

The Nittany Lion Inn, a historic symbol of first-class hospitality in the State College community, is known for its quiet charm and attentive service. The Inn features several dining and drink options.

Special Celebration!

This year marks the 10th Anniversary of the WIN Conference! Join us to celebrate this special milestone.



AGENDA



THURSDAY. March 5

2:00 – 2:45 p.m. Cybersecurity: Safeguarding Assets and Investments

- Katia Frock, PFM Asset Management
- Tamara Kemmler, PFM Asset Management

This session will deepen your understanding of current and emerging cybersecurity risks that may endanger assets and investments, and the actions you can take to navigate these risks. When you complete this session, you should be able to:

- Identify and discuss current trends in the cyber threat landscape and their potential impact to financial services.
- List at least two steps every user should take to navigate more securely through this cyber threat landscape.

2:45 – 3:00 p.m. Break

3:00 – 3:45 p.m. Held Hostage: Inside an Authority Ransomware Nightmare

- Ted Onufrak, Centre County Recycling and Refuse Authority

Join us for a firsthand look at what happens when a public authority faces a sophisticated cyberattack. This session will walk you through an actual ransomware incident that shut down critical systems, triggered emergency decision-making, and exposed gaps in insurance, IT preparedness, and backup strategies. Attendees will gain practical lessons on preparing for cyber threats, responding under pressure, and strengthening organizational resilience before an attack occurs.

3:45 – 4:00 p.m. Break

4:00 – 4:45 p.m. Risk Transfer Completes the Security Strategy

Insurance doesn't replace cybersecurity – it reinforces it when defenses are compromised

- Margaux Weinraub, Marsh McLennan Agency

In an evolving cyber threat landscape, a cyber insurance policy serves as a critical risk transfer tool for organizations, providing financial protection and expert resources in the event of a cyber incident. In addition to strong cybersecurity controls, cyber insurance enables organizations to focus on recovery and continuity of essential services. Join Margaux Weinraub as she highlights the value of such coverage in safeguarding critical assets and maintaining community trust to round out the afternoon discussions surrounding cyber incidents.

5:00 – 6:00 p.m. Welcome Reception

FRIDAY, March 6

8:00 – 8:30 a.m. Networking Breakfast and Welcome

8:30 – 9:15 a.m. Learn About Borrowings from Ladies in the Finance Landscape (Panel)

- Jennifer Caron, Esq., Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC
- Melissa Maze, PFM Financial Advisors LLC
- Kirsten Krug, Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Inc.

Hear from a municipal advisor, a bond underwriter and a public finance attorney about ways in which your authority can borrow money for capital projects. Learn about how to plan for and issue bank loans, bond issues and obtain government loans and grant funding.

9:15 – 10:00 a.m. Active Shooter/Safety in the Workplace

- Melissa Ream, Cambria County Public Defender's Office

As part of planning for emergencies and keeping employees safe, it is important to conduct active shooter drills. They are worth more than just “practicing” for something that probably won't happen—although we see these tragedies far too often. They help people become more aware, ready, and resilient. Drills teach workers to act quickly and effectively, make it easier to coordinate emergency response, and create a culture of responsibility and awareness in the workplace.

10:00 – 10:15 a.m. Break

10:15 – 11:15 a.m. How My Career Found Me (Panel)

- Melissa Komar, HRG
- Rachel Lengle Govelovich, PE, GFT
- Liesel Gross, Lehigh County Authority
- Adrienne Vicari, PE, HRG (facilitator)

Panelists share their personal and professional challenges and successes as they became leaders in their workplaces and communities.

11:15 – 11:30 a.m. Break

11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Employing, Hiring/Terminations, Problem Employees

- Melissa Kelso, Esq., Kelso Law

Ms. Kelso's interactive presentation will focus on providing suggestions on how to handle the most common personnel issues facing managers and employers:

- Employee policies: how to draft and apply them fairly;
- Managing employees, particularly those who do not want to be managed;
- Navigating compliance with state and federal laws in the workplace;
- When and how to impose discipline;
- Fielding complaints between co-workers while maintaining a positive environment; and
- Maintaining documentation to support decisions

Questions or scenarios are welcome prior to and during the presentation to ensure that time is spent on concerns affecting members.

12:15 – 1:00 p.m. Customer Service (Panel)

- Roberta Castorena, Erie Waterworks
- Shannon Drosnock, Montgomery Township Municipal Sewer Authority
- Brooke Neve, Lehigh County Authority
- Melissa Komar, HRG (facilitator)

Panelists share challenges and best practices as they respond to customers and the public on issues related to their Authority.

1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Lunch/Networking/Roundtables

REGISTRATION

Member Registration – \$180 per person
Non-Member Registration – \$235 per person



To register online, visit our website municipalauthorities.org, or scan the QR code:

All cancellations must be submitted in writing no later than February 20, 2026.
Due to reservation guarantees, unpaid no-shows will be charged. No refunds can be provided after the cancellation deadline.

OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS

Call the Reservations Department for The Nittany Lion Inn at (814) 863-5050 and mention the code **PAMU26A** to receive the group guestroom rate of \$189 plus tax. The room block deadline is **February 4, 2026**.

The Nittany Lion Inn
200 West Park Avenue
State College, PA 16803

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

All sponsors will be acknowledged at the Conference on signage and in written materials. Remit your sponsorship commitment early to also be featured in advance marketing and promotional materials.

Prime Sponsor, \$500

Two minutes to promote your firm before a session.

Lunch Sponsor, \$400

Recognition at Friday lunch and introduce Closing Session.

Conference Folder, \$500 (1 available)

Name/logo on Conference program folder.
Commitment by February 15 for print deadlines.

Conference Sponsor, \$300

Introduce session speaker.

Breakfast Sponsor, \$400

Recognition at Friday breakfast and introduce Opening Session.

Welcome Reception, \$150

Recognition at Thursday reception.

For more information on any of these sponsorship opportunities, please contact Wendy Fonner at (717) 737-7655 x114.