



## North Central Texas Officials Elect New NCTCOG President and Executive Board at the 51<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting

Waxahachie Mayor Kevin Strength and Wise County Judge  
J.D. Clark also elected officers for 2017-2018

North Richland Hills Councilmember Tom Lombard will preside over the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) for the next year after being elected President of the regional planning agency's 17-member Executive Board, which is the policy-making body for the agency. Lombard was elected on Friday, June 16, by North Central Texas locally elected officials at NCTCOG's 51<sup>st</sup> annual meeting of its member governments.

Lombard assumes the leadership of NCTCOG from Lissa Smith, Former Mayor Pro Tem in the City of Plano, who was elected to the one year term in June 2016. She will continue on the NCTCOG Board as the 2017 – 2018 Past President. Waxahachie Mayor Keven Strength is the new Vice-President and Wise County Judge J. D. Clark is Secretary/Treasurer.

President Lombard was first elected to NCTCOG's Executive Board in 2014, and has served as Director, Secretary/Treasurer and Vice President before being elected President. He has made his home in North Richland Hills since 1994 and was elected to City Council there in 2009. In his acceptance remarks as NCTCOG's President, Lombard invited member government officials and staffs to participate in the monthly meetings at NCTCOG and said, "It will be our duty to leave our local hats at the door, and put on our regional hats as we look for positive solutions beyond our individual borders, and regionally cooperate to benefit us all."

In addition to the four officers, 13 Directors were elected to the 17-member NCTCOG board: Dallas County Judge **Clay Jenkins**, Tarrant County Judge **Glen Whitley**, City of Dallas Councilmember **Lee Kleinman**, City of Fort Worth Councilmember **Kelly Allen-Gray**, Collin County Judge **Keith Self**, Denton County Commissioner **Bobbie Mitchell**, City of Arlington Councilmember, **Kathryn Wilemon**, City of Prosper Mayor **Ray Smith**, Kaufman County Judge **Bruce Wood**, City of Garland Mayor **Doug Athas**, City of Richardson Mayor **Paul Voelker**, City of DeSoto Mayor **Curtistene McCowan**, and Town of Trophy Club Mayor **Nick Sanders**. The Honorable State Representative Ron Simmons, District 65, is the NCTCOG Ex-Officio member.

## NCTCOG Bestows Awards at 51st Annual Meeting

At the 51st annual meeting of the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) on Friday, June 16, two important regional awards were presented.



### **LINDA KEITHLEY AWARD FOR WOMEN IN PUBLIC MANAGEMENT.**

Established in 1986, this award is presented each year to an outstanding woman in public management who exemplifies the high standards represented by Linda Keithley during her seventeen years with the Council of Governments. The award is designed to recognize service as a public management professional through dedicated performance; service to the public management profession through active participation; and service to the community through civic, church, and charity activities.

Shelli Siemer, Assistant City Manager for the City of Allen received NCTCOG's 2017 Linda Keithley Award. Ms. Siemer was described as an advocate for public service, and was praised for her leadership, mentorship and investment of her personal time to the development of future leaders of the profession, often outside of formal programs.

Ms. Siemer was nominated by Rebecca Vice, Assistant to the City Manager and Stephen Terrell, Mayor for the City of Allen.

**REGIONAL COOPERATION AWARD.** Created in 1996, this award jointly recognizes two or more local governments for outstanding acts of cooperation. The award honors local governments that promote coordination and cooperation to solve regional problems, who do not allow jurisdictional boundaries to be barriers to solutions to those problems, and who demonstrate that joint projects often can provide better use of resources as well as high quality service.



**The cities of Anna, Howe, Melissa and Van Alstyne** received this year's Regional Cooperation Award. These cities truly represented the concept of reaching across jurisdictional boundaries as they reached across two state planning regions to form a municipal alliance to find cooperative programs to enhance both the individual cities and their sub-regional areas and to accomplish projects that were practically impossible and unfundable for any one city alone. Jointly, the cities planned and develop a dependable, surface water supply system, where they had been generally dependent on ground water with diminishing well capacity. The cost savings are difficult to even measure. Absent a dependable water

supply, the growth and quality of growth experienced would not be possible. The cities were nominated by Don Paschal, Facilitator for Collin-Grayson Municipal Alliance.