Wednesday, January 23

12:30 P.M. REGISTRATION

1:00 P.M. THIS IS THE ASSOCIATION OF MINNESOTA COUNTIES (AMC)
Julie Ring, AMC Executive Director

2:00 P.M. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
AMC President Scott Schulte, Anoka County Commissioner

3:00 P.M. BREAK

3:30 P.M. ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT AND COMMISSIONER’S PERSONAL LIABILITY
Scott Anderson, Attorney, Rupp, Anderson, Squires & Waldspurger, PA
All county officials must expect to be the subject of constant public scrutiny and this session will discuss specific statutes that deal with ethics in government.

5:00 P.M. ADJOURN/BOARD BUS TO AMC HEADQUARTERS FOR HORS D’ŒUVRES RECEPTION

6:30 P.M. BOARD BUS BACK TO HOTEL

Thursday, January 24

6:00 – 8:00 A.M. BREAKFAST

8:00 A.M. COUNTY GOVERNMENT 101
Julie Ring, AMC Executive Director

8:45 A.M. THIS IS THE MINNESOTA COUNTIES INTERGOVERNMENTAL TRUST (MCIT)
Robyn Sykes, MCIT Executive Director

9:30 A.M. BREAK

9:45 A.M. OPEN MEETING LAW: TIPS & TRAPS
Sonya Guggemos and Jennifer Wolf
MCIT Staff Counsel for Risk Control

11:00 A.M. BALANCING YOUR COMMISSIONER ROLE WITH WORK AND FAMILY
Scott Schulte, Anoka County Commissioner
Susan Morris, Isanti County Commissioner
Todd Patzer, Lac qui Parle County Commissioner
How do you do justice to the multiple meetings, large number of topics you are expected to understand, and the intricacies of county government, while still maintaining work and family commitments? Three county commissioners will share their experiences with the challenge of making the balancing act effective.

12:00 P.M. LUNCH

Friday, January 25

6:00 – 8:00 A.M. BREAKFAST

8:00 A.M. THIS IS THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES (NACO)
Jim McDonough, Ramsey County Commissioner and Delegate to the NACo Board of Directors

8:30 A.M. DEMOGRAPHIC AND ECONOMIC CHANGES IN YOUR COUNTY
Susan Brower, MN State Demographer
Where can you find this data and how can you use that information as a policy maker in county government.

9:00 A.M. THE ROLE OF PROFESSIONAL STAFF IN A POLITICAL ORGANIZATION
Bruce Messelt, Chisago County Administrator
Roxy Traxler, Sibley County Administrator
So how are county staff accountable to county boards? From unionized employees and supervisors, to appointed directors and officers, to other elected officials – what is the role of a county commissioner and the county board in personnel matters and in managing the day-to-day activities and operations of county government?

10:00 A.M. BREAK

10:15 A.M. HOW TO DEAL EFFECTIVELY WITH THE MEDIA
Rich Sve, Lake County Commissioner
Harlan Madson, Kandiyohi County Commissioner
Mary Beth Schubert, Dakota County Communications Director
The local media can assist you in your role as county commissioner by getting information out to the public and at times can hinder your work by not getting the information correct or difficult timing on release of information. In this workshop you will learn what to be aware of to build that relationship locally.

11:15 A.M. DISCUSSION OF OPPORTUNITIES TO BE INVOLVED IN AMC