

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTIONS



**Matthew Hanson, CGMS, GPC**  
Managing Director  
Witt O'Brien's

## Background

Matthew Hanson, CGMS, GPC, brings more than 30 years of experience in government program and grants management, finance, and agency operations at the federal, state, and local levels. Currently, Matthew supports clients nationwide by providing strategic planning, development, and implementation of federally funded grants and assistance programs through grants management best practices and subject matter expertise. Before joining Witt O'Brien's, he served as the statewide grant administrator for the State of Arizona. Prior to his time in Arizona, he served in various capacities with the U.S. Department of Justice, including as the director of grants policy.

## Candidate Profile: Local Government

Having served as both a federal and state grants manager, I have had the privilege of supporting local governments, nonprofits, and the education sectors, including both higher education and K-12 institutions. I have also worked directly as a local government grants manager and, in my current consulting capacity, support clients across each of these sectors. Over the course of my 31 years in grants management, I have witnessed the challenges these sectors face firsthand and have had the opportunity to help them navigate and overcome those same issues.

## Board Experience

I have worked with a variety of nonprofit boards throughout my career, including serving as chapter president of the Arizona Founding Chapter of the Grant Professionals Association. As a consultant, I have supported numerous nonprofits in establishing governance frameworks, developing policies and procedures, managing organizational change, and addressing other critical operational needs. As grants professionals, navigating and operating within diverse governance structures is central to our day-to-day work and long-term success.

## NGMA Experience/Volunteering

Over the course of my career I have been fortunate to be involved with NGMA in various capacities. I have been a regular presenter at Annual Grants Training, as well as various webinars. I was the 2012 Impact Award, Public Sector recipient and now, with Witt O'Brien's, have been an active NGMA CAPP partner.

## Goal of NGMA's Strategic Framework That Most Resonates with Me

I am a strong believer that the best way NGMA can serve its members is through continuing education and facilitated problem solving in order to make the federal financial assistance process work as efficiently and effectively as possible. Therefore Strategic Goal #3 has always resonated with me: "NGMA will assist its members in navigating significant changes in the federal compliance landscape to reduce confusion and improve the overall administration of funds."

## Top Two Challenges Over the Next 3-5 Years for the Profession

The top two challenges facing the grants management profession over the coming years are:

- A fundamental lack of basic grants management capacity by medium to smaller organizations (both government and non-government) and a lack of federal or other resources to address; and
- A lack of communication/coordination between federal grantors and recipient organizations.