

# **Wisconsin Towns Association**

**Richard J. Stadelman, Executive Director**  
**W7686 County Road MMM**  
**Shawano, Wis. 54166**

**Tel. (715) 526-3157**

**Fax (715) 524-3917**

**Email: [wtowns@frontiernet.net](mailto:wtowns@frontiernet.net)**

## **PRESS RELEASE:**

Contact Person: Richard J. Stadelman, Current Executive Director  
Office telephone: (715) 526-3157  
Or President Lee Engelbrecht  
Telephone: (920) 946-7695

### **Wisconsin Towns Association Announces Hiring of Michael J. Koles as New Executive Director**

Wisconsin Towns Association President Lee Engelbrecht announced that the Board of Directors of the Association has hired Michael J. Koles as Executive Director. Koles is currently the Department Head of the UW Extension Waupaca County, and has served as a Community, Natural Resources and Economic Development Educator (CNRED) for Waupaca County since 2003. He has been a CNRED agent since 1998, working in Winnebago County prior to his current position. Koles will start the position with Wisconsin Towns Association on August 1, 2014.

President Engelbrecht stated: "Mike has an outstanding record in education of local elected officials and has been particularly strong in developing leadership programs at both the local and state level. He has demonstrated a strong working relationship with town, village, city, and county officials in Waupaca County." Engelbrecht went on to say "Some of Mike's special projects such as assisting in the development of the 'Working Lands' program at both the state level and county levels were an outstanding example of his success as an Extension agent."

Mike Koles will replace the current Executive Director Richard Stadelman, who retires as of August 31, 2014, having served as Executive Director for the Association since April, 1987. Stadelman stated, "I am pleased that Mike Koles was selected by the board and that he accepted the board's offer. Mike is a recognized leader among UW Extension agents in the state and I believe he will help Wisconsin Towns Association maintain a strong position in providing service to member town and village officers as well as positive working relationships with other statewide organizations."

*Wisconsin Towns Association is a voluntary association of 1251 towns and 18 villages across the state. The Association has been in existence since 1949 serving the needs of town and village governments by providing education and training to local officials, as well as representing local government interests at the state and federal level.*