



**County
Commissioners
Association of
Ohio**



2016 CCAO ANNUAL REPORT

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

A MESSAGE FROM CCAO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SUZANNE DULANEY

It is my pleasure to present to you our second CCAO Annual Report to highlight some of the accomplishments achieved by your association and how together we are advancing effective county government for Ohio.

You will read how we have been working hard on our legislative priorities, defending against unfunded mandates and attacks on revenue stability, and engaging in agency advocacy to ensure policy implementation that is advantageous to counties. We also used the election season to engage the General Assembly with a Candidates' Briefing Guide. You will note that we have provided new education and training opportunities such as an opiate epidemic symposium, along with numerous publications and webinars. We have also provided a new tool to help educate the public about the importance of counties entitled, "Ohio Counties Matter."

We are preparing to face one of the most difficult state biennial budgets that we have seen in years. It will take every one of us working together in order to protect county funding stability and address the challenges counties are facing. On behalf of everyone at CCAO, we thank you for your continued support and look forward to working with you in 2017.



LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

POLICY PRIORITIES

Five policy priorities rose to the top this year. These critical issues drove our message as we met with members of the legislature and the administration and underscored the important partnership between counties and the state.

REPLACING LOST REVENUE FROM THE ELIMINATION OF THE MEDICAID MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATION SALES TAX

Ohio's solution to the elimination of the Medicaid MCO sales tax must protect counties from the potential revenue losses associated with revisions to Ohio's sales tax law.

The federal government has deemed Ohio's Medicaid managed care organization sales tax as impermissible, requiring the removal of the tax by July 1, 2017. According to the state Office of Budget and Management, the revenue from this sales tax would generate approximately \$203 million in SFY 19 for counties and transit authorities, making this a significant concern.

This year the Policy Team created awareness of this impending tax change and the need for the



L to R: Brian Mead, Policy Analyst; Cheryl Subler, Managing Director of Policy; Suzanne Dulaney, Executive Director; Kate Neithammer, Policy Analyst; John Leutz, Legislative Counsel; Brad Cole, Managing Director of Research

state to protect counties from further revenue losses associated with revisions to Ohio's tax policy. Action is expected in next year's state operating budget bill.

REPLACING OHIO'S VOTING EQUIPMENT

In 2014, counties spent nearly \$90 million to administer elections.

Ohio's voting equipment, which was largely purchased in 2005 and 2006 to comply with the federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA), is nearing the end of its lifespan.

The Policy Team is working with our partners to have Ohio's election machines replaced before the 2020 presidential election. We are asking the state to

fund a substantial portion of the acquisition cost of the new machines because, in addition to the balance of the purchase cost of the equipment, counties will be responsible for the long-term maintenance and support of the equipment and, therefore, will incur a significant portion of the total cost of operation of the equipment over its lifetime.

PROTECT THE COUNTY/STATE SALES TAX BASE

Sales tax dollars are the number one revenue source for counties and the state. A plethora of sales tax exemption bills were introduced during this General Assembly that threatened to undermine this critical revenue source. CCAO expressed concerns on seven proposals contending that the base must be preserved and even broadened to strengthen this critical revenue source for the state and counties.

GROWING PRESSURES ON COUNTIES CAUSED BY THE OPIATE EPIDEMIC

Opiate addiction has caused an increase in the number of children in the child protective system and placement costs are causing a significant strain.

CCAO has worked with the Public Children Services Association and the Job and Family Services Association to request an increased investment from the state to cover these important services.

County jails are also experiencing new pressures because of the opiate epidemic. CCAO, in conjunction with the Buckeye State Sheriffs Association, have developed three new programs to assist jails with the management and treatment of their mentally ill and addicted population to propose in the next biennial budget.

MODERNIZING INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

Ohio's current method of funding infrastructure – both our

highway transportation system as well as our local water and sewer infrastructure, needs to be modernized to keep up with the growing demand.

CCAO has been working with the County Engineers Association of Ohio (CEAO) as well as other local government associations and interested parties on legislation that would allow local governments to levy additional permissive local motor vehicle license fees up to a total of \$15.

COLLABORATION

JOINT COMMITTEE ON MULTI-SYSTEM YOUTH DOG WARDENS

Participated in the multi-system youth stakeholders group along with our affiliate, the Family and Children First Councils, to advocate for better access to services for children involved in multiple government systems.

The legislature elevated the penalties for certain acts of animal cruelty from misdemeanors to felonies. This was created in HB 60 Animal Cruelty (Goddard's Law). Advocated with recommendations from our affiliate, the Ohio Dog Wardens Association, in cases involving these higher penalties, humane societies would be prohibited from employing a special attorney to prosecute these new offenses, and the county prosecutor would be required to prosecute felony cases.

AGENCY ADVOCACY & POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

COMPREHENSIVE CASE MANAGEMENT AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

CCAO worked with the Department of Job and Family Services and the Office of Workforce Transformation to get important information out to counties as they face the challenges associated with standing up this new program.

HEALTHIER BUCKEYE

The Healthier Buckeye grant program gave local Healthier Buckeye Councils the opportunity to apply for funding for various projects that address poverty in their community. CCAO attended meetings with the Ohio Healthier Buckeye advisory council and supported the transfer of the unexpended appropriation to FY 2017.

THANK YOU

To all the members of CCAO's external committees. Your involvement helps guide our state policy priorities in the right direction.

282 members + 11 affiliates = 1 voice
#1 lobbyist = you

LOBBYING EFFORTS

CCAO testified on **14** bills this year. Many were opponent testimony defending against legislation that would remove items from our revenue base, including HB 235 which proposed a freeze on property tax valuation for commercial/industrial properties.

Other bills we helped to improve or guard against unfunded mandates include:

✓ FOSTER CARE EXTENSION

Amendments were added that halt extending foster care services to age 21 if the general assembly has not appropriated sufficient funds to operate the program and delayed the implementation date to 15 months from the date of passage.

✓ VETERANS ID CARD

Commissioners may permit either the county recorder or county veteran service office to create an Ohio Veteran ID Card. All funds collected for the cards will be deposited into the county general fund instead of the Recorder's Technology Fund.

✓ ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES

Advocated for a delayed implementation date to better align with the county budget process.

✓ CORONERS

Counties will be able to contract with a sitting coroner to perform the functions and duties of the coroner's office should the office become vacant and cannot be filled by a qualified resident of the county. The state will also now be required to pay for the cost of an autopsy of a state inmate.



LEGISLATION IMPACTING COUNTIES

300+

BILLS MONITORED BY CCAO

150+

BILLS IN WHICH
CCAO IS AN
ACTIVE PARTY

*Highland County Commissioner
Wilkin testifies before the Ohio
2020 tax policy study commission
on the Medicaid managed care
sales tax loss.*

≈1000

BILLS INTRODUCED
THIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

**WE GREATLY APPRECIATE THE MEMBERS WHO
HAVE TRAVELED TO COLUMBUS TO TESTIFY.**



EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

COUNTY ADVISORY BULLETINS

10

CABS PUBLISHED THIS YEAR

WEBINARS

11

WEBINARS

1000+ people including many county officials across Ohio registered and participated in one or more webinars sponsored by CCAO, CORSA and CEBCO.

HANDBOOK CHAPTERS

3

CHAPTERS PUBLISHED

COUNTIES CURRENT

CCAO's Counties Current e-newsletter provides grant opportunities and other important information from our various partnerships that work together to help counties prosper and succeed.

OPIATE EPIDEMIC SYMPOSIUM

CCAO hosted the "Opiate Epidemic Symposium: Strategies and Solutions" on May 2. County commissioners, county executives and county council members shared best practices, developed an educational baseline for common understanding and created a call to action. The symposium was held in conjunction with "Ohio's Opiate Conference: Advancing Prevention, Intervention, Treatment and Recovery" - hosted by the Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities.

CCAO President Doug Corcoran (Ross County), Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine and CCAO Executive Director Suzanne Dulaney



LEGAL ADVOCACY

COUNTY CHARTER INITIATIVES

Once again filed briefs with the courts and the Secretary of State in an effort to protect counties from protracted and costly litigation should the county charter provisions be used as a tool for purposes other than county governance reforms.

LINK V. CLEVELAND ELECTRIC

Filed a brief supporting county's ability to order relocation of utility poles and that the cost to do so rests with the utility company.

TOLEDO V. CORRECTIONS COMMISSION OF NW OHIO

Supported counties' position that a city should not be allowed to send prisoners to the county jail without paying the jail housing costs simply by citing them under the Ohio Revised Code instead of a municipal ordinance.

TASK FORCES AND WORKING GROUPS

CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

CCAO has been involved in:

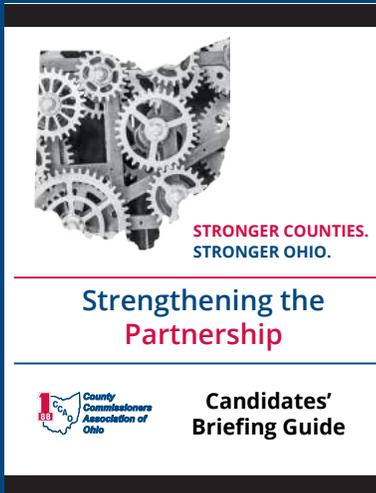
- Ohio Youth in Government
- Ohio Alliance of YMCAs
- Greater Ohio Policy Seminar
- Glenn College Leadership Forum

REPRESENTATION ON STATE BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Advisory Council for the Aging
Agricultural Commodity Advisory Commission
State Auditor's Regional Advisory Groups
Ohio Cemetery Law Task Force
Clean Ohio Council
Concentrated Animal Feeding Facility Advisory Committee (CAFF)
National City-County Task Force on the Opioid Epidemic
Ohio Consolidated Plan Advisory Committee
Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission
Ohio Council of County Officials (OCCO)
Task Force on the Funding of Ohio Courts
Ohio Criminal Sentencing Commission
Commission on Dispute Resolution
Elder Abuse Commission
State Emergency Response Commission (SERC)
Statewide Emergency Services Internet Protocol Steering Committee
Farmland Preservation Advisory Board
Ohio Rural Fire Council

Ohio Geographically Referenced Advisory Board
Ohio Housing Trust Fund Advisory Committee
Ohio Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee
Jail Advisory Board
Consortium of County Law Library Resource Boards
Governor's Executive Workforce Board
Ohio Local Government Innovation Fund
Ohio Public Defender Commission
RECLAIM Advisory Committee
School Based Health Care Advisory Workgroup
Solid Waste Management Advisory Council (SWAC)
Stepping Up Ohio Steering Committee
Transportation Review Advisory Council
Ohio Department of Veterans Services Advisory Committee
Water Resources Advisory Council
Ohio Expositions Commission

PUBLICATIONS



THE 2016 CANDIDATES' BRIEFING GUIDE was designed to educate candidates on county government and the policy issues that are important to counties, and it emphasizes the importance of strengthening the partnership between the state and counties to make a stronger Ohio.



OHIO COUNTIES MATTER was created for members to distribute in order to educate the public on the vital services counties offer, including providing justice and public safety services, workforce preparedness, protecting children from abuse and neglect, administering elections, serving vulnerable Ohioans and maintaining roads and bridges, and more.

VOICE OF COUNTY LEADERSHIP

CCAO started the **VOICE OF COUNTY LEADERSHIP** series to feature our members, tell their stories, highlight accomplishments and educate on issues in their counties.

ELECTIONS RESULTS

GENERAL ELECTION RESULTS: 59 NEW MEMBERS TO TAKE OFFICE IN 2017

As a result of the General Election held on Nov. 8, 47 counties will have 59 new commissioners, one county executive and three county council members. CCAO members joining the ranks in the Ohio House of Representatives are Cuyahoga County Council Member Dave Greenspan and Wayne County Commissioner Scott Wiggam. Commissioners Tom Dunlap (Huron) and Ginny Favede (Belmont) were unsuccessful in their bids to serve in the Ohio House and will leave office at the end of their terms.

State lawmakers elected to boards of county commissioners:

- Rep. Ron Amstutz (R-Wooster) - Wayne County Commissioner
- Rep. Terry Boose (R-Norwalk) - Huron County Commissioner
- Rep. Kevin Boyce (D-Columbus) - Franklin County Commissioner
- Rep. Denise Driehaus (D-Cincinnati) - Hamilton County Commissioner
- Sen. Shannon Jones (R-Springboro) - Warren County Board of Commissioners.

Summary of incumbent status:

- 59 won (36 - R and 23 - D)
- 71 ran unopposed in general (56 - R, 15 - D)
- 14 lost primary (11 - R, 3 - D)
- 19 lost general (2 - R, 17 - D)
- 23 did not run for reelection (17 - R and 6 - D)

County-wide Tax Levy Results: 57 counties had 97 county-wide levies and misc. issues on the ballot - 86 passed and 11 failed.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

DEPARTING MEMBERS

Paul Worley (Adams)
 Barb Queer (Ashland)
 Daniel Claypool (Ashtabula)
 Peggy Carlo (Ashtabula)
 Matt Coffland (Belmont)
 Ginny Favede (Belmont)
 John Detrick (Clark)
 David Herier (Clark)
 Bob Proud (Clermont)
 Mike Curry (Clinton)
 Charles Germana (Cuyahoga)
 Dave Greenspan (Cuyahoga)
 Steve Reinhard (Crawford)
 Diane Delaplane (Darke)
 Thomas Kime (Defiance)
 Otto Nicely (Defiance)
 Thomas Ferrell, Jr. (Erie)
 Paula Brooks (Franklin)
 Paul Barnaby (Fulton)

Blake Rear (Geauga)
 Gerald Potter (Hardin)
 William Host (Harrison)
 Tom Horst (Highland)
 Larry Dicken (Hocking)
 Tom Dunlap (Huron)
 Gary Bauer (Huron)
 Judy Moran (Lake)
 Kevin Malecek (Lake)
 Les Boggs (Lawrence)
 Paul Gross (Madison)
 Daniel Russell (Marion)
 Timothy Smith (Medina)
 Richard Cultice (Miami)
 Dennis Leader (Morrow)
 Richard Miller (Morrow)
 Jerry Lavy (Muskingum)
 Stephen Bond (Noble)
 JoEllen Regal (Ottawa)

Ed Keister (Perry)
 Harry Rider (Pike)
 Kathleen Chandler (Portage)
 Travis Jerwers (Putnam)
 Timothy Wert (Richland)
 Gary Utt, Sr. (Richland)
 James Caldwell (Ross)*
 Terry Thatcher (Sandusky)
 Dan Polter (Sandusky)
 Fredrick E. Zoeller (Seneca)
 Nick Kostandaras, Sr. (Summit)
 Tamela Lee (Summit)
 Belle Everett (Tuscarawas)
 Jerry Zinn (Vinton)
 Pat Arnold South (Warren)
 Scott Wiggam (Wayne)
 Alan Word (Williams)
 Joel Kuhlman (Wood)

**James Caldwell retires after 40 years, the longest record of service for a standing commissioner.*

ENTERPRISE SERVICES

CCAO SERVICE CORPORATION

55 COUNTIES IN CCAOSC WORKERS' COMPENSATION GROUP RETROSPECTIVE RATING PROGRAM
\$3.4 million SAVED (23% OF PREMIUM (PROJECTED))

8 COUNTIES IN CCAOSC WORKERS' COMPENSATION GROUP RATING PROGRAM
\$127,834 SAVED IN 2016

25 PARTICIPANTS IN THE GOVERNMENTAL AGGREGATION PROGRAM
\$4.3 million SAVED IN 2016

54 COUNTIES IN THE NATURAL GAS PROGRAM
\$1.4 million SAVED OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS

55 COUNTIES IN THE ELECTRIC PROGRAM
\$880,000 SAVINGS FROM 10/15-9/16

23,500+ COUNTY EMPLOYEES ENROLLED IN CCAOSC DEFERRED COMPENSATION PROGRAM

CORSA

65 COUNTIES STRONG. YEAR'S HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE

- Medical marijuana training
- Body cameras information
- Cyber security program
- Workers' Compensation

CEBCO

33 COUNTIES TOGETHER, PURCHASING AS ONE

- Providing guidance to all counties on important ACA and compliance issues
- Sharing Wellness expertise across counties big and small
- Helping define the healthcare issues counties face

STAFF NEWS

GINNY SHRIMPLIN TO RETIRE

CORSA Marketing Manager Ginny Shrimplin will retire at the end of 2016.

Ginny came to CORSA in 2000, and she combined her extraordinary people skills with risk management expertise. Members and agents benefited from her extensive knowledge of county government and dedication to service, and they saw her expertise at work during the highly popular "CORSA 101" presentations.



Her risk management expertise is recognized statewide as she has collaborated with and speaks at training seminars for state agencies and county associations.

CCAO wants to express our deep appreciation for her exemplary service and dedication to county government.

STAFF ANNIVERSARIES

- Brad Cole**, CCAO Managing Director of Research – 30 years
- Cheryl Subler**, CCAO Managing Director of Policy – 20 years
- Debi Burnette**, CEBCO Enrollment & Billing Specialist – 10 years
- Wendy Dillingham**, CEBCO Sr. Benefit Specialist – 10 years
- Jim Hale**, CORSA Risk Control Consultant – 10 years
- Jeff Knapp**, CORSA Claims Supervisor – 10 years
- Katie Lininger**, CORSA Sr. Claims Representative – 10 years

CCAO WELCOMES NEW STAFFERS

Kate Neithammer joined the staff as our new policy analyst in January. Kate is responsible for legislative advocacy and member services in the health and human services arena and related fields.



Curt Pratt joined our CCAO family in January as our new administrative assistant. Curt has held communications positions with companies such as York Risk Services Group, Cardinal Health and Nationwide.



FAREWELL TO GILLIAM AND LINK

CORSA Claims Supervisor Greg Gilliam, and Senior Claims Representative Kimberly Link left CCAO this fall. Greg joined the CCAO family in 2006, while Kimberly joined in 2009. We wish Greg and Kimberly the best in their future endeavors.

LOOKING FORWARD

POLICY PRIORITIES

1. Replace revenue lost from the elimination of the Medicaid managed care organization sales tax
2. Partner with counties to replace:
 - Voting equipment
 - Indigent Defense
3. Address growing pressures on counties caused by the opiate epidemic. Pressures affect:
 - Jails
 - Child Protective Services

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Regional Legislative Briefings (TBD)
- New Member Training - Feb. 5-7, 2017
- OCCO Legislative Reception - April 26, 2017
- NACo Conference - July 21-24, 2017 (hosted by Franklin County)

2016 CCAO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President	Doug Corcoran, Ross County Commissioner
1st Vice President	Edwin Humphrey, Clermont County Commissioner
2nd Vice President	Ginny Favede, Belmont County Commissioner
Secretary	Pete Gerken, Lucas County Commissioner
Treasurer	Otto Nicely, Defiance County Commissioner
Past President	Mike Halleck, Columbiana County Commissioner
Member	Julie Ehemann, Shelby County Commissioner

2016 CCAO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tony Anderson, Fayette County Commissioner
Brian Baldridge, Adams County Commissioner
Gary Bauer, Huron County Commissioner
Paula Brooks, Franklin County Commissioner
Timothy Bubb, Licking County Commissioner
Bob Corbett, Champaign County Commissioner
Mike Crabtree, Scioto County Commissioner
Carl Davis, Monroe County Commissioner
Chris Day, Preble County Commissioner
Lenny Eliason, Athens County Commissioner
Robert Glaser, Greene County Commissioner
Dave Greenspan, Cuyahoga County Council
Ted Kalo, Lorain County Commissioner
Nick Kostandaras, Summit County Council
Casey Kozlowski, Ashtabula County Commissioner
Gary Lee, Union County Commissioner

Deborah Lieberman, Montgomery County Commissioner
John Love, Putnam County Commissioner
Gary Merrell, Delaware County Commissioner
Kerry Metzger, Tuscarawas County Commissioner
Glenn Miller, Henry County Commissioner
Ann Obrecht, Wayne County Commissioner
Carol Rimedio-Righetti, Mahoning County Commissioner
Brian Stewart, Pickaway County Commissioner
Daniel Troy, Lake County Commissioner
Doug Weisenauer, Crawford County Commissioner
Tom Whiston, Morrow County Commissioner
D. Shane Wilkin, Highland County Commissioner





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