

## **Board of Commissioners**

## PRESS RELEASE

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## Commissioners Hamercheck and Regovich attended the 2022 CCAO/CEAO Winter Conference

PAINESVILLE, Ohio, December 15, 2022— Lake County Commissioners John R. Hamercheck and Richard J. Regovich attended the 2022 County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO) / County Engineers Association of Ohio (CEAO) Winter Conference at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Columbus, Ohio last week. The 3-day event's theme was "Innovation and Inspiration to Shape Ohio's Future," providing an opportunity for local officials to become inspired by a variety of experts who shared innovative ways to address important issues counties are facing.

"I continue to find great benefit by attending this annual event. The ability to network with other County officials, public policy experts, and other professionals allows me to share innovative ideas and strategies with our Lake County leadership team. More importantly, it also reminds me of the professional governmental structure that we have right here in Lake County," said Commission President John R. Hamercheck.

Wednesday included a welcome to new CCAO members along with the CCAO/CEAO Opening General Session, featuring welcoming remarks from Director of the Ohio Department of Development Lydia Mihalik and NACo President Denise Winfrey.

On Thursday, Ohio Governor Mike DeWine and First Lady Fran DeWine spoke at the CCAO/CEAO Luncheon. Governor DeWine shared his plan to continue investing in counties, and the First Lady spoke about the progress made through Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Program. Ohio Senate President Matt Huffman also spoke about the issues we face at a state and county level.

Added Commissioner Richard J. Regovich, "this conference provided an excellent opportunity for me to collaborate with County Commissioners from across Ohio and build upon my existing knowledge base of county governance. I look forward to working with the other Lake County elected officials and department heads in our efforts grow Lake County."

Other session topics discussed included Jails and Reentry Programs, Workforce Development, Mental Health, Broadband Expansion, Cybersecurity and much more. The diverse range of topics gave attendees the opportunity to customize their experience of the conference.

The 2023 CCAO Executive Committee Officers were elected at the CCAO Annual Membership and Business Meeting on Thursday. The 2023 Executive Committee is:

- Glenn Miller, Henry County Commissioner, CCAO President
- Chris Abbuhl, Tuscarawas County Commissioner, CCAO 1st Vice President
- David Painter, Clermont County Commissioner, CCAO 2nd Vice President
- Casey Kozlowski, Ashtabula County Commissioner, CCAO Secretary
- Denise Driehaus, Hamilton County Commissioner, CCAO Treasurer

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CCAO supports effective county government through legislative advocacy, education and training, quality enterprise service programs and a greater understanding of county government. By partnering with county commissioners, executives and council members, CCAO and its members work toward a shared goal of improving and advancing Ohio's 88 counties. Stronger counties build a stronger Ohio.