

COMMISSIONERS' CORNER



Quarter 3 2020 www.ccawv.org 304-345-4639

Collective County Voices

CCAWV Creates Meeting Opportunities Through Spring Board and Annual Meeting

The CCAWV Board of Directors met via teleconference on Tuesday, May 26, 2020 for their Spring Board Meeting. Among the approved items at the meeting were the FY2020-2021 budget and the decision to move forward with the 2020 Annual Meeting, to be held at Canaan Valley Resort in Tucker County.

On Sunday, August 2 the **CCAWV Legislative Committee, Board and Association Business** meetings were conducted. During the Legislative meeting, the 2021 Legislative Agenda was determined with three priorities. The 1% Sales Tax and elimination of the property roll back tax calculation were again listed as priorities from 2020 along with support of legislation that will allow for a portion of county publications in newspapers to be done via website.

Items that CCAWV will support during session include legislation that would allow for collection and distribution of hotel motel taxes from AirBnB lodging and legislation to support reduction of time limit on properties disposed for unpaid taxes from 18 months to 12 months.

During the Association Business Meeting, CCAWV President Jack Woodrum and CCAWV Vice President were re-elected for one year terms and a new Board of Directors was elected. Commissioner Paul Cowey of Hancock County was presented with the James H. Booten Rising Star Award. The Early Bird Award was presented to the Lewis County Commission.

The State Auditor's Office presented their training on Monday, August 3. Training modules included Understanding the Sheriff's Monthly Financial Statement, CARES Act Funding and Reporting, Auditing of Fire Departments and Ethics. The final day of the Annual Meeting included presentations on COVID Employee Issues, Risk Management and the WV Courthouse Facilities Improvement Authority Grant Program.

We want to thank the staff at the WV State Auditor's office for all of their assistance with providing this training. If your staff would like copies of the presentations from the meeting, please contact our office and we will be happy to get those to you.



Directors Discussion - Jennifer Piercy

As we reflect on the past 6 months and all of the constantly changing times, I wanted to thank counties for their continued commitment and service. This has been a particularly trying time but our counties have consistently showed their dedication to maintaining services and keeping courthouse doors open.

Our staff at CCAWV continues to look at innovative approaches to information sharing and meetings that will help our counties. We are working on putting together a member portal where information can be maintained and easily accessed. This would include everything from sample ordinances, copies of presentations from trainings and meetings, information on CARES guidelines and more.

As we move forward, we want our members to know that our goal is to provide as much support as possible so that counties can continue to operate to the best of their ability. Please reach out to our staff if we can help. We want to be able to provide answers, help with outreach and education and foster communication with one another.



**Thank you again
for all you do!**

CARES Act Funding for Counties



The Governor's Office is still taking applications from counties for CARES monies through **December 30, 2020**. The application is available through the grants portal at grantswv.gov.

Under grant application guidelines, you can scroll down to the Local Government Coronavirus Relief Fund Application Instructions to review what is needed to apply and step by step instructions. Next, counties can go to <https://grantsapp.wv.gov/Home> to apply for CARES Act funding. At this time, CARES Act funding cannot be used for revenue replacement. Copies of the CARES Act Guidelines from the US Treasury are available on our website at www.ccawv.org.

CCAWV Launches Member Portal Online



CCAWV has worked for the past few months with Bricks Without Straw to create a member portal that will house a variety of documents, policies, presentations and more that can be utilized by our members at any time. We have created this to have a working library of information for our members to cut down on the number of emails sent out and to give our members the flexibility to download and view this information at their own pace.

2019-2020

Board of Directors

President: Jack David Woodrum | Summers County

Vice-President: Agnes Queen | Lewis County

Immediate Past President: Tim McCormick | Ohio County

Ex-Officio: Nancy Cartmill | Cabell County

District 1:

- Chair: VACANT
- Dave Price, Preston County, Eastern Division
- Bob Tebay, Wood County, Western Division
- Scott Varner, Marshall County, Western Division
- Lisa Heasley, Wetzel County, At Large

District 2:

- Chair: Dick Waybright, Jackson County, At Large
- George Skidmore, Braxton County, Western Division
- Rod Wyman, Lewis County, Western Division
- Kristie Tenney, Upshur County, Eastern Division
- Mark Scott, Randolph County, Eastern Division

District 3:

- Chair: Denise Scalph, Fayette County, Eastern Division
- Tammy Tincher, Greenbrier County, Eastern Division
- Rick Handley, Mason County, Western Division
- Nancy Cartmill, Cabell County, Western Division
- Greg Puckett, Mercer County, At Large

Jennifer Piercy, Executive Director

Contact Us

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Legislative Roundtables 2020-2021



CCAWV is in the process of scheduling regional legislative roundtables around the state. These meetings will give opportunities for CCAWV to present their 2021 Legislative Agenda and Priorities, answer questions and address concerns. Local leaders are invited to attend and encouraged to have dialogue with county commissioners on those issues that are most pressing to our membership. Each year, CCAWV meets and takes legislative nominations which are reviewed and a slate is recommended by the CCAWV Legislative Committee to the Board of Directors. Once approved, the slate becomes the legislative platform for that year. We would like to thank the members of our the Legislative Committee and Board of Directors for their diligence in working toward development and approval of this year's platform.

CCAWV 2021 Legislative Priorities

- * Support legislation that will allow counties to enact a local 1% county sales tax.
- * Support legislation that will allow for a portion of county publications in newspapers to be done via website.
- * Support legislation to eliminate the property roll back tax calculation. This would eliminate the section of code that requires a reduction (roll back) in the regular current expense levy rate when the appraisal of property values results in a tax increase of more than 103% of the prior year projected property tax revenues.
- * Reduction of time limit on properties disposed for unpaid taxes from 18 months to 12 months.
- * Supports legislation that would allow for collection and distribution of hotel motel taxes from AirBnB lodging.

2021 Legislative Session



The 2021 Legislative Session begins on **Wednesday, February 10, 2021**. Due to 2020 being an election year, the start date for legislative session has a later start date than usual. The last day of session is **Saturday, April 20, 2021**.



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WV Counties Risk Pool: Taking Care of Counties



Happy fall to my county friends! I hope this article finds everyone doing well and staying healthy in spite of the ongoing pandemic.

As many of you know, I retired from service with the County Commissioners' Association about 16 months ago, and on July 1, 2019, went to work for the West Virginia Communities Risk Pool (WVCoRP). In my new role as Public Entity Specialist with WVCoRP, I am able to draw on my 30 plus years of experience with county governments and association work. As customer service is the cornerstone for good association management, it is also the focus of my new position here at WVCoRP. I was at the Association in 2007 when the Pool began, served on the Pool's Board of Directors until my retirement, and participated as a covered member in the Pool.

So from creation, to governance, to coverage, I've sampled the product and customer service that I'm now representing. And because every phase of my experience has been positive, I firmly believe takes local government Property & Casualty and Workers' Compensation coverage to the next level! As owners of the Pool, WVCoRP members receive coverage "tailored" to local government needs and have access to a whole array of risk management resources at no additional cost, including online claims reporting, online access to claims information, safety walkthroughs, property appraisals, contract and lease reviews, help with policy and procedure drafting and tailored training in a variety of county-related areas.

Though COVID-19 has restricted in person training in which we come to you, we continue to provide training and ongoing member resources through ZOOM and other virtual means. Some of our courses include: safety training; human resources topics like, workplace harassment, sexual harassment, cyber security, and telecommuting exposures; and we have a robust law enforcement training program that is approved for continuing education credits!

So...what is my new role? Exactly the same as it was 16 months ago, to make sure counties are taken care of with the best resources, at the best value, provided by the best experts available, wrapped in positive customer service experiences! I look forward to helping you soon!



Vivian Parsons,
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Upcoming Events



September 28th, 2020

Northern Region Legislative Roundtable
Moundsville, WV

October 6th, 2020

Northeastern Regional Legislative Roundtable
Preston County Courthouse

November 19 & 20, 2020

CCAWV Basic Training
Bridgeport, WV

February 14 & 15th, 2021

CCAWV Legislative Conference
Charleston, WV

Directories for 2021!

We are collecting updated information for the **2021 CCAWV Directory**. We are aware that the November election will change some information for counties so as soon as that information is available please forward to our office at jennifer@ccawv.org. **If your county has changes that are related to staffing, address or phone numbers, please send that information now along now and if you have no changes, please let us know.**

Upcoming 2020 Basic Training

CCAWV will host 2020 Basic Training, which will be a 2 day training course for newly elected county commissioners. There is no registration fee for newly elected or current commissioners who have not attended previously. At this time we will still plan on an in person format but will also provide a virtual component as well. We will be following all recommended guidelines. This training will provide an overview of the basics for county commissioners, including budgeting, key county services, how to run a meeting, media training and an overview of other county elected officials and their roles and responsibilities. Look for registration in September – we hope to see you there!