Ohio GFOA News & Updates December 2020



Government Finance Officers Association



President's Message

By: Angel Mumma, Chief Financial Officer, COTA



Friends -

2020 has been a year full of trials and tribulations. In our personal and professional roles, we have each had to adapt to a different way of life, and if you are anything like me, hope for a return to "normal" in the near future. We hope that this year's annual conference provided a bit of normalcy to those that virtually attended. On behalf of the entire Ohio GFOA Board, we'd like to thank the over 300 attendees, presenters, moderators, sponsors and the education committee that helped make

this year's conference a success.

Additionally, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Lori Starcher, CFO of the Regional Income Tax Agency (RITA), who just completed her term as Ohio GFOA President. Lori's calm and steady leadership helped guide the organization over the past year. We appreciate the outgoing trustee members, Joann Bury, Scott Gully, Kelly Kroll, and Emily Hatfield and welcome new trustees Mollie Gilbride, Megan Miller, Amie Lynn, and Kyle Smith. We appreciate the involvement of each of these individuals.

As we prepare to say goodbye to 2020, I hope you take the opportunity to reflect not on what you haven't been able to do this year, rather all the things that you have accomplished. From learning to work remotely, to making a mask part of your daily attire, to attending conferences virtually, 2020 has proven that we CAN adapt. We CAN take on

challenges that we never expected to face.

And while we don't know what the future holds, you can be certain that the Ohio GFOA will continue to live by its' mission statement – "Shared Knowledge for Effective Government". We will continue providing resources that will help you be effective public servants.

With gratitude,



2020 Annual Conference and Membership Meeting Went Virtual

Ohio GFOA held its, first-ever, virtual Annual Conference and Membership Meeting, September 16 & 17, 2020, and it was a huge success, with over 300 attendees.

The sessions were recorded and have been added to our newly developed Online CE Library Portal, via the website, and will be available, for CPE and CPIM accreditation, through December 31, 2020. Upon completion, you will automatically be sent a certificate of attendance for your continuing education records. CPIM credit can be reported by listening for the CPIM code and then submitting the code to the MyCPIM website.

As an Ohio GFOA Member, you can purchase <u>individual sessions</u> for \$25.00 or you can purchase the <u>virtual conference bundle</u>, which includes all on-demand conference sessions, for \$100.

Meet Your 2021 Newly Elected Officers and Trustees



President - **Angel Mumma**, Chief Financial Officer, COTA



President-Elect - **Randy Bartels**, Director of Audit Services, City of Lima

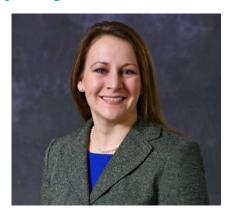


Secretary - **Bethany Staats**, Finance Director, City of New Albany



Treasurer - **Jared Cottrell**, Partner, Rea & Associates

City/Village Trustees



Mollie Gilbride, Director of Finance, City of Tallmadge



Megan Miller, Finance Director, City of Grandview Heights

Library Trustee



Amie Lynn, Fiscal Officer, Massillon Public Library

Non-Governmental Trustees



Allison Binkley, Partner, Squire Patton Boggs (US) LLP



Ryan Nelson, Co-Founder & Portfolio Manager, RedTree Investment Group

School Trustee



Kyle Smith, Treasurer/CFO, Bexley City Schools

State Trustee



Ami Mayne, Director of Audit Administration, Ohio Auditor of State

Education Committee Chair Message

By: Jeff McCuen, Ohio GFOA Education Committee Chair and Past President

On behalf of the Ohio GFOA Education Committee, thank you to all Ohio GFOA members who participated in the first-ever virtual Annual Conference and Membership Meeting. It has been an unprecedented year, but the support of our speakers, members, and sponsors made the 2020 Annual Conference a huge success.

The Education Committee plans to continue the Ohio GFOA mission, "Shared Knowledge for Effective Government" in 2021, by providing members with many educational opportunities throughout the year. Beginning in January, Ohio GFOA will offer an educational webinar on the second Wednesday of each month, from 1-2:30 p.m. The monthly webinars will contain various hot topics and refresher courses such as introductory accounting topics, an attorney's perspective on the stimulus CARES Act, and an accountant's perspective on the state budget. We have not scheduled any in person seminars, at this time, but hope to conduct the Intermediate and Advanced Governmental Accounting as in person events. We will not be making a decision on this until March 2021, at the earliest. The Education Committee is anxious to get back to normal and see our fellow Ohio GFOA Members in-person, but until then we hope the monthly webinars will keep our members connected and versed in industry issues.

Our 34th Annual Conference and Membership Meeting will take place on September 22 – 24, at the Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza. At this time, we are planning for an in-person meeting. However, we will continue to closely monitor and follow the State of Ohio safety guidelines and capacity restrictions for meetings and social events.

Please reach out to me for any questions or requests for potential Ohio GFOA programming.

ResultsOHIO is Open for Business

By: Robert Sprague, Ohio Treasurer of State



As Ohio's local government leaders, you work hard to create a brighter future for our communities and take on numerous challenges each day. Many of these challenges are complex and persistent. From water quality and workforce development to infant mortality and drug addiction, these critical - and complicated - policy areas have a significant impact on communities, families, and resources across the Buckeye State.

In the Treasurer's office, we are committed to supporting Ohio's local governments. Solving these tough issues requires a new approach,

and I believe there is a way for our office and local governments to work together to harness innovative solutions and turn those challenges into successes.

As budgets tighten and resources grow scarce, ResultsOHIO can provide communities with a new way to tackle our most pressing challenges. We've created an infrastructure to partner with leaders at the state and local levels to assess prospective pay for success projects and shepherd their eventual launch and implementation. Through this framework, we can leverage private sector ingenuity and concentrate their efforts on initiatives that are proven effective.

Read more...

Time is Running Short, It's Time We Act to Protect Ohio's Small Businesses

By: Keith Faber, Ohio Auditor of State



It has been nine months since the routine of our daily lives came to an abrupt end and ever since we have been adapting to the changes thrust upon us by an invisible enemy. Individually we have adapted as we try to protect our neighbors, our families and ourselves from this virus. But, our communities continue to bear the financial burden that has accompanied the onset of this pandemic.

When COVID-19 first appeared much of the nation shut down to stop the spread and flatten the curve, the federal government took action to assist

the millions of Ohioans who lost their jobs and the business owners who were forced to close. Since our state has reopened, businesses gained a responsibility to stop the spread of the virus, resulting in restrictions that have hurt their ability to make ends meet.

So long as this virus continues limiting Ohioans ability to do business, it is government's obligation to do its part to ensure those Ohioans aren't financially ruined.

Read more...

Become a Member of the Ohio GFOA Board of Trustees

All Ohio GFOA members are urged to consider being nominated for a Board of Trustee position - either self-nomination or nominating another member with the



members' consent. This includes current board members deciding to run a second term.

The Nominating Committee is seeking candidates for the following trustee positions: City/Village, School, Special District, and State.

Interested members should contact <u>Lori Starcher</u>, Ohio GFOA 2021 Nominating Committee Chair.

The State of Local Government in the Pandemic Era

How Local Governments are Working and Where They are Investing Now for the Future



Want the good news first? Local governments have done commendable work addressing the most urgent challenges to the way they work and serve their communities in the pandemic even while facing

revenue shortfalls, according to the over 500 respondents to OpenGov's State of Local Government Survey. As always, however, there is more work to be done beyond meeting urgent, first-order needs.

The other good news is over 60% of local governments represented in the survey are either using or considering CARES Act funding or other grants to upgrade their technology to better serve their community or improve workforce productivity.

What's clear is that given operational needs, local governments must move quickly to align around initiatives if they want to take advantage of federal and state grant funding that's available now to make needed investments.

Read more...

GFOA's Coronavirus Response Resource Center



GFOA's Federal Liaison Center updates the Coronavirus Response Resource Center regularly with helpful information to guide GFOA members through the coronavirus pandemic.

Annual Economic & Financial Markets Webinar



2020 sent shockwaves across the globe with a global pandemic, a volatile economy and a historic election. How much of this is in the rearview and how much will reverberate for years to come?

Join PFM's investment leadership team, Thursday, December 17, 2020, from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m., EST, for a panel discussion on the economic outlook for 2021 and beyond.

Register <u>here</u>.

GFOA's Fiscal First Aid Resource Center

GFOA has developed a number of Fiscal First Aid resources to help



organizations through the fiscal crisis. The centerpiece is a 12-step process to guide local governments through the initial diagnostic, treatment, and recovery phases of financial distress.

Ohio Ethics Commission New Fact Sheets at Your Disposal

The Education Section of the Ohio Ethics Commission created numerous new fact sheets for your information and reading pleasure! Check out some of the new resources available on the Commission's website.

Public School 101 Booklet

This booklet provides an outline of the Ethics Law specifically as it relates to officials and employees who work for or serve public school districts in Ohio.

Conflicts of Interest Overview

This brief fact sheet offers a glimpse into the two most common ways that conflicts of interest can occur in public service and how public officials and employees should respond.

Representation

This fact sheet, loosely referred to as the "Representation" fact sheet, gives guidance regarding rendering services on matters before public entities.

Firefighter Fact Sheet

A direct result of a commonly asked question, this fact sheet summarizes the "what to know" for township trustees who wish to serve as township firefighters.

Donations Overview

When is a gift a "thing of value" to a public employee or official and potentially illegal and when is the gift an acceptable donation to a public entity? Read this new fact sheet to find out!

If you need more in-depth guidance on these issues, don't forget to review the Commission's Advisory Opinions page on their website. Have ideas for new fact sheets that you would like to read? Email your literary inspiration to susan.willeke@ethics.ohio.gov.

Ohio Department of Taxation Online Notice Response Service



The Ohio Department of Taxation has announced a new feature, Online Notice Response Service, which is now available for individual/school district income, business, and excise taxes. This new

service allows taxpayers and tax practitioners to electronically respond to notices issued by the Department, reply to the Department's request for additional information, file an appeal(s) or submit eligible forms electronically.

Learn more...

Stay Connected by Renewing Your Membership Today



Ohio GFOA's dues schedule is now on a calendar year... January 1 through December 31. <u>Login</u> to renew your membership before it expires.

Renew today to continue your access to the many resources and opportunities available to you. Let's keep growing together!

Ohio GFOA Online CE Library Portal Now Available



Access the latest online programs on subjects important to your career development. All online CE programs (webinar or on-demand video) clearly identify the number of credits granted in the program description.

Learn more ...

Ohio GFOA 2021 Award and Scholarship Opportunities



Do you know someone who deserves recognition?

Nominate them for an <u>Ohio GFOA Award</u>. Apply for an <u>Ohio GFOA Scholarship</u>.

Deadline: Monday, July 12, 2021

Welcome New Members



We are glad you chose to become a member and feel certain you will benefit from this affiliation. For a complete list of new members, click <u>here</u>.

2021 Corporate Sponsorships Now Available!



Year after year, Ohio GFOA successfully partners with leading companies and vendors to provide the benefits our members expect from us: high-quality educational training that is geared to the needs and interests of our members, and social events that give an opportunity to develop a large network of professional and personal contacts in the industry.

Click <u>here</u> to become a 2021 Corporate Sponsor!

Quick Links

Calendar of Events

Membership

Job Postings

Join Ohio GFOA's LinkedIn® Group



Mission Statement

"Shared Knowledge for Effective Government"

is The Government Finance Officers Association's Mission Statement. By Promoting the Exchange of Information Among Finance Officers of all Local Governments, Ohio GFOA works to Meet the Challenges of the Ever-Evolving Profession of Government Finance and Fosters Increase Cooperation Among Governments and Private Financial Institutions.