

# Ohio Township Association Strategic Priorities 2022-2025



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Strategic planning facilitation provided by David Civittolo and Becky Nesbitt,  
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*Approved by OTA Board of Directors on June 10, 2022.*

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Who We Are         | The Ohio Township Association (OTA) is a statewide organization dedicated to promoting and preserving township government through educational forums, publications, and lobbying. OTA is organized in 87 of Ohio's 88 counties and has more than 5,200 active members, made up of trustees and fiscal officers from Ohio's 1,308 townships, in addition to more than 4,000 associate members.  |
| Purpose            | One of the OTA's primary purposes is to secure - from the Ohio General Assembly - legislation which will enable township government to function more efficiently and to resist any effort that deprives townships of any rights, duties, or privileges which they now possess.   |
| Board of Directors | <p>Timothy Lynch, Trustee, Seneca County - Liberty Township, President</p> <p>Ed Huff, Jr., Trustee, Darke County - Brown Township, 1<sup>st</sup> VP</p> <p>Scott Fabian, Trustee, Jefferson County - Steubenville Township, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</p> <p>Ron Miller, Trustee, Crawford, County - Holmes Township, Secretary-Treasurer</p> <p>Bob Entenmann, Trustee, Richland County - Washington Township</p> <p>Dan Frederick, Trustee, Erie County - Milan Township</p> <p>Joshua Gerth, Trustee, Hamilton County - Anderson Township</p> <p>Ed Good, Trustee, Belmont County - Mead Township</p> <p>Barbara Greuey, Fiscal Officer, Morgan County - Malta Township</p> <p>Ellen Homan, Fiscal Officer, Mercer County - Washington Township</p> <p>Larry Johns, Fiscal Officer, Auglaize County - Moulton Township</p> <p>Calvin Mangun, Trustee, Carroll County - Augusta Township</p> <p>Scott Miller, Trustee, Greene County - Xenia Township</p> <p>Sandra Reichley, Fiscal Officer, Hocking County - Washington Township</p> <p>Gary Salmon, Trustee, Butler County - Oxford Township</p> <p>Tom Shay, Fiscal Officer, Trumbull County - Braceville Township</p> <p>Robert Trowbridge, Trustee, Fulton County - York Township</p> <p>Mark Van Buren, Trustee, Licking County - Harrison Township</p> <p>Cole Webb, Trustee, Lawrence County - Union Township</p> <p>Steven Woolf, Trustee, Montgomery County - Clay Township</p> |
| Staff              | <p>Heidi Fought, Executive Director</p> <p>Kelli Bailey, Office and Membership Coordinator</p> <p>Carolyn Brown, Accounts Manager</p> <p>Nicole Ganim, Director of Communications</p> <p>Shae Haas, Public Relations and Events Coordinator</p> <p>Michael Zaky, Director of Education and Events</p>  |
| Contact Us         | <p>Ohio Township Association</p> <p>6500 Taylor Road, Suite A</p> <p>Blacklick, OH 43004</p> <p>(614) 863-0045</p> <p><a href="http://www.ohiotownships.org">www.ohiotownships.org</a></p>   |

## **Strategic Priorities 2022-2025**

### **Township Government Advocacy and Promotion**

*Bringing awareness and support to the township form of government*

Goal: Conduct in-district meetings between legislators and township officials.

Goal: Create tools to educate about township government.

### **Enhanced Member Enrichment**

*Strengthening the skills and knowledge of township officials to better serve their constituents*

Goal: Create a new member training program.

Goal: Establish a mentorship program.

### **Organizational Sustainability**

*Creating a strong, sustainable organization to empower Ohio's Townships*

Goal: Ensure a stable financial foundation to maintain and enhance services.

Goal: Create a service corporation to provide revenue to OTA for programming.

Goal: Utilize different types of media to improve messaging to all members.

## Township Government Advocacy and Promotion

**Goal: Conduct in-district meetings between legislators and township officials.**

| Actions to achieve the goal                                    | Who is responsible?   | Measure of success                         | Anticipated date | Completion date |
|--|-----------------------|--|------------------|-----------------|
| Propose idea at County Officers meeting                        | Heidi                 | They like it/<br>Approved                  | June 2023        |                 |
| Inform CTA Executive Committee (CE) person of program proposal | Kelli and new person  | They like it/<br>Approved                  | July 2023        |                 |
| Connect CTA CE and State legislator staffer                    | New person            | Relationship built                         | July 2023        |                 |
| Make a one pager for meeting talking points                    | Nicole and new person | One pager is used in meetings              | July 2023        |                 |
| Follow-up w/ CTA CE on meeting plans                           | New person            | Confirm meetings scheduled                 | Aug 2023         |                 |
| Get feedback from CTAs about meetings                          | Heidi and new person  | Meetings held;<br>Meetings scheduled again | June 2024        |                 |

## Township Government Advocacy and Promotion

**Goal: Create tools to educate about township government.**

| Actions to achieve the goal   | Who is responsible?           | Measure of success                     | Anticipated date | Completion date |
|---|-------------------------------|--|------------------|-----------------|
| Evaluate current tools used by OTA  | Staff                         | List created                           | Sept 2022        |                 |
| Enhance Twp 101 page on OTA website w/ updated info                                 | Shae                          | Website content enhanced               | Oct 2022         |                 |
| Research having an OTA booth at the State Fair 2024                                 | Michael                       | Research completed and shared w/ staff | Apr 2023         |                 |
| Revamp current OTA video using modern methods                                       | Nicole and Michael            | Completed video                        | July 2023        |                 |
| Revamp Twp 101 PowerPoint for townships to use                                      | Michael, new person and Heidi | Updated version ready to use           | July 2023        |                 |
| Create poster for use in Government classes in schools and universities             | Nicole and Shae               | Poster created and printed             | Aug 2023         |                 |
| Research partnering w/ restaurant(s) for Township Day fundraiser                    | Michael                       | Research completed and shared w/ staff | Aug 2023         |                 |
| Partner w/ other local government groups/libraries on education of local government | Heidi                         | Meeting held                           | Sept 2023        |                 |
| Create Township Day flair (pins, pens, cards, flags, etc.)                          | Michael, Nicole, and Shae     | Items purchased                        | Oct 2023         |                 |
| Create distribution plan  | Team                          | Final Plan                             | Oct 2023         |                 |
| Share w/ board  | Heidi and Michael             | Approved                               | Nov 2023         |                 |
| Implement distribution plan   | Team and Board                | People receive and use                 | Feb 2024         |                 |

## Enhanced Member Enrichment

**Goal: Create a new member training program.**

| Actions to achieve the goal  | Who is responsible? | Measure of success   | Anticipated date | Completion date |
|--|---------------------|--|------------------|-----------------|
| Research other new member programs.                                | Michael             | Sample programs/curriculum; best practices, etc.   | Summer 2022      |                 |
| Share with OTA team and decide what to present to the board.       | Michael             | List of info to present to the board   | Summer 2022      |                 |
| Develop outline and timeline for the program.                      | Michael             | Outline and timeline   | Summer 2022      |                 |
| Present the info to the board.                                     | Michael             | Materials presented and board informed   | Fall 2022        |                 |
| Solicit speakers and formulate materials to accompany the program. | Michael             | List of speakers and generated materials   | Summer 2023      |                 |
| Finalize and rollout the program.                                  | Michael             | Materials packaged and sent to members; training available online; on magazine (Jan/Feb issue). Presented as option for new members. | November 2023    |                 |
| Evaluate the program's effectiveness.                              | Michael             | Polls and analytics gathered and shared with OTA team.   | Spring 2024      |                 |

## Enhanced Member Enrichment

### Goal: Establish a mentorship program

| Actions to achieve the goal                        | Who is responsible? | Measure of success                                | Anticipated date | Completion date |
|--|---------------------|---|------------------|-----------------|
| Research other mentorship programs                 | Shae                | Samples   | Oct 2022         |                 |
| Share w/ OTA team to decide what to share w/ board | Shae                | Potential structure                               | Oct 2022         |                 |
| Solicit/recruit potential mentors                  | Kelli and Michael   | List of names                                     | WC 2023          |                 |
| Focus group of potential mentors/mentees           | Nicole and Kelli    | Have event; Get feedback and direction            | WC 2023          |                 |
| Develop program structure based on focus group     | Team                | Program   | TBD              |                 |
| Share w/ board for approval                        | Heidi and Shae      | Approval  | TBD              |                 |
| Fine tune program and roll out                     | Team                | Final Program; Actual participation               | TBD              |                 |
| Follow-up w/ mentors/mentees for effectiveness     | Kelli and Nicole    | Feedback and suggestions for program improvements | TBD              |                 |



## Organizational Sustainability

### Goal: Ensure a stable financial foundation to maintain and enhance services

| Actions to achieve the goal                               | Who is responsible?      | Measure of success         | Anticipated date    | Completion date |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Research new ways to fund operations                      | Michael                  | New funding options        | July 2022           |                 |
| Evaluate current funding streams and their sustainability | Staff                    | List of current funding    | July 2022           |                 |
| Research how other associations are funded                | Heidi                    | Funding options            | Aug 2022            |                 |
| Poll membership on needs and future programs              | Shae and Nicole          | Results-ideas from members | Fall 2022           |                 |
| Review all research                                       | Staff                    | Develop plan               | Spring 2023         |                 |
| Develop 5-year budget projection based on revenue options | Heidi and Carolyn        | Budget created             | May 2023            |                 |
| Share w/ board  | Heidi                    | Approved                   | June 2023           |                 |
| Share the funding plan w/ members                         | Nicole, Shae and Michael | Member buy-in              | TBD (based on plan) |                 |
| Implement and execute new funding options                 | Staff                    | \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$           | TBD (based on plan) |                 |

## Organizational Sustainability

**Goal: Create a service corporation to provide revenue to OTA for programming.**

| Actions to achieve the goal                                      | Who is responsible? | Measure of success          | Anticipated date | Completion date |
|--|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Research entities that have service corporations                 | Heidi               | List created                | March 2023       |                 |
| Speak w/ attorney about legal obligations/set up                 | Heidi               | Direction provided          | March 2023       |                 |
| Board presentation on service corporations                       | Heidi               | Knowledge and understanding | April 2024       |                 |
| Draft service corporation creation documents                     | Heidi               | Completed draft             | May 2024         |                 |
| Present draft to board   | Heidi               | Approval given to create    | June 2024        |                 |
| Finalize service corporation creation and management             | Heidi               | Final plan created          | July 2024        |                 |
| Get legal and accounting firms arranged for service corporations | Heidi               | Set-up completed            | Sept 2024        |                 |
| Explore additional programs to offer members                     | Heidi               | List of new offerings       | Ongoing          |                 |

## Organizational Sustainability

**Goal: Utilize different types of media to improve messaging to all members.**

| Actions to achieve the goal   | Who is responsible? | Measure of success             | Anticipated date | Completion date |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Evaluate holes in current messaging plan  | Nicole              | Holes found                    | July 2022        |                 |
| Research other possible communication methods not currently being used by the OTA | Nicole              | Develop plan                   | July 2022        |                 |
| Create accounts on all social media platforms                                     | Shae                | Followers                      | July 2022        |                 |
| Work w/ AMS on integrating forums on website                                      | Shae and Michael    | Options                        | Aug 2022         |                 |
| Develop video messaging plan  | Nicole and Heidi    | Plan created                   | Fall 2022        |                 |
| Create toolkit to help townships w/ communications                                | Nicole and Shae     | Toolkit                        | Oct 2022         |                 |
| Share communication upgrades w/ members   | Staff               | Members engaged                | TBD              |                 |
| Periodically review what is being utilized  | Staff               | Improved social media presence | TBD              |                 |

# Appendix

## Web-based Survey Summary Data March 2022

### **What do you think the Ohio Township Association does well? What are you most proud of?**

#### *Communication with and among membership, townships, county organizations*

- I am most proud of the communication to the membership and the education opportunities
- The way most of the board interacts with county associations and supports county associations with attendance at their meetings
- Communication and follow up with membership
- Gives township official's the opportunity to gather and share ideas, provides communications to its members in several methods
- Offers a wide range of services and information
- The wealth of Information available to Ohio townships
- OTA Convention! OTA Magazine! Communications!
- Board representation at county banquets is well received and appreciated. Scholarship program is noteworthy. County Officers Assoc. meeting is excellent gathering and very informative. Proud of family atmosphere which seams board together at end of business day
- Communicate with members and provide the necessary tools to be good if not excellent public servants (to those who choose to)
- I am most proud of the reputation the State Association has at the General Assembly and with other associations/organizations

#### *Educational programs/opportunities and assistance for members (includes Winter Conference)*

- Assistance and information afforded to members
- Trainings, winter conference, publications
- How the OTA promotes itself and how it educates the membership
- The OTA provides relevant information to the membership in a timely fashion to assist in implementing new laws/programs or support/oppose legislation
- We offer educational material, keep them informed with any changes in government.
- Presents excellent conference at reasonable prices in good location

#### *Promoting and advocating for townships with the State Legislature*

- The association represents the townships well at the State legislature
- Works to promote Townships causes and concerns to the State Legislature
- Legislature Reviews and advocacy for townships
- Keeping up on House and Senate bills that will affect townships
- Effective legislative advocacy on behalf of townships. Proud of the many successful results

#### *Focus on addressing member needs and concerns*

- I think the OTA does a great job of really being member oriented. Almost everything we do is in response to questions/concerns from members. Our focus is truly to serve our members and their townships to the best of our ability
- The association does a great job on delivering townships with all the information necessary to complete day-to-day activity. I am most proud of the relationships I have built since my employment with the association
- Serving its members. The level of respect we get from state and national elected officials
- Member Services

### *Staff*

- Excellent office staff professionalism! Ohio Townships educational material!
- Staff provides information in a timely way. Most proud of excellent leadership of the OTA Board and Staff
- The volume and quality of information coming out of the Association, given the small staff and financial constraints
- How such a small staff works together so efficient such as putting the winter conference

### **When OTA members think about this organization, what do you think comes to mind?**

- Depends, some more involved members think of the benefits, others just think of it as an organization to pay dues
- Conference, assistance with clarification legislation and revised code
- Representation of township government as it pertains to legislation
- Winter conference, magazine, Heidi Fought and staff
- Educational opportunities, information resource
- OTARMA. Often members confuse OTA with OTARMA and vice versa
- Standing the Townships ground with the state
- Members view OTA as a vital resource for their roles in the township
- I do not think townships realize all that OTA has to offer
- The beneficial information they receive about grants and funding
- I believe a minority of our members actually know what the association offers and might only think that all we provide is a publication and a conference. CTA officials know what we do but this information may not be shared with folks that they sign up as members
- Support for township government and the continued efforts at the statehouse with Marisa Myers and the lobbyist group making sure that legislation favorable to townships is passed
- Sharing of township knowledge and resources including classes and vendors at conference and BWC discounts and OTARMA. All members can locate answers online or talk on phone to OTA staff with any problem. Legislative representation protects them. County banquets allow faces to be placed with names and discussions to follow
- I think most feel like they will get a quick response to their needs, such as questions about the ARP money
- Information and problem solving
- Statehouse updates, informative Magazine, telephone questions/answers provided OTA staff
- To experienced and engaged members they are extremely pleased with what we have to offer at a very reasonable price. To those who do not engage I believe they think our services are not necessary or important. Many of them think the Winter Conference is nothing more than a cost to them and a big party vs an exceptional education/networking opportunity
- I think many members associate the OTA with our conference. They generally view the OTA as a source of information for townships. However, there are many that also don't understand the OTA's role or the services provided.

### **In what ways do you think the OTA organization can improve?**

#### *Education, logistics, and access*

- I think more online education and training, and the conference will have to have online opportunities because Trustees are not the same trustees as the past, the same for fiscal officers
- Hold some educational classes in the evenings not everyone has time to stop in the middle of the day to set at a computer
- Reliable broadband is a challenge for many of our membership, Keep access to information simple

- Conference - use the vendor floor to high-light up and coming services, equipment, etc. that the elected officials may not be aware of or been exposed to before. Continue to enhance the on-line library of knowledge of Township issues, problems, and concerns. I'm not a blogger (willing to learn) but have key knowledge topics, with key folks write and encourage dialog about known issues or problems and up and coming items.
- I think the organization can help lead its members to moving their townships to more modern and efficient ways
- Keep Technological up to date and encourage townships to catch up concerning technology!
- Provide case studies of what is working well in other Townships
- Even though we have all this new technology, there is still several members that are still old school, and we should not forget them as we move forward
- Communicating with less "Tech Savvy" persons

#### *Programs*

- Offering a Legal Program and Offering Human Resource Program
- More programs that specifically help townships - grant writing, legal, HR, website hosting/design, RFP postings on OTA site, House/Senate member virtual chats, and new member training
- Uniformity. All counties, staff, and leadership need to be on the same page when it comes to what it is we offer

#### *Organizational promotion and actions*

- We need to reach out to township officials about what the OTA has to offer. Unfortunately, some township officials do not put effort into learning about the OTA
- I think the OTA can improve by making our website more streamlined and encouraging members to use the new Resource Center more
- Getting officers and directors to all co organizations once a year to listen to the membership. Current travel is often to just directors co functions with several board members at one meeting. State should be split up and county organizations could simply contact OTA and directors could easily be assigned meetings close to home. This would also save thousands of dollars for the OTA membership. There are co banquets that cost the OTA thousands to attend. I understand officers spreading out across the state, but directors could be better assigned to cover the statewide meetings In my opinion there is no need for over two directors at any one meeting. Often directors are all together at a couple tables not even spread thru the crowd listening
- continued to improve the web site adding more resources making the membership process easier to work with not that I have worked with it but have heard comments from various county membership coordinators.
- Host one or two other meetings/conferences
- Have OTA (Staff, Board, and/or Volunteers) travel around State to deliver messages. Have four to six conferences locally across state during spring, summer or fall offering less travel for Trustees and Fiscal Officers and allowing them to meeting surrounding OTA members. Classes could be presented by State Auditor, Treasurer, Attorney General, UAN, Ethics, etc. to keep costs down and could be one day (or more). Directors are very much appreciated at County Banquets as it shows they are interested in that county. County Assoc needs to be aware of OTARMA and BWC discount benefits for belonging and that they can purchase recordings at township expense for them to get Fiscal Integrity credits for taking classes. OTA could provide new Fiscal Officers with a list of experienced Fiscal Officers from across the state that are willing to help them. If possible, more interaction between OTA and UAN would be helpful
- Members like to see more representation at County association events
- Continue developing and expanding OTA website and on-line activity
- Make sure newly elected (and in some cases long serving office holders) understand our history, purpose, and effectiveness. Which staff already does extremely well

- I think the OTA could improve on the sustainability of growth and a more strategic direction. For too long, the Association has increased capacity with little to no additional resources. While the OTA puts out highly quality products with what we have, each individual project could be better. We could have a more robust lobbying effort, better events, more individualized communications, and services - but often it just comes down to getting it done rather than making it the absolute best it can be. Services have been added over the years, yes - but I question if we have been thinking about what is really needed, why we are doing things the way we are, what is the best and most efficient ways to do things, and, more generally, a strategic path forward. The change that does happen is slow and not cohesive

**When you think about the next 3-4 years, what threats, challenges, or obstacles should the organization be prepared to address to effectively serve the membership?**

*State Legislature*

- Dealing with the State legislature will always be a challenge, but I think we must be more technical savvy to provide the services to the membership
- Change in legislators and their attitude toward township government
- Legislature support of townships

*Financial/Organizational Sustainability*

- The rising employee cost in wages and benefits, and remain financially stable
- Funding cuts to the townships, Rep. Brinkman introduced HCR No. 41 to repeal the state income tax within a decade will kill the LGF
- Changes in technology vs aging members, Prices for all services increasing all the time w/out realizing the increase in costs to members- ex. pricing of the conference registrations and optional events, pricing of the associate membership, etc.
- Struggles with Transition from the "Old way" to the "new Way" of communication and the lack of experience of new elected Officials
- Inability as an organization to be proactive and always reactive; always being 10-20 years behind other organizations/associations in implementing programs/technology; lack of funding to meet the needs of the membership and challenges facing townships in the 21st century
- I believe the largest challenge the organization faces is an aging membership. There need to be ways reach out to younger generations and get them active and involved
- One challenge could be encouraging our members to interact more with advancing technology and online systems
- Alternative funding for the OTA. Way too reliant on insurance and workers comp programs that is now a monopoly
- Gas Tax Losses! Inflation! Potential Losses on Investments!
- Being able to keep staff, working with large age range of membership and their tech. abilities and what technology is offered in their area ie internet, cell service, being able to keep dues and winter conference at reasonable pricing
- Trustees and fiscal officers are changing, we to kept reminding trustees and fiscal officers of their duties
- We need to think about other ways of getting our material out to our members
- Revenue reductions may be more of a risk for townships. Other government entities may want to consume townships for their revenues. Fiscal Officers and Trustees are seeing increased work levels and paperwork being pushed at them and it is becoming more difficult to find qualified people to even run for office. Qualifications should be updated for Fiscal Officers so that candidates know what they are getting in to. There should be mandatory classes for Trustees (such as budget, ethics, public
- Keeping our voices heard at the state house; the loss of support from county associations

- Closing the gap in working with Township size - largest to smallest
- Main threat is maintaining current member services if something happens to OTA funding provided by insurance programs
- Mob rule, non-township wedge issues making its way into our circle. We are nonpartisan for a reason. Taking positions on partisan issues can/will be detrimental
- Funding, lack of or unsustainability of growth, and lack of innovation. The OTA has modernized quite a bit over the last two years, which was driven in part by the pandemic. The general aversion to change, whether it's keeping pace with the cost of doing business, technological advances, new services, etc., keeps the Association operating in the past. There will always be a balance between meeting the members where they are and keeping up with the world. The Association needs to take an active role in addressing these gaps and planning for the future.

#### *Societal Challenges*

- Lack of leadership at the county level; lack of interest in public service; fear of change; After Covid - not sure. How and in what way Russia and Ukraine may change or stress the US and our local governments .... Cost of goods, fuel, energy, personnel. What the mix is likely to bring, maybe wide-open, but Townships historically adapt
- The elimination of townships, reduced funding for townships
- God forbid there is another variant that keeps our members from conducting their business. If there is, as an association we need to be prepared
- Government Control affecting Agriculture! Continued EPA Control on Rural Land Use!
- ABC - Annexation, Budgets, Consolidation, Collaboration
- Stopping annexation from Townships

#### **In your opinion, what are the most important functions of the OTA? Why is the organization important to its members?**

##### *Maintaining the township-based government model (lobbying and advocacy)*

- Number one is to keep townships a form of government, this is done through lobbying and creating tools for townships to use
- keeping township government viable and active
- Education, Preserving townships, Information source to members
- Lobbying at the state house and educating our membership
- Serve as a Leader and Resource Center for advance and protecting Township Government
- Preserve and protect township government in Ohio. We provide the voice of townships at the General Assembly and educational tools/legislative reports to OTA members
- I think one of the most important functions of the OTA is the lobbying that is done on behalf of the townships. Another important function is the educational opportunities and information provided about available grants and funding
- Lobbying and Education. Without the many different methods of offering these functions (webinars, conference, publications, testimonials, etc...), I am not sure who would step in to protect townships
- Representing the membership on a state and national level on legislative and funding
- Providing information to the members to promote and protect township government and way of life
- Other than Casino Night...OTA's most important function is to be a VOICE

##### *Communication/Information/Education for members and townships*

- Communication to the members from both board members and executive director and attendance at their association meeting when invited



- Be the communicators and facilitators in all realms. We have a broad range of members with different backgrounds, abilities, ages, township make-ups (small to mega), budgets, employee base. Find ways to reach as much of the spectrum as possible and engage them!
- The organization is a safety net for its members. If they do not know something pertaining to any part of their township, they know they can call the OTA for a trustworthy and reliable answer.
- To assist townships in their day-to-day operations
- Keeping them informed of township issues. Training material
- Providing training information about lawmakers helping townships and having face to face meetings right now forget about virtual meetings the reason why is not every person has internet service in state of Ohio maybe sometime in future townships
- Legislative representation at state and federal levels. Offering most current, accurate knowledge to members so that they may do their jobs to the best of their ability both by phone and conference and at county association events such as banquets. Bringing unity to the OTA membership. Focus on positivity of members to counterbalance news about bad representation
- Keeping our voice heard at state house and supporting our members needs as they arise
- Legislation, communicating with members the importance of assisting with that legislation, and continue encouraging members their value of involvement
- Keeping members first education at conference
- The ability to represent a diverse organization that all members support. An active true collective voice is the only way for any organization to survive and thrive
- Advocacy and education. The OTA is a well-respected voice at the General Assembly and, given townships' reliance on the Ohio Revised Code, the absence of our voice would be immediately detrimental to township government. Additionally, the OTA provides education and resources to the members that they often can't get anywhere else