

Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission

2009 Annual Report



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Message from the Chairman

First, let me thank all twelve of our member counties for their continued commitment to making the OVRDC region a place in which we are all proud to live, work and raise our families. Without your dedication and sense of duty to this region the accomplishments which have been made would not have been possible.

2009 continued to be a turbulent year of equal progress and challenges for all. Revenues continued to decrease while unemployment increased giving rise to TEAM OVRDC getting creative with solutions which would best serve our communities. You will find throughout the annual report much success with securing funding within our counties and accomplishments made in both creating and retaining jobs in our region. We strengthened our partnerships with local, state and federal agencies in order to maximize our efforts at protecting and enhancing the health and future of our communities.

OVRDC remains focused on our dedication to and partnership with every member of the OVRDC family. On behalf of the Executive Committee we would like to thank you personally for your commitment to enabling our region to stay strong and fully invested in the future. While we work through these challenging economic times, it's good to know we stand together in promoting the best local development district in the nation. Thanks so much and may God bless!



Bob Proud
OVRDC Chairman,
Clermont County Commissioner

Message from the Executive Director

When I think back about 2009, I am reminded of all of the major collaborative efforts in which the Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission (OVRDC) was involved. We worked closely with the other Ohio Local Development Districts (LDDs) to support Connecting Appalachia to bring better broadband access to the OVRDC and Appalachia Ohio region. We also worked closely with the Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District in the development of the SR 32/US 50/US 35 Corridor Study. In addition, we worked closely with the Ohio LDDs on visits with our Congressional leaders as well as jointly hosting a Legislative Reception for our leaders in the Ohio General Assembly.



John W. Hemmings III
OVRDC Executive Director

Due to the economic impact on some of our member counties, we even reached out to assist our neighbors in Clinton County with responding to the DHL Airpark closure in Wilmington, Ohio. As always, our member counties continued to work collaboratively as a region to develop a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), and in seeking and securing Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), Economic Development Administration (EDA), and Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) funds for local projects. OVRDC appreciates our member counties' commitment to this level of cooperation.

OVRDC is pleased to present you this 2009 Annual Report which outlines our collaborative accomplishments over this past year. We are aware that our success is only possible through the support of our member counties, our membership, our federal and state partners, and other key partners in the region. Thank you and OVRDC looks forward to continued collaboration and cooperation in 2010.

SR32/ US50/ US 35 Corridor Study

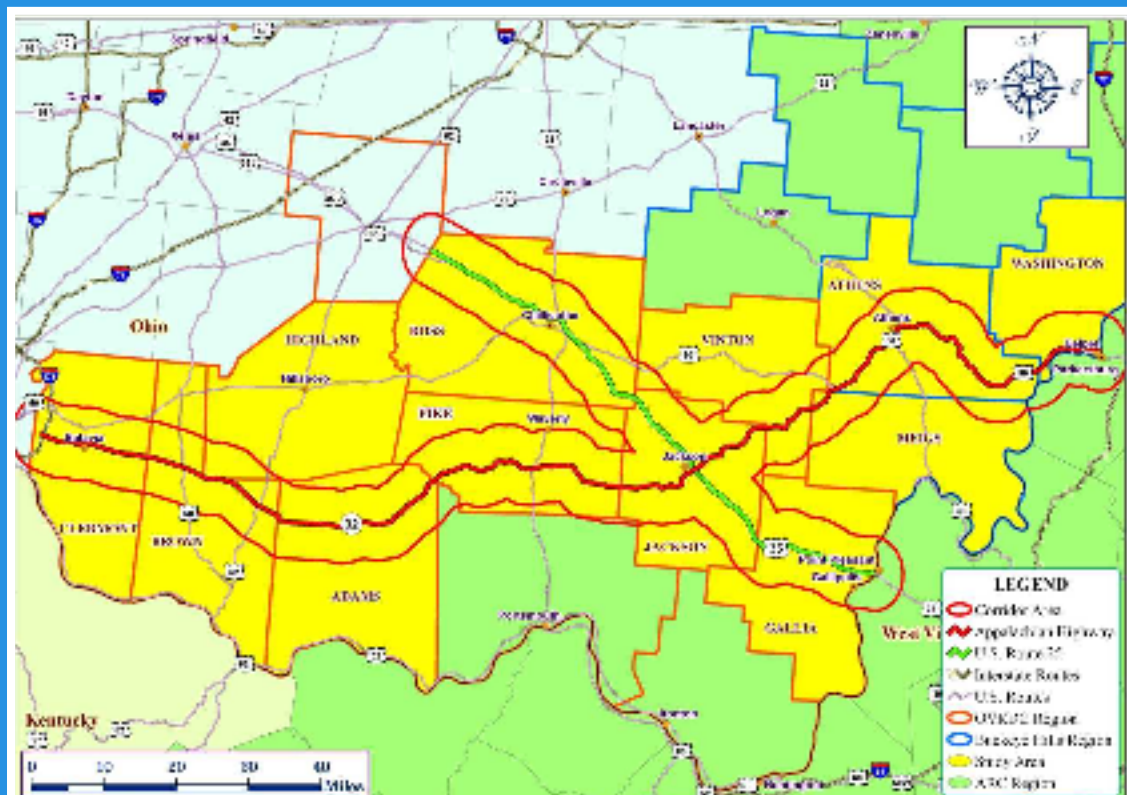
In 2009, OVRDC finished its work on the State Route 32/US 50/US 35 Corridor Study, which was funded by the Governor's Office of Appalachia. The major purpose of this study and planning effort was to maximize the economic development potential of the SR32/US50 and US35 corridor to create new jobs in southern and southeastern Ohio. This goal was addressed through doing a comprehensive study of the corridor that ascertains current demand on the corridor by existing major employers and other major trip generators and potential future generators, such as existing industrial parks and commercial sites. The study also inventories and maps existing water and sewer infrastructure that is available along the corridor. In addition, the corridor plan designates the best possible future industrial and commercial development sites in terms of access and available infrastructure, as well as designates environmentally sensitive areas.

This corridor study covers 12 counties in southern Ohio. It covers the 10 counties that are located on SR 32/US 50 from Clermont to Washington County (Appalachian Highway Corridor D). In addition, it also includes 2 counties on US 35 Ross and Gallia, (Corridor C-1) which intersects SR 32 in Jackson County.

Based on the analysis conducted for this study, the following recommendations are proposed:

- 1) Creation and maintenance of a regional website for marketing available industrial sites and buildings
- 2) Increase and maintain dialogue between business and education officials
- 3) Proactive land use planning implemented throughout region
- 4) Development of a corridor access plan by transportation and development officials

The final study and maps are available for download through OVRDC's website www.ovrdc.org; for hard copies of the report and maps or a DVD, contact Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission.



Economic Recovery Strategy Work Begins

In 2009, OVRDC, working in conjunction with Fayette County, Highland County, Clinton County, and the City of Wilmington, began its economic recovery strategy efforts in response to the closure of the DHL Airpark at Wilmington, Ohio. Rafeal Underwood, our Economic Recovery Coordinator, began his duties on January 8, 2009 as part of our US Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) funded Economic Adjustment Assistance grant. Mr. Underwood was successful in developing the Clinton County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and assisted with the submission of four grant applications for EDA grant consideration. Mr. Underwood was also successful in the development of the Tri-County Economic Recovery Strategy, which identifies strategies to assist the tri-county region with moving forward with economic recovery efforts.

The greatest success as a result of these recovery efforts has been the ability to save 52 jobs in Greenfield, Ohio. Mr. Underwood and OVRDC staff assisted the Highland County Commissioners with the establishment of a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Revolving Loan Fund in the county to assist with business development efforts. The establishment of the loan fund will provide financing to C-Mold Acquisition, LLC with the purchase of C-Mold, Inc. in Greenfield, Ohio, thus saving 52 jobs at the facility. In addition to the jobs saved, C-Mold Acquisition, LLC will create 15 additional jobs over the next three years.



OVRDC's 2009 CEDS

The U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) requires OVRDC to develop a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) every 5 years. During 2009, Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission continued to work with its CEDS (Strategy) Committee to complete the 2009 CEDS, which will identify the region's economic development goals and strategies for the next five years. Priority projects will also be identified for possible EDA investment consideration.

OVRDC's 2009 CEDS can be downloaded in PDF format along with supporting information by visiting the OVRDC website at www.ovrdc.org, then by clicking '2009 CEDS' on the left-hand menu. Once to the 2009 CEDS page you will find the report along with supporting information and previous OVRDC CEDS Reports.

Broadband Access through Connecting Appalachia

In late 2008, discussions began about the possibility of a multi-county initiative to get broadband access to most areas of Appalachia Ohio. Three of Ohio's Local Development Districts (Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission, Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District, and the Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association) were asked to join early in the project's development to provide regional support. The Ohio Local Development Districts were instrumental in securing support from their member counties for the project.

In 2009, the Southern Ohio Health Care Network (SOHCN) made application through the US Department of Commerce (DOC) National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) requesting almost \$189 million for the Connecting Appalachia Initiative. This project offered a comprehensive and sustainable plan to expand broadband availability across 34 underserved rural Ohio counties (29 in Ohio Appalachia). Based on an innovative technology package and carrier partnerships, the project would have delivered metropolitan-class broadband in local communities, residential fixed-wireless broadband in the rural expanse of the region, and mobile data services for first responders.

In early 2010, the SOHCN was notified by the US-DOC NTIA that its application was not selected for funding for the first round of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) broadband funding. Despite this news, efforts to secure Round 2 ARRA funds for broadband are currently occurring.

OVRDC will continue to support efforts to provide better broadband access to businesses and citizens in the region. The lack of access to broadband technology continues to be an economic development concern.



Appalachian Regional Commission

During Fiscal Year 2009, the Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission provided technical assistance to public and private non-profit organizations resulting in the following outcomes: 262 jobs created, 949 jobs retained, 891 households served with water and/or sewer, and 3,120 people served with up-to-date medical care. The following projects helped achieve those outcomes.

Project Title	ARC Funds	Leveraged Funds
Lawrence County Medical Center Colon Cancer Screening (Lawrence)	\$200,000	\$491,000
Green Acres/Slate Mills Sewer Project (Ross)	\$250,000	\$898,020
Adena Health Systems Primary Care Expansion (Jackson)	\$42,500	\$42,500
Loveland Downtown Redevelopment Project (Clermont)	\$250,000	\$790,800
New Richmond Front Street Downtown Revitalization (Clermont)	\$136,800	\$339,021
The Counseling Center Family Health Care Center X-Ray Equipment (Scioto)	\$73,413	\$31,462
Lawshe Area Waterline Extension (Adams)	\$250,000	\$1,840,650
Richmond Dale Sanitary Sewer and WWTP (Ross)	\$250,000	\$2,127,840
Kelly Road Waterline Extension (Vinton)	\$250,000	\$63,000
Beaver Water System Improvements (Pike)	\$250,000	\$62,500
Mifflin Township Waterline Extension (Pike)	\$250,000	\$1,100,000
Gallia S.R. 850 Access Road (Gallia)	\$500,000	\$4,150,000
Williamsburg 8 th Street Water Tower Elevation and Rehabilitation (Clermont)	\$100,000	\$367,800
Total	\$2,802,713	\$12,304,593

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Administration

The Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission (OVRDC) has, for several years, provided communities throughout the region with administration support on Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funded projects.

In 2009, the following CDBG administration contracts were worked on by OVRDC staff: Village of Sardinia Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade, Village of Ripley Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade, Village of Mowrystown Sanitary Sewer Collection System, Village of Highland Sanitary Sewer Collection System, Scioto County Pump Station Rehabilitation and Manhole Replacement, City of Greenfield Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade, Village of Bloomingburg Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade, Village of Clarksburg Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade, Village of Peebles Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade, Richmond Dale (Ross County) Sewer System, Village of Coalton Sewer System Expansion, Village of Frankfort Water System Improvements, and Highland County Revolving Loan Fund.

Mifflin Township Waterline Extension Project

In 2009, OVRDC assisted the Pike County Commissioners in applying for and receiving \$250,000 from the Appalachian Regional Commission for the Mifflin Township Waterline Extension project. Residents in Mifflin Township had been dealing with contaminated wells for many years. This project will install 73,300 linear feet of waterlines, one booster station, 80-meter sets, hydrants and a telemetry system into Mifflin Township serving 80 households or approximately 240 residents.



Construction of the Mifflin Township Waterline Extension in December 2009



On October 30, 2009, Fred Deel presented the Pike County Commissioners with a \$250,000 mock check for the Mifflin Township Waterline Extension project. (Pictured left to right: Cindy Howard, Director of Pike County Community Development; Teddy West, Pike County Commissioner; David Hodapp, Representative for Senator Sherrod Brown; Harry Rider, Pike County Commissioner; Fred Deel, Director of Governor's Office of Appalachia; David Daniels, State Representative 86th District; Blaine Beekman, Pike County Commissioner; John Hemmings, Executive Director of Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission; and Steven Caraway, Representative for Congresswoman Jean Schmidt.

District 15 Ohio Public Works Commission

The Ohio Public Works Commission was created to assist in financing local public infrastructure improvements for roads, bridges, culverts, water supply systems, wastewater systems, storm water collection systems, and solid waste disposal facilities. Since the creation of both the State Capital Improvement Program (District Fund) and the Local Transportation Program (LTIP) District 15 that include Adams, Brown, Fayette, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike, Scioto, Ross and Vinton counties has been successful in getting much needed infrastructure projects funded. Including the list of projects below that was funded in Round 23:

District Fund - \$10,339,385

Scioto County Sanitary Sewer Improvements
 Village of Lynchburg WWTP Improvements
 Adams County Sproull Bridge Replacement
 Gallia County Kanauga/Addison Sanitary Sewer
 City of Ironton North Sewer Separation
 Vinton County Stanart Hollow TR Bridge Replacement
 Ross County Multi Road Improvements
 Adams County Regional Water /Lawshe Road Waterline
 Highland County Bridge Replacement
 Scioto Water Recarbonation
 Pike County Mifflin Township Waterline Extension
 Lawrence County Joint Resurfacing Project B
 City of Jackson SR 93 Water Main Replacement
 City of Hillsboro WWTP Expansion Bypass Elimination
 City of Washington CH Sanitary Sewer Improvements
 Pike County Road/Bridge Replacement
 Mt. Orab Apple Street Extension
 Fayetteville/Perry Township WWTP Replacement
 Gallia County Road Resurfacing

LTIP Fund - \$6,72,799

Brown County Love Road Bridge Replacement
 Jackson County Bloomfield and Liberty Township Joint Project
 Fayette County White Road Bridge and Resurfacing
 Scioto County Disterdick Lane Bridge Replacement
 City of Chillicothe Street Improvements
 Village of McArthur Street Resurfacing
 Lawrence County Joint Resurfacing Project A
 Scioto County Highway Improvement
 Highland County-Fairfield Township TR 331-A Reconstruction
 Scioto County Bloom Township Bridge Road Repair
 Scioto County Knapp Road Bridge Replacement
 Village of Peebles Vine Street Improvements
 Brown County Township Road Restructuring
 Pike County Bailey Chapel Bridge Replacement & Salem Cave Paving
 Highland County Various County Road Widening and Paving
 Highland County CR 12- A,B,C Paving

Small Governments Fund - \$1,172,519

Village of Oak Hill Sewer Collection & Water System Telemetry
 Village of Beaver Water System Improvements
 Village of Georgetown WWTP High Flow Management Upgrades
 Village of Frankfort Water System Improvements

Sugar Camp-Jackson Fork Road

A recent success story is that of Sugar Camp-Jackson Fork Road a joint project between Scioto County and Bloom Township Trustees. The total project cost was \$553,582 and was funded by county local match, Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) and USDA Rural Development. The project involved a bridge replacement in Scioto County as well as a much needed roadway improvement in Bloom Township. As Craig Opperman, Scioto County Engineer stated “funding of this project would not have been possible without the Local Transportation Improvement Program of the Ohio Public Works Commission and USDA Rural Development”. Mr. Opperman also credited assistance and support of Ohio Public Works Commission, Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission, and USDA Rural Development, stating “without these entities the Scioto County Engineer’s Office and Bloom Township would not have been able to bring these much needed improvements to Scioto County”. This project is an excellent example of combining federal, state, and local resources for infrastructure development.



Picture above shows work being completed on Sugar Camp-Jackson Fork Road Bridge



Picture above shows Sugar Camp-Jackson Fork Road Bridge completed.

Small Business Revolving Loan Fund (RLF)

The Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission's (OVRDC's) Small Business Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) program has operated the last 23 years through two (2) loan fund programs funded by the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) and U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA).

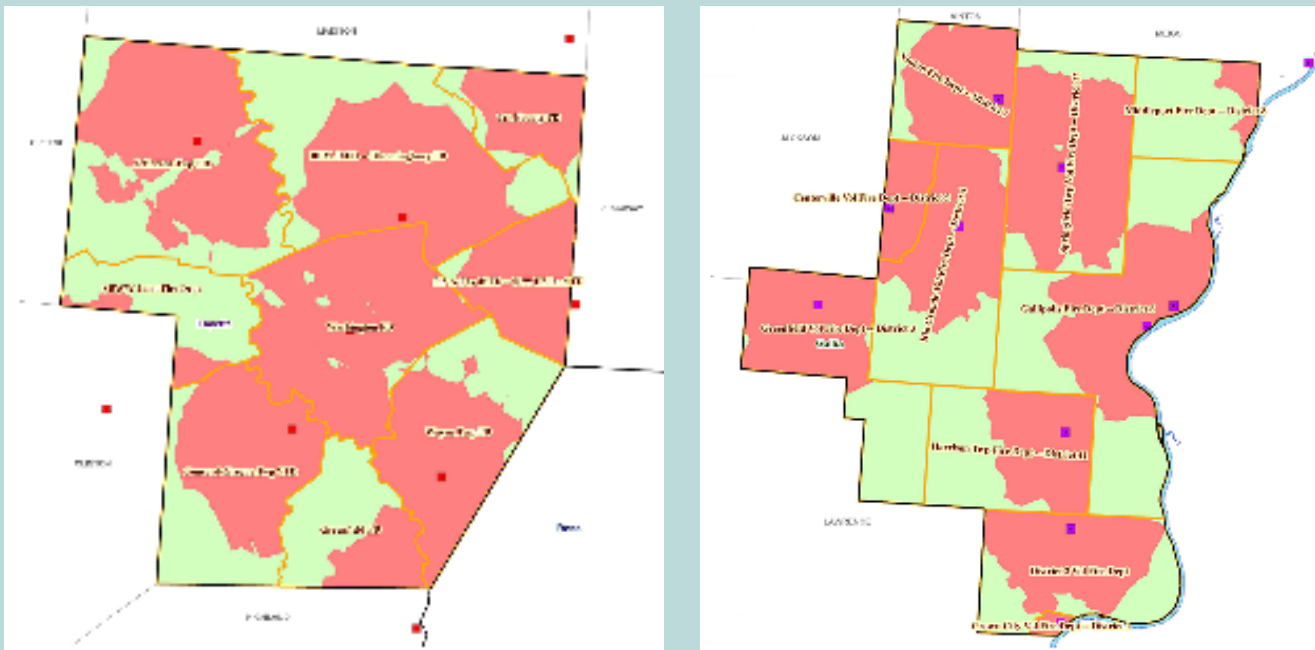
Since its inception, a total of 72 loans have been closed, 39 from our ARC RLF program and 33 from our EDA RLF program. The total RLF investment is \$4,715,314; \$2,798,089 from our ARC RLF and \$1,917,225 from our EDA RLF program. The total private and owner equity investments are \$25,677,768 (\$12,841,113 ARC RLF and \$12,836,655 EDA RLF). The impact of jobs created and retained is 3,436 (1,122 ARC RLF and 2,314 EDA RLF). The RLF program is an important additional financing resource for district businesses wishing to start up expand and create and/or retain full-time equivalent jobs within the OVRDC District.



Planning for Future Fire Protection and Housing Development

The Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission (OVRDC) was awarded a \$105,000 HUD Rural Housing and Economic Development Capacity Building Grant in December 2005. The project originally covered Adams, Jackson, Pike, and Vinton Counties. The project consisted of utilizing GPS to plot fire stations and response areas for fire departments serving the four counties. Mileage intervals were determined from each fire station to determine the “protected” and “unprotected” class areas. Insurance companies consider housing units beyond five or six miles from a fire department as “unprotected” class and homeowner’s insurance premiums for these housing units can be expensive. The number of housing units in the “protected” and “unprotected” class areas was also determined, and an analysis of the “protected” class areas was completed to determine the best areas for housing development.

OVRDC requested and was approved for an extension of the project completion date to June 30, 2009. As part of the extension, four additional counties (Fayette, Gallia, Ross and Scioto Counties) were added to the project. The scope of work for these four additional counties did not include the analysis of the “protected” class areas to determine the best areas for housing development. Reports and maps have been developed for each county and posted to OVRDC’s website www.ovrdc.org to be downloaded and viewed.



OVRDC Continues to Serve Region as Data/GIS Information Center

The Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission (OVRDC) is a designated regional affiliate of the Ohio Department of Development’s Office of Strategic Research and regularly receives data and statistics from the U.S. Census Bureau and other sources. OVRDC also maintains a geographic information system (GIS) and utilizes a global positioning system (GPS) for its planning activities. This GIS/GPS system is used to create an assortment of maps and conduct a variety of analysis projects. For specific data and/or mapping needs, feel free to contact our office for assistance. In 2009, OVRDC assisted with 35 individual data and/or mapping requests from members and constituents. In addition, we offer several general data/statistics resources, GIS/GPS created maps and reference links on our website www.ovrdc.org.

2009 Budget

The Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission receives financial support from Federal, State and local funding resources which help support our 9 staff members who perform an excellent job for the Commission. Our Federal funding partnerships for 2009 are with the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) for our Local Development District (LDD) activities; USDA Rural Development (RD) under their Rural Community Development Initiative (RCDI) for our Project "LEAD" (Leadership in Entrepreneurial Assistance and Development), and under their Rural Business Opportunity Grant (RBOG) program for our Ohio Valley Hardwood Kiln Feasibility Study Initiative; U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA) under their Planning Assistance program for our Economic Development District (EDD) activities and under their Economic Adjustment Recovery Strategy program for our Economic Recovery Efforts in Fayette, Highland counties as well as Clinton County and the City of Wilmington; U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development under their Rural Housing & Economic Development (RHED) program for the final phases of our Planning for Future Fire Protection and Housing Development Initiative; and the University of Vermont & State Agricultural College for our final phase of the Southern Ohio Alternative Energy Development Initiative funded under a sub-award from ARC for Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education. Our State funding partnerships for 2009 are with the Governor's Office of Appalachia (GOA) Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) for our Appalachian Local Development District activities and our special initiative for the Corridor Study; Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) to support the programs of the District 15 Public Works Integrating Committee, and the Southern Ohio Agricultural and Community Development Foundation (SOACDF). The local resources are from 12 member counties which have helped leverage the federal and state resources.

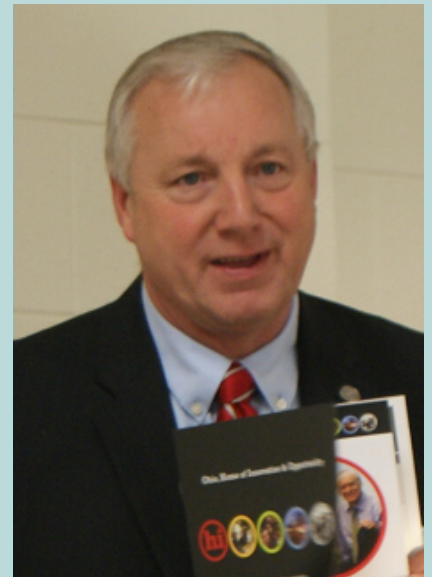
FY 2009 Revenues

A	ARC - LDD	\$ 213,000
B	USDA RD	\$ 9,803
C	USDOC EDA EDD	\$ 67,259
D	USDOC EDA EARS	\$ 115,492
E	HUD - RHED	\$ 15,161
F	UVM SARE	\$ 6,007
G	ODOD	\$ 153,033
H	OPWC	\$ 65,000
I	SOACDF	\$ 28,315
J	LOCAL	\$ 94,257
K	IN-KIND	\$ 6,841
	Total Revenues	\$ 774,168

FY 2009 Expenses

A	Personnel	\$ 307,753
B	Fringe	\$ 131,410
C	Travel	\$ 27,870
D	Supplies	\$ 9,422
E	Contractual	\$ 127,134
F	Other	\$ 33,970
G	Indirect	\$ 129,768
H	In-Kind	\$ 6,841
	Total Expenses	\$ 774,168

2009: A Review in Pictures



2009 PROJECT REVIEW COMMITTEE

Elaine Collins, Adams County
 Kelly Cole, Brown County
 Andy Kuchta, Clermont County
 Tim Mitchel, Fayette County
 Brett Boothe, Gallia County
 Dan Cowdrey, Highland County
 Stephanie Filson/Jennifer Jacobs, Jackson County
 Ralph Kline, Lawrence County
 Nathan Davis/Cindy Howard, Pike County
 Kelly Shelton, Ross County
 Steve Carter, Scioto County
 Ken Reed, Vinton County

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Bob Proud
 Doug Corcoran
 Eugene Collins
 Rick McNelly
 Roger Rhonemus
 Katy Farber
 Justin Fallon

LOAN REVIEW COMMITTEE

Patty Wilmoth/Judd Johnson, Adams County
 Raymond Sininger, Brown County
 Jim Huebner, Clermont County
 Bill Cupp, Fayette County
 Marianne Campbell, Gallia County
 Dan Cowdrey, Highland County
 Fred Mavis, Jackson County
 Ralph Kline/Cindy Caskey, Lawrence County
 Chris Ervin, Pike County
 Delbert Bochard, Ross County
 Lee Powell, Jr., Scioto County
 Terri Fetherolf, Vinton County

FINANCE/ AUDIT COMMITTEE

Bob Proud
 Roger Rhonemus
 Doug Corcoran

2009 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Jim Keels, Chairman
 Eugene Collins
 Jack DeWeese
 Margery Paeltz
 Harry Rider

2009 CEDS COMMITTEE

Adams
 Roger Rhonemus
 G.H. "Harty" Wallingford

Brown
 Ben Houser

Clermont
 Dave Kennedy
 Tim Ross

Fayette
 Joe Denen
 Doug Marine

Gallia
 Tracy Stewart-Call
 Brett Boothe

Highland
 Sherry Stout
 Charles Stevens

Jackson
 Rick McNelly
 Jack Webb

Lawrence
 Carl Darling
 Jewel Hackworth

Pike
 Sharon Manson
 Robert Matthey

Ross
 Mal Payne
 Tom White

Scioto
 Gary Coleman
 Don Hadsell

Vinton
 Michael Bledsoe
 Dana Eberts

2009 OVRDC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Adams County
Roger Rhonemus
Russ Brewer

Brown County
Margery Paeltz
Ben Houser

Clermont County
Bob Proud
Ken Morrison

Fayette County
Jack DeWeese
Doug Marine

Gallia County
Justin Fallon
Paul Harrison

Highland County
Gary Heaton
Charles Stevens

Jackson County
Edmund Armstrong
Rick McNelly

Lawrence County
Les Boggs
Carl Darling

Pike County
Harry Rider
Larry Meredith

Ross County
Doug Corcoran
Joseph P. Sulzer
Tom White

Scioto County
Mike Crabtree
Jim Kalb
Gary Coleman
Eugene Collins Sr.

Vinton County
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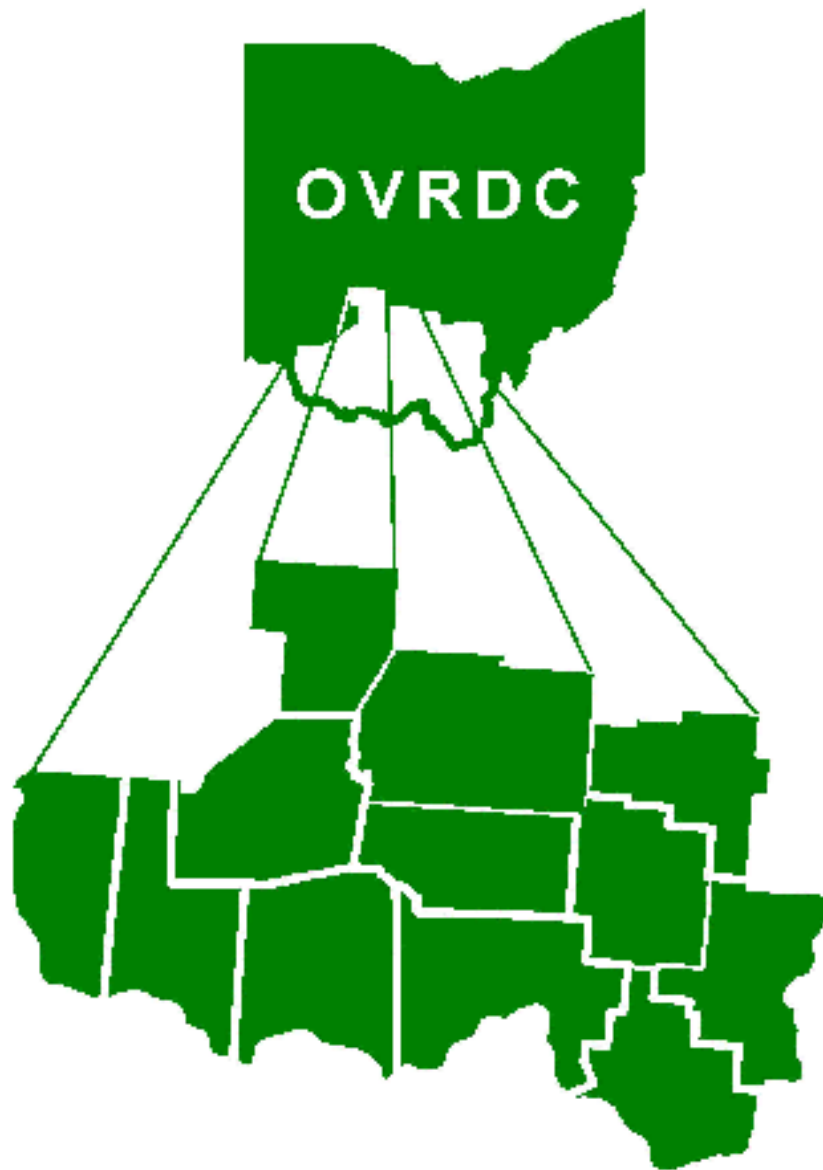
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