

Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission

2011 Annual Report



9329 State Route 220 East, Suite A
Waverly, OH 45690-9012
Phone: (740) 947-2853
Toll Free: (800) 223-7491 (in Ohio)
Fax: (740) 947-3468
Website: www.ovrdc.org

Message from the Chairman

Direction... the line or course on which something is moving or is aimed to move or along which something is pointing or facing. Team OVRDC and you, our member counties and partners, are working together to chart a course of prosperity that will even further strengthen our great region!

As the winds of change blow today in our economy, government, and the world as a whole we must know what direction we are going in even if it means at times going against the wind. Even kites soar the highest against the wind! It is also a time in which we must think "out of the box" and not fear attacking the status quo. I subscribe to the notion that if it is not broke...break it! Examine the components and if they are working put them back together and if not re-arrange them so they work more efficiently. We must not settle for mediocrity but be constantly striving to find more innovative, efficient, and effective ways to deliver services and means to pay for them! Our team at OVRDC looks forward to working with each of you in these endeavors. As we are a great region and heading in the right direction we must remember the words of Will Rogers..."Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there."



Bob Proud
OVRDC Chairman,
Clermont County Commissioner

While reading OVRDC's semi-annual report to you, our stockholders, take a moment to envision where you are today and the direction you want to be tomorrow. We all have heard that the journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. I ask that you join me, our Executive committee, Team OVRDC, and your fellow OVRDC counties in taking that first step toward making this organization and region the best it can be and a model for the nation!

On behalf of the Executive committee we would like to thank each one of you for the role you have played in making certain that our OVRDC region remains strong and the best place to live, work, and raise a family! God bless!

Message from the Executive Director



John W. Hemmings III
OVRDC Executive Director

"Charting a new course" seems to be the major theme of activities associated with the Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission (OVRDC) in 2011. During the year, the building in which the OVRDC offices are located sold and the new owner wishes to utilize our office space. This has forced OVRDC to explore the possibility of building a new office building or finding existing space for sale or lease. We have approximately one year to find new office space. The State of Ohio has also charted a new course with economic development efforts through the creation of JobsOhio, a new private, nonprofit corporation designed to lead Ohio's job-creation efforts. Through OVRDC's work with the Ohio Appalachian Business Council (OABC) and the Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth (APEG), we may have a major role in the regional economic development role for the JobsOhio Network organization in Appalachia Ohio. Internally, OVRDC purchased new and upgraded Global Positioning System (GPS) equipment and has taken on the tasks of mapping infrastructure for our small villages throughout the region. This is a new direction in the

use of OVRDC's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) but one we have wanted to embark upon for several years. However, due to obligations under various project scopes of work, we were unable to do so in the past.

Regardless, I am confident that we have the necessary leadership in our members, our Executive Committee, staff, and partners to succeed in whatever course we chart for OVRDC. I always challenge the staff to not bring me a problem to solve but a solution to the problem at hand. I welcome the staff, the Executive Committee, the membership, and our partners "solutions" on the course we take in the coming years. Thank you all for your continued support.

OVRDC Office Building

The Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission's base of operation has been in Waverly, Ohio for the past 15 years in office space leased from Wausau Homes, Inc. In May 2009, Wausau Homes closed its Waverly plant and placed the property for sale. OVRDC, in an effort to be proactive, started considering viable office space options in preparation of the eventual sale of the property. In May 2011, the Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative (SODI) Board of Directors, at the request of OVRDC, donated two acres of land at the Zahns Corner Industrial Park to OVRDC for a new office building as long as the organization can come up with a plan for a new building.

In August 2011, OVRDC was advised that there was a potential buyer for the Wausau Homes building and in January 2012, Hadsell Development LLC purchased the property. OVRDC has signed a one-year lease with Hadsell Development to lease its current office space. Thereafter, OVRDC will need to find new office space.

OVRDC has put a plan together to construct a new office building on the land at the Zahns Corner Industrial Park donated by SODI, however, other options such as purchasing an existing building or leasing other space are still being considered. Regardless, OVRDC's goal is to stay in Pike County which is central to the region served by the organization. Through a financial partnership with the Pike County Commissioners, an Ohio Department of Development grant, and its own financial resources, OVRDC will hopefully have a new, permanent home for its staff to work and its members to meet in early 2013.

Current Location



Potential Future Location



Connecting Appalachia

In May 2011, Horizon Telecom started construction of the new \$94 million Connecting Appalachia fiber-optic broadband network in Logan, Ohio and will continue construction until all 34 counties in the project are completed. The *Connecting Appalachia Middle-Mile Fiber Optic Network* will provide high-capacity broadband services with speeds of up to 10 Gigabytes per second over a 1,960 mile network to approximately 600 regional community anchor institutions, including 212 healthcare facilities, 25 community colleges, 15 universities, 231 K-12 schools, 34 county public safety answering points, 32 MARCS towers, and 34 industrial parks. The Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission, along with the Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District and the Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association, supported this project and played an instrumental role in Horizon receiving \$66 million in funding through the US Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) for the project.

In October 2011, the Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission, along with the Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District and the Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association, received a 2011 Innovation Award from the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) Research Foundation for the *Connecting Appalachia Middle-Mile Fiber Optic Network* project. In addition, *Connecting Appalachia* received the NADO Research Foundation's Trailblazer Award which was given to



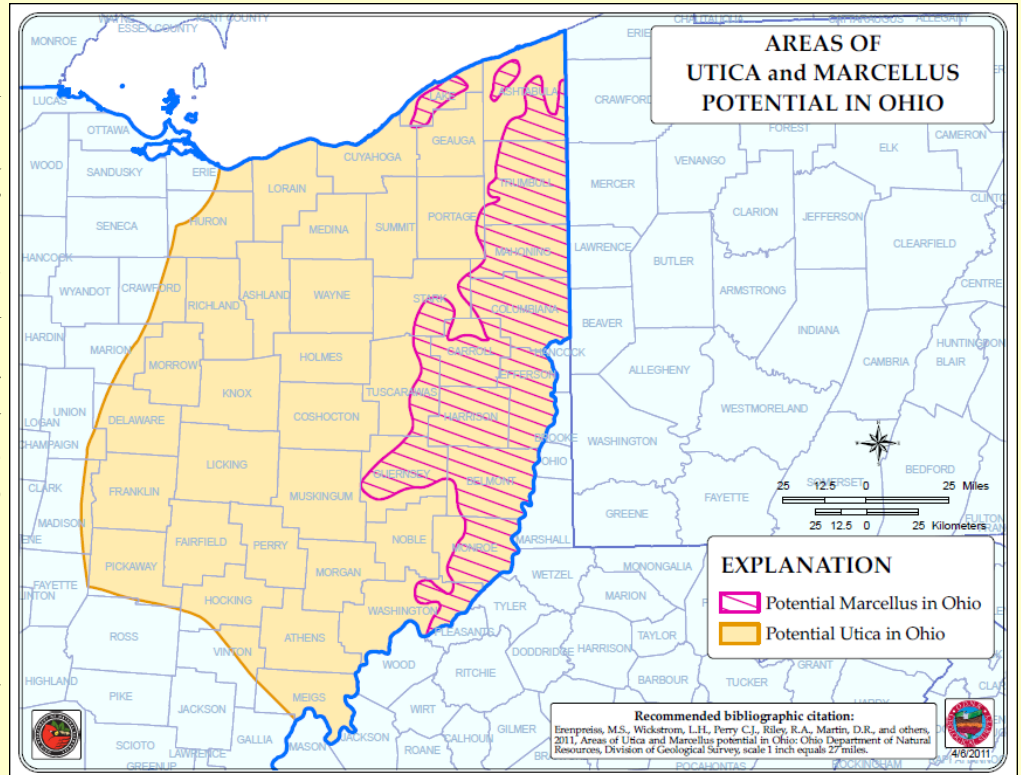
Pictured Left to Right: John Hemmings, Executive Director, Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission; Misty Casto, Executive Director, Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District; Tim Ware, NADO President; Greg DiDonato, Executive Director, Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association

Marcellus & Utica Shale

Although not impacting our area as significantly as eastern Ohio, the Marcellus and Utica Shale Gas Boom in Ohio has been on the agenda of Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission (OVRDC) during 2011. In April 2011, OVRDC attended a meeting of the Eastern Ohio Development Alliance (EODA) Ohio Shale Development Core Group in Walnut Creek, Ohio. It was determined from discussion at the meeting that there were three priorities to address concerning Shale Development in Ohio's Appalachia region: 1) educating property owners regarding leasing, 2) development of job training programs to train Ohio workers for the industry, and 3) educating local governments on preparations that will be necessary for this type of development in their communities.

In October 2011, OVRDC, in conjunction with the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, held the *Marcellus & Utica Shale Educational Workshop: Impacts to Communities and Opportunities for Landowners* in Jackson, Ohio. Over 120 people were in attendance to hear an informative presentation by Dale Arnold, Director of Energy Services for the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation.

OVRDC will continue to follow the development of Shale Gas Exploration in Ohio and its impacts on our region.



Lee Shirey - Ohio Economic Development Representative - EDA

Lee Shirey is the new Ohio Economic Development Representative for the Chicago Regional Office of the US Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA). Mr. Shirey has been with EDA for over a year and a half and officially moved to Ohio in 2011 after spending time training in the Chicago Regional Office. He works with local communities and districts in the states of Michigan and Ohio to develop EDA projects that will help to create jobs and foster private sector investment. Prior to joining the EDA, Mr. Shirey spent 10 years leading economic development efforts for communities in northern Michigan and in Michigan's upper-peninsula, with a primary focus on downtown revitalization and regional economic development. Mr. Shirey was born and raised in northern Michigan, and he holds a Bachelor of Science degree in land-use planning from Central Michigan University, as well as a Master of Science degree in urban and regional planning from Eastern Michigan University.



JobsOhio

In 2011, with the goal of revitalizing the state's economy and creating jobs, Governor John Kasich worked with the Ohio General Assembly on House Bill 1, which created the framework for JobsOhio. JobsOhio is a private, nonprofit corporation designed to lead Ohio's job-creation efforts by singularly focusing on attracting and retaining jobs, with an emphasis on strategic industry sectors in areas of statewide and regional strength.

JobsOhio will be supported by a network of regional economic development partnerships that will support and grow the state's economy, with a heavy focus on technology and innovation. The regional economic development organizations will assist in the attraction, expansion, and retention of businesses for job and wealth creation in the state, helping to promote each region's assets. The JobsOhio Network organizations include the following: Ohio Appalachian Business Council (OABC), Cincinnati USA Partnership, Columbus 2020!, Dayton Development Coalition, Regional Growth Partnership, and Team NEO. Nine of OVRDC's member counties are part of the OABC, while Clermont and Brown Counties are part of the Cincinnati USA Partnership, and Fayette County is part of the Dayton Development Coalition.

During the year, JobsOhio and the Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) executed a series of six regional rollouts that highlighted the changes to ODOD and how JobsOhio will function as the lead economic development arm for the state. On September 8, 2011, the JobsOhio Rollout event for the southeastern part of the state was held in Chillicothe, Ohio. Approximately 200 people from all parts of Appalachia Ohio attended the event at the Adena PACCAR Medical Education Center.

OVRDC has taken a lead role in assisting the Ohio Appalachia Business Council with efforts to get the Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth (APEG) started. APEG will be the entity under OABC to work with the southeastern part of the State of Ohio (most of Appalachia). OVRDC has been involved in key meetings with OABC and APEG leaders to assist them in developing APEG as an organization that will best serve the area. OVRDC assisted OABC/APEG with conducting a listening session in Waverly, Ohio in December 2011 to hear from local officials on how JobsOhio/OABC/APEG can best assist local communities with economic development efforts.

Each JobsOhio Network organizations had to submit a response to a Request for Proposals (RFP) from Jobs Ohio to be designated as part of the network. Based on the OABC/APEG RFP response, OVRDC, as well as Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District and the Ohio Mid-Eastern Governments Association, are included as partners and will be responsible for regional retention and expansion programs and assistance to counties with industrial park/site data updates on the State of Ohio industrial marketing site, Ohio InSite. OVRDC looks forward to this partnership with the Appalachian Partnership for Economic Growth, Ohio Appalachia Business Council, and JobsOhio.



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 Improvement Program (LTIP), District 15 which includes 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 were funded in Round 25:

District Fund - \$6,536,995

Jackson County/Hamilton Township 2011 Rehabilitation
 Adams County, Township, and Village Improvements
 Gallia County Road Improvements
 Scioto County Highway Improvement Project
 Village of Georgetown Pump Station SSO Elimination/WWTP Improvements
 Vinton County CR 17/31 Bridge Replacement
 Pike County River Road Slip Repair
 Highland County CR 11-16.18 & CR 40-.37 Bridge Replacement
 Gallipolis First Avenue Paving Project
 Village of McArthur Street Resurfacing
 Vinton County CR 12 Bridge Replacement
 City of Greenfield North Eighth Street Waterline Replacement
 City of Washington CH Leesburg Avenue Reconstruction
 Village of Mt. Orab Commercial and Industrial Improvement Phase 2

LTIP Fund - \$2,810,430

Lawrence County Joint Paving Project
 Ross County Township Multi Road Repair
 Highland County Reconstruction TR-278-B Pea Ridge Road
 Scioto County Bridge Replacement and Road Improvements
 Fayette County Old Charleston Bridge and Resurfacing Project
 City of Chillicothe 2011 Street and Alley Improvements

Small Governments Fund - \$1,564,042

Village of Sardinia Water Main Improvements
 Village of Crown City WW Facilities Improvements
 Village of Bloomingburg Sewer Separation Improvements
 Village of Piketon Main Street Reconstruction

Appalachian Regional Commission

During Fiscal Year 2011, the Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission provided technical assistance to public and private non-profit organizations resulting in the following outcomes: 45 jobs created, 948 jobs retained, 913 households and 920 residents served with water and/or sewer, 118,541 people served with up-to-date medical care, 24 people served by training programs, and the development of additional industrial area in Highland County. The following projects helped achieve those outcomes.

Project Title	ARC Funds	Leveraged Funds
Frankfort Water System Improvements Project (Ross)	\$250,000	\$3,525,650
Oak Hill Water System Improvements (Jackson)	\$250,000	\$768,200
Georgetown Possum Run Pump Station SSO Elimination Project (Brown)	\$250,000	\$950,000
Woodland Centers Electronic Health Records Project (Gallia)	\$109,358	\$46,867
Adams County Regional Medical Center Gamma Ray Camera (Adams)	\$117,500	\$277,500
Scioto County Center for Dental Wellness	\$143,700	\$108,372
Village of Coalton Water Distribution System Renovations (Jackson)	\$250,000	\$1,600,000
Adena 12-Lead EKG Implementation Project (Pike, Ross, Vinton)	\$250,000	\$108,146
The Counseling Center Second Chance Center Equipment Project (Scioto)	\$39,947	\$17,173
Village of Piketon water System Improvements (Pike)	\$250,000	\$865,000
Fairview, Hutt, and Benson Road Waterlines (Vinton)	\$250,000	\$63,000
Zaleski Water Main Replacement (Vinton)	\$103,797	\$26,203
Zaleski Water Tower Improvements (Vinton)	\$72,000	\$18,000
Hobart/Carl Smith Drive Access Road (Highland)	\$680,000	\$2,789,575
WSOS Community Action (RCAP)- Appalachian Leadership in Utility Management Initiative (Multi-County)	\$105,000	\$45,000

The Counseling Center's Second Chance Center

On September 29, 2011, OVRDC Executive Director John Hemmings along with US Senator Sherrod Brown, Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) Chief of Staff Guy Land, and Interim Director of the Governor's Office of Appalachia Karen Fabiano presented a check to Ed Hughes, president and CEO of the Counseling Center, for an ARC grant of \$39,947. This ARC grant was awarded for the purchase of Second Chance Center equipment to be utilized in a new job training program.



The Counseling Center's Second Chance Center for clients with alcohol and other drug addictions and disabilities will use the equipment purchased to provide hands-on job training in a supervised environment. This learning environment will enable their clients to develop the social skills, employment skills, and general life skills necessary for maintaining sobriety and reentering the workforce.

This project will allow the client population of the Second Chance Center to obtain certificates for food preparation and Microsoft Office skills. Graduates of the program will be equipped with an increased ability to obtain work in any occupation due to training that also focuses on work place etiquette and ethics, customer service skills, and job search techniques.

Michele Throckmorton, OVRDC Development Director and Susan McComas, The Counseling Center's Director - Resource Development worked together preparing the application to secure the ARC grant for this project.

Jason Wilson - Director of Governor's Office of Appalachia



In November 2011, Governor John R. Kasich announced State Senator Jason Wilson as the new director of the Governor's Office of Appalachia, Ohio's lead agency for fostering job creation and development in Ohio's 32-county Appalachian region. Under the direction of Mr. Wilson, the Governor's Office of Appalachia will focus aggressively on economic development and workforce development. Since 2007, Mr. Wilson has represented Ohio's 30th Senate district, which includes Columbiana, Belmont, Jefferson, Harrison and part of Tuscarawas counties. In the Senate, he served as Assistant Minority Whip and as a member of the Senate Finance Committee. Born and raised in Belmont County, Wilson is the Senior Vice President of Wilson Funeral and Furniture Company, received his bachelor's degree from The Ohio State University and earned an MBA from Wheeling Jesuit University. He lives in Columbiana with his wife Leah and their three children.

OVRDC Infrastructure Mapping Program

OVRDC provides infrastructure and utility mapping services to local governments and communities through the use of its geographic information system (GIS) and global positioning system (GPS). Standard product deliverables to communities will be paper and digital maps of their systems with other options available.

Examples of data collection inventories for infrastructure projects may include (but are not limited to):

Municipal Water:

Hydrants
Valves
Meters
Tanks/boosters
Curb stops
Shut-off/release valves

Waste Water:

Manholes
Lamp holes
Sanitary Ends

Storm Sewer:

Curb Drains
Ditch Drains
French Drains
Manholes

Other Services:*

Public Signage
Traffic Signals
Flood Benchmarks
Utility Locations

*These services are available as part of the program or through a separate project process.

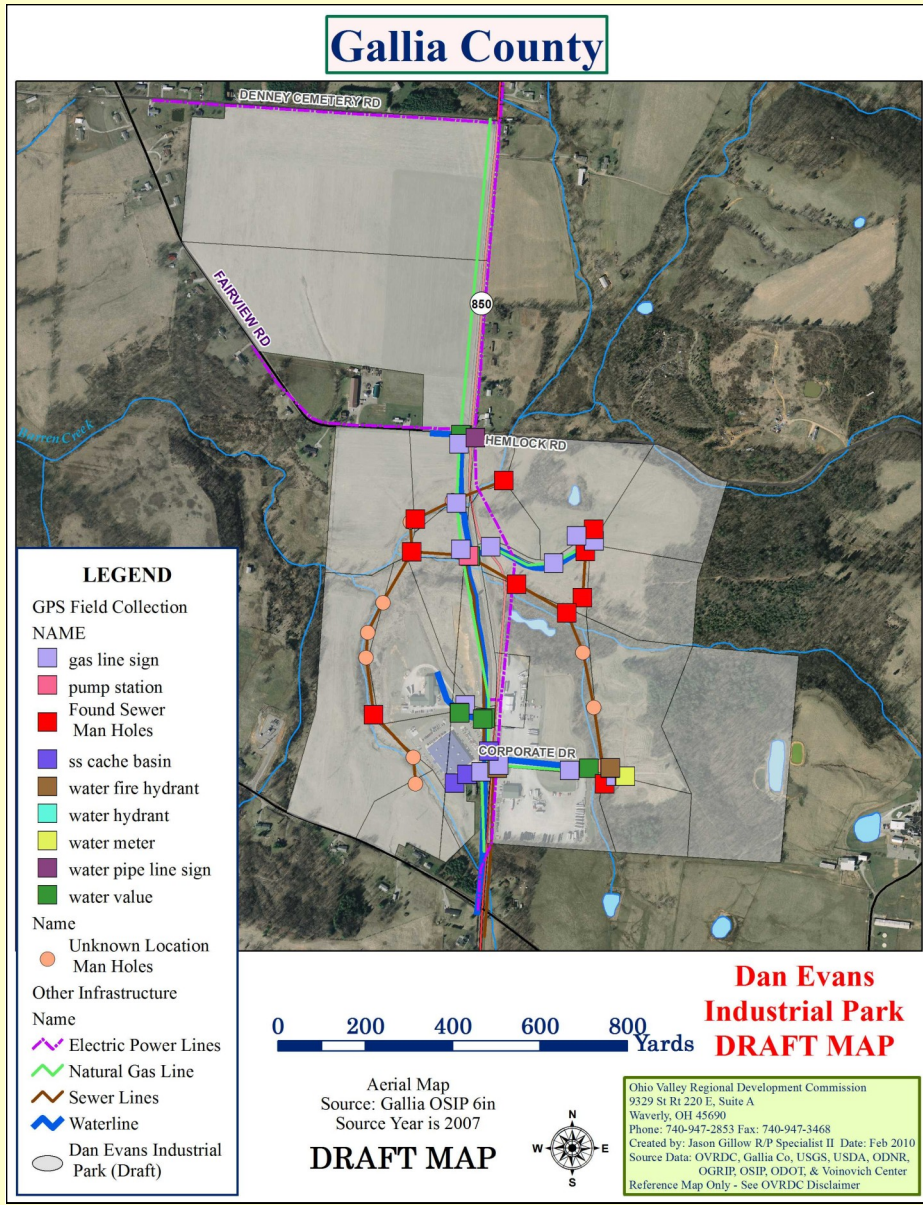
Currently, OVRDC staff is working in the following communities:

City of Greenfield, Highland County
Village of Lynchburg, Highland County
Dan Evans Industrial Park, Gallia County
City of Wellston, Jackson County
Village of West Union, Adams County
Village of Williamsburg, Clermont County
Village of Aberdeen, Brown County
Village of Piketon, Pike County

In the fall 2011, OVRDC purchased a new Trimble GeoXH 6000 Series Standard Edition with Flood Technology, GPS Pathfinder Office Software, Trimble GPScorrect for ArcPad, ESRI ArcPad Version 10, Trimble LaserAce 1000 Rangefinder, and other accessories for use with the GPS unit. The main use of this equipment is to provide infrastructure and utility mapping services to local governments and communities through the use of its geographic information system (GIS) and geographic positioning system (GPS).

“The mapping of our infrastructure that OVRDC has been performing is satisfying a desperate need the Village has had for this invaluable service. Jason Gillow has provided work of the highest quality that is being done in a manner exhibiting both professionalism and expertise in this field.” Nicole Oberrecht, Village of Lynchburg, Administrator

“Jason worked with each of our public works departments in securing data and preparing GIS mapping for Greenfield's Water, Sewer, and Street Storm Sewer departments. This has been a huge project and I, the public works employees, and the citizens of Greenfield will benefit from the GIS mapping project for many years to come. If it were not for Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission in these financially challenging times this is a project that would not have been able to happen.” Betty Bishop, Village of Greenfield, Administrator



Dan Evans Industrial Park DRAFT MAP

Vinton County Location Based Response Systems (LBRS)

In 2011, OVRDC staff provided assistance to Vinton County with the implementation of their own Location Based Response Systems (LBRS). The Location Based Response System (LBRS) is an initiative of the Ohio Geographically Referenced Information Program (OGRIP). The LBRS establishes partnerships between State and County governments for the creation of spatially accurate street centerlines with address ranges and field verified site-specific address locations.

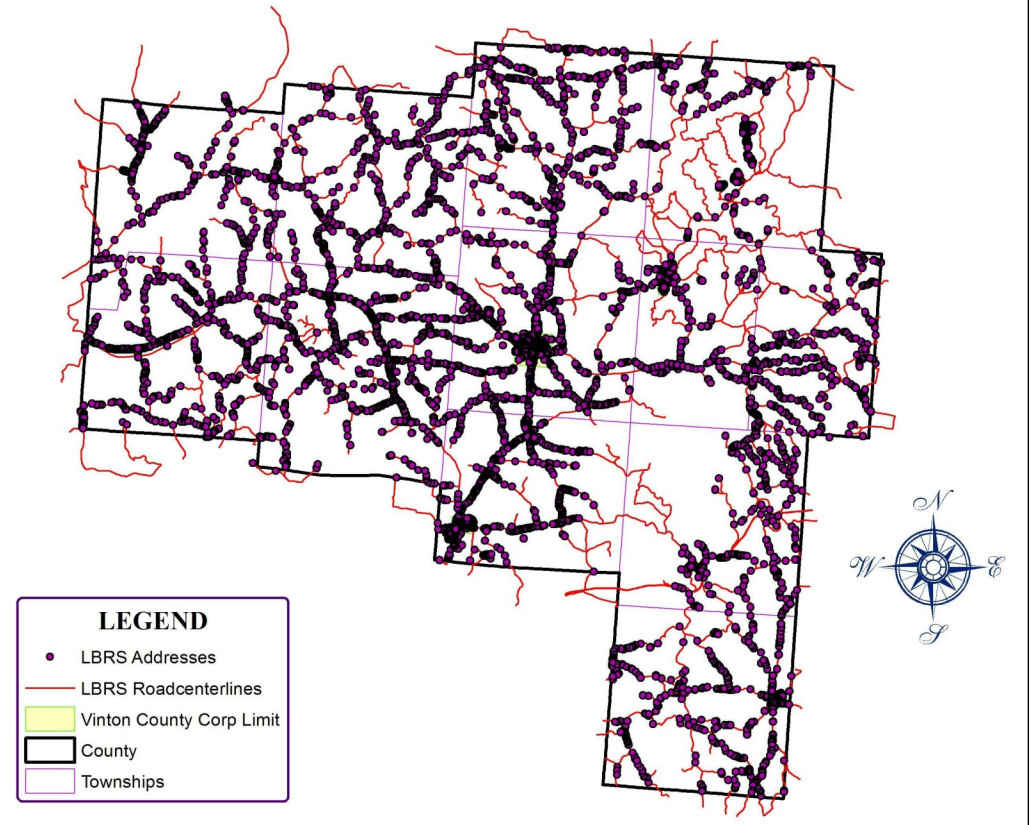
Funding to support the development of LBRS compliant systems is available to counties through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that establishes roles and responsibilities for program participation. Participating counties provide project management and QA/QC on road names, addresses, etc. to develop data that is compatible with the state's legacy roadway inventory. The Ohio Department of Transportation is the LBRS Program Sponsor, providing technical guidance, support, and QA/QC services. The program is being administered by OGRIP, the state's coordinating body for Geographic Information System (GIS) activities. Through

the collaborative efforts of State and Local government the LBRS program is producing highly accurate field verified data that is current, complete, consistent, and accessible. LBRS data is maintained as an Ohio asset by local resources and is provided to the state as part of a coordinated long-term effort by OGRIP to reduce redundant data collection by developing data that meets the needs of several levels of government. The LBRS supports a multi-jurisdictional approach to protecting the health, safety and welfare of the state's constituents.

Total project cost for the LBRS in Vinton County was \$145,000 which was funded through a \$120,000 Ohio Department of Public Safety grant, a \$14,500 OGRIP (Ohio Geographically Referenced Information Program) grant, a \$5,500 County Engineers Association of Ohio (CEAO) grant, and a \$5,000 CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) grant. 100% grant funded!

On February 16, 2012, Vinton County took ownership of the LBRS data that was delivered from Digital Data Technologies, Inc. It was through the assistance of OVRDC that this project was funded and implemented for Vinton County.

VINTON COUNTY LBRS PROJECT



OVRDC GIS User Group

In 2010, the Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission (OVRDC) formed the OVRDC GIS User Group. The OVRDC GIS User Group is made up of the GIS users across the 12 counties that Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission serves. These GIS users include people from all expertise levels in the public, private, non-profit and educational sectors. This is an informal group that meets quarterly.

Mission: The OVRDC GIS User Group is an informal group that promotes geographic data sharing, supports data standardization, and provides a network for the exchange of technical information between all Geographic Information System (GIS) users. Our goals include developing a forum for open discussion of GIS issues and fostering personal communication between GIS users of all skill levels in the public, private, non-profit and educational sectors.

Main Goals:

- Offer and promote communication and coordination with the GIS community across the OVRDC District and GIS information sharing.
- Keeping our counties informed on GIS related topics from local, regional, state and national levels.
- Promote training and educational development throughout the district.
- Promote data sharing, encourage data standards and provide a network.

Meetings are held approximately once every calendar quarter, and will include networking opportunities, informational and educational presentations, as well as project and product demonstrations. Meetings are hosted by the Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission. The OVRDC GIS User Group has been successful in gathering GIS folks from across the region and the state and providing them with relevant information on GIS. In September 2011 at the Ohio GIS Conference, information was presented about the OVRDC GIS User Group to attendees.

Appalachian Ohio Geospatial Data Partnership

In November 2011, the Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission became a charter member of the Appalachian Ohio Geospatial Data Partnership (AOGDP). The Appalachian Ohio Geospatial Data Partnership (AOGDP) is a group of professionals from the Appalachian region of Ohio with an interest in Geographic Information Systems (GIS). The Partnership was formed to facilitate the development of standardized cadastral GIS data across county boundaries and in multiple jurisdictions. Charter membership is currently comprised of six member counties (Belmont, Gallia, Guernsey, Monroe, Morgan and Noble Counties), three regional governmental agencies (Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley RDD, Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District, Ohio Valley RDC) and one academic non-profit organization (The Ohio University's Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs). These grass-roots members have a strong desire to include new Charter Members from throughout Appalachia Ohio. Potential Charter Members include all levels of government, non-profits, and the academic community that are interested in sharing, discussing and implementing the Federal Geographic Data Committee's (FGDC) National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) initiatives and standards. The Partnership's ultimate goal is to promote technologies and policies that allow for the utilization of created GIS data by all levels of government and the private sector. AOGDP's plan is to seek funding from multiple sources for development and maintenance of county level data. AOGDP's idea is to share geographic data which produces significant savings for data creation and enhances the decision making ability for anyone who uses this data. For more information, go to: www.geospatialpartnership.org.

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 25 years through two (2) loan fund programs funded by the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) and the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration (EDA).

Since its inception, a total of 73 loans have been closed, 40 from our ARC RLF program and 33 from our EDA RLF program. The total RLF investment is \$4,915,314: \$2,998,089 from our ARC RLF and \$1,917,225 from our EDA RLF program. The total private and owner equity investments are \$26,130,518 (\$13,293,863 ARC RLF and \$12,836,655 EDA RLF). The impact of jobs created and retained is 3,444 (1,132 ARC RLF and 2,312 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.

Early Warning Network Project

In 2011, the Early Warning Network project was executed by OVRDC in conjunction with Workforce Development Area 1, The Ohio State University South Centers, various county economic development offices and workforce development offices in order to identify business needs in Ohio Region 7. The project counties, all located within the OVRDC region, included Adams, Brown, Gallia, Highland, Jackson, Lawrence, Pike, Ross, Scioto and Vinton. The group, led by OVRDC, was awarded a \$242,745 grant from the Ohio Department of Development to systematically align the regional resources of economic development, chambers of commerce, educational institutions and workforce development to provide a platform for a unified delivery assistance model for our businesses.

The business needs that were found to be most important included, but are not limited to: better and more technologically advanced infrastructure, including the availability of high-speed internet and cellular telephone service in underserved areas; desire for upgrades in transportation-related infrastructure, including improved roads and better access to airline cargo service; business succession planning; ready access to new technology and support in adapting to that technology; and access to a more employable and skilled workforce.

The goals of the Early Warning Network were achieved through collaborative efforts of all involved agencies. Workforce development and county economic development staff did field work to collect data from participant businesses for entry into the Synchronist software system which is licensed to and maintained by OVRDC. Staff at OVRDC then collected that data and entered it into the Synchronist program to create the files, maintain the information, and quantify the findings. Staff at the Ohio University South Centers then accessed and processed that data in order to better understand area business needs and identify individual businesses that were at risk of closing or relocating to an area outside of Region 7. Because of the work carried out for the Early Warning Network, the OVRDC region and its business technical assistance providers are better able to understand business needs, and offer support and tailor future programs to further job retention and creation in the region.

Ohio Precious Metals, LLC

In 2011, the Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission (OVRDC) approved one loan for financing through its Appalachian Regional Commission Revolving Loan Fund account. OVRDC approved the request of Ohio Precious Metals, LLC (OPM), an Ohio limited liability company, for a loan in the amount of \$200,000 to purchase and install coining equipment. Other financing for the project included \$329,250 from Peoples Bank, \$432,250 from the State of Ohio Department of Development through the Regional 166 program, \$150,000 from the Jackson County Economic Development Board, and \$123,500 in equity from OPM. OPM owns and operates a manufacturing business that refines precious metals, such as gold, silver, platinum and palladium from impure states to pure 99.99% metal. OPM desired to purchase and install coining equipment that allowed it to convert gold grain and silver grain from its existing operations into investment bars and coins. OPM will create a minimum of 10 new jobs over the next 3 years as a result of this expansion.

“Due to the nature of our business and the need to have cash on hand for inventory, the Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission loan was critical to our recent expansion efforts. If it had not been for the loans through OVRDC and our other financing partners, our company expansion and the creation of 10 new jobs in Jackson County could not have happened.”

Alan Stockmeister, Managing Member and CEO, OPM

Leadership In Entrepreneurial Assistance and Development (Project LEAD)

In the summer of 2010, OVRDC staff began significant work on the revised Rural Community Development Initiative grant (Leadership In Entrepreneurial Assistance and Development) awarded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development, originally awarded to OVRDC in the autumn of 2008. The revised work program began to be implemented with staff visiting the RCDI participant communities to introduce the updated program and conducting community assessments of the existing business situation in each community.

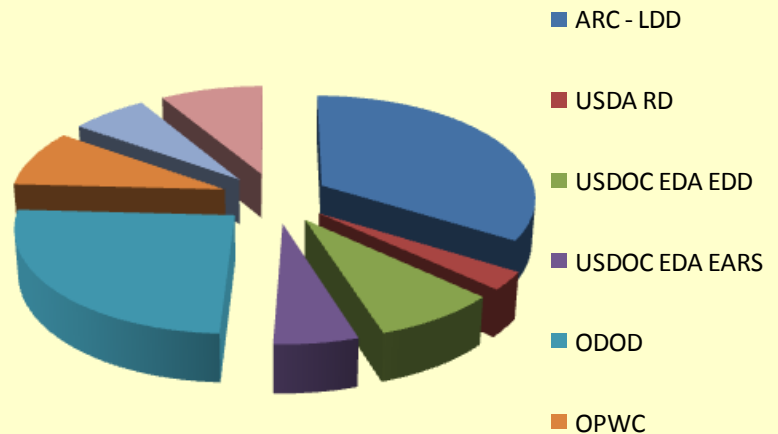
The purpose of the grant is to bridge a gap that exists between local governments and private entrepreneurs by offering technical assistance and educational resources to local governments at the community level. The assistance is available to fourteen communities in the counties of Gallia, Jackson, Pike and Vinton (Beaver, Coaltion, Crown City, Gallipolis, Hamden, Jackson, McArthur, Oak Hill, Piketon, Rio Grande, Vinton, Wellston, Wilkesville, and Zaleski).

As part of the grant, OVRDC staff coordinated trainings for the recipient communities. On December 6, 2011 a regional workshop was held at the Ohio State University Extension Center in Jackson, Ohio. Presentations included: Methods to initiate and sustain farmer's markets in Appalachian Ohio communities; business services available to entrepreneurs at the Ohio State University South Centers Business Development Program; activities of the Mayor's Partnership for Progress which is held monthly at the Ohio University Voinovich School in Athens, Ohio; ARC & EDA project guidelines; OVRDC GIS infrastructure mapping services; and OPWC project guidelines. The regional workshop was well-attended by over 20 representatives from local, state, and federal government. Additional specialized workshops were also conducted in 2011, with more specialized trainings to be assembled through September 30, 2013.

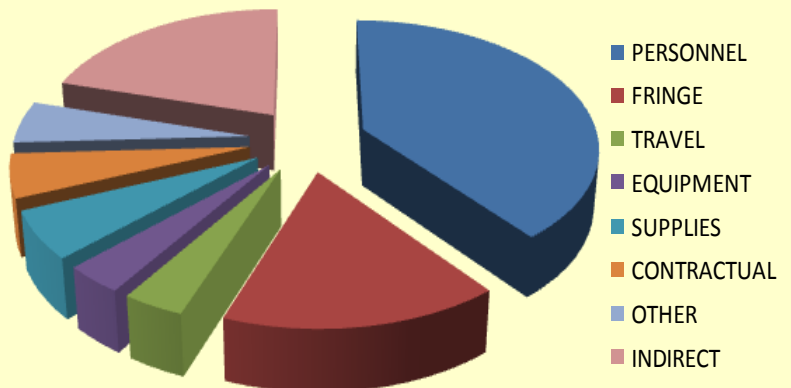
2011 Major Program Revenues & Expenditures

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 2011 were 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 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. Our State of Ohio funding partnerships for 2011 were with the Governor’s Office of Appalachia (GOA) Ohio Department of Development (ODOD) for our Appalachian Local Development District support and the Ohio Public Works Commission (OPWC) to support the programs of the District 15 Public Works Integrating Committee. The local resources were from 12 member counties and administrative contracts with local political subdivisions for grants management services, which have helped leverage the federal and state resources. In addition, OVRDC contracted with CAO of Scioto Co. Inc. to establish and implement a strategic business retention and early warning network program to service the ten counties of Region 7 of Ohio. The agency was also subcontracted by the Ohio University Voinovich School for Leadership and Public Policy to assist with their EDA funded Regional Economic Advancement Program.

FY 2011 REVENUES		
A	ARC - LDD	\$ 217,000
B	USDA RD	\$ 18,701
C	USDOC EDA EDD	\$ 53,461
D	USDOC EDA EARS	\$ 35,972
E	ODOD	\$ 161,518
F	OPWC	\$ 57,239
G	EARLY WARNING NETWORK	\$ 41,853
H	LOCAL	\$ 55,903
	TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 641,647



FY 2011 EXPENDITURES		
A	PERSONNEL	\$ 252,007
B	FRINGE	\$ 104,639
C	TRAVEL	\$ 23,388
D	EQUIPMENT	\$ 22,548
E	SUPPLIES	\$ 38,458
F	CONTRACTUAL	\$ 35,121
G	OTHER	\$ 33,898
H	INDIRECT	\$ 131,588
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 641,647



2011: A Review in Pictures



2011 PROJECT REVIEW COMMITTEE

Holly Johnson, Adams County
 Kelly Cole, Brown County
 Andy Kuchta, Clermont County
 Tim Mitchel, Fayette County
 Brett Boothe, Gallia County
 Dean Otworth, Highland County
 Jennifer Jacobs, Jackson County
 Ralph Kline, Lawrence County
 Pete Wilkes/Ken Reed, Pike County
 J. Devon Shoemaker, Ross County
 Steve Wells, Scioto County
 Ken Reed/Terri Fetherolf, Vinton County

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Bob Proud
 Roger Rhonemus
 Doug Corcoran
 Eugene Collins
 Rick McNelly
 Katy Farber
 Lois Snyder

2011 LOAN REVIEW COMMITTEE

Judd Johnson, Adams County
 Raymond Sininger, Brown County
 Jim Huebner, Clermont County
 Bill Cupp, Fayette County
 Marianne Campbell, Gallia County
 Mike Rector, Highland County
 Fred Mavis, Jackson County
 Ralph Kline, Lawrence County
 Lisa Pfeifer, Pike County
 Susan Gearhart, Ross County
 Lee Powell, Jr., Scioto County
 Terri Fetherolf, Vinton County

FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE

Bob Proud
 Roger Rhonemus
 Doug Corcoran

2011 NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Jack DeWeese, Chairman
 Eugene Collins Sr.
 Debora Plymail
 Bill Dingus
 Harry Rider

2011 CEDS COMMITTEE

Adams
 Roger Rhonemus
 Dane Clark

Brown
 Ben Houser

Clermont
 Dave Kennedy
 Tim Ross

Fayette
 Joe Denen
 Doug Marine

Gallia
 Tracy Stewart-Call
 Brett Boothe

Highland
 Dr. Kevin Boys
 Charles Stevens

Jackson
 Rick McNelly
 Jack Webb

Lawrence
 Rick Griffith
 Jewel Hackworth

Pike
 Sharon Manson
 Robert Matthey

Ross
 Mal Payne
 Tom White

Scioto
 Austin Keyser
 Don Hadsell

Vinton
 Michael Bledsoe
 Ralph Neal

2011 OVRDC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Adams County
Roger Rhonemus
Dane Clark

Brown County
Ralph Jennings
Ray Becraft

Clermont County
Bob Proud
Tim Ross

Fayette County
Jack DeWeese
Faye Williamson

Gallia County
Joe Foster
Tracy Stewart Call

Highland County
Shane Wilkin
Katy Farber

Jackson County
Jerry Hall
Randy Health

Lawrence County
Les Boggs
Bill Dingus

Pike County
Harry Rider
Robert Matthey

Ross County
Doug Corcoran
Joseph P. Sulzer
Joyce Atwood

Scioto County
Mike Crabtree
David Malone
Don Hadsell
Eugene Collins Sr.

Vinton County
Jerry Zinn
Ralph Neal

OVRDC STAFF

John Hemmings
Executive Director
E-mail address – jhemmings@ovrdc.org
Phone Extension #13

Michele Throckmorton
Development Director
E-mail address – mthrockmorton@ovrdc.org
Phone Extension #16

Juanita Bragg
Finance Director
E-mail address – jbragg@ovrdc.org
Phone Extension #19

Sharon Clark
Administrative Assistant
E-mail address – sclark@ovrdc.org
Phone Extension #29

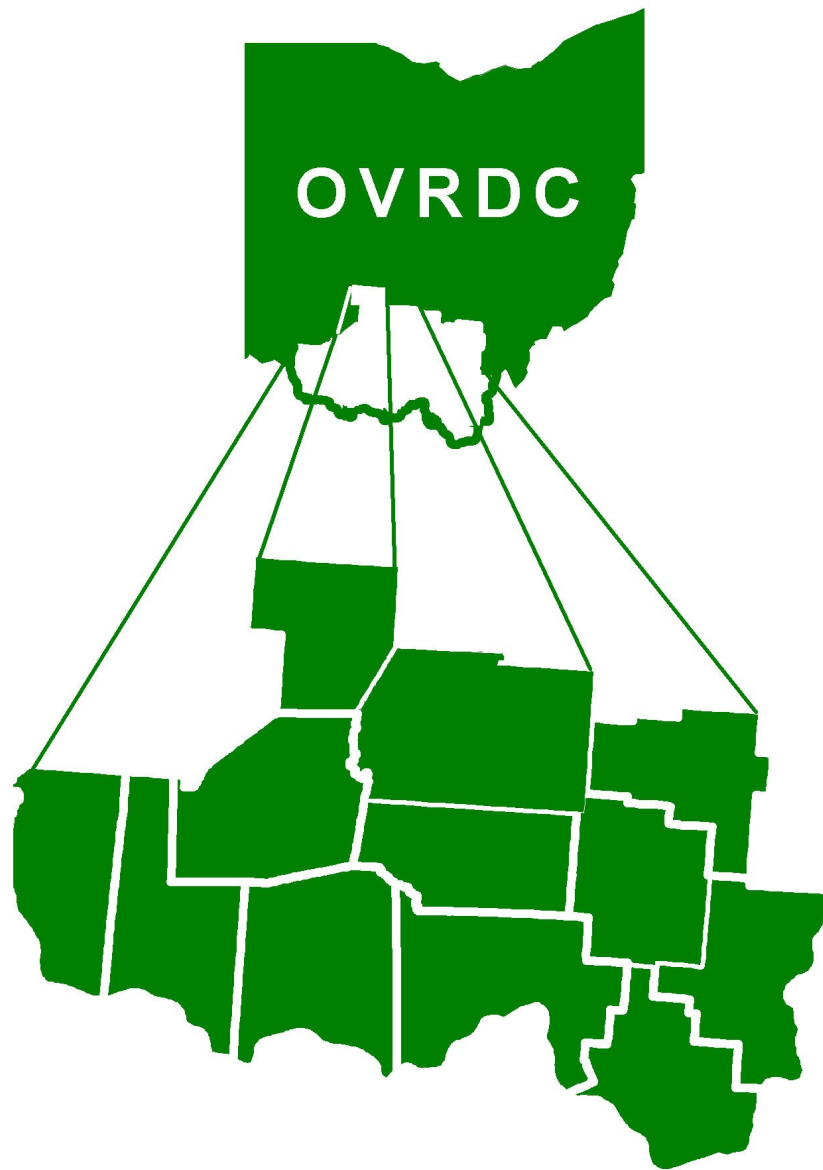
Jason Gillow
Research/Planning Specialist
E-mail address – jgillow@ovrdc.org
Phone Extension #27

Shannon Nichols
Program Secretary
E-mail address – snichols@ovrdc.org
Phone Extension #21

Jessica Purdon
Economic Development Specialist
E-mail address – jpurdon@ovrdc.org
Phone Extension #17

Kim Reynolds
Community Development Coordinator
E-mail address – kreynolds@ovrdc.org
Phone Extension #18

Melody Thompson
Bookkeeper/Secretary
E-mail address – mthompson@ovrdc.org
Phone Extension #10



Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission
9329 State Route 220 East, Suite A
Waverly, OH 45690-9012

Website: www.ovrdc.org
E-mail: email@ovrdc.org