

# IT'S YOUR MONEY

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FROM YOUR COUNTY AUDITOR

## CRAWFORD: 20/20 VISION INITIATIVE



CRAWFORD COUNTY COURTHOUSE

### WHAT IS THE CRAWFORD: 20/20 VISION INITIATIVE?

It is an unprecedented, ambitious, collaborative initiative managed by the Crawford County Economic Development Partnership that is designed to develop an action plan to guide the future of Crawford County for the next decade.

The Crawford: 20/20 Vision initiative has evolved over the last few years from local business and community leaders, and non-profit agencies concerned about the future and vitality of our County community and is 100% funded with private donations.

At the core of the Crawford: 20/20 Vision initiative will be the development of a county-wide visioning plan that will be owned by the public. This plan is looking at who we are now as a community...where we would like to be as a community in the year 2020...and...how we can get our community to be where we envision it by the year 2020.

How will the public own this plan? ...by providing their vision for what Crawford County should be in 2020!

### 1. OUR CHALLENGE

#### Population is shrinking

The population of Crawford County—now estimated to be less than 44,000 people—has declined each year since its 1970 peak.

#### Business is declining

The number of private sector businesses in Crawford County declined by 3.2 percent from 2001-2006 (prior to the current recession)

#### Jobs are disappearing

Total private sector employment declined 9.1 percent between

2001-2006; public sector employment declined 7.5 percent during that same period.

#### Wages are not keeping up

Private sector wages earned fell 1 percent from 2001-2006 (again, prior to the current recession). Growth in per-capita income for Crawford County was only half of the state average from 2002-2007, resulting in our county per-capita income falling faster than all but one other county in Ohio.

### 2. OUR PROCESS

***There is a deliberate process to identify the needs, craft solutions, develop a vision, formulate a plan, and then implement it!***

#### Communicate need

Our approach has several steps—the first of which is to communicate an accurate picture of our community and its challenges to our citizens through public meetings, media, and our website: [www.crawford2020.org](http://www.crawford2020.org).

#### Engage stakeholders

Through these various communication options, we are raising awareness of our challenges and inspiring Crawford County citizens to become involved in finding solutions.

#### Develop a plan

As our needs are identified and citizens develop creative, long-term ways to address them, we will compile them in a comprehensive action plan that will be shared throughout our community.

#### Execute the plan

We are not looking to create a plan for others to implement—our goal is to not only have broad participation in developing our plan, but also create a team of engaged

community leaders to make it happen.

### 3. OUR SCHEDULE

***The plan is not to just develop a plan, but to foster broad ownership of that plan and to then thoughtfully execute that plan over the next decade—achieving the vision we develop together.***

#### March– July 2010

- Conduct community meetings
- Raise awareness of known community needs
- Identify additional needs and issues
- Motivate and engage citizens
- Evaluate results of community meetings

#### September-October 2010

- Draft the strategic action plan to guide development for Crawford County through 2020
- Begin to implement plan by establishing workgroups to attack issues identified as high priority items in the visioning plan, and thereby creating the Crawford County we have envisioned!

### 4. OUR NEEDS

***In order to succeed, this initiative cannot be the product of the effort of just a few people in Crawford County. There are specific ways you can help and have immediate impact on your community!***

#### Be involved

Our greatest need is for Crawford County residents to see our community's needs and to be willing to invest time and effort to seek and create long-term, realistic solutions. **Continued on page 6**

### Special points of interest:

- Crawford: 20/20
- General Fund Revenues vs Expenditures
- 2010 1st Half Real Estate Tax Distributions

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**DEDICATED TO SERVING CRAWFORD COUNTY WITH ACCOUNTABILITY, INTEGRITY AND PROFESSIONALISM**

## ***ON THE YEAR; GENERAL FUND REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CASH***

*The General Fund is the chief operating fund of the County. It is used to account for resources traditionally associated with governments which are not required legally or by sound financial management to be accounted for in a separate fund. There is only one General Fund of the County as contrasted with multiple special revenue, debt service, capital projects, fiduciary and proprietary funds.*

Actual operating revenues of the General Revenue Fund for the first quarter of 2010 were \$2,398,719.76 or 28.59% of the \$8,391,073.06 estimated by the County Budget Commission in January. Operating revenues collected for the same period last year were \$3,244,859.67.

Revenue received in the General Fund for the first quarter of 2010 was down by \$846,139.91 when compared to the same period last year. A review of all revenue sources indicates that the decrease in General Fund operating revenue can be attributed in large part to additional monies received in 2009 from a lease agreement between the County Commissioners and the Solid Waste District in which a one-time payment of \$530,000 was paid to the General Fund of the County for sixteen years of unpaid rent charges. Interest revenue is also down when compared to the same time last year by \$297,511.57 but is expected to meet the budgetary estimates made in January. Sales tax revenue is down by \$101,186.98 when compared to the same period last year and is partially a result of a refund obligation to the State of Ohio for overpayment of sales taxes paid to the County over a five year period of time.

Operating expenditures for the first quarter of 2010 totaled \$2,621,052.76 or 26.59% of the \$9,858,180.78 appropriated by the County Commissioners in January. Operating expenditures for the same period last year totaled \$2,956,169.99, indicating a decrease in expenditures of \$335,117.23. The decrease in operating expenditures can generally be attributed to less money being expended by elected officials and department heads and a decrease in operational grants provided by the General Fund for the support of Agriculture (Soil and Water, OSU Extension), Emergency Management, Child Welfare and Victims of Crime.

For the first quarter of 2010, operating expenditures exceeded operating revenues by \$222,333.00. For the first quarter of 2009, General Fund operating revenues exceeded operating expenditures by \$288,689.68. The increase in expenditures exceeding revenues in the first quarter of 2010 as compared to the first quarter of 2009 is entirely a result of a decline in revenues realized by the County in the first quarter of 2010.

When comparing actual revenues and expenditures, advances made to other funds or received as a repayment are not considered as operating revenues and expenditures because these items only affect cash flow. Thus, in order to accurately reflect operating revenues and expenditures these loans have been removed from the totals and the financial data presented in this newsletter.

The cash balance of the General Fund at March 31, 2010 was \$970,794.31 as compared to \$2,266,112.99 at March 31, 2009. The decrease in cash position is due in part to loans being made to other funds and declining revenues.

### ***2010 GENERAL FUND BUDGET VS ACTUAL REVENUES***

	<b>2010 ESTIMATED REVENUE</b>	<b>2010 ACTUAL REVENUE JANUARY-MARCH</b>	<b>PERCENT COLLECTED</b>
PROPERTY TAXES	\$ 1,218,842.94	\$ 680,527.69	55.83%
SALES TAXES	\$ 2,687,172.00	\$ 721,564.26	26.85%
CHARGES FOR SERVICES	\$ 2,296,665.75	\$ 557,711.96	24.28%
LICENSES AND PERMITS	\$ 2,310.00	\$ 680.00	29.44%
FINES AND FORFEITURES	\$ 197,982.83	\$ 44,633.17	22.54%
INTERGOVERNMENTAL	\$ 1,510,245.68	\$ 292,945.67	19.40%
INTEREST	\$ 360,000.00	\$ 28,549.62	7.93%
OTHER	\$ 117,853.86	\$ 72,107.39	61.18%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 8,391,073.06</b>	<b>\$ 2,398,719.76</b>	<b>28.59%</b>
Advances In		\$ 258,289.00	
Transfers In	\$ 445,386.00	-	0.00%

## 2010 GENERAL FUND BUDGET VS ACTUAL EXPENDITURES

	<u>2010 Appropriation</u>	<u>Expenditures Jan-March</u>	<u>Unexpended Balance</u>	<u>Percent Expended</u>
<b>General Fund Operating</b>				
Expenditures and Transfers	\$ 9,858,180.78	\$ 2,621,052.76	\$ 7,237,128.02	26.59%
<b>Department Breakdown</b>				
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS	\$ 319,235.64	\$ 82,167.61	\$ 237,068.03	25.74%
COUNTY AUDITOR	\$ 344,904.92	\$ 77,773.27	\$ 267,131.65	22.55%
COUNTY TREASURER	\$ 125,366.61	\$ 30,986.69	\$ 94,379.92	24.72%
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY	\$ 597,089.77	\$ 137,441.68	\$ 459,648.09	23.02%
BUREAU OF INSPECTION	\$ 73,000.00	\$ 14,445.41	\$ 58,554.59	19.79%
COUNTY PLANNING	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	-	100.00%
DATA PROCESSING	\$ 123,455.60	\$ 24,685.10	\$ 98,770.50	20.00%
COURT OF APPEALS	\$ 17,500.00	-	\$ 17,500.00	0.00%
COMMON PLEAS COURT	\$ 675,526.34	\$ 159,747.12	\$ 515,779.22	23.65%
JUVENILE COURT	\$ 634,606.08	\$ 142,151.75	\$ 492,454.33	22.40%
PROBATE COURT	\$ 122,222.00	\$ 28,424.92	\$ 93,797.08	23.26%
CLERK OF COURTS	\$ 279,501.88	\$ 67,526.59	\$ 211,975.29	24.16%
CORONER	\$ 117,265.81	\$ 25,552.29	\$ 91,713.52	21.79%
MUNICIPAL COURT	\$ 488,277.84	\$ 119,773.12	\$ 368,504.72	24.53%
BOARD OF ELECTION	\$ 435,228.48	\$ 62,959.39	\$ 372,269.09	14.47%
COURT HOUSE AND JAIL	\$ 837,579.70	\$ 231,487.35	\$ 606,092.35	27.64%
SHERIFF ROAD PATROL	\$ 2,025,307.72	\$ 519,967.36	\$ 1,505,340.36	25.67%
COUNTY RECORDER	\$ 170,762.35	\$ 42,058.98	\$ 128,703.37	24.63%
AGRICULTURE	\$ 201,918.34	\$ 117,397.00	\$ 84,521.34	58.14%
T.B. HOSPITAL	\$ 910.00	-	\$ 910.00	0.00%
VITAL STATISTICS	\$ 1,000.00	-	\$ 1,000.00	0.00%
OTHER HEALTH	\$ 71,271.79	\$ 9,932.88	\$ 61,338.91	13.94%
VETERANS SERVICES	\$ 349,085.16	\$ 76,575.28	\$ 272,509.88	21.94%
PUBLIC ASST - GRANT	\$ 184,400.00	\$ 45,783.42	\$ 138,616.58	24.83%
VICTIMS OF CRIME GRANT	\$ 12,000.00	-	\$ 12,000.00	0.00%
SANITARY ENGINEER	\$ 38,214.77	\$ 8,648.98	\$ 29,565.79	22.63%
COUNTY ENGINEER	\$ 121,270.98	\$ 27,757.05	\$ 93,513.93	22.89%
LIABILITY/PROPERTY INSURANCE	\$ 271,200.00	-	\$ 271,200.00	0.00%
TRANSFERS/MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 1,210,079.00	\$ 557,809.52	\$ 652,269.48	46.10%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES/ TRANSFERS	\$ 9,858,180.78	\$ 2,621,052.76	\$ 7,237,128.02	26.59%
LOANS TO OTHER FUNDS		\$ 489,327.63		
TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND LOANS	\$ 9,858,180.78	\$ 3,110,380.39	\$ 7,237,128.02	

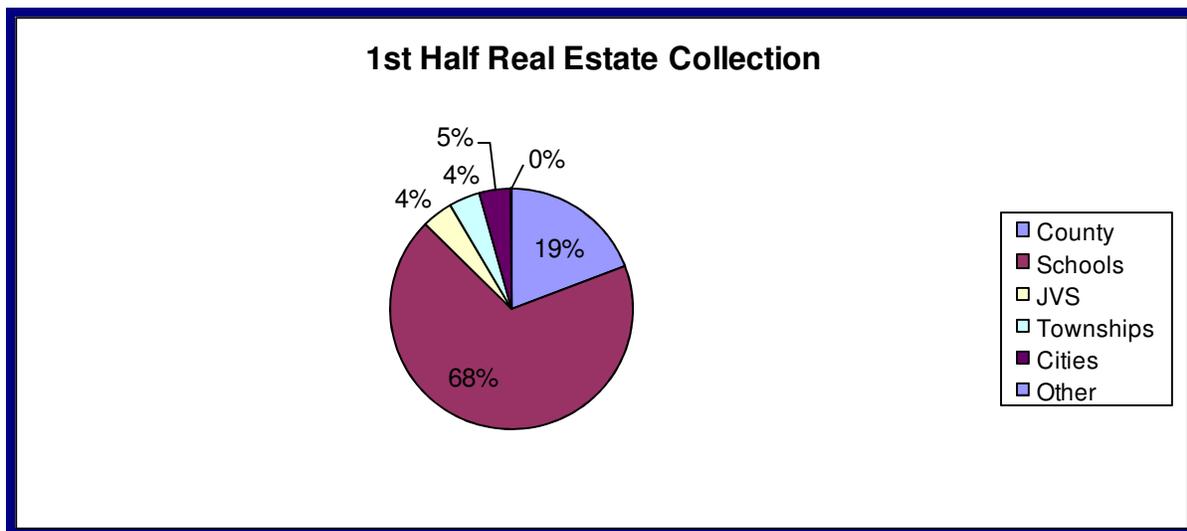
The 2010 appropriation includes all encumbrances carried forward from 2009 and any adjustments to the budget approved by the County Commissioners on January 1, 2010. 2009 encumbrances totaled \$256,693.66 and adjustments made to the 2010 budget during the first quarter totaled \$-0-.

## ***2010 REAL ESTATE TAX DISTRIBUTIONS***

*Ohio law requires the County Auditor to distribute many types of taxes collected by the County Treasurer. Shown below is the distribution of real estate taxes for first half 2010. Real estate taxes are collected based on current tax rates applied to the taxable valuations assessed as of January 1, 2009.*

1st Half Real Estate Collections		
Tax Year 2009/Payable 2010		
	Collection	Percentage of Total
County	\$ 3,018,572.48	19.22%
Schools	\$ 10,703,952.74	68.16%
JVS	\$ 649,527.01	4.14%
Townships	\$ 653,904.83	4.16%
Cities	\$ 665,237.85	4.24%
Other	\$ 13,516.25	0.09%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 15,704,711.16</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

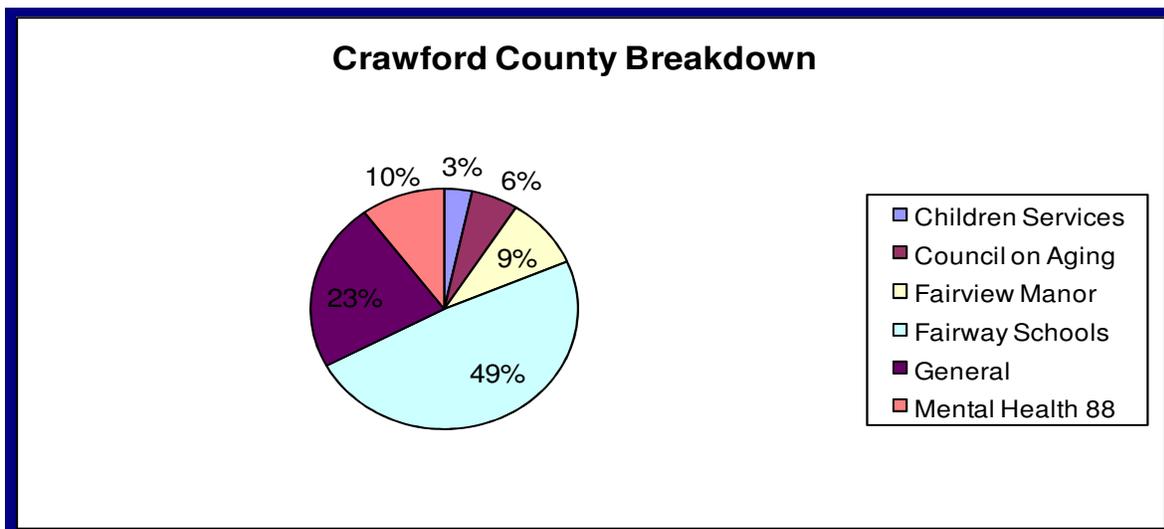
\*Other is a Fire District Levy & Community Library Levy



## ***2010 REAL ESTATE TAX DISTRIBUTIONS, CONTINUED***

*The following table and graph illustrate how Crawford County's portion of your tax bill is utilized. The following tax levies have been approved by the voters with the exception of the General Fund which represents your proportional share of the cost of operating local government. Ohio law limits the amount of taxation without the vote of the people. Each political subdivision such as a school district, township, village, city and county are allocated millage, not to exceed 10 collectively, for general operating purposes.*

1st Half Real Estate Collections Tax Year 2009/Payable 2010 Crawford County Breakdown		
	Collection	Percentage of Total
Children Services	\$ 102,052.47	3.38%
Council on Aging	\$ 172,161.49	5.70%
Fairview Manor	\$ 286,935.92	9.51%
Fairway Schools	\$ 1,468,046.03	48.63%
General	\$ 680,196.41	22.53%
Mental Health 88	\$ 309,180.21	10.24%
	<b>\$ 3,018,572.53</b>	<b>100.00%</b>



## A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FROM YOUR COUNTY AUDITOR

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### UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

May 1, 2010 - Monthly financial statements filed with County Commissioners.

May 15, 2010 or about - County Auditor required to make tangible personal property tax distributions to schools, townships, villages and cities.

May 17, 2010 - Crawford: 20/20 Vision Community Meeting at Crawford County Fairgrounds Youth Building

May 18, 2010 - Crawford: 20/20 Vision Community Meeting at Col. Crawford Middle School

May 30, 2010 - Annual financial statements filed with State Auditor.

June 1, 2010 - Monthly financial statements filed with County Commissioners.

June 7, 2010 - Last day to file homestead and 2 1/2 percent rollback tax credit forms with County Auditor.

June 21, 2010 - Last day to pay 2nd half real estate taxes without penalty.

## ABOUT YOUR COUNTY

**With 11 employees, the County Auditor serves as both the Chief Financial Officer and the Real Property Assessor for all political subdivisions within the County. It is the goal of this office to provide the citizens of Crawford County with the most cost effective and efficient office possible while never forgetting the people we serve. In addition to the County Auditor, there are seven elected administrative officials and three judges who operate independently as set forth by Ohio law. These officials are: Clerk of Courts, Coroner, Engineer, Prosecuting Attorney, Recorder, Sheriff, Treasurer, two Common Pleas Judges and a Municipal County Judge. All of these officials serve four-year terms except for the judges, who serve six-year terms. The County was formed by an act of the General Assembly on April 1, 1826 and includes 400 square miles and has an estimated population of 43,403.**

## CRAWFORD: 20/20 VISION

### Continued From Page 1

#### Continued from page 1

#### Be engaged

The more residents that are involved, the greater the likelihood we will come up with a plan that creates the community we all desire for ourselves and our children. Come to meetings, voice your opinion, join the discussion—your thoughts matter!

#### Be committed

#### WHAT'S HAPPENED SO FAR?

**Five community meetings have been held throughout the County at five different locations that attracted 405 participants who have identified a variety of issues that they are concerned about in our community. The issues identified so far are:**

Business growth and job retention - community has identified their top concern is having good jobs.

Education and Workforce - the community has identified that we need to inspire higher education and training to meet employer demands and to support good paying jobs.

Quality of Life - the community has identified the desire for entertainment options and good schools.

Public Safety & Drugs - the community is very concerned about heroin use and how to encourage healthy life choices.

Three key themes that have been identified in each of the community meetings are:

Collaboration is needed among key organizations and jurisdictions in the County.

Community engagement and participation needs to be greater

The public sector needs to be run more efficiently.

#### ARE THERE MORE COMMUNITY MEETINGS SCHEDULED? Yes!

- **May 17, Community Forum, Crawford County Fairgrounds, Youth Building, 6:30 PM—9:00 PM**

- **May 18, Community Forum, Col. Crawford Middle School, 6:30 PM—9 PM**

We recognize that this will be a difficult process at times—we all have competing demands on our time and personal needs to meet. However, if we all maintain a level of energy and enthusiasm as we develop and implement our plan, we'll see the benefits in our neighborhoods, our schools, our jobs, and quality of life. It will be worth the effort!

Now, more than ever, it is time for all of us to understand the challenges and pressures that we are facing, but more importantly, it is an opportunity to positively address the challenges we face in our community. In order to do this, it is important for the whole county to get involved and participate.

*Some information in this article was extracted from "Crawford: 20/20 Vision...Our Future is in our hands" document.*