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Vivian Parsons, Executive Director Jennifer Webb, Admin. Assistant

## **President's Perspective**

By Ron Watson, CCAWV President

### TEAM?

The word TEAM means different things to different Commissioners but I truly believe that we can all agree on one thing and that is <u>Together Everyone Achieves More</u>. In my opinion it is alright to agree to disagree and let the majority rule......but as a member of the TEAM it is not alright, because of opposing views, to attempt to divide the TEAM.

With 169 elected County Commissioners we will not always agree on every issue that come before the CCA, but there is one thing that you can take to the bank.....your Association will give its members a 110% effort in taking on any issues in which the BOD's, Legislative Committee and the membership at large brings to the table.

Today, we County Commissioners are confronted with a variety of challenges as we carry out the duties of our office. As the chief fiscal body for the county we are constantly juggling on how to do more with fewer dollars. Unfunded mandates, spiraling jail costs, OPEB and health insurance are just a few of the issues now before us.

Your County Commissioners' Association is the mechanism for which County Commissioners can join together as a TEAM and take head on any issue that adversely affects counties.

Let's not forget....."We are County Commissioners!"

## **Director's Discussion...**

By Vivian Parsons, Executive Director

Hi everybody. It's been a busy couple of months. In August we had our 2010 annual meeting in Lewis Count at the Stonewall Resort. The attendance was great and many thanks are sent to our host county, the Lewis County Commission, for all their help.

The CCAWV Legislative Committee & Board of Directors met in September at Pipestem State Park to set our legislative agenda for 2011. Three major issues will continue to top our list...dodging unfunded mandates, revising annexation laws and of course always seeking new revenue sources to help manage regional jail costs.

Plans are currently underway for our annual regional roundtables. We are revising this year's schedule a little and will hold 8 meetings instead of our normal 10. So watch for the new schedule to see where your county falls.

Save the date for the 2010 Basic Training for Newly Elected and Veteran County Commissioners. It is being planned for December 1 - 3, 2010, in Harrison County at the Holiday Inn. Information will be forth coming following election day (November 2nd).

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## **Director's Discussion...**

Vivian Parsons, Executive Director (Continued from page 2)

Interims continue to produce topics of interest to county government...OPEB issues, VFD workers' comp premiums, PERS issues, election issues and tax modernization issues. No official legislation proposed yet, but we'll keep you informed.

Finally, an update on the law suit filed by the GOP regarding both regular and special elections being placed on the same ballot for November 2nd.

The suit was pending in the Kanawha County Circuit Court and on Friday, Judge Jennifer Bailey sided with Secretary of State Natalie Tennant, saying it is legal to use a single ballot for both the general and special elections. She also said, altering the layout now could spark confusion and potentially disenfranchise military voters, whose ballots already have been mailed out.

State Republican Chairman Mike Stuart says the party will likely appeal the decision. According to the SOS attorney Arden Curry, creating two ballots now could cost taxpayers up to \$3.2 million, spark confusion among voters, and require new training for poll workers. Counties that use touch-screen voting would need double the number of machines because those machines can't be programmed to handle two separate ballots.

Janet L. Thompson, an independent candidate for the House of Delegates' 31st District attempted to take the ballot issue to the Supreme Court, but on Thursday they refused to hear her case.

Hope everyone had a fantastic summer and that you are enjoying the first days of fall.

## **CCAWV** Calendar of Events



October 11-13, 2010
Interims
Charleston, WV

November 15-17, 2010 Interims Charleston, WV

December 1-3, 2010 CCA Basic Training Holiday Inn, Bridgeport, WV

## **NACO NEWS...**



Cindy Bobbitt, Commissioner, Grant County, Okla., NACO President-elect Glen Whitley, and Tim McCormick, Commissioner, Ohio County, WV

At the NACO Conference in Reno, NV, Ohio County Commissioner, Tim McCormick was awarded for being one of the top recruiters of new -member counties. West Virginia now has 100% participation and now has two NACO Board members to represent West Virginia Counties. The new NACO Board member to represent West Virginia is Bernie Fazzini, Harrison County Commissioner. Thank you Tim and Bernie for doing such a great job representing West Virginia.

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