



## Ohio Association of Soil and Water Conservation District Employees

November 21, 2023

Dear SWCD Board of Supervisors:

As President of the Ohio Association of Soil and Water Conservation District Employees (OASWCDE), I wanted to take an opportunity to introduce our organization to you. The mission of the OASWCDE is to strengthen local soil and water conservation district programs through professional development, improved communication, and information sharing.

Membership is open to District employees as well as interested partners (associate members) including SWCD Supervisors. Many of Ohio's Districts find value in membership for their employees and pay for memberships for local staff. If you, as a Board of Supervisors, wish to provide annual memberships for your employees or yourselves, the cost is \$15.00 for SWCD employees and \$10.00 for associate members. We ask that each potential member complete the enclosed form and submit with payment. If the Board is sponsoring the memberships, you may pay with one check and submit with all the application forms from your District.

Because we are the 'boots on the ground' in the world of conservation, members of the OASWCDE represent the interests of Districts on many statewide committees and taskforces. The Employee's Association is currently in discussion with ODA-DSWC to explore opportunities to offer professional development trainings in conjunction with the Administrative and Technician Development Programs. In addition, we offer scholarship and awards opportunities throughout the year.

The OASWCDE is always looking for talented new employees to serve as Directors. I welcome the opportunity to discuss leadership or service opportunities with any of your staff as I believe it would offer a fresh, different perspective to our team. I am a firm believer that each District in Ohio has a great story to tell, and we are stronger as an Association and a Federation if we all learn from each other and share our different experiences. Thank you for the wonderful work you are getting done in your District!

Sincerely,

Chad Stang  
OASWCDE President  
Huron SWCD  
District Administrator