

**To: All Chamber Members**

**From: The Logan County Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Trustees**

**Date: Wednesday, April 7, 2010**

### **Chamber Board Names New Chief Executive Officer**

LOGAN COUNTY, OHIO – The Greater Logan County Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Trustees announced Wednesday the appointment of the Chamber’s new President and Chief Executive Officer.

The Chamber Board is pleased to announce the appointment of Fred D. Burkhardt. Mr. Burkhardt will assume the position of President and Chief Operation Officer effective June 1<sup>st</sup>.

An intense search began in early February, following the resignation of Mr. Ed Wallace, casting a wide net for qualified applicants. A selection committee was formed with representatives from all sectors of the Chamber membership. A two-step interview process was initiated and the field was narrowed to five and then two, out of a pool of nearly thirty applicants. The selection committee then made their final recommendation to members of the Chamber Executive Board and a representative from both the city and county government. The final candidates were interviewed and a final selection was made and presented to the full Chamber Board for approval.

“It is great that we are able to bring someone of Mr. Burkhardt’s caliber to Logan County”, states Tara Wagner, Chairman of the Board. “Fred has demonstrated experience in economic and business development, leading organizations, successfully building partnerships and making a measurable impact in the communities where he has worked. He will be a strong asset to the Chamber and our entire community”, says Wagner.

Mr. Burkhardt comes to Logan County with outstanding qualifications. Mr. Burkhardt spent the last 4 years in Elkhorn, Wisconsin as the Executive Vice President of Walworth County Economic Development Alliance, Inc. As the founding Executive Vice President, Burkhardt was responsible for the development and implementation of this organization. Some of his accomplishments include securing a four county, \$1.26 million regional grant for entrepreneurship development, development of a Hometown Entrepreneurship Loan Program designed for new & emerging businesses, funded by a grant from Rural Development and the identification of financial resources and incentives to aid new and emerging businesses in the Walworth region.

He spent the previous five years as Director of Economic Development for the City of Fresno California where his responsibilities included development and implementation of business retention and attraction strategies for the City of Fresno, and the management, operation and marketing of four incentive zones, which include the California Enterprise Zone, Federal Empowerment Zone, Foreign Trade Zone and HUB Zone.

Prior to his position with the City of Fresno, Mr. Burkhardt was the Executive Director of the West Covina Chamber of Commerce in West Covina, California where his primary responsibility was to conduct economic development activities including business attraction and programming.

Mr. Burkhardt and his wife, Danika, will relocate to Bellefontaine in the near future and are excited to join our community and spend time with close family members that reside in the Springfield area.

Additional information will be sent to Chamber and community members in the coming weeks announcing event times to introduce Mr. Burkhardt our membership and community.