



OHIO ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC TREASURERS Hot Topic Seminar – April 26, 2024

This Hot Topic Seminar is packed with information to assist Ohio public finance officers. We have planned a full day of training and updates. Please join us for the presentations listed below. **Approved for 5.4 CPE hours, 2.25 CPFA credits, 4.5 CPIM and 4.5 FIA hours!**

Agenda:	8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Continental Breakfast & Registration
	9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Navigating Solar Financing Incentives – Lian Niu, Eitri Foundry LLC; this presentation will define common financial mechanisms and incentives that are involved in building and operating solar projects by comparing self-ownership models to third party financing. We will look at the cash flow for solar projects to identify the various costs including development capital expenditures, ongoing operations and maintenance costs, land costs and insurance. For third party financing we will look at PPA (Power Purchase Agreement) models in which a third-party asset owner is able to monetize benefits and offer immediate reduction in energy costs. This would include explaining common terms such as the Solar Investment Tax Credit (ITC), cash rebate in lieu of tax credits for eligible parties, accelerated depreciation, renewable energy certificates (RECs) and third-party ownership affects through PPA financing.
	10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	OAPT BWC Group Programs Update/Ohio BWC Update – Scott Weisend, Director of Sales and Operations, Sedgwick – OAPT Partner.
	10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Economic Development Update: The Inflation Reduction Act Grants and Tax Credits to Support Local Economic Development; PLUS, A Preview of Ohio’s Growing Housing Challenge: Public Policy Strategies to Support Housing Development – Bricker Graydon LLP, Mike Jacoby, Economic Development Consultant, John Flis, Attorney; Art Schoulties, Attorney; this presentation will provide guidance for the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) continues to develop. This Course will provide a brief overview of the various types of incentives that are available under the IRA. The presenters will discuss the newest guidance and regulations that were released by the IRS during the second half of 2023, including a discussion on the new prefiling registration portal. The presenters will discuss some of the challenges and issues they have experienced during the initiation of these projects and the creative solutions that have been utilized to meet the requirements underlying the IRA’s tax incentives. The presenters will also discuss examples of the various types of projects they see

being undertaken and the steps that stakeholders are taking to maximize the value of the IRA's incentives.

The session will also provide a preview to a more in-depth discussion of the Housing Challenges facing most Ohio communities: demand outstripping supply, higher costs, and unaffordability for many citizens. The presenters will provide a thumbnail overview of the tools at communities' disposal to try and address these challenges including tax exemptions, future tax redirection, tax credits, financing tools, and grant programs.

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Lunch

Legislative Update - Kent Scarrett, Ohio Municipal League; this presentation will include information related to legislative action being taken by the Ohio General Assembly impacting Ohio's municipalities including issues related to revenue generation and local control matters.

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Weed and the Workplace – Catherine Burgett, Frost Brown Todd; This course will look at the ever-evolving set of laws related to medical and recreational marijuana and how employers can navigate all the ins and outs of weed in the workplace.

Location: Der Dutchman Restaurant – Bellville, Ohio
720 SR 97 West, Bellville Ohio 44813, 419-886-7070

Cost: \$60 for member, \$80 for non-members
Continental Breakfast, Buffet Lunch and Der Dutchman's Famous Pies Included

[You can register and pay on-line, see registration form below for details.](#)



BETWEEN CLEVELAND AND COLUMBUS
Exit 720 State Route 97 West
Bellville, Ohio 44813
419-886-7070

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____ TITLE _____
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CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
EMAIL: _____
ADDITIONAL ATTENDEE: _____

Cost: \$60 member, \$80 non-member – Total \$ _____

Please Make Checks Payable to:

Ohio Association of Public Treasurers, Mail To: P.O. Box 419, Wadsworth, Ohio 44282

OR [Register online](#), and if you like, pay online at www.OhioAPT.org
at the top of our Home page click [Events and Training](#) then select [Hot Topic Seminar](#)

Speaker Biographies

Lian Niu has been actively involved in multiple facets of commercial and utility scale solar project deployment since 2009. With a background in Electrical Engineering, Lian has developed, built, and financed over 200 MW of projects before co-founding Eitri Foundry in 2017. Eitri Foundry's mission is to help groups improve their energy supply plans by augmenting it with solar energy in a way that strengthens the community. As of 2023, Eitri Foundry has deployed over \$45M of private capital to strengthen Ohio communities by using solar. As Co-founder and Managing Member, Lian is responsible for project evaluation, procurement, strategic planning and marketing.

Scott Weisend, Director of Sales Operations. Scott has been with Sedgwick for 12 years. Prior to joining Sedgwick, Scott worked for 22 years with Frank Gates Service Company in a variety of roles including Assistant Vice President, State Fund and Assistant Vice President, Self-Insurance. Scott has also been Managing Director of Workers' Comp Services for the Ohio Manufacturers Association and Vice President at Exam Works over Ohio and West Virginia. In addition to his 35-year career in Ohio and National Workers' Compensation, Scott has a bachelor's degree from Ohio Dominican University in Criminal Justice.

Mike Jacoby is a seasoned economic development professional with over 25 years of experience in the field. He has worked at the state, local, and regional levels. His understanding of both private business and public sector economics, and his sensitivity to the interests of entrepreneurs and emerging growth companies, places him in a position to manage resources necessary to retain and help grow existing businesses, attract new businesses to the area, and coordinate private and public economic development programs of mutual benefit. Mike's previous role he led the Ohio Southeast Economic Development (OhioSE) team in supporting companies in a 25-county region of over 1 million in population. Under Mike's leadership, the team successfully undertook expansion and attraction projects that created over 5,800 jobs. Additionally, he worked closely with JobsOhio, the state's private economic development corporation, as the JobsOhio Network Partner for southern and eastern Ohio. He actively engaged with business, government, and economic development leaders across the region and the state, representing southeastern Ohio and leading site development, workforce, and planning initiatives. Mike specializes in creative problem-solving to get deals done, grant writing, communications, marketing, real estate development, incentives, and team building. His ability to build consensus while balancing the interests of multiple constituencies has proven his prowess as a first-class leader in his field.

John Flis has a background in business and taxation law, John Flis is a public finance and energy tax attorney who partners with public and private entities to accomplish their project goals. Specifically, John spearheads our Inflation Reduction Act practice and manages bond and economic development matters.

Ensuring that financial transactions occur both smoothly and with all legal considerations addressed, John is familiar with each stage of funding for all types of projects and has been involved in large, complex transactions. He helps both experienced and inexperienced clients fully understand and make informed decisions regarding the details of their matters, from inception to close.

In August 2022, the Inflation Reduction Act became law and overhauled the domestic clean energy industry. Since that time, John has become highly experienced on many of the incentives and tax credits that are available to both public and private entities. He is helping to lead clients through all stages of their clean energy projects, from a project's inception all the way through claiming the appropriate tax credits after a project is placed into service.

Art Schoulties is a political subdivisions attorney and brings diverse experience to his practice. An experienced litigator, he has advised and represented a range of clients in the areas of medical and legal malpractice defense, nursing home and long-term care defense, commercial and business disputes, product liability, premises liability, collections/profit recovery, and e-discovery.

Additionally, Art has advised corporate clients with respect to HIPAA, Stark Law, Anti-Kickback and Medicare/Medicaid. He has provided counsel to risk management programs, advised directors, boards and senior executives on corporate governance matters, drafted and negotiated a multitude of varied types of complex contracts and agreements, developed departmental compliance policies and procedures, and advised with respect to internal insurance programs. Additionally, Art has advised corporate clients with respect to construction surety bond underwriting and has helped to facilitate resolutions to large construction contractor defaults.

Kent Scarrett is a graduate of The Ohio State University. Kent began his legislative career at the Ohio Statehouse in 1990 as a Page in the Ohio Senate, later becoming Constituent Aide and then Legislative Aide first for state Senator Steven O. Williams, then for Majority Whip Senator Nancy Chiles-Dix. Kent left the Ohio Senate in 1996 to serve as a Legislative Liaison for Governor Voinovich before joining the OML in 1997. Before being appointed Executive Director in March 2016, Kent served as the League's Director of Communication for six years. Kent focuses on advocating on behalf of the League's 720 members on all issues related to municipal government and policy impactful to local governments. Kent previously served as a member of the Board of Trustees for the National League of Cities, is a current member of the Public Entities Pool of Ohio (PEP) Board of Directors and is President of the Ohio Municipal League Service Corporation

Catherine Burgett, a partner with Frost Brown Todd, divides her time between traditional labor practice and employment work. Her labor practice includes working with clients to improve labor relations and resolve labor disputes; creating and assisting with corporate campaigns and representation elections; helping companies stay union-free; handling unfair labor practice charges; representing companies through the labor arbitration process; and negotiating collective bargaining agreements. Catherine's employment practice includes employment litigation; wage and hour litigation; discrimination, harassment, and retaliation investigations and litigation; drafting and litigating employment contracts; creating and implementing corporate training programs; advising and assisting companies in negotiating the WARN Act; drafting and enforcing workplace policies; and serving as counsel on all aspects of employer-employee relations.