

Governing Board

About the Governing Board

By statute, the Ohio Attorney General appoints members to the Consumers' Counsel Governing Board. The Board consists of nine members, with three members appointed for each of three organized groups: residential consumers; labor; and family farmers. No more than five members of the Board may be from the same political party. Board members are confirmed by the Ohio Senate and serve three-year terms. The Board is responsible for appointing the Consumers' Counsel and the Deputy Consumers' Counsel.



Gene Krebs

Chair, 2012 – present
Vice-Chair, 2011 – 2012
Board member, 2005 – 2016
Representing residential consumers

Gene Krebs was appointed to the OCC Governing Board in 2005 and has been reappointed to the Board by both Republican and Democrat Attorneys General. Mr. Krebs spent three years on the Eaton City School Board, eight years in the Ohio House of Representatives, four years as Preble County Commissioner and five years on the Preble County Planning Commission. He has served on the Joint Committee on High Technology Start-up Business, Sales Tax Holiday Study Committee (Chair), and the Eminent Domain Task Force, all by legislative appointment. Mr. Krebs was appointed by Gov. Ted Strickland to serve on Ohio's 21st Century Transportation Task Force and most recently by Gov. John Kasich to the Local Government Innovation Council. After ending his second stint with a think tank, he currently is co-authoring a book with noted writer Phil DeVol on breaking the multigenerational poverty cycle.



Michael A. Watkins

Vice-Chair, 2015 – present
Board member, 2010 – 2017
Representing organized labor

Michael Watkins has served as a member of the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP), Lima Lodge No. 21 since 1976 when he began his career as a police officer in Lima, Ohio. He

retired as an active law enforcement officer in 1999. He currently is serving his fifth term as president of FOP Lima Lodge No. 21. Since 2003 he has been employed by the FOP, Ohio Labor Council Inc. in Columbus, Ohio, as an Administrative Assistant. Mr. Watkins was trustee of the FOP's 6th district from 1993-1995 and has served in that position again since 2007.



Jason D. Clark

Board member, 2012 – 2018
Representing organized labor

Jason Clark serves as an Executive Board Member of Millwright Local 1090, a statewide organization that is a division of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters. He also serves on the Ohio Housing Finance Agency. He is currently the Political Director of Indiana Kentucky Ohio Regional Council of Carpenters representing 18,000 UBC members (United Brotherhood of Carpenters). He previously served in various positions with both the Cincinnati and Dayton AFL-CIOs.



Fred Cooke

Board member, 2013 – 2016
Representing family farmers

Fred Cooke runs a 1,200 acre farm with his son, Charlie, in Shelby, Ohio. He worked for 30 years as an educator teaching agriculture at Greene County Vocational School, Willard High School and Shelby Senior High School, in addition to teaching various courses at Southern State College in Wilmington. In recognition of his commitment to education and preserving farmland, he was awarded the Outstanding Educator of the Year and the Outstanding Soil and Water Conservationist award by the Richland Soil and Water Conservation District. He is a 30-year member of the Richland County Farm Bureau.



Sally A. Hughes

Board member, 2011 – 2017
Representing residential consumers

Sally Hughes has served as president and chief executive officer of Caster

Governing Board

Connection, Inc., a business founded upon the solid principle of “providing ergonomic caster and wheel solutions to decrease injuries in the workplace.” Her multi-million dollar company serves thousands of companies throughout the U.S., Canada, Mexico and Europe. Ms. Hughes currently serves on the Board of the Ohio Chamber of Commerce and is a member of the Entrepreneurs’ Organization, Women’s Presidents Organization, and Women’s Business Enterprise National Council. She is on the Board of The Wellington School, Enterprising Women Advisory Board and the Women’s Leadership Network Advisory Council for Otterbein University. Ms. Hughes recently received recognition as 2016 Small Business Person of the Year from the SBA for the State of Ohio and 2016 Enterprising Women of the Year Award winner.



Kelly C. Moore
Board member, 2015 – 2018
Representing residential consumers

Kelly Moore is the corporate vice-president of GKM Auto Parts, Inc., an independent jobber of NAPA Auto Parts. A member of the National Federation of Independent Business/Ohio (NFIB), Mrs. Moore serves as a member of the group’s Ohio Leadership Council. She serves on various committees, including the Workers Compensation committee and the Young Entrepreneur Foundation Scholarship committee. She is the former Chair and Vice-Chair of the Zanesville NFIB Area Action Council. In addition, Mrs. Moore is a member of the West Lafayette Chamber of Commerce.



Roland “Butch” Taylor
Board member, 2013 – 2016
Representing organized labor

Roland “Butch” Taylor has served as a member of Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 396 since 1992 and as Business Manager since 2010. He previously served Local 396 as Union President, Executive Board Member and Business Agent. Mr. Taylor has been involved in Pathways to Building Trades, a grant that exposes students to careers as plumbers, electricians, carpenters and other skilled trades. Mr. Taylor also serves

on the Boards of Leadership of the Mahoning Valley, Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber and Chamber of Commerce. He was honored as the Regional Chamber’s Labor Leader of the Year in 2012.



Fred Yoder
Board member, 2011 – 2017
Representing family farmers

Fred Yoder is the owner and operator of Fred Yoder Farms in Plain City, Ohio. He also is a partner and Chairman with Yoder Ag Services, LLC. Mr. Yoder currently serves as an Ohio delegate to the USA Poultry and Egg Export and U.S. Grains Councils; the Ohio Corn and Wheat Political Action Committee; the Ohio Corn and Wheat Growers Association; and is the Chairman of the Ohio chapter of the 25 x ’25 Alliance. He also serves as the Chair of the North American Climate Smart Agriculture Alliance, promoting adaptation to a changing climate while reducing agriculture’s carbon footprint. He was recognized by the White House as a Champion for Change in 2013, and he was inducted into the Ohio Agricultural Hall of Fame in 2011.



Stuart Young
Board member, 2012 – 2018
Representing family farmers

Stuart Young is a third-generation dairy farmer. He is an owner and manager of Young’s Jersey Dairy Inc. in Yellow Springs, Ohio, where he is responsible for managing the farm operation, Jersey herd and cheese production. He has also served on the Hustead Volunteer Fire Department for 35 years. He previously served the Clark County Farm Bureau on the Board of Directors and as President. He has served as a member of the Ohio Cattlemen’s Association, the Ohio Angus Association and The Ohio Farm Bureau’s State Policy Development Committee as a delegate. He is a lifelong member of the American Jersey Cattle Association.