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Economic Development Director hired

Eddie Mowen, Editor Wednesday, September 22, 2010

Preble County Commissioners took another step toward promoting a more prosperous county last week, with the hiring of a new Economic Development Director.

Shawnda Combs of Somerville brings a wealth of experience to the county, bringing with her Economic Development experience in Middletown and Butler County and came highly recommended, according to county commissioners.

Combs spent five years as the Economic Development Manager for the Butler County Economic Development Department and an additional three years as Economic Development Information Coordinator for the Middletown Economic Development Corp.

While at Butler County, Combs represented the county in every capacity related to economic development, including Management of the Ohio EZ program, website, site/facility program, marketing, lead generation, department/program budgets, and served as the primary point of contact for the site location consultants and real estate partners.

At Middletown, Combs' responsibilities were primarily the same and she also represented the Chamber of Commerce staff in an economic development capacity.

Combs, will begin working for the county Oct. 4, will make \$45,000. After her 120-day probationary period, her salary will increase five percent.

According to commissioners, the position will be paid from the conveyance fee that was enacted one year ago on real estate transfers in the county.