



# JOSH MANDEL

## STATE TREASURER OF OHIO

WTOV 9

Jefferson County, OH - Ohio's state treasurer joined the Jefferson County Port Authority for their monthly board meeting to provide an update on the treasurer's office, discuss local economic issues and suggest ways the economy could improve.

During the meeting the Port Authority, city council members and county commissioners were told that the county has great potential for new job creation and economic growth for the state.

"I thought the meeting was very constructive, Josh Mandel did an excellent job," 6th Ward Councilman Bob Villamagna said. "Also, the Port Authority all the way around, I'm just very happy with everything. I just hope that we can all work together and accomplish some good things."

Josh Mandel believes the region could develop by investing more in vocational training, providing jobs for the next generation of Ohioans, and making sure Ohioans are being hired by oil and gas companies.

The issue on oil and gas revenue was brought up and Mandel agreed that revenue should stay in the county.

"To the extent possible, I think we need to be maintaining the revenue that's created here from oil and gas, here. And the more revenue that is being generated here and jobs are being created here we need to make sure that money stays here, to be reinvested into the community," Mandel said.

Villamagna agreed that the county needs more young people going into trades, and that money from oil and gas should stay in the county. But for the Port Authority to succeed, he said the city and county need to work together.

"It's just a different community, it's still a good community but it's just not the same as it was when the steel mills were booming and everything, and we're going to have to find different avenues and bring some people in here," Villamagna said. "The county commissioners, council, if we all work together I think we can accomplish some stuff."

Mandel said he is going to continue communicating with the Jefferson County Port Authority, and look for ways to partner with the state government and local leaders.