

Leadership Conference 15 - 2026
Fairfield County Commissioners' Office
April 7, 2026

Welcome & Announcements

A total of 124 directors, elected officials, supervisors, managers, and staff from Fairfield County attended the Leadership Conference, along with the presenters listed below.

Commissioner Davis provided welcoming remarks.

Deputy County Administrator, Jeffrey Porter, opened the conference and introduced the CORSA representative.

CORSA's Assistant Director and Risk Control Manager, Frank Hatfield, provided an overview of key topics including claims management, employment law, liability, and insurance. He emphasized the importance of preventative training opportunities, noting that participation can provide credit toward next year's programs. He also highlighted defensive driving as a critical area of focus, sharing that the number one claim involves backing incidents. He concluded by thanking employees for their continued dedication and service.

Porter then reviewed the morning's agenda. He announced that, for the fifth consecutive year, Fairfield County has been recognized as a top workplace—an achievement driven by employee survey participation—and remains one of the few local governments to receive this distinction. Porter invited Commissioners Davis, Levacy, and Fix, and County Administrator, Aundrea Cordle, to the podium to receive the top workplace award for their leadership, which led to the recognition from U.S.A Today.

Commissioner Davis expressed his appreciation to all employees, emphasizing that the award is a direct reflection of their hard work, commitment, and contributions.

Information Technology Update – Cyber Security

Dan Neeley, Fairfield County Information Technology Director, delivered a presentation on phishing and cybersecurity awareness.

Leaves & Layoffs

Ben Humphrey of Fishel Downey Albrecht & Riepenhoff provided a presentation, including a training video, on responding to sick leave requests and managing employee leave.

Discipline/Harassment/Social Media

Ben Humphrey of Fishel Downey Albrecht & Riepenhoff provided guidance on workplace conduct, emphasizing the importance of ensuring employees are familiar with complaint procedures related to unlawful harassment.

Ask the Attorney

Marc Fishel, Fishel Downey Albrecht & Riepenhoff, provided a presentation related to human resources and responded to questions from the audience.

Emotional Intelligence

Janet Cooper, Janet Cooper, Co., delivered a presentation on the importance of emotional intelligence (EQ) in effective leadership.

