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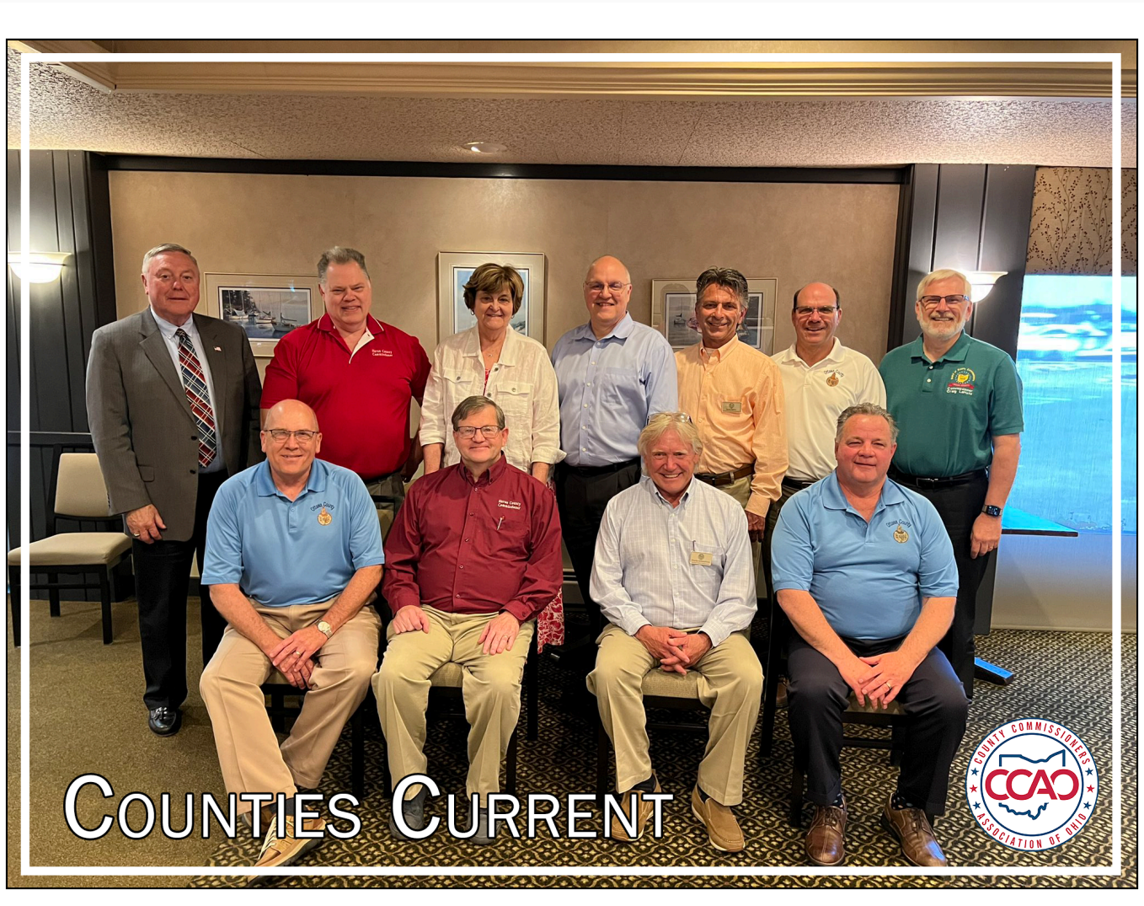
COUNTIES CURRENT
CCAO
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ASSOCIATION OF OHIO

May 16, 2022

The Ottawa County Commissioners hosted the Erie, Huron, Sandusky, and Wood County Commissioners for a conversation about regional specific issues and ideas on May 13.

CCAO has redesigned Counties Current. Click the hyperlinks to jump to each section. If you have feedback, please contact Research Analyst Nick Ciolli at nciolli@ccao.org.

If you are having issues viewing Counties Current in your email, click [View this email in your browser] at the top of the email.

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ASSOCIATION AND MEMBER NEWS

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Deadline for Brownfield Remediation Program applications extended to May 31

On April 28, the Department of Development announced that the application deadline for Round 2 of the Brownfield Remediation Program **has been extended to May 31**.

This extra time will help counties which have not yet met their $1 million county set-aside. Feedback from Association members provided the Department with an understanding of why this extension was necessary.

The list of counties with remaining funds that are eligible for the extension can be found here. The CCAO encourages these counties to make every effort to complete an application and take advantage of this funding to help revitalize their communities.

Counties can learn more about the program and submit applications here.

Office of Budget and Management announces 2022 budget roundtable events

The Office of Budget and Management announced the locations of its four regional roundtable events that provide updates on the state budget and funding/grant opportunities.

- June 1 (Wednesday): Cuyahoga Falls
- June 8 (Wednesday): Lebanon
- June 16 (Thursday): Bowling Green
- June 22 (Wednesday): New Boston

Registration for the events is free and can be completed here.

Save the Date! CCAO Workforce, Families and Children Symposium

CCAO
WORKFORCE, FAMILIES AND CHILDREN SYMPOSIUM
AUGUST 25-26, 2022
SAVE THE DATE

CCAO will hold a Workforce, Families and Children Symposium on August 25-26 at the Cherry Valley Hotel in Newark. Counties are encouraged to attend to learn more about important issues that every county faces.

Session topics will include workforce panels with business and county leaders, an examination of the children services landscape with an eye on rising placement costs, and early intervention services, among others.

Registration will open in June and cost $50 per person (this does not include reservations at the hotel).

The event will coincide with the CCAO Board of Directors August meeting which attendees are welcome to attend.

County government educational brochure customization still available

If counties wish to customize the educational brochure they received for National County Government Month, please reach out to Research Analyst Nick Ciolli at nciolli@ccao.org. He will gladly work with counties to insert different images and add information to the back panel.

STATE AND FEDERAL NEWS

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OBM releases April financial report

On May 10, the Ohio Office of Budget and Management released the State of Ohio Monthly Financial Report for April. The highlights include:

- Non-auto sales and use tax collections in April totaled $1.0 billion, 12.7% above estimates.
- Auto sales tax collections totaled $192.9 million, 11.6% above estimates.
- Personal income tax collections totaled $1.9 billion, 89.2% above the estimate.

The report also included an update on the "Back-to-Normal Index," a measure that compares economic recovery compared to pre-pandemic levels. Ohio's index as of May 4 is 94.2%, higher than the national index at 92.6%.

The full report can be read here.

Contract for Appalachian vision care services approved

On April 25, the Controlling Board approved a $1.1 million contract with Foundation for Appalachian Ohio to provide vision care services in the Appalachian region. The contract will help fund 2,500 eye exams annually to K-12 students and provide an estimated 80% of these students with prescription glasses at no charge.

The program is part of the Treasurer of State's ResultsOHIO Initiative, which you can read more about here.

Register today for the 2022 NACo Annual Conference

Join county elected and appointed officials from across the country in Adams County, Colo. for the National Association of Counties (NACo) 2022 Annual Conference & Exposition on July 21-24.

The Annual Conference is the premier national opportunity for counties to exchange cutting-edge practices, elect the association's leadership and shape NACo's federal policy agenda for the year ahead.

Click here to register and to get more information.

EDUCATION AND GRANTS

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Governor announces availability of first responder recruitment and retention grants

On May 5, the Emergency Management Agency began accepting applications for the Ohio First Responder Recruitment, Retention, and Resilience Program.

A total of $70 million in grants is available, earmarked from $250 million in American Rescue Plan Act funding that the state dedicated to first responders.

Among permissible uses of grants are wellness programs addressing unique mental, physical, and emotional health issues that first responders face; recruitment and retention efforts; onboarding and training costs; and programs to engage young adults about careers as first responders.

Grant applications will be accepted until June 17 at 5 p.m.

More information about the program and the application can be found here and here.

State Employee Relations Board to host social media-focused webinar

The State Employee Relations Board will host a webinar on May 18 from 10:00 - 11:45 a.m. regarding social media and employment matters.

As social media continues to a prominent resource for both personal and governmental communications, it is important for managers, human resources officers, and other professionals to know issues around social media use in disciplinary investigations, constitutional issues regarding social media use, and limitations on employees and employers.

The event does not require registration and can be attended via this link. The link includes the ability to add a calendar reminder.

Registration open for Greater Ohio Policy Center's 2022 summit

The Greater Ohio Policy Center is hosting their biannual policy summit “Reflect & Refocus: Furthering Resilient Communities” on June 9 in Columbus. The Summit will showcase interventions for creating sustainable communities, like zoning reform, active infrastructure investments, and increasing housing options.

Attendees may earn up to 5 hours of education credits from The Supreme Court of Ohio Commission on Continuing Education and the American Planning Association Ohio Chapter.

This year’s Keynote Address is Ohio Department of Development Director Lydia Mihalik. Registration closes at the end of May. You can register here.

ARPA RESOURCES

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JobsOhio's American Rescue Plan Guidebook is available

JobsOhio’s revised ARPA Guidebook is available for download at the following address:
https://www.jobsohio.com/american-rescue-plan-guidebook/

The Guidebook is a resource for local leaders looking to maximize the impact of ARP funds and become better informed about ARP funds and potential investments. The Guidebook is a result of conversations with local, regional, and state leaders to learn their plans for ARP funds, share best practices, and support leaders in maximizing the potential economic impact of ARP funds.

Ohio leaders identified three priority investment areas that are broadly aligned to Treasury Recovery Fund objectives:

- Build a more resilient workforce by investing in talent hard-hit by the pandemic (e.g., support for training for high-demand skills for individuals in qualified populations and those disproportionately impacted by the pandemic)
- Upgrade critical infrastructure to revitalize communities and support Ohio’s economy (e.g., expanding digital infrastructure coverage)
- Support the small businesses and industries most negatively impacted by the pandemic (e.g., scale access to grants/loans for SMBs)

Resources for ARPA Reporting and Compliance

Counties and other local governments are required to submit their ARPA financial reports to the US Treasury no later than April 30. With this date fast approaching, the following resources are available to help CCAO members to navigate reporting requirements:

US TREASURY WEBINAR ON REPORTING GUIDELINES FOR THE STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS
National Association of Counties and US Treasury
Webinar recorded April 21, 2022
Join NACo for a review of the Treasury Department’s webinar on reporting guidelines and compliance requirements for the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund program. NACo staff will be available to answer questions on the upcoming deadline for the Project and Expenditure Report, which is due April 30. To view the slides and recording of the webinar, click here.

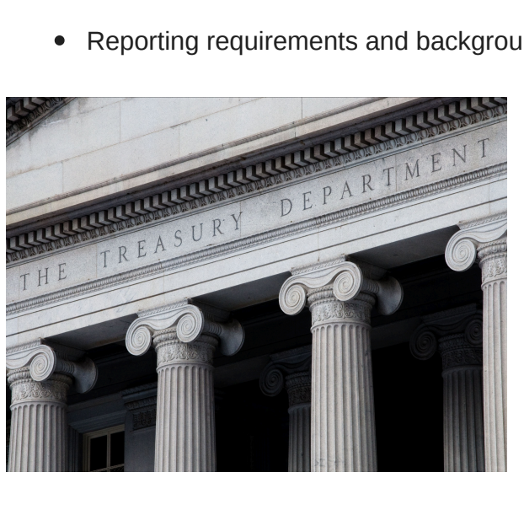
ARPA FISCAL RECOVERY FUND: OVERVIEW OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AND UNIFORM GUIDANCE
National Association of Counties and Government Finance Officers Association
Webinar recorded April 14, 2022
With the upcoming Project and Expenditure Report deadline fast approaching on April 30, join NACo and Government Finance Officers Association for an overview of what you need to know when it comes to reporting for the American Rescue Plan Act’ (ARPA) Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund. During this session, participants will hear about key requirements as they related to the U.S. Department of Treasury’s guidance and the federal Uniform Guidance. To view the slides and recording of the webinar, click here.

OVERVIEW OF PROCUREMENT OF CAPITAL PROJECTS USING ARPA FUNDS
CCAO and Bricker and Eckler, Attorneys at Law
Webinar recorded April 13, 2022
This webinar discusses procurement rules applicable to a county’s use of its funding from the Local Fiscal Recovery Fund under the American Rescue Plan Act. Counties ultimately need to comply with both state and federal law, and Bricker and Eckler attorneys will review the rules and procedures required under both sets of law, including where the processes are similar and where they diverge. To view a recording of the webinar, click here.

NACo provides updates on ARPA funding

NACo refreshed a major update of its analysis of Treasury’s Final Rule for the ARPA Fiscal Recovery Fund. The updated analysis includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Clarifying information on eligible/ineligible uses from Treasury, including capital expenditures
- Deeper dive on the provisions around revenue loss allocations
- Treatment of loans
- Reporting requirements and background information on federal Uniform Guidance/2 CFR Part 200



To see a concise summary of the final rule for the Recovery Fund, please see the Overview Document.

NACo members with questions should contact Eryn Hurley, director of Government Affairs, at ehurley@naco.org.

COUNTY NEWS

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Commissioners to replace airport terminal
DarkeCountyNow, May 12, 2022
The Darke County Board of Commissioners have recently started the large task of replacing the Darke County Airport terminal.

Due to a change in the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) obstruction evaluation height, the current terminal does not meet FAA standards.

“The biggest thing is the obstruction of the approach, and how high it is now,” Airport Manager Scott Naas said. “It impedes the critical area. It’s the safe area. With this [terminal] being moved, it will take out that problem the FAA views and also just improve the efficiency of the building. The cost to heat and cool this is insane.”

Once complete, the new terminal will be about three times the size as the current terminal and will include a mezzanine.

Jackson County Commissioners, JCEDP and local businesses honor Fluor-BWXT
The Courier, May 10, 2022
The Jackson County Commissioners recognized Fluor-BWXT (FBP) for promoting industrial, economic, commercial and civic development for Jackson County over the past 10 years.

The members, along with representatives of the Jackson County Economic Development Partnership (JCEDP) and area business leaders, presented a proclamation during their regular meeting in May.

“The impact that FBP has had in our area, with their commitment to economic development, has been an unprecedented investment,” said Sam Brady, president and CEO of JCEDP. “Their investment alone has grown businesses, provided jobs and has been a huge multiplier in the economy of our area.”

Greene County water projects hit by uncertainty of costs, timing
Dayton Daily News, May 9, 2022
As the Greene County commission seeks bids on several of its Greene Forward projects to upgrade the county’s water and sewer systems, worries about the cost of iron and timing for materials may affect this multiyear, multimillion-dollar project.

County commissioners Thursday agreed to seek bids to construct two water mains on Grange Hall Road estimated at $715,000, and for the North Wellfield Refurbishment on Beaver Valley Road in Beavercreek Twp, estimated at $1.6 million.

But materials and labor shortages, as well as a lack of competition among contractors, have driven up costs of planned improvements to the county’s water and sewer systems. And county officials have speculated it’s going to get worse.

Ohio Treasurer’s Office presents Scioto County OSU Extension Office with Compass Award
The Portsmouth Daily Times, May 6, 2022
A representative from the Ohio Treasurer’s office visited Portsmouth recently to present the Scioto County OSU Extension office with the Compass Award in recognition of their demonstrated excellence in the field of financial literacy education.

In conjunction with National Financial Literacy Month, Treasurer Sprague announced 59 county OSU Extension offices as April’s Compass Award honorees. The monthly recognition program commends the organizations, programs, and individuals across the state who are working to guide Ohioans toward financial literacy and empowerment.

The Real Money. Real World. program was developed by OSU Extension and is designed for youth ages 12-18. The curriculum includes an interactive spending simulation that provides participants the opportunity to make lifestyle and budget choices similar to those they will make as adults.

DATES TO REMEMBER

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MAY 19, 2022
GENERAL GOVERNMENT AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

MAY 31, 2022
DEADLINE FOR BROWNFIELD REMEDIATION PROGRAM APPLICATIONS

JUNE 1, 2022
OBM DOLLARS AND SENSE: CUYAHOGA FALLS

JUNE 3, 2022
NE OHIO DISTRICT DAY IN ASHTABULA COUNTY

JUNE 8, 2022
OBM DOLLARS AND SENSE: LEBANON

JUNE 16, 2022
OBM DOLLARS AND SENSE: BOWLING GREEN

JUNE 22, 2022
OBM DOLLARS AND SENSE: NEW BOSTON

JUNE 27, 2022
NW OHIO DISTRICT DAY

DID YOU KNOW?

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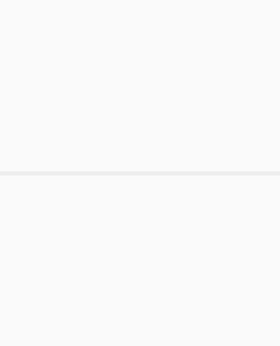
Auglaize County



J. Morton Howell, born Uniopolis, served as the U.S. Ambassador to Egypt in the 1920s. He was one of four foreign representatives present at the opening of Pharaoh Tutankhamun’s tomb.

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