



# CIDS

## County Information and Data Service

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FEBRUARY 3, 2006

### DATES TO REMEMBER

FEBRUARY 6, 2006	CCAO COURTS & CORRECTIONS COMMITTEE MEETING, CCAO CONFERENCE ROOM, COLUMBUS
FEBRUARY 16, 2006	CCAO LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE, CCAO CONFERENCE ROOM, COLUMBUS
FEBRUARY 16, 2006	CEBCO BOARD MEETING, CCAO CONFERENCE ROOM, COLUMBUS
MARCH 4-8, 2006	NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE, WASHINGTON HILTON & TOWERS, WASHINGTON, D.C.
APRIL 23-29, 2006	NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT WEEK
AUGUST 4-8, 2006	NACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE, COOK COUNTY (CHICAGO), IL

### ASSOCIATION NEWS

#### OHIO CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION BREAKFAST - CANCELLED

The **Ohio Congressional Delegation Breakfast** that was scheduled on Wednesday, March 8 during the NACo Legislative Conference **has been cancelled**. CCAO encourages all Ohio conference attendees to schedule a meeting with your Member of Congress while you are in Washington, D.C. Please contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979, (888) 757-1904 or [mjneiman@ccao.org](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org) if you have any questions.

#### CEBCO BOARD MEETING LOCATION CHANGE

The CEBCO Board of Directors meeting will be held in the CCAO Offices on Thursday, February 16, 2006 at 10:00am. ***This is a change of location.*** The

meeting was originally scheduled for Delaware County meeting room.

#### CCAO LOW COST CAPITAL LOAN PROGRAM

#### *FUNDS STILL AVAILABLE THROUGH THE CCAO LOW COST CAPITAL LOAN PROGRAM*

CCAO is pleased to announce that the Low Cost Capital Pool, that was funded on June 30, 2005, has provided a cost-effective and efficient vehicle for funding capital projects for many of Ohio's 88 counties. The program lends funds to participating counties using standardized documents and a closing process that expedites the lending process and minimizes the related administrative burden on the participants. Economies of scale achieved by pooling the needs of the counties reduces their pro-rata share of traditional borrowing costs and gives those counties which infrequently issue debt, or

which issue debt in small amounts, access to major institutional buyers which would not be available to them if they issued debt on their behalf. The program incorporates the unique “reservation” feature recently introduced by Seasongood & Mayer in similar programs for Ohio’s schools, cities and villages. Under that feature borrowers can request, without cost or liability and subject to availability that the Program reserve funds until they are needed.

A flyer highlighting the program and the advantages are enclosed with this issue of CIDS for county commissioners. Please email Megan J. Browning ([meganb@sgood.com](mailto:meganb@sgood.com)) or Forman Friend ([formanf@sgood.com](mailto:formanf@sgood.com)) or call at (800) 767-7207 for any additional information.

**CCAO/CORSA/CEBCO PHONE AND FAX NUMBERS**

NAME	TITLE	EXT	NUMBER
Melissa Bodey	CEBCO Benefits Specialist	150	614-220-7997
David Brooks	CORSA Director of Property & Casualty Insurance	132	614-220-7988
John Brownlee	CORSA Risk Control Manager	161	419-980-0084*
Tricia Callihan	CORSA Program Assistant	135	614-220-7993
Tom Carabin	CORSA Risk Manager (PT)	160	419-561-3455*
Brad Cole	Sr. Policy Analyst	130	614-220-7981
Kathy Dillon	Office Manager	122	614-221-5627
Suzanne Dulaney	Sr. Policy Analyst	131	614-220-7982
Janet Erwin	Administrative Assistant	129	614-220-7986
Brent Fisher	Enterprise Services Manager	154	614-220-7996

Thisbe Ingold	CORSA Accountant	134	614-220-7990
Amanda Jones	Administrative Assistant	138	614-220-7985
Tracy Keller	CEBCO Enrollment & Billing Specialist	152	614-220-7992
John Leutz	Sr. Policy Analyst	139	614-220-7994
Larry Long	Executive Director	124	614-221-5627
Beth Miller	CORSA Claims and Litigation Manager	133	614-220-7989
Maggie Neely	CEBCO Program Manager	146	614-220-7984
Mary Jane Neiman	Public Relations Associate	121	614-220-7979
Doug Putnam	Research & Information Manager	123	614-220-7978
Ginny Shrimplin	CORSA Marketing Manager	143	614-220-7991
Cheryl Subler	Sr. Policy Analyst	128	614-220-7980
Juanita Tanner	Bookkeeper (PT)	147	N/A
Tanya Wilcox	Administrative Assistant	120	614-221-5627

\*cell phone

	FAX NUMBERS
<b>CCAO</b>	614-221-6986
<b>CORSA</b>	614-220-0209
<b>CEBCO</b>	614-229-4588

**STATE ACTIVITIES**

**‘SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING’ CAMPAIGN ENCOURAGES PUBLIC TO CALL LAW ENFORCEMENT**

Last week, Ohio Department of Public Safety Director Ken Morckel unveiled a new anti-terrorism information-sharing center to the media advancing Ohio Homeland Security's mission to protect Ohioans from terrorism. The Ohio Strategic Analysis and Information Center (SAIC) is located at the State Emergency Operations Center/Joint Dispatch Facility in North Columbus.

Director Morckel also launched Ohio Homeland Security's new public awareness campaign called "See Something, Say Something." The campaign aims to educate Ohioans on the possible signs of terrorism and encourages the public to report suspicious activity to local law enforcement or to call the Ohio Terrorism Tipline: 1-877-OHS-INTEL. Campaign posters and other marketing materials will soon be distributed to remind people to always be alert and aware of surroundings, and to report things that may seem out of the ordinary such as:

- Unattended or abandoned bags in public places
- Suspicious or unusual behavior such as someone tampering with security equipment, videotaping or casing a government building, or wearing a bulky winter coat on a hot day.

The Ohio SAIC serves as a secure "one-stop shop" that collects, filters, analyzes and disseminates terrorism-related information to the appropriate authorities.

#### REGIONAL REP OPENING

The Area 7 Workforce Investment Board administrative office is seeking candidates to fill the open Regional Representative position. Applicant review will begin on January 9, 2006 and continue until the position is filled. Resumes and applications must be sent to Clark State at <http://www.clarkstate.edu/clark.cgi.html>

#### 2006 PREVAILING WAGE THRESHOLD LEVELS NOW IN EFFECT

The Division of Labor and Worker Safety of the Ohio Department of Commerce is reminding anyone with

questions about the prevailing wage threshold levels that took effect on January 1, 2006 to contact Robert Kennedy at the Division at (614) 644-2239.

As required by Ohio Revised Code Section 4115.034, Department of Commerce Director Doug White adjusted the prevailing wage threshold levels, which subject public improvement projects to O.R.C. Sections 4115.03 to 4115.16. These adjusted threshold levels are to be applied to all public improvement projects in Ohio.

The following calculations reflect the new prevailing wage threshold levels that became effective January 1, 2006.

#### *Construction Threshold*

The percentage change in the deflator between 2003 and 2004 is 6.3%, thus 3% will be used per statute. There is not an annual deflator for 2005 at this time and there probably will not be one until May 2006. As such, we are using the average of the January 2005 through September 2005 monthly deflator. The percentage change in the deflator between 2004 and 2005 is 4.8%, thus 3% will be used per statute.

The current construction threshold is \$65,843.00. Applying the 2004 increase to the current threshold raises it to \$67,818.00. Applying the 2005 increase to the \$67,818.00 figure raises the threshold to \$69,853.00. Therefore, the "new" construction threshold level as of January 1, 2006 will be \$69,853.00.

#### *Reconstruction Threshold*

The current threshold for "reconstruction, enlargement, alteration, repair, remodeling, renovation, or painting" is \$19,752.00. Using the same methodology as above, the calculations yield a result of \$20,955.00.

#### STUDY FINDS TRANSPORTATION, TRANSITION, SHELTERED WORK ENVIRONMENTS A CHALLENGE FOR COUNTY MR/DD BOARDS

The lack of transportation is a serious roadblock to

employment for Ohioans with developmental disabilities, according to an initial report on the subject released recently by the Department of MR/DD. "The biggest hindrance is transportation," agency spokeswoman Nancy Smeltzer said. "We got a pulse on how hard it is, especially in rural places, to provide transportation." The informal survey of 40 MR/DD county boards also found that small and medium counties tend to prepare individuals and families for work at an earlier age and pursue employment opportunities in the community more aggressively than large counties.

The Employment Committee of the department's Family Advisory Council, which conducted the survey, also found that students attending MR/DD schools get more information about transitioning into work than those that attend non-MR/DD schools. But they questioned whether these students were as apt to find community employment rather than work in special workshops. Many counties continue to rely on sheltered workshops, which are run by county boards for the developmentally disabled. Counties contract with private employers to provide jobs for groups of disabled individuals in a relatively isolated environment. "Much work remains to be done when people want to leave a sheltered environment and work in their community," the study's authors said.

The survey, one of the first of its kind for the department, suggests more questions the agency hopes to address when it begins a larger study this spring, Ms. Smeltzer said. Some issues the future study may explore include what county boards do to encourage community inclusion and what innovative and cost-effective ways county boards use to develop and expand employment opportunities and transportation.

#### OEPA LAUNCHES PERMITTING WEB SITE

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency announced a new Web site designed to make the environmental permitting process easier for small and mid-sized businesses.

"Environmental regulations can be confusing," OEPA

Director Joe Koncelik said in a statement. "The Permit Wizard can help small business in particular to understand their obligations. It will save them time and help ensure compliance."

The Permit Wizard, which doesn't require any personal data, guides the user through a series of questions and provides feedback on which permits are required for operation, the agency said. It may be used as a starting point to identify what is needed to comply with state requirements or for existing businesses to confirm that they have met requirements.

#### CARROLL COUNTY SALES TAX LEVY IS ONLY COUNTY ISSUE UP FOR FEBRUARY 7 ELECTION

The election scheduled for February 7 will include 34 bond, tax and miscellaneous issues for voters to consider, with the major portion of those being municipal and school district income taxes, school district bond issues, and proposed zoning amendments.

Only one issue is being placed before voters by a county: Carroll County is asking for a continuation of its current 1% permissive sales tax for a period of five years, beginning April 1, 2006. The continuation of the current 1.0 percent Carroll sales tax levy was defeated by voters at the November 2005 election and commissioners are seeking to keep the tax alive with this vote.

#### TAFT EXTENDS GUARANTEES FOR MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE COSTS THROUGH FEBRUARY

Implementing the prescription drug program for Medicare, known as Medicare Part D, has been quite a challenge. In the latest effort to smooth out a bumpy transition, Governor Bob Taft announced this week that Ohio will reimburse pharmacists for the difference between what the dual-eligible population is supposed to pay versus what the plans have been erroneously charging through the end of the month. "Dual-eligibles" are those people who meet the eligibility criteria for both Medicare and Medicaid. These dual-eligibles are supposed to pay no more

than \$5 per prescription, but some situations have occurred where they have been asked to pay the full retail price.

Ohio will cover the difference in price only for claims with dates of service ranging from January 1 through February 28, 2006. In turn, U.S. Health And Human Services said the federal government, through the private prescription drug plans administering the program, would make the state whole.

While this state effort will be very helpful, according to the Ohio pharmacists, not all of their problems are solved by this effort. Many of pharmacists have disbursed medications to dually eligible recipients only to have plans cite a lack of coverage in denying payments. According to the federal department of Health & Human Services, this has often happened because the dually eligible citizens were automatically enrolled in the program but may change plans on their own - an option that has resulted in some of the computer mix-ups.

Another remaining problem is that enrollees are finding that their plans don't cover all of the medications they received under Medicaid, and pharmacists have been stuck in the middle.

If you know if individuals with questions regarding the Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage, you should have them call Medicare at 1-800-MEDICARE or the Ohio Senior Health Insurance Information Program (OSHIIP) at 1-800-686-1578.

The required forms and further information about Ohio's co-payment assistance program can be found at the ODJFS website at [www.jfs.ohio.gov/ohp/provider.stm](http://www.jfs.ohio.gov/ohp/provider.stm), or by calling 1-800-686-1516.

## **FEDERAL ACTIVITIES**

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM FACING UNCERTAIN FUTURE IN CONGRESS

A longstanding and popular federal aid program that has provided funds for 800 community projects in

Ohio since 2002 must change the way it operates or face elimination by Congress, according to a report issued on January 31 by a panel of lawmakers in Washington.

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program has been criticized by members of Congress and by the Bush administration for being too cumbersome and ineffective, too loosely targeted and lacking in accountability. The U.S. House Subcommittee on Federalism and the Census, chaired by Dayton Republican Mike Turner, recently held hearings on how to make the CDBG program more accountable and efficient.

A report issued by Turner's subcommittee called on the program's supporters to work with lawmakers to improve the program in an effort to fend off drastic cuts or even outright elimination. A previous White House plan to dissolve the \$4.7 billion program and fold it into 17 other similar aid programs might reappear in the federal executive budget that President Bush will unveil on February 6.

The CDBG program has sent more than \$165 million to the state's counties, cities and other units of local government over the past three years. Ohio Department of Development spokeswoman Holly Pendell described the program as "truly critical for communities in Ohio." The department distributes most of its share of CDBG monies through its Comprehensive Downtown Revitalization Program and the Ohio Small Cities Community Development Program.

The House subcommittee report offers a number of recommendations to improve the program. Turner spokesman Andy Bloom said that "Congressman Turner is trying to do everything he can to protect the CDBG program while realizing that part of saving it means reforming it."

## **ONLINE TRAINING**

### NIMS ALERT

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and its National Incident Management

System (NIMS) Integration Center recently added a number of NIMS-related resources to their online training site: [www.fema.gov/nims](http://www.fema.gov/nims). The courses and their highlights are as follows:

- **Integrating NIMS into State EOPs & SOPs**

Outlines ways state and local incident managers can modify Emergency Operations Plans and Standard Operating Procedures to align with NIMS concepts and terminology.

- **Training Guidelines for ICS Instructors, January 2006**

Provides direction on training needed by ICS instructors and for agencies that offer ICS training programs.

- **FY06 NIMS Training Requirements**

Details required components of NIMS-compliant ICS training.

- **Summary of FY06 NIMS Training Requirements**

Outlines NIMS, NRP and ICS training that responders at various levels need to complete during FY 2006.

- **FY 2006 NIMS Compliance Package**

Outlines activities that states, tribal and local jurisdictions must complete by September 30, 2006.

- **National Standard Curriculum: Training Development Guidance, October 2005**

The center's guidelines document for NIMS-compliant ICS training is updated and posted on website, as have several new training-related fact sheets.

## **CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS**

### OHIO SAFETY CONGRESS & EXPO - MARCH 28-30

The Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) will hold the 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Ohio Safety Congress and Expo on March 28-30, 2006 at the Columbus Convention Center, 400 North High Street, in Columbus. Sponsored by BWC's Division of Safety & Hygiene, the Safety Congress is the second largest occupational safety and health event in the nation. More than 150 hours of educational sessions ranging from high-level safety strategies to techniques for use specific industries and over 200 exhibitors will

offer tools and tips on how to protect Ohio workers from being injured at work.

There is no charge to attend. Register by phone at (800) OHIOBWC (press 2, then 2 and 2 again, via the Web at [ohiobwc.com](http://ohiobwc.com) or when you arrive. For more information please check on-line at [ohiobwc.com](http://ohiobwc.com) or contact Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation staff members Julie Darby-Martin at (614) 466-8634 or Michelle Francisco at (614) 644-7042.

## **CLASSIFIEDS**

### PLANT MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR I

Under the general direction of the Plant Manager, oversees and performs maintenance functions to plant equipment, buildings and structures prepares, distributes, and provides direction of work assignments to the Maintenance Specialists and Laborers; performs maintenance, preventative maintenance and repairs on a variety of plant equipment; provides training to the Maintenance Specialists and Laborers (as needed); compiles, records, and files all gas, diesel fuel and sewer meter readings; orders spare parts, building maintenance supplies, and fuel.

Minimum Requirements: High school graduate or equivalent; valid Class II Wastewater Operator License and Two (2) years experience in maintenance to include; corrective maintenance, alignment of pumps, blowers and equipment, all types of piping repairs and plumbing (steel threaded and welded, PVC), cutting of metals and vehicle repair; valid drivers license or valid driving privileges in the State of Ohio; valid Commercial Drivers License (CDL) - Class B or ability to obtain within 6 months; Salary: \$41,121. A Class II Operator license also yields an additional 2% in pay and a Class III an additional 3% in pay. Excellent benefits

Accepting applications/resumes until filled. Please send resume with a copy Class II Wastewater Operator License to: Lucas Human Resources Department, One Government Center, Suite 450

Toledo, Ohio 43604-2259, Attn: PMC1. Applications/resumes also accepted at the Source, 1301 Monroe Toledo, Ohio (419) 213-JOBS.

### ANIMAL RESOURCE CENTER DIRECTOR

Montgomery County is seeking a seasoned professional with broad experience in the area of animal care and control to serve as its Animal Resource Center Director.

Reporting to the Administrative Services Director, this position provides oversight of all day-to-day operations of the Animal Resource Center (ARC) and is responsible for all animal care and control activities within Montgomery County. With a staff of 30, the ARC Director ensures fair and ethical treatment of all injured animals, enforces state animal regulations, provides educational and informational programs to the public, and establishes/maintains cooperative and collaborative relationships with other animal welfare agencies.

Requirements include a Bachelor's degree (or equivalency) in Communications, Management or Public Relations and five years experience supervising an animal control facility. Work experience directly related to this position may be considered in lieu of formal educational requirements.

A salary of \$56,909-\$85,363 is offered along with a generous County benefits package. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Interested candidates should submit detailed resumes immediately to Ralph Andersen & Associates at: [www.ralphandersen.com](http://www.ralphandersen.com). All candidates must apply through Ralph Andersen & Associates in order to be considered for this position. EOE.

### HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR

Montgomery County is seeking an experienced human resources professional to serve as its Human Resources Director. The HR Director is responsible for leading the County's Human Resources Department, serving over 1,100 Montgomery County Commission employees. Departmental functions

include Labor & Employee Relations, Employee Benefits, Recruitment & Selection and HR Training. The HR Director also provides advice and guidance to other elected officials and agencies within Montgomery County, affecting over 3,000 public employees.

The successful candidate will possess extensive governmental experience and provide highly responsible and complex administrative support and advice to the Administrative Services Director, County Administrator and Board of County Commissioners. The HR Director will also be expected to assist in the management of the employee and labor relations functions, including participating in the bargaining process with multiple employee organizations.

Requirements include a BS degree (or equivalency) in Personnel Management or Human Resources and at least eight years experience in personnel administration, personnel management or human resources. Several years experience managing a human resources department and experience in collective bargaining contracts is highly preferred.

A competitive salary of \$76,710- \$115,065 is offered along with a generous County benefits package. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Interested candidates should submit detailed resumes immediately to: Montgomery County Human Resources, P.O. Box 972, Dayton, OH 45422, 937-225-6496 (FAX), [www.mcoho.org](http://www.mcoho.org). EOE.

### ENFORCEMENT COORDINATOR

The Licking County Government will be accepting applications for an Enforcement Coordinator with the Child Support Enforcement Agency. This position oversees the operations of the Enforcement Division to ensure compliance with all state and federal guidelines. Bachelor's Degree from a 4-year college or university in business administration or a related field and 2 to 4 years related experience and/or training, or equivalent combination of education and experience. Minimum of 2 to 3 years supervisory experience. Supervisory experience in a union environment is a plus. Starting salary \$37,500 -

\$47,500. Successful candidates will be subject to Licking County's pre-employment drug screen. A complete job description can be obtained by visiting our website [www.lcounty.com](http://www.lcounty.com) or visiting the Human Resources Department. Candidates should submit a completed application no later than **Tuesday, February 21, 2006**. Applications can be printed from the web site at [www.lcounty.com](http://www.lcounty.com) or can be picked up at: Licking County Human Resources Department, 20 South Second Street-3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Newark, OH 43055. EOE.

CLASSIFIED ADS

CCAO publishes the County Information and Data Service (CIDS) weekly. Classified ads will be published free of charge as a service to counties. Ads will run for two weeks if space is available. Please provide faxed or e-mailed copy of the classified ad by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday of each week. Transmit the copy to Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, via fax at (614) 221-5627 or e-mail [mjneiman@ccao.org](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org).