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# CIDS

## County Information and Data Service

*Published weekly by: County Commissioners Association of Ohio*

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VOLUME XXXXVIII

NO. 17

APRIL 28, 2006

### DATES TO REMEMBER

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|------------------|--|
| MAY 5, 2006      | CCC/ESAO REGIONAL BRIEFING, WELCOME CENTER, MUSKINGUM COUNTY (ZANESVILLE)          |
| JUNE 2, 2006     | CCAO WORKERS' COMP PROGRAM ANNUAL MEETING, FOUR SEASONS CONFERENCE CENTER, HILLARD |
| JUNE 11-13, 2006 | CCAO/CEAO ANNUAL SUMMER CONFERENCE, JOHN S. KNIGHT CENTER, SUMMIT COUNTY (AKRON)   |
| JULY 12, 2006    | CCAO ANNUAL ALUMNI GOLF OUTING, OAKHAVEN GOLF COURSE, DELAWARE COUNTY (DELAWARE)   |
| AUGUST 4-8, 2006 | NACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE, COOK COUNTY (CHICAGO), IL                                  |

### ASSOCIATION NEWS

#### HUMAN SERVICES SURVEY RESULTS AVAILABLE

CCAO would like to thank the 34 counties that responded to the Health & Human Services Committee survey on social services. The time and effort put forth by the participating counties was greatly appreciated by the Committee. Please find included in this week's edition of CIDS an executive summary of the survey results for your review. If you have any questions contact Suzanne Dulaney, Senior Policy Analyst, at (614) 220-7982, (888) 757-1904 or [sdulaney@ccao.org](mailto:sdulaney@ccao.org).

#### CCAO/CEAO ANNUAL SUMMER CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN SUMMIT COUNTY

Summit County Executive James McCarthy, County President Clair Dickinson and County Engineer Greg Bachman invite all county commissioners, engineers, affiliates and guests to attend the 126<sup>th</sup> CCAO/CEAO Annual Summer Conference to be held June 11-13, 2006 in Summit County (Akron). Meetings will be held at the John S. Knight Center in downtown Akron. The headquarters hotel will be the Crowne Plaza Quaker Square with additional rooms at the Radisson Hotel City Centre. Both hotels are located just a few blocks from the Center. Registration materials and a draft agenda were mailed this week.

**Sunday, June 11**

**Golf** - An optional golf outing is planned for Good

Park Golf Course, a tree lined, 71 par golf course established in 1926. The golf course has hosted two U.S. Amateur qualifiers and one U.S. Pub Link Qualifier. Transportation will not be provided. Please contact Tanya Wilcox, CCAO Administrative Assistant, at (614) 221-5627 for additional golf information.

**Akron Aeros v. Connecticut Defenders Baseball Game** - Last year the Akron Aeros were the 2005 Eastern League Class AA Champions. Join CCAO/CEAO and Summit County for this optional activity at Canal Park located in downtown Akron for an exciting game. Transportation will not be provided to the game. Please contact Tanya Wilcox, CCAO Administrative Assistant, at (614) 221-5627 for additional baseball information.

**Dinner and Entertainment at the Akron Zoo** - Since 1953, the Akron Zoo, one of only 211 accredited world conservation zoos by the American Zoo and Aquarium Association, has participated in breeding programs to save endangered species. Visit the zoo's 50 acres to see more than 700 animals. Transportation will be provided.

### **Monday, June 12**

#### **CCAO Sessions**

- Health Insurance Legislative Update
- Riparian Rights: Protecting Water Quality & Respecting Property Rights
- Understanding the Summit County Charter
- Panel Discussion on TEL/TABOR
- Contractual Risk Transfer/Multi Jurisdiction Vehicles
- Major Land Use Issues Facing Ohio in 2006
- The End of the Tangible Personal Property Tax

#### **CCAO/CEAO General Session**

- The Honorable Stephen LaTourette (invited)
- 2006 Gubernatorial Candidates
- CCAO Legislative Committee Membership Open Forum Meeting

#### **Spouse/Guest Luncheon & Tours**

- Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens

- Summit Art Space Gallery
- Don Drumm Studios & Gallery

### **Tuesday, June 13**

#### **CCAO Sessions**

- Building a Discipline Case That You Can Win
- MR/DD Status Report
- 2010 Quality of Life Study
- HAVA & New State Election Laws
- Local Costs & Benefits of Wal-Mart
- Summit County's Criminal Justice Advisory Board
- CCAO Service Corporation Program Updates

#### **CCAO/CEAO Luncheon**

- The Honorable Don Plusquellic, Mayor, City of Akron

**Dinner & Racing at the All-American Soap Box Derby** - On your mark, get set...RACE! Since 1933, the All-American Soap Box Derby has attracted more than a million children ages 8-17 from the U.S. and foreign countries. Join CCAO/CEAO and Summit County for a casual evening of food and fun at Derby Downs. Wear casual clothes suitable for racing. Transportation will be provided.

#### **Hotel Accommodations**

Blocks of rooms have been held at the following hotels:

- **Crowne Plaza Quaker Square**  
135 South Broadway, Akron  
Room: \$95 single/double (includes parking)  
(330) 253-5970  
(800) 227-6963
- **Radisson Hotel Akron City Centre**  
20 West Mill Street, Akron  
Room: \$89 single/double (includes parking)  
(330) 384-1500

The block of rooms at the Crowne Plaza is almost full. If the Crowne Plaza is full when you make your reservations, please call the Radisson directly. Both hotels have very nice sleeping rooms. A shuttle will

run between the hotels in the evening hours.

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.

#### WIPPEL APPOINTED PICKAWAY COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Jay Wippel was sworn into office on April 3 to fill the unexpired term of Pickaway County Commissioner John Stevenson, who accepted a position as the state executive director for the Ohio Farm Service Agency.

A native of Pickaway County, Wippel grew up in Walnut Township and currently farms about 700 acres in the northern part of the county. In addition to being a full time county commissioner, Wippel is a member of the Teays Valley School Board, where he graduated from Teays Valley High School. He has served as a county office director for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. As Pickaway County Commissioner he feels it's important to focus on economic development and growth around the Rickenbacker Airport area.

Wipple and his wife, Marci have three children - two boys ages 9 & 11 and a nine-month old daughter. CCAO welcomes Commissioner Wippel to the CCAO family!

#### UPDATED COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HANDBOOK CHAPTER ON SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS PUBLISHED ON THE WEB

The CCAO Staff is in the process of updating chapters in the *County Commissioners Handbook*. Chapter 88 - Subdivision Regulations has been updated this month and has been published on our website. To find chapters of the Handbook go to [www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org), click on Publications and then on County Commissioners Handbook. Scroll down to view the chapters that are available.

The Handbook, last published in 1994, was a monumental task to update and publish. CCAO finds

that it is more cost effective and efficient to revise chapters and publish them on the web instead of printing another large volume. By the time it was ready for publication, chapters needed revision.

Chapters are listed in numerical order. Not all the chapter numbers are used, providing room for future expansion. Chapters are published as they are completed.

#### CCAO BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES

Enclosed with this issue of CIDS for county commissioners are the minutes from the March 17, 2006 meeting. CCAO distributes the minutes after approval from the Board of Trustees.

#### **CCAO SERVICE CORPORATION PROGRAMS**

##### COST CONTAINMENT/COST RECOVERY PROGRAM

Local government often lacks the staff and technological resources necessary to effectively collect outstanding receivables. When citizens either can't or don't pay what they owe for court fines or other fees, local governments often find it very difficult to collect.

To help counties more effectively manage their receivables, The National Association of Counties (NACo) offers debt collection services under the Cost Containment/Cost Recovery program. Through a public procurement process run by Dallas County, TX, MAXIMUS was chosen to partner with NACo to offer debt collection services for local governments. MAXIMUS was selected for their public sector collection experience, knowledge of local government, delicate approach in collection practices, and extremely reasonable fees.

Outsourcing debt collection services alleviates the stresses placed upon clerical staff that would normally have limited time and resources to devote to such activities, and ultimately would have the potential to obtain revenue from debt formerly classified as "uncollectible."

The service is contingency-fee based, and there are no up front costs. In addition, services are rendered by highly trained professionals who understand the public sector debt collection process. The processes involved are streamlined with state-of-the-art technology that also directly interfaces with MAXIMUS Court View software already in place, if available. Finally, each contingency-based contract is easily customized to meet the specific needs of the county client.

The debt collection program can collect upon outstanding court fines, traffic fines, bad checks, EMS billings, child support, building permits, and water and sewage charges.

For general information on this program please contact Brent Fisher, Enterprise Services Manager, at (614) 220-7996, (888) 757-1904 or [bfisher@ccao.org](mailto:bfisher@ccao.org). To enroll in the program or for more specific information please contact please contact Nicole Bolda, the MAXIMUS program representative at (630) 371-0100 ext. 1003. For direct communication with NACo about this program, please contact Nancy Irish, NACo Financial Services Center, at (202) 661-8824 or [nirish@naco.org](mailto:nirish@naco.org).

## **STATE ACTIVITIES**

### OHIO UNEMPLOYMENT FALLS TO 5% IN MARCH, STATE SAYS

The state's unemployment rate dropped 0.3% to 5% from February to March, the Ohio Department of Job & Family Services announced. The decrease in the rate, according to an agency official, can be attributed to overall improvements in the state's economy. The department said the number of unemployed workers fell from 315,000 in February to 294,000 in March. Among sectors, jobs in service industries rose by 8,100, with the largest growth in leisure and hospitality businesses. Goods producing jobs fell by 2,500, with manufacturing employment down 2,700.

In the counties, rates ranged from a low of 3.2% in Delaware to a high of 11.3% in Monroe. Seven other

counties - Holmes, Mercer, Hancock, Auglaize, Union, Geauga and Shelby - had rates below 4.5%. Unemployment rates were 8% or above in Pike, Morgan, Meigs, Adams, Vinton and Huron counties.

### ANALYSIS SHOWS OHIO LOST 204,308 JOBS OVER LAST FIVE YEARS; SUMMIT COUNTY AN EXCEPTION IN NORTHEAST

Ohio lost 204,308 jobs over the last five years of recession that represents an annual paycheck earnings loss of \$2.5 billion, an analysis from a private nonprofit group showed Monday.

On a percentage basis, the Center for Community Solutions Report said Monroe County sustained the deepest loss when over one-third of local employment vanished. In Trumbull and Clark counties, 12% of jobs disappeared. The report said 14 counties lost more than 10% of local jobs.

Numerically, Cuyahoga County lost 75,733 jobs from 2000 to 2005, the largest total statewide, representing 9.3% of the county's jobs. Hamilton County lost 31,550 jobs, Montgomery 22,473, Franklin 21,100, and Lucas 14,116.

The report said a notable exception to the dismal economic picture occurred in Summit County. Although it lost 5,000 jobs in 2001, growth in subsequent years offset that figure. By 2005, Summit County had more jobs than it did in 2000 when the recession began.

George Zeller, economic research analyst, said in the report that losses in high wage manufacturing heavily dominated the Ohio recession. "Three counties lost more than two-fifths of their manufacturing jobs, namely Muskingum (Zanesville), Pickaway (Circleville), and Monroe (Woodsfield). Several large urban counties lost more than a fifth of their manufacturing employment," Mr. Zeller said. The report said 14.3% of all paycheck earnings disappeared in manufacturing industries.

MUSKINGUM WATERSHED CONSERVANCY DISTRICT'S ASSESSMENT PLANS GET LAWMAKERS' ATTENTION; MOMENTUM IS BUILDING TO DELAY ONE YEAR

Last week in CIDS we reported on the 20-year, \$270 million flood prevention and water quality improvement plan proposed by the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District has gotten the attention of eastern Ohio lawmakers who have been bombarded in recent weeks with constituent complaints over assessments.

State Representative Thom Collier (Dist 90 - Mt. Vernon) and Allan Sayre (Dist 96 - Dover) have been working on bills to force a one-year delay in the assessment. A one-year delay doesn't mean the property owners in the conservancy district which covers 700,000 parcels of land in eastern Ohio, will not have to pay more eventually.

Sen. President Bill Harris (R-Ashland) asked the Legislative Service Commission to conduct some research on conservancy district assessments and related issues in light of the uproar.

The 70-year-old MWCD said its planned assessments would generate more than \$11 million a year for: dam safety improvements, sediment removal, shoreline protection, water quality improvements, watershed management and reservoir operations. The district manages 14 reservoirs behind dams operated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The conservancy district includes all or part of Ashland, Belmont, Carroll, Coshocton, Guernsey, Harrison, Holmes, Knox, Licking, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble, Richland, Stark, Summit, Tuscarawas, Washington and Wayne counties.

JCARR CLEARS CONTROVERSIAL HOME SEPTIC SYSTEM RULES OVER OPPOSITION

On Monday, April 24, the proposed home septic system rules proposed by the Ohio Department of Health, that have been reported by CCAO, were approved. The rules now go to the Public Health

Council on May 4 for final consideration. If approved, which is anticipated, the rules will go into effect January 1, 2007. They have a limited grandfather clause that includes a provision for current existing lots.

CCAO will provide more information in the coming weeks on the pending rules.

**LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES**

HOUSE AND SENATE ARE SET TO RETURN TO STATEHOUSE ON MAY 9

The House and Senate will return from spring recess on Tuesday, May 9. Both chambers have floor sessions scheduled for that day, the House at 11 a.m. and the Senate at 1:30 p.m. Each chamber also is scheduled for a floor session on Wednesday, May 10 at 1:30 p.m. Committee hearings also will be held on those two days and on Thursday, May 11.

BILLS RECENTLY INTRODUCED

HB 568 (Healy D-Canton) – Applies the Open Meetings Law to private, for-profit and non-profit entities, for those portions of the meetings of the governing boards of those entities during which discussion occurs, or action is taken, on a contract or proposed contract with a public body for which the private, for-profit or non-profit entity receives or will receive money. April 13, 2006.

HB 569 (Oelslager R- North Canton) – Requires public notice to be given by the person in charge of a sewer system, in accordance with procedures specified in the bill, whenever there is a discharge of untreated or partially treated sewage onto land or into the waters of the state. April 20, 2006.

SB 310 (Stivers R-Columbus) – Exempts from the state personal income tax any unearned income of an individual who is age 65 or older. April 6, 2006.

UPCOMING EFFECTIVE DATES OF RECENTLY ENACTED LEGISLATION

HB 101 (Wolpert R-Hilliard) - May 17, 2006 - Creates the 22-members Public Notice Task Force to make findings and recommendations related to public notice requirements for public bodies and how those requirements could be revised, streamlined and modified.

The task force will include one member representing county commissioners and one representing each of the other eight county elected officials: auditor, treasurer, sheriff, coroner, clerk of court, engineer, prosecuting attorney and recorder. The task force is to submit its findings and recommendations to leaders of the General Assembly by May 17, 2007.

STATEHOUSE PANEL OK'S HOME SEPTIC SYSTEM RULES OVER OBJECTIONS FROM HOMEBUILDERS AND MANUFACTURED HOMES GROUPS

At its meeting on April 24, the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (JCARR) approved new Department of Health rules for home septic systems.

Lawmakers attempted to delay the effective date of the new rules for one year by inserting language into HB 530, the recently-enacted budget corrections bill. However, Governor Taft vetoed that delay provision allowing the rules to move forward on their scheduled timetable. They will take effect July 1, 2006.

Department of Health Director Nick Baird, speaking in support of the new rules, called them flexible, and the product of thoughtful compromise. He said the rules governing one million home septic systems have not been updated for three decades and were in urgent need of revision to protect the state's land and water, as well as the property values of homeowners.

Also speaking in support of the rules were Laura Kramer Kuns, supervisor of Environmental Health Programs for the Lake County General Health District and Martin Tremmel, health commissioner of Union

County, representing the Association of Ohio Health Commissioners.

Objections to the rules were lodged by representatives of the Ohio Homebuilders Association and the Ohio Manufactured Homes Association. They told the committee that the rules would add significantly to the cost of new homes, particularly in rural areas.

The rules also require homeowners to obtain three of four separate permits to install a septic system. There also was a claim made to the committee that the rules favored one type of technology over others with no rational justification.

**NACo ACTIVITIES**

NACo STEERING COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

Do you want a voice in creating the national legislative policies of the National Association of Counties (NACo)? Do you want to represent Ohio on the national level? NACo has eleven steering committees: Agriculture & Rural Affairs; Community & Economic Development; Environment, Energy & Land Use; Finance & Intergovernmental Relations; Health; Human Services & Education; Justice & Public Safety; Labor & Employment; Public Lands; Telecommunications & Technology; and Transportation.

The nomination process for membership on NACo policy steering committees in 2006-2007 is underway. As a NACo steering committee member, you are responsible for debating and creating national policies and priorities affecting counties and serve as NACo's front line in their grassroots efforts. Committees meet at the NACo legislative and annual conferences and one other time during the year. You will be responsible for your own travel. Attendance and participation in the committee is important.

CCAO processes all nominations for Ohio public officials. The nominations are processed in the CCAO office and will be forwarded to NACo by June 15 for approval by the incoming NACo President after the NACo Annual Conference which will be held in

August. NACo will announce your appointment in September 2006.

If you are a current or would like to be a new committee member in 2006-2007 please contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979, (888) 757-1904 or [mjneiman@ccao.org](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org).

## **CONFERENCES**

### COURT TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE

The Ohio Judicial Conference is presenting a "Court Technology Conference" on May 19 at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 5100 Upper Metro Place, in Dublin. The conference is open all day from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Although the conference aims primarily at courts and their staff, it may also be of interest to county agencies or IT staff. Learn about the latest technology from 35 court technology vendors and network with other government technology staff.

Attendance is free. A free lunch and refreshments will be served. For more information please contact Ulf Nilsson, Communication Specialist, Ohio Judicial Conference, at (614) 387-9767, (614) 387-9750, fax (614) 387-9759, [nilssonu@sconet.state.oh.us](mailto:nilssonu@sconet.state.oh.us) or go to [www.ohiojudges.org](http://www.ohiojudges.org) and follow the link to the 2006 Court Technology Conference.

## **CLASSIFIEDS**

### CHIEF DOG WARDEN

Butler County Board of Commissioners is looking for a chief dog warden. Completion of secondary education, college degree preferred; training and/or work experience evidencing a thorough knowledge of state and local dog control laws, animal euthanasia, staff management and office administration, and a basic knowledge of bookkeeping, purchasing, and public relations. Salary range \$43,936.34-\$57,909.91 annually. Submit resume/application no later than **May 5, 2006** to: Mr. Derek L. Conklin, County Administrator, Butler County Board of Commissioners, 315 High Street, Hamilton, OH 45011. EOE.

### ASSOCIATE PLANNER POSITION

Accepting applications for a full-time Associate Planner to assist Medina County Department of Planning Services with subdivision application review, township text and map zoning amendment evaluation and preparation of staff reports for same, GIS mapping, comprehensive plan writing. Medina County is one of the fastest growing Counties in Ohio and consists of 17 townships, 6 villages and 3 cities, all of which the Department of Planning Services may provide mapping or land use services.

Applicant must be able to work in a team situation and to proceed independently. Attendance at evening meetings will be required.

Minimum qualifications: Bachelor's degree (master's and AICP preferred) in planning or related field. Knowledge of, and experience with, all Microsoft Office and ArcGIS software required. Applicant must have excellent interpersonal relations, and communicative and organizational skills; ability to handle busy workload and multiple projects.

Application, resume, 3 work references and examples of writing and mapping skills, must be submitted to Medina County Human Resources, Room 206, Attn: POA, 144 North Broadway, Medina, Ohio 44256. Queries may be directed to Patrice Theken, AICP, Director, Medina County Department of Planning Services at [ptheken@medinaco.org](mailto:ptheken@medinaco.org). Applications accepted until position filled. EOE. Successful candidate must pass a background check and drug screen.

Additional information about Medina County and the Medina County Department of Planning Services may be found at [www.planning.co.medina.oh.us](http://www.planning.co.medina.oh.us).

### ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

The Medina County Board of Commissioners (Department of Planning Services) is seeking qualified candidates to fill the position of full-time zoning inspector to perform the enforcement of zoning regulations for various communities within Medina County. The applicant must be

knowledgeable in inspection, investigation, enforcement, record keeping and permitting tasks associated with township and municipal zoning. The applicant will be expected to answer general questions from the public, follow consistent enforcement procedures, review and issue zoning permits, maintain adequate records and prepare reports. The applicant must be available to attend evening meetings.

Applicants must be familiar with Microsoft office products, have at least three years of progressively responsible experience in zoning enforcement, a bachelor's degree or technical certification in either the fields of engineering, surveying, public administration, planning, geography or cartography, be motivated, organized and able to work well with people and pass a background and drug test. EOE employer.

Application, resume, 3 work references and examples of writing and mapping skills, must be submitted to Medina County Human Resources, Room 206, Attn: POA, 144 North Broadway, Medina, Ohio 44256. Queries may be directed to Patrice Theken, AICP, Director, Medina County Department of Planning Services at [ptheken@medinaco.org](mailto:ptheken@medinaco.org). Applications accepted until position filled. EOE. Successful candidate must pass a background check and drug screen.

Additional information about Medina County and the Medina County Department of Planning Services may be found at [www.planning.co.medina.oh.us](http://www.planning.co.medina.oh.us).

### DESIGN ENGINEER

Geauga County Department of Water Resources is accepting applications for a full time Design Engineer to perform a variety of engineering assignments in connection with the planning, designing and construction of sanitary sewer and water systems. Supervise and coordinate work of technical staff engaged in computerized drafting of plans and other engineering documents and performs related duties as required. Bachelors Degree in Civil Engineering from accredited university and Engineer Intern Certificate issued by the State of Ohio with a

minimum of 2 years experience that provides the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities for the job. Position requires a valid driver's license and acceptable driving record. Full-time benefits package. Salary is commensurate to experience. Application and details are available at [www.co.geauga.oh.us](http://www.co.geauga.oh.us). Submit an Application for Employment and resume to Geauga County Commissioners, Attn: Human Resources #2305, 470 Center Bldg. #4, Chardon OH 44024.

#### **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) 221-6986 or e-mail [mjneiman@ccao.org](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org).



