

CIDS

County Information and Data Service

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DATES TO REMEMBER

MARCH 3-7, 2007 NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE, WASHINGTON HILTON, WASHINGTON, D.C.

MARCH 7, 2006 OHIO CONGRESSIONAL BREAKFAST, RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING - ROOM

B-369, WASHINGTON, D.C.

JUNE 10-12, 2007 CCAO/CEAO ANNUAL CONFERENCE, PARK INN TOLEDO (FORMERLY RADISSON

HOTEL), LUCAS COUNTY (TOLEDO)

AUGUST 1, 2007 CCAO ANNUAL GOLF OUTING, OAKHAVEN GOLF COURSE, DELAWARE COUNTY

(DELAWARE)

ASSOCIATION NEWS

CCAO ELECTS 2007 OFFICERS AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CCAO President Lenny Eliason convened the 126th CCAO Annual Business Meeting on Tuesday, December 12, 2006. The meeting was held during the CCAO/CEAO Annual Winter Conference in Columbus. The following commissioners were elected to serve as officers in 2007:

- President Olen Jackson (Morrow)
- 1st Vice President Daniel Troy (Lake)
- 2nd Vice President Nancy McKeen (Erie)
- Secretary Paula Brooks (Franklin)
- Treasurer Frank Hirsch (Ross)

The following past presidents have elected to automatically serve on the Board: Robert Boggs (Ashtabula), Bob Corbett (Champaign), Lenny

Eliason (Athens), Mark Forni (Monroe), and Patricia Geissman (Medina).

Seven commissioners were elected to a two-year term on the Board of Trustees: David Dhume (Madison), Ray Feikert (Holmes), Marcia Phelps (Licking), Gerald Potter (Hardin), Peter Lawson Jones (Cuyahoga), Mark Thomas (Belmont), and Mary Walker (Clermont). Ben Nutter (Seneca) was elected to serve a one-year unexpired term. 2007 CCAO President Olen Jackson is making his appointments to the CCAO Board this week. Appointees will be contacted within the next two weeks.

ACCESS MANAGEMENT HANDBOOK CHAPTER COMPLETED

In an continuing effort to keep CCAO members informed, the staff has been updating and writing additional chapters of the County Commissioners Handbook. First published in 1980 and last published in 1994, the Handbook has grown in volume over the

past 26 years. Due to the size and the updating of laws, the Handbook will no longer be published in notebook form. Chapters are updated and published on the CCAO website as they are completed.

The newest chapter to be revised is Chapter 31 - Access Management, which will be soon published on our website at www.ccao.org. Click on Publications, then click on County Commissioners Handbook. Please print a copy of this new chapter for insertion into your Handbook notebook.

This is an entirely new chapter of the Handbook and explains in detail. The provisions of access management legislation as enacted in HB366 in 2002 and as detailed in County Advisory Bulletin 2002-06, September 2002.

2007 COUNTY HOLIDAY SCHEDULE		
HOLIDAY	ACTUAL HOLIDAY	LEGAL HOLIDAY
New Year's Day	January 1	January 1
Martin Luther King Day	January 15	January 15
President's Day	February 22	February 19
Memorial Day	May 30	May 28
Independence Day	July 4	July 4
Labor Day	September 3	September 3
Columbus Day	October 12	October 8
Veteran's Day	November 11	November 12
Thanksgiving Day	November 22	November 22
Christmas Day	December 25	December 25

CCAO SERVICE CORPORATION PROGRAM NEWS

C C A O - E N D O R S E D S E R V I C E PROGRAMS/WINTER CONFERENCE TRADE SHOW RECAP

As you may have noticed, if you were able to attend

the CCAO/CEAO Winter Conference trade show this week, many CCAO-endorsed vendors were present at the show to talk about their respective goods and services. Several prominent examples of these vendors being the newly-endorsed Cost Control Associates and GovDeals.com. GovDeals.com offers online auction services of surplus materials and confiscated personal property. Cost Control Associates offers energy and telecommunications utility billing analysis.

Several consistently-endorsed companies such as Colonial Supplemental Insurance were present as well. Colonial administrates our Flexible Benefits Program. It enables counties to offer employees the opportunity to pre-tax qualified employee benefit premiums that they contribute to health, dental, and life insurance. Flexible benefits are authorized under IRS Section 125. The law also authorizes the same pre-tax advantages for other qualified medical and dependent care expenses.

The local arm of MAXIMUS, which operates out of the Cleveland area, was also present at the show. MAXIMUS currently provides cost plan services for 81 Ohio counties. OMB Circular A-87 cost plans identify indirect costs in strict accordance with federal accounting standards, and are used as the basis for securing reimbursements for federal and grant contract sources. Full cost plans are also used to claim reimbursement from enterprise funds and feesupported fund activities. Cost recoveries reduce or eliminate the need for general tax subsidies of these activities.

Securus Technologies was also present, and represents one of the County Commissioners Association of Ohio's older Enterprise Service Programs. We are pleased to re-iterate our endorsement of their pay phone commission program and other related telecommunications services for county jail facility use.

Great West Retirement Services was located in the hallway of the main conference floor, and had representatives available to help anyone interested in Section 457 retirement questions. The CCAO Deferred Compensation Program was established in

1985 to serve the needs of county employees. Approximately 24,000 county officials and employees in 88 counties defer additional money to supplement their retirement under the program. Great West administrates this program in conjunction with a committee of county officials who recognize the needs of their employees.

These programs have been created to save Ohio county governments and their respective departments money and administrative costs. If you have any questions regarding any of these vendors, or have further questions after meeting with them this week, please contact Brent Fisher, CCAO Enterprise Services Manager, at 614-220-7996 or via e-mail at bfisher@ccao.org.

STATE ACTIVITIES

OHIO EPA RECEIVES U.S. EPA APPROVAL FOR OHIO'S WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

With the approval of Ohio's statewide water quality plan by the federal EPA, Ohio EPA will now review applications for central sewer systems in western Franklin County using the criteria established in the plan. In cooperation with local communities, this will help protect water quality in the Big Darby Creek watershed. The previous plan had put a hold on installing sewers within the Big Darby watershed portion of Franklin County.

Section 208 of the federal Clean Water Act requires states to identify regional water planning areas to prepare, maintain and implement water quality management plans. Five regional governments councils updated their plans within the last year and Ohio EPA updated plan content covering 42 additional counties. Governor Taft certified the plan updates on September 1, 2006.

These plans contain information used to address both municipal wastewater treatment issues and nonpoint source pollution management and control. Information from the regional plans are combined to form a statewide water quality management plan.

Ohio EPA efforts to maintain or improve the water quality of the Big Darby Creek watershed will include:

- minimizing storm water runoff by including performance standards in Ohio EPA storm water permits issued for construction sites in the watershed;
- requiring green space or a setback distance to be left between new development sites and streams in the watershed to keep sediment and other pollutants out of the water;
- sustaining water supply through ground water recharge requirements;
- reviewing new and renewal permits for sources that discharge from a pipe to ensure compliance with discharge limits;
- reviewing applications to Ohio EPA for dredging projects or placement of fill in the watershed with an eye toward meeting water quality objectives;
- encouraging agricultural practices that reduce phosphorus and sediment runoff to streams in the watershed: and
- reducing pollution from home sewage systems, particularly phosphorus and pathogens.

Two public meetings and a comment period were held while the plan was in draft form. For additional information or to review the plan, contact Dan Dudley, Manager, Standards & Technical Support, Division of Surface Water, Ohio EPA at (614) 644-2876 or dan.dudley@epa.state.oh.us. The plan also can be v i e w e d a t http://www.epa.state.oh.us/dsw/mgmtplans/208inde x.html.

DHS ANNOUNCES APPLICATION PERIOD FOR FY06 FIRE PREVENTION AND SAFETY GRANTS

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced last week the application period and posted the guidance document for the *Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program* and *Fire Prevention and Safety Grants* (FP&S). The FP&S grants support

projects that enhance the safety of the public and firefighters from fire and related hazards.

The application period began Monday, December 4. The DHS Office of Grants and Training will accept applications for the FP&S grants until 5 p.m., January 12, 2007.

The FP&S grant guidance is available at www.firegrantsupport.com/docs/2006FPSguidance.pdf. The guidance document is designed to help users prepare and submit competitive applications and provide an overview of the programs funding priorities and evaluation criteria.

Applicants with questions about the FP&S grant program can call the help desk at (866) 274-0960 or visit the following grants site: www.firegrants@dhs.gov.

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

SBA DISASTER LOANS AVAILABLE FOLLOWING OHIO'S AGRICULTURAL FLOOD DAMAGE

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced on November 30 that federal disaster loans are available to small, non-farm businesses located in the Ohio counties of Ashtabula, Geauga, Hancock, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Muskingum, Ottawa, Wood and Wyandot as a result of damages and losses to crops caused by excessive rain and flooding that occurred May 10 and continuing. The contiguous counties of Allen, Ashland, Coshocton, Crawford, Cuyahoga, Erie, Guernsey, Hardin, Henry, Huron, Licking, Lucas, Marion, Morgan, Noble, Perry, Portage, Putnam, Sandusky, Seneca, Summit, Trumbull and Wayne are also eligible for disaster loans.

Under this declaration, SBA's Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program is available to farm-related and non-farm-related small business concerns and small agricultural cooperatives that suffered economic injury as a direct result of this disaster. Farmers and ranchers are not eligible to apply to SBA.

Eligible small businesses may qualify for loans up to \$1.5 million. These loans are available at a four percent interest rate with loan terms up to 30 years. SBA determines eligibility for the program based on the size and type of business and its financial resources. Loan amounts and terms are set by SBA and are based upon each applicant's financial condition. Under this disaster declaration, SBA cannot provide loans to agricultural producers.

Interested business owners can call SBA's Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 (1-800-877-8339 for the hearing-impaired). Business loan applications are also available on SBA's website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance.

Mail completed applications to: U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155. Completed loan applications must be returned to SBA no later than **July 9, 2007.**

NACo ACTIVITIES

2007 ACTS OF CARING AWARD - DEADLINE JANUARY 17

In 2007, the National Association of Counties (NACo) will recognize and promote volunteer programs through the Acts of Caring Awards, a national ceremony honoring community-based, county government initiatives that provide a legacy for the future of our country. The Acts of Caring is part of County Serve America, a long-term project of NACo that is designed to raise public understanding and awareness about county government.

An "act of caring" is a community service provided by a county-sponsored volunteer program that enhances or preserves the quality of life. Any county government that is a member of NACo with an active program that meets the application criteria is eligible to participate in the Acts of Caring awards.

Up to 18 programs will be recognized and deemed examples of outstanding Acts of Caring. Based on county size, as many as three programs will be recognized in each of six categories, including:

community improvement, criminal justice/emergency management, elderly services, health/social services, libraries and programs for children and youth. In addition, one Youth Service Award and one Legacy Award for Excellence and Innovation will be given. This year's competition will feature cash awards for the Youth Service Award (\$1,000) and the Legacy Award for Excellence and Innovation (\$1,500).

Ohio has a successful history of winning an Acts of Caring award. Past winners from Ohio include: Hamilton, Portage (3), Summit (2), Erie, and Lucas. Three years ago, Portage County won the highly coveted Legacy Award.

To download an application, go to www.naco.org and click "awards" on the left menu them follow the prompts. Applications must be received at the following address on or before **Friday, January 19, 2007**: NACo Acts of Caring Awards, c/o NACo, 440 First Street NW, Washington, DC 20001. For more information please contact Tom Goodman, NACo Public Affairs Director, at (202) 942-4222 or tgoodman@naco.org.

2007 NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

The National Association of Counties (NACo) Legislative Conference will be held on March 3-7, 2007 at the Hilton Washington & Towers in Washington, D.C. The conference will begin on Saturday and conclude on Wednesday. On-line registration opened on November 27, 2006 at www.naco.org. Click on Conferences & Events.

The Hilton Washington & Towers is the headquarters hotel. Other hotel options include The Churchill Hotel (across the street), the Jury's Normandy Hotel (a few blocks away), Hilton Embassy Row, and the Omni Shoreham Hotel (brisk walks).

Mark your calendars for the Ohio Congressional Delegation Breakfast to be held on Wednesday March 7, 2007. More information will be published when the location is confirmed.

If you have any questions about the conference please contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979, (888) 757-1904 or mineiman@ccao.org.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ADOPTS 2007 BUDGET& LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The NACo Board of Directors recently adopted the 2007 budget and legislative priorities at their meeting held in Franklin County recently.

The NACo Board adopted the Finance Committee's recommendation of an \$18.7 million budget for 2007 with an expected budget surplus of \$1.6 million.

In addition the following 2007 legislative priorities were adopted:

- Reauthorization of the Farm Bill;
- Repeal of the withholding tax law and reform of other federal tax changes (such as telecommunications taxes) affecting counties;
- Reforms of health and human services laws and policies, particularly reducing the county share of Medicaid and restoring cuts imposed by the Deficit Reduction Act to child support, child welfare and the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Block Grant program;
- Reauthorization of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self Determination Act and enhanced appropriations for the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program;
- Reauthorization of the federal Airport and Aviation program;
- Assistance to counties to combat methamphetamine abuse; and
- Opposition to unfunded mandates and preemptions.

A special note on legislative priorities: NACo's Large Urban County Caucus and Rural Action Caucus have priorities that are consistent with the key legislative priorities listed above and will be advocating these priorities on behalf of urban and rural counties.

FUTURE NACo CONFERENCES			
DATE	CONFERENCE	LOCATION	
March 3-7, 2007	Legislative	Washington Hilton and Towers Washington, D.C.	
May 9-11, 2007	Western Interstate Region	Fairbanks North Star Borough (Fairbanks), Alaska	
July 13-17, 2006	Annual	Richmond, Virginia	
March 1-5, 2008	Legislative	Washington Hilton and Towers Washington, D.C.	
July 11-15, 2008	Annual	Jackson County (Kansas City), Missouri	
March 7- 11, 2009	Legislative	Marriot Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, D.C.	
July 24-29, 2009	Annual	Davidson County (Nashville), Tennessee	
March 6- 10, 2010	Legislative	Marriot Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, D.C.	
July 16-20, 2010	Annual	Washoe County (Reno), Nevada	
March 5-9, 2011	Legislative	Marriot Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, D.C.	
2011	Annual	Multnomah County (Portland), OR	
2012	Annual	Allegheny County (Pittsburgh), PA	

Franklin County had submitted a bid to host the 2011 and Hamilton County had submitted a bid to host the

2012 Annual Conference. The NACo Board of Directors voted to hold the 2011 Annual Conference in Multnomah County (Portland), OR and the 2012 Conference in Allegheny County (Pittsburgh), PA. CCAO thanks both Franklin and Hamilton counties for submitting the bid to host the conferences and sharing the spirit of the Buckeye state!

2007 FIVE STAR WETLAND, COASTAL HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECT AWARDS

The National Association of Counties (NACo) and the Five Star Restoration Challenge Grant Program project partners are accepting applications for the 2007 Five Star Restoration Grants. Modest financial assistance on a competitive basis is available for community-based wetland, riparian and coastal habitat restoration projects that build diverse partnerships and foster local natural resource stewardship through education, outreach and training activities. Project sites can be public land, such as parks, streams, and school campuses, or private land, such as corporate facilities.

In 2006, 39 projects out of approximately 126 applications received grants averaging including the following Ohio counties:

- Cuyahoga County(Cleveland) \$10,000 grant for the Puritas Wetland Collaborative and
- Franklin County (Worthington) \$10,000 grant for the Rush Run Riparian Restoration Project.

Begun in 1997, The Five Start Restoration Challenge Grant Program is a partnership between NACo, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the Wildlife Habitat Council, in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the newest partner Southern Company.

Applications must be postmarked by March 9, 2007.

For more information on the Five Star Challenge Grant Program, how to apply, and examples of past Five Star projects, visit www.naco.org and click on Training and Technical Assistance in the left menu,

click on water quality and scroll down to resources and click on Five Star Restoration Grant Program or contact Erik Johnston, Community Services Assistant, at (202) 942-4246 or ejohnston@naco.org.

CONFERENCES/SEMINARS

OHIO SAFETY CONGRESS & EXPO

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the Ohio Safety Congress & Expo to be held March 20-22, 2007 at the International Exposition Center in Cleveland. The theme of the congress is "Extreme Safety" and registrants have 125 educational sessions options to attend.

Registration opens on January 1, 2007. To register call 1-800-OHIOBWC and press option 2, 2 and then 2 again or by logging on to ohiobwc.com. You may also register at the event.

AGRI-BUSINESS RETENTION AND EXPANSION ROUNDTABLE CALENDAR RELEASE - DECEMBER 6, 2006

Join OSU's Center for Farmland Policy Innovation and Business Retention and Expansion Initiative for our next roundtable series addressing strategies local leaders can implement to retain and expand their local agricultural sector.

The purpose of the roundtables is to give local leaders interested in strengthening local agriculture the opportunity for small group learning from a topical expert and peer-to-peer exchanges. Local leaders in farmland protection (county commissioners, township trustees, planning and zoning officials, land trust leaders, etc.) are invited to participate in the discussion of this agricultural economic development topic.

These roundtables are free of charge. However, seating is limited (15-20) and an RSVP is required. All roundtables are held from 4pm-6pm. Dates, local hosts and locations for this roundtable are as follows:

Tuesday, February 6, 2007 Host - OSU Extension Medina County 120 West Washington St. Medina, Ohio 44256

Thursday, February 8, 2007 Host - OSU Extension Muskingum County 225 Underwood St. Zanesville, Ohio 43701

Thursday, February 15, 2007 Host - OSU Extension Allen County 3900 Campus Dr. Lima, Ohio 45804

To RSVP or for more information, please call the Center for Farmland Policy Innovation at: (614) 247-6479, e-mail cffpi@osu.edu, or visit our web site http://cffpi.osu.edu.

OHPELRA 23RD ANNUAL TRAINING CONFERENCE

The Ohio Public Employer Labor Relations Association (OHPELRA) will hold it's 23rd Annual Training Conference on February 4-6, 2007 at Cherry Valley Lodge & Conference Center, 2299 Cherry Valley Road, in Licking County (Newark). The theme of the conference is "Surviving the Game with Winning Strategies" with sessions focusing on arbitration, off-duty behavior, transitioning workers to managers, negotiations, agreements and termination issues, the new Strickland administration, public sector human resources, generational issues, legal update, pandemics and other disasters, and hot button issues. Archie Griffin, President and CEO of The Ohio State University Alumni Association will be the closing speaker.

An application has been submitted to the Ohio Supreme Court Commission on Continuing Legal Education for CLE credit hours for this program.

Registration fees: \$229 (OHPELRA member) or \$320 (non-member) or single day registration: \$130 (OHPELRA member) or \$170 (non-member). Registration deadline: January 31, 2007. For more

information please contact Laura Joy Campbell, OHPELRA Treasurer, Butler County Department of Personnel, 315 High Street - Floor 6, Hamilton, OH 45011, (513) 887-3595, fax (513) 785-5199.

NPELRA ACADEMY II: THE ARBITRATION PROCESS

The National Public Employer Labor Relations Association (NPELRA) will hold "Academy II: The Arbitration Process" on February 7, 2007 at Cherry Valley Lodge, 2299 Cherry Valley Road, in Licking County (Newark).

Academy II presents a thorough grounding in the role of arbitration in union-management relations from the perspectives of the practitioner, the arbitrator, and the advocate. Workshops cover tips for responding to grievances, the rules of contract construction and how and when to raise arbitrability. Participants will draft a response to a grievance and learn how to improve their skills in preparing and presenting a winning case. An arbitrator will discuss what works and what doesn't and present the key elements of the burden of proof. Interactive exercises in choosing an arbitrator and selecting witnesses are designed to build expertise. A cross-examination demonstration using dramatic examples and a review of preparing for interest arbitration complete the session.

Registration fee (includes NPELRA Academy Manual, continental breakfast, refreshments, and lunch): \$250 (NPELRA member), \$200 (OHPELRA members who attend the OHEPLRA Annual Training Conference), \$250 (OHPELRA members not attending the OHPELRA Annual Training Conference), and \$325 (non-members). Enrollment is limited to 72 people.

For more information please contact: NPELRA, Attn: Labor Relations Academy Certification Program, 1012 South Coast Highway - Suite M, Oceanside, CA 92054, 1(877) NPELRA1, fax (760) 433-1687. To register online or to learn more about the Certified

Labor Relations Certification Program visit www.npelra.org.

CLASSIFIEDS

POLICY ANALYST

The County Commissioners Association of Ohio seeks a full-time Policy Analyst.

The policy analyst helps develop and advocates CCAO policy positions with legislators, executives, and other organizations with like interests and goals. Research assigned policy areas and conduct data analysis using spreadsheets and other programs to convey information. Provide training and education outreach to Ohio's counties, which includes some travel. Establish relationships with legislators, elected officials, and administrators at state level and other organizations. Bachelor Degree in Liberal Arts or Social Science or related field. 2-3 years experience in county or state government or legislature preferred; or equivalent combination of education and experience sufficient to demonstrate necessary knowledge, skills and abilities.

The Policy Analyst will serve with 4 other team members who advocate the Association's policy positions and provide support to member counties, including responding to inquiries, analyzing data, and giving presentations.

Competitive salary and benefit program. Positive, team-oriented downtown Columbus office. Send resume and salary requirements to Kathy Dillon, CCAO 37 W. Broad Street, Suite 650; Columbus, OH 43215 or e-mail to ccaopa@ccao.org. Resumes accepted until position is filled. No phone calls please.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

Delaware County is accepting applications for the position of Director in the Department of Economic Development.

The primary focus of the Economic Development Director is to promote and facilitate expansion of Delaware County's economic base in order to realize increased tax base and employment opportunities. Secondary emphasis is placed on community development activities, specifically the development of infrastructure and provision of affordable housing opportunities.

The successful candidate must have:

- Bachelor's degree in Business Administration or related field as well as documented successful related work experience or several years experience in a management role within economic development in lieu of a degree;
- Knowledge of and experience with Comprehensive Housing Improvement Program (CHIP) and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG); and
- Supervisory experience.

Responsibilities for this position are:

- Organizing and overseeing of multiple, ongoing projects;
- Applying rules, regulations and guidelines associated with Economic Development programs;
- Marketing and administration experience with the Revolving Loan Funds
- Negotiating and implementing the taxincentive programs which include the Enterprise Zone, Community Reinvestment Area and Tax-Increment Financing programs;
- Marketing efforts for economic development programs;
- Coordinating the activities with state participation on CDBG programs;
- Preparing the semi-annual and annual reports for Tax-Incentive and Revolving Loan programs.

The starting compensation range for this position is \$70,290.92 - \$82,243.20 annually. Qualified candidates must submit a completed application which can be obtained from our website at

www.co.delaware.oh.us, at the Delaware County Human Resources Department, 10 Court Street, 2nd Floor, Delaware, Ohio, 43015, by calling 740/833-2120 and can be faxed to 740/833-2119. Individuals selected for an interview may be required to complete an onsite profile assessment. Deadline for submitting an application is **Tuesday, December 26, 2006.**

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 mineiman@ccao.org.