



CIDS

County Information and Data Service

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DATES TO REMEMBER

MAY 4, 2007	CCC/ESAO REGIONAL MEETING, THEO'S RESTAURANT, GUERNSEY COUNTY (CAMBRIDGE)
MAY 21, 2007	H.B. 694 TRAINING SEMINAR, UNION COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING, UNION COUNTY (MARYSVILLE)
JUNE 10-12, 2007	CCAO/CEAO ANNUAL CONFERENCE, PARK INN TOLEDO (FORMERLY RADISSON HOTEL), LUCAS COUNTY (TOLEDO)
JULY 13-17, 2007	NACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE, RICHMOND, VA
AUGUST 1, 2007	CCAO ANNUAL GOLF OUTING, OAKHAVEN GOLF CLUB, DELAWARE COUNTY (DELAWARE)
AUGUST 14-15, 2007	COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DAYS, VAN WERT COUNTY (VAN WERT)

ASSOCIATION NEWS

H.B. 694 TRAINING SEMINAR - MAY 21

Having trouble understanding and implementing the new pay-to-play law (H.B. 694)? CCAO, the Ohio Township Association, the County Auditors' Association, and the Ohio Prosecuting Attorneys' Association are hosting a training seminar for county commissioners, township officials, county purchasing directors, county prosecutors, county auditors, and other county and township personnel who are involved with purchasing to help answer questions about and suggest solutions for implementing the new requirements of H.B. 694. These new purchasing and campaign contribution requirements are complex and the Associations hope to make understanding and implementing this new law easier.

The seminar will be held on May 21, 2007 at the Union County Office Building, 233 West Sixth Street, in Marysville. Registration and a continental breakfast will begin at 8:30 a.m. with sessions beginning at 9:00 a.m. and ending at 3:30 p.m. Registration fees (includes seminar materials, continental breakfast, and lunch): \$40 per person if postmarked by May 11 or \$55 per person postmarked after May 11. Registration deadline: May 15, 2007. An application has been submitted to the Ohio Supreme Court for continuing legal education (CLE) credits for the seminar.

For more information please contact Amanda Jones, CCAO Administrative Assistant, (614) 220-7985, (888) 757-1904, or ajones@ccao.org.

AUDITOR OF STATE MARY TAYLOR ADDRESSED BOARD OF TRUSTEES

On April 20, Auditor of State Mary Taylor attended CCAO's Board of Trustees meeting and spoke to the Board about her philosophy and vision concerning the Auditor of State's Office. The Auditor explained the important and useful role she believes performance audits play in helping state and local entities comply with the law. However, Taylor feels that these audits, along with other audits performed by her office, need to be completed in a more timely fashion and assured the Board that she would work to see the audits completed more quickly than in the past.

The Medicaid program performance review completed by the Auditor of State's office in December, 2006 was also discussed. Taylor stated that her office is continuing to examine that review. The Auditor of State's Office will be holding regional round table discussions throughout the year to determine the concerns of interested parties around the state. After her office concludes those discussions, she will issue recommendations for inclusion in the state biennial budget for fiscal years 2010 and 2011.

Ms. Taylor also discussed H.B. 166, sponsored by Rep. Schindell (R-Mentor), and S.B. 146, sponsored by Sen. Spada (R-North Royalton). These companion bills propose to create the Office of Internal Auditing within the Office of Budget and Management. The Office of Internal Auditing would conduct internal audits of state agencies or divisions of state agencies to improve their operations in the areas of risk management, internal controls, and governance.

For further information, please contact Beth Dominic, Policy Analyst, at (614) 220-7996, (888) 757-1904, or bdominic@ccao.org.

HIT A HOME RUN IN LUCAS COUNTY!

Lucas County Commissioners Tina Skeldon Wozniak, Pete Gerken and Ben Konop and County Engineer Keith Earley will host the 127th CCAO/CEAO Annual Summer Conference on June 10-12, 2007 at the Park Inn Toledo (former Radisson Hotel) and SeaGate Convention Centre in downtown Toledo. Conference materials were mailed this week to county

commissioners, county engineers, affiliates, vendors and exhibitor.

Change in Conference Event Schedule - The 2007 Summer Conference event schedule has changed. The conference day pattern is still the same, but sessions will be ending mid afternoon on Tuesday, June 12. There will be no banquet on Tuesday evening.

Sunday evening event - Join Lucas County on Sunday evening, June 10 at the Toledo Mud Hens v. Norfolk Tides baseball game at Fifth Third Stadium, which is located in downtown Toledo across from the Park Inn. A reception, dinner and game will be held at the stadium. Tickets to the game are included with the full and spouse registration packages. Pick up tickets at the CCAO/CEAO Registration Desk located on first floor of the Park Inn prior to the game.

Optional Golf Outing - Tee times have been reserved beginning at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, June 10 at Heather Downs Country Club. Greens fees: \$45 (includes 18 holes and a shared cart). Please contact Tanya Wilcox, CCAO Administrative Assistant, at (614) 221-5627, (888) 757-1904 or twilxoc@ccao.org for more information.

CCAO workshop topics

- Health Savings Accounts
- Employment Practices 101/Minimum Wage
- The Future of 9-1-1 and County Law Libraries
- Agriculture & Rural Development: CAFO Impacts
- Human Services & Workforce Development
- Public Record Law Changes
- Alternative Energy Strategies
- IRS Taxation of Fringe Benefits
- Urban & Rural Drainage Issues
- IRS Fringe Benefit Audits of Counties
- Campaign Finance/Purchasing Legislation
- Healthy Lifestyle Choices
- New CCAO Website

A tentative agenda is included with this issue of CIDS for county commissioners, please make copy for interested staff.

Hotel Reservations - The headquarters hotel is the Park Inn Toledo. Room rate: \$89 single/double.

Reservation cut off date: May 18, 2007. For reservations please call (419) 241-3000.

Spouse Activity - Details for the spouse/guest activity are being finalized.

Please watch future issues of CIDS for more conference information.

2007 CCAO ROSTERS

The 2007 CCAO Rosters are hot off the press. Copies are being mailed by the printer and should arrive next week. Please contact CCAO if you need additional copies.

OHIO LEGISLATIVE DIRECTORY

Enclosed with this issue of CIDS for county commissioners are copies of the *Ohio Legislative Directory for the 127th General Assembly 2007-2008*. This directory is provided by the Ohio Council of County Officials (OCCO) to member associations which includes the auditors, clerks of courts, commissioners, coroners, engineers, judicial conference, prosecuting attorneys, recorders, sheriffs, and treasurers. Please distribute these directories to county commissioners and office staff.

STATE ACTIVITIES

FORECLOSURE PANEL: EDUCATION EFFORTS WILL BE KEY

Improving educational programs targeted to those seeking mortgage loans will be a key step in preventing future foreclosure problems, members of a task force studying the issue agreed Monday, April 23. The educational effort, members said, needs to reach people before they sign loan documents and after they might find themselves in financial trouble. Ohioans would also be less likely to fall victim to unscrupulous lenders if they had basic training in personal finances while in high school, a lawmaker added.

The comments came from members of the Foreclosure Prevention Task Force, which also formally assigned subcommittees on Monday. As

reported in CIDS last week, Governor Ted Strickland appointed CCAO Executive Director Larry Long to serve on the Task Force. Long will serve on the subcommittee dealing with educating the borrowers, which is chaired by State Treasurer Rich Cordray. Separately, members also noted that a task force subcommittee charged with determining possible loan refinancing terms will make recommendations but not in consultation with lenders. Negotiations would involve other state officials, possibly Governor Strickland.

Clayton Evans of Freddie Mac told the panel that the federal home lending agency is looking at buying up to \$20 billion in mortgages this year to help homeowners who have higher cost subprime loans. Doug Garver of the Ohio Housing Finance Agency reviewed a new OHFA "rescue" program designed to offer about \$3.1 million in short-term assistance for struggling homeowners. While several members stressed the importance of education and outreach programs, Rep. Chris Widener (R-Springfield) said the inclusion of personal finance education in public high schools could have the biggest impact on halting the problem. "We don't teach it," he said. "And we should." Rachel Robinson of the Equal Justice Foundation also said the education effort needs to reach all people. "Even a genius can be talked into a bad deal," she said.

Panelists are to hear from two major federal home lending programs - Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae - and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development at their meeting on May 7.

MORE COMMISSIONERS TAPPED BY STRICKLAND

Last week, Governor Ted Strickland announced appointments to several boards and commissions.

Peter Lawson Jones, Cuyahoga County Commissioner, has been named to the Miami University Board of Trustees. The Board has the authority to hire and set the compensation of the president, professors and employees of Miami University. The Board is charged with maintaining the successful operation of the college. Jones served in the Ohio House of Representatives from 1997 to

2002, on Shaker Heights City Council from 1984 to 1991 and vice mayor from 1988 to 1989.

Deborah Lieberman, Montgomery County Commissioner, has been appointed to the Housing Trust Fund Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee is charged with assisting the Ohio Department of Development and the Housing Finance Agency in identifying the housing needs and priorities of the state and reports on how programs, such as the Low-and-Moderate Income Housing Trust Fund, can more effectively benefit low and moderate income individuals and families. The committee advises the director of the Ohio Department of Development as to when and how money within the Housing Trust Fund should be allocated. Lieberman has worked for the Legal Aid Society of Dayton and has experience in residential and commercial real estate development. Lieberman also served as the director of real estate for the Montgomery County Auditor's Office before being named the chief deputy auditor in 2001.

COMMISSIONER NOMINATIONS FOR WORKFORCE POLICY BOARD

The Department of Development has requested nominations from CCAO for county commissioners who wish to serve on the Governor's Workforce Policy Board. The Board's duty is to advise and assist the Governor in building Ohio's workforce development system. In addition to two county commissioners, the Board's members represent diverse interests involved with workforce development in Ohio, such as state agency directors, private sector employers, colleges and universities, unions, and nonprofit associations.

If a county commissioner is interested in serving on the Board, please contact Beth Dominic, CCAO Policy Analyst, at 614-220-7996 or bdominic@ccao.org by May 7.

LUDWIG NAMED TO CONCENTRATED ANIMAL FEEDING FACILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

On April 5, 2007 Ohio Department of Agriculture Director Robert Boggs announced the appointment of Hardin County Commissioner Russell Ludwig to the

Concentrated Animal Feeding Facility Advisory Committee. Commissioner Ludwig's three year term began on March 14, 2007 and will end on March 13, 2010. Commissioner Ludwig follows the completed term of Commissioner Terry Haworth of Darke County as the CCAO representative to the Advisory Committee.

The CAFF Advisory Committee advises the Ohio Department of Agriculture Director and the Livestock Environmental Permitting Program Staff on policies and rules governing large-scale livestock farming in Ohio. "I look forward to working with [Russell] in this important program," said Director Boggs.

Commissioner Ludwig was born, raised, and continues to operate a three generation family homestead farm. A veteran with 27 years of military service, the commissioner serves on the Hardin County Farm Bureau Board of Directors, Hospice Board of Directors, and Blanchard River Church of Christ Trustees. He has also served on the Hardin Northern School Board, Hardin County United Way and the Hardin County Museum Board.

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

FEDERAL CHILD SUPPORT RESTORATION BILLS

Due to the federal Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 ("DRA"), Ohio is slated to lose \$20 million in federal dollars for child support enforcement. To prevent this loss in Ohio and other states, bipartisan groups have introduced companion bills, each of which is entitled the Child Support Protection Act of 2007. These pieces of legislation will repeal the provision in the DRA that reduces funding to states by ending matching funds that states could receive from the federal government if they were awarded incentive payments for good enforcement performance.

In the House, Rep. Jim McDermott (D-WA) is the chief sponsor of H.R. 1386. The resolution is co-sponsored by 20 other representatives, including Rep. Steven LaTourette (R-OH). In the Senate, Senator John Rockefeller (D-WV) is sponsoring S. 803, with 8 additional co-sponsors, including three Republicans (Coleman, R-MN, Cornyn, R-TX, and Snowe, R-ME). The bills were introduced on March 8

and recently referred to the House Ways and Means and Senate Finance committees.

The largest roadblock in getting these bills passed is finding funding for the restorations. Because child support enforcement is an entitlement program, thus not needing annual appropriations, the funding restorations must be paid for by cost savings in other programs or revenue increases. Please contact your representative and senators to express your support for these child support enforcement bills.

For further information, please contact Beth Dominic, Policy Analyst, at (614) 220-7996, (888) 757-1904, or bdominic@ccao.org.

NACo ACTIVITIES

NACo DISASTER/TERRORISM PREPAREDNESS TOOLKIT AVAILABLE

The toolkit includes software for good decision-making, a CD with useful preparedness documents and a DVD entitled, "The Seven Signs of Terrorism" that is customizable for local communities. Supplies are limited and available to NACo member counties. NACo developed the kit with financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security/Office of Grants and Training. (Contact: Rocky Lopes, NACo

Project Manager, Community Services, at (202) 661-8841 or rlopes@naco.org)

RURAL YOUTH OBESITY SURVEY - DUE ONLINE APRIL 30

Youth obesity and related illnesses such as early onset diabetes have become a national epidemic, creating less healthy kids with shorter lifespans. Lots of help and resources have been provided, but little of it has gone to small town and rural America.

The National Association of Counties (NACo) Center for Sustainable Communities is working to change that and needs your help completing a survey. Results of this survey will help attract financial and technical resources to help county leaders create healthier communities. To complete the survey go to http://www.naco.org/cfiles/surveys/rural_obesity/survey.cfm. Deadline: April 30, 2007. For more

information please contact Casey Dillon, National Association of Counties, 25 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001, (202) 942-4243, fax (202) 661-8871 or cdillon@naco.org.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATIONS

NACo's Annual Conference is rapidly approaching and one of the most important events is the election of officers and Board of Directors members. State associations are asked to nominate representatives to serve on the NACo Board of Directors. The NACo Nominating Committee will review the nominations and prepare a report to be presented at the Annual Business Meeting to be held on Tuesday, July 17 in Richmond, Virginia. The term of a NACo Board Member runs for one year beginning the last day of the current annual conference and ending the last day of the next annual conference.

CCAO is entitled to two representatives on the NACo Board of Directors. Currently, the positions are filled by Commissioners Lenny Eliason (Athens) and Roger Tackett (Clark).

Commissioners interested in serving on the NACo Board of Directors should send or fax (614/221-6986) a letter of interest to CCAO Executive Director Larry Long by May 31, 2007.

SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

OHIO PUBLIC WORKS EXPO 2007; DEBRIS MANAGEMENT TRAINING COURSE

The Ohio Emergency Management Agency, the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) and the Ohio EPA will host the "Ohio Public Works Expo 2007 - Debris Management Training Course" on May 16-17, 2007 at the Park Inn Toledo and the SeaGate Convention Centre in downtown Toledo. This course provides an overview of issues and recommended actions needed to plan for, respond to and recover from a major debris-generating event. The course is intended for public works officials, solid waste district managers, engineers, environmental compliance managers, public information officers, attorneys, and procurement/contracting officials who are responsible for planning, and/or implementing debris removal and disposal actions. SWANA has approved 10 CEU's

for the following certifications: manager of landfill or bioreactor operations, manager of construction and demolition materials, manager of solid waste management systems and manager of recycling, composting, collection or transfer operations.

Registration: \$85 - SWANA, SMSO, APWA members or \$125 - non-members. Deadline: May 7, 2007. For more information please contact Sheryl Smith, Chapter Training Chair, Ohio Buckeye Chapter of SWANA, at (614) 899-9288 or go to www.swanaohio.org.

MISC.

HONOR FLIGHT NETWORK™

Organized in 2005, the Honor Flight Network™ flies America's veterans to Washington, D.C. from April to December to visit memorials dedicated to honor the service and sacrifices of themselves and their friends.

Top priority is given to WWII Veterans. The next priority is for veterans with terminal illness, Korean and Vietnam veterans and then veterans of all other wars. There is no charge to any veteran. For more information about this program please contact Honor Flight Network™, 300 East Auburn Avenue, Springfield, OH 45505, (937) 521-2400, (937) 521-2580, info@honorflight.org or www.honorflight.org.

CLASSIFIEDS

H.R. DIRECTOR – PART TIME

Huron County is seeking a motivated individual to manage the Human Resource/Labor Relations functions of Huron County. Must have a bachelor's degree in human resources/labor relations or have five years experience. Experience in union negotiations and knowledge of Civil Service Rules and Regulations required. Compensation pay range \$22.00 - \$30.00. For immediate consideration, please forward your resume and salary requirements to Cheryl Nolan, Administrator/Clerk, Huron County Administration Building Suite 7, 180 Milan Avenue, Norwalk, Ohio 44857 by 4:30 p.m. **May 11, 2007**. Applications are available online at www.hccommissioners.com. Later submissions may be considered in the County's discretion until position is filled. EOE

CSEA DIRECTOR

The Franklin County Commissioners are seeking a director for the Child Support Enforcement Agency. Responsibilities: administer and establish agency policies and procedures in accordance with mandated state and federal laws; supervise the operation of the management staff; handle labor/employee relations matters; establish and maintain contact with state/county representatives/officials and the general public; participate in contract negotiations and collective bargaining agreement issues and sensitive disciplinary problems; make oral and written presentations regarding child support enforcement issues. Equally important is an open management style, the ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships at all levels, and a record of providing quality customer service.

Requirements: Bachelor's Degree in business/public administration, social work or related field (Master's Degree preferred). Demonstrated knowledge of federal and state laws, rules and procedures. Eight years experience in government or business operations. Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively both orally and in written form. Five years supervisory experience. Prefer experience in the following areas: budget preparation, personnel or human resources and public or private management in the delivery of services or comparable experience. Title IV D experience is highly preferred. Knowledge of collective bargaining processes a plus.

Competitive salary plus a comprehensive county benefits package. Send resume to the Franklin County Human Resources Dept., 373 S. High St., 25th Fl., Columbus, OH 43215. This position is an unclassified position and serves at the pleasure of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners. A person in this position will be required to complete an annual Financial Disclosure Statement. EOE