



CIDS

County Information and Data Service

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DATES TO REMEMBER

AUGUST 22, 2007	CCAO REGIONAL POLICY BRIEFING, WARREN COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, WARREN COUNTY (LEBANON)
AUGUST 24, 2007	CORSA's 20th ANNUAL MEETING, ALADDIN SHRINE CENTER, FRANKLIN COUNTY (COLUMBUS)
AUGUST 27, 2007	CCAO REGIONAL POLICY BRIEFING, OLDE DUTCH RESTAURANT, HOCKING COUNTY (LOGAN)
AUGUST 28, 2007	CCAO REGIONAL POLICY BRIEFING, MARY YODER'S RESTAURANT, GEAUGA COUNTY (MIDDLEFIELD)
AUGUST 29, 2007	CCAO REGIONAL POLICY BRIEFING, WOOD COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, WOOD COUNTY (BOWLING GREEN)
SEPTEMBER 2007	NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH (www.ready.gov)
SEPTEMBER 14, 2007	SE DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS AND ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING, FARMSTEAD RESTAURANT, HOLMES COUNTY (BERLIN)
SEPTEMBER 24, 2007	NW DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS AND ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING, MARION COUNTRY CLUB, MARION COUNTY (MARION)
SEPTEMBER 28, 2007	CCC/ESAO REGIONAL MEETING, ALLEN COUNTY SANITARY ENGINEERS OFFICE, ALLEN COUNTY (LIMA)
OCTOBER 26, 2007	CCC/ESAO REGIONAL MEETING, DEPARTMENT OF SANITARY ENGINEERING, GREENE COUNTY (XENIA)
DECEMBER 2-5, 2007	CCAO WINTER CONFERENCE, HYATT REGENCY, FRANKLIN COUNTY (COLUMBUS)

ASSOCIATION NEWS

CCAO TO HOST REGIONAL POLICY BRIEFINGS

CCAO is conducting four Regional Policy Briefings for county commissioners along with county administrators, clerks and other key staff to highlight how the recently passed FY 2008/2009 state budget affects counties. In addition, the CCAO policy staff will provide updates on current issues including the ethics law, HB 694, indigent defense and county law libraries, highlight legislative initiatives the Association is pursuing, and be available to answer questions.

Each seminar will start at 9:00 a.m. and end at 3:00 p.m. Lunch will be served. There will be no charge for county commissioners and chief staff members to attend, but there is a \$20 charge per person for other county elected officials and their staff. Information and registration materials are enclosed with this issue of CIDS for county commissioners.

Plan to attend one of the following briefings:

- **August 22, 2007** - Warren County Administration Building, 406 Justice Drive, Warren County (Lebanon). Registration deadline: August 15.
- **August 27, 2007** - Olde Dutch Restaurant, State Route 664, Hocking County (Logan). Registration deadline: August 20.
- **August 28, 2007** - Mary Yoder's Restaurant, 14743 North State Street, Geauga County (Middlefield). Registration deadline: August 21.
- **August 29, 2007** - Wood County Administration Building, One Courthouse Square, Wood County (Bowling Green). Registration deadline: August 22.

For more information please contact John Leutz, CCAO Senior Policy Analyst, (614) 220-7994, (888) 757-1904 or jleutz@ccao.org.

SURVEY ON IMPROVING COUNTY GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY

Last week all counties were faxed a SURVEY regarding steps we could take to increase county government modernization or efficiency. CCAO is

looking for our members to identify things counties currently do that are either no longer necessary or inefficient by today's standards. We are providing plenty of time for response and are asking that this SURVEY be returned to the CCAO office by September 17, 2007. We are asking our members to identify antiquated mandates that ought to be eliminated or responsibilities that could be reformed in order to perform them in a much more cost efficient manner.

Please take time to respond to the survey by indicating any issues which you think the CCAO ought to address from this perspective. The results will be given to the Legislative Committee for their review and consideration. Again, we ask that you return your survey by Monday, **September 17, 2007**. You may also fax your survey to 614-221-6986 or email your suggestions to John Leutz at jleutz@ccao.org.

HOLMES COUNTY TO HOST SE DISTRICT MEETING

Holmes County Commissioners Joe Miller, Ray Feikert and David Hall and County Engineer Chris Young will host the Southeast District County Commissioners and Engineers Association Quarterly Meeting on Friday, September 14, 2007. Location of the meeting will be at the Farmstead Restaurant, 4757 Township Road 366, in Berlin. Registration begins at 10:30 a.m. An Amish country bus tour which will include a visit to watch brooms being handcrafted or shopping in downtown Berlin is available from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The business meeting begins at 2:30 p.m. with a buffet dinner and entertainment following at 4:30 p.m.

Registration fee: \$15 per person - buffet dinner only or \$25 per person - bus tour and buffet dinner. For more information please contact Debbie Bell, Holmes County Highway Department, 7191 State Route 39, P.O. Box 29, Millersburg, OH 44654, (330) 674-1856 or engineer@co.holmes.oh.us.

2007 CCC/ESAO REGIONAL MEETINGS - SEPT. 26 & OCT. 26

For the past four years, the County Commissioners Clerks and Engineers Secretaries Association of Ohio (CCC/ESAO), CCAO's first and oldest affiliate

organization, have held a series of very successful regional meetings around the state. The purpose of these meetings is for CCC/ESAO members to share their knowledge with other clerks and secretaries that are unable to attend conferences and workshops.

Due to the overwhelming success, CCC/ESAO has held three successful meeting this year and two more are scheduled on September 28 and October 26. These informal meetings are open to all commissioners' clerks or deputies and engineers secretaries or administrative assistants to discuss various topics of concern in your county. The meeting topics are tailored to meet the needs of each district. All meetings will start at 10:00 a.m. and end at 2:30 p.m. There is no charge to attend. Lunch will be sponsored by CCAO/CEAO. **The CCAO Board of Trustees encourages all county commissioners to permit their clerks and other office support staff to attend one of the following meetings.**

<p>SEPTEMBER 28, 2007 - ALLEN COUNTY - REGION 1</p> <p>LOCATION: Allen County Sanitary Engineer's Office, 3230 North Cole Street, Lima</p> <p>COUNTIES: Allen, Auglaize, Champaign, Defiance, Fulton, Hancock, Hardin, Henry, Logan, Lucas, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam, Shelby, Van Wert, Williams, and Wood</p> <p>For more information please contact Susan Schmunk, Administrative Assistant, Williams County Engineer's Office, at (419) 636-2454 or sschmunk@wmsco.org or Kelli Singhaus, Clerk, Allen County Commissioners, at (419) 228-3700 ext. 8725 or ksinghaus@allencountyohio.org.</p>
<p>OCTOBER 26, 2007 - GREENE COUNTY - REGION 5 & 6</p> <p>LOCATION: Department of Sanitary Engineering, 667 Dayton-Xenia Road, Xenia</p> <p>COUNTIES: Adams, Brown, Butler, Clark, Clermont, Clinton, Darke, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Gallia, Greene, Hamilton, Highland, Hocking, Jackson, Lawrence, Madison, Miami, Montgomery, Perry, Pickaway, Pike, Preble, Ross, Scioto, Warren, and Vinton</p> <p>For more information please contact Flora Butler, Clerk, Butler County Commissioners, at (513) 887-3504 or ButlerFR@butlercountyohio.org or Lisa Mock, Clerk, Greene County Commissioners, at (937) 562-5006 or lmock@co.greene.oh.us.</p>

For more information, please contact the 2007 CCC/ESAO President Cheryl Nolan,

Administrator/Clerk, Huron County Commissioners, at (419) 668-3092 or cnolan@hccommissioners.com.

COMMISSIONERS ARE APPOINTED TO SEVERAL HUMAN SERVICES BOARDS

County Commissioners David Dhume (Madison) and Pete Gerken (Lucas) were appointed to the Governor's Workforce Policy Advisory Board. The Board's purpose is to make recommendations to and advise the Governor about how to strengthen and grow Ohio's workforce. The Board held its first meeting several weeks ago to lay the foundation for its future. Both Commissioners Dhume and Gerken attended that meeting.

Council Member Paula Prentice from Summit County has been chosen to participate in the MR/DD Futures Study Committee that was created in the biennial budget bill. The Committee's goal is to identify changes in the MR/DD system to improve consumer choice, support quality outcomes, and assure financially sound practices and sustainable funding resources.

Commissioner Dhume also was invited to be part of a Medicaid Roundtable hosted by the Auditor of State. In response to the performance audit concerning Ohio's Medicaid system the Auditor released in December 2006, the Auditor is holding a series of roundtable discussions across the state with stakeholders who contributed to the audit. The purpose of the roundtable is to hear insights from all participants about the recommendations and suggestions made in the performance audit. The roundtable will meet in Columbus on August 22.

STATE ACTIVITIES

GOVERNOR ISSUES EMERGENCY DECLARATION FOR FLOODED NORTHEAST

Gov. Ted Strickland has declared an emergency for Cuyahoga County, where flash floods plagued area residents in the wake of Tuesday's rainstorms. The governor's action is aimed at gaining assistance of state agencies and the U.S. Small Business Administration in the recovery effort. Gov. Strickland asked U.S. SBA officials in a letter sent Wednesday to conduct damage assessments in the northeast part

of the state where the storm brought heavy rains and high winds. The storm caused blackouts and extensive flooding in the area. Officials said an initial assessment conducted by state and county Emergency Management Agency officials indicates the weather-related damage could meet minimum criteria for SBA aid: 25 houses or businesses with uninsured losses of at least 40% of value. If eligible, homeowners and businesses in Cuyahoga and contiguous counties could apply for low interest loans and other aid.

ODOT DIRECTOR ORDERS UPDATED BRIDGE INSPECTIONS IN WAKE OF COLLAPSE

Ohio Department of Transportation Director James Beasley has ordered new inspections on seven of 12 Ohio bridges overseen by the agency with "under-deck truss" designs similar to the Minnesota span that collapsed last week. The agency initially stated that it would wait for more details on the I-35W bridge failure in Minnesota given ODOT bridges are already on an annual inspection schedule. Subsequently, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Mary Peters asked states to inspect all similar bridges in their jurisdictions.

The ODOT bridges will be revisited over the next two weeks, the agency said. Of the remaining five, two were inspected late last week and the others are scheduled for inspections by the end of next month. The agency said it is reviewing the most recent inspections to determine if further action is necessary.

Additionally, ODOT said it was working with county engineers to "refine" the list of other locally administered bridges of the under-deck truss design. The current inventory pegs the number at 181. "ODOT will work with counties and cities on determining whether any additional measures will be needed, as directed by the U.S. Department of Transportation," the agency said in a news release.

SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS STATE AND LOCAL LAWS DEFINING PIT BULLS AS VICIOUS

On August 1 the Ohio Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of state and local laws that define pit bulls as vicious because of the threat such animals pose to citizens. A unanimous Supreme Court ruled that the state of Ohio and the City of Toledo have a legitimate interest in protecting citizens from the

dangers associated with pit bulls and that the state law and local ordinance are rationally related to that interest and are constitutional.

Ohio law defines a vicious dog to include a dog that "belongs to a breed that is commonly known as a pit bull dog" and the law requires owners of such dogs to obtain liability insurance. A Toledo Municipal Ordinance limits ownership to one pit bull per a person and requires pit bulls to be muzzled when not on the owner's premises. In the case, a municipal resident, Paul Tellings, challenged the municipal code that limits ownership of pit bulls, particularly provisions that declare the animals to be vicious. The Toledo Municipal Court upheld the Toledo ordinance, but the appeals court reversed the trial court citing issues of procedural and substantive due process, equal protection and vagueness regarding what constitutes a pit bull.

Writing for the majority, Chief Justice Thomas Moyer wrote, "The evidence presented in the trial court supports the conclusion that pit bulls pose a serious danger to the safety of citizens. The state and the city have a legitimate interest in protecting citizens from the danger posed by this breed of domestic dogs". The case is of direct interest to county commissioners and county dog wardens who are responsible for administering and enforcing Ohio's dog laws. The appellate court decision had put in legal limbo county enforcement of the vicious dog law particularly as it related to pit bulls. In upholding the state and local ordinance, the Supreme Court is also making it clear to the legislature and local governments that the court believes that so called "breed specific" legislation can be constitutional. Over the past several years there has been lively debate within the legislature over the constitutionality and appropriateness of listing pit bulls as vicious dogs per se. During the last General Assembly, former State Representative Kathleen Walcher had introduced legislation (HB189) which would have eliminated the provisions designating pit bulls as vicious.

Although referenced in this Supreme Court decision, no legislative remedy has been offered in response to a 2004 Supreme Court decision in the case of State v. Cowan in which the court ruled that Ohio's vicious dog law was unconstitutional because it does not provide dog owners with a meaningful opportunity to

be heard on whether a dog, other than a pit bull, is vicious or dangerous.

OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

2007-022

1. A county employee who is not eligible to retire under a state retirement system at the time he separates from county service is not, in the absence of a county policy to the contrary, entitled to payment for his unused sick leave at the time he separates from county service or when he subsequently retires.

2. A county employee who is eligible to retire under a state retirement system at the time he separates from county service, but who does not do so, is not, in the absence of a county policy to the contrary, entitled to payment for his unused sick leave at the time he separates from county service or when he subsequently retires.

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

VOINOVICH CO-SPONSORS NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2007

Ohio Senator George Voinovich was one of four original sponsors of the National Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2007 (S.775) that was reported out of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee on Tuesday, July 31. On Wednesday, August 1 the Interstate 35W Bridge in Minneapolis, Minnesota collapsed into the Mississippi River. S.775 passed the U.S. Senate on Friday, August 3 and has been referred to the U.S. House of Representatives Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

This was not the first time Voinovich has been a sponsor of bill that would create a national commission to study the condition of the nation's roads, bridges, drinking water systems, and other public works. Unfortunately, a bill introduced in the previous Congressional Session never saw action in 2006.

The bill would give the National Commission on the Infrastructure of the United States until September 30, 2010 to assess infrastructure in the U.S. with recommendations for needed improvements within

the next 5-50 years. Voinovich has been critical of the decline and maintenance of highways, bridges and dams due to insufficient funding.

NACo ACTIVITIES

JAIL DIVERSION GRANTS

The National Association of Counties (NACo) has announced that a small Jail Diversion Grant program is accepting applications from member counties until September 28, 2007. This small grant program's goal is to develop programs to divert individuals with mental illness from local jails and criminal justice systems to community treatment and services. Five grants funded up to \$5,000 each will be awarded. The grant period is from November 1 to October 31, 2008. The awards will be announced no later than October 19, 2007.

For questions concerning eligibility or the process of application, please contact Justin Carmody, Community Services Associate, Community Service Division, National Association of Counties, 25 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20001, (202) 942-4279 or jcarmody@naco.org. To download an application go to www.naco.org and scroll down to the article on NACo's front page.

CLASSIFIEDS

WATER/WASTEWATER ADMINISTRATOR

Licking County Government is seeking an Administrator in the Water/Wastewater Department. Qualified applicants must possess a Bachelor's Degree in Environmental Science or other related field and minimum of 3 years experience in the administration of a water/wastewater facility or department, or equivalent combination of training and/or experience. Successful candidates must have demonstrated experience in managing department procedures, as well as, monitoring and ensuring overall plant performance. Candidates must have excellent oral and written communication skills and the ability to effectively respond to and resolve issues of concern from customers. Supervisory experience, project management skills and a valid driver's license with a safe driving record are essential. Certification in Water/Wastewater is desired. Starting salary

\$45,500 - \$52,500. Successful candidates will be subject to Licking County's pre-employment drug screen. A complete job posting can be obtained by visiting our website www.lcounty.com or visiting the Human Resources Department. **Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.** Applications can be printed from the web site at www.lcounty.com or can be picked up at:

Licking County Human Resources Department, 20 South Second Street, 3rd Floor, Newark OH 43055. Licking County is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

SCATS TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

The Stark County Regional Planning Commission/Stark County Area Transportation Study is accepting applications for a SCATS Technical Director. This is an advanced professional position in transportation planning and engineering.

Responsible for the design and supervision of all technical elements of the transportation planning program. Ability to prepare and/or supervise the preparation of transportation planning documents, planning goals, policies and objectives is required. Strong computer, communication, problem-solving skills, and familiarity with ODOT and FHWA transportation planning programs are required.

Qualifications: Bachelor's or Master's degree in civil engineering, planning or a related field. A minimum of five to seven years work-related experience, or equivalent combination of education and experience.

Salary range \$55,000-\$85,000. Send resume and cover letter stating qualifications, experience and salary history to Stark County Regional Planning Commission, 201 3rd Street NE, Suite 201, Canton, OH 44702-1211, Attn: Bob Nau, Executive Director, or FAX to 330-451-7990. Deadline 12:00 noon- **Wednesday, August 22, 2007.**

PURCHASING ASSISTANT

The of Stark County Commissioners has an immediate need for a full-time Purchasing Assistant. The successful applicant will assist with the performance of various purchasing activities, prepare and verify requisition, input purchase orders, request quotations and contacts vendors. Must be able to communicate effectively in oral and written form, and develop and maintain working relationships with associates, supervisor, suppliers and general public. Knowledge of Word, Excel and Access a must. Salary range mid to high twenties.

Submit letter of interest and resume by 3:30 p.m. **August 17, 2007** to: Ms. Marsha Cunadevilla, Personnel Department, 110 Central Plaza South, Suite, 240, Canton, OH 44702. No phone calls. 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. Ads will also be published on the CCAO website at www.ccao.org. When submitting your ad to CCAO please provide a link to the job posting online and a deadline. Please provide a 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, by e-mail mjneiman@ccao.org.