



# CIDS

## County Information and Data Service

Published weekly by: County Commissioners Association of Ohio

37 West Broad Street, Suite 650 • Columbus, Ohio 43215-4195

Phone: 614-221-5627 • Fax: 614-221-6986 • www.ccao.org

VOLUME XXXXVIII

NO. 34

September 14, 2007

### DATES TO REMEMBER

SEPTEMBER, 2007	NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH ( <a href="http://www.ready.gov">www.ready.gov</a> )
SEPTEMBER 20, 2007	CCAO LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE, CCAO OFFICES (COLUMBUS)
SEPTEMBER 21, 2007	CCAO BOARD OF TRUSTEES, CCAO OFFICES (COLUMBUS)
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, 2007	NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH
OCTOBER 2, 2007	CCAO AFFILIATES COUNCIL, CCAO OFFICES (COLUMBUS)
OCTOBER 3, 2007	CCAOSC NATURAL GAS PROGRAM ANNUAL MEETING, CCAO OFFICES (COLUMBUS)
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

#### REQUESTS TO CCAO NOMINATING COMMITTEE DUE NOVEMBER 1

This week, Lenny Eliason, Athens County Commissioner and CCAO Nominating Committee Chair, sent each county commissioner a memo

detailing CCAO nominating procedures for 2007.

The Committee will nominate individuals for the offices of president, first vice president, second vice president, secretary and treasurer. It will also recommend eight members to serve two-year terms on the CCAO Board in 2008 and 2009.

The eight members whose terms to the Board expire this year include: Sam Bassitt (Allen), Terry Haworth (Darke), Edward Kuenzli (Wyandot), Kerry Metzger (Tuscarawas), Otto Nicely (Defiance), Ben Nutter (Seneca), Gary Starner (Hocking), and Roger Tackett (Clark).

The nine members appointed by President Jackson whose one year terms to the Board expire at the end of this year include: Mike Adelman (Huron), Mike Crabtree (Scioto), Martin Harmon (Paulding), Nick Kostandaras (Summit), Debbie Lieberman (Montgomery), Cheryl Noah (Wayne), Bob Peterson (Fayette), Daniel Polivka (Trumbull), and Bill Young (Geauga).

Submit the CCAO Nominating Committee Request Form and Candidate Questionnaire must be submitted by November 1, 2007 to:

1. Lenny Eliason, Athens County Commissioner, 15 South Court Street, Athens, OH 45701 or email at [leliason@athenscountygovernment.com](mailto:leliason@athenscountygovernment.com)
2. A copy should also be sent to: CCAO, 37 West Broad Street, Suite 650, Columbus, OH 43215, ATTN: Kathy Dillon - Nominating Committee or email at [kathydillon@ccao.org](mailto:kathydillon@ccao.org)

Additional forms may be obtained by contacting Kathy Dillon at (614) 221/5627 or on the CCAO Web Page at [www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org).

### CCAOSC NATURAL GAS PROGRAM ANNUAL MEETING

The CCAO Service Corporation Natural Gas Program Annual Meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 3, 2007 in the CCAO offices in Columbus. An agenda will be mailed two weeks before the meeting. Thirty counties are members of the current program.

The Participation Agreement of the CCAOSC Natural Gas Purchase Program states that the Board of Participants has general oversight of the Program. It shall consist of one representative of each participating county in the Program. Each participating county shall designate one

representative and one alternate to the Board of Participants in writing and filed it with the CCAOSC. A participant vote may be cast only by the Representative or the Alternate. Each member county should have completed and returned the form to Tanya Wilcox, CCAO Administrative Assistant, on or before September 13, 2007.

### CCAOC BOARD OF TRUSTEES MINUTES

Enclosed with this issue of CIDS for county commissioners are the minutes from the June 12, 2007 CCAO Board of Trustees meeting. CCAO distributes the minutes after approval from the Board.

### COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RING

In 1986, CCAO authorized the creation of an official county commissioners ring. The ring was designed at the request of current and former county commissioners under the guidance of CCAO. To order a ring, please contact Mike Miller at Miller's Jewelers in Mansfield at (419) 522-2793 or [www.millersjewelry.com](http://www.millersjewelry.com). It takes about six weeks for delivery of the rings.

### 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 meetings 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.**

**SEPT 28, 2007 - ALLEN COUNTY - REGION 1**

LOCATION: Allen County Sanitary Engineer's Office, 3230 North Cole Street, Lima

COUNTIES: Allen, Auglaize, Champaign, Defiance, Fulton, Hancock, Hardin, Henry, Logan, Lucas, Mercer, Paulding, Putnam, Shelby, Van Wert, Williams, and Wood

For more information please contact Susan Schmunk, Administrative Assistant, Williams County Engineer's Office, at (419) 636-2454 or [sschmunk@wmsco.org](mailto:sschmunk@wmsco.org) or Kelli Singhaus, Clerk, Allen County Commissioners, at (419) 228-3700 ext. 8725 or [ksinghaus@allencountyohio.org](mailto:ksinghaus@allencountyohio.org).

**OCT 26, 2007 - GREENE COUNTY - REGION 5 & 6**

LOCATION: Department of Sanitary Engineering, 667 Dayton-Xenia Road, Xenia

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

For more information please contact Flora Butler, Clerk, Butler County Commissioners, at (513) 887-3504 or [ButlerFR@butlercountyohio.org](mailto:ButlerFR@butlercountyohio.org) or Lisa Mock, Clerk, Greene County Commissioners, at (937) 562-5006 or [lmock@co.greene.oh.us](mailto:lmock@co.greene.oh.us).

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](mailto:cnolan@hccommissioners.com).

**IN MEMORIUM**

**MICHAEL J. SMITH, SR.**

Former Richland County Commissioner Michael J. Smith, Sr. (77) died on Saturday, September 8, following a brief illness. Born in Cincinnati, Mike grew up in Niagra Falls, NY and moved to Chicago, IL as a teen and attended Colvert Military Academy and

graduated at age 16. He joined the U.S. Marine Corps and received many medals during the Korean Conflict. Mike's political career began in 1956 when he became Mayor of Lucas and continued with his election and service as Richland County Commissioner (1963-1970). CCAO extends heartfelt sympathy to the Smith family. Notes of sympathy may be sent to: The Smith Family, 560 Coleman Road, Mansfield, OH 44903-1810.

**COUNTY ACTIVITIES**

**BIG DARBY ACCORD RECOGNIZED AS OUTSTANDING PLANNING PROJECT**

Franklin County Commissioners Mary Jo Kilroy, Paula Brooks, and Marilyn Brown and partners, Brown, Norwich, Pleasant, Prairie, and Washington townships and the cities of Columbus, Grove City, Harrisburg, and Hilliard have won a first place award from the Ohio Planning Conference (OPC) for a focused planning project. The Big Darby Accord Watershed Master Plan is a groundbreaking effort of 10 jurisdictions that worked together to create a common vision of the future for the Big Darby Creek, a State and National Scenic River.

The focused planning project award category recognizes a planning project of unusually high merit dealing with a specific subject, such as environmental planning. The Big Darby Accord will share the first place award with the Cincinnati Scenic View Study. The award will be presented at OPC's statewide planning conference that will be held September 19-21 at the Columbus Convention Center. This year's conference theme is "Innovations in Planning."

The Ohio Planning Conference is a state chapter of the American Planning Association whose mission is to promote and enhance planning and the quality of planning in order to maintain and improve the quality of life for all Ohio citizens.

## **STATE ACTIVITIES**

### TEN COUNTIES CHOSEN FOR \$3 MILLION PILOT PROJECT TO CURB CHILD ABUSE, NEGLECT

The Ohio Supreme Court announced that ten counties (i.e., Clark, Fairfield, Franklin, Greene, Guernsey, Licking, Lucas, Ross, Trumbull and Tuscarawas) have been selected to take part in a \$3 million, two-year pilot program in which authorities will try new ways of responding to reports of possible child abuse, neglect and dependency. Legislation enacted last year (S.B. 238, 126th General Assembly, effective 9/21/06) authorized the court and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services to test an early intervention system. Such an approach allows caseworkers to offer services to families and children before problems reach a crisis stage. The measure added to the list of individuals required to report suspicion of child abuse. It also established the uniform statewide, automated child welfare information system as a collection point of information about abuse investigations.

Participants are required to apply the Alternative Response System assessment model to at least 25% of their accepted child maltreatment reports. Accepted reports refer to cases prior to investigation. At least 40% of the group must subsequently receive services that the assessment directs. Federal funds are being used to finance the pilot. Counties will be reimbursed \$1,000 per family for post-assessment services. As many as 2,000 families overall in the ten counties may participate. In addition, each county can receive up to \$100,000 over the next two years to use as needed to support other aspects of program design and implementation

### TREASURER CORDRAY EXPANDS SMALL BUSINESS LOAN PROGRAM

Treasurer of State Richard Cordray announced changes to a small business loan program that he hopes will pump about \$500 million into the state's economy to create thousands of jobs. According to Cordray, the Small Business Linked Deposit Program has gone "virtually unused" during the past several years. Cordray increased the amount of money that

small businesses and banks can request to \$400,000 from the previous \$250,000 limit, which was established when the program was created in 1983. He also doubled the previous \$25,000 jobs-per-loan ratio, meaning businesses applying for a loan must now show they can create at least one job for every \$50,000 loaned. That change would encourage more high-paying job growth, he said, "The kind of jobs we want to bring to Ohio."

Boosting the state's linked deposit program will also help address the "credit crunch" private banks are experiencing due to the troubled mortgage market adding liquidity to the system. The program allows the treasurer to use up to 12% of the state's \$7.7 billion investment portfolio to purchase reduced rate certificates of deposit at local banks, he explained. The banks must then pass along the interest rate reduction of up to 3% for a two-year period to small businesses receiving loans that are expected to create or retain jobs. Small businesses are responsible for the creation of between 60-80% of all new jobs. With the typical linked deposit loan creating six to 10 jobs, the changes should result in thousands of additional jobs each year.

The department has already increased the amount of money deployed in the loans from \$18 million to more than \$40 million since the start of Cordray's term. Participation dropped in the early part of the decade when the Federal Reserve slashed interest rates. Total dollar amounts deployed in the program plummeted from about \$230 million in 2000 to \$12.8 million in 2003. However, now that interest rates have returned to normal levels, the program is more relevant. Of the nine states that have small business linked deposit programs, Ohio has the greatest amount of funds available, yet its maximum loans are nearly \$175,000 less than the average, according to the Treasurer's Office

### YOUNG NAMED STATE PUBLIC DEFENDER

The Ohio Public Defender Commission announced the appointment of Timothy Young as State Public Defender. Young's selection culminates a national search for a director to succeed David H. Bodiker, who will retire from the post later this year.

Young, 41, has served as a Deputy Director of the Montgomery County Public Defender's Office since 2000, managing the day-to-day operations of the office and supervising 41 lawyers and 24 support staff. An employee of the Montgomery County Public Defender's Office for 13 years, he was previously a Supervising Attorney from 1997–1999 and a Staff Attorney from 1994–1997. Young currently serves as a board member for the Volunteer Lawyer Project and is a member of the Supreme Court of Ohio's Committee on the Appointment of Counsel for Indigent Defendants in Capital Cases. Young earned his Juris Doctorate from the University of Dayton School of Law, and a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Dayton.

David Bodiker was appointed Ohio Public Defender in 1994. A date certain for the transition from Bodiker to Young has not yet been determined, but will likely be around January 1, 2008.

## **FEDERAL ACTIVITIES**

### HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT II

As a result of county calls and faxes, leadership in the U.S. House of Representatives has postponed consideration of H.R. 811 - The Voter Confidence & Increased Accessibility Act of 2007 - until the week of September 17. H.R. 811, the so-called "paper trail" bill in Congress, would make sweeping amendments to the Help America Vote Act. It requires every county in the nation to replace existing voting equipment, micromanages election procedures including imposing costly new processes for hand-counting paper ballots and exposes election officials and poll workers to lawsuits in federal court. Counties that currently use voting equipment without a paper printer would have to replace their voting equipment twice - once for 2008 with paper, and again for 2012 with new equipment that does not yet exist.

For more information about this legislative alert from the National Association of Counties (NACo) go to [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org) and click on the story about H.R. 811 on the front page.

## **ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OPINIONS**

SYLLABUS: No. 2007-029

1. For the purpose of carrying out his duties under R.C. 311.07 and R.C. 311.08, a county sheriff may enter into a written agreement with the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office or the United States Department of Homeland Security under 8 U.S.C. § 1357(g) whereby deputy sheriffs are empowered to perform a function of an immigration officer in relation to the enforcement of the criminal provisions of federal immigration law.

2. Under Ohio law, a county sheriff may not enter into a written agreement with the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office or the United States Department of Homeland Security under 8 U.S.C. § 1357(g) whereby deputy sheriffs are empowered to perform a function of an immigration officer in relation to the enforcement of the civil provisions of federal immigration law.

SYLLABUS: No. 2007-030

The additional court cost established by a board of county commissioners pursuant to R.C. 2949.093 is to be charged per moving violation adjudicated or otherwise processed by a municipal court in a case when a person is convicted of or pleads guilty to more than one moving violation in a case.

SYLLABUS: No. 2007-031

The superintendent of a county home, rather than the board of county commissioners, is the appointing authority, as defined in R.C. 124.01(D), of the officers and employees of a county home for purposes of R.C. Chapter 124.

## **AWARD PROGRAMS**

### 100 BEST COMMUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

For the third time, the America's Promise Alliance is conducting a nationwide search to find the 100 best communities for young people. The City of Findlay-Hancock County is a past recipient of the award. The 100 best communities provide great places for young



people to live and grow up, and are communities that work together - in collaboration with local schools, nonprofit organizations and businesses - to offer unique and innovative programs to help children succeed. Applications will be accepted until Friday, November 2, 2007. Winners will be announced in late January 2008. For more information go to: <http://www.americaspromise.org/APA.aspx> or e-mail [100BestHelp@americaspromise.org](mailto:100BestHelp@americaspromise.org).

## **CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS**

### OHIO FARMLAND PRESERVATION SUMMIT

The Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) will host the "8<sup>th</sup> Annual Ohio Farmland Preservation Summit" on Thursday, November 1, 2007 at ODA's Bromfield Building, 8995 East Main Street, in Reynoldsburg. Registration, a continental breakfast and networking begin at 8:30 a.m. with the Summit starting at 9:30 a.m. and ending at 3:30 p.m.

The theme of the Summit is "Growing Our Economy Through Agriculture." Who should attend? All farmers, landowners, local officials, land trusts, citizens, agency personnel, and others interested in preserving Ohio farmland.

Registration fee: \$40 (includes continental breakfast and lunch). Deadline: October 19, 2007. Refund/cancellation deadline: October 29, 2007. Limited registration may be available at the door for \$50. For more information please contact: Jodie Fife, Ohio Farmland Summit, 8995 East Main Street, Reynoldsburg, OH 43069-3399, (614) 728-6210 or [farmlandpres@agri.ohio.gov](mailto:farmlandpres@agri.ohio.gov).

### CONSTRUCTION CLAIMS SEMINAR

Navigating through the complex maneuvers of construction claims without proper training can result in unforeseen damages. Lock on to your target, know your options and attack the battlefield of construction claims with precision, tactical insight, and strategic planning. The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual "Top Gun Construction Claims Seminar," presented by Bricker & Eckler LLP, will be held on November 7, 2007 at the Embassy Suites Hotel, 5100 Upper Metro Place, in Dublin.

Registration fee: \$369 - regular registration; \$320 -

early bird registration through October 12, multiple registrations from one organization, or sponsoring organizations; or **\$229 - non-profit organizations and public employees.**

For more information please contact Megan Heiser, Bricker & Eckler LLP, P.O. Box 15249, Columbus, OH 43215-0249, (614) 227-4973, (800) 844-5292, fax (614) 227-2390, [mheiser@bricker.com](mailto:mheiser@bricker.com) or [www.bricker.com/sminars](http://www.bricker.com/sminars).

### EXCELLENCE IN ETHICS

The Ohio State University Leadership for Tomorrow Conference Series will present "Excellence in Ethics" on November 28-29, 2007 at the Marriott Northwest at Tuttle Crossing, 5605 Blazer Parkway, in Dublin. Questions of ethics are in the forefront of both the corporate and social sectors. This conference will help attendees gain insight into the business, legal, financial and academic organizations.

Registration fee: \$450 two-days or \$250 one-day. Group discounts available. Early bird registration deadline: September 28, 2007. For more information call (614) 292-8571 or <http://ced.osu.edu>. Continuing education units are available for legal professionals and CPAs.