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# CIDS

## County Information and Data Service

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### DATES TO REMEMBER

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| FEBRUARY 14, 2008 | CCAO GENERAL GOVERNMENT & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS                                |
| FEBRUARY 15, 2008 | CCAO BOARD OF TRUSTEES, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS  |
| MARCH 1-5, 2008   | NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE, HILTON WASHINGTON & TOWERS, WASHINGTON, D.C.                             |
| MARCH 5, 2008     | OHIO CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION BREAKFAST, RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING - ROOM B-369, WASHINGTON, D.C. |
| MARCH 5, 2008     | OHIO STATEHOOD DAY  |
| APRIL 6-12, 2008  | NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT WEEK   |
| MAY 5, 2008       | SE OHIO DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS & ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION, MUSKINGUM COUNTY, (ZANESVILLE)                |
| JUNE 8-10, 2008   | CCAO/CEAO ANNUAL SUMMER CONFERENCE, LAKE COUNTY (PAINESVILLE)   |
| JULY 11-15, 2008  | NACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE, JACKSON COUNTY (KANSAS CITY), KANSAS  |

### ASSOCIATION NEWS

#### APPOINTMENT OF 2008 CCAO STANDING COMMITTEES

CCAO President Dan Troy (Lake) would like your assistance in development of and response to public policy proposals by participation in one of CCAO's standing committees. The standing committees have two primary purposes:

- 1) To serve as an informational resource by providing a forum to discuss issues of importance to members. Committee members have the opportunity to not only

share problems, but also to learn how other commissioners have responded to them. The issue discussion process in the committees will often utilize our affiliates, other elected officials, and state agency personnel as educational resources.

- 2) To review and formulate recommendations on legislative proposals.

This week, information was sent to each Board of County Commissioners explaining that CCAO has reduced the number of committees to insure better attendance. Also, the protocol has been modified to allow each standing committee the ability to refer its recommendations to the CCAO Board of Trustees

for approval. In the past, committee recommendations were channeled through the CCAO Legislative Committee prior to Board consideration. This change will empower the committees to have their recommendations directly considered by the Board of Trustees and eliminate redundancy.

2008 CCAO Standing Committees:

- Agriculture & Rural Affairs
- Fiscal, Economic Development & Infrastructure
- General Government & Operations
- Human Services & Workforce Development
- Metropolitan & Regional Affairs
- Public Safety & Criminal Justice

Typically, committee membership has stayed fairly consistent during an even-numbered year, as there is limited turn-over in the ranks of county officials and the general assembly is in mid-term. But, as a result of these structural changes, **your involvement is needed.** Please read the complete memo, which includes DRAFT membership lists, posted on the front page of the CCAO website ([www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org)). Please return the "2008 CCAO Standing Committee" form to CCAO by **Friday, February 22.**

Please note: If you are requesting to serve on the General Government & Operations Committee (former Legislative Committee), please hold the date of February 14 for the first meeting. For purposes of this first meeting, the membership list for the 2007 Legislative Committee will serve as the foundation. (See following article.)

For more information about CCAO Standing Committees please contact Cheryl Subler, Managing Director, Policy, at (614) 220-7980, (888) 757-1904 or [csubler@ccao.org](mailto:csubler@ccao.org)

CCAO GENERAL GOVERNMENT & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE – FEB. 14

The first meeting of the newly established CCAO General Government & Operations Committee will be held on Thursday, February 14 at 1:00 p.m. in the CCAO Offices in Columbus. This committee

will largely continue to do the work of the former CCAO Legislative Committee and the CCAO Personnel Committee, which were merged together.

CCAO mailed information this week asking county commissioners whether they want to continue serving on their respective committee(s) from last year and determine any new interest, (See previous article.) Members that served on both the CCAO Legislative and the Personnel Committees received notice of this meeting.

Please RSVP your attendance to Janet Erwin, CCAO Administrative Assistant, at (614) 220-7986, (888) 757-1904 or [jerwin@ccao.org](mailto:jerwin@ccao.org).

NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE: STRENGTHEN THE VOICE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The 110th Congress, Second Session has hit town and a great number of programs that assist counties are under intense scrutiny. As a county official you need to know what this means for counties, what you can do about the issues, and how you can strengthen the voice of local government on Capitol Hill. With a philosophy of "those who show up decide," you have a host of reasons to attend the NACo Legislative Conference!

MSNBC Political Analyst Pat Buchanan and CNN Political Analyst Paul Begala will speak at the Opening Session on Monday, March 3 to discuss their views and opinions on the 2008 Presidential Election. Also appearing at conference are Tom Siebel of the Montana Meth Project and the Capital Steps.

The NACo Legislative Conference will be held March 1-5, 2008 at the Hilton Washington. Online registration is open until February 20. For more information about the conference go to [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org).

OHIO CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION BREAKFAST

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the Ohio Congressional Delegation Breakfast to be held

during the NACo Legislative Conference at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 5 in the Rayburn House Office Building – Room B-369. Letters of invitation were sent to the Ohio Congressional Delegation. Call now to make your appointments to meet with them during the conference!

Attendance at the breakfast is open to all Ohio conference attendees and their traveling companions. For more information about the conference or to register for the Ohio Congressional Delegation Breakfast, please contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979, (888) 757-1904 or [mjneiman@ccao.org](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org).

## STATE ACTIVITIES

### OHIO STATEHOUSE MUSEUM PHOTO PROJECT

The Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board (CSRAB) has developed a design plan to create updated, high-tech, interactive exhibits and educational programs at the Ohio Statehouse to *Enrich the Experience* of school children and visitors. CSRAB and CCAO have partnered on this project and are seeking the assistance of all counties. A detailed letter is enclosed with this issue of CIDS for county commissioners and is posted on CCAO's front page at [www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org).

The new Ohio Statehouse Museum will be housed on the ground level and will interpret the Statehouse as the *People's House, a Stage for Democratic Action and the Seat of Ohio's State Government*. Exhibits will shine a light on the core values that form the foundation for Ohio's democracy and highlight Ohioans from every county and region of the state. The design plan will highlight individuals who have come to serve their fellow citizens and make a difference either as governors, legislators, business people, farmers, concerned citizens and even school children.

The Ohio Statehouse Web site highlights plans of the interactive museum, including a fly-through video. The Ohio Statehouse Museum Web site portal is featured on the front page and under the education tab of the Statehouse Web site – [www.ohiostatehouse.org](http://www.ohiostatehouse.org). The new Ohio

Statehouse Museum is scheduled to be completed in early March 2009.

**How can counties participate?** Throughout the Museum, a series of graphic face panels will highlight Ohioans who have, are or will be participating in the democratic process. CSRAB and CCAO are asking for your assistance in collecting these images. Photos are requested that represent Ohioans from all races, genders, socio-economic backgrounds, professions, educational backgrounds and regions of the state. The images will include some of Ohio's first citizens as well as some of its most recent.

Some images will be entered into a touch screen database so that Statehouse visitors may look up each individual and learn something about him or her. It is anticipated that the images will be rotated on a regular basis to keep the exhibit fresh and reflect the continued vibrancy of Ohio's democratic process. Specifically, your county is invited to submit the images of up to 25 individuals. Please review the memo and criteria sheet for detailed information.

In order to maintain the aggressive design schedule, we ask that all submissions must be received by CSRAB by **April 1, 2008**. An enclosed photo release waiver form must accompany images of all persons under the age of 18. This form may be reproduced for your use.

Thank you for participating in this project and helping to *Enrich the Experience* of school children and visitors of all ages at Ohio's Statehouse for generations to come. If you have any questions, please contact the Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board at (614) 752-9777.

### DETRICK RE-APPOINTED TO FARMLAND PRESERVATION ADVISORY BOARD

Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) Director Robert Boggs, former Ashtabula County Commissioner, has reappointed Clark County Commissioner John Detrick to represent counties on the 13-member Ohio Farmland Preservation Advisory Board. Detrick's three-year term commenced on January 1, 2008 and ends December 31, 2010. Mark Forni, former Monroe

County Commissioner and Executive Director of the Office of Farmland Preservation, chairs the committee.

The Ohio Farmland Advisory Board represents the wide variety of interested parties in farmland protection. The advisory board provides advice to the ODA Director on the implementation of farmland preservation programs, including the selection of applications to be awarded matching grants for the purchase of agricultural easements. The board may also be involved in the design and implementation of any other statewide farmland protection measures that the director considers appropriate.

Adams County Commissioner Roger Rhonemus is serving his second term on the Advisory Board which expires December 31, 2008. Rhonemus represents Southwestern Ohio farmers on the Advisory Board.

#### OHIO HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN SURVEY

Ohio's statewide historic preservation plan, *A Future for Ohio's Past: The Ohio historic Preservation Plan*, was completed in 2004, following input from agencies, organizations and individuals throughout the state who participated in a series of regional public meetings. Now is the time to revisit and update the plan so it will continue to guide historic preservation priorities in Ohio.

The Plan, intended as a guide and reference for local preservation organizations; government staff, commissions and review boards; as well as for the Ohio Historic Preservation Office, includes six general goals related to preservation of Ohio's historic resources. Updating the Plan provides an opportunity to revise the current goals and possibly add new ones, assess the current status of historic resources in Ohio, and describe the challenges and opportunities affecting historic preservation.

The Ohio Historic Preservation Office would like the input from all stakeholders. To participate in this online survey go to [www.ohpo.org](http://www.ohpo.org). The survey will be available online for a few months. For more information please contact: Mary Beth Hirsch, Education & Support Services, Ohio Historic

Preservation Office, Ohio Historical Society, 567 East Hudson Street, Columbus, OH 43211-1030, (614) 298-2000, fax (614) 298-2037 or [mbhirsh@ohiohistory.org](mailto:mbhirsh@ohiohistory.org).

#### STRICKLAND TO SPEAK ON OHIO STATEHOOD DAY – MARCH 5

What are you doing for Statehood Day? Join Governor Ted Strickland, history advocates and professionals from across the state on March 5, 2008 for Statehood Day – the date in 1803 when Ohio became the nation's 17<sup>th</sup> state. Statehood Day provides a great opportunity to highlight the importance of Ohio's history and help demonstrate how history impacts local communities through economic re-development, education, attracting tourism and adding to Ohioans' quality of life.

Statehood Day 2008 activities will take place in the Statehouse Atrium, lasting from 10:00 a.m. until approximately 4:00 p.m. Participants will take part in a brief program before joining others in small group meetings with state legislators and Strickland Administration officials will be arranged by the Ohio Historical Society. For more information go to <http://www.ohiohistory.org/about/lu/sd.html>. There is no charge to attend the event. Please RSVP your attendance by February 25 to Todd Kleismit, Director of Government Relations, Ohio Historical Society, at (614) 297-2355 or [tkleismit@ohiohistory.org](mailto:tkleismit@ohiohistory.org).

#### ODJFS COUNTY PROFILES NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE

The Department of Job and Family Services has made available online the new ODJFS County Profiles. All 88 county profiles have been created, along with an Appalachian Ohio and Ohio profile. These not only reflect how the counties are fairing, but also the services counties provide.

County Profiles are divided into three sections: family services, medical assistance, and jobs. The names and contact information for each director of the services are listed on the cover page of each county profile. The profiles only will be available via the Internet to save printing costs.

County Profiles are found at:  
<http://jfs.ohio.gov/county/cntypro/index.stm>.

Questions or comments can be emailed to the ODJFS County Profile team at [JFS County Profile@odjfs.state.oh.us](mailto:JFS County Profile@odjfs.state.oh.us).

## **FEDERAL ACTIVITIES**

### USDA ANNOUNCES AVAILABILITY OF \$13.4 MILLION IN BROADBAND GRANTS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has announced the availability of \$13.4 million in grants for communities without broadband service to provide residential service and connect facilities such as police and fire stations, health care, libraries and schools. The Community Connect Grant Program has proved to be effective in reaching those rural communities where broadband service is least likely to be deployed. Connecting residents and essential community facilities improves local services and the protection of the citizens of these communities.

Ohio's GMN Tri County Community Action Committee was a previous beneficiary of Rural Development's Broadband Grant Program in 2003 and 2007. GMN received \$383,284 to provide wireless broadband internet service to the Village of Woodsfield in 2003 and \$316,840 to provide wireless broadband internet service to the Village of Graysville in 2007. Also, Ohio's Horizon Telecom-Chillicothe Telephone received \$603,200 to provide wireless broadband internet service to the Village of Darbyville in 2007. Additionally, the funding provided broadband to local fire and police and established a computer center for public access.

Application deadline: close of business on March 28, 2008. There is a minimum grant level of \$50,000 and a maximum grant level of \$1,000,000 for projects. The application guide for this grant program can be found at <http://www.usda.gov/rus/commconnect.htm>.

USDA Rural Development's mission is to increase economic opportunity and improve the quality of life for rural residents. Rural Development has invested more than \$76.8 billion since 2001 for equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. More than 1.5 million jobs have been created or saved through these investments. Further information on rural programs is available at a local USDA Rural Development office or by visiting USDA's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

### PROPOSED ELECTION REFORMS RECEIVE NACO SUPPORT

Last spring and summer, election officials fired up the phone lines to Capitol Hill urging members of Congress to oppose H.R. 811, which would have required counties to implement new voting technology and procedures before the 2008 presidential election. Those calls and faxes paid off in the fall when House leadership agreed not to bring the bill up for a vote.

County officials who weighed in against H.R. 811 differed greatly in their views on how to improve public confidence in the nation's voting system. But they all agreed on one thing — Congress must not require changes in technology and practices that county officials are not prepared to implement.

The sponsor of that legislation, Rep. Rush Holt (NJ), indicates that he heard the message county officials were sending. He has not changed his vision of the voting system counties should adopt or the urgency of his appeal to counties to pursue that vision prior to the presidential election in 2008. But in response to county officials' concerns, Holt has introduced new legislation that takes what he describes as an "opt-in approach."

H.R. 5036, which Holt introduced January 17, would provide a choice of incentives to counties that used what the congressman terms "non-verifiable" electronic voting equipment in the midterm general election in 2006. Those counties could switch to a paper-based voting system or offer emergency paper ballots at the polls. Either

way, they could apply to the federal government for reimbursement.

H.R. 5036 would also reimburse counties that opt to conduct an audit before certifying election results, according to a protocol similar to that specified in H.R. 811. Finally, H.R. 5036 would provide federal reimbursement to counties that do something that was not mandated by H.R. 811 — hand-count ballots at the polls on election night.

Regardless of how the legislative process unfolds, it is unlikely that Congress will appropriate funds for any new incentive grant prior to the presidential election this year. NACo would support funding for any incentive grant to counties should the opportunity arise in an emergency spending bill, but funds for new programs are rarely appropriated until after the next fiscal year begins in October.

As a result, counties cannot rely on any promises of funding in pending legislation as they make their budget decisions this year. However, the shift in approach represented by H.R. 5036 — from imposing federal mandates to offering incentive grants — offers promise for restoring the partnership between the federal government and counties on election reform legislation. For more information contact Alysoun McLaughlin, NACo Associate Legislative Director, at (202) 942-4254 or [amclaughlin@naco.org](mailto:amclaughlin@naco.org).

## **NACo ACTIVITIES**

### ACHIEVEMENT AWARD PROGRAM

The NACo Achievement Award Program is a non-competitive awards program that recognizes innovative county government programs. Begun in 1970, the Achievement Award Program promotes and recognizes innovative and successful programs that modernize and streamline county government and increase services to citizens. Last year eight Ohio counties won 20 NACo Achievement Awards.

Applications must be postmarked by **February 15, 2008**. Send applications to: 2008 Achievement Awards, National Association of Counties, P.O. Box 79007, Baltimore, MD 21279-0007. For more information please contact Deseree Gardner, NACo

Research Associate, at (202) 942-4228 or e-mail [dgardner@naco.org](mailto:dgardner@naco.org) or fax your application to the NACo Research Division at (202) 737-0480. Copies of the application may be obtained from the NACo website at [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org).

### NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT WEEK – APRIL 6-12

In 2008, the National County Government Week's theme is "Protecting Our Children." Counties can show their residents the many ways they work to protect and enhance the health, welfare and safety of children in sensible and cost-effective ways.

National County Government Week (NCGW) is an annual celebration of county government. First held in 1991, the goal of county government week is to raise public awareness and understanding about the roles and responsibilities of the nation's counties.

There are activities at the national, state and local levels during county government week. More than 1,000 counties annually participate in NCGW by holding a variety of programs and events. These include tours of county facilities, presentations in schools, meetings with business and community leaders, recognition programs for volunteers, briefings on environmental projects, and adoption of proclamations. For more information go to [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org) and click on the story on the front page.

## **CONFERENCE**

### 2008 OHIO SAFETY CONGRESS – APRIL 1-3

This year's congress, sponsored by the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) – Division of Safety and Hygiene, will be held April 1-3 at the Columbus Convention Center, 400 North High Street, in Columbus. It includes more than 150 educational sessions, live demonstrations of trenching/excavation rescue, masonry wall-bracing, grain engulfment rescue and more. Nearly 250 exhibitors will be in the Expo Marketplace. CEU's and credits for BWC discount programs are available for all educational and some general sessions. Professional-level full-day programming

for safety specialists, industrial hygienists, and ergonomists. Registration is free by going to the Ohio BWC website at [www.ohiobwc.com](http://www.ohiobwc.com).

## **CLASSIFIEDS**

### CSEA ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

The Franklin County Child Support Enforcement Agency (CSEA) seeks a qualified professional is sought to assist the agency Director in managing the agency on a daily basis and in areas as needed. The successful candidate will have a strong administrative background coupled with sensitivity for employee relations in keeping with the existing collective bargaining agreement. The candidate for this position will be asked to assist in the formulation of policies, procedures and the development of new and innovative programs related to activities in the Child Support Enforcement Agency. Responsibilities also include review and evaluation of pending legislation as it relates to the provision of service to our clients and insures agency operations are in accordance with existing rules and regulations. This position may be asked to speak to various groups or to the general public to promote the agency mission. Participate in budget preparation and make recommendations regarding staffing or needed services. In the director's absence, is responsible for making decisions in the best interest of the agency and assumes the duties of the Director.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Bachelors Degree in a Human Services discipline, Public Administration or Business Administration. Masters degree preferred. Prior supervision or management experience of at least five years with a history of progressive, responsible and successful performance of duties in the public or private sector. Proven ability to manage and supervise both line and supervisory personnel. Excellent verbal and written skills. Excellent work record and history.

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. The position is open until filled.

### DIRECTOR

The Jefferson County Commissioners will be accepting applications for a full time unclassified salaried position for the Director of the Jefferson County Department of Job and Family Services. Applicant should have completion of undergraduate major core coursework in one of the following or a related field: Business administration, public administration, human services, human resources, psychology, sociology, social work, education or finance, work experience may be considered in lieu of a degree. Also, requires an additional five years of administrative/managerial experience to include responsibility of managing the fiscal aspects of an organization, agency, program or operational area and assisting in developing and implementing policies, programs, rules and/or regulations in a State or County Department of Job and Family Services preferred. At least two years of the five years must have been as a supervisor over subordinate staff and/or contractors.

Application forms and a complete job description are available at the Office of the Board of Commissioners, 301 Market Street, Steubenville, OH 43952, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. - Monday through Friday. Application deadline is **Friday, February 22, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.** EOE.

### DIRECTOR OF JOBS AND FAMILY SERVICES

Under the control and direction of the Board of County Commissioners, the county Director of Job and Family Services shall have full charge of the county Department of Job and Family Services. The Director will administer the Human Services, Children Services, and Child Support Enforcement functions with a staff of over 500 employees. Programs include Ohio Works First, Medicaid, Food Stamps, Emergency Assistance, Title XX, Day Care, Work Programs, and Child Protective Services.

Minimum Qualifications: Completion of undergraduate major core coursework in one of the following or a related field: business administration, public administration, human services, human resources, psychology, sociology, social work, education or finance. Also requires an additional five years of administrative/managerial experience to include responsibility for managing the fiscal aspects of an organization, agency, program or operational area and assisting in developing and implementing policies, programs, laws, rules and/or regulations. At least two of the five years must have been as a supervisor over subordinate staff and/or contractors.

Resumes must be received by **3:30 p.m. on February 29, 2008** and sent to the attention of: Personnel Manager, Board of Stark County Commissioners, 110 Central Plaza S., Suite 240, Canton, OH 44702. NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE. EOE.