



CIDS

County Information and Data Service

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DATES TO REMEMBER

MARCH 13, 2008	CCA O GENERAL GOVERNMENT & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE, CCA O OFFICES, COLUMBUS
MARCH 14, 2008	CCA O BOARD OF TRUSTEES, CCA O OFFICES, COLUMBUS
APRIL 6-12, 2008	NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT WEEK
APRIL 21, 2008	NW OHIO COMMISSIONERS & ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION, MERCER COUNTY (CELINA)
MAY 5, 2008	SE OHIO COMMISSIONERS & ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION, MUSKINGUM COUNTY, (ZANESVILLE)
MAY 21-23, 2008	NACo WESTERN INTERSTATE REGION CONFERENCE, WASHINGTON COUNTY (ST. GEORGE), UTAH
JUNE 8-10, 2008	CCA O/CEAO ANNUAL SUMMER CONFERENCE, LAKE COUNTY (PAINESVILLE)
JULY 11-15, 2008	NACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE, JACKSON COUNTY (KANSAS CITY), MISSOURI

ASSOCIATION NEWS

2008 PRIMARY RESULTS: AT LEAST 52 NEW COMMISSIONERS TO TAKE OFFICE IN 2009

The attention of the Presidential Primary Election might have put Ohio in the national spotlight for the past few weeks, but to the 184 county commissioners and Summit County Executive and County Council seats up for primary election – the spotlight was on the grassroots of county government. Seats of 174 county commissioners, 9 seats for Summit County Executive/County Council, and 1 unexpired term sat for election on March 4. As a result of the primary election, six counties will have two new county commissioners

(Belmont, Brown, Delaware, Highland, Monroe, and Preble).

Summary of incumbent status:

- 40 won (27 – R & 13 – D)
- 20 lost (15 – R & 5 – D)
- 92 ran unopposed (56 – R & 36 – D)
- 32 did not run for re-election (25–R & 7 – D)

Results are published on CCAO's website at www.ccao.org. Click on the link at the end of the article on the front page. Please note that these are unofficial results. Contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979 or mjneiman@ccao.org with any corrections.

COUNTYWIDE TAX LEVY RESULTS

Included with this issue of CIDS is a summary of the county tax issue levy results from the Primary Election held on Tuesday, March 4, 2008. Forty counties had 53 countywide levies on the ballot. Of the 53 countywide levies on the ballot, 34 passed and 19 failed.

Summary of levies: Children Services – 3 pass/2 fail; Senior Services – 3 pass/2 fail, MRDD – 8 pass/5 fail, Child & Adult Protective Services – 1 pass, Mental Health – 2 pass/2 fail; Health – 1 pass/3 fail, HHS – 1 pass; EMS – 1 pass, Transit – 2 pass; 9-1-1 – 3 pass, Zoo – 1 pass, Park & Recreation – 2 pass, SWCD – 1 fail, Library – 1 pass/1 fail, Dog Shelter – 1 pass, County Home – 1 pass, County Jail – 1 fail, and Courthouse building & improvements – 1 fail.

Three counties had sales & use taxes on the ballot: Mahoning – transit, ¼%, 5 years, new, pass; Summit – transit, ¼%, continuing period of time, new, pass; and Union – roads & bridges and senior services, ¼%, 5 years, new, pass. Huron County's Real Property Transfer Tax referendum failed.

Results are published on the home page of www.ccao.org. Click on the link at the end of the article. Please note that these are unofficial results. Please contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979 or mjneiman@ccao.org with any corrections.

HIPAA INFORMATIONAL MEETING - MARCH 11

The Administrative Simplification provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA, Title II) required the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to establish national standards for electronic health care transactions and national identifiers for providers, health plans, and employers. It also addressed the security and privacy of health data. As the industry adopts these standards for the efficiency and effectiveness of the nation's health care system will improve the use of electronic data interchange. Is your county compliant with this law? Are you adhering to the law?

Join CCAO/CEBCO on March 11, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at the Hayes Administration Building, 140 North Sandusky Street - Room G-35, in Delaware County (Delaware) to learn more about or just refresh yourself with HIPAA! Pre-registration is necessary. Lunch will be served. A registration form is attached to this issue of CIDS. For more information please contact Melissa Bodey, CEBCO Benefits Specialist, CCAO, 37 West Broad Street - Suite 650, Columbus, OH 43215, (614) 220-7997, fax (614) 229-4588 or mbodey@ccao.org.

OHIO STATEHOUSE MUSEUM PHOTO PROJECT: PHOTOS DUE APRIL 1

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. CSRAB and CCAO have partnered on this project are seeking the assistance of all counties. Information about the project is posted on CCAO's front page at www.ccao.org.

The new Ohio Statehouse Museum will be housed on the ground level and 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. The new Ohio Statehouse Museum is scheduled to be completed in early March 2009.

How can counties participate? 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. 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**. If you have any questions, please contact the Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board at (614) 752-9777.

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 and click on the story on the front page. Send details of your county activities to Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at mjneiman@ccao.org.

SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS – COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HANDBOOK CHAPTER UPDATED

Over the decades, CCAO has published four editions of the *County Commissioners Handbook* and distributed copies to all counties. Since the first edition, the *Handbook* has grown to nearly 1,000 pages and publishing an updated copy of all chapters in a timely manner is nearly impossible. Due to technology changes and the high cost of publishing a hard copy of the *Handbook* will be published on our website.

Recently, Chapter 88 – Subdivision Regulations was updated in sections 88.15 and 88.18. A revised copy has been published on the CCAO website at www.ccao.org. Click on the story on the front page about the *Handbook*.

AFFILIATE NEWS

CLCCA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The County Loss Control Coordinators Association of Ohio (CLCCA) are recruiting new members and renewing memberships for current members. CLCCA is an affiliate of CCAO. Contact any of the CLCCA Officers for membership information: President – Linda Zickefoose (Richland), (419) 774-5518 or lzickefoose@richlandcountyoh.us, Vice President - Sonja Leggett (Carroll), (330) 627-4869 or sleggett@carrollcountyohio.us, Secretary/Treasurer – Pat Harsh (Coshocton), (740) 295-7467 or patharsh@coshoctoncounty.net, or Past President – Colleen Lockhart (Geauga), (440) 279-1670 or clockhart@geaugabocc.org or go to their website at www.clcca.com.

STATE ACTIVITIES

JOB READY SITES APPLICATION AND SCORING METHODOLOGY RELEASED; APPLICATION DEADLINE MAY 15

Lt. Governor Lee Fisher, Director of the Ohio Department of Development, recently announced that applications for the combined FY 2008/2009 Job Ready Sites (JRS) grant program. Completed applications must be received by the relevant District Public Works Integrating Committee (DPWIC) on or before **5:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 15, 2008**. Additional information about the program along with copies of the application form and scoring/ranking forms are available at <http://www.odod.state.oh.us/edd/obd/jrs>

Who can apply for assistance? Political subdivisions, non-profit economic development organizations, and private – for profit entities that obtain prior approval from the ODOD Director.

The JRS program is a key element of Ohio's economic development strategy. Through this program, the State of Ohio partners with local

communities and the private sector to ensure Ohio has an inventory of buildings and sites ready for development that meet the fast pace schedule of today's business environment.

During this combined FY 2008 and 2009 funding round, the Ohio Department of Development is making available \$48.5 million, with assistance of up to \$5 million for each eligible project. JRS funds may be used for the acquisition of land or buildings; construction; site, building and infrastructure improvements; feasibility studies; obtaining surety bonds and insurance premiums; and the remediation of environmentally contaminated property.

For further information contact Nathan Harber, Administrator, Ohio Job Ready Sites (JRS) Program, Tax Incentives Office, (614) 466-6667 or at nharber@odod.state.oh.us.

OHIO EPA DRAFTS OAC AMENDMENTS ON AIR POLLUTION CONTROL

In accordance with Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 119.032 (5-year rule review), the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Division of Air Pollution Control (DAPC) has reviewed the rules contained in Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Chapter 3745-77, "Title V Permit Rules." These rules are related to Ohio's Title V permitting program. The preliminary review indicates that these rules continue to be necessary and require changes.

This rule review package incorporates many fix-ups that DAPC believes will improve implementation of the chapter (such as supporting transition out of Title V) and updates the chapter to reflect certain federal updates to 40 CFR Part 70 that have been made since the previous review of the rules in OAC chapter 3745-77. In addition, general changes have been made to update and clarify the rules' authorizing and amplifying statutes and update information on items incorporated by reference as required in ORC 121.72.

To review a copy of the draft rule language for OAC rules 3745-77-01 to 3745-77-10 and a synopsis of the draft changes go to www.epa.state.oh.us/dapc/regs/regs.html.

Comments recommending changes are due by **Monday, April 7, 2008**. Please e-mail or mail your comments or suggestions to the following addresses. Persons submitting comments electronically are encouraged to follow-up with a hard copy via regular mail: Mike Ahern, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, DAPC, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, OH 43216-1049, (614) 644-644-3631 or mike.ahern@epa.state.oh.us.

COMMISSIONERS NEEDED FOR COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ADVISORY BOARD

The Ohio Community Corrections Advisory Board meets quarterly in Columbus to advise the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction on matters relating to community corrections. The Committee helps direct and develop community corrections initiatives in Ohio including parole and probation services and state-subsidized community corrections programs. The Board is chaired by the Deputy Director of the Division of Parole and Community Services. The board is a cross section of officials representing state and local governments and a number of recognized organizations that are part of Ohio's justice system. Representatives to the Board come from the courts, elected officials, law enforcement, and community service and treatment providers.

Member's terms are for three years and are reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred. CCAO has three vacancies on the Board. If you are interested in serving on or would like more information about DRC's Community Corrections Advisory Board please contact John Leutz, CCAO Senior Policy Analyst, (614) 220-7994, (888) 757-1904 or jleutz@ccao.org prior to Friday, March 14.

CLEAN OHIO AG EASEMENT PURCHASE PROGRAM APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Ohio farmers wanting to preserve their farmland through the Clean Ohio Agricultural Easement Purchase Program (AEPP) can now find the 2008 application online at the Ohio Department of Agriculture's (ODA) Web site. The applications, due May 25, are used by ODA to evaluate and

purchase agricultural easements in efforts to preserve the state's farmland.

The program is supported by the Clean Ohio Fund, which is in its seventh and final year, and will distribute \$3.125 million to farmland owners wanting to keep their land forever in agricultural use. The department uses these funds to purchase farm easements from landowners who score the highest in the state's competitive application system.

"Our program was originally created as a pilot, and each year we've enhanced it to better support Ohio's preservation needs," said ODA Director Robert Boggs, former Ashtabula County Commissioner. "Governor Strickland's Building Ohio Jobs proposal, a \$1.7 billion investment in Ohio's economy and infrastructure that will create tens of thousands of new jobs, includes a \$400-million bond renewal for the Clean Ohio Fund. If passed, this money will help to continue preserving the state's most valued natural resource for generations to come."

To apply for the program, farmers must work through a sponsoring organization like a local land trust, a Soil and Water Conservation District, or group of local officials. These sponsors fill out and submit applications on behalf of interested landowners, who are also required to be enrolled in a Current Agricultural Use Valuation, must be located in an agricultural district, and are willing to donate at least 25 percent of the easement's points-based appraised value.

Applicants can earn up to 150 points on the two-tiered application, based on several factors. Section one of the application focuses on development pressure, soils, proximity to protected properties, local development and preservation initiatives, and farm conservation plans. Section two includes narrative questions regarding the farm and its unique appeal to AEPP. Applicants also have the opportunity to earn three extra points if the land is located in a county that has not yet received AEPP funding.

Through the agricultural easement program, landowners agree to keep land in agricultural use

and give up the right to develop the land. This is done through an agricultural easement, which is a voluntary, legal agreement that limits the use of land to only agricultural use. Landowners retain ownership and management of the land, and can sell or pass along their farm to others. However, the easement permanently remains with the land, prohibiting any future non-farm development.

Since the Clean Ohio AEPP began in 2002, the state has successfully preserved more than 23,600 acres (including several pending agreements from 2007) with roughly \$22 million. This is only part of the \$400-million Clean Ohio bond package passed by voters in 2000, which allocated money to farmland preservation, brownfield redevelopment, rails to trails, and the protection of open spaces. This is the last official round of Clean Ohio funding.

For more information on Clean Ohio, the AEPP, or for a copy of the 2008 application, visit the department's Web site at www.ohioagriculture.gov/farmland or contact the Office of Farmland Preservation at (614) 728-6210.

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

FEDERAL FUNDING FOR GREAT LAKES DWINDLES, LEAVING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WITH THE BILL, STUDY SAYS

Local governments in the U.S. states and Canadian provinces bordering the Great Lakes spend an estimated \$15 billion a year to protect the resource, while federal funding for wastewater improvements is drying up, a recent study by the Great Lakes Commission and the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Cities Initiative. Local governments on the U.S. side of the border invested more than 10 times more money in wastewater infrastructure improvements than the federal government, according to the report issued last week. Federal funding through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund has decreased by 49% since 2004 and additional cuts are proposed for 2009.

Cities, towns, villages, counties, regional municipalities and conservation authorities in the region spent an estimated \$12 billion on water quality management efforts and \$3 billion for

ecosystem protection, the report says. The groups urged federal policymakers to support legislation to implement recommendations of the 2005 Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Strategy to Restore and Protect the Great Lakes. To read a copy of the report go to www.glsocities.org/glinvestment.htm.

NACo ACTIVITIES

MORROW AND CLARK COUNTIES GET NATIONAL AWARDS

At the NACo Legislative Conference in Washington, DC, this past week, two Ohio counties and their Job and Family Service Directors were honored by the National Association of County Human Service Administrators. During the NACo Human Services and Education Steering Committee meeting, both Morrow and Clark counties received awards.

Morrow County was honored for its Wheels to Work program. Under the program, one person can receive multiple repairs within a \$500 limit per year. This program has allowed many Morrow County residents in need to have their car repaired and, consequently, be able to get to work and transport their children. Accepting the award was Don Wake, Morrow CDJFS Director, and Olen Jackson, Morrow County Commissioner and CCAO Past President.

Bob Suver, Clark CDJFS Director, was given the Distinguished Director Award for 2008. Bob has been the county director for many years, and has lead Clark County to provide superior services to the county's most vulnerable population. Present to support Mr. Suver was Clark County Commissioner Roger Tackett.

NACo 73rd ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXPOSITION

The National Association of Counties (NACo) and Jackson County (Kansas City), Missouri invite you to join over 2,000 appointed and elected officials from across the nation this summer for NACo's 73rd Annual Conference & Exposition to be held July 11-15, 2008. This is the only national conference and exposition dedicated solely to county government. Conference registration is now open! Register for the conference and housing online at

www.naco.org to save \$25 per registrant. Click on the article about the conference on the front page. For more information please contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979, (888) 757-1904 or mjneiman@ccao.org.

CLASSIFIEDS

HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR

The Board of Greene County Commissioners seeks a Director to serve Greene County, population 147,886. This is an unclassified, fiduciary position that directs and supervises a staff of five for an appointing authority that has various departments under its jurisdiction with a workforce of 1,310. Position requires experience in advising top management personnel, supervisors, and elected officials regarding employee/employer relations; interpreting federal, state and local laws and regulations, department policies and labor agreements on employment issues; managing the labor relations program of the County; conducting investigations of employee misconduct and complaints; administering the County's disciplinary program; testifying on behalf of the employer in administrative and judicial matters; budgeting and fiscal management; staff development.

The minimum qualifications include a Bachelor's degree in human resources, public administration, business administration or a related field with seven years of progressively responsible managerial experience, including two years of management, or an equivalent combination of education and experience, and a valid Ohio driver's license. Certification as a Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR) and Certified Labor Relations Professional (CLRP) desirable. A law degree is also desirable.

Salary commensurate with experience and qualifications. Applications must be submitted by **March 20, 2008**, at 4:00 p.m. in the Greene County Personnel Department, 105 East Market Street, Xenia, Ohio 45385. (937) 562-5004. Applications are available at the Personnel Department, or can be printed from www.co.greene.oh.us. EOE.