



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. 36

SEPTEMBER 26, 2008

DATES TO REMEMBER

SEPTEMBER 29, 2008	NW OHIO COMMISSIONERS & ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING, GALION COUNTRY CLUB, MORROW COUNTY (GALION)
OCTOBER 1, 2008	CCAOSC NATURAL GAS PROGRAM ANNUAL MEETING, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS
OCTOBER 24, 2008	CCC/ESAO SOUTHWEST REGIONAL MEETING, SPRINGVIEW GOVERNMENT CENTER, CLARK COUNTY (SPRINGFIELD)
DECEMBER 7-10, 2008	CCAO/CEAO ANNUAL WINTER CONFERENCE, HYATT REGENCY, COLUMBUS
MARCH 7-11, 2009	NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE, MARRIOTT WARDMAN PARK, WASHINGTON, D.C.
JULY 24-29, 2009	74 TH NACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXPOSITION, DAVIDSON COUNTY (NASHVILLE), TN

ASSOCIATION NEWS

CCAOSC NATURAL GAS PROGRAM ANNUAL MEETING

The CCAO Service Corporation Natural Gas Program Annual Meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 1, 2008 at 10:30 a.m. in the CCAO Offices in Columbus. Attendance of all counties participating in the Natural Gas Program is encouraged. A savings analysis from the past year will be presented by Exelon Energy, manager of the program. On overall analysis of the program will be presented by Palmer Energy Company.

Lunch will be served. Please RSVP your attendance on or before September 25, 2008 to Amanda Jones, CCAO Administrative Assistant, at (614) 220-7985, (888) 757-1904 or ajones@ccao.org.

REQUESTS TO CCAO NOMINATING COMMITTEE DUE NOVEMBER 3, 2008

On September 19, 2008, Olen Jackson, Morrow County Commissioner and CCAO Nominating Committee Chair, sent each county commissioner a memo detailing CCAO nominating procedures for 2008.

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

The seven members whose terms to the Board expire this year include: David Dhume, (Madison), Ray Feikert (Holmes), Gerald Potter (Hardin), Peter Lawson Jones (Cuyahoga), Nancy McKeen (Erie),

Mary Walker (Clermont) and Ron Widener (Miami).

The nine members appointed by President Troy whose one year terms to the Board expire at the end of this year include: Mike Crabtree (Scioto), Brian Hill (Muskingum), Ben Konop (Lucas), Edward Kuenzli (Wyandot), Cheryl Noah (Wayne), Margery Paeltz (Brown), Gary Starnner (Hocking), Roger Tackett (Clark) and Dan Polivka (Trumbull).

Finally, the CCAO Nominating Committee Request Form and Candidate Questionnaire must be submitted by November 3, 2008 as follows:

1. Olen Jackson, Morrow County Commissioner, 80 North Walnut Street, Suite A, Mt. Gilead, OH 43338 no later than November 3, 2008 or email at morrowco@rrohio.com
2. A copy should also be sent to: CCAO, 37 West Broad Street, Suite 650, Columbus, Ohio 43215, **ATTN: KATHY DILLON-NOMINATING COMMITTEE** or email at kathydillon@ccao.org

2009 HOLIDAYS FOR COUNTY EMPLOYEES

HOLIDAY	LEGAL HOLIDAY
New Year's Day	January 1
Martin Luther King Day	January 19
President's Day	February 16
Memorial Day	May 25
Independence Day	July 3
Labor Day	September 7
Columbus Day	October 12
Veteran's Day	November 11
Thanksgiving Day	November 26
Christmas Day	December 25

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS RING

In 1986, CCAO authorized the creation of an official ring for county commissioners. 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. It takes about six weeks for delivery of the rings.

IN MEMORIAM

LARRY CRISENBERY

Former Warren County Commissioner Larry Crisenbery died on September 19 after an illness. Crisenbery was elected to three terms as county commissioner serving from 1992-2005, when he retired. He also served six terms as a trustee in Turtlecreek Township. Crisenberry was a co-owner and partner of Kaufman's Department Store in Lebanon for 30 years. CCAO extends heartfelt sympathy to his wife, Donna, four sons and three step-daughters. Notes of sympathy may be sent to the Crisenbery Family at 42 Hathaway Commons, Lebanon, OH 45036.

SERVICE CORPORATION PROGRAM NEWS

STATE CODE CLARIFICATION EXPANDS SAVINGS OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL OHIO JURISDICTONS

On September 12, Ohio Revised Code section 9.48 was clarified to permit all political subdivisions in the state to utilize cooperative purchasing programs. Prior to this change, entities such as schools and public hospitals were not specifically named and there was some question as to their legal ability to use cooperatively bid contracts. By explicitly offering all local jurisdictions the opportunity to utilize these competitively bid contracts, the revision provides a valuable tool for savings to all cities, counties, schools and special districts in Ohio. CCAO and the Ohio Association of School Business Officials (OASBO) were instrumental in securing this Code change.

Cooperative purchasing pools the buying power of two or more localities and removes the redundancy

of bidding the same goods and services in multiple jurisdictions. This frees purchasing staff to focus on procuring larger and more project specific goods and services.

U.S. Communities provides a national purchasing forum for local and state government agencies, school districts (K-12), higher education and non-profits nationwide by pooling the purchasing power of over 90,000 public agencies. There is no cost to participate, no minimum purchase requirement and the program is overseen by an advisory board of professional government purchasing officials. The results of the program are outstanding:

- Since the program inception, public agencies and non-profits nationwide have saved more than \$1 billion.
- In 2007, more than \$1.3 billion in purchases were made, saving participating public agencies and non-profit organizations over \$240 million.
- More than 33,000 public agencies are registered and using the program
- Currently 17 publicly solicited contracts serviced by 23 suppliers are available to all public agencies and non-profit organizations.

By allowing all local government entities in Ohio to benefit from programs such as U.S. Communities, the clarification to the Ohio Revised Code has given government procurement officials a powerful savings tool to help them maximize their financial and human resources.

The National Association of Counties (NACo), the Association of School Business Officials (ASBO), the National Institute of Government Purchasing (NIGP), the National League of Cities (NLC), and the U.S. Conference of Mayors jointly sponsor the U.S. Communities Purchasing Alliance. For more information, visit www.uscommunities.org. For questions, please contact Alexis Turner, US Communities Program Manager, at (214) 629-2056, fax (201) 357-9004 or aturner@uscommunities.org.

COUNTY ACTIVITIES

CALDWELL RECEIVES GOLD MEDALLION AWARD

The University of Rio Grande has presented a Gold Medallion Award to Ross County Commissioner Jim Caldwell. The Award is the second highest award bestowed by the University.

Caldwell received the Award for outstanding service to Rio Grande and leadership in the capital campaign. Jim has been member of the University Board of Trustees since 1990 after serving as Chair of the Board of the University. The University conferred an honorary Doctor of Public Service Degree upon Caldwell in 2005.

Caldwell served as general chair of the Light the Way Capital Campaign Committee, which successfully raised \$22.5 million. The funds raised by the campaign are already being used to expand scholarship availability, academic programs, improve campus facilities, create new student activities and fund a wide array of programs to benefit the students of the University.

GOVERNOR ANNOUNCES EXCELLENCE IN EXPORTING WINNERS

Portage County Commissioner Chuck Keiper recently accepted the “2008 Governor’s E-Award for Excellence in Exporting” from Governor Ted Strickland on behalf of the Northeast Ohio Trade and Economic Consortium’s (NEOTEC) International Trade Assistance Program. Strickland announced the winners at an awards ceremony at the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus.

Since 1986, the Governor’s Excellence in Exporting Awards program has recognized companies and organizations of all sizes that have shown superior performance in exporting or heightened awareness of exporting as a vital component of the State’s economy.

Governor Strickland honored 24 Ohio businesses with the 2008 Governor’s Excellence in Exporting award for superior performance in exporting and contributions to Ohio’s economy, including NEOTEC’S International Trade Assistance Center.

Keiper has served for many years as the chairman of the ten-county Joint Office of Economic Development (JOED).

Ohio is the eighth-largest exporting state and is the only state with exports that have increased every year since 1998. In 2007, Ohio companies exported \$42.4 billion in goods, an increase of 11.1 percent over 2006.

WANTED: YOUR COUNTY NEWS

Do you have information to report about your county? Has an official or employee received special recognition? Has the county received an award? Do you have a new program that you would like to share information about? Do you want information from another county to help you with an issue or program? Send your information to Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at mjneiman@ccao.org or fax (614) 221-6986.

STATE ACTIVITIES

NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR 2009 GREAT OHIOAN AWARD

The Capitol Square Foundation and the Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board have opened nominations for the "Great Ohioan" Award to commemorate special Ohioans who have played a significant role in an event or series of events of lasting significance in World, American or Ohio history. Additional criteria includes being born in Ohio or lived in Ohio for a minimum of five years and at least 25 years have passed since the event, in which the nominee participated, is being commemorated.

This award is an opportunity to recognize Ohioans who have made an impact in a number of important areas. A complete explanation of the nomination process and nomination forms can be found online at

http://www.capitolsquarefoundation.org/great_ohioan.htm. All citizens, including teachers and students, are encouraged to participate in the nomination process.

A Great Ohioan will be chosen in each of the six categories: inventions/medicine/science; literature/journalism/historiography;academics;communications/education; entertainment/sports; and government/military/public service/religion.

Deadline for nominations: December 1, 2008. The Capitol Square Foundation will select two nominees from each category to submit for selection to the Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board, the oversight body for the Capitol Square complex. The Great Ohioan Award recipients will be announced and recognized in early 2009.

Since 2003, ten Great Ohioans have been recognized with the award for the special roles they played in history. The Great Ohioans include: Wright Brothers, inventors; John Glenn, first man to orbit the earth; Neil Armstrong, first man to walk on the moon; Jesse Owens, Olympic track and field star; Thomas Edison, inventor; Harriet Beecher Stowe, author; James Thurber, journalist and author; Colonel Charles Young, military leader; and Dr. George Crile, founder of the Cleveland Clinic.

For more information please contact: Gregg Dodd, Deputy Director for Communications, Marketing & Events, Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board, The Statehouse, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4210, (614) 728.2130, fax (614) 752.5209, gdodd@csrab.state.oh.us or www.ohiostatehouse.org.

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

FOSTERING CONNECTIONS TO SUCCESS AND INCREASING ADOPTIONS ACT PASSES U.S. SENATE AND ON ITS WAY TO THE PRESIDENT

HR 6893 passed the U.S. Senate on Monday, September 22, and is on its way to the President! This is the most comprehensive federal foster care legislation passed since the 1997 Adoption and Safe Families Act.

The bill includes provisions relating to IV-E Relative Guardianship Subsidy (like Adoption Assistance) and other kin supports; IV-E coverage to youth aging out of care to 19, 20, or 21 (and related provisions); de-linking of IV-E Adoption Assistance from the '96 AFDC standards; access to IV-E FCM,

AA, Guardianship Subsidy, administrative and training dollars for Native American tribes; and several other provisions supporting siblings, education, and healthcare.

As you may recall, CCAO, along with other Ohio human service associations, signed onto a letter supporting this legislation. Child care advocates now will work to incorporate these new opportunities in Ohio law. (Contact Marilina Sanz, NACo Associate Legislative Director, at (202) 942-4260 or msanz@naco.org.)

SECTORS ACT OF 2008 INTRODUCED

Last week, U.S. Senators Sherrod Brown (OH) and Olympia Snowe (ME) introduced a bill to promote and fund sector based workforce development initiatives. The Strengthening Employment Clusters to Organize Regional Success Act of 2008 (SECTORS) would amend the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 and establish a new Industry or Sector Partnership Grant program administered by the U.S. Department of Labor. Grants are intended to allow recipients to establish new and expanded capacity for industry and sector partnerships to grow key local and regional industries—improving opportunities for workers, addressing the workforce needs of employers, and promoting economic development at the regional level. (Contact: Deseree Gardner, NACo Associate Legislative Director, at (202) 942-4204 or dgardner@naco.org)

ADA AMENDMENTS CLEAR CONGRESS

On September 17, the U.S. House passed the U.S. Senate version of the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments (S.3406) by unanimous consent, thus clearing the measure for the President's signature. The bill is the product of years of negotiations and had the support of both employer and disability groups. It overturns several court decisions that had led to strict interpretations of the definition of disability. It also clarifies when reasonable accommodations must be provided. Additionally prohibits considering mitigating measures such as assistive technology in determining whether someone has a disability. (Contact: Marilina Sanz, NACo Associate

Legislative Director, at (202) 942-4260 or msanz@naco.org.)

CONGRESS APPROVES GREAT LAKES COMPACT; GOVERNORS APPLAUD HISTORIC ACTION TO PROTECT THE LAKES

This week, the Great Lakes Governors applauded members of Congress for boldly acting to protect the Great Lakes--St. Lawrence River Basin. Specifically, members of the U.S. House of Representatives led by Congressmen John Conyers, Jr. (MI), Vernon J. Ehlers (MI), Steven C. LaTourette (OH), and James L. Oberstar (MN) passed a joint resolution providing consent to the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact.

The House action follows similar action by the U.S. Senate on August 1 led by Senators Carl Levin (MI) and George V. Voinovich (OH). The resolution now goes to President George W. Bush who has committed to sign it. These actions complete a historic process to protect the Great Lakes.

In December 2005, following a nearly five-year negotiation, the Governors of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin reached agreement on the Compact. The Compact provides a comprehensive management framework for achieving sustainable water use and resource protection. The eight Great Lakes States reached a similar, good faith, agreement with Ontario and Québec in 2005, which the Provinces are using to amend their existing water programs for greater regional consistency.

During 2007 and 2008, each of the eight Great Lakes State legislatures ratified the Compact. This week's Congressional action completes the legislative approval process.

The Compact includes the following points:

- Economic development will be fostered through sustainable use and responsible management of Basin waters.
- In general, there will be a ban on new diversions of water from the Basin but limited exceptions could be allowed in communities

near the Basin when rigorous standards are met.

- Communities that apply for an exception will have a clear, predictable decision making process; standards to be met; and, opportunities to appeal decisions. These processes and standards do not exist under current law.
- The States will use a consistent standard to review proposed uses of Basin water. The States will have flexibility regarding their water management programs and how to apply this standard.
- Regional goals and objectives for water conservation and efficiency will be developed, and they will be reviewed every five years. Each State will develop and implement a water conservation and efficiency program that may be voluntary or mandatory.
- There is a strong commitment to continued public involvement in the implementation of the Compact.

A broad, bi-partisan consensus has been built in support of the Compact. The Compact was developed in collaboration with regional partners who have also played a key role in its implementation. Members of Congress, Mayors, local government officials and stakeholders have all been instrumental. Additional information is available at www.cglg.org.

NACo ACTIVITIES

COUNTIES IN PICTURES PHOTO CONTEST

Share the moments when your county was at its finest through the 2008 Counties in Pictures Photo Contest sponsored by the National Association of Counties (NACo)! You will be able to vote for your favorite photos online in the NACo members-only website this fall. Finalists will be featured in a special spread in NACo's *County News*. Twelve exceptional pictures will be selected by NACo staff to appear in a 2009 calendar that will be available online for purchase.

To check out the submission rules & guidelines go to www.naco.org and click on the story on the front page or contact Jack Hernandez, NACo Graphic Artist, at (202) 942-4250 or jhernandez@naco.org.

AWARDS

OCMA ANNUAL AWARDS

The Ohio City/County Management Association (OCMA) Annual Awards Program honors communities and their administrators for their creative contributions to professional local government management. The program also strives to increase public awareness of the value of professional local government management. The association recognizes the outstanding work performed by elected officials, appointed managers, local government staff, educators, and citizens who work together to address the most pressing issues facing today's communities.

The award categories include:

- Career Achievement Award
- Career Development / Mentoring Award
- Citizen Participation Award
- Innovation in Local Government Award
- Profile in Courage Award

Nominations must be received at OCMA by December 1, 2008. For more information contact Cindy Holodnak, Secretariat, Ohio City/County Management Association, c/o John Glenn School of Public Affairs, The Ohio State University, 150 Page Hall, 1810 College Road, Columbus, OH 43210, (614) 292-7731, Holodnak.1@osu.edu or <http://ocmaohio.org>.

CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS

SERB ACADEMY 2008

The State Employment Relations Board (SERB) will be hosting the "SERB Academy 2008" on October 21-22, 2008 at the Kings Island Resort and Conference Center, 5691 Kings Island Drive, in Warren County (Mason). Who should attend? Anyone who needs to know the basics of Ohio's Public Employees' Collective Bargaining Law, administrative rules governing the process, and SERB procedures.

Registration fee: \$300 per person (includes all sessions, course materials, continental breakfasts, breaks, and luncheons.) Registration deadline:

October 10, 2008. Space is limited. For more information contact SERB Research and Training, 65 East State Street – Floor 12, Columbus, OH 43215-4213, (614) 466-2963, tjohnson@serb.state.oh.us or www.serb.state.oh.us.

OHPELRA FALL SEMINAR

The Ohio Public Employer Labor Relations Association (OHPELRA) will present their fall seminar, “Staying Ahead of the Curve as the Laws Keep Changing: FMLA, ADA, and New Bargaining Laws” on October 24, 2008 at the Columbus Police Academy, 1000 North Hague Avenue, in Columbus. Sessions will address the following questions: How will you comply with the new FMLA rules? What changes are proposed for the ADA? What does the proposed federal public-safety bargaining bill mean for Ohio?

Registration fee: \$155 per person - OHPELRA members or \$255 per person – non-members (includes all sessions, course materials, breaks, and lunch.) For more information contact Laura Joy Campbell, OHPELRA Treasurer, Butler County Department of Personnel, 315 High Street – Floor 6, Hamilton, OH 45011-6061, (513) 887-3595, fax (513) 785-5199, campbellj@butlercountyohio.org or www.ohpelra.org.

CLASSIFIEDS

WSD ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Clermont County is seeking a highly motivated professional to manage the Wastewater Division of the Clermont County Sewer District. The Wastewater Division employs 40 staff members and operates 10 treatment plants serving 37,000 customers in southwest Ohio. This high growth community provides excellent benefits including a cafeteria style health care plan and participation in the OPERS retirement program.

The ideal candidate will possess a degree in environmental science or a related environmental field. Fiscal management and strong budgetary skills are essential. Requires a valid Ohio Class 3 Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator’s license. Minimum of ten years experience in the wastewater

treatment/collection field with five years in a managerial/supervisory position.

Requires strong public relations skills. Must be enthusiastic, team oriented and possess leadership skills to direct a strong technical work force. Experience with electronic data management and work order tracking preferred. Salary hiring range \$55K to \$67K annually DOQ.

Application deadline: **4:30 p.m. on October 10, 2008**. The position will remain open until filled. To apply go to www.co.clermont.oh.us and click on careers or call (513) 732-7110 for additional information. EOE.

URBAN/REGIONAL PLANNER

The Stark County Regional Planning Commission is accepting applications for an Urban/Regional Planner. The successful candidate will prepare technical components of major work elements of comprehensive planning and planning administration programs, including the following: land use planning and analysis, environmental planning, housing and economic data analysis. Responsibilities also include reviewing and preparing recommendations regarding proposed zoning amendments and compliance of new subdivisions and developments with applicable subdivision regulations and state law. A working knowledge of GIS and computer applications preferred. Qualifications: Bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university with major course work in a planning-related field in urban/regional planning. A minimum of two years professional planning experience required or equivalent combination of education and experience. Salary Range: \$30,000-\$40,000. 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, **by noon, Friday, October 17, 2008**. EOE.

PLANNER

Maumee Valley Planning Organization (MVPO) is accepting applications for a full time Planner. MVPO is a non-profit, regional planning agency

servicing Fulton, Henry, Defiance, Paulding and Williams Counties. Pay will be commensurate with experience.

Job responsibilities include but not limited to: assisting senior staff in collecting and analyzing data; administering and writing grant proposals; preparing reports and presentations for community groups and public officials; conducting development reviews; coordinates and implements various Federal programs, such as, CDBG formula, downtown, water and sewer. Knowledge of fair housing helpful.

Qualifications: At minimum, the position requires a Bachelor's degree in Planning, Public Administration, Construction Management, or related field. Successful candidate must possess strong written and verbal communication skills; demonstrate knowledge of planning and zoning principles and practices; and have project management experience; and self-motivated with

the desire to work in a hectic yet professional business environment. The successful candidate must maintain a valid Ohio driver's license.

All interested applicants must submit a resume and three professional references, along with a cover letter to: Maumee Valley Planning Organization, 1300 East Second Street, Suite 200, Defiance, Ohio 43512 or e-mail to MV-Planning@hotmail.com. Samples of previous work are encouraged. Application deadline: **October 3, 2008.** 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.