



CIDS

County Information and Data Service

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JUNE 5, 2009

DATES TO REMEMBER

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| JUNE 18, 2009 | CCAO METROPOLITAN & REGIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS |
| JUNE 19, 2009 | COUNTY LOSS CONTROL COORDINATORS ASSOCIATION OF OHIO SUMMER MEETING, BWC - OHIO CENTER FOR OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH, PICKERINGTON |
| JUNE 25, 2009 | AMERICAN RECOVERY AND INVESTMENT ACT SEMINAR, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS |
| JUNE 25, 2009 | CCAO COUNTY & LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM & COLLABORATION TASK FORCE, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS |
| JUNE 26, 2009 | CCAO BOARD OF TRUSTEES, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS |
| JUNE 26, 2009 | CCC/EAPA REGIONAL MEETING, CARROLL MEADOWS GOLF COURSE, CARROLL COUNTY (CARROLLTON) |
| JULY 20, 2009 | NW DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS AND ENGINEERS QUARTERLY MEETING, PIKE RUN GOLF COURSE, PUTNAM COUNTY (OTTAWA) |
| JULY 24, 2009 | CCC/EAPA REGIONAL MEETING, NOBLE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT, NOBLE COUNTY (CALDWELL) |
| JULY 24-29, 2009 | 74 TH NACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXPOSITION, DAVIDSON COUNTY (NASHVILLE), TN |
| JULY 26, 2009 | OHIO CAUCUS MEETING, GAYLORD OPRYLAND RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTER – JACKSON E ROOM, DAVIDSON COUNTY (NASHVILLE) |
| AUGUST 19-21, 2009 | CCAO/CEAO/OSU EXTENSION SUMMER MEETING, GALAXY RESTAURANT & BANQUET CENTER, MEDINA COUNTY (WADSWORTH) |

ASSOCIATION NEWS

STATE AUDITOR'S SEMINAR ON AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT SET FOR JUNE 25

CCAO, in cooperation with the State Auditor's Office and the County Auditors' Association of Ohio, is sponsoring training on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) on Thursday, June 25 from

10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the CCAO Offices, 209 East State Street, in Columbus. The State Auditor's Office has developed a two-hour presentation that will cover the following topics:

- Strict Liability - What it is *and is not*.
- Overview of ARRA and update on latest available information - including 1512 reporting requirements.
- AOS Bulletin 2009-005, the AOS Stimulus Tracker
- Actions ARRA recipients should be taking now.
- What is a single audit?

There is no registration fee for the training seminar. Please confirm your attendance by contacting Janet Erwin, CCAO Administrative Assistant, at (614) 220-7986, (888) 757-1904, or jerwin@ccao.org. Please include your name, title and county. Attendance will be on a first come, first served basis until the maximum seating capacity is reached. Limited parking will be available at the CCAO office and in a pay lot adjacent to the CCAO offices. For a map and written directions to the CCAO office go to www.ccao.org > About CCAO > Office Location.

LENNY FOR NACo 2ND VICE PRESIDENT – HOW YOUR COUNTY CAN SUPPORT LENNY!

The National Association of Counties (NACo) is preparing for the 74th Annual Conference to be held July 24-28, 2009 in Davidson County, TN. Since Athens County Commissioner Lenny Eliason is running for NACo 2nd Vice President, it is important that your county participates in the association's annual election of officers. Lenny and Ohio need your support! In addition, NACo's platform – the Restore the Partnership - will be adopted during the annual business meeting. Voting credential information was sent to all NACo member counties in mid-May.

How can my county vote? A county must be a NACo member "in good standing" in order to vote. This means your county's NACo dues for 2009 must be paid before the voting occurs. Also, the county must have one paid registration for the annual conference and have proper credentials.

What are voting credentials? Credentials attest to a county's eligibility to vote. Credentials contain information on the number of votes a county is eligible to cast, as well as the identity of the delegate that is authorized to cast the county's vote.

If your county is a paid member of NACo and has at least one paid conference registrant, please complete the "NACo 2009 Credentials (Voting) Identification Form" that was sent to NACo member counties:

- Designate a voting delegate and alternate.
- Indicate who can pick up your ballot in the event your delegate or alternate is unable to pick your county's ballot up (i.e., CCAO President Kerry Metzger or his designee).
- Have the chief county elected official sign the form (i.e., board of county commissioners president or elected county executive).
- Complete these procedures by Friday, July 3. Return the voting credentials form to Ilene Manster, Membership Coordinator, NACo, 25 Massachusetts Avenue, NW – Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20001, (202) 942-4291, fax (202) 393-2630, or imanster@naco.org.

Ohio Caucus During NACo - During the conference, CCAO will caucus on Sunday, July 26 from 4:00-5:30 p.m. at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel Conference Center in the Jackson E Room.

For more information go to www.naco.org and search by "2009 Voting Credentials." For more information please contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979, (888) 757-1904, or mjneiman@ccao.org.

CCAO/CEAO/OSU EXTENSION SUMMER MEETING

In a collaborative effort, OSU Extension – Medina County and the North Central Regional Office have invited CCAO/CEAO to meet together on August 19-21, 2009 in Medina County (Wadsworth). Together with OSU Extension, Commissioners Pat Geissman, Stephen Hambley, and Sharon Ray and County Engineer Mike Salay will co-host this joint summer meeting at the Galaxy Restaurant & Banquet Center, in Medina County (Wadsworth). This is the first time that the three organizations will meet together. The theme of the meeting will be “Effective Government Through Collaboration.”

Taking tight county budgets into consideration, OSU Extension invited CCAO/CEAO to meet together instead of holding both the CCAO/CEAO Annual Summer Conference and OSU Extension County Commissioners Days. The CCAO Communication and Education Committee has been considering different options for meetings during the past few years. In addition, CCAO has sought the input from our affiliate members.

Registration materials will be mailed in mid-June. If you have any questions about the conference please contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979, (888) 757-1904, or mjneiman@ccao.org.

NEW CCAOSC ENERGY PROGRAM – NATURAL GAS SAVINGS

Recently, the County Commissioners Association of Ohio Service Corporation (CCAOSC) announced a **new energy program** designed to help keep your natural gas costs under control. The CCAOSC has partnered with Palmer Energy to help manage a new natural gas program – CCAOSC Energy Solutions - for member counties. Program advantages: utilize strength of group buying and leverage buying power to shop the market and secure the best deals.

As you recall, the CCAOSC established a natural gas program in 2000 to save counties money through pre-payment and aggregation. Since the inception of that program, the CCAOSC Natural Gas Program has saved the 30-member counties over \$7.4 million in gas commodities. In the past year, counties saved over \$1.3 million. **Counties currently enrolled in the program should have returned the Participation Agreement for the new program by May 1. New counties and buildings may be added to the program at anytime, but signing up soon helps with the forecasting of energy consumption.**

The CCAOSC believes this program has the potential to provide a significant value for your county. If you have questions or would like to schedule a consultation, please contact Kirk Mizerek, Palmer Energy Vice President, at (419) 539-9180 or kmizerek@palmerenergy.com or Tom Strup, CCAO Deputy Director of Operations, at (614) 220-7978 or tstrup@ccao.org.

AFFILIATE ACTIVITIES

2009 CCC/EAPA REGIONAL MEETINGS

The County Commissioners’ Clerks and Engineer’s Administrative Professional Association of Ohio (CCC/EAPA) has scheduled regional meetings to share information and network with other clerks. CCC/EAPA is comprised of county commissioners and engineers’ office staff. All commissioners’ clerks and engineers’ administrative professionals are welcome to network with this most informative organization. The board works hard to provide educational workshops and training opportunities at summer and winter conferences. Regional information and networking luncheon meetings are a priority with CCC/EAPA. Topics will vary at each meeting and are held on Friday’s beginning at 10:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. CCAO/CEAO sponsors the lunch.

The following is a general list of meetings to be held throughout the 2009 calendar year:

- June 26, 2009 - Carroll Meadows Golf Course – Knickers, Carroll County (Carrollton)
- July 24, 2009 - Noble County Health Department, Noble County (Caldwell)
- August 28, 2009 - Wood County Commissioners Office, Wood County (Bowling Green)
- September 25, 2009 - Darke County Homeland Security & Emergency Management Facility, Darke County (Greenville)
- October 9, 2009 - Scioto County Emergency Management, Scioto County (Portsmouth)
- October 23, 2009 - CCAO Offices, Franklin County (Columbus)

Meeting location addresses can be found at www.ccao.org > Calendar > Seminars, Workshops & Special Events. Please email suggestions for agenda items to Carolyn Hauenstein, Clerk, Erie County Commissioners at chauenstein@erie-county-ohio.net. Bring any forms to share that may be useful to other counties.

To obtain additional information on the CCC/EAPA, or if you are interested in serving on one of the committees, please contact JoAnn Sikorski, Clerk/Administrative Assistant, Athens County Commissioners, at (740) 592-3219, jsikorski@athenscountygovernment.com or www.ccc-esao.org. A Yahoo Group to post questions and answers that arise has been opened. You are encouraged to join this yahoo group at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CCC_EAPA.

STATE ACTIVITIES

LUCAS, OTTAWA, ERIE, CUYAHOGA, AND LAKE COUNTIES TO RECEIVE GRANTS

Ten organizations and government entities will receive grant funding for projects that will contribute more than \$1 million in improvements to Lake Erie Watershed communities and resources. The Coastal Management Assistance Grants, awarded by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Office of Coastal Management, will help fund a green infrastructure feasibility study, a lakefront revitalization plan, interactive educational exhibits that highlight Lake Erie-related industries and promote tourism and efforts to improve beach quality. Each project selected for funding addresses at least one of the Ohio Coastal Management Program's funding categories, including the protection and restoration of Lake Erie coastal resources, promotion of sustainable land use and community planning, coastal resource management education and outreach, and research and data collection.

The Office of Coastal Management dedicates a portion of its federal National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration funding to the Coastal Management Assistance Grant program. This year, Coastal Management Assistance Grants will provide \$359,168 to enhance Lake Erie communities and resources.

Projects from eight local entities and two state entities — the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, Lake Soil and Water Conservation District, Lake County Port Authority, Cleveland Metroparks, the Great Lakes Historical Society in Vermilion, Sandusky Area Maritime Association, Put-in-Bay Township Park District, City of Oregon, ODNR Division of Soil and Water Conservation, and the Ohio Lake Erie Commission — will receive funding this year. Grant-funded projects require a match of at least 50 percent of the project's total cost.

Applications and guidelines for the next round of grants to be awarded in 2010 will be available in September 2009 online or by contacting the Office of Coastal Management at (419) 626-7980 or coastal@dnr.state.oh.us.

MORE THAN 200 APPLY FOR FARMLAND PRESERVATION FUNDS

Ohio farm families and local communities recently submitted applications asking the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) to purchase an easement on their farmland, which would guarantee their land will forever be preserved for agricultural use. The department received 205 applications from 40 counties, up from 30

counties in 2008, for the eighth round of funding under the Clean Ohio Agricultural Easement Purchase Program.

An agricultural easement is a voluntary and legally-binding restriction placed on a farm that limits the use of the land to predominantly agricultural activity. The land remains under private ownership and management and stays on the tax rolls under Current Agricultural Use Valuation (CAUV). The farmland can be sold or passed along as a gift to others at any time, but the restriction prohibiting non-agricultural development stays with the land.

The department received applications from families requesting more than 32,000 acres be preserved in the following 40 Ohio counties: Ashland (30), Ashtabula (2), Auglaize (1), Butler (9), Champaign (9), Clark (8), Clinton (2), Defiance (2), Delaware (1), Fairfield (25), Fulton (12), Gallia (2), Geauga (1), Greene (5), Henry (2), Highland (1), Holmes (1), Huron (1), Knox (11), Lake (1), Licking (5), Logan (7), Lucas (1), Madison (5), Marion (5), Miami (3), Montgomery (2), Morrow (1), Perry (1), Pickaway (1), Portage (5), Preble (15), Sandusky (4), Seneca (10), Trumbull (1), Tuscarawas (1), Union (2), Warren (2), Wayne (4), and Wood (4). Recipients are expected to be announced in mid-July, with \$6.25 million in Clean Ohio funds to be distributed.

For more information on Clean Ohio or the Agricultural Easement Purchase Program, visit the department's Web site at www.agri.ohio.gov or contact the Office of Farmland Preservation at (614) 728-6210.

NACo ACTIVITIES

NACo 74th ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXPOSITION

The National Association of Counties (NACo) and Davidson County (Nashville), Tennessee invite you to join over 2,000 appointed and elected officials from across the nation this summer for NACo's 74th Annual Conference & Exposition to be held July 24-28, 2009 at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel. 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. The early bird discount is available until June 19. For more information, please contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979, (888) 757-1904 or mjneiman@ccao.org.

CONFERENCES/SEMINARS

2009 STATE PLANNING CONFERENCE

Mark your calendar for the 2009 State Planning Conference which will be held on September 23-25, 2009 at the Sheraton Suites Hotel, 1989 Second Street, in Summit County (Cuyahoga Falls). This year's conference theme "To Sustainability and Beyond" intends to challenge attendees to look beyond accepted notions of sustainability as "being green", and focus on real world examples of sustainable efforts in areas such as compact development patterns, historic preservation, watershed planning, economic development, transit innovations, energy efficiency and alternative energy resources.

For more information contact Patrice Theken, AICP, Director, Medina County Department of Planning Services, 124 West Washington Street, Medina, OH 44256, (330) 722-0219, fax (330) 764-8456 or ptheken@medinaco.org.

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OPINIONS

SYLLABUS

2009-020

Although the court in *Wetland Resource Center, L.L.C. v. Marion County Auditor*, 157 Ohio App. 3d 203, 2004-Ohio-2470, 809 N.E.2d 1202 (Marion County), reached a contrary result, we conclude that land used as a wetland mitigation bank is not "devoted exclusively to agricultural use" within the meaning of Ohio Const. art. II, Â§ 36 and R.C. 5713.30(A)(1) and, therefore, does not qualify for reduced tax valuation under the "current agricultural use value" (CAUV) program.

SYLLABUS

2009-021

R.C. 5705.261 authorizes the filing of a petition to submit to the voters "[t]he question of decrease of an increased rate of levy approved for a continuing period of time by the voters of a subdivision" with regard to any levy approved by the voters for a continuing period of time under R.C. 5705.19, including a levy under R.C. 5705.19(L) for community mental retardation and developmental disabilities programs and services under R.C. Chapter 5126.

CLASSIFIEDS

SOCIAL SERVICES SUPERVISOR

The Ottawa County Department of Job and Family Services is seeking a Social Services Administrator for the Children/Family/Adult Protective Services Unit. This includes child and adult protection investigations and determinations, ongoing protective services, foster care, adoption, subsidized child care, health check and pregnancy related services programming. Responsibilities include development and oversight of operations; ensure programs and services comply with state, federal and local laws and regulations; supervision and development of staff; financial controls for unit; act as liaison to other local and state agencies for the agency. Requirements for the position: Bachelor degree in related field (Master degree preferred); five years demonstrated experience in child and family services or related field; clear understanding and experience in social services, social work practices and legal process as they relate to child and adult protective services. For more information go to www.co.ottawa.oh.us/employmentopps.htm. Apply by sending resume to Ottawa County Department of Job and Family Services, 8043 W. State Route 163, Suite 200, Oak Harbor, OH 43449. Application deadline is **June 12, 2009**. Ottawa County is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Drug Free Workplace.

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 at mjneiman@ccao.org