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# CIDS

## County Information and Data Service

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JUNE 17, 2011

### DATES TO REMEMBER

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| JUNE 21, 2011    | SOUTHEAST OHIO COMMISSIONERS & ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING, MARIETTA COUNTY CLUB, WASHINGTON COUNTY (MARIETTA) |
| JULY 11, 2011    | NORTHWEST OHIO COMMISSIONERS & ENGINEERS QUARTERLY MEETING, VAN WERT BANQUET CENTER, VAN WERT COUNTY (VAN WERT)            |
| JULY 15-19, 2011 | NACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE, MULTNOMAH COUNTY (PORTLAND), OR  |

### ASSOCIATION NEWS

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT & REGIONALISM: CCAO PARTICIPATES IN RADIO & TELEVISION SHOWS

Recently, CCAO Executive Director Larry Long participated in a television show and radio podcast to discuss issues for local government and regionalism.

Joining Long on "All Sides with Anne Fisher" - a WOSU public media radio podcast - was Matt DeTemple, Executive Director of the Ohio Township Association, and Randy Cole, Controlling Board President and Policy Advisor from the Office of Budget and Management. The panel considered the pros & cons of regionalization (consolidation of government) as a potential cost savings measure for Ohio. In addition, they discussed the "tool kit" local governments have been given to manage their budgets. To view the radio show, go to <http://beta.wosu.org/allsides/ohios-state-budget-issues-for-local-government-and-regionalism/>

Joining Long and DeTemple for ideastream's® "The State of Ohio" (Episode 1121) was Sue Cave, Executive Director of the Ohio Municipal League. Representing counties, townships and municipalities, the panel discussed the cuts in the proposed state budget, which hits local governments the hardest. The county, municipal and township leaders discussed the criticism about local government, the cuts and the future of local government. ideastream®, a weekly television show hosted by award-winning host Karen Kasler located in Cleveland, is a not-for-profit multiple-media public service organization with a mission to strengthen Northeast Ohio communities. To view the television show, go to [www.ideastream.org/ohio/entry/40483](http://www.ideastream.org/ohio/entry/40483)

VAN WERT COUNTY TO HOST NW OHIO COMMISSIONERS & ENGINEERS QUARTERLY MEETING – JULY 11

Join Van Wert County Commissioners Gary Adams, Clair Dudgeon and Thad Lichtensteiger and County Engineer Kyle Wendel for the Northwest Ohio Commissioners and Engineers Quarterly Meeting on Monday, July 11, 2011 at the Van Wert Banquet Center, 1109 South Shannon Street, in Van Wert. Registration begins at 12:30 a.m. at the Banquet Center. Tour buses leave at 1:00 p.m. for a tour of Iberdrola, a wind turbine construction site. The social hour begins at 3:30 p.m. followed by the business meeting at 4:00 p.m. with dinner to follow at 5:00 p.m.

Registration information – deadline: July 1

- Dinner and meeting: \$5.00 per person.
- Optional 4-person golf scramble will be held at 11:00 a.m. at Hickory Sticks Golf Club, 12083 U.S.D. 127 South, in Van Wert. Registration begins at 10:00 a.m. with the shot gun start at 11:00 a.m. Cost for 18-holes with a cart is \$20.

For more information, contact Pam Henderson, Secretary, Van Wert County Commissioners, 114 East Main Street – Suite 200, Van Wert, OH 45891, (419) 238-6159 or fax (419) 238-4528.

**COUNTY ACTIVITIES**

TROY RECEIVES OUTSTANDING REGIONAL CONTRIBUTION AWARD

The Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) presented the 2011 Walter F. Ehrnfelt, Jr. Award for Outstanding Regional Contribution to Lake County Commissioner Daniel P. Troy. The Ehrnfelt Award is presented annually to an individual in the public sector who has significantly contributed to the betterment of Northeast Ohio. This is the eighth year that NOACA has presented the award in memory of Ehrnfelt, the late mayor of Strongsville and former NOACA Governing Board member. NOACA addresses the transportation, air quality, and water quality needs of Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, and Medina counties.

Troy has devoted his career to public service, first as a councilman and council president for the city of Willowick, then for seven terms in the Ohio House of Representatives, and as Lake County Commissioner. He has advocated regional cooperation and recently co-chaired the Ohio Commission on Local Government Reform and Collaboration. In that capacity, Daniel held meetings throughout the state to gain input from public officials on ways to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of local government operations, to achieve cost savings to taxpayers and facilitate economic development. Troy holds a BA degree in political science from the University of Dayton, and is a U.S. Army veteran. Congratulations, Daniel!

PROUD RECEIVES COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

The 6<sup>TH</sup> Masonic District of Ohio has presented Clermont County Commissioner Bob Proud with the Grand Masters Community Service Award, recognizing his outstanding service to the community as a commissioner and for his work recognizing veterans and those who are currently in the service. The award was presented to Commissioner Proud during the May 6, meeting of the Sixth Masonic District in Georgetown. The district represents Brown and Clermont counties. Proud has served his community for 25 years. Congratulations, Bob!

FRANKLIN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FUND GREENCORPS JOBS PROGRAM

The Franklin County Board of Commissioners approved \$50,000 in funding for a new GreenCorps jobs program for local Franklin County youth. The Franklin County Economic Development & Planning Department,

in partnership with the Franklin Park Conservatory and Central Ohio Workforce Investment Corporation (COWIC), will partner to initiate the program to teach horticulture and job skills to 10 low income adults, ages 18-21 who are currently participating in the Workforce Investment Act Program.

Franklin Park Conservatory will oversee the training and COWIC will provide recruitment and referral services, pay the student's hourly minimum wage and provide supportive services. The program will last approximately 40 weeks and consist of both classroom instruction and hands on work experience. Upon successful completion of the program, Franklin Park Conservatory will help place the students in horticultural-related jobs including landscaping, commercial pesticide application, park maintenance, irrigation and greenhouse training and jobs programs.

## **FEDERAL ACTIVITIES**

### **DEFICIT NEGOTIATORS WEIGHING MEDICAID CUTS - ACTION NEEDED: CONTACT YOUR CONGRESSMAN TODAY!**

Reports are circulating that the high-level negotiations aimed at a deal to raise the debt ceiling, reduce federal spending and, ultimately, bring the deficit down are zeroing in on Medicaid. Apparently the negotiators, led by Vice President Joe Biden, are looking for big "savings" from the Medicaid program, in large part because cuts to Social Security and Medicare are off the table, politically.

Since counties rely on Medicaid funding to keep their hospitals, clinics, nursing homes and behavioral health programs afloat, this is a very serious risk. As you know, cuts to Medicaid do nothing to keep people from getting old or sick – counties will just be left holding the bag.

Negotiators include House Majority Leader Eric Cantor (R-VA) and Senate Minority Whip Jon Kyl (R-AZ), Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus (D-MT), Senate Appropriations Chairman Daniel Inouye (D-HI), Assistant House Minority Leader James Clyburn (D-SC), and House Budget Committee ranking member Chris Van Hollen (D-MD). In addition, ongoing talks continue among members of the former "Gang of Six" (now nicknamed "Five Guys"): Senators Kent Conrad (D-ND), Richard Durbin (D-IL), John Warner (D-VA), Michael Crapo (R-ID), and Saxby Chambliss (R-GA).

Email or call Ohio Senators Brown and Portman and your U.S. Representative to ask them to TALK TO their respective caucus's leaders and negotiators about the importance of protecting Medicaid in the deficit negotiations and to oppose all Medicaid block grants, caps – or any other scheme which will result in shifting Medicaid costs to counties. Call the Capitol Switchboard at (202) 224-3121 and ask to speak to your Senator/Representative. Click here to see the alert: <http://capwiz.com/naco/issues/alert/?alertid=50700006> For questions or comments, please contact Paul Beddoe, NACo Associate Legislative Director, at (202) 942.4234 or [pbeddoe@naco.org](mailto:pbeddoe@naco.org)

### **USDA FUNDS WILL CREATE UP TO 1,210 NEW CLEAN ENERGY JOBS IN NORTHEAST OHIO BY ENABLING FARMERS TO GROW BIOMASS CROP**

U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown announced a \$5.7 million award from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that will create up to 1,210 new jobs by enabling farmers in Northeast Ohio to grow a clean energy biomass known as miscanthus giganteus. Farmers in Ashtabula, Lake, Geauga, and Trumbull counties—as well as in several neighboring counties in Pennsylvania—will be eligible to receive the funds to grow miscanthus giganteus, a type of grass, which will be converted into biofuels at an Aloterra Energy facility in Conneaut. Brown wrote a letter of support for the project to the USDA. Brown is the first Ohioan to sit on the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture in more than 40 years, and serves as the Chairman of the Subcommittee on Jobs, Rural Economic Growth and Energy Innovation.

The funding is being awarded through USDA's Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP). The Biomass Crop Assistance Program (BCAP), a new program authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill, provides financial assistance to farmers to establish, produce, and, deliver biomass. According to Aloterra, farmers will enter into a contract with Aloterra to plant the miscanthus; Aloterra will buy the miscanthus, convert it, and get it to market. The farmer will have three streams of income: (1) tonnage payments, (2) carbon credits, and (3) profit sharing from the conversion facility. Farmers will also earn BCAP rent payments on the acres planted, and BCAP will pay \$45 per ton harvested for two years.

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO RECEIVE \$375 MILLION TO COMPENSATE FOR TAX-EXEMPT FEDERAL LANDS; 45 OHIO COUNTIES TO RECEIVE \$521,000

Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar announced Thursday that more than 1,850 local governments around the nation will receive payments totaling \$375.2 million under the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program this year to compensate them for non-taxable federal land in their jurisdictions. The Interior Department collects about \$13 billion in revenue annually from commercial activities on federal lands, such as oil and gas leasing, livestock grazing and timber harvesting. A portion of these revenues are shared with states and counties in the form of revenue-sharing payments. The balance is deposited in the U.S. Treasury, which in turn pays for a broad array of federal activities, including PILT funding to counties.

Payment eligibility is reserved for local governments (usually counties) that contain nontaxable federal lands and provide vital government services, such as public safety, housing, social services, transportation and the environment. Forty-five Ohio counties will receive a total of \$521,039 with payments ranging from \$169 in Brown County to \$154,153 in Lawrence County. A complete list of funding by state and county is online at <http://www.doi.gov/pilt/index.html> Click on county payments and sort by state and funding year.

This year's PILT program is funded at full entitlement levels under the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, which enacted a five-year authorization for full funding of the PILT program. Using a formula provided in statute, the annual PILT payments to local governments are computed based on the number of acres of federal entitlement land within each county or jurisdiction and the population within that county or jurisdiction. The lands include the National Forest and National Park Systems, those managed by the Bureau of Land Management, those affected by Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation water resource development projects, and others.

#### **NACo ACTIVITIES**

##### GREEN GOVERNMENT NETWORK

The National Association of Counties (NACo) Electronic Green Government Network is an information source about county "greening" efforts, including grant opportunities, new tools, publications, sustainability best practices, webinars and workshops. For more information, contact Jared Lang, NACo Program Manager of the Green Government Initiative, at (202) 942-4224, [jlang@naco.org](mailto:jlang@naco.org) or go to [www.naco.org/programs/csd/Pages/ElectronicGreenGovernmentNetwor.aspx](http://www.naco.org/programs/csd/Pages/ElectronicGreenGovernmentNetwor.aspx)

##### FREE ENERGY-TRACKING ASSISTANCE

NACo provides free assistance to help you track energy use across your county facilities. Measuring your energy use is the first step toward identifying inefficiency and making money-saving improvements. You can use ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager to set investment priorities, identify under-performing buildings and receive EPA recognition for superior energy performance. For more information, contact Eryn Rosenblum, Research Assistant, at (202) 661-8834, [erosenblum@naco.org](mailto:erosenblum@naco.org) or [www.naco.org/programs/csd/Pages/NACo-USEPA-ENERGY-STAR-Partnership.aspx](http://www.naco.org/programs/csd/Pages/NACo-USEPA-ENERGY-STAR-Partnership.aspx)

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### MATURING OF AMERICA – COMMUNITIES MOVING FORWARD FOR AN AGING POPULATION

Due to the financial consequences from the Great Recession, many U.S. communities have been unable to make significant progress in preparing to meet the needs of the country's rapidly aging population. "The Maturing of America – Communities Moving Forward for an Aging Population," a follow-up to an extensive survey conducted in 2005, reveals that at best, communities have managed to maintain the status quo for the past six years due to the decline in the overall economy and local government budgets. This report also reveals that, despite the challenges, important advances have been made including increase in specialized training for emergency and public safety staff in dealing with older adults; growth of in-home supportive services; greater support for advanced education for the workforce; and expanded volunteer opportunities. This survey from the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a), with assistance from NACo, is available at [www.n4a.org/programs/](http://www.n4a.org/programs/)

## **SEMINARS**

### CERTIFIED PUBLIC RECORDS TRAINING – SEPTEMBER 23

The Lorain County Commissioners and the County Commissioners Clerks and Engineers Administrative Professionals Association (CCC/EAPA) are sponsoring the three-hour mandatory Open Government Unit Certified Public Records Training. This training program is in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 149.43(E) (1), which requires Public Records Law training for all elected officials and/or their appropriate designees. The program will examine in-depth the responsibilities of elected officials and public offices, along with a review of the rights of the public records requester. The Public Records Act, Open Meetings Act, and Records Retention laws will be discussed, including but not limited to (1) new changes in the law, (2) key definitions, exemptions, practical compliance with a public records requests, and (3) the remedies and penalties that may be imposed upon a public office for failure to comply. A certificate will be given at the completion of the training program to document compliance with training requirement.

The class will be held on **September 23, 2011** from **10:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m.** at the **Lorain County Transportation and Community Center, 40 East Avenue, Elyria, OH 44035**. To register for this seminar or another one in your area go to [www.auditor.state.oh.us/conferences/hb9/registration/Default.aspx](http://www.auditor.state.oh.us/conferences/hb9/registration/Default.aspx)

## **ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS**

### **SYLLABUS**

2011-020

R.C. 3719.21 does not authorize the payment of fines or forfeited bail to a board of county commissioners or the expenditure of fines or forfeited bail for the costs incurred in the housing and care of inmates charged with or convicted of drug offenses.

### **SYLLABUS**

2011-021

R.C. 731.12 prohibits a member of a village legislative authority from serving simultaneously as a member of a board of county hospital trustees appointed pursuant to R.C. 339.02.

## **CLASSIFIEDS**

### **BUDGET/FINANCE DIRECTOR**

The Lake County Commissioners are accepting resumes from qualified candidates for the position of Budget/ Finance Director. This position is unclassified and serves at the pleasure of the Board of Commissioners. Responsibilities of the position include preparing, planning, directing and coordinating financial activities; formulating and administering the County revenue and operating budgets. Responsibilities also include participating in audits of various departments and agencies, participate in and formulate recommendations for the issuance of notes and bonds for financing of County projects, prepares financial statements and reports, oversees payment of bills including self-insured healthcare plans, federal grants and supervises, plans, and coordinates activities of subordinate personnel. Experience in county, state, or local government accounting preferred. Ability to communicate effectively with elected officials and department heads a must. Qualifications: bachelor's degree in business administration, public administration, finance or related discipline or equivalent with three to five years of financing and budgeting experience with governmental accounting. Must have working experience with data base systems and application software. Salary commensurate with experience and qualifications. Send letter with salary requirements and resume by **July 8, 2011** to William A. Margalis, Lake County Commissioners, 105 Main St., Painesville, OH 44077. 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](http://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](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org)