



CIDS

County Information and Data Service

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DATES TO REMEMBER

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| JULY 8, 2011 | CCAO AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFIARS COMMITTEE, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS |
| 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

CCAO AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE – JULY 8

Chris Abbuhl, Tuscarawas County Commissioner and CCAO Agriculture & Rural Affairs Committee Chair, has called a meeting to be held on Friday, July 8 at 10:00 a.m. at the CCAO Offices, 209 East State Street, in downtown Columbus. A presentation on “Water Quality” will be conducted by David Baker, Ph.D., Heidelberg University Professor and Director Emeritus and Founder of the National Center for Water Quality Research. Legislative issues to be discussed include H.B. 14 (Sears) – Pit bulls, H.B. 229 (Buchy) – CAFO’s, and a natural gas update. If you have any issues that you would like to add to the agenda and to RVSP your attendance, contact Amanda Jones, CCAO Administrative Assistant, at (614) 220-7985 or ajones@ccao.org

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.

OSU EXTENSION NEWS

2011 COMMUNITY-BASED AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING GRANTS

The Ohio State University Center for Farmland Policy Innovation is soliciting proposals for the 2011 Community-Based Agricultural Economic Development (CBAED) planning grants. CBAED is an integrated local effort to retain and grow the benefits of food and agriculture, and advance sustainable farming. Its successful implementation should yield economic, social, and environmental benefits for communities and community members. In addition to focusing on producers, community-based agricultural economic development recognizes the full spectrum of the food and agricultural network, from the producers, to processors, to distributors, to retailers, to consumers, to the community within which these activities and relationships take place.

Funds will be allocated to community-based agricultural economic development planning projects. Relatively few Ohio communities have ascertained community priorities and interest in the food and agricultural economic sector through a formal planning process, and integrated these priorities into their plans for future development. As such, funds will be awarded to entities that propose a process to incorporate agricultural economic interests in their jurisdiction or area of operation.

Applicants must be either an Ohio local or regional governing body, agency, or commission, or a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit that focuses on farmland protection and/or local economic development. An anticipated total of \$35,000 is available for grant awards and will be allocated amongst 4-7 awardees. Applications are due August 1, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. For more information, please visit <http://cffpi.osu.edu/program11.htm> or contact Ph.D., Jill Clark, Director, Center for Farmland Policy Innovation, Dept. of Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics, The Ohio State University, 2120 Fyffe Road – Room 337, Columbus, OH 43210, (614) 247-6479, fax (614) 292-4749, or clark.1099@osu.edu

COUNTY ACTIVITY

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR ANNOUNCES GRANT TO ASSIST PIKE COUNTY MANUFACTURING WORKERS AFFECTED BY LAYOFFS

The U.S. Department of Labor announced a \$4,593,515 National Emergency Grant to provide re-employment services to about 690 workers affected by the closure of Masco Retail Cabinet Group in Pike County. Masco workers received notice of the pending closure of the two Pike County facilities in Waverly and Seal Township in April 2010. Although layoffs began in May 2010, a majority of the workers are being laid off this month. Masco, formerly known as Mill's Pride, is a cabinet manufacturer.

Awarded to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, this grant will provide training and support services to the workers in conjunction with other re-employment aid they will receive as a result of their eligibility for Trade Adjustment Assistance benefits. National Emergency Grants are part of the secretary of labor's discretionary fund and are awarded based on a state's ability to meet specific guidelines. For more information, visit <http://www.doleta.gov/NEG/>

STATE ACTIVITIES

SUPREME COURT RULES THAT FORMER STARK COUNTY TREASURER SHOULD BE REINSTATED

On Thursday, the Ohio Supreme Court sided in a 5-2 ruling with former Stark County Treasurer Gary Zeigler stating that he should not have been removed from office in August, 2010 and should get his job back. The Court agreed with Zeigler's attorneys that the law used by the Stark County Commissioners to remove Zeigler violates the State Constitution, Section 38, Article II, that requires a complaint and hearing before he was removed from office in August, 2010. In that ruling, the Court established that Zeigler is entitled to the office of county treasurer and that Alexander Zumar is unlawfully holding that office.

Last August, the Stark County Commissioners cited Ohio Revised Code 321.38 as their authority to remove Zeigler from office following the theft of \$2.96 million by his former chief deputy Vincent Frustaci. Commissioners had already sued Zeigler for the \$2.96 million that went missing under his watch, as required by the law. Zeigler has not repaid the money. Frustaci admitted to embezzling \$2.46 million from county accounts over a six-year period, pled guilty to federal charges and is serving a 10-year prison sentence. County Prosecutor John Ferrero filed a lawsuit last July seeking reimbursement of \$1.5 million that remained after all other sources of repayment were exhausted.

In the ruling, the Court ruled that ORC 321.38, which authorizes a county treasurer's removal from office, is unconstitutional on its face because it conflicts with Section 38, Article II of the Ohio Constitution. Based on that determination, the Court issued a writ of quo warranto that removed the current Stark County Treasurer Alexander Zumar and reinstates ousted Zeigler to the remainder of his elected 2008 term. The Courts's 5-4 majority opinion was authored by Justice Judith Ann Lanzinger with Justices O'Connor, Lundberg Stratton, Cupp, and McGee Brown concurring. Dissenting were Justices Pfeifer and O'Donnell. The opinion can be found at www.supremecourt.ohio.gov/rod/docs/pdf/0/2011/2011-Ohio-2939.pdf

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

HOUSE APPROVES AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS BILL

On June 16, the House passed the FY 2012 agriculture spending bill, H.R. 2112. The bill includes \$17.25 billion in discretionary funds. This figure is \$2.7 billion or 13 percent below the FY 2011 level of \$19.92 billion. The proposed cuts to USDA Rural Development programs would severely hamper the economic development efforts of rural counties. The bill provides \$2.1 billion for rural development programs, a decrease of \$338 million or 14 percent from last year's level. This level of funding is \$876 million or 30 percent less than the NACo supported FY 2010 enacted level of \$2.968 billion. The committee report language also denies authorization for the NACo supported Regional Innovation Initiative, which would give USDA the ability to target five percent of several rural development programs towards locally-led priority projects of rural regions.

Action now moves to the Senate, which is expected to begin working on their Agriculture Appropriations bill in the coming weeks. Please contact Senators Brown and Portman and urge them to oppose the drastic cuts to USDA Rural Development programs found in H.R. 2112 and instead to maintain level funding for USDA Rural Development Programs, which provide loans and grants to spur private sector growth in your rural county. For more information, contact Erik Johnston, NACo Associate Legislative Director, at (202) 942-4230 or ejohnston@naco.org

PESTICIDES BILL UP FOR SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE VOTE

The Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee plans to mark up, H.R. 872, the Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act. The House passed H.R. 872 in March by a vote of 292-130. H.R. 872 was introduced

as a bipartisan response to a court ruling on the National Cotton Council v. EPA (6th Cir. 2009), which instructed the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to move forward with regulating pesticides under the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. The EPA program, as proposed, includes increased reporting and monitoring requirements, which in turn will create unfunded mandates, without necessarily ensuring clean water. H.R. 872 aims to reduce the regulatory burden as imposed by this ruling.

H.R. 872 is especially important for county governments who serve as primary service providers for their residents. As originally proposed, the pesticide regulations would have a huge impact on county government activities associated with public health, land use, forest and park management, flood control, transportation projects, air and water programs, invasive species control, and endangered species protection. Unless addressed through Congressional oversight, the permit will have devastating effects on county programs, particularly mosquito abatement and noxious weed control efforts, while creating huge unfunded mandates for both urban and rural counties.

Pesticides are currently regulated under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA). It is the principal law that authorizes EPA to regulate the manufacture, distribution, sale, and use of pesticides in the United States. FIFRA has been extremely effective in regulating the use and sale of pesticides to protect human health and preserve the environment. FIFRA does not fully preempt state or local law, allowing state and local governments to also regulate pesticide use. NACo supports using pesticides in accordance with the instructions on the label and supports strong penalties for those who misuse pesticides in FIFRA. NACo urges county commissioners to contact Senators Brown and Portman in support of H.R. 872. For more information, contact Julie Ufner, NACo Associate Legislative Director, at (202) 942-4269 or jufner@naco.org

ENHANCED TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY BILL INTRODUCED

Last week, Rep. Darrell Issa (R-Calif.) introduced H.R. 2146, the “Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2011”, the “DATA Act” for short. This legislation was introduced to address the perceived lack of common standards that impeded transparency in government spending.

Among other things, the bill seeks to establish a universal standard of recipient reporting for money received from the federal government to an independent database that will be overseen by a newly designated Federal Accountability and Spending Transparency Board (FAST Board), a board closely modeled after the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board created in ARRA. The FAST Board will also be charged with establishing consistent data elements and standards for the database.

Under the bill, any state, local, or tribal government that receives federal funds pursuant to a federal award, either directly or as a subcontractor or sub grantee will need to report the receipt and use of the funds to the FAST Board. For more information, contact Mike Belarmino, NACo Associate Legislative Director, at (202) 942-4254 or mbelarmino@naco.org

FARM SERVICE AGENCY COUNTY COMMITTEE NOMINATION PERIOD IS OPEN

The nomination period for local Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees began on June 15. Relevant forms and other information about FSA county committee elections are available online at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/elections>. Nomination forms for the 2011 election must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on August 1, 2011. For more information, contact Erik Johnston, NACo Associate Legislative Director, at (202) 942-4230 or ejohnston@naco.org

PUBLICATIONS

POLICY BRIEFS FROM OSU'S CENTER FOR FARMLAND POLICY INNOVATION

OSU's Center for Farmland Policy Innovation just published two new policy briefs of interest to county government.

The "Athens Food Policy Council: From Concept to Case Study" is an example of a community success story for addressing food access issues in a low income Ohio community. Situated in the poverty-stricken Appalachian region of Ohio, the council succeeded in establishing a garden-friendly city code, facilitating crop development on public land, and increasing purchases of locally grown food products. This policy brief chronicles the formulation, progression, and positive outcomes of the council's work, offering valuable insight to peer food policy councils. Find more information on the case study at <http://cffpi.osu.edu/athens.htm>

"Conducting a County Agricultural Policy Audit" is a tool that can be used to evaluate the effects of county policy on farmland and farming viability. This agricultural policy audit marks the first of its kind in the state of Ohio and the country.

- It promotes a critical and introspective process of self-improvement
- It is a flexible tool that can be tailored to meet the needs of any community.
- It can be performed, almost in its entirety, utilizing existing community resources.
- The quality and quantity of results are strongly correlated with the level of honesty and commitment of resources that the community/government decides to dedicate to the project.
- The ensuing results can be used to provide a rich description of the effects of government policy, as well as guide future efforts to improve the regulatory and governmental support for community priorities – in this case agriculture.

Find more information on this case study at <http://cffpi.osu.edu/wayne.htm>

For more policy briefs, visit: <http://cffpi.osu.edu/policybriefs.htm> For more information about the Center for Farmland Policy Innovation, contact Jill Clark, Ph.D., Director, Center for Farmland Policy Innovation, Dept. of Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics, The Ohio State University, 2120 Fyffe Road – Room 337, Columbus, OH 43210, (614) 247-6479, fax (614) 292-4749, or clark.1099@osu.edu

WEBINARS

NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH 2011: COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS WEBINAR SERIES

Join the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Individual & Community Preparedness Division on June 22, 2011 at 2:00 p.m. for the 2011 National Preparedness Month launch webinar. September 2011 is the 8th Annual National Preparedness Month. The many disasters happening across the U.S. and throughout the world have focused the public on emergency preparedness like never before. The theme for this year's National Preparedness Month is A Time to Remember, A Time to Prepare. Attend the webinar to:

- Get the new 2011 National Preparedness Month Toolkit and learn how you and YOUR community can get involved in making our homes and neighborhoods a safer place to live.
- Find out how you can plan events in your community to raise awareness about emergency preparedness and protect your homes and families from all hazards.
- Learn what you can do to support first responders in your communities.

To sign up for the webinar go to www.citizencorps.gov/news/webcasts/npm2011.shtm

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

SYLLABUS

2011-023

1. A person may serve simultaneously in the positions of Napoleon city mayor and Henry County deputy engineer, provided that as deputy county engineer he does not perform duties related to county engineer's projects within the City of Napoleon.
2. A person may serve simultaneously in the positions of Napoleon City Council member and Henry County deputy engineer, provided that as a member of the City Council he does not participate in deliberations, discussions, negotiations, or votes upon a contract entered into between the county and the municipal corporation for services or projects involving the county engineer's office, and that as deputy county engineer he does not perform duties related to county engineer's projects within the City of Napoleon.

CLASSIFIEDS

DIRECTOR OF JOBS & FAMILY SERVICES

The Pickaway County Commissioners are seeking a Director of the County Department of Job & Family Services. Qualifications: Completion of undergraduate major core course work in one of the following or a related field: business or public administration, human services or resources, psychology, sociology, social work, education, or finance. Also requires an additional five years of administrative/managerial experience to include responsibility of managing the fiscal aspects of an organization, agency, program or operation area and assisting in development and implementing policies, programs, laws, rules and/or regulations. At least two of the five years must have been as a supervisor or subordinate staff and/or contractors.

Or requires three courses or eighteen months of experience in business administration and/or public administration, one course or six months of experience in accounting or finance, two courses or twelve months of experience in social welfare, one course or six months of experience in human resources management, and one course or six months experience in written communication for business. Also requires five years of administrative/managerial experience to include responsibility for managing the fiscal aspects of an organization, agency, program, or operation area and assisting in development and implementing policies, programs, laws, rules and/or regulations. At least two of the five years must have been as a supervisor or subordinate staff and/or contractors. Or education, training and/or experience in an amount equal to the Minimum Qualifications stated above.

A more extensive job description and application can be found on the Pickaway County Board of Commissioners' website www.pickawayboc.org under the "Employment" link. Application deadline: **June 30, 2011**. EOE.

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. 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