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# CIDS

## County Information and Data Service

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### DATES TO REMEMBER

DECEMBER 11-13, 2011	CCAO/CEAO ANNUAL WINTER CONFERENCE, GREATER COLUMBUS CONVENTION CENTER, FRANKLIN COUNTY (COLUMBUS)
MARCH 3-7, 2012	NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE, WASHINGTON HILTON & TOWERS, WASHINGTON, DC
MARCH 7, 2012	OHIO CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION BREAKFAST, RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING – ROOM B-340, WASHINGTON, DC

### ASSOCIATION NEWS

#### A NEW LOOK COMING TO CIDS & STATEHOUSE REPORT IN 2012

In January, you will notice a change to the way the weekly *County Information and Data Service (CIDS)* and *Statehouse Report (SR)* will look. Your email will contain short summaries and links to a few hot topics from *CIDS* and the *Statehouse Report* and a link to the entire report. Both the *CIDS* and the *Statehouse Report* will continue to be available from the CCAO web page at [www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org) for future reference. And this is only the beginning of changes you will see to CCAO newsletters and other ways we communicate with members.

During 2012 you will see even more changes in how we communicate with members. We will be relying more on technology in how we do things at CCAO. During the first six months of 2012 we will be reviewing how we communicate with the goal being to be respectful of your time and not overload you with information and to focus on information you need to know and for which action needs to be taken to protect county interests. We will also be looking for ways to let you know what other counties are doing and how you can learn from initiatives in these counties and to be informed of the challenges and problems other counties are confronting. The changes to our newsletters will be gradual. Trying to recognize that some members are more advanced and accepting of some of technology than others, we will study how CCAO may better serve the needs of its members by using some of the new social media outlets. In the meantime, tell us what you think and give us ideas on how we can be effective and respectful of your limited time given the myriad of issues that confront our members on a daily basis.

## COUNTY ADVISORY BULLETINS PUBLISHED

Two County Advisory Bulletins (CAB) have recently been published:

**2011-05 NEW TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR COUNTY RECORDERS** - On September 29, 2011, certain provisions of House Bill 153, the state budget bill, became effective, establishing new training requirements for county recorders. This CAB highlights the new training requirements established by H.B. 153, summarizes all training requirements for county recorders, as well as highlights the financial impact of such mandated training. Exhibit 1 is a copy of ORC Section 317.06 as enacted that contains the continuing education requirements.

**2011-06 DITCH MAINTENANCE UPDATE** - H.B. 114, the state transportation budget for the FY 2012 and 2013 biennium, included language that provides for a much needed update to Ohio's ditch laws. Specifically, the act addresses problems under Ohio law with ditch maintenance funds. Under prior law, these funds were limited to only 20% of the original construction cost of a ditch. A board of county commissioners had no authority to increase the original estimated construction cost of a ditch to account for inflation or to the amount the ditch would cost to construct now. H.B. 114 authorizes a board of county commissioners, or a joint board of county commissioners, to adjust the permanent base of a ditch improvement that is used to calculate maintenance fund assessments. In addition, the act similarly authorizes commissioners, or a joint board, to use these same ditch maintenance procedures to maintain soil and water conservation district improvements.

To read more, go to [www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org) > Publications > County Advisory Bulletins.

## CCAO/CEAO WINTER CONFERENCE KEYNOTE SPEAKER UPDATE

Join CCAO/CEAO for our 131<sup>st</sup> Annual Winter Conference to be held December 11-13, 2011 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center (GCCC), 400 North High Street, in downtown Columbus. The following federal and state officials will be participating at the conference at the following events:

### **Monday, December 12**

- Luncheon U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown and ODOT Director Jerry Wray
- After lunch Governor John Kasich
- Dinner U.S. Senator Rob Portman and U.S. District Court Judge Walter Rice

### **Tuesday, December 13**

- Luncheon Kristi Tanner, Chief Operations Officer, JobsOhio

The updated agenda is posted at [www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org) Click on the article on the front page. ***The conference format and location of the conference session has changed. Please review the agenda!***

## **STATE ACTIVITIES**

### ODJFS OFFICE OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CHANGES WIA REPORT DISTRIBUTION LIST

Commissioners will no longer automatically receive a copy of Workforce Investment Act (WIA) performance monitoring reports, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services Office of Workforce Development recently announced. The change was prompted by feedback from Workforce Investment Board (WIB) Directors who pointed out to the department that the distribution lists were inconsistent from county to county, as not all commissioners were included in the distribution list. They also noted that WIB Directors should have the responsibility of keeping their chief local elected officials updated and aware of area performance.

The announcement from the department read as follows:

The Workforce Investment Act (WIA), Section 184 (a)(4), and the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 20 CFR 667.410 (b)(2), require each state to conduct an annual on-site monitoring review of local workforce investment boards to ensure compliance with applicable administrative requirements. ODJFS accomplishes this activity through both fiscal and programmatic monitoring conducted through our Office of Fiscal and Monitoring Services.

In response to feedback received by the Office of Workforce Development regarding the distribution of these monitoring reports, ODJFS will standardize the distribution lists for these reports.

Effective immediately, ODJFS will send WIA monitoring reports to the Workforce Investment Board Chairperson, the WIA Area Fiscal Agent and the WIA Area Administrative Entity. We will no longer automatically send reports to the elected officials.

It is important to note that since the elected officials are the sub-recipients of the WIA funding passed from ODJFS to the workforce system it is ODJFS's position that the Chief Local Elected Official(s) need to be informed of issues within their Workforce Investment Area. It is the responsibility of the WIB, the Administrative Entity and the Fiscal Agent to communicate the results of these monitoring activities to the Chief Local Elected Official(s).

While ODJFS will no longer make it a practice to send reports to CLEO(s), we reserve the right to do so in cases of repeat findings, if corrective action is not adequate or in such case that a substantial risk has been identified that requires the attention of the official or other circumstance where such direct communication is prudent.

Please contact CCAO Policy Analyst Laura Abu-Absi at (614) 220-7996, (888) 757-1904 or [labu-absi@ccao.org](mailto:labu-absi@ccao.org) should you have any questions or concerns about this change in distribution of the reports.

## KASICH REVEALS NEW PLATE, DRIVERS' LICENSE DESIGN

This week, Governor John Kasich joined art students from the Columbus College of Art and Design (CCAD) to unveil what will be Ohio's fourth new license plate design in little more than a decade. The tag, to be introduced in December 2012, will also match new drivers' licenses that will be issued starting in January 2013, making Ohio the first state to have a unified design for both items, according to the administration.

The new design features a wide red triangle at the top with "Ohio" lettering in white and blue identification characters on a white background. To vote for a slogan or suggest another slogan that will appear on the white background of the tags and drivers' licenses, go to <https://ext.dps.state.oh.us/BMVOnlineServices.Public/NewPlateSloganVote.aspx> The new plates and drivers' licenses will not cost the state any additional money because Ohio would have to revise them to comply with the federal Real ID Act. The new drivers' licenses will have new security features, markings, and other federal requirements making it harder to illegally counterfeit.

## **FEDERAL ACTIVITIES**

### DISASTER ASSISTANCE: SBA ECONOMIC DISASTER LOANS

Small businesses, agricultural cooperatives and most nonprofit organizations affected by severe storms and

flooding last winter can still claim working capital loans. The U.S. Small Business Administration announced that Economic Injury Disaster Loans are available for businesses impacted February 27 through March 14. The filing deadline is December 19, 2011. Loans up to \$2 million are available at 4% interest for small businesses and 3% for private nonprofits of all sizes with terms up to 30 years, according to the SBA. They are intended to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable and other expenses that could have been covered had the disaster not occurred. Eligible counties include Allen, Auglaize, Crawford, Darke, Delaware, Hardin, Logan, Marion, Mercer, Morrow, Shelby, Union, Van Wert, and Wyandot.

### FEDS APPROVE CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN FOR OHIO WORKS FIRST WORK PARTICIPATION RATES

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services officially accepted a corrective action plan submitted by the state in September of 2011 to try once again to meet mandatory work participation rates for clients of the Ohio Works First program, a cash assistance program funded by Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) dollars. (See the September 30, 2011 issue of Statehouse for more background on the submitted plan.)

In short, the clock began ticking for county job and family services departments on October 1, 2011 – counting down a year in which the state as a whole must enroll at least 50% of one-parent households and 90% of two-parent households in a federally-approved work activity. If the rates are not met, Ohio will see a reduction in its TANF grant of \$32M that must be made up for out of state or local dollars.

The plan was submitted in response to the federal government's official notification and denial of appeal for Ohio failing to meet the work participation rates in federal fiscal year 2007. It is likely a similar scenario will be faced in future years given that the state has not met the required rates in any year since then.

Ohio Department of Job and Family Services Director Michael Colbert will be addressing commissioners at CCAO's Winter Conference on this topic. For more information in the meantime, please contact CCAO Policy Analyst Laura Abu-Absi at (614) 220-7996, (888) 757-1904 or [labu-absi@ccao.org](mailto:labu-absi@ccao.org).

### **NACo ACTIVITIES**

#### FIVE STAR RESTORATION GRANT PROGRAM

The National Fish and Wildlife Federation, in cooperation with NACo and several other organizations, is funding the Five Star Restoration Grant Program to provide \$10,000 to \$40,000 grants on a competitive basis to support community-based wetland, riparian and coastal habitat restoration projects. Winning projects build diverse partnerships and foster local natural resource stewardship through education, outreach, and training activities. Applications can be submitted until February 15, 2012. For more information, go to <http://www.nfwf.org/>

#### LEARN GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE TECHNIQUES WITH NEW NACO ISSUE BRIEF

NACo's Green Infrastructure Program helps counties to use management of natural resources to enhance water quality, abate flooding, lower heat in urban centers, lessen the impacts of climate change and build more resilient communities. NACo and the National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council (NUCFAC) have released an issue brief, which covers the basics of green infrastructure techniques and applications. For more information, contact Carrie Clingan, NACo Senior Associate – Community Services, at (202) 942-4246, [cclingan@naco.org](mailto:cclingan@naco.org) or <http://www.naco.org/research/pubs/Pages/default.aspx>

## NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPEN

The National Association of Counties (NACo) Legislative Conference will be held March 3-7, 2012 at the Washington Hilton and Towers in Washington, D.C. This annual Conference gathers over 2,000 elected and appointed county officials from across the country to focus on legislative issues facing county government. Hear from political commentators Tucker Carlson and Eleanor Clift, who will jointly present a view of Congress and the 2012 Election at the Opening Session. Registration opened this week. Go to [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org) for more information.

Mark your calendars for the Ohio Congressional Delegation Breakfast to be held on March 7, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. in the Rayburn House Office Building – Room B-340 in Washington, D.C. More information to follow.

## **ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION**

SYLLABUS

2011-043

The offices of member of the board of education of a local school district and county recorder are compatible.

## **CLASSIFIEDS**

### FISCAL OFFICER

The Huron Public Library is looking for a Fiscal Officer. This person will serve as chief fiscal officer of the library and will ensure that all financial operations comply with the statutes of the State of Ohio, state auditing requirements and the policies and decisions of the Board of Trustees. The position is part time with 15 hours per week. Appointment is made annually. Wages and Benefits: negotiated and dependent upon experience and education. Board of Trustees and in close coordination with the Library Director.

Qualifications: Minimum of Bachelor's Degree in accounting or related field with 1 to 3 years progressively responsible experience with budget development, financial administration and government or public accounting. Relevant knowledge with UAN and governmental or public fund accounting experience preferred. Eligibility for bonding required and successful completion of a background and credit check required.

DUTIES: Receiving and depositing all funds; paying out money; cash management, including investing; keeping financial records; maintaining payroll, fringe benefits, and retirement system records; preparing monthly and annual financial reports; preparing budgets and financial forecasts; providing reports as required by federal, state, and local agencies; knowing the statutory requirements relating to libraries; attending all board meetings and take minutes; providing the board and the director with information as needed; and other duties as assigned.

Application deadline: **December 9, 2011**. Please send a cover letter, resume, and three references to: Huron Public Library, Attn: Board President, 333 Williams Street, Huron, OH 44839. EOE.

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA), Northeast Ohio's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), is seeking a superior and proven leader, manager and administrator to serve as the Executive Director. Starting salary range \$140,000 - \$160,000 plus generous benefits depending on qualifications

This position has three direct reports: Directors of Transportation Planning, Transportation Programs and Finance and Operations. This role also oversees Information Technology and Legal Counsel. NOACA is the federally-designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, and Medina Counties in Northeast Ohio, combining to serve a population of over 2 million. This agency provides cooperative, comprehensive, and continuous planning for highways, public transit, and multi-modal transportation. In addition, this organization performs water quality, transportation-related air quality, and other environmental planning functions. NOACA works with partners including the Federal Highway Administration, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Ohio Department of Transportation and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, among others.

A Bachelor's degree in Urban or Regional Planning, Public Administration, Transportation or Civil Engineering or related fields with seven to ten years senior level leadership experience is needed. Experience and background should include long-range and current planning, and successful experience with complex governing entities. Prior experience working in a MPO is highly desirable as are relevant certifications and recognitions.

Qualified candidates should submit resumes online at [www.watersconsulting.com/recruitment](http://www.watersconsulting.com/recruitment). This position is open until filled; however, the first review of applicants will take place on December 15, 2011. For more information please contact Andrea Battle Sims at (877) 356-2924 or (216) 695-4776.

**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)