



CIDS

County Information and Data Service

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JULY 27, 2012

DATES TO REMEMBER

- JULY 30, 2012** **PHASE II – OHIO SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT REVIEW WEBINAR, OHIO EPA, COLUMBUS**
- AUGUST 8, 2012** **WAGING SUCCESSFUL BALLOT ISSUE CAMPAIGNS, CCAO 2nd WEDNESDAY SEMINAR SERIES, CCAO OFFICE, COLUMBUS**
- AUGUST 15, 2012** **CCAO WORKFORCE COMMITTEE – CCAO OFFICE, COLUMBUS**
- AUGUST 24, 2013** **25TH CORSA ANNUAL MEETING, ALADDIN SHRINE CENTER, COLUMBUS**

ASSOCIATION NEWS

WAGING SUCCESSFUL BALLOT ISSUE CAMPAIGNS – CCAO 2ND WEDNESDAY SEMINAR SERIES

At a time of tight budgets and declining tax resources for certain county purposes, county officials may be asked to seek voter support for tax levies in order to cover the cost of county funded services in a variety of areas. Learn from experienced professionals how to address issues related to timing of any proposed tax levy, the process for proposing a levy, communication strategies, the value of campaign research, fundraising, identifying core constituencies and get out the vote efforts. Also learn from legal counsel the prohibitions on the use of public resources to advocate for a levy, types of information that may be distributed by public entities pertaining to a levy and campaign finance issues.

Join CCAO on Wednesday, August 8 for a 2nd Wednesday Seminar on “Waging Successful Ballot Issue Campaigns.” All 2nd Wednesday Seminars will be held in the Board Room at the CCAO Offices, 209 East State Street, in Columbus. Information is posted on our website at www.ccao.org and is attached to this issue of CIDS.

Register for this free program by email to Tanya McComas, CCAO Administrative Assistant, at tmccomas@ccao.org. Please include the name and title of those attending and the county, agency or company they represent. Coffee will be available at 9:00 a.m., the program begins at 9:30 a.m. and concludes at 12:30 p.m., and lunch is on your own after the program. If you have any questions regarding the substance of the program, contact Brad Cole, Managing Director of Research, at (614) 220-7981 or bcole@ccao.org

OSU EXTENSION NEWS

GROWING LAKE ERIE'S ECONOMY

Lake Erie tourism brings in \$11 billion a year to Ohio and provides nearly 120,000 jobs. All of that depends on a clean lake and strong business economy. OSU Extension educators with Sea Grant work closely with lake communities to grow healthy coastal economies that support this important resource. [Click here](#) to view "Growing Lake Erie's Economy: Ohio's Sea Grant is Vital to Us" – a video produced by OSU Extension.

STATE ACTIVITIES

COUNTIES TO RECEIVE POLL WORKER TRAINING FUNDS

Secretary of State Jon Husted announced that Ohio counties will share \$760,000 this month for poll worker training as part of preparations for the November election. The funds are part of an effort to promote electoral integrity for voters casting ballots in the upcoming general election, according to the Secretary of State's office. Each county will receive a funding allotment based on its respective number of registered voters. The money will be used for mandatory poll worker training under state law.

In the 2008 general election, the most recent in which a president was selected, Ohio saw 5,773,777 votes cast, according to the Secretary of State's office. At that time, there were 8,287,665 registered voters in the state. [Funding for poll worker training](#) is just one component of efforts to prevent fraud and promote efficient electoral administration, according to the Secretary of State's office. Recently, the Secretary of State's office launched a [website](#) with tools and resources for county elections boards and poll workers. The website also gives Ohioans the ability to sign up to become poll workers. So far, more than 515 people have signed up through the Secretary of State's office.

GOVERNOR SIGNS EXECUTIVE ORDER TO ASSIST FARMERS FACING DROUGHT CONDITIONS

Governor John Kasich on Wednesday, May 25 signed an [executive order](#) aimed at providing relief to farmers impacted by recent drought conditions. Speaking on the opening day of the Ohio State Fair, the Governor said through the executive order the state will seek federal assistance for farmers - mostly in the form of loans - to cover crop losses and damage caused by this summer's extremely dry weather. He said 52% of the state's crops are rated "poor or very poor" and 90% of topsoil lacks adequate moisture to grow crops.

The order allows the Ohio Department of Transportation to grant permits for farmers to cut hay for their livestock from highway rights of way if their property is adjacent to the state-owned land so long as it can be done safely.

In addition, the order instructs the Department of Agriculture (ODA) to disseminate information to farmers about the negative impacts of drought conditions and how to mitigate them. ODA is also to hold a series of regional education meetings to discuss strategies for dealing with the parched conditions. Also under the order, ODA will create a website to inform farmers about where they can purchase hay for livestock.

For more information about disaster and drought assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture [click here](#).

HEALTH CARE INFORMATION & SURVEY FOR OPERS MEMBERS

For almost three years, the OPERS Board of Trustees has been communicating the proposed pension plan changes to members. The OPERS Board is considering changes to health care coverage for current and future retirees. This summer, OPERS staff members embarked on an aggressive education and

communication outreach plan across the state to reach to provide the Board with feedback from the membership before this fall, so that the Board can finalize the health care changes before the end of the year.

CCAO has been asked to inform counties about the following important information:

- 1) **[OPERS HEALTH CARE & PENSION CHANGES POWERPOINT PRESENTATION](#)**
- 2) **HEALTH CARE SURVEY** for all members to complete by the end of August 2012. Survey responses will be tabulated and shared with the OPERS Board this fall as they make their final decisions. The survey is an important way for members to give the Board the necessary feedback it needs. **TAKE THE SURVEY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!** The survey is available for members in two ways, those members who attended, viewed the webinar presentation or read the newsletter, and those that have not.
 - a) If you have learned about the proposed changes to retiree health care coverage by attending a town hall meeting (in-person), attending a town hall webinar or by reading your OPERS newsletter, please [click on this link](#) to take this survey.
 - b) If you have NOT had the opportunity to learn about the proposed changes to retiree health care coverage, please [click on this link](#) to take this survey.
 - c) Please [click here for a paper copy](#) of the Health Care Survey.
- 3) **TOWN HALL MEETINGS** - OPERS encourages you to [register](#) and attend one of the upcoming Town Hall meetings.

OPERS' goal is to ensure that every member receives information on health care and plan design changes this summer. For more information, contact Cheryl Subler, CCAO Director of Policy, at (614) 220-7980 or csubler@ccao.org

ODNR DEDICATES NEW GEOLOGICAL WALKWAY AT OHIO STATE FAIR; NATURAL RESOURCES PARK SHOWCASES ONE OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST OUTDOOR GEOLOGICAL MAPS

To help celebrate the 175th anniversary of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources' (ODNR) Division of Geological Survey, a brand new "Geological Walk through Time" was commissioned by former Ohio First Lady Hope Taft and funded by private donations. This unique permanent exhibit, nicknamed the Geologic Walkway, is a 286-foot-long educational brick path going through 450 million years of Ohio's geologic history. The highlight of the exhibit is viewing one of the largest outdoor geological maps in the world, which depicts the bedrock geology of each of Ohio's 88 counties.

"I am honored to have such an incredible landmark housed in our park, which was made possible by the collaboration of individuals who tirelessly worked on the vision and funding of this Geologic Walkway for the past six years," said ODNR Director James Zehringer, who is a former Mercer County Commissioner. "The ODNR Natural Resources Park is the ideal spot for this map, allowing Ohioans and fairgoers to learn about the geology beneath their feet."

The Geologic Walkway in the Natural Resources Park was dedicated on Wednesday, July 25, the opening day of the fair. The ADA accessible walkway encourages hands-on interaction with large samples of various kinds of rocks found in Ohio by allowing visitors to feel the differences in rocks along the path.

NACo ACTIVITIES

RODGERS APPOINTS OHIO OFFICIALS TO NACo LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

NACo President Chris Rodgers, Douglas County (NE) Commissioner, has appointed the following Ohio officials to serve in leadership positions in 2012-13. Leaders will receive confirmation letters from NACo in the

near future.

NACo Board of Directors

- Daniel Troy, Lake County Commissioner
- Gary Lee, Union County Commissioner

Environment, Energy & Land Use Committee

- Paula Brooks, Franklin County Commissioner
Chair, Energy/Renewables Subcommittee

Financial & Intergovernmental Affairs Committee

- Daniel Troy, Lake County Commissioner
Chair, Financial & Intergovernmental Affairs Committee

Human Services & Education Steering Committee

- Robert Suver, Director, Clark County Jobs & Family Services Department
Chair, Education & Families Subcommittee
- Paula Prentice, Summit County Council Member
Vice Chair, Welfare, Social Services & Immigration Subcommittee

Labor & Employment Steering Committee

- Anthony Trotman, Director, Franklin County Jobs & Family Services Department
Vice Chair, Workforce Subcommittee

Transportation Committee

- David Brand, Madison County Engineer
Vice Chair, Transportation Committee

Green Government Advisory Board

- Paula Brooks, Franklin County Commissioner
Vice Chair, Green Government Advisory Board

Healthy Counties Advisory Board

- Lenny Eliason, Athens County Commissioner & NACo Past President
Vice Chair, Healthy Counties Advisory Board

International Economic Development Task Force

- Paula Brooks, Franklin County Commissioner
Chair, International Economic Development Task Force

COUNTY JAILS & THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

NACo has produced a publication, "County Jails and the Affordable Care Act: Enrolling Individuals in Health Coverage," that examines how counties can be involved in enrolling individuals held in county jails who become newly eligible for health insurance coverage in 2014 through the Affordable Care Act. It outlines some of the potential issues and challenges county jail and human services staff may face and also features examples and ideas for developing enrollment strategies and processes. To access the publication, [click here](#).

SEMINARS/WEBINARS

CONFERENCE ON OHIO PUBLIC SECTOR FACT FINDING

The State Employment Relations Board (SERB) is hosting a conference on “Ohio Public Sector Fact Finding” on Friday, August 10, 2012 at the Ramada Plaza Hotel and Conference Center, 4900 Sinclair Road, in Columbus. This conference brings together as presenters and participants professionals who are part of the fact-finding process. Sessions address six central topics: Expectations of Parties During Fact Finding; SERB Health Care Survey Update, Fact Finding, and Annual Report; How to Prepare for a Fact Finding; Today’s Bargaining Environment; Fact Finding Rules & Etiquette; and Effective Writing.

Registration fee (includes all sessions, course materials, continental breakfast, and lunch): \$150 per person. For more information, [click here](#).

CLASSIFIEDS

Title /For More Information. . .	Employer/Application Deadline
HR Director	Licking County Commissioners Applications accepted until the position is filled
Office of Budget & Management, Director	Portage County Commissioners Applications accepted until position is filled
Executive Director – Land Reutilization Corporation	Erie County Dept of Human Resources July 30, 2012
Sanitary Engineer	Ottawa County Sanitary Engineer’s Department July 31, 2012
Safety and Facilities Director	Miami County Commissioners August 3, 2012
JFS Director	Miami County Commissioners August 3, 2012
Communications Director	Clermont County Commissioners August 7, 2012
County Administrator	Lucas County Commissioners August 10, 2012



Second Wednesday's

August 8, 2012

WAGING SUCCESSFUL BALLOT ISSUE CAMPAIGNS

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

At a time of tight budgets and declining tax resources for certain county purposes, county officials may be asked to seek voter support for tax levies in order to cover the cost of county funded services in a variety of areas. Learn from experienced professionals how to address issues related to timing of any proposed tax levy, the process for proposing a levy, communication strategies, the value of campaign research, fundraising, identifying core constituencies, get out the vote efforts, and how to wage a winning campaign. Also learn from legal counsel the prohibitions on the use of public resources to advocate for a levy, types of information that may be distributed by public entities pertaining to a levy and campaign finance issues.

PRESENTERS

Brad Cole, Managing Director of Research, CCAO

Jennifer Economus, Outreach Strategist, Allerton Hill Consulting

Don Van Meter, President, VMC Consulting Group, Inc.

Gwen Wolford, Ph.D., Director of Government Relations, OSU Extension

Maria Armstrong, Esq., Partner, Bricker & Eckler, LLP

AGENDA—9:30-12:30

9:30 a.m. Welcome and Introductions

9:40 a.m. Levy Campaign Essentials: Research, Communication & Get Out the Vote Efforts

10:30 a.m. Waging a Winning Campaign

11:30 a.m. Do's & Don'ts for Ballot Issue Campaigns

12:15 p.m. Questions & Answers

12:30 p.m. Adjourn

HOW TO REGISTER — Register for this FREE program by email only to Tanya McComas, CCAO Administrative Assistant, at tmccomas@ccao.org. Please include the name and title of those attending and the county, agency or company they represent. Coffee will be served at 9:00 a.m., the program begins at 9:30 a.m. and concludes promptly at 12:30 p.m., and lunch is on your own after the program.

LOCATION & REGISTRATION — All Second Wednesday's Seminars will be held in the Board Room at the CCAO Offices, 209 E. State St, in Columbus. Register for this FREE program by e-mail to Tanya McComas, CCAO Administrative Assistant, at tmccomas@ccao.org. Please include the name and title of those attending and the county, agency or company they represent. Coffee will be served at 9:00 a.m., the program begins at 9:30 a.m. and concludes promptly at 12:30 p.m., and lunch is on your own after the program.

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