



CIDS

County Information and Data Service

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MARCH 8, 2013

DATES TO REMEMBER

MARCH 11, 2013	CCAO LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING – SENATE DISTRICTS 18, 32, & 33 – SPREAD EAGLE INN, COLUMBIANA COUNTY (HANOVERTON)
MARCH 13, 2013	CCAO 2 ND WEDNESDAY SEMINAR – STATE BUDGET: HOW IT AFFECTS COUNTIES, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS
MARCH 14, 2013	CCAO GENERAL GOVERNMENT & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS
MARCH 15, 2013	CCAO BOARD OF DIRECTORS, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS
MARCH 22, 2013	CCC/EAPA REGIONAL TRAINING, HURON COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF JOB & FAMILY SERVICES, HURON COUNTY (NORWALK)
MARCH 25, 2013	NW DISTRICT COMMISSIONERS & ENGINEERS ASSOCIATION QUARTERLY MEETING, CHAMPAIGN COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER, CHAMPAIGN COUNTY (URBANA)
MARCH 25, 2013	CCAO LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING – SENATE DISTRICTS 4, 5 & 6 – MADISON LAKES LEARNING CONFERENCE CENTER, MONTGOMERY COUNTY (DAYTON)
MARCH 25, 2013	CCAO LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING – SENATE DISTRICTS 27 & 28 – JOHN S. KNIGHT CENTER, SUMMIT COUNTY (AKRON)
MARCH 25, 2013	CCAO LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING – SENATE DISTRICT 30 – UNDO'S ITALIAN RESTAURANT, BELMONT COUNTY (ST. CLAIRSVILLE)
MARCH 26, 2013	CCAO JUSTICE & PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS
APRIL 2013	NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH
APRIL 5, 2013	CCAO LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING – SENATE DISTRICTS 13, 22 & 27 – BERRY'S RESTAURANT, HURON COUNTY (NORWALK)
APRIL 5, 2013	CCAO LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING – SENATE DISTRICT 19 – BUN'S RESTAURANT, DELAWARE COUNTY (DELAWARE)
APRIL 8, 2013	CCAO LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING – SENATE DISTRICT 12 – LA PIAZZA, AUGLAIZE COUNTY (NEW BREMEN)

APRIL 8, 2013

CCAO LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING – SENATE DISTRICT 29 – CANTON CLUB, STARK COUNTY (CANTON)

MAY 22-24, 2013

NACo WESTERN INTERSTATE REGION CONFERENCE, COCONINO COUNTY (FLAGSTAFF), ARIZONA

ASSOCIATION NEWS

CCAO ON THE HILL; COUNTY OFFICIALS ATTEND NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

This week, 25 Ohio county officials from 15 counties participated in the National Association of Counties (NACo) 2013 Legislative Conference held March 2-6 at the Washington Hilton to deliver a strong “Why Counties Matter” message to Capitol Hill and to hear from prominent national speakers. (See “Why Counties Matter” article on page 7.)

During the Conference, NACo scheduled more time for counties to be on the Hill. Instead of CCAO’s traditional Ohio Congressional Delegation Breakfast, CCAO scheduled meetings on Tuesday, March 5 to discuss [CCAO/NACo Federal Legislative Priorities](#) with the following members of our Congressional delegation: Senator Sherrod Brown and Representatives Bob Gibbs (Dist. 7), Bill Johnson (Dist. 6), Jim Jordan (Dist. 4), Robert Latta (Dist. 5), Steve Stivers (Dist. 15), and Bard Westrup (Dist. 2). Due to the pending inclement weather blowing into Washington, some attendees left early and the meetings with Senator Rob Portman and Representatives Tim Ryan (Dist. 13) and Michael Turner (Dist. 10) were canceled on Wednesday, March 6. Several counties scheduled meetings directly with their Members of Congress in addition to attending the CCAO meetings.



March 5 – Capitol Hill Briefing – Municipal Bonds: (left to right) Timothy Firestine, CAO, Montgomery County (MD); Lenny Eliason, Athens County Commissioner and NACo Past President; and Daniel Troy, Lake County Commissioner and Chair of NACo’s Finance & Intergovernmental Affairs Committee.



March 2 - County Innovation Summit – Attended by Ed Humphrey, Clermont County Commissioner and member NACo’s Telecommunications & Technology Committee.



CCAO at the NACo Legislative Conference: (left to right) Josh Hahn, CCAO Senior Policy Analyst; Commissioners Ginny Favede (Belmont), David Wesler (Preble), Laura Abu-Absi, CCAO Policy Analyst, and Commissioner Ed Humphrey (Clermont).

MEMBERS INVITED TO ATTEND CCAO BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

All county commissioners, county executives and county council members are invited to attend CCAO Board of Directors' Meetings. CCAO Board Meetings are typically held the third Friday of each month. Please note that Board Meetings are not held every month. A [board meeting notice](#) will appear in CIDS two and then again one week prior to all Board Meetings. The next CCAO Board of Directors' Meeting will be held on Friday, March 15. Lunch is served during the Board Meeting. So that we may have an accurate lunch count, non-board members and guests should please RSVP to Kathy Dillon, Office Manager & Boards' Liaison at kathydillon@ccao.org on or before March 12 if you will be attending the meeting. Also, please feel free to contact Kathy Dillon should you have any additional questions.

CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFINGS

CCAO is hosting Regional Legislative Briefings for the members of the new 130th General Assembly. The purpose of the meetings is to provide legislators, county commissioners, county executives and county council members with an opportunity to discuss legislative issues affecting county government on a regional basis. The Briefings are organized by State Senate Districts and the House Districts contained within them. Commissioners, county executives and county council members received information including a [briefing schedule](#) with times and locations for meetings, a draft press release, and a [registration form](#). Invitations to the members of the General Assembly were sent by CCAO, but members are encouraged to contact your legislators to personally invite them to your Regional Legislative Briefing.

March 11 Senate Districts 18, 32 & 33 – Spread Eagle Inn, 10150 Plymouth St., Hanoverton @ 11:30 a.m.
(Note: This briefing was rescheduled and location changed from March 8 to March 11.)

March 25 Senate Districts 4, 5 & 6 – Madison Lakes Learning Conference Center, 581 Olive Rd., Dayton @ 11:30 a.m.
Senate Districts 27 & 28 – John S. Knight Center 77 E. Mill St., - Akron @ 11:30 a.m.
Senate District 30 (*includes House Districts 95 & 96*) – Undo's Italian Restaurant, St. Clairsville @ 11:30 a.m.

April 5 Senate Districts 13, 22 & 27 – Berry's Restaurant, 15 W. Main, Norwalk @ 11:30 a.m.
Senate District 19 – Bun's Restaurant, 6 W. Winter St., Delaware @ 11:30 a.m.

April 8 Senate District 12 – La Piazza, 17 W. Monroe St., New Bremen @ 11:30 a.m.
Senate Districts 3, 15 & 16 – Time & Location TBA *

TBA Senate Districts 7, 8 & 9 - Time & Location TBA *
Senate District 10 - Time & Location TBA *
Senate District 17 – Time & Location TBA (Briefing was cancelled on Feb 22)*
Senate District 27 & 29 - Time & Location TBA *

*Please note: Check updates in CIDS and on the front page of www.ccao.org for details about briefings that are not finalized. In addition, commissioners, county executives and county council members scheduled to attend those briefings will receive additional information via email.

For more information please contact Josh Hahn, CCAO Senior Policy Analyst, at (614) 220-7982 or jhahn@ccao.org

TAX COMMISSIONER TO DISCUSS STATE BUDGET ON MARCH 13 – 2ND WEDNESDAY SEMINAR

CCAO encourages commissioners, county executives, county council members, other county officials, and staff to attend the first 2013 CCAO 2nd Wednesday Seminar Series on “State Budget: How It Affects Counties” on March 13 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the CCAO offices, 209 East State Street, in Columbus.

The state budget proposes significant changes in Ohio’s tax structure, including reductions in personal income taxes as well as state and local sales tax rates. The state budget also broadens the sales tax base to include services that are currently exempt from the sales tax and proposes increases in certain severance taxes in response to Ohio’s boom in the shale oil and gas industry. Ohio’s permissive county sales and use tax law is proposed to be changed in significant ways. Learn directly from Tax Commissioner Joe Testa, and key staff deputy tax commissioners about the objectives of the Administration in proposing this budget, the important programmatic changes being proposed, and some of the key provisions that will impact county government.

The seminar is free and parking is available in the lot adjacent to the CCAO office. Updated program details are attached to this issue of CIDS. Coffee will be served during the morning and lunch will be on your own. To register contact 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.

In an effort to reach more county officials and staff, CCAO is moving to a webinar format for the rest of the 2nd Wednesday Seminars. Information about each webinar will be published in CIDS and on our website at www.ccao.org

For more information, please contact:

- Programs: Brad Cole, Managing Director of Research, at (614) 220-7981 or bcole@ccao.org
- Registration: Tanya McComas, Administrative Assistant, at (614) 221-5627 or tmccomas@ccao.org

COUNTY PERMISSIVE MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE TAX HANDBOOK CHAPTER REVISED

This week, CCAO published the County Permissive Motor Vehicle License Tax chapter of the *County Commissioners Handbook*. Previously, taxation chapters were combined, but the chapters have been revised and divided to make the Handbook more user friendly.

Chapter 20 - County Permissive Motor Vehicle Tax discusses:

- Authority to enact the original permissive motor vehicle license tax, known as the “original \$5 tax” that was granted to counties by the General Assembly in 1967.
- Since that time, the Legislature authorized a “first new \$5 tax” and the “second new \$5 tax” in 1987.
- Also in 1987, when the General Assembly authorized the county to enact the two new \$5 taxes, it also theorized municipalities and townships to each enact a \$5 municipal and township permissive motor vehicle tax.
- Finally, in 1996 the General Assembly authorized Transportation Improvement Districts (TID) to enact a TID permissive motor vehicle license tax of up to \$20 in \$5 increments if submitted and approved by the electors.

[Click here](#) view a copy of Chapter 20 or go to www.ccao.org and click on the Handbook icon on the front page.

NW OHIO COMMISSIONERS & ENGINEERS QUARTERLY MEETING TO MEET IN CHAMPAIGN COUNTY ON MARCH 25

Champaign County Commissioners Bob Corbett, David Faulkner and Steven Hess and County Engineer Steven McCrall will host the next Northwest Ohio Commissioners and Engineers Quarterly Meeting on Monday, March 25 at the Champaign County Community Center, 1512 South US Highway 68, in Urbana. Registration begins at 12:30 p.m. and ends at 5:30 p.m.

Tours begin at 1:00 p.m. of the following locations:

- Tour A: [Bundy Baking Museum](#) (no charge)
- Tour B: [Ohio Caverns](#) – West Liberty (\$15 charge)
[Champaign County Engineer Facility](#)
- Tour C: [Champaign County Historical Society](#) – East Lawn Avenue, Urbana (no charge)
[Aviation Museum](#) – Urbana (no charge)

The business meeting begins at 4:30 p.m. followed by the social hour and dinner.

Registration fee: \$5.00. Reservation deadline: March 15, 2013. Cancellation deadline: March 20, 2013. For more information, please contact Mary Collier, Clerk, Champaign County Commissioners, 1512 South US Highway 68 – Suite A100, Urbana, OH 43078, (937) 484-1614.

The 2013 NW District Commissioners and Engineers Association officers are President – John Love, Putnam County Commissioner; Vice President – Chris Long, Hancock County Engineer; and Secretary/Treasurer – Mark Zimmerman, Seneca County Engineer.

CCAO AFFILIATE ACTIVITIES

CCC/EAPA REGIONAL TRAINING TO BEGIN ON MARCH 22

The County Commissioners Clerks and Engineers Administrative Professionals Association (CCC/EAPA) will host the first of five regional training sessions will be held on March 22, 2013 at the Huron County Department of Job & Family Services, 185 Shady Lane Avenue, in Norwalk. Please RSVP your attendance to Cheryl Nolan, Huron County Commissioners, at (419) 668-3092 or cnolan@hccommissioners.com.

All the county commissioners' and engineers' office support staff members are encouraged to attend. The topics discussed at the regional trainings vary from the daily operations of the office to recent legislative updates. All meetings will be held on Fridays from 10:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. There is no charge to attend. Lunch is provided by CCAO/CEAO.

Information about the CCC/EAPA is available at www.ccc-eapa.org and there is also a yahoo group that is a resource for questions and answers. You can sign up at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/CCC_EAPA. For more information, please contact 2012 CCC/EAPA President Lisa Hawkins, Clerk, Ashtabula County Commissioners, 25 West Jefferson Street, Ashtabula, OH 44047-1092, (440) 576-3754, Fax (440) 576-2344, or LLHawkins@ashtabulacounty.us

STATE ACTIVITIES

CLEAN OHIO STREAMLINES APPROVAL PROCESS FOR BROWNFIELD PROJECTS

Thursday the Clean Ohio Council announced a streamlined process for funding brownfield projects. The process creates a single brownfield incentive program, combining Clean Ohio's Revitalization Fund and

Assistance Fund, which will be managed through a collaboration of the Ohio Development Service Agency's Office of Redevelopment, JobsOhio and the Clean Ohio Council. All brownfield project requests will begin with JobsOhio and its regional network partners.

Clean Ohio funding assists projects in environmental assessment, acquiring property, demolishing structures, conducting environmental cleanup and improving infrastructure. Funding requests will be accepted by JobsOhio and its regional network partners, who will then evaluate a project's economic benefits. Clean Ohio grant recommendations will then be referred to the Director of the Development Clean Ohio Council for review and potential approval.

In addition to the streamlined process, the Council announced that grant funding will be available on a rolling cycle, as opposed to having specific funding rounds. Up to \$3 million will be available per project for cleanup activities and \$200,000 per project will be available for environmental assessment activities. Additional brownfield funding is available through the Brownfield Loan Program, which is administered by the Ohio Development Services Agency's Office of Redevelopment.

JobsOhio is accepting funding requests for the \$15 million grant allocation. Funding may include a grant and loan combination, utilizing the brownfield grant funding and the Brownfield Loan Program. For more information about the Clean Ohio Fund, visit www.clean.ohio.gov

NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

SUNSHINE WEEK – MARCH 10-16

Sunshine Week: "Your Right to Know" – held March 10-16 - is a national initiative to promote a dialogue about the importance of open government and freedom of information. Participants include anyone with an interest in open government. This non-partisan, non-profit initiative is celebrated in mid-March each year to coincide with James Madison's birthday on March 16.



Though created by journalists, Sunshine Week is about the public's right to know what its government is doing, and why. Sunshine Week seeks to enlighten and empower people to play an active role in their government at all levels, and to give them access to information that makes their lives better and their communities stronger. Often Sunshine Week proves an opportunity for open government advocates to monitor government officials for compliance.

Participants include anyone with an interest in open government. Anyone can participate. The only requirement is that you do something to engage in a discussion about the importance of open government. It could be a large public forum or a classroom discussion, an article or series of articles about access to important information, or an editorial. [Click here](#) for more information.

Each year, in partnership with the Ohio Attorney General, the Auditor of State publishes [Ohio Sunshine Laws, An Open Government Resource Manual](#). This book provides extensive information regarding the Ohio Public Records Act and Ohio Open Meetings Act.

In addition, both the [Ohio Attorney General](#) and [Auditor of State](#) offer certified public record training which are required for all elected officials. These trainings also provide private citizens the opportunity to learn more about their rights and the obligations of governments to maintain open government.

For more information on Ohio's Sunshine Laws, please contact CCAO Senior Policy Analyst Josh Hahn at (614) 220-7982 or jhahn@ccao.org.

NACo ACTIVITIES

WHY COUNTIES MATTER: NACo VIDEO TELLS THE COUNTY STORY

The nation's 3,069 county governments provide the essential building blocks to create healthy, vibrant and safe communities. This includes supporting and maintaining key public infrastructure, transportation and economic development assets; creating and sustaining a skilled workforce to meet the needs of private industry; ensuring public health and public safety needs to protect the public; and implementing a broad portfolio of federal, state and local programs in a cost-effective and accountable manner.

Counties, where most Americans live, matter because 2,914 counties own a jail or participate in a regional jail and admitted nearly 12 million people each year. Counties provide public health services, including flu shots and restaurant inspections through 1,947 health departments. Counties own and maintain 44 percent of America's roadways and 228,026 bridges and almost one third of the nation's transit systems and airports. Counties respond to all disasters and in most cases without assistance from other levels of governments. Counties run the nation's polling places to keep our democracy strong. Counties own 964 hospitals and spend \$68 billion on health care services annually.

NACo premiered a short video on "[Why Counties Matter](#)" on March 2 at the Legislative Conference held in Washington, D.C. NACo encourages all counties to use this video to spread the news about the county story. [Click here](#) for more information.

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION

SYLLABUS

2013-006

1. The term "special taxing district," as used in R.C. 149.412, means a separate and distinct territorial division of government throughout which a tax may be levied to promote or achieve a public purpose.
2. A county veterans service commission and a county board of developmental disabilities are subject to the jurisdiction of a county records commission under R.C. 149.38.
3. The entities subject to the jurisdiction of a special taxing district records commission under R.C. 149.412 include, but are not limited to: (1) a county soil and water conservation district; (2) a single county alcohol, drug addiction, and mental health service district; (3) a general health district; and (4) a combined general health district.

CLASSIFIEDS

Title /For More Information. . .	Employer/Application Deadline
Director of Utility Oversight	Hamilton County March 26, 2013
LSC Legislative Fellowship Program	Ohio General Assembly – Legislative Service Commission April 1, 2013



Second Wednesday's

March 13, 2013

State Budget: How It Affects Counties

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The state budget proposes significant changes in Ohio's tax structure, including reductions in personal income taxes as well as state and local sales tax rates. The state budget also broadens the sales tax base to include services that are currently exempt from the sales tax and proposes increases in certain severance taxes in response to Ohio's boom in the shale oil and gas industry. Ohio's permissive county sales and use tax law is proposed to be changed in significant ways. Learn directly from key individuals within the Kasich Administration the objectives of the Administration in proposing this budget, the important programmatic changes being proposed, and some of the key provisions that will impact county government.

PRESENTERS

Brad Cole, Managing Director of Research, County Commissioners Association of Ohio
Joseph Testa, Tax Commissioner, Ohio Department of Taxation
Marjorie Kruse, Deputy Tax Commissioner for Compliance and Audit
Nick Cipiti, Deputy Tax Commissioner for Policy and Budget

AGENDA—9:30-12:30

9:30 a.m. Welcome and Introductions
9:35 a.m. Overview of Executive Budget
10:30 a.m. Overview of Key Tax Law Changes
11:30 a.m. Question and Answers and General Discussion
12:30 p.m. Adjourn

LOCATION

CCAO offices, 209 East State Street, Columbus, OH 43215

HOW TO REGISTER

Register for this FREE program by email only to Tanya McComas, 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.

County Commissioners Association of Ohio

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