



# CIDS

## County Information and Data Service

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### DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL 2014

**NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH** (see article under County Activities)

APRIL 29, 2014

OHIO NATIONAL GUARD REGIONAL INTER-SERVICE FAMILY ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE MEETING - **REGION 3**, WOODLAWN COMMUNITY CENTER, HAMILTON COUNTY (CINCINNATI)

APRIL 29, 2014

OHIO NATIONAL GUARD REGIONAL INTER-SERVICE FAMILY ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE MEETING - **REGION 4**, AMERICAN LEGION POST #217, SHELBY COUNTY (SIDNEY)

MAY 9, 2014

**PROJECT DELIVERY MODELS & BIDDING FOR PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS IN OHIO**, THE CONFERENCE CENTER AT OCLC, FRANKLIN COUNTY (DUBLIN)

MAY 14, 2014

OHIO'S MEDICAID EXPANSION: IMPLEMENTATION STATUS REPORT – A CCAO **2<sup>nd</sup> WEDNESDAY WEBINAR**

MAY 15-16, 2014

**OHIO COURTHOUSES SYMPOSIUM**, DOWNTOWN COLUMBUS

JULY 11-14, 2014

**NACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE & EXPOSITION**, ORLEANS PARISH (NEW ORLEANS), LOUISIANA

DECEMBER 6-8, 2014

CCAO/CEAO ANNUAL WINTER CONFERENCE, GREATER COLUMBUS CONVENTION CENTER, COLUMBUS

### ASSOCIATION NEWS

#### OHIO'S MEDICAID EXPANSION WEBINAR SPEAKER UPDATE

CCAO is pleased that **Cynthia Dungey**, Director of the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS), will be joining **Greg Moody**, Director of the Office of Health Transformation, and **Joel Potts**, Executive Director of the Ohio Job & Family Services Directors Association (OJFSDA), as speakers for the one-hour 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday Webinar on "Ohio's Medicaid Expansion: Implementation Status Report" to be held on May 14 at 9:30 a.m. Topics will include:

- Enrollment: How is enrollment tracking as compared with estimates? If different from the estimates, what explains the differences?

- How is the enrollment process impacting County Departments of Job and Family Services offices? What kind of volume are individual counties experiencing? Is the demand creating challenges for the counties?
- What are the remaining information technology hurdles?
- What has been the fiscal impact to date at the state and county level?
- Access – Are individuals encountering access issues and, if so, what are those access issues?
- Next steps: Discussion of any future implementation details impacting counties on the horizon or additional policy changes resulting from Medicaid Expansion under consideration.

To register for this exceptional educational opportunity, please click on this link: <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/487486470> If you experience difficulty in connecting to the link above and you wish to register for the webinar, please email Amanda Jones, CCAO Program Assistant, at [ajones@ccao.org](mailto:ajones@ccao.org) and provide her with your name, title, and email address. **Webinar participation on May 14 is limited to the first 100 to sign-on to the webinar that morning.** For additional information regarding the topic for this webinar, please contact Brad Cole, CCAO Managing Director of Research at [bcole@ccao.org](mailto:bcole@ccao.org). [Read more...](#)

OHIO COUNTY COURTHOUSES SYMPOSIUM TO BE HELD IN COLUMBUS MAY 15 AND 16; RICHARD GUY WILSON - KEYNOTE SPEAKER



**OHIO COUNTY  
COURTHOUSES**  
SYMPOSIUM

The Ohio Historical Society, County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO), Heritage Ohio, the Supreme Court of Ohio, and both the Ohio and Columbus Chapters of the American Institute of Architects will host a symposium on Ohio County courthouses on May 15 and 16 in downtown Columbus. The symposium will address the value of historic courthouses and how to overcome the challenges of funding and maintaining county courthouses in the 21st century.

The symposium will open on Thursday, May 15 at 5 p.m., with a reception featuring Ohio Supreme Court Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor and a special sneak preview of "Justice Finds a Home," a documentary that will air later this year on public television.

The keynote speaker presenting on Friday morning at 8:15 a.m. is Richard Guy Wilson, PhD, Commonwealth Chair in Architectural History at the University of Virginia. Dr. Wilson will discuss the "American Identity and Legacy: Courthouses" and will place Ohio's historic county courthouses within a national and statewide architectural context as a symbol and its significance within the community.

Topics covered on Friday, May 16 include: courthouse renovation and preservation; addressing technology needs in historic buildings; administering a successful courthouse project; funding a renovation/preservation effort; and the economic value of courthouses.

[Click here](#) for a detailed schedule and registration information.

CCAO UPDATES BULLETIN ON COUNTY UN-VOTED PROPERTY TAX LEVIES

County Data Exchange (CDE) Bulletin 2014-01 provides revised data on county un-voted property tax levies in 2013 showing guaranteed inside millage, current inside rates, and purposes. This bulletin updates CDE Bulletin 2010-02 from June 2010 which used 2009 data. Ohio law guarantees each county varying amounts of inside millage based on two-thirds of the inside millage available to all taxing districts that existed during a five-year period (1929 to 1933) prior to a constitutional amendment lowering the number of un-voted property tax millage from 15 to 10. For most counties inside property tax millage is dedicated to the county general fund

and in a few instances debt service although other purposes can be found. To access this chapter, click on the County Data Exchange Bulletin button on the front page of [www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org) or [click here](#) for a direct link. For additional information on this subject, contact Managing Director of Research Brad Cole at (614) 220-7981, (888) 757-1904 or [bcole@ccao.org](mailto:bcole@ccao.org)

### HISTORICAL SOCIETIES HANDBOOK CHAPTER UPDATED

County Commissioners Handbook Chapter 135 – Historical Societies has been revised. This chapter discusses functions of county historical societies and county appropriations, background information on the Ohio Historical Society, the Ohio History Fund Grant Program, the Local Government Records Program, Ohio Historical Markers Program, the Ohio Historic Preservation Office, Certified Local Governments, the National Register of Historic Places, and the Historic Preservation Tax Credit program among other matters. Handbook Chapter 135 also includes a table of county properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places and the year placed on the register. To access this chapter, click on the Handbook button on the front page of [www.ccao.org](http://www.ccao.org) or [click here](#) for a direct link to Chapter 135. If you have any questions, please contact Brad Cole, Managing Director of Research, at (614) 220-7981, (888) 757-1904 or [bcole@ccao.org](mailto:bcole@ccao.org).

### STATE ISSUE 1 COUNT DOWN...10 DAYS UNTIL ELECTION DAY!

Only 10 days remain until the May 6 Election Day. The Strong Ohio Communities Campaign reminds supporters it's time to go the extra mile to *personally* campaign for State Issue 1. Remember the facts about State Issue 1:



- 27 years of success helping local governments with 11,500 local road, bridge, sewer, water, and solid waste projects
- No increase in taxes. Funds to repay Issue 1 are already built into planning for future state budgets
- Issue 1 provides jobs and improves the job climate and quality of life for all Ohioans
- Strong tradition of bipartisan support

Yard signs and brochures are available. If you don't have them yet, contact your county coordinator. If you have any difficulties getting campaign materials, contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979, (888) 757-1904 or [mjneiman@ccao.org](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org) and we'll make sure you get what you need. To preview the signs and brochures, [click here](#).

### CEBCO'S 2013 WELLNESS WARRIOR AWARD



It is no coincidence that Marion County was selected as the winner of CEBCO's new annual award called "Wellness Warrior". Marion County was new to the CEBCO program in 2012 and they did not have any wellness initiatives taking place at that time. After some initial discussions and assistance from CEBCO's Wellness Coordinator with developing a wellness plan, they hit ground running in early 2013. Co-coordinators of the wellness program, Nicoleta Manaici and Teri Slaughterbeck of the commissioner's office, took on quite a bit of work in just one year's time. They activated a wellness team with representation from various county departments, started

employee fitness classes, developed a communication plan, got leadership involved, implemented improvements to onsite vending machines, and promoted walking. They have not only embraced the idea of wellness in the workplace, but also on a personal level. As a result of their efforts, there is a new found excitement for wellness among many of the county employees. On behalf of CEBCO, thank you Nicoleta and

Teri for all your hard work and dedication to wellness in Marion County during 2013. Congratulations to both of you and to everyone else who was involved!

## **CCAO SERVICE CORPORATION NEWS**

### WORKERS COMP MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATION OPEN ENROLLMENT APRIL 28 - MAY 23

Over the next four weeks you will be hearing about the workers' compensation Managed Care Organization (MCO) open enrollment period, and will likely receive solicitations from several companies. CompManagement Health Systems (CHS) is a service corporation partner of CCAO and is the MCO we confidently recommend to our members. Along with CompManagement, Inc., our third party administrator, CHS has made a major contribution to the benefits we offer members through our Group Rating and Group Retro Programs.

#### *What does an MCO do?*

The most important role of an MCO is the medical management of workers' compensation claims. MCOs are tasked to engage all parties - injured employee, physician and employer – to facilitate the earliest return to work that is safe for the employee. Beyond any other criteria, an MCO's value to an employer and injured employee is based in their involvement in negotiating a safe return-to-work.

#### *Are all MCOs the same?*

No. The BWC evaluates the results of all MCOs in their MCO Report Card. The most important measurement is MoD (Measurement of Disability), which compares each MCO's return-to-work results to established benchmarks. Lost time in a claim is one of the biggest cost-drivers, and your MCO's involvement in helping your employees return to the workplace after an injury directly impacts your premium costs.

#### *What are the options?*

There are 16 MCOs in Ohio, and the Open Enrollment period (April 28 – May 23) is the only time during which MCOs are permitted to market their services to employers. It is important to select an MCO partner that excels in resolving claims, and is also easily available to work through complicated issues when they arise.

CCAO works closely with CompManagement Health Systems, and their reputation and performance with our members validates our confidence. To retain CHS as your MCO, you do not need to do anything. [Click here](#) to learn more about CHS' services and results. Contact Beth Miller, CORSA Claim and Litigation Manager, at (614) 220-7989, (888) 757-1904 or [emiller@ccao.org](mailto:emiller@ccao.org) if you have any questions.

## **OSU EXTENSION ACTIVITIES**

### CELEBRATING THE 100th ANNIVERSARY OF OSU EXTENSION

May 8<sup>th</sup> marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the federal Smith-Lever Act, which created the USDA Cooperative Extension system and OSU Extension. Resolutions are pending in both the Ohio General Assembly and Congress recognizing this milestone; and boards of commissioners are encouraged to celebrate this event with a proclamation as well. Each county will be having some type of anniversary celebration during 2014. If you are not aware of what is happening in your county, contact your county Extension director or Gwen Wolford, Director, Government Relations, College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at (614) 563-1307, or [wolford.1@osu.edu](mailto:wolford.1@osu.edu). [Click here](#) for draft resolution that can be edited.



**Celebrate 100 Years  
of Extending Knowledge  
and Changing Lives**

visit: [www.Extension100Years.net](http://www.Extension100Years.net)

## COUNTY ACTIVITIES

### APRIL IS NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH



Since 1991, CCAO has encouraged counties to actively promote county government programs and services. National County Government Month (NCGM) is celebrated each April by the nation's counties to raise public awareness and understanding about the roles and responsibilities of county government. This year's theme, established by the National Association of Counties (NACo), is "Ready and Resilient Counties: Prepare. Respond. Thrive."

Annually, **Darke County**, invites each of their eight high schools to send three students from civics or government classes to visit and tour county facilities during the National County Government Month. This year, Darke County added a "State of the Nation" event, sponsored by the Darke County Chamber of Commerce. Students enjoyed the breakfast and heard a speech by Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives John Boehner. After the speech, students toured county facilities and ate lunch with the elected officials followed by the county commissioners' regular public session in the afternoon. During the session the students were involved with the Proclamation for National County Government Month. Students received a booklet of county history, county facts along with county, and state elected officials contact information. This was certainly a fun learning day for all involved.

How has your county promoted National County Government Month in your community? Share information about your NCGM activities with Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at [mjneiman@ccao.org](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org).

## STATE ACTIVITIES

### ODNR ANNOUNCES NEW PERMIT CONDITIONS FOR DRILLING ACTIVITIES

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) announced new permit conditions for drilling near known faults or areas of past seismic activity. ODNR issued the new policies in response to a probable connection between recent seismic events in Mahoning County (Poland Township) and hydraulic fracturing near a previously unknown microfault in the area.

According to information released by ODNR on April 11, 2014, "New permits issued by ODNR for horizontal drilling within 3 miles of a known fault or area of seismic activity greater than a 2.0 magnitude would require companies to install sensitive seismic monitors. If those monitors detect a seismic event in excess of 1.0 magnitude, activities would pause while the cause is investigated. If the investigation reveals a probable connection to the hydraulic fracturing process, all well completion operations will be suspended. ODNR will develop new criteria and permit conditions for new applications in light of this change in policy. The department will also review previously issued permits that have not been drilled."

[Click here](#) for a link to the official announcement from ODNR. A link to an ODNR map of underground seismic faults and past seismic events in Ohio since 1999 is available [here](#).

### HELP ODNR TO IDENTIFY & PRIORITIZE STATE PARK PROJECTS

With the capital budget recently signed by Governor Kasich, the Ohio State Parks received an investment that will allow for repairs and upgrades to many park facilities. Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Director James Zehringer, former Mercer County Commissioner, and Ohio Senate President Keith Faber announced this week that the state will invest more than \$88.5 million in capital improvements at Ohio State

Parks over the next two years. Ohio is one of only seven states in the nation where admission to state parks is free. Last year, 2.3 million people spent at least one night in an Ohio State Park campground, cottage, cabin or lodge.

ODNR would like state park visitors to help identify and prioritize these projects. While some of the needs have been identified, ODNR seeks input on projects that will include restrooms and shower houses, lodges, campgrounds and cabins, marinas, trails, beaches, shelters, and pools. If the project you are most interested is not on this list, tell them! By visiting <http://parks.ohiodnr.gov/improvements>, you can fill out a survey to suggest upgrades at your favorite state park.

### BWC APPROVES \$1.2 BILLION CREDIT ON WORKERS' COMPENSATION BILLS

Ohio private employers and local governments will soon benefit from a newly approved credit on their workers' compensation bills, according to the Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC). The BWC Board of Directors approved the credit, totaling \$1.2 billion, during its monthly meeting in Columbus. The credit, previously announced as part of the bureau's "Billion Back" plan, will allow the bureau to transition to a prospective billing model with no added costs to employers. It comes in addition to the \$1 billion in rebates issued last year.

While the bureau currently bills employers in arrears, the new prospective billing system will allow BWC to collect premiums before extending coverage. The conversion will lead to 2% overall rate reduction for private employers and 4% reduction for public employer taxing districts - resulting in savings of \$28 million and \$16 million, respectively, at the time of implementation. The new system will offer employers the option to make up to a maximum of 12 installment payments, as well as give them the opportunity to sign up for incentive programs. Later this year, employers wishing to participate in programs like a group-experience rating, group-retrospective rating or other rating plans will be able to make those selections sooner, officials added. Beginning July 1, 2015 private employers will transition to the new system, followed by public employers on Jan. 1, 2016.

### AUDITOR OF STATE YOST REVIEWS SUNSHINE LAW PROCEDURES

As a former newspaper report, Auditor Yost has always had an appreciation for the Ohio Public Records Act. Each year during Sunshine Week his office does a review how sunshine laws are being carried out across the state. This year his office reviewed the public records policies and procedures of 48 local governments. Included in the review were counties, cities, villages and school districts.

Forty local governments were tested during regular their financial audit, and an additional eight entities that had recommendations from previous reviews were retested. The audits analyzed procedures to determine if each local government had procedures in place to ensure compliance with the Ohio Public Records Act. Compliance was tested on existence and strength of public records policy, records retention schedules, and timely fulfillment of public records requests.

Most entities had very good procedures in place and the Auditor's office had no recommendations on how to improve procedures; only a handful of jurisdictions were given recommendations. The most widely issued recommendations addressed keeping a log of public records requests, making copies of responses to requests, and assigning a central point of contact for each office or department. These are consistent with recommendations that are highlighted in [Auditor of State Bulletin 2011-006](#).

The Auditor State has established an Open Government Unit within the office, and they can be reached at Auditor of State Dave Yost, Open Government Unit, 88 East Broad Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Columbus, OH 43215, (800) 282-0370, (614) 644-8986 or [oga@ohioauditor.gov](mailto:oga@ohioauditor.gov)

For more information on the Ohio Public Records Act, please feel free to contact Brian Mead, CCAO Policy Analyst, at (614) 220-7994, (888) 757-1904 or [bmead@ccao.org](mailto:bmead@ccao.org).

## **OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION**

### USE OF COUNTY PROBATION COMMUNITY SERVICE WORKERS FOR CERTAIN MUNICIPAL PROJECTS

[OAG Opinion 2014-17](#) - This AG Opinion reaffirms that county probation department community service workers may be used to assist municipalities within the county when certain conditions are met. It also clarifies that it is generally permissible for county probation department community service workers to clean up private property pursuant to municipal ordinances that permit the city to enter upon and clean up private property pursuant to certain conditions being met. However, in the fact pattern at issue in this opinion, the ordinance only authorizes “employees” or “contractors” of the city to enter private property and clean up private property. Thus, because county probation department community service workers are not “employees” or “contractors” of the city, county probation department community service workers may not enter upon and clean up private property for the city. In conclusion, caution should be used to closely examine the ordinance language to verify that it is appropriate for county probation department community service workers to be used in such projects.

## **FEDERAL ACTIVITIES**

### FY15 APPROPRIATIONS PROCESS IN FULL SWING; COUNTY PRIORITIES AT STAKE

The annual federal appropriations process, which begins each year with the release of the president’s budget request, is in full swing. President Obama’s budget request was released on March 4, and appropriations committees in the House and Senate have been holding preliminary hearings on several of the 12 spending bills that are typically passed through Congress each year.

The Senate Appropriations Committee plans to begin the process of moving these bills through committee in May and the chamber has set aside two weeks in June and two weeks in July for floor consideration of the spending bills. In the House, the Appropriations Committee intends to pass all 12 spending bills before the August recess.

If appropriations leaders in both chambers adhere to these planned timelines, the FY15 appropriations process should be completed before the beginning of the new fiscal year on October 1. Whether the FY15 appropriations process is completed in regular order, the fate of many programs of importance to counties will be determined through this process. [Read more...](#)

### 'WATERS OF THE U.S.' REGULATION PUBLISHED IN FEDERAL REGISTER

*COUNTIES ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS  
ON POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED REGULATION BY JULY 31, 2014*

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) have released their long-awaited 371-page prepublication draft regulation for [Definition of Waters of the U.S. Under the Clean Water Act](#). Amending the definition of “waters of the U.S.” potentially expands the range of waters that fall under federal jurisdiction. The proposed rule, published in the Federal Register, is open for public comment for 90-days, until July 31, 2014.

To read the National Association of Counties’ (NACo) analysis of the proposed “waters of the U.S.” definition, including information on where to submit comments, [click here](#). This document includes a policy brief and a

comparison chart showing existing and proposed regulatory language and its potential impacts on counties. For more information on this issue, contact Julie Ufner, NACo Associate Legislative Director - Environment, Energy and Land Use, at (202) 942-4269 or [jufner@naco.org](mailto:jufner@naco.org) [Read more...](#)

**NACo ACTIVITIES**

NACo ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND EXPOSITION - JULY 11-14

Register today for NACo's Annual Conference and Exposition taking place July 11-14, in Orleans Parish (New Orleans), Louisiana. The Annual Conference provides county officials with a great opportunity to vote on NACo's policies related to federal legislation and regulation; elect officers; network with colleagues; learn about innovative county programs; find out about issues impacting counties across the country; and view products and services from participating companies and exhibitors. The early registration deadline is May 30. [Read more...](#)



NACo member counties are invited to participate in a **County Innovation Poster Session** at the conference. Designed to showcase initiatives and programs that provide evidence-based, cost-saving solutions for counties, the Poster Session will feature the success stories, tools, lessons learned and how-to's of innovative county services and will share these lessons with counties throughout the country. Space is limited. Deadline for applications: May 16. [Click here](#) to learn more and apply.

Mark your calendars for the **Ohio Caucus Reception** to be held on **Saturday, July 12 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside in the Belle Chase Room (3rd floor)**. Ohio will hear from the candidates running for NACo 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and discuss how Ohio will cast its vote in the annual election on Tuesday, July 14. For more information about the NACo Conference or Ohio reception, please contact Mary Jane Neiman, CCAO Public Relations Associate, at (614) 220-7979, (888) 757-1904 or [mjneiman@ccao.org](mailto:mjneiman@ccao.org)

**CLASSIFIEDS**

CCAO ANNOUNCES JOB POSTING FOR COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

The County Commissioners Association of Ohio (CCAO) is seeking a talented and energetic individual to serve as our Communications Coordinator. This individual will be responsible for coordinating internal and external communication initiatives. The successful candidate will possess a talent for designing visually appealing materials, creating and maintaining a dynamic social media presence, and have experience with media outreach.

CCAO is an equal opportunity employer. Salary is commensurate with experience. CCAO offers an excellent benefits package and is located in a pleasant office building in downtown Columbus with free on-site parking. Please send resume and cover letter to Amanda Jones at [ajones@ccao.org](mailto:ajones@ccao.org) on or before May 1, 2014. No calls, please. To view the complete job description, [click here](#).

Title /For More Information. . .	Employer/Application Deadline
<a href="#">Master Plans Examiner</a>	Hamilton County April 28, 2014
<a href="#">Utilities Department Deputy Director</a>	Clark County Open until filled



<b>Design Engineer</b>	Geauga County Open until filled
<b>Senior Manager/Sanitary Engineer Dept.</b>	Greene County Open until filled