



CIDS

County Information and Data Service

Published weekly by: County Commissioners Association of Ohio

209 East State Street • Columbus, Ohio 43215-4309
Phone: 614-221-5627 • Fax: 614-221-6986 • www.ccao.org

VOLUME XXXXVIII

NO. 7

FEBRUARY 27, 2015

DATES TO REMEMBER

- MARCH 2, 2015 CCAO WATER QUALITY TASK FORCE MEETING, UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO LAKE ERIE CENTER, LUCAS COUNTY (OREGON)

- MARCH 2, 2015 **CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING**, PUMP HOUSE CENTER FOR THE ARTS, ROSS COUNTY (CHILLICOTHE)

- MARCH 3, 2015 CEBCO AFFORDABLE CARE ACT REGIONAL SEMINAR, THE GALAXY RESTAURANT, MEDINA COUNTY (WADSWORTH)

- MARCH 4, 2015 **STATEHOOD DAY**, STATEHOUSE ATRIUM, COLUMBUS

- MARCH 6, 2015 CEBCO BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS

- MARCH 9, 2015 **CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING**, EAGLE STICKS, MUSKINGUM COUNTY (ZANESVILLE)

- MARCH 9, 2015 **CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING**, THE BRIDGE, SHELBY COUNTY (SIDNEY)

- MARCH 10, 2015 **CCAO TAXATION & FINANCE COMMITTEE**, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS

- MARCH 10, 2015 CEBCO AFFORDABLE CARE ACT REGIONAL SEMINAR OHIO UNIVERSITY INN, ATHENS COUNTY (ATHENS)

- MARCH 11, 2015 **GOVERNMENTAL ENERGY AGGREGATION – A CCAO 2nd Wednesday Webinar**

- MARCH 13, 2015 **CCAO JOBS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS

- MARCH 16, 2015 **CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING**, ROSA & ROCCO'S, MARION COUNTY (MARION)

- MARCH 17, 2015 CEBCO AFFORDABLE CARE ACT REGIONAL SEMINAR, THE ROBERTS CENTER, CLINTON COUNTY (WILMINGTON)

- MARCH 18, 2015 CORSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS

- MARCH 19, 2015 CCAO GENERAL GOVERNMENT & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS

- MARCH 20, 2015 CCAO BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, CCAO OFFICES, COLUMBUS

- MARCH 23, 2015** **CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, THE NEW CENTER AT NE OHIO MEDICAL UNIVERSITY, PORTAGE COUNTY (ROOTSTOWN)**
- MARCH 24, 2015** **CEBCO AFFORDABLE CARE ACT REGIONAL SEMINAR, CCAO, COLUMBUS**
- MARCH 27, 2015** **CORSA RENEWAL MEETING, HOLIDAY INN COLUMBUS NORTH, WORTHINGTON**
- MARCH 27, 2015** **SELECTING PROJECT DELIVERY MODELS & BIDDING FOR PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN OHIO, THE CONFERENCE CENTER AT OCLC, DUBLIN**
- MARCH 27, 2015** **CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, JOHN S. KNIGHT CENTER, SUMMIT COUNTY (AKRON)**
- MARCH 27, 2015** **CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, BENDER'S TAVERN, STARK COUNTY (CANTON)**
- MARCH 30, 2015** **CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, JAKE'S RESTAURANT, ASHLAND COUNTY (ASHLAND)**
- MARCH 30, 2015** **CCAO REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING, CELEBRATIONS II, MONTGOMERY COUNTY (DAYTON)**
- APRIL 1, 2015** **CEBCO ANNUAL MEETING, COLUMBUS AIRPORT MARRIOTT, COLUMBUS**
- JUNE 24-25, 2015** **COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SYMPOSIUM, HYATT REGENCY, COLUMBUS**

ASSOCIATION NEWS

OHIO OFFICIALS ATTEND NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

Twenty-one Ohio officials and staff joined over 2,000 elected and appointed county officials from across the country to focus on legislative issues facing county government at the NACo Legislative Conference is held in Washington, DC.

Vice President Joe Biden spoke at a General Session about the Administration's Help Grow America Act, a six-year, \$478 billion transportation bill that includes a guaranteed \$317 billion over six years for highway repairs, continue TIGER grants, policy changes to accelerate permitting processes, and a 10 percent increase in federal transit funding. In

addition to workshops and steering committee meetings, NACo held two Capitol Hill briefings on key federal issues: reauthorization of MAP-21, protection of municipal bond financing, and Medicaid and the role of counties in public health.

Ohio officials were on Capitol Hill meeting with their Members of Congress during the Legislative Conference. Commissioners stressed the importance of partnering to build a stronger Ohio, stressing smart tax policy, economic development and stronger



Commissioners Daniel Troy (Lake), Julie Ehemann (Shelby), Gary Lee (Union), CCAO President Mike Halleck (Columbiana), and Deb Lieberman (Montgomery) attended NACo General Sessions.



Commissioner Paula Brooks (Franklin) and OH small businesses met with Congressional staff to highlight the importance of a long-term reauthorization of the U.S. Export-Import Bank.

communities. Members of Congress were asked to support legislation such as the Marketplace Fairness Act, road and bridge funding, Community Development Block Grants, and the Social Services Block Grant Program. Commissioners also asked our Members to oppose efforts to eliminate or limit the tax-exempt status of Municipal Bonds, amending the definition of the Waters of the U.S. under the Clean Water Act, and oppose unfunded mandates. Additionally, commissioners ask for extension of health benefit coverage to pre-trial jail inmates. [Read more...](#)

GOVERNMENTAL ENERGY AGGREGATION WEBINAR – MARCH 11

CCAO is pleased to offer a one-hour “Governmental Energy Aggregation” webinar on March 11 at 9:30 a.m. Both electric and natural gas governmental opt-out electric aggregation is permissible in the State of Ohio. There are some obvious differences between the two types of aggregation while others are more subtle. Both could create issues or challenges for elected officials to identify and consider when deciding if governmental opt-out aggregation makes sense for their community. Here are some items that will be covered in the webinar:

- Background of electric and natural gas choice in Ohio
- Key differences between natural gas and electric aggregation in Ohio
- Steps to setting up both electric and natural gas aggregation
- Utility pricing differences on natural gas across Ohio
- Utility pricing differences on electricity in Ohio
- Electric and natural gas utility auction timing and duration
- General geography where aggregation is permissible and where it isn't
- Evaluation of what is “savings” from a community and customer's perspective

Bring your thinking caps with you as the decisions you make for your facilities on energy pricing matters may not be same as what you make or would like to make for consumers that participate in governmental aggregation. Our speakers are from Palmer Energy Company, the company that manages the CCAO Service Corporation Natural Gas, Electric and Energy Conservation Programs.

Webinar participants may pose questions to the presenters who will respond during and after the power point presentation. There is no charge to attend. To register, please [click here](#). If you experience difficulty in connecting to the link above and wish to register for the webinar, please email [Amanda Jones](#), CCAO Program Assistant, and provide her with your name, title, and email address. **Webinar participation 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. [Read more...](#)

THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT – WHAT'S NEXT?

CCAO/CEBCO invites you to attend one of our 2015 ACA training sessions on the “Cadillac Tax” and some specific, new employer reporting requirements of the Affordable Care Act. These provisions will affect what you do in 2015 and beyond. Marc Fishel of Fishel Hass Kim Albrecht LLC will present and answer your questions on these and other ACA-related topics.

Sessions will begin at 10:30 a.m. We welcome staff and elected officials from all counties to participate. Choose the location and date that works for you:

- March 3 The Galaxy Restaurant, 201 Park Centre Drive, Wadsworth
- March 10 Ohio University Inn, 331 Richland Avenue, Athens
- March 17 The Roberts Center, 123 Gano Road, Wilmington
- March 24 CCAO, 209 E. State Street, Columbus

There is no charge to attend the training sessions. Lunch will be served following the session. To help us have proper seating and refreshments, please RSVP your attendance five days before the session to [Melissa Bodey](#) at (614) 220-7997 or [Wendy Dillingham](#) at (614) 220-7992.

FOR ALL COUNTIES...HEALTH AND WELLNESS 2015/CEBCO ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING



Save the date - CEBCO is hosting its annual membership meeting on April 1 at the Marriott Columbus Airport, 1375 N. Cassady Avenue, in Columbus. Topics anticipated include understanding your ACA responsibilities plus a look at the latest tools for partnering with your employees to hold down health costs. Watch for details in future editions of CIDS. Whether you are in CEBCO or not, this will be informative for anyone managing a county employee health plan.

REGIONAL LEGISLATIVE BRIEFINGS SCHEDULED IN FEBRUARY & MARCH

As the 131st General Assembly convenes, CCAO is scheduling regional legislative briefings for commissioners, county executives and council members, and legislators at locations across the state. Meetings have been organized around legislative district lines. These events are designed as an opportunity to allow you to meet with your legislators and your fellow commissioners to articulate and explore the common problems and concerns that county and state government have in serving their constituents, the people of Ohio.

The events are listed above in Dates to Remember. Last week, commissioners, county executives and county council members received a [memo](#), [briefing schedule](#), and [sample press release](#) from CCAO. CCAO will be sending an invitation to each legislator. We also encourage you to invite other county elected officials and your key staff to attend.

STATE ACTIVITIES

SOS ANNOUNCES ADJUSTED CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION LIMITS

Secretary of State Jon Husted announced the 2015 Adjusted Campaign Contribution Limits, which took effect on February 25, 2015. In accordance with [ORC 3517.104](#), campaign contribution limits are adjusted for inflation in each odd numbered year by the Ohio Secretary of State's office. Adjustments are based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for All Urban Consumers and certified by the Auditor of State.

Per the statutory formula, current contribution limits were multiplied by the three and one-tenth percent (3.1%) increase in the CPI from 2012 to 2014 and the product was then added to the existing contribution limits. The limits will remain in effect until February 2017, when the next adjustment is scheduled.

Secretary Husted also issued [Advisory 2015-01](#), outlining an increase from \$55 to \$60 in fees assessed per precinct for requested recounts. Under [ORC 3515.072](#), the Secretary of State must determine if any adjustment is required to these fees. This is done in odd numbered years using a statutory formula based on the yearly average of the previous two years of the Consumer Price Index. This does not apply to automatic recounts and will remain in effect until February 2017.

The [2015 Adjusted Campaign Contribution Limits](#) report contains a detailed explanation of the procedures used in adjusting the contribution limits, a breakdown of all campaign contribution limits, and a reference chart containing the adjusted contribution limits. A copy of the reference chart is available [here](#).

TANF SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

All County Job & Family Service Directors received [Family Assistance Letter #143](#) concerning the TANF

Summer Youth Employment Program that will run from May 1 to October 15, 2015. This letter provides the details for this year's program. All county agencies that intend to operate a TANF Summer Youth Employment Program must inform [Matthew Cunningham](#) by Friday, March 13, 2015 to qualify for participation and to ensure equitable distribution of funds.

THE VOICE OF ETHICS

The Ohio Ethics Commission has published the winter edition of "[The Voice of Ethics](#)." This issue gives an overview of the types of opinions by topic, entity and types of violations. In addition, it explains the training offered by the Commission via e-courses, which are available on-demand and at your convenience, ethics training in a six-part e-course series consisting of 15-20 minute courses, live webinars throughout the year, and regional onsite training. [Click here](#) for more information on the Ohio Ethics Commission training options.

OHIO'S SEVERE WEATHER AWARENESS WEEK - MARCH 1-7

Severe Weather Awareness Week is the time to create or review emergency plans to be ready for any incident that can impact your home or community. As part of Severe Weather Awareness Week, as coordinated by the [Ohio Committee for Severe Weather Awareness](#), the state of Ohio will participate in a statewide tornado drill and test its Emergency Alert System on Wednesday, March 4 at 9:50 a.m. During this time, Ohio counties will sound and test their outdoor warning sirens. Schools, businesses and households are encouraged to practice their tornado drills and emergency plans. [Read more...](#)

Ohioans can visit the [Ohio Department of Insurance](#) for a [Severe Weather Awareness Toolkit](#) or call (800) 686-1526 with insurance questions.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT INNOVATION COUNCIL ANNOUNCES AWARDS

The Ohio Development Services Agency awarded 11 grants and five loans to assist efficiency and collaboration projects across the state, totaling more than \$2 million. The Local Government Innovation Fund consists of two programs, the Local Government Innovation Program (LGIP) and the Local Government Efficiency Program (LGEP). Together these programs assist communities with shared services and efficiency projects in all aspects of operations. "Communities save money and become more efficient by sharing services and eliminating unnecessary costs," said David Goodman, director of the Ohio Development Services Agency.

County winners include:

Type	Lead Applicant	Project Name	Amount
Grant-LGIP	Jefferson County General Health District	Jefferson County/City of Steubenville Health Consolidation Feasibility	\$50,000
Grant-LGIP	Miami County Park District	Collaborative Development/Tourism Plan	\$50,000
Loan-LGIP	Columbiana County Port Authority	Rivernet Loan	\$500,000
Loan-LGIP	Ottawa County Engineer	Multi-Jurisdictional Engineer Facility	\$500,000
Grant-LGEP	Miami County Public Health	West Central Ohio Coordinated Electronic Medical Record System	\$26,000
Grant-LGEP	Licking County Health Department	Public Health Medical Billing Improvement Project	\$22,506

Grant-LGEP	Zanesville Muskingum County Health	Fleet Vehicle Management Project	\$23,370
------------	------------------------------------	----------------------------------	----------

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

USDA ANNOUNCES \$9 MILLION TO SUPPORT COMMUNITY FOOD PROJECTS PROGRAM

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) announced the availability of \$9 million in funding to assist low-income individuals and communities in developing local and independent food systems. NIFA is funding the grants through the [Community Food Projects](#) (CFP), authorized by the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Farm Bill). CFP involves the entire food system. Projects assess strengths and establish connections among existing food systems, resulting in improved food systems that support self-reliance.

Grants are intended to help eligible, private, nonprofit entities in need of a one-time installment of federal assistance to establish and carry out multipurpose community food projects. Projects are funded from \$10,000 to \$300,000 and up to 36 months. All grants require a dollar-for-dollar match in resources. Application deadline: March 17, 2015. Please see the [request for applications](#) for specific program requirements. [Read more...](#)

NACo ACTIVITIES



America's 3,069 county governments provide fundamental services for building healthy, safe and vibrant communities. Through the National Association of Counties (NACo), county governments engage federal policy makers on a

range of issues like transportation, infrastructure, healthcare, public safety and public lands management. All of these issues are vital to our nation's quality of life and long-term prosperity. NACo President Riki Hokama, Maui County (HI) Council Member, states that "Counties stand ready to strengthen our intergovernmental collaboration."

Decisions made by the White House, Congress and federal courts have a major impact on our ability to lead our communities. That is why Federal Policies Matter to County Governments, and Why County Government Matters to America. [Click here](#) or on the icon above for more information and to view a video released by NACo during the Legislative Conference held in Washington, D.C. this week.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

SUPREME COURT MID-TERM REVIEW WEBINAR

Since the State Local Legal Center's (SLLC) Supreme Court Preview webinar last October, the U.S. Supreme Court has accepted a number of cases affecting state and local government on topics ranging from Fourth Amendment searches to regulating power plant emissions to limiting messages on license plates. Discuss these cases and the Affordable Care Act case and other topics at a webinar held on March 5, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. [Register here...](#)

PROJECT DELIVERY MODELS AND THE COMPETITIVE BIDDING PROCESS FOR PUBLIC PROJECTS



Join [Bricker & Eckler](#) for a one-day seminar on "Project Delivery Models and the

Competitive Bidding Process for Public Projects” on Friday, March 27, 2015. This program blends a traditional morning session of instruction with an interactive afternoon session during which attendees work in groups to experience the delivery model selection and procurement process through a mock project, immediate feedback from the speakers, and questions and answers from participants.

The seminar registration begins at 7:30 a.m. with the seminar starting at 8:00 a.m. and ending at 4:45 p.m. at the Conference Center at OCLC, 6600 Kilgour Place, in Dublin. Tuition: early bird (available through March 13) or members of sponsoring organization (CCAO is a co-sponsor): \$199; or regular registration: \$239. Two or more from the same organization or Top Gun attendees – call [Traci Graham](#) at (614) 227-4941 for special pricing. Tuition includes breakfast, lunch and all handout materials. [Click here](#) to register and for continuing education credit information.

CLASSIFIEDS

CCAO publishes classified ads on our website and in CIDS. Classified ads will be published free of charge as a service to counties. Ads will be published on the website until the application deadline and for several weeks in CIDS. When submitting your ad to CCAO, please provide a link to the online job posting and a deadline date. Email your classified ad to [Mary Jane Neiman](#), CCAO Public Relations Associate.

Title /For More Information. . .	Employer/Application Deadline
Eligibility/Referral Specialist 2	Clark County March 4, 2015
Water Treatment System Operator	Warren County March 6, 2015
Family, Adult and Children First Council Executive Director	Fairfield County March 11, 2015
Eligibility/Referral Specialist I	Clark County March 12, 2015
LSC Legislative Fellowship	Ohio General Assembly (Legislative Service Commission) April 1, 2015
LSC Telecommunications Fellowship	Ohio General Assembly (Legislative Service Commission) May 31, 2015
Building Code Inspector	Wayne County Until position is filled
Deputy Director of Program Integrity	Lucas County Until position is filled
Building and Electrical Safety Inspector	Logan County Until position is filled
Planner	Trumbull County Until position is filled