ASSOCIATION NEWS

GOV. KASICH ADDRESSES COMMISSIONERS ON MYRIAD OF POLICY ISSUES AT WINTER CONFERENCE

Governor Kasich spent well over his committed half hour making remarks and answering questions at the CCAO/CEAO Winter Conference Monday afternoon.

The Governor addressed CCAO’s requested tools to help manage county budgets in both his opening and closing remarks, and indicated his willingness to continue to work with the association on those policy initiatives. We appreciate continuing these conversations and furthering these goals with the Administration in the coming months and years ahead.

In addition, the Governor touched on a multitude of policy points, including the following:

- **Preparing Ohioans to Meet Workforce Demands** – the need to close the skills gap between unemployed and underemployed Ohioans and the needs for employers who are hiring today. The Governor mentioned creating a task force with CCAO involvement to examine the efficacy and performance of the state’s one-stops. In response to a question from the audience, he also mentioned his wariness to institute mandatory drug testing for public assistance recipients without addressing drug and alcohol addictions services funding needs and the welfare of children who are in the needy families.

- **Marcellus and Utica Shale** - The Governor focused on the positive impact the Utica Shale exploration will have on the economy, and the state’s goal to create long-term secondary jobs based on the extraction, transportation and refinement of the minerals. He committed to continuing to work with county officials to address concerns around maintaining and repairing roads and other infrastructure.
The Governor also mentioned instituting an impact fee on developers to, in part, help maintain public infrastructure impacted by the development.

- **Sentencing Reform** – that it is important for counties and the state to be smart on crime and remove collateral sanctions to help move those returning from prison back into the workforce.

- **Possible leasing of the Ohio Turnpike** – that the state is not considering selling the turnpike, but will consider leasing the turnpike only if it is a good deal for the state. The governor also said at least 50% of any assets generated from a possible lease would remain in northern Ohio to address infrastructure demands.

**LIEBERMAN ELECTED 2012 CCAO PRESIDENT**

CCAQ President David Dhume (Madison) convened the CCAQ Annual Business Meeting on Monday, December 12 at the 131st CCAQ/CEAO Annual Winter Conference held during at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus. The following officers were elected to serve in 2012:

**CCAQ OFFICERS**
- President- Deborah Lieberman, Montgomery County Commissioner
- 1st Vice President – Tim Brown, Wood County Commissioner
- 2nd Vice President - Nick Kostandaras, Summit County Council Member
- Secretary – Steve Arndt, Ottawa County Commissioner
- Treasurer – Doug Corcoran, Ross County Commissioner

The following past presidents have elected to automatically serve on the Board of Directors: Commissioners Paula Brooks (Franklin), David Dhume (Madison), Lenny Eliason (Athens), Olen Jackson (Morrow), Kerry Metzger (Tuscarawas), and Daniel Troy (Lake).

Eight officials were elected to a two-year term on the Board of Directors: Commissioners Tony Anderson, (Fayette), Ginny Favede (Belmont), Gary Lee (Union), Joe Moroski (Ashtabula), Richard Myers (Henry), Otto Nicely (Defiance), and Ann Obrecht (Wayne) and Council Member C. Ellen Connally (Cuyahoga).

CCAQ President Lieberman will make nine more appointments to the CCAQ Board of Directors for next year. Appointments will be announced in CIDS when they are confirmed by the Board of Directors at their organizational meeting in January. The CCAQ Nominating Committee wishes to thank all members who submitted their names for consideration. The nomination process was difficult because 31 highly qualified and motivated individuals expressed interest in serving on the Board.

**CIDS PUBLICATION SCHEDULE CHANGE**

The *County Information & Data Service (CIDS)* will not be published on Friday, December 23 & 30 due to the Christmas and New Year holidays. Happy Holidays from our CCAQ family to yours. Wishing you a new year filled with health, happiness, prosperity, peace, and joy!

**STATE ACTIVITIES**

**LGIF REGIONAL INFORMATION SESSIONS SCHEDULED IN JANUARY**

The Ohio Department of Development (DOD) has scheduled five regional Local Government Innovation Fund (LGIF) Regional Information Sessions to explain the upcoming Innovation Grant & Loan Application and
Program. The Local Government Innovation Fund (LGIF) was established to provide financial assistance to Ohio political subdivisions for planning and implementing projects that are designed to create more efficient and effective service delivery within a specific discipline of government services for one or more entities. Through this program, DOD seeks to promote efficiency, collaboration, merger, and shared services among local governments. Projects are also expected to facilitate improved business environments and promote community attraction.

The LGIF program will award up to $100,000 in grant funds per feasibility study, up to $100,000 in loan assistance per entity for demonstration projects, and up to $500,000 in loan assistance for multi-entity projects to be used for demonstration projects. The following regional information sessions will provide more information. For additional information go to: http://www.development.ohio.gov/Urban/LGIF.htm

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<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tr>
<td>1-10-12</td>
<td>10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
<td>William Green Building</td>
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<td>30 West Spring St-2nd FL Auditorium Columbus</td>
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<td>and Performing Arts</td>
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<td>30335 Oregon Road Perrysburg</td>
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<td>1601 University Blvd – Parrish Auditorium Hamilton</td>
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JERRY COLLAMORE TO RETIRE AT END OF YEAR

Former CCAO Assistant Director Jerry Collamore announced his retirement effective the end of the year. Jerry started his career in county government in his home county as director of the Fulton County Human Services Department and later as a public assistance supervisor at the Toledo district office of the Ohio Department of Human Services. He moved to Columbus where he was responsible for public relations and information for the Ohio Department of Human Services under then Director Ken Creasy and later joined CCAO as a human services specialist and later as assistant director. Jerry left CCAO in 1998 to become a consultant in the field of human services. He has worked with many counties, the Ohio Job and Family Services Directors Association, and other clients since leaving CCAO. As one of the foremost experts in the field of human service programs in the state, Jerry’s expertise will be missed by counties and in the Ohio General Assembly. The CCAO Family wishes Jerry and his wife, Susan, well as they enjoy retirement wearing flip flops and walking on the beaches in Florida!

LOST KEYS AT THE CONFERENCE

Are you missing a set of keys? A set of keys on a NACo key ring were found in a parking lot near the convention center by a CCAO/CEAO Conference attendee. If you are missing some keys, please contact Tanya McComas, CCAO Administrative Assistant, at (614) 221-5627, (888) 757-1904 or tmccomas@ccao.org
NACo ACTIVITIES

2012 NACo LEGISLATIVE POLICY

The National Association of Counties (NACo) Board of Directors recently adopted the 2012 Legislative Policy. Legislation and policy is the heart of NACo’s role in Washington, D.C. As the Voice of America’s Counties, NACo is responsible for representing counties in Congress and with the federal executive agencies. Ohio is honored that Lenny Eliason, Athens County Commissioner, is the 2011/12 NACo President leads our nation’s counties. For more information, the attached link explains about NACo's policy positions: www.naco.org/legislation/Pages/default.aspx

CONFERENCES

NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

The National Association of Counties (NACo) Legislative Conference will be held March 3-7, 2012 at the newly renovated 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 is open. Go to 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.

COUNCIL OF STATE ARCHIVISTS TRAINING TO PROTECT ESSENTIAL RECORDS FROM DISASTER

The Council of State Archivists announces the availability of two free on-line courses designed to assist participants in the development of the vital records identification and protection component of their Continuity of Operations (COOP) plan. Each course provides 7.5 hours of online training, and a FEMA certificate of completion. These courses will be delivered to participants in Ohio, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Missouri. For more information, go to www.statearchivists.org

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS

SYLLABUS 2011-047

1. A veterans service commission may provide financial assistance to a veterans treatment court to the extent that such assistance is directed to establishing and fulfilling an outreach program under R.C. 5901.03(E).

2. A veterans service commission may hire and compensate a person who will work at the veterans treatment court and provide assistance to the court as specified by the terms of an outreach program established under R.C. 5901.03(E).

3. A court of common pleas may not use special project fund moneys collected pursuant to R.C. 2303.201(E)(1) to provide financial assistance to a veterans treatment court operated by a municipal court.