



Every quarter we feature a photo from one of our member governments. This quarter: The City of Montgomery

Highlights of this Issue:

- CLG Conducts Administrative Professionals Luncheon
- CLG Working on Solar Program
- CLG Human Resources Luncheon to Address Succession Planning
- 2021-2023 Public Works Mutual Aid Manual Published
- West Chester Township Holds Mulhauser Barn Charitable Art Show
- Springboro Undertaking Fiber Optic Project



Regular Features:

- Page 2: About Us
- Page 4 New Faces/ New Places
- Page 8: News Bits
- Page 8: Calendar

The Center for Local Government 3rd Quarter Newsletter

2021

2021 Leadership Academy Graduates at CLG Annual Meeting

The graduation of the 2021 CLG Leadership Academy class, a fun talk by Thane Maynard of the Cincinnati Zoo, and Board Member elections highlighted this year's CLG Annual Meeting. The event was held September 15th at the Original Montgomery Inn. Over 65 people attended, representing the Center's members and partners.

Our featured speaker was Cincinnati Zoo Director Thane Maynard. The Cincinnati Zoo is one of the most innovative zoos in the country. Mr. Maynard, with help from Cruncher the Alligator, spoke about their work around sustainability, green building, and similar practices, for which the Zoo has been nationally recognized.

In addition to Mr. Maynard's talk, CLG Board elections were held. Anderson Township Administrator Vicky Earhart was re-elected for a 3-year term. Cleves City Administrator Mike Rahall was elected President, Delhi Township Administrator Jack Cameron was elected Vice President, and Vicky Earhart was elected Secretary / Treasurer.

Finally, we were proud to recognize our 2021 Leadership Academy graduates. If you work with or know any of them, please reach out: Brooke Brady, Wyoming; Mike Brem, Washington Twp; Dan Chambers, Mason; Andy Custis, Springboro; Melissa Jones, Bellbrook; Steve Keller, Blue Ash; Nakita Lancaster, Middletown; Ed McCarthy, Pierce Twp; Jennifer McCormick, Centerville; Greg Muenchen, Wilmington; Rebecca Nelson, Lebanon; Tim Parker, Troy; Tammy Reasoner, Amberley Village; Kevin Richards, Springfield Twp; Mike Rider, Indian Hill; Anthony Roach, Delhi Twp; Jennifer Sanders, Anderson Twp; Chris Snyder, Miami Township (Montgomery Co); Aaron Tiplady, Sharonville; and Zach Trent, Washington Twp. Thank you to all who attended!





The Center for Local GOVERNMENT

4015 Executive Park Dr. Suite 216
Sharonville, OH 45241
513-741-7999

ABOUT OUR ORGANIZATION:

The Center for Local Government (CLG) located in Cincinnati, OHIO is a unique non-profit 501 (c)(3) corporation, created in 1990 as a clearinghouse for inter-governmental collaboration, training and information sharing. CLG membership consists of 59 local government in 6 counties.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- Michael Rahall, Village of Cleves (President)
- Jack Cameron, Delhi Township(Vice President)
- Vicki Earhart, Anderson Township (Secretary / Treasurer)
- Kristen Bitonte, Liberty Township
- Jim Lukas, City of Sharonville

Effective Governance Through Collaboration



T.J. White,
Executive Director,
twhite@C4LG.org



Cody Smith,
Assistant Director,
csmith@C4LG.org



Lori Stuckey,
Director of Operations,
lstuckey@C4LG.org

Over 100 positions are tracked in the CLG Pay Database

ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS LUNCHEON

The Fall 2021 Administrative Professionals Luncheon was held on September 30th at deSha's American Tavern. This was the first Administrative Professionals in-person luncheon/training since Fall 2019. The guest speakers were Jill Williams, interim Purchasing Director of Hamilton County and William Hasty, the Hamilton County Surplus Asset Program Manager. Ms. Williams has worked for Hamilton County for 16 years in the Purchasing Department and is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operation of all functions of the Department. Mr. Hasty has been with the county for 5 years. When items are no longer of use for County departments and/or other municipalities (including school and park districts), he works with them to dispose of the items. He auctions a variety of items using an online auction process.

Both programs are open not just to Hamilton county municipalities, but surrounding counties in Ohio as well. For the Purchasing Program there is a yearly fee. Some examples of items available in the Purchasing Program are: gas, vehicles, office supplies, and road salt. There is no yearly fee for jurisdictions to use the Surplus Asset Program to dispose of items. In addition to municipalities, the on-line auction is open to the public to bid on items. Hamilton County will send a check within 30 days of the auction minus 8% of the selling amount of the obsolete item. Information about what items are available for bids is on the Hamilton County website (Hamilton-co.org). For more information about these programs, please contact: Jill Williams at Jill.Williams@hamilton-co.org and William.Hasty@hamilton-co.org. If you would like to be added to the distribution list for future Administrative Professionals Luncheons, please contact Lori Stuckey at Lstuckey@C4LG.org or 513-741-7999.



William Hasty speaking to group at luncheon.



CLG IS STUDYING A SOLAR INSTALLATION RFP FOR GOVERNMENTS

An increasing number of governments in Southwest Ohio have been looking at solar power as a supplemental energy source for their facilities. Recently, the Village of Silverton solarized their Town Hall, and Loveland installed solar panels on their new public works facility. Regionally, the City of Cincinnati is working on a utility scale solar farm in Brown County. As interest in solar power has increased, we have been approached about potentially helping governments work together.

At the end of August, we conducted an educational session for interested governments that covered the engineering requirements for solar installation as well as the financing options. Representatives from Melink Corp, Prolight Solar, and New Resource Solutions presented. These were groups that had recent interactions with Silverton and Loveland. Per the presentations, governments pursuing solar power for one or more of their facilities generally adopt either ground mounted or building mounted systems. South facing systems are ideal. The first step in this process is to conduct an assessment. A consultant will study the facility in question, determine its sun exposure, study the structure of the building to determine how it will support the weight of a solar installation, identify what equipment will be necessary to take advantage of the power being generated (e.g. a DC to AC converter), and prepare a report on the potential energy generation and financial savings.

Once a government has an idea of the generating potential, cost of installation, and reduction in energy costs, the next step is to determine a financing model. The two most prominent models are either simply paying for the project out of the capital budget, or using a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). With a PPA, a third party owns the solar panels, and sells the energy they generate to the jurisdiction. The jurisdiction purchases the energy for a lower cost than they would off of the power grid, and the third party takes advantage of the Renewal Energy Credits (RECs) and other tax incentives. After a negotiated period of time, the jurisdiction takes ownership of the panels, and the electric purchase agreement goes away.



If enough governments are interested in pursuing solar for their facilities, we will work to conduct a joint bid for design and installation. CLG staff are currently studying other local government solar installation bids from around the region and country, and identifying ways to scale those efforts for multiple communities. Communities that are interested in bidding will need to conduct feasibility assessments such as those discussed above. We can recommend companies to conduct this assessment, or if you have your own consultant, you can use them as well. The next step will be to convene all of the potential participants to identify how many sites are going to be bid, the scale of each site, and to identify a timeline for installation. Finally, CLG will develop a bid document. We are hoping to conduct this bid in early 2022.

That said, since this is still very early in the process, we recognize governments may still be in the learning stage. If you are interested in learning more, but may not be ready to consider bidding, please reach out to TJ White at TWhite@C4LG.org or 513-741-7999.

We will continue to provide updates as this potential program takes shape.

The Center for Local Government Annual Report is available. [Click here to check it out.](#)



HUMAN RESOURCES LUNCHEON SCHEDULED

The Fall HR Luncheon is right around the corner! The next HR Luncheon will cover topics such as transition planning and how to hire and train the next group of leaders for your community.

While conducting outreach visits with our members, we have heard interest in learning how to successfully implement a transition plan and prevent the loss of institutional knowledge. Having transition plans in place does not mean that you currently have someone retiring or a vacancy to fill immediately. Rather, it is about having a solid transition plan that creates stability for an organization when a transition does occur.

In creating stability, transition planning allows an organization to retain some of the institutional knowledge that may otherwise be lost when personnel move on from their current roles.

Please keep an eye out for additional details on the Fall HR Luncheon that will be announced soon!



Presenters during the Fall, 2019 HR Luncheon in Miami Township

NEW JUSTIFIED USE OF FORCE SIMULATOR RFP UPDATE

Work continues on an RFP for new simulators for the CLG Justified Use of Force (JUFS) Consortium. Officers from the 9 participating jurisdictions were provided demonstrations from TI Training and Apex Officer. Officers also attended a session at the Stebbins Police Academy in Dayton to see one of the candidate systems in action.

Officers from the participating governments will be witnessing a demonstration of an additional system. At that point, it is anticipated that we will be able to compare all of the potential candidate systems and come to a consensus about what direction to go in. It is anticipated that the new equipment will be online in the 2022 timeframe.

Thank you to all of the police agencies who participate in our JUFS Consortium and have been involved in this process.

2021-2023 PUBLIC WORKS MUTUAL AID MANUAL PUBLISHED

The 2021-2023 Public Works Mutual Aid Manual was published in September. This is a comprehensive manifest of equipment and contact information for governments that participate in the CLG Public Works Mutual Aid Pact. The Public Works Mutual Aid Pact (PWMA) is an agreement between 38 governments to provide equipment and assistance to each other during a public works emergency such as a tornado cleanup, an equipment breakdown, or other situation where assistance is required.

The 2021-2023 Manual has been tweaked to make the equipment manifest and contact information sections easier to read. It also includes governments who joined the pact during the 2019-2021 window. Copies were distributed directly to the participating communities. It is also available on the CLG website.

We have just begun working with a group of University of Dayton Management Information Systems (MIS) capstone students, who are going to try to develop a mobile friendly and searchable Public Works Mutual Aid Manual as their Senior Capstone Project. If successful, this will provide for a more convenient interface, especially in situations where there may be outages that make utilizing the PDF version of the manual infeasible. This process started this month, and will continue through May of 2022.

Part of this capstone project will be to conduct discussions with some PWMA participants to identify strengths and weaknesses of the current manual. We will be reaching out in the coming weeks to anyone interested in talking to the students.



UTILITY COORDINATION PROGRAM UPDATE

The Center for Local Government is currently collecting jurisdiction contacts for its Utility Coordination Guidebook. If you have not done so yet, please provide the necessary information, either by filling out the survey here, or by contacting Cody (CSmith@C4Lg.org) directly. We would like to thank our members who have already provided this important information to us!

The Guidebook will be available on CLG's website once the initial version is completed and will include a listing for project's taking place in our members' jurisdictions, along with the contact information for the project manager/lead and the person designated to handle those projects for that jurisdiction. There also will be a master list of contacts (engineering leads, supervisors, public works directors, etc) for each utility and for each jurisdiction to ensure communication is possible in the event that a primary contact is unavailable. The utility providers currently participating in the guidebook include Duke, Greater Cincinnati Waterworks, the Metropolitan Sewer District, Cincinnati Bell and Spectrum/Charter.

The goal in producing the guidebook is to enhance communication between our members and the participating utility providers, as well as decrease delays in completing projects and thereby ultimately enhance customer service for residents of our member governments. We believe that the development of the guidebook will accomplish this goal by providing both our members and the utility providers a go-to resource to identify the most appropriate contact that can resolve an issue quickly and allow the project to proceed unimpeded.

There are multiple options to designate contacts to be included in the guidebook. First, you can fill out the survey here and provide the information via Survey Monkey. Second, if your jurisdiction participates in our Public Works Mutual Aid Pact, you can designate the contacts listed for that program to also be included in the guidebook. Lastly, you can contact Cody directly either at (513) 741-799 or CSmith@C4LG.org with the names, titles, e-mail addresses and phone numbers of a primary and secondary contact for the guidebook.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation and we look forward to publishing the initial version of the guidebook soon!

NEW FACES/NEW PLACES

Two CLG Member Governments have new Managers! We would like to extend a welcome to new Bellbrook City Manager Rob Schommer, and new Woodlawn Acting City Manager Timothy Engel.

Rob Schommer was hired in Bellbrook after former City Manager Melissa Dodd took a position as the Finance Director in the City of Fairborn. Mr. Schommer recently was the City Manager in Huber Heights, and has extensive experience in the Dayton area. He served as Police Chief in Huber Heights prior to taking on the role of City Manager. Please reach out to Mr. Schommer and welcome him to the Center. He can be reached at R.Schommer@cityofbellbrook.org.

Timothy Engel takes over as Acting City Manager in Woodlawn with the retirement of Jerry Thammann. Prior to serving as Manager, Mr. Engel was the Finance Director in Woodlawn. Please reach out to Mr. Engel and welcome him into his new position. He can be reached at Tengel@beautifulwoodlawn.us.



**Bellbrook City Manager
Rob Schommer**

If your community has anyone you would like to recognize in the New Faces / New Places section of our Newsletter, please reach out to TWhite@C4LG.org.

CLG's jobs page currently has 22 listings and averages almost 1700 hits per month (roughly 20,000 per year)



WEST CHESTER TOWNSHIP'S MULHAUSER BARN CHARITABLE ART SHOW CELEBRATES OHIO'S FARM ROOTS

The historic Muhlhauser Barn in West Chester Township, Ohio hosted hundreds of guests for a one-of-its-kind art show and charity auction Sept. 29, 2021 featuring the works of Dr. Robert Kroeger.

"A Tribute to Historic Barns of Ohio: 88 Counties, 88 Paintings, 88 Essays," offered for sale nearly 100 paintings of barns from across the state, with a portion of proceeds benefiting 10 local non-profit organizations. About half of all paintings in the show were sold at auction, allowing buyers the opportunity to choose a beneficiary to support.

The event was presented by members of the Union Centre Boulevard Merchant Association (UCBMA) inside Muhlhauser Barn, 8558 Beckett Road, West Chester, Ohio 45069.

In lead up to the show, Dr. Kroeger of Cincinnati spent years traveling the state to locate and create his paintings, preserving pieces of Ohio's rich farming history one composition at a time. He paints in the oil impasto technique with palette knife and, when finished, frames artwork with reclaimed barn wood. Dr. Kroeger researches and tells the story of the barns he finds through historical essays he writes to go with each completed canvas.

Dr. Kroeger is the author of "Historic Barns of Ohio," a book from Arcadia Publishing/The History Press published in spring 2021. The book features a collection of all 88 of Dr. Kroeger's Ohio barn paintings and essays, one from every county of the Buckeye State. Connect with Dr. Kroeger by following The Historic Barn Project on Facebook, or visit the artist's website at www.robertkroeger.com.

The Muhlhauser Barn was preserved by West Chester Township, the Muhlhauser family and Ohio Casualty Group. The barn was dismantled from its original location and was rebuilt using traditional methods on its current site in Beckett Park. The Muhlhauser Barn, a part of Cincinnati beer history and West Chester's agricultural history, is now an event center available for rent.



For more information about the Mulhauser Barn, visit www.WestChesterOH.org/Mulhauserbarn



The Center for Local GOVERNMENT

CITY OF SPRINGBORO EMBARKS ON \$2.6 MILLION CITYWIDE FIBER OPTIC NETWORK FOR RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES

A citywide 17-mile fiber optic loop, in partnership with Warren County Port Authority, is well underway in Springboro, and has almost paid for itself. Six conduits are being installed throughout the City, with two internet service providers already purchasing five of the lines. Point Broadband began work earlier this year installing one line and just recently the City sold four lines to Cincinnati Bell for \$1.5 million.

The internet providers will then run their own fiber optic cables to provide high speed internet to Springboro neighborhoods. Construction teams are throughout the City completing both aerial and underground work. In addition to providing options for high speed internet, the technology upgrades will help the City provide better safety and public works services. Point Broadband expects to begin offering service next year, while Cincinnati Bell services should be available in 2023.



For more information about this project, contact Maureen Russell-Hodgson at Maureen@cityofspringboro.com or at 937-748-5774

CLG ANNUAL MEETING PHOTOS





NEWS BITS

Pay Data Updated

The most recent update to the CLG Pay Database was conducted on September 28th. We update our pay database quarterly. In this database, we track pay ranges for roughly 100 positions common to CLG member governments. The database is available under the CLG member log-in. In addition to updating the pay data in our "CLG Datacenter," we also have a searchable Google Sheet pay database now. This enables governments to search by keyword for any position but part-time public safety. It is also available in the member log-in.

Annual Survey

The 2021 CLG Annual Survey is now open! If your community has not responded to the survey yet, please take the time to do so.

We anticipate that the survey will be open through October 15th. Once the survey closes, the new data should be live in our data center starting in mid-November!

If you need assistance logging in to or filling out the survey, please contact Cody Smith at CSmith@C4LG.org or (513) 741-7999.

CAO Forum

Be on the lookout for the invite to the next CAO Forum event, which will be hitting your inboxes soon!

This event will build upon the discussion that took place during our July roundtable concerning American Rescue Plan Act dollars.

While we are still confirming the final details, the roundtable is tentatively scheduled for 3:00-4:30pm on Thursday, October 28th at the Springfield Township ArtsConnect Center.

We look forward to the continued discussion!

CLG CALENDAR

Supervisor Training Program: October 12 & 13, 2021, 8am – 4pm, **sponsored by MVCC**. This course is aimed at new supervisors or supervisors that are looking to sharpen their skills. Cost: Members/Partners – \$100, Affiliates – \$140, Non-Members – \$160. For more information please contact Jodi Martin at MVCC. To register, please click here.

A Better Way to... hosted by MVCC and Sponsored by the City of Troy:

- Manage your Workday, October 19, 2021, 12Pm-4pm
- Use Outlook, November 16, 12pm-4pm
- Use Excel, December 14, 2021, 12pm-4pm

Location : Bravo Room at Hobart Arena (255 Adams St., Troy, OH 45373) Cost is Member/Partners \$50, Affiliates \$60, Non-members \$80 Click here to register.

CLG Annual Survey Due Date: October 15, 2021.

Center for Local Government Chief Administrative Officer forum: October 28, 2021, 3pm-4:30pm (tentative); Location: Springfield Township ArtsConnect Center. Details Coming Soon