

## **MAHONING COUNTY LAUNCHES WEB PORTAL, GIVING TAXPAYING PUBLIC SINGLE POINT OF ACCESS TO COUNTY DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES**

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**YOUNGSTOWN**, Ohio – The Data Processing Board of Mahoning County today announced the official launch of the Mahoning County *Communicator*, the county's official web portal that provides an easy, single point of access to all county services and information for businesses and the general public. The site's web address is [www.mahoningcountyoh.gov](http://www.mahoningcountyoh.gov).

Designed by the Mahoning County Data Processing Board in partnership with software development company CBOSS, the web portal serves as a “one-stop shop”, providing links to all county departments and agencies for easy navigation and access to information 24/7 for county services.

Information is available from the auditor, treasurer, sheriff, commissioners, board of health, building permits, marriage licenses, as well as job postings and other business links. The site also provides a feature called ‘Ask AgentMC’ which allows anyone to address a question with the county on any relevant matter and receive an answer in a timely manner.

“We’re calling it the *Communicator* because it’s interactive and easy for the public to get information and receive services from the county,” said Mike Sciortino, Mahoning County Auditor. “We’re embracing leading edge technology because during a financial crunch, utilizing a solution like this portal allows us to do more with less and makes life easier for the public to get access to important information.”

The county portal is designed using Microsoft's Content Management Server which allows county clerical staff to update content on the site without needing to know the HTML web programming language. Information can easily be kept current, freeing up IT staff for more important projects. The end result is

an economical, easy way to access vital county information. The county together with CBOSS deployed the portal site in a short 90 days.

Future features and services on the site may include digital permitting for building permits or board of health certification, grass roots discussion forums with elected officials and educational programs on county government for local schools.

Each of the three Mahoning County Commissioners commented about the new county portal.

Commissioner David Ludt: “I believe technology is our future, the more we use it, the more benefits it will bring to our county. If we don’t embrace technology our county will be definitely out of the loop”

Commissioner John McNally: “This portal is a ‘one-stop shop’ for businesses, government agencies and the public to see what Mahoning County has to offer. This is a tremendous improvement from what we had before which was basically a fractured presence on the Web. Now you can get any information you need about the county through this portal. This is a great start to better communication with the public.”

Commissioner Anthony Traficanti: “This is indeed the wave of the future. Allowing easier access to county government via the web makes my job easier and allows me to be more accountable to the taxpayers. The taxpaying public now has even greater access to information straight from elected officials – it truly extends our reach and presence with our constituents.”

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