

Iowa County Conference Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 29, 2025

Kevin Heitshusen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the East Courthouse Annex, Marengo, Iowa.

Those present were:

Supervisors:	Kevin Heitshusen	School Boards:	Mark Armstrong - Williamsburg
	Jon Degen		Jillissa Chvala – Iowa Valley
	Seth Meyer		Maria Hawkins - HLV
	Chris Montross		Susan Schaefer – English Valley

Mayors: Adam Grier - Williamsburg
Adam Rabe - Marengo
Eric Refer - Victor

Also present were Liz Kriegel, Assessor, Marcy DeMeulenaere, Chief Deputy Assessor, Laura Dietrich, Field Appraiser and Ashlea Mente, Office Manager

A quorum was declared present.

Motion by Adam Rabe and seconded by Mark Armstrong to **approve the agenda**. All aye, motion carried.

Motion by Seth Meyer and seconded by Eric Refer to **approve the minutes** of February 28, 2024. All aye, motion carried.

Liz Kriegel gave an office update including:

1. Overview of Conference Board and Assessor's Office duties and responsibilities
2. Discussion
 - current housing market
 - new home construction
 - commercial revaluation project
 - importance of different methods of obtaining information on property improvements
 - Legislative changes, challenges they present in the Assessor Office and anticipated focus on property tax in this year's legislation

Motion by Adam Grier and seconded by Seth Meyer to set the public hearing for FY 2024/2025 budget amendment for February 26, 2025, at 6 p.m., at the East Annex, Marengo, IA. All aye, motion carried.

Motion by Mark Armstrong and seconded by Jon Degen to authorize the hiring of outside legal counsel in the event of a commercial/industrial protest to PAAB or District Court. All ayes, motion carried.

Liz Kriegel, Assessor, presented the proposed FY 2026 budget amounts. Proposed salary increases reflected a 7% salary increase for the Assessor and Chief Deputy Assessor. Motion by Adam Grier and seconded by Maria Hawkings to **approve a 7% salary increase for the Assessor, Chief Deputy Assessor and office staff. Assessor salary set to \$91,318 and Chief Deputy salary set to \$77,619.** Roll call vote was taken. Ayes – Eric Refer, Adam Grier, Susan Schaefer, Maria Hawkins, Jillissa Chvala, Mark Armstrong. Nays – Seth Meyer, Kevin Heitshusen, Chris Montross, Jon Degen, Adam Rabe. Motion carried.

Motion by Jon Degen and seconded by Adam Rabe to set the public hearing for FY 2026 budget for February 26, 2025, at 6 p.m., at the East Annex, Marengo, IA. All aye, motion carried.

Motion by Mark Armstrong and seconded by Chris Montross **to adjourn** at 6:45 pm. All aye, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Kriegel
Iowa County Assessor