

February 11, 2013 Minutes of the Scott County Conference Board

- The Scott County Conference Board met this 11th day of February, 2013 in room 103 (Supervisor’s Room) of the Scott County Administrative Center, 600 W. 4th St, Davenport, Iowa. The meeting was called for the purpose of approving, for publication, the proposed budget of the County Assessor for the 2013–2014 fiscal year and setting the day, time, and location for the public hearing on said budget and acting on other business as necessary. The meeting was called to order by Presiding Chair, Larry Minard of the Scott County Board of Supervisor’s at 4:10 p.m. with the following members present:

Schools: Jeannine Crockett – Bettendorf
Ralph Johanson – Davenport
Paul Dierickx – North Scott
Brian Banta – Bennett

Mayors: Martin P O’Boyle – Eldridge
Jim Couper – Walcott

Supervisors: Larry Minard – Chair
William P. Cusack
Carol Earnhardt
Thomas Sunderbruch

Others Present: Dale R. Denklau - Assessor
Lew R. Zabel – Chief Deputy
Ron L. Beckenbaugh - Deputy
Ed Vieth – Deputy

- A legal quorum was established and voting delegates were chosen by each voting unit as follows:

Schools: Dierickx
Mayors: Couper
Supervisors: Earnhardt

- The minutes of the July 9, 2012 meeting were approved with all members voting “Yes”.
- The report of the 2012 Board of Review was presented by Lew Zabel on behalf of the Board. There were 111 appeals filed with 41 protests receiving a reduction. The Board acted on 8 commercial parcels on their own initiative. The Board’s actions resulted in an overall reduction in assessments, by classification, of:

Residential: (\$1,020,120)
Commercial: (\$148,460)
Industrial: (\$1,864,510)
Total Change: (\$3,033,090)

- The Conference Board members requested the specific name of the industrial parcel that was reduced by the Board of Review. The Assessor stated he would provide that information at the next meeting.
- The next item on the agenda was the report of the County Assessor. The Assessor reported that the overall values are slightly going down, in answer to questions asked by Minard and Dierickx. O'Boyle asked if apartments being converted to condominiums and cooperatives are on the increase. The assessor reported very few applications have been filed recently and that Bettendorf has actually adjusted their building codes to discourage the practice. The Assessor reported that the budget includes a 2% raise for all the staff, with one employee eligible for a step increase. The budget also includes a onetime \$22,850 buyout of sick and vacation time for an employee who is retiring. The budget also includes funds being set aside in preparation of future revaluation projects, including Bettendorf, for 2017 and small towns, for 2018. The Assessor also reported that the numbers of sales are up county wide and the conversion from CSR to CSR2 is still in discussion. Board Member Crockett, Bettendorf School District, reported errors in the budget that had been presented. The Board requested the Assessor correct and clarify the budget and mail the corrected reports to the Board Members in advance of the next meeting.
- Next on the agenda was the filling of the vacancy on the Board of Review, requiring that the member have farming background. The Board discussed the need for gender balance, per Iowa law. The Assessor requested the names of any potential candidates as soon as possible before the next meeting.
- The Mayor's appointment on the examining board was next on the agenda. The Mayor's current appointee is Mayor O'Boyle. The Assessor explained that a presentation at the 2012 Spring ISAC, by attorney Frank W. Pechacek, Jr., pointed out that a 1959 Iowa Attorney General opinion indicated that a member of the Conference Board could not be on the Examining Board due to a potential conflict of interest. Mayor O'Boyle offered to withdraw. Mayor O'Boyle asked that the Assessor notify all Mayors of the vacancy.
- Next was the presentation of the 2013-2014 budget. The Board Members asked for the Assessor to review and resubmit the budget with a bottom line of \$1,351,915 as a maximum. The Board also requested that the proposed budget be sent to them, digitally, in advance of the next meeting along with any necessary explanations.

- Motion to approve for publication by Earnhardt, second by Couper. Vote all “Yes” except Dierickx.
- The Public hearing on the 2013-2014 budget was set for March 5, 2013 at 3:30PM in Room 103 (Board Room) at the Scott County Administrative Center.
- Motion to adjourn by Dierickx was seconded by Earnhardt. The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

X

Dale Denklau
Clerk

X

Larry Minard
Board Chair

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION