

February 10, 2014 Minutes of the Scott County Conference Board

- The Scott County Conference Board met this 10th day of February, 2014 in Board Room #103 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 2014/2015 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
Brian Banta – Bennett
Heather Witters – Pleasant Valley

Mayors: Martin P O'Boyle - Eldridge
Sonya Paddock - Riverdale

Supervisors: Larry Minard - Chair
Jim Hancock – Vice Chair
Thomas Sunderbruch

Others Present: Dale R. Denklau - Assessor
Lew R. Zabel - Chief Deputy
Ron L. Beckenbaugh – Appraiser
Bill Gluba – Davenport Mayor

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

Schools: Crockett
Mayors: Paddock
Supervisors: Sunderbruch

- The minutes of the March 5th, 2013 meeting were approved with all members voting "Yes". Motion to accept by Hancock second by Witters.

- The report of the 2013 Board of Review was presented by Lew Zabel on behalf of the Board. The 2013 Board of Review added a new member. Bernice Koberg was appointed to fulfill the farmer & gender balance requirement for the board's makeup, as specified by the Code of Iowa. She joins current members Timothy Downing and Dennis Stolk. The Board met 24 times during the 2013 session. There were a total of 276 appeals filed, of which 200 appeals received some type of action. The actions of the Board resulted in a net reduction in assessed value of all classes of property of \$20,173,540. Results as follows:

Agriculture:	-\$28,790
Residential	-\$2,729,950
Commercial	-\$14,692,960
Industrial	-\$2,721,840

Mayor O'Boyle asked if the actions by the Board of Review are on the Assessor's website. Denklaub reported that they are not, but that they are public records that are stored in his office and are easily accessible upon request.

- Next was the report of the County Assessor. The Assessor touched on numerous topics including but not limited to appeals to Property Assessment Appeals Board (PAAB) and District Court, possible equalization orders, the condition of the Commercial, Industrial, Residential and Agricultural market, Business Property Tax Credit, and new Agricultural guide lines and the subsequent soils maps updating. The rapid increase in new home construction in Bettendorf, LeClaire and Eldridge was also discussed.
- Next on the agenda was the reappointment of Lew Zabel as Chief Deputy Assessor to a new six year term commencing July 3, 2014 and ending July 2, 2020. On a motion by Hancock and a second by Crockett, Zabel was reappointed with a vote of Yes by the schools, mayors and supervisors.
- Another appointment was on the agenda. Timothy Downing, is a current 20 year member of the Board of Review. Mr. Downing notified the assessor

that he would accept a new six year term to the Board if the position was offered. On a motion by Crockett and a second by Paddock, with all units voting Yes, Mr. Downing was reappointed to the Board of Review. His new term begins January 1, 2015.

- The Conference Board members next discussed the two vacancies of the Examining Board. The appointments are for representatives of the Mayors voting unit and the Schools voting unit. The Supervisors are currently represented by Lisa Charnitz, whose term expires February 11, 2015. The Board members discussed the need for and duties of an Examining board as supplied in their packet. Since the assessor is undecided on his retirement plans, no immediate action is necessary on these appointments.
- Next on the agenda is the approval for publication of the 2014-2015 Fiscal Year Budget for the Scott County Assessor’s Office, and setting of a location, date and time for the public hearing on said budget. The assessor noted that the cost of living increase is 2% and in line with county projections. The assessor indicated that the proposed budget is down from \$1,325,145 to \$1,316,364 or -0.66%. A discussion followed centering around Line 5 on the budget calculations. It was felt the formula on Line 5, having to do with a staff member who is eligible for a 2% cost of living increase July 1st, 2014, and a 5% merit increase was calculated in error. **A further review indicates that the calculations are correct as shown below:**

	<u>Col. 5 + 2% + 5%</u>	<u>Col. 7</u>	<u>Col. 10</u>
<u>Line 5</u>	\$38,032 x 1.02 =	\$38,792.64 x 1.05 =	\$40,733 +7.1%

- The Board asked the assessor to review his calculations for the next meeting, (see in bold print & calculation above). The FY 14/15 budget was approved for publication, subject to possible downward change on a motion by Sunderbruch and second by Crockett.

Schools: Yes
 Mayors: Yes
 Supervisors: Yes

- The public hearing was set for March 3, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. in the Board Room #103 of the Scott County Administrative Center, 600 W. 4th St., Davenport, Iowa 52801.
- At 5:25 p.m., there was a motion to adjourn by Sunderbruch, second by Crockett.
 - Schools: Yes
 - Mayors: Yes
 - Supervisors: Yes

Larry Minard, Chair

Dale Denklau, Clerk

See Attached Proposed 2014/2015 Fiscal Year Budget