

The Iowa County

REINVENTION: ONE YEAR LATER



Have counties seen an improvement in the state and local relationship as a direct result of PSG's work this past year?

Has PSG's work benefited counties?

June 2004



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Denise Obrecht, EDITOR



ISAC's Mission:

To promote effective and responsible county government for the people of Iowa.

ISAC's Vision:

To be the principal, authoritative source of representation, information and services for and about county government in Iowa.

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Reinvention: One Year Later

What do you think of when you hear the word reinvention? Here in Iowa SF 453, the 2003 legislative session and the Public Strategies Group (PSG) come to mind. It has been almost a year since PSG signed a hefty contract and committed to work with counties for 12 months to assist in dealing with long-term budget challenges and improve the state and local relationship in the future. Now it is only fair to ask: have counties seen an improvement in the state and local relationship as a direct result of PSG's work? Has PSG's work benefited counties?

A Look Back

At the beginning of 2003, Iowa state officials were staring into a financial disaster, as were many states around the nation. Governor Vilsack decided to hire PSG, a Minnesota based consulting firm, for a broad reinvention of the machinery of state government. PSG was awarded a contract with Iowa for government reinvention services, effective September 1, 2002, through a competitive bidding process. In early 2003 the state and PSG signed an agreement under which PSG would identify budgetary savings, and, in the areas where savings would be achieved, deliver specific benefits to Iowans. The 2003 legislative session proved to be tough on local government with a \$60 million reduction in aid from property-tax relief and replacement programs, the outcome of decisions made in the Reinvention Bill (SF 453). Much of the blame for these cuts was focused on PSG.

When the 2003 legislative session ended, PSG's work started with visiting counties around the state and developing models of new ways of delivering services at the local level. Local governments have shown new thinking in how they deliver services to citizens so PSG's efforts included building on existing examples and creating additional transformational success. This past year PSG has also been working with the state to develop and implement strategies that change the way the state relates to local governments. This effort included building support for additional mandate relief, fostering increased communication and changes in other practices and perceptions, and increasing the trust and cooperation. Two key desired outcomes determined by PSG and the Governor were:

- State government would view local governments as an effective, accountable way to deliver services; and
- Local governments would view state government as helpful in assisting their ability to deliver services, rather than a barrier.

Workshops

One way that PSG has been working with local governments is through community oriented workshops that have been scheduled around the state (Cedar Rapids, Waterloo, Burlington,

Griswold, Spencer, and Mason City). The community oriented workshops focused on leadership for local officials, new approaches to service delivery, and tools to develop community support for change. Invitees varied on the community but the surrounding county and city officials were typically invited, and school officials were invited in certain communities. The agendas were crafted based on local input. Bob Rafferty, PSG's main Iowa contact, said, "Evaluations for initial workshops have been very good."

A County Official's Statewide Workshop was held in Ames, Iowa on April 14. There were 65 attendees including supervisors, recorders, treasurers, auditors and assessors. The focus was on developing partnerships within the courthouse to promote change. A Local Government Resource Guide was distributed to participants and contained new approaches to delivering government services, tools to help develop community and stakeholder support, and references to additional resources. Lois Litterer, Floyd County General Assistance Director, said, "This was the first PSG workshop I had attended. I was very impressed in the way it was presented. Partnerships are very important."

A Technology Workshop was held on May 4 with a focus on sharing and leveraging technology resources. The workshop facilitated collaboration between offices and among counties to develop greater technology capabilities to enhance the delivery of services to citizens. The workshop built on the work previously done by the County Treasurers' Association and County Recorders' Association in developing technology applications. Close to 85 officials attended the workshop. Due to exceeding capacity at the May 4th workshop, PSG scheduled a second workshop for June 2nd.

Service Designs and Innovative Practices

A Best Practices and Service Design Panel, comprised of nine county and city officials, has overseen the development of service designs and innovative practices posted for local government officials to use on the Iowa Local Government website (www.iowalocalgov.org). An online forum is available for county officials to participate in dialogue regarding fire protection, law enforcement, technology, community engagement, and parks and recreation. A collection of innovations from across the state and the country are available on the website. Counties can learn ideas that they can implement to improve services in several key areas. There are over 220 innovative practices chronicled on the website. An idea currently being explored is to adopt this source as a central repository of best practices for local governments in Iowa.

Craig Wood, Linn County CPC and Best Practices and Service Design Panel member, said, "PSG has been persistent in working to achieve the goal of improved partnerships. One of the positive outcomes has been the development of a website that describes a number of examples of innovative partnerships. These examples illustrate that many counties have already en-

gaged in some innovative partnerships with other local governments. One of the major accomplishments of the PSG effort has been to categorize these practices and publish them so that others can look them over and perhaps try the same thing in their area.”

Local Government Marketplace

A link off of the Iowa Local Government website is the Iowa Local Government Marketplace website (www.govtmarket.com). The website is a free, easy-to-use tool to buy and sell the common items local governments purchase regularly. This site will help bring communities interested in joint purchasing together by facilitating communication of the purchase of items from across the state. Through the site a county official can post anything to buy or sell; locate joint purchases with other Iowa local governments; search the state of Iowa purchasing contract; check state and federal websites for surplus property; find specials deals on vehicles, computers and cell phones; and learn about national purchasing associations and consortiums. The goal is to be a one-stop resource for local governments. There are currently a number of items that have been posted by local governments.

State and Local Government Steering Committee

The State and Local Government Steering Committee was recently formed by PSG. The Committee is comprised of five county officials, five city mayors, one city manager, four legislators, three department heads, Lt. Governor Sally Pederson, and a representative from the Governor’s office. Lt. Governor Pederson and Grant Veeder, Black Hawk County Auditor, are co-chairing the committee. Due to scheduling conflicts, legislators have not yet been involved, and it is not clear if the overall legislative support for this forum will exist. The Committee is focusing on the issue of property tax reform. Rafferty said the Committee is not debating and discussing the policy issues on property tax, but rather discussing the right forums for such debate and discussion. “Developing legislative involvement into this process will be critical for its long-term viability as a vehicle to promote change in the state and local relationship.”

Veeder said, “This committee, with the facilitation of PSG, is making steps toward improved communications and cooperation between levels of government. Unfortunately, a whole-hearted involvement by the Legislature, which is crucial to the success of such a venture, hasn’t occurred yet. If PSG has a magic wand, this is where I’d like them to wave it.”

Richard Heidloff, Lyon County Treasurer and State and Local Steering Committee member, said, “The meetings of the State and Local Government Steering Committee have had some positive results. The communication has been open and there has been an increased understanding of the concerns of each group. The one lack of improvement has been with the

Comments From PSG

By: Bob Rafferty, PSG Consultant

One positive outcome of the year has been the increase in activity by local government officials to change the way they do business. I have seen a change over the course of the year in the number of public officials understanding the importance of change and with a willingness to be a part of the change. Whether it is the progress that the county recorders have made for enabling on-line access for property tax records or the county treasurers helping lead the charge to foster better partnerships within the courthouse, or individual counties such as Poweshiek County trying to find a better way to manage their operations, the Public Strategies Group has been pleased to be a helping hand in this effort. If there is one thing that I hope arises in the next year or two is the ability of Iowa communities, counties and cities, to experiment with a significantly different approach to service delivery. Whether it is countywide law enforcement, coordinated fire protection, or counties taking on new regional responsibilities, the importance of enabling and encouraging innovation in local government is critical if we are to find the best ways of delivering services with the limited resources.

state legislators. I know the meetings have been held while the Legislature has been in session, but the lack of their involvement has diminished the effectiveness of the meetings. The individual legislators that did attend were open in their comments and questions. If we are to arrive at a true partnership in serving the people of Iowa, this type of communication should be continued.”

Legislative Changes

Although significant legislative changes were proposed by PSG in 2004, ultimately nothing passed. Coming closest to enactment were changes to existing laws regarding community clusters. The changes, which provided for governing, taxing and other powers for the sharing of government services, arose through discussions about freedom communities and other increased flexibilities for local governments. Near the end of the session the cluster language was added to the appropriations bill, but ultimately it did not survive in the final legislation. The legislation on increased flexibilities, HF 2356, did not survive the initial funnel. It contained several mandate relief items,

continued to page 6

continued from page 5

including increasing the public bid threshold and making some municipal financing improvements.

The Freedom Communities bill, on the other hand, made it through the first funnel but died in the second funnel. The bill provided broad latitude for cities and counties involved in significant sharing to have significant freedoms from state mandates. While the tax issues contained in the Freedom Community legislation ultimately killed the bill, the reemergence of the community cluster language in the omnibus appropriations bill showed that legislators are interested in changing the existing dynamic and in helping local governments improve service delivery.

Local Government Innovation Fund

In December, counties and cities were given the opportunity to apply for financial assistance from the Local Government Innovation Fund, a fund created by the 2003 Legislature to encourage and support innovations at the local level. The Local Government Innovation Fund Committee received more than 70 applications from local governments. Preference was given to projects that involved sharing initiatives among two or more local governments. The fund will provide up to \$975,000 in loans and grants for local governments to use to implement new, innovative methods of service delivery. Buena Vista County Auditor Karen Strawn and Linn County Supervisor Linda Langston are among seven members of a committee that oversees the fund, evaluates applications, and award grants and loans.

On March 22, 2004 Lt. Governor Sally Pederson announced six recipients for grants and loans from the Local Government Innovations Fund. A total of \$352,000 was awarded in grants and loans to the following six projects: Attorneys Case Management Project - Henry County; Centralized CPR Training Equipment - Hardin County; CABS Accessible Taxi Project - Linn County & Cedar Rapids; Feasibility of Merging Cities - Slater & Sheldahl; Subdivision Ordinances - Denver; and Emergency Services Training - Clive, Urbandale, West Des Moines. On April 30, the committee made three additional awards: Buena Vista County was awarded a \$60,000 grant and \$20,000 loan, Poweshiek County was awarded a \$29,380 grant, and Corning was awarded a \$50,000 grant. The 2004 appropriations bill contained language allowing the Committee to give out all of the available funding as grants; initially only 20% was allowed to be distributed as grants or forgivable loans. In light of the change, the Committee has agreed to open the application period once again. The second application round will end close of business Monday, August 2, 2004. Guidelines and reference materials will be available the last week of May at www.dom.state.ia.us.

Linda Langston, Linn County Supervisor and Local Government Innovation Fund Committee member, said, "The Innovation Fund has given a boost to communities trying to find bet-

ter ways to do business through collaboration. The communities that have been successful in seeking funding for their projects have provided an innovative approach to serving citizens through collaboration or through seeking consulting services that would allow communities to find the most efficient and cost effective way to do business. Often times the interest in seeking funds has promoted good communication between various communities or groups."

Karen Strawn, Buena Vista County Auditor and Local Government Innovation Fund Committee member, said, "In my mind it's too early to evaluate the benefits of the Innovation Fund. None of the applicants have received funds yet, most of the projects haven't commenced, and there are no results to measure. However, the funding incentive is probably partially responsible for the creative problem solving evident in some of the proposals, which is a positive outcome. Until there are some results realized it's too early to say whether the Innovation Fund has helped improve state and local government relations."

Local Initiatives

PSG has provided assistance with planning and facilitation to a variety of counties and organizations including: Poweshiek County, Mahaska County, County Recorders Association, County Treasurers' Association, Metro Advisory Committee Building Codes project; Metro Advisory Committees Trails Project; Clive, Urbandale and West Des Moines Fire Departments; and the city of Waverly.

Conclusion

Has PSG's work benefited counties? PSG has begun the process of communication between various levels of government, which has produced no easy answers. Everyone involved hopes for new possibilities for collaboration and cooperation and a new, better relationship formed between local and state government based on trust. Langston said, "I think that PSG uncovered, if you will, a degree of mistrust between state and local government that surprised a lot of people. As a consultant they were in a better position to come into Iowa and make suggestions about what change might look like without incurring any partisan political cost."

Wood said, "I do not have a sense that the state/local relationship has improved greatly. However, based on the initial meeting we had with all the players present, it was clear that improving that relationship was going to be a lot of work."

Langston also said, "My perspective is, that although difficult and sometimes contentious, the discussions and communication promoted by PSG in the long run will be productive as long as we are willing to move the process forward for our own benefit. It has been and will continue to be a learning experience for everyone."

2004 Legislative Vote Record

The Iowa General Assembly's 2004 session contained several issues of importance to counties. State lawmakers and Governor Vilsack made decisions that will have lasting impacts on county officials and the citizens and taxpayers they serve. This record is designed to help county officials see how their legislators voted on items of importance to the ISAC membership.

Important Unrecorded Votes Cannot Be Included

In order to be fair to your legislators, it is imperative to remember that many important votes are unrecorded. By its nature, this record obviously cannot reflect significant policy decisions where no recorded vote was taken such as caucus votes or bills dying for lack of a committee vote. Often times, the rough and tumble world of caucus votes is where major policy decisions are made behind closed doors. For example, some important caucus votes that were favorable to county officials include defeat of the property tax limitation bills (HSB 718 and SF 2297), and rejection of the House Appropriations Committee amendment to SF 2298 to repeal the ability to prorate the property tax credits. County officials will have to talk to their legislators to find out details of those votes.

Bills That Passed With Unanimous Votes

The tables do not include votes on each and every issue ISAC and its affiliates worked on. Many bills representing a lot of important work for ISAC staff and lawmakers were passed with unanimous votes or near-unanimous votes. Among those key bills are:

- HF 2541 – Utility replacement taxes (100-0 and 49-0)
- HF 2471 – Out of state prisoners (95-0 and 46-2 – Sens. Hatch and McCoy (both D – Polk dissenting))
- SF 2289 – Treasurers' Clean-Up (98-0 and 49-0)
- SF 2270 – Recorders' Clean-Up (99-0 and 47-0)
- HF 2434 – E911 (99-0 and 49-0 – different versions)

Bills Included On Both House And Senate Tables

HF 593-Technical Elections Changes – The county auditors proposed this legislation and worked on it in the legislative process for four years. The bill makes township trustee elections non-partisan and allows nominating petition signatures to be on both sides of the paper. It removes a requirement to rotate judgeship retention elections if only one county is involved and removes a requirement that a majority of precinct board members be present at the polling place at all times during election day. The bill permits polls to open at noon for unincorporated areas and it changes poll closing from 9pm to 8pm. ISAC registered **for** the bill.

HF 2404-Consolidated Cities and Counties – HF 2404 makes changes relating to alternative forms of county and city government. It establishes various standards and procedures for city-county consolidations or changes to community common-

wealths. Because our concerns with a similar bill in 2003 were corrected this year, ISAC registered **neutral** on this bill.

HF 2433-Driver's License Fees – This bill increases the county portion for each driver's license or non-operator's identification card from \$5 to \$7 per issuance. It also provides for a periodic study of issuance costs by the state auditor at DOT expense and requires appropriate adjustments in the county share. ISAC registered **for** the bill.

HF 2537-MH/DD Redesign – This bill continues work on the redesign of the MH/DD Service System in Iowa and remained one of ISAC's top priorities in 2004. ISAC registered **for** this bill.

HF 2544-Auditors' Real Estate Records – Because this legislation has a rocky history, its passage represents three years of hard work by the county auditors. The bill clarifies that the \$5 fee for each property transfer described in a deed includes any instrument that unconditionally conveys real estate. HF 2544 requires counties to adopt an indexing system for each real estate parcel, and it requires where a life estate is terminated, a change of title be provided to the county recorder where the real estate is located. ISAC registered **for** the bill.

HF 2569-Sheriffs' Surcharge – This legislation directs that upon approval by the board of supervisors, a \$5 surcharge be added to fines or forfeitures from citations issued by the sheriff. The revenues from the surcharge shall be deposited in the county general fund. ISAC registered **for** the bill.

SF 2269-Help America Vote Act – This legislation updates various election, absentee voting and voter registration procedures to comply with the Help America Vote Act of 2002. It requires the Secretary of State to implement a statewide voter registration system by January 1, 2006. ISAC registered **for** the bill.

SJR 2010-"People's Right To Vote" – This joint resolution proposes a constitutional amendment to require Iowa voters to ratify any tax or fee increase that creates revenue above a certain level before the increase can take effect. The resolution must be approved by the next General Assembly and the voters at the subsequent general election in order for it to become part of the Iowa Constitution. ISAC strongly supports the concept of representative government and encourages the preservation of flexibility for elected officials to best represent the people who elect them. Because SJR 2010 is counter to this policy direction, ISAC registered **against** it.

Amendment On House Table Only

H-8510 to HF 2574-Assessors' Appeal Costs – HF 2574 was initially a Department of Revenue technical bill. The House Appropriations Committee attached a provision that requires assessors to pay court costs when an assessment is reduced on appeal by 10% or more. H-8510 was a proposed floor amendment to strike that provision and return the bill to a solely technical subject matter. ISAC was **for** the amendment, which failed by a vote of 43-56. The bill later passed the House with a similar assessor payment mandate attached, but was not taken up by the Senate.

| The Iowa House of Representatives | | Record Roll Call on Selected Bills and Amendments | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|---|-----|--------------------------------|-----|---------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|----------------------|-----|--------------------|-----|-----------------------|-----|--------------------------|-----|-------------------------|-----|
| Bill Title | | Elections Omnibus | | Consolidated Cities & Counties | | Treasurers D.L. Fee | | MH-DD Redesign | | Auditors Real Estate | | Sheriffs Surcharge | | Help America Vote Act | | "People's Right to Vote" | | Assessment Appeal Costs | |
| Bill Number | | HF 593 | | HF 2404 | | HF 2433 | | HF 2537 | | HF 2544 | | HF 2569 | | SF 2269 | | SJR 2010 | | H-8510 (HF 2574) | |
| Final Result | | vetoed | | signed into law | | signed into law | | signed into law | | signed into law | | signed into law | | signed into law | | referred to next GA | | bill died in Senate | |
| ISAC Position | | For | | Neutral | | For | | For | | For | | For | | For | | Against | | For | |
| Vote Tally | | 53 | 46 | 95 | 5 | 95 | 0 | 80 | 18 | 99 | 0 | 97 | 0 | 95 | 2 | 51 | 48 | 43 | 56 |
| District | Representative - Party | aye | nay | aye | nay | aye | nay | aye | nay | aye | nay | aye | nay | aye | nay | aye | nay | aye | nay |
| 4 | Alons, D. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 72 | Arnold, R. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 58 | Baudler, C. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | absent/NV | | | x |
| 41 | Bell, P. - D | | x | x | | absent/NV | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 22 | Berry, D. - D | | x | x | | x | | absent/NV | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 70 | Boal, C. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 79 | Boddicker, D. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 97 | Bogges, E. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | | x |
| 26 | Bukta, P. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 75 | Carroll, D. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 5 | Chambers, R. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 88 | Cohoon, D. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 68 | Connors, J. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 36 | Dandekar, S. - D | | x | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 74 | Davitt, M. - D | | x | x | | x | | | x | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 76 | De Boef, B. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 19 | Dennis, E. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 17 | Dix, B. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | absent/NV | | x | | | x |
| 96 | Dolecheck, C. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 57 | Drake, J. - R | x | | x | | x | | absent/NV | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 9 | Eichhorn, G. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 37 | Elgin, J. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 66 | Fallon, E. - D | | x | x | | x | | | x | x | | absent/NV | | | x | | x | x | |
| 29 | Foege, R. - D | | x | x | | absent/NV | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 65 | Ford, W. - D | | x | | x | x | | | x | x | | absent/NV | | x | | | x | x | |
| 52 | Freeman, M. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 7 | Frevert, M. - D | | x | x | | x | | | x | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 93 | Gaskill, M. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 16 | Gipp, C. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 44 | Granzow, P. - R | x | | x | | absent/NV | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 45 | Greimann, J. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 89 | Greiner, S. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 80 | Hahn, J. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 39 | Hanson, D. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 91 | Heaton, D. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | | x |
| 46 | Heddens, L. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 55 | Hoffman, C. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 38 | Hogg, R. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 40 | Horbach, L. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 62 | Hunter, B. - D | | x | x | | x | | | x | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 53 | Huseman, D. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 42 | Huser, G. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 82 | Hutter, J. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | | x |
| 60 | Jacobs, L. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 30 | Jacoby, D. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 20 | Jenkins, W. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 27 | Jochum, P. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 98 | Jones, G. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 3 | Klemme, R. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 69 | Kramer, K. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | absent/NV | | absent/NV | | x | | | x |

| The Iowa House of Representatives | | Record Roll Call on Selected Bills and Amendments | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|---|-----|--------------------------------|-----|---------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|----------------------|-----|--------------------|-----|-----------------------|-----|--------------------------|-----|-------------------------|-----|
| Bill Title | | Elections Omnibus | | Consolidated Cities & Counties | | Treasurers D.L. Fee | | MH-DD Redesign | | Auditors Real Estate | | Sheriffs Surcharge | | Help America Vote Act | | "People's Right to Vote" | | Assessment Appeal Costs | |
| Bill Number | | HF 593 | | HF 2404 | | HF 2433 | | HF 2537 | | HF 2544 | | HF 2569 | | SF 2269 | | SJR 2010 | | H-8510 (HF 2574) | |
| Final Result | | vetoed | | signed into law | | signed into law | | signed into law | | signed into law | | signed into law | | signed into law | | referred to next GA | | bill died in Senate | |
| ISAC Position | | For | | Neutral | | For | | For | | For | | For | | For | | Against | | For | |
| Vote Tally | | 53 | 46 | 95 | 5 | 95 | 0 | 80 | 18 | 99 | 0 | 97 | 0 | 95 | 2 | 51 | 48 | 43 | 56 |
| District | Representative - Party | aye | nay | aye | nay | aye | nay | aye | nay | aye | nay | aye | nay | aye | nay | aye | nay | aye | nay |
| 14 | Kuhn, M. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 10 | Kurtenbach, J. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 18 | Lalk, D. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 78 | Lensing, V. - D | | x | x | | x | | | x | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 32 | Lukan, S. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 85 | Lykam, J. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 59 | Maddox, O.G. - R | x | | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 31 | Manternach, G. - R | x | | x | | absent/NV | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 77 | Mascher, M. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 67 | McCarthy, K. - D | | x | x | | x | | | x | x | | x | | | x | | x | x | |
| 8 | Mertz, D. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | |
| 49 | Miller, H. - D | | x | x | | x | | | x | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 28 | Murphy, P. - D | | x | x | | x | | | x | absent/NV | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 61 | Oldson, J. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 48 | Olson, D. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 83 | Olson, S. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 25 | Osterhaus, R. - D | | x | x | | x | | | x | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 35 | Paulsen, K. - R | x | | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 64 | Petersen, J. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 15 | Quirk, B. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 63 | Raecker, S. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 54 | Rants, C. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 23 | Rasmussen, D. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 11 | Rayhons, H. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 95 | Reasoner, M. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 51 | Roberts, R. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | | x |
| 87 | Sands, T. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 13 | Schickel, B. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 100 | Shomshor, P. - D | | x | x | | x | | | x | x | | x | | x | | | x | | x |
| 21 | Shoultz, D. - D | | x | x | | x | | | x | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 43 | Smith, M. - D | | x | x | | x | | | x | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 6 | Stevens, G. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 99 | Struyk, D. - R* | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 94 | Swaim, K. - D | | x | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 33 | Taylor, D. - D | | x | x | | absent/NV | | | x | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 34 | Taylor, T. - D | | x | x | | x | | | x | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 24 | Thomas, R. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 50 | Tjepkes, D. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 73 | Tymeson, J. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 12 | Upmeyer, L. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 71 | Van Engelenhoven, J. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 81 | Van Fossen, J.K. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 84 | Van Fossen, J.R. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 47 | Watts, R. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 2 | Wendt, R. - D | | x | x | | x | | | x | x | | x | | x | | | x | | x |
| 90 | Whitaker, J. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 1 | Whitehead, W. - D | | x | x | | x | | | x | x | | x | | x | | | x | | x |
| 56 | Wilderdyke, P. - R | absent/NV | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | absent/NV | | x | | absent/NV | |
| 86 | Winckler, C. - D | | x | x | | x | | | x | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |
| 92 | Wise, P. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | |

*Rep. Struyk switched parties, from a Democrat to a Republican, on March 19th.

| The Iowa Senate | | Record Roll Call on Selected Bills | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------|-----|---------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|----------------------|-----|--------------------|-----|-----------------------|-----|--------------------------|-----|
| Bill Title | | Elections Omnibus | | Consolidated Cities & Counties | | Treasurers D.L. Fee | | MH-DD Redesign | | Auditors Real Estate | | Sheriffs Surcharge | | Help America Vote Act | | "People's Right to Vote" | |
| Bill Number | | HF 593 | | HF 2404 | | HF 2433 | | HF 2537 | | HF 2544 | | HF 2569 | | SF 2269 | | SJR 2010 | |
| Final Result | | vetoed | | signed into law | | signed into law | | signed into law | | signed into law | | signed into law | | signed into law | | referred to next GA | |
| ISAC Position | | For | | Neutral | | For | | For | | For | | For | | For | | Against | |
| Vote Tally | | 27 | 20 | 48 | 1 | 47 | 2 | 49 | 0 | 49 | 0 | 37 | 10 | 43 | 2 | 26 | 23 |
| District | Senator - Party | aye | nay | aye | nay | aye | nay | aye | nay | aye | nay | aye | nay | aye | nay | aye | nay |
| 48 | Angelo, J. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | |
| 25 | Beall, D. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 24 | Behn, J. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | |
| 21 | Black, D. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 29 | Boettger, N. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | |
| 39 | Bolkcom, J. - D | absent/NV | | x | | x | | x | | x | | absent/NV | | absent/NV | | | x |
| 9 | Brunkhorst, B. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | |
| 14 | Connolly, M. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 44 | Courtney, T. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | | | x |
| 34 | Dearden, D. - D | | x | x | | | x | x | | x | | | x | x | | | x |
| 11 | Dotzler, W. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 40 | Drake, R. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | |
| 15 | Dvorsky, R. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 46 | Fraise, G. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 6 | Gaskill, E.T. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | |
| 50 | Gronstal, M. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 33 | Hatch, J. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 32 | Holveck, J. - D | | x | x | | | x | x | | x | | | x | x | | | x |
| 17 | Horn, W. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 16 | Hosch, J. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | |
| 49 | Houser, H. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | |
| 5 | Iverson, S. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | | x | |
| 3 | Johnson, D. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | |
| 26 | Kettering, S. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | |
| 4 | Kibbie, J. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 47 | Kreiman, K. - D | | x | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | | x |
| 35 | Lamberti, J. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | | x | |
| 19 | Larson, C. - R* | absent/NV | | absent/NV | | absent/NV | | absent/NV | | absent/NV | | absent/NV | | absent/NV | | absent/NV | |
| 18 | Lundby, M. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | absent/NV | | | x |
| 31 | McCoy, M. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | absent/NV | | | x |
| 22 | McKibben, L. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | | x | |
| 36 | McKinley, P. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | |
| 45 | Miller, D. - R | absent/NV | | x | | x | | x | | x | | absent/NV | | absent/NV | | x | |
| 20 | Putney, J. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | |
| 23 | Quirnbach, H. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | | | x |
| 7 | Ragan, A. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 10 | Redfern, D. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | |
| 12 | Rehberg, K. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | |
| 38 | Schuerer, N. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | | x | |
| 43 | Seng, J. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 28 | Seymour, J. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | |
| 37 | Shull, D. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | |
| 42 | Sievers, B. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | | x | |
| 13 | Stewart, R. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 41 | Tinsman, M. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | | x |
| 2 | Veenstra, K. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | |
| 30 | Ward, P. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x | x | | x | |
| 1 | Warnstadt, S. - D | | x | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | | x |
| 27 | Wieck, R. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | |
| 8 | Zieman, M. - R | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | | x | |

*Senator Larson was on active military duty for the entire session.

counties in the spotlight

Iowa's Fastest-Growing County

Dallas County remains among the 100 fastest-growing counties in America, reveals a recently released report by the U.S. Census Bureau. Between April 2000 and July 2003, Dallas County's population grew by nearly 5,400 persons to 46,148 – an increase of 13.2%. That growth ranks the county 74th just ahead of Kane County, Illinois, among the far western suburbs of Chicago. The fastest growing county in the nation is Virginia's Loudoun County. Over the same time frame, its population has soared from 169,599 to 221,746, a jump of over 30%. Dallas is the only Iowa county on the list.

Nine other Iowa counties, however, have seen their populations increase by at least 2% since the 2000 Census. **Johnson, Story and Polk** counties are nearest to Dallas in terms of growth, although it's not a very close race; Johnson is the second fastest-growing county in Iowa at just over 4%. Rounding out the top 10 are **Benton, Madison, Warren, Washington, Mills and Linn** counties. Overall, 31 counties have had population gains since April 2000, while 68 counties have had losses. But growth may be picking up. Looking at only the most recent year, from July 2002 to July 2003, populations have increased in 42 counties and declined in just 57. In total, the state of Iowa added almost as many people in the past one year as it did in the previous two years combined. The state's July 2003 population estimate of 2,944,062 is up 0.6% from the April 2000 mark of 2,926,382.

Still, many counties are losing population. Almost every county in the northern third of the state lost population between April 2000 and July 2003, the exceptions being **Sioux, Mitchell and Bremer** counties. Likewise for a good chunk of southeast Iowa. And were it not for **Pottawattamie** and **Mills** counties adding a combined 1,025 people on east side of the Missouri River, it could be said that nearly all of western Iowa has experienced a population decline.

And how are things in **Harrison County**, you ask? Pretty stable. Its population has changed by just one person - 0.006% - over the last three years, increasing from 15,666 in April 2000 to 15,667 in July 2003.

(compiled by Jay Syverson, ISAC Fiscal Analyst)

The BureauCats are gearing up for another gig July 16 at the Starlite Ballroom at the Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds in Davenport. The Rock 'n' Roll band, primarily comprised of **Scott County** employees, will play from 6:30pm-10:30pm with a portion of the proceeds designated for the ISAC Scholarship Program. "The last time we played more than 500 people showed up and we anticipate at least that many in July," said Kurt Ullrich, Operations Manager for Scott County Auditor's Office. The Starlite is air-conditioned and food and beverages will be available. All ages are welcome. *Visit their website at www.bureaucats.com for further information.*

Dubuque County announced the opening of its new jail. The \$8.9 million project, which got under way in 2001, has been beset by delays, a default by the original general contractor, and escalating costs. The project has not gone over budget though. The state required jail expansion in 1999 because the original jail, designed to house 46 prisoners, was operating well above capacity. Together, the new and old jails will have a capacity of 200 inmates.

(Taken from the Des Moines Register, April 19)

Scott County's heaviest trucks will begin to use a soybean blend of diesel fuel for power starting April 1. Soy biodiesel will become the warm weather fuel of choice for the Scott County Secondary Roads Department. The county will ease into use of the product with a 10% blend of soybean oil and then switch to regular diesel fuel in October or November to avoid problems with cold weather jelling. Ninety percent of the county's engineers department's vehicles are powered by diesel engines that use about 80,000 gallons of fuel each year.

(Taken from the Daily Gate City, March 17)

Several counties in Iowa participated in National County Government Week, April 18-24, to recognize the leadership, innovation and valuable service provided by counties. **Tama County** held its 50th annual County Government Day April 14. More than 180 high schools students in government classes toured the courthouse, jail, administration building and county museum. A presentation was held to explain juvenile court related issues to the visiting high school students. **Grundy County** focused on elementary children during National County Government Week by inviting more than 200 local 5th and 6th graders to tour the courthouse on May 4th. They meet elected officials, viewed a county motor grader, observed a mock trial, visited the county jail, took part in an election, heard about public health services and learned about preserving the environment and what it means to recycle. This was the 10th year that Grundy County participated in National County Government Week.



Grundy County employees Al and Carol Miller shared a collection of miniature heavy equipment in the display case of the courthouse with visiting students in recognition of National County Government Week.

Overall A Positive Legislative Session

"Eighty percent of success is showing up." - Woody Allen

"It was the best of times. It was the worst of times." So wrote Charles Dickens to begin *A Tale of Two Cities*. During the last 10 days of the 2004 legislative session county lobbyists could have used this phrase. The week before Easter the emphasis was on "worst of times" because 1) a new property tax limitation was still alive and kicking, 2) a reiteration of the Stanley Amendment of 1998-99 was looming, 3) the less desirable version of this year's important legislation to help finish the state's 9-1-1 system seemed to have won the day, 4) a provision which would have hung considerable legal costs around the neck of assessors was on its way to the finish line, 5) wind energy legislation gone wrong had become the Godzilla of the legislative session, and 6) a second year of attempting to obtain state matching funds for HAVA had reached a dead end. As "the old philosopher" used to say in the novelty record, "Is that what's bothering you, bunky?"

By the fall of the gavel for 2004, April 20, the "best of times" was closer to the mark. Had the ocean liner performed the impossible and turned on a dime? The casual observer might have thought so. Upon closer examination, the tugboats (i.e. numerous conversations between county officials and legislators and several layers of coalition building in the Statehouse rotunda) had turned the ship around. In fact, to run the metaphor into the ocean, one ship - the "S.S. Property Tax Limitation" - sunk beneath the waves, "Fireboat 9-1-1" emerged looking every inch a submarine, and "The Wind Energy Production Tax Credit" (a sailboat) ran aground. The good ship HAVA even reached port. (Aye, matey!)

Property Tax Limitation Bill

By April 5 it was apparent that there was too much work facing both chambers to adjourn by April 9, a date which had been suggested by Senate leaders as an appropriate day to go home. By that date, a few bills holding county interest were well on their way toward final passage. These included HF 2544, the Auditors' and Recorders' real estate records proposal; SF 2289, the Treasurers' omnibus bill, SF 371; the Recorders' document formatting measure; and a provision in the appropriations bill dealing with juvenile shelter costs.

At the same time, companion property tax limitation bills were moving in both chambers. HSB 718 and SF 2297 both would have established a maximum limitation on the property tax dollars which could be levied by counties and cities and would have established a fund balance limitation. Simultaneously, a provision was added by the House Appropriations Committee to SF 2298, the omnibus appropriations bill, which would have repealed the ability of local government to prorate the homestead, military, and elderly/low income property tax credits. Shortfalls in state funding of these credits (which the state orders local governments to bestow) would have to be made up by, well, local

By: *Robert Mulqueen*

ISAC Public Policy Analyst



governments. This did not make it to shore.

911 Legislation

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, the Senate had approved their own version of HF 2434, the much cussed and discussed bill which would make a statewide 9-1-1 system showing the dispatcher the location of any 9-1-1 caller whether using a wire or a wireless telephone. The Senate amendment, co-sponsored by Senators John Putney (R-Tama), Doug Shull (R-Warren), and Daryl Beall (D-Webster), would restore the payments made to wireless telephone companies for transporting emergency calls. This had been taken out of the system in the bill as approved by the House of Representatives. The Senate version would add fifteen cents to the monthly wireless surcharge. This provision, adding up to an astounding \$1.80 per year, was a bone of contention in the House. When this measure was returned to the House it was rejected in favor of their original proposal. The Senate then "insisted" and for the first time in years, that the bill go to a joint House-Senate conference committee.

In an already unpredictable scenario, the House conferees (three Republicans, two Democrats) stuck to their position and what came out of the conference committee was the House of Representatives version of HF 2434. A day later, the House approved this. But, in another surprise, the Senate rejected it, despite the previous begrudging affirmative vote of all five Senate conferees. With the hourglass running out, there would be precious little time for another conference committee. ISAC and other interested parties scrambled to save the bill in some form. On the last day of the session the rumors which had gone around became fact when the Senate version of HF 2434, the whopping fifteen cents and all, was attached to the infrastructure appropriations bill, which was attached to the omnibus appropriations bill, which was passed by the Senate and shot gunned across the rotunda just before the Senate closed the book and went home for the year.

HAVA Funding

In a flurry of activity during the last full week of the session, what began as a compromise drafted by a few county auditors, sputtered, stalled, then flowered as a final agreement on SF 2269, the elections administration/ Help America Vote Act (HAVA) legislation. Negotiations among key legislators, a few county auditors, and the Governor's office reached agreement on the sticking point involving absentee ballot programs. This agreement meant that the state match of \$770,000 for HAVA funding of \$15 million would be forthcoming.

In the end, the legislative session of 2004 was a pretty darn good one, in large part due to the work of our best lobbyists: county officials who took the time to make the case for local government issues. Thank you.

Who Controls County Property?

The Laser Printer

Recently I was asked a question that stumped me. An elected county official said that the board of supervisors had approved his budget, and appropriated the money for the budget, and the elected official used some of that money to purchase an expensive laser printer for his office. Now, the supervisors want to remove the laser printer from his office, and put it under the control of someone else. So the question for me was, can the supervisors do that?

The first answer is that, especially in times of tight budgets, all the county officials have to pitch in and share in the pain, and if that means giving up the laser printer when the supervisors ask you to, maybe that is not too high a price to pay. Especially when the supervisors have control over your budget for next year.

But what if the elected official is dead set against this. Can the supervisors demand that the laser printer be put under someone else's control?

I said no. There is no court case or Attorney General's opinion that answers this question directly. But this question can be answered by drawing on basic concepts of county government law.

I. Autonomous Offices

Ever since the Iowa Supreme Court decided the case of *McMurry v. Lee County Bd. of Supervisors* in 1978, the court decisions have taught us that the other elected county officials are autonomous from the board of supervisors. The supervisors develop the budget, and appropriate money, but other than that, they have limited authority unless a specific section of the Iowa Code gives them that authority.

The Iowa Attorney General's office has tried to explain the relationship between the supervisors and the other elected county officials. In the most thoughtful opinion on this subject, dated June 19, 1985, the Attorney General reviewed the Iowa Supreme Court decisions such as *McMurry* and attempted to sort out some fundamental principles related to county governance.

The Attorney General said the cases make a distinction between what he called the "minor housekeeping functions of county government," and other more important matters, or as the Attorney General put it, "issues which more directly affect an elected county officer's ability to perform his or her official duties."

As to the minor housekeeping functions, such as requiring joint purchasing of paper and pencils, or deciding who is going to park where at the courthouse, the Attorney General said that the board of supervisors can take actions affecting other elected officials, and adopt courthouse-wide policies.

But as to the more important issues that affect how elected officials operate their offices, the Attorney General said that the board of supervisors have no authority to act in the absence

By: *David Vestal*

ISAC Deputy Director



of express statutory authority.

So the question then becomes, is the laser printer necessary for the elected official to perform his official duties? He explained that it was, since it is used to perform core office functions in an efficient and professional manner. Given this, it appears that this is more than just a minor housekeeping matter. If that is true, in my estimation the board of supervisors have no authority to remove the laser printer.

II. Budgeting

The other issue is if the supervisors can physically remove an item from another elected official's office that has been purchased with money in that official's budget, that undermines the whole idea of county budgeting.

There are many Attorney General's opinions addressing the supervisors' budgetary authority related to other elected officials. See, e.g., *OAG October 22, 2002*. The bottom line is that the Attorney General has concluded that supervisors have ultimate budget authority, but that once the money has been appropriated, their authority is considerably reduced.

Imagine a situation where the supervisors appropriated money to the sheriff for two new vehicles, but then once the vehicles were purchased by the sheriff, the supervisors told the sheriff to turn them over to the county treasurer because he needed them more. That would give the supervisors extraordinary budget powers not contemplated by the Iowa Code, and make the county budgeting process essentially meaningless.

Based on these prior Attorney General's decisions, I'd conclude that having appropriated the money for the elected official to purchase the laser printer, the supervisors have no authority to remove it now.

That is my best judgment. And that is what I told the elected official. But I am by no means certain this is right. If you have a different answer, I'd appreciate hearing from you.

Saying Goodbye

Bob Mulqueen left ISAC on May 15, 2004. After 16 years, he decided it was time to move on. It was my pleasure to work with Bob. He is wise, passionate, dedicated and loyal. He and I share similar non-work interests too. He loves movies, and he and I may be the only two people who actually think that "Bob and Ray" are funny. Was he aggravating sometimes? Sure. We all are. But he's sure interesting. For instance, he hates interstates. When he's driving somewhere, he has to travel via back roads and visit every small town. And he'll drive 15 miles out of his way to see a historical marker or visit a recommended restaurant. He's a renaissance guy. I'll miss him.

Parting Ponderable: "It is better to die on your feet than live on your knees." Emiliano Zapata (1879-1919)

health check

Sleeping & Driving

How many college students have burned the midnight oil studying, taken a test the next day and then packed and driven that long trip home? Hopefully, those students knew that wasn't a good idea, but when you want to get home you do it anyway. How many other times in our lives do the same circumstances appear?

The 2002 National Sleep Foundation (NSF) *Sleep in America* poll found that 74% of American adults are experiencing sleeping problems a few nights a week or more. Thirty-nine percent of American adults get less than seven hours of sleep each week-night, and more than one in three (37%) American adults are so sleepy during the day that it interferes with daily activities. Our daily activities and sleep patterns have changed but our body needs have not.

The NSF reports that no matter what the cause, inadequate sleep over time is linked to increased risk of heart attack, stroke, depression, obesity and diabetes. Inadequate sleep also complicates the treatment of these and many other medical conditions.

When inadequate sleep is combined with driving, the result can be fatal, not only for the driver, but anyone else on the road. Before hitting the road, drivers should:

- **Get a good night's sleep.** While this varies from person to person, sleep experts recommend 7-9 hours of sleep.
- **Plan to drive long distances with a companion.** This will

By: *Sandy Longfellow*

ISAC Administrative Assistant



enable you to switch drivers when necessary. The passenger should also stay awake and talk to the driver.

- **Schedule regular stops.** About every 100 miles or 2 hours is best.
- **Avoid alcohol and medications** (over the counter or prescribed) that may impair your driving. Alcohol interacts with fatigue increasing its effects – just like drinking on an empty stomach.

Also, drivers should be aware of the warning signs of fatigue.

- Can't remember the last few miles you have driven.
- Drift from your lane or hit a rumble strip.
- Experience wandering or disconnected thoughts.
- Yawn repeatedly.
- Have difficulty focusing, keeping eyes open or keeping your head up.
- Tailgate or miss traffic signs.

Other information can be found at www.sleepfoundation.org. If you are interested in educating employees on this issue, there are a lot of very good brochures that can be ordered. *Get a good night's rest!*

technology center

Send E-mails Thru Word

Q: "I was told that there is a feature that I can use in Word to send out an e-mail message, is this true?"

A: Yes, you are able to compose a note or letter in Word and with a simple click send it out thru e-mail. This feature is overlooked by many of us. We tend to open our e-mail software, compose a letter or note not realizing that it could all be done in Word. Another great feature about using Word for this purpose is that you have all the features of word processing software at your fingertips. You are able to utilize Word to compose a document and once completed, just click and send it out via e-mail. Plus, it is easy. To enable this feature, just follow these steps: open Word, type the document you which to send, once you have it completed, click on "File", "Send To" and you now have a couple of options to choose from. Here are the differences, if you choose "Mail Recipient", your Word document is placed directly into the body of the e-mail message, and you will now need to type in the e-mail address and send out as you would any other e-mail message. If you choose "Mail Recipient (as Attachment)", a screen will appear that will allow you to type in their e-mail address, a message and the Word document becomes an attach-

By: *Tammy Norman*

ISAC Technical
Administrative Assistant



ment. The third and final choice is for you to select "Mail Recipient (for Review)", this will attach your Word document to an e-mail message that reads "Please review the attached document." and your Word document/attachment will reveal any changes the recipient will make to the original document. This is a great tool if you are editing a document and you want to easily recognize any changes that were made. Ultimately, what makes this feature great is that it saves you time by allowing you to use all the features of Word and send it as an e-mail in one simple step.

Website Note: We have recently uploaded information on ISAC's website (www.iowacounties.org) regarding HIPAA Security. If you have not checked out the HIPAA page; please take a moment to do so. Please forward any items that you would like addressed in this column to my attention at tnorman@iowacounties.org or by calling 515-244-7181. Until next month, keep clicking!

“You Might Be a Case Manager If...”

I'm sure you are all familiar with Jeff Foxworthy. He is the Southern comedian who has made a career of posing a litany of hypothetical observations that may indicate one's proclivity to being classified as a “Redneck.” For example: “You Might Be A Redneck If...Your wife's hairdo has ever been ruined by a ceiling fan!” Or “You Might Be A Redneck If...you've been married three times and you still have the same in-laws.” So, with respectful deference to Mr. Foxworthy, here are some observations I've made regarding case managers.

You Might Be a Case Manager If...

- Your car has more miles on it than a Tijuana taxi-cab.
- Your clients actually are glad to see you when you pull up in front of their house.
- Your idea of “dining out” is going through the drive-thru at McDonalds instead of eating at your desk.
- You develop hives at the mention of quarterly reports.
- You can't remember what color your desktop is.
- You've considered buying stock in the Weyerhaeuser Paper Mills based on the amount of their product used in your office.
- You actually understand all the rules governing HCBS.
- You start each day by looking at your appointment book to determine what town you need to be driving to.
- You consider caffeine as one of the seven essential food groups.
- You long for the good old days when you actually had enough room in your back seat for passengers to ride in.
- Your computer has “choked” due to information overload.
- You've written an Individualized Comprehensive Plan (w/ incremental steps!) for your spouse or children.
- Part of your job description includes “firing up the boiler in winter” because your office is right next door in the basement of the courthouse.
- Your arms look like Popeye's because of all the heavy files you handle each day.
- You can figure mileage-to-cost totals in your head without using a calculator.
- You have vivid nightmares about forgetting to complete your Prior Authorizations.
- The idea of having a boring day at work sounds wonderfully refreshing.
- You can type 75 words a minute using just 2 fingers.
- Chapter 24 is actually starting to make sense.
- You consider having your nosy neighbor sign a Release of Information form before she divulges the latest neighborhood gossip.
- You consider your Franklin Planner to be your “best friend in the whole wide world.”
- You end each day with 6 pens, 3 pencils, and a highlighter marker in your front pocket and/or purse.

By: *Dan Vonnahme*

ISAC Case Management
Specialist



- You know the lyrics to Dr. Wally Kisthardt's “Case Manager's Blues” by heart.
- Someone mentions “streams” and you think of “funding” instead of “trout.”
- You can program a computer, field strip and fix a copy machine using a rubber band and a paper clip, and successfully navigate the ISIS system.
- You have considered referring yourself for mental health services after a tough day.
- Your dog growls at you because he doesn't recognize you as you enter your house after a long week.
- You know exactly who “Bonnie & Dennis & Craig” are.
- You sometimes have different colored socks on each foot because you had to get up early and dress in the dark in order to make it to the training in Des Moines on time.
- You prefer the color gray to black & white.
- Your vocabulary resembles a spilled bowl of alphabet soup (“H-C-B-S, A-R-O, M-B-C, C-M-S, D-V-R-S, D-H-S, I-M, B-O-S, C-P-C, I-C-P, E-L-P, M-I-C-K-E-Y-M-O-U-S-E...”).
- You can dial your cell phone with your nose while writing in your appointment book as you steer your car with your knees. (*Author's Note: Kids; please don't try this at home!*)
- You approach the end of each month (billable contacts due!) with the same trepidation that most of us approach Tax Day.
- An appointment to the dentist sounds like a relaxing break to your hectic week.
- Your diet for the day consists of day-old donuts, Tic Tacs, and Pemmican Beef Jerky.
- Your appearance at the local mall on the weekend causes more adoring commotion from your clients than the response by sailors if JLo were to make an appearance on an aircraft carrier.
- Your “company car” is a 1978 Ford dump truck that has been decommissioned by the county road crew.
- You leave instructions for the cleaning crew to skip the vacuuming and just dust your paper piles instead.
- Your “briefcase” is now a large wheeled piece of luggage that would need to have a license plate and trailer lights if you towed it behind your car.
- And finally, you might be a case manager if...despite all the trials and tribulations, the chaos and the changes, you still love the positive difference you make if the lives of those you serve.

Farewell From Bob

By: *Robert Mulqueen*

ISAC Public Policy Analyst



The December 1994 cover of “The Iowa County” was one which brought a double take in courthouses across the state. Under a rather formal (well,..stiff) photograph of Paul Coates ran the following in bold 24 point type: “Paul Coates 1987-1994.” For all the world, one would have thought that Paul had dropped dead. Tricia Fazzini was kidded about the cover for weeks. Paul was, and is, very much alive and is on the political science department faculty at Iowa State University.

In leaving ISAC after 16 years, I feel a bit like the fellow who was sitting up in the coffin at his own wake. The various cards, e-mailed messages, and telephone calls which I have received have been gratifying. My thanks to all of you who have gotten in touch with me. They are also further evidence that Mark Twain was right. To paraphrase him, reports of my retirement are highly exaggerated.

My experience here is one which led me to a fair knowledge of issues and professions which I would never have thought I would ever have any business of knowing: the assembling of county budgets, election law minutiae, recording real estate documents, registering snowmobiles, methods of determining the assessed value of commercial property, “critical control points” in the inspection of a restaurant’s kitchen, determining the “diminution fee” for underground storage tanks, the importance of accurate monthly updated data for a 9-1-1 system, what’s comprehensive about a land use plan, and why “public health” is important for everyone, regardless of their income. The struggle over livestock confinements has become an entire chapter of my professional life which includes numerous psychic scars. I have been enrolled in the long version of the short course entitled “the ISAC College of County Knowledge.”

I am grateful to the ISAC staff, past and present, and to the legions of county officials who I have worked for and with. They have taught me more than I can say about the expertise and the effort which goes into public service at the county level. For all the lobbying and advocacy with which I have been involved, county officials have really done the heavy lifting. Yours truly will be around and I hope to visit with all of you down the road.

Meet The Board Members



Wayne Chizek has held the position of Marshall County Geographic Information Services Director for four years. He was sworn in as a member of the ISAC Board of Directors on January 16.

“It is not my intent to be overly dramatic or patriotic, but I firmly believe in the last line of Abraham Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address, “... that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.” I believe that can be best accomplished by keeping government as close and open to the people as possible, at a cost the people are willing to bear. I think local government does a pretty good job of that, but the dynamics within the state of Iowa are changing. There is no doubt that there will be changes in how governmental services are provided at all levels of government. It is my hope that ISAC will continue to be a proactive leader in finding creative solutions, building consensus and implementing planned reform in providing government of the people, by the people and for the people.”

Wayne’s past experience includes serving as Assistant Engineer at the Marshall County Engineer’s Office for 15 years. He is a member of the Iowa Geographic Information Council (IGIC), Eastern Iowa GIS Users Group, Central Iowa ArcGIS Users Group and past-president of the Iowa Counties Information Technology (ICIT) Organization. Wayne enjoys spending time with his grandson Kamrin, remodeling, landscaping, antiques and travel. Mitzi, his wife of 25 years is the principle of the Dallas Center – Grimes (DC-G) High School. His son Jason works for Kapaun & Brown Inc. and lives with his wife Jessie and Wayne’s only grandchild, Kamrin (3.5 years old), in Marshalltown. His daughter Amanda is completing her junior year towards a biology major at Simpson College in Indianola.

“I feel ISAC has always been an organization that has served its member counties and their local citizens admirably. As a new member of the ISAC Board, I look forward to working with the rest of the ISAC Board and the ISAC staff to continue to improve upon that already excellent service.”

Looking for Information Related to ISAC’s Board of Directors?

Visit ISAC’s website (www.iowacounties.org) for profiles of each member of the ISAC Board of Directors, contact information for each board member, and minutes from the board meetings. Click on ‘About ISAC’, then ‘Board of Directors.’

CRIS Continues To Grow

ISAC created the County Rate Information System (CRIS), a separate governmental entity established pursuant to Chapter 28E of the Code of Iowa, in 2001 to assist counties in contracting with providers of services funded through the MH/DD fund. CRIS is designed to establish a rate setting methodology based upon actual cost, standardized service definition, standardized units of service, uniform classification of cost and consistent reporting (allowing counties to compare apples to apples). This allows the participating counties to negotiate appropriate reimbursement rates with their providers.

The CRIS Board of Directors contracts with the Eide Bailly Accounting Firm to provide the analysis of the provider financial reports. These reports are then shared with the "host" county and serve as the basis for the CPC to negotiate rates between the provider and the participating counties. The process allows the participating counties to develop a high degree of understanding and confidence in the rates set by the host counties.

Eleven additional counties are joining CRIS effective July 1, 2004. They are Appanoose, Davis, Keokuk, Lucas, Mahaska, Marion, Monroe, Wapello, Washington, Wayne and Wright counties. This brings the total number of CRIS members to 47. As counties are able to see the value of the CRIS process, participation has increase dramatically. *Visit ISAC's website (www.iowacounties.org) under 'CRIS' for further information.*

ISAC Fall School 2004

By: Jerri Noboa

ISAC Meetings Administrator



The question has been asked whether counties can pay for both mileage and parking for conference attendees. In other words, if the county pays someone's mileage to come to ISAC's Fall School November 14-16, 2004 at the Marriott and Renaissance Savery in downtown Des Moines, can they also pay for that person's parking in Des Moines? The answer is yes.

The source for the question is a 1932 Attorney General's opinion that said that local governments who pay for mileage cannot also pay for vehicle "storage" for private vehicles.

David Vestal, ISAC's Deputy Director, researched this further and found a 1981 Attorney General's opinion that concludes mileage reimbursements are only meant to pay for "miles actually driven," and do not foreclose separate payment for "other incidents of travel," such as meals or lodging or parking. So a county could pay mileage, and pay parking expenses as well. The State Auditor's office has reviewed the matter, and agrees with this conclusion.

Visit ISAC's website (www.iowacounties.org) under 'Upcoming Events' for further Fall School 2004 information.

miscellaneous

Health Care Seminar: June 11

The Iowa Health Buyers Alliance is sponsoring its first outreach effort on Friday, June 11, at Des Moines Area Community College in Ankeny. "Health Care Purchasing: A Value-Based Model" will be the subject of a day-long seminar led by Laird Miller of Health Systems Management.

Human resource personnel and risk managers are befuddled about how to get health care expenditures under control without overhauling health benefits, shifting all the costs to workers, restricting access or introducing some other form of chaos into their employee and labor relations. They may be interested in finding out ways to get "more for the money" with health benefit dollars they are already paying rather than simply getting more of the same for double-digit increases every year. Or they may simply wish they could have more intelligent and probing discussions with plan and provider representatives. These officials may also be interested in understand-

ing more about what they're actually buying for their employees and members when they offer a health benefit plan. A healthier workforce? Better, safer outcomes when they use the health care system? Accessing the best providers at the best price? Employees and family members who are better able to control and live with chronic health conditions? Better management and use of ever-escalating pharmaceutical benefits?

The seminar is exclusively for purchasers: representatives of employers and union officials who are responsible for establishing, negotiating, administering and/or paying for health benefit plans. In this private environment, Miller wants to assure attendees that they can air their views, share their experiences and ask the "dumb questions" in confidence. The event starts at 8:30am in the Auditorium, Building 6, on the DMACC campus and goes to 4pm, finishing with a briefing about the Iowa Health Buyers Alliance. *Visit ISAC's website (www.iowacounties.org) under 'Upcoming Events' for a registration form.*

GIS Short Courses Offered

The Department of Community and Regional Planning at Iowa State University, in partnership with the Iowa Geographic Information Council (IGIC), will offer four geographic information systems (GIS) short courses in June and July 2004. All courses feature hands-on experience. These two-day courses (6 hours per day, 12 hours per course) will be held on Fridays and Saturdays at the GIS Graduate Laboratory, located in room 526 of the College of Design building on the west side of the Iowa State campus. Enrollment is limited to 12 students per course.

Individual courses cost \$450, which includes course tutorial, selected articles, class handouts, snacks and beverages. For those enrolling in two or more courses, the fee is \$400 per course. Special rate for IGIC members: single course \$400, multiple courses \$350 each. To receive the discount for enrolling in multiple courses, payment must be made in full at initial registration.

Each GIS short course is eligible for 1.2 Continuing Education Units (CEUs). CEUs are noncredit units awarded at a rate of one CEU for every 10 hours of classroom time. Add \$10 per course to receive CEUs.

Course Schedule

- June 11-12 Basics of ArcGIS 8.3
- June 18-19 Advanced ArcGIS 8.3
- June 25-26 Exploring Spatial Analyst from ArcGIS 8.3
- July 9-10 Understanding 3D Analyst from ArcGIS 8.3

For a registration form visit ISAC's website (www.iowacounties.org) under 'Hot Topics.'

Register On-Line for ISAC's District Legislative Workshops

There is still time to register for ISAC's June Legislative District Workshops. At these meetings, the ISAC staff provides a presentation about the legislative year and its outcomes. Area legislators are invited and breakout sessions for affiliate groups are held. For district workshop locations and to register on-line, visit ISAC's website (www.iowacounties.org) under 'Upcoming Events.'

District Workshop Dates

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| June 10 - District II | June 17 - District I |
| June 11 - District III | June 18 - District V |
| June 16 - District IV | June 25 - District VI |

Technology Workshop

Join your colleagues and other key local government decision makers at the ICMA/Des Moines Executive Technology Workshop, June 10-11, 2004. During this unique two-day forum, which takes place at the Iowa State University campus in Ames, Iowa, you will learn how you can effectively leverage technology to manage your city and county and achieve your organizational objectives.

Who Should Attend

- City and county managers, deputy and assistant managers, chief technology and information officers, and chief financial officers responsible for using technology to manage their local government organization
- Elected officials
- ICMA members and others committed to continuous professional development.

Learning Objectives

The ICMA/Des Moines Executive Technology Workshop will feature management plenaries, breakout sessions, case studies, and technology demonstrations on:

- Leadership management.
- Citizen relationship management (CRM), WI-FI (wireless) technology, and GIS.
- Homeland and information technology security.
- Leadership and vision transformation and technology.
- The role of management in technology systems development.
- Citizen-initiated performance assessment and handheld technology records management program.
- Virtual reality.

Speakers

The event features an outstanding slate of presenters, including:

- Paul Taylor, Chief Strategy Officer, Center for Digital Government (invited)
- Eric Anderson, City Manager, Des Moines, Iowa
- John Andrasko, Director, Information Technology, Urbandale, Iowa
- Michael Armstrong, CIO/Assistant City Manager, Des Moines, Iowa

Registration

The cost is \$125 per person or \$200 for two or more individuals from the same organization. For full conference information, or to register, visit ISAC's website (www.iowacounties.org) under 'Upcoming Events.' For further information contact Christine Gendell at (202) 962-3679 or tmi@icma.org.

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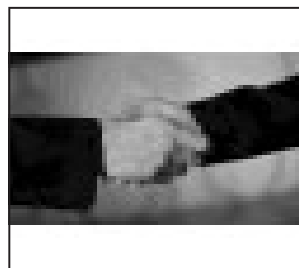
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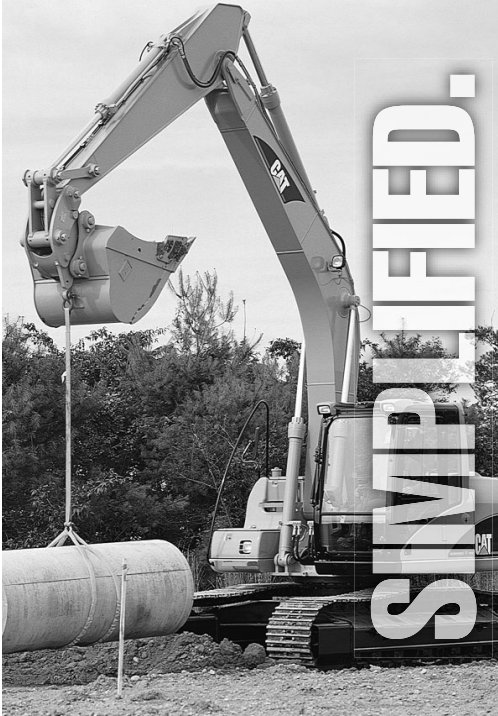
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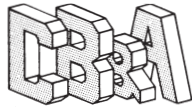
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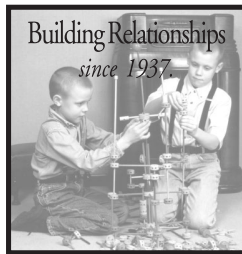
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JUNE

- 3 *CCMS Central Supervisors Support Group (Grays Lake, DM)*
- 8-9 *CCMS Supervisors Training (Holiday Inn Airport, DM)*
- 9 CPC CRIS Providers (Collins Plaza, Cedar Rapids)
- 10 District II ISAC Legislative Workshop (Waldorf College, Forest City)
- 11 District III ISAC Legislative Workshop (Buena Vista University, Storm Lake)
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- 16-18 ICIT Annual Mid-Year Conference (Council Bluffs)
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JULY

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- 22 IEHA Board of Directors (ISAC Office)

AUGUST

- 5-6 Supervisors Executive Board (Independence area)
- 11-13 *CCMS Annual Conference (Holiday Inn Airport, DM)*
- 11 Recorders Legislative Meeting (Grand Harbor Resort, Dubuque)
- 12-13 Recorders Summer Conference (Grand Harbor Resort, Dubuque)
- 26-27 Community Services Retreat (Country Inn & Suites, Clive)

SEPTEMBER

- 1 ISAC Steering Committees (Holiday Inn Airport, DM)
- 16-19 Conservation Directors' Annual Conference (LeMars)
- 19-22 Sheriffs & Deputies Jails School (Holiday Inn Airport, DM)
- 22-24 *CCMS Fundamentals (Hilton Garden Inn, Des Moines/Urbandale)*
- 23 IEHA Board of Directors (ISAC Office)
- 23-24 ISAC Board of Directors (Sheraton Hotel, Iowa City)
- 23-24 CPC Ethics Training (Hotel Winneshiek, Decorah)
- 29 ISAC Steering Committees (tentative)

For agendas or additional information on any of the above listed meetings please visit our website at www.iowacounties.org and click on Upcoming Events! If you have any questions about the meetings listed above, please contact Jerri at (515) 244-7181 or by email at jnoba@iowacounties.org.

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Quote of the Month:

I'm desperately trying to figure out why kamikaze pilots wore helmets.

- *Dave Edison*

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IT'S THAT THEY DO THINGS WE WON'T.**



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county: Dubuque
state: Iowa
coverage: Rural
feet per inch: 1:2640
season: Spring
year: 2000
format: 1 Square Mile

