



The Iowa County

June 2017

Legislative Session Wrap-up

Annual Conference Updates!



THE NEW CAT® 12M3 MAKES THE GRADE



The new Cat® 12M3 motor grader and its all-wheel-drive (AWD) counterpart not only meet EPA Tier 4 Final emission standards, but also provide improved fuel efficiency and operator comfort.

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The Iowa County

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515.244.7181 FAX 515.244.6397
www.iowacounties.org
Rachel Bennett, EDITOR

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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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J Cervetti, IT Specialist I

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Dylan Young - Senior Software Developer

**** The views and opinions expressed in articles authored by anyone other than ISAC staff are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of ISAC.**

ISAC Annual Conference



August 23-25 | 2017

Veteran's Memorial Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center | Des Moines

Registration and hotel rooms will open at 8:30 am on Wednesday, June 14. We recommend that you log in to your account prior to this time. At 8:30 am refresh your browser, and the conference will become active and will allow you to register. After registering, your PDF invoice that is available immediately on the confirmation page will contain the list to the housing bureau site and a 10-digit ISAC ID that will allow you to register for your hotel room. Each registration is allowed to reserve one hotel room and all rooms are reserved on a first come, first served basis. If you have any questions about the process or the registration site, please contact us at 515.244.7181.

We have been working hard on our registration site to make sure that it works correctly and efficiently for all of our members during the rush of registration. Changes have been made to the way the site accesses and stores data, hardware settings have been changed, and multiple tests have been run that show the site is capable of handling the 300-400 users that morning. Thank you for your patience and understanding as it's taken us multiple attempts to get here!

Now for the fun stuff!



ES&S COUNTY NIGHT AT THE BALLPARK

August 24 | Principal Park

5:30 pm Picnic on the Veranda Picnic Area

7:08 pm Game Time

A \$10 registration fee will get you transportation to and from Principal Park, all-you-can-eat hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, potato salad, and soft drinks during the picnic, and a reserved ticket to the Iowa Cubs vs. Memphis Redbirds game. Come out and enjoy food, drinks, networking and fun at the ballpark!

This event requires a separate pre-registration, and a limited number of tickets are available! Register early so you don't miss out!

ISAC EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS

August 23 | 12:30 pm - 1:45 pm

CREATING A CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE AND ETHICS

Scott Raecker, Executive Director of the Robert D. and Billie Ray Center at Drake University and former member of the Iowa House of Representatives, will share insights and strategies on how to bring ethics to life in our public service. Core values in action are the foundation of day-to-day engagements for public officials – both in elected and non-elected positions. Scott will share his insights on the ever-changing landscape of public service and how ethical leadership can positively impact those we serve. Expect to leave this session with practical leadership insights and concepts that can enhance your leadership.

CREATING A CULTURE OF CUSTOMER SERVICE

Rebecca Luers, Community Development Specialist with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, will teach attendees what is and how to create a culture of customer service by sharing the two key components of customer service, and the five steps to excellent customer service. She'll discuss the importance of customer service to your community and your county – getting people to stop, to stay longer, and to return for more, and attracting, retaining, and increasing customers. Front-line employees can become the community's best ambassadors through effective customer service.

ISAC Annual Conference

MORE DETAILS ONLINE AND IN NEXT MONTH'S MAGAZINE!

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

The Annual Conference will feature two, shorter General Sessions with less business and more high-quality keynote speakers. Alex Sheen, Because I Said I Would, will keynote the closing general session. And a casual, talk-show style discussion with major Iowa political figures will be the highlight of the Welcome General Session.

CHARITY WELLNESS WALK

Thursday morning will begin with a low-intensity charity walk of which the proceeds will go to the Iowa Heart Foundation. A separate registration is needed to attend this event. All attendees will receive a t-shirt, water, and a snack. Donations can be made throughout the conference even for those who can't attend.

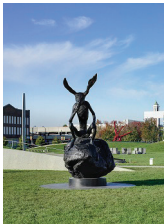
AND MUCH MORE!

FREE GUIDED TOURS

Pappajohn Sculpture Park
1330 Grand Avenue, Des Moines
August 23 | 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm



No pre-registration is required for this free tour. A tour guide will give a detailed walking tour of the Pappajohn Sculpture Park. This one-hour tour will highlight the sculptures in the park that were designed and constructed by 22 of the world's most celebrated artists. This tour is casual, and walking shoes and water are recommended. Transportation is not provided for this tour.



The 4.4 acre park, located within a major crossroads of the urban grid, creates a pedestrian-friendly entryway to downtown Des Moines. This accessible setting, coupled with the skilled landscape design and caliber of the art, makes it unlike any other sculpture park in the United States. The Pappajohns' contribution of 28 works for the park is the most significant donation of artwork ever made to the Des Moines Art Center. Text and photos from www.desmoinesartcenter.org.

IOWA HALL OF PRIDE

330 Park Street, Des Moines
August 23 | 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm



No pre-registration is required for this free tour. Meet the tour guide in the Iowa Hall of Pride, which is attached to the Convention Center at the far south end of Hy-Vee Hall and is air conditioned. The Iowa Hall of Pride allows visitors to immerse themselves in the history of Iowa's athletics, academics, and arts. Transportation is not provided for this tour.

The Iowa Hall of Pride is an interactive celebration to all that is good about Iowa. The people that are recognized at the Iowa Hall of Pride are former Iowa students who excelled in sport, on the stage, and as great ambassadors of their communities. Take pride in Iowa as real stories of great Iowans are brought to life and explore through Hall of Heroes which features notable Iowans. Relive the stories, relive the glories. It is fun for all ages - test your skills in the game room which features football, basketball, virtual soccer, and more! Text and photo from www.iowahallofpride.com.

Legislative Session in Review

2017 Session ISAC Legislative Priorities In-Review

On Saturday morning, April 21 the Iowa Senate passed the “Sine Die” resolution bringing a conclusion to the 2017 session. Final deliberations were over water quality and coming to an agreement on the 2018 state budget. When the Iowa Legislature adjourned for the final time this year, consensus was unable to be reached on water quality between the House and Senate but the “backfill” was maintained for local governments in the C/I Replacement Claim standing appropriation. We certainly appreciate the work of our members in reaching out to their legislators to reinforce the importance of the “backfill” and conveying their opinions on other pieces of legislation throughout the year that affect county government. ISAC is currently reviewing the actions that took place this year and will be providing members bill summaries soon and a webinar on June 14 that will provide a wrap up of this 2017 session.



Jamie Cashman

Government Relations Manager

jcashman@iowacounties.org

Mental Health and Disability Services Funding

Finding a long-term solution for funding mental health and disability services (MH/DS) was addressed when the Iowa Legislature passed and the Governor signed SF 504, a bill that eliminates the 1996 individual county levy caps, sets new MH/DS regional levy caps, sets new limits of a 20% cash carry forward for regions with a population of 100,000 and above and 25% for regions below 100,000, and spreads the spend down of the cash balances over three years. This legislation further calls for a study of the financial stability of the MH/DS regions to be conducted in the interim after the 2018 session and to make recommended changes for the 2019 session. ISAC supported the final version of SF 504 as it does address our legislative priority in removing the 1996 county caps and provides levy equity in regions. This legislation, however, does not provide a permanent financial fix for the MH/DS system, but we appreciate the work done by both members of the House and Senate in addressing this important issue.

ISAC Summary of Legislation and Legislative Webinar

June 14 | 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

Register now at www.iowacounties.org.

The 2017 ISAC Summary of Legislation will be sent via email to all members early in the month of June. Please make sure to watch for this email. This document will detail the bills that were passed this legislative session that are of interest to counties.

ISAC staff will present a webinar to give an overview of the document and these bills from 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm on Wednesday, June 14. This webinar will not only include a review of the legislative session, but will also begin the policy creation process for the 2018 session. A call for proposals will be made and a review of the new process will be given. This process will include a member comment period at the Legislative Policy Committee Meeting being held on August 22 in conjunction with the Annual Conference and an online vote on the LPC recommended 2018 Legislative Priorities by voting members.

Please be sure to contact us with any questions!

Legislative Session in Review

Distracted Driving

The Iowa Legislature passed and Governor Branstad signed SF 234, a bill that changes texting while driving from a secondary to a primary offense. While this legislation does not go to the degree that ISAC would like in banning the use of a hand-held communication devices while driving, we believe it is a positive step forward that will save lives on Iowa's roadways.

Water Quality and Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Funding

Unfortunately, the Iowa Legislature was unable to reach consensus on funding the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund and Water Quality during the final hours of session. Both the House and Senate passed bills aimed at improving water quality in HF 650 and SF 512 but couldn't reach full agreement on what approaches would be best. There was also a filed amendment to SF 512, that would have funded the Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation Trust Fund by raising the Iowa sales tax by 3/8 of a cent, but it failed in debate on the Senate floor. As this is the first session of a two-year general assembly, both bills remain eligible for consideration during the 2018 session.

Food Safety

ISAC's final legislative priority addressed modernizing the fee structure for county food inspection programs that haven't been raised in several years and have resulted in many counties returning their programs to the Iowa Department of Inspection and Appeals as they are unable to financially maintain them. SF 303, a bill that would have raised these fees, was introduced in the Iowa Senate Ways and Means committee but failed to advance this session. It does however remain eligible for consideration during the 2018 legislative session.

Outlook for the 2018 Session

The 2017 legislative session was a truly historic session as it was the first time since 1998 that Republicans controlled the House, Senate, and the Governor's office all at the same time. As a result, many issues that had been dormant under Democratic control advanced this year with the passage of bills dealing with changes to collective bargaining, worker's compensation, firearms rights, abortion restrictions, and providing identification for voting. Looking at 2018, with the same legislative make-up and with Governor Reynolds assuming control of the Governor's office, issues that are most likely to be addressed are tax reform, water quality, and again, a very tight state budget.



Legislative Session in Review

Elections Bills

Elections were one of several hot topics during the 87th General Assembly of the state of Iowa, and the Governor signed three bills that will impact processes for both voters and local commissioners of elections. Two bills are one-hit wonders while the third will usher in changes largely to voter registration, voter identification, absentee voting, and election processes.

HF 471 – Election Precinct Boundaries and Consolidations

Effective July 1, 2017, the county commissioner of elections may consolidate precincts for any elections. Previously, precinct consolidation was prohibited for the primary or general election or any special election held under Iowa Code §69.14

HF 566 – Combined School and City Elections

Effective July 1, 2019, the date of the regular election of directors of local school districts, merged areas and area education agency boards shall be biennially on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each odd-numbered year. Previously, this regular election was held on the second Tuesday in September, so this change will combine it with the regular city election already held on the same Tuesday in November. The limited special election dates for schools also will align with those for cities as outlined in Iowa Code §39.2(4)(b).

HF 516 – Conduct and Administration of Elections including Voter Identity Verification

This bill originated as the Iowa Secretary of State's Voter Integrity bill and will impact several areas of elections. The purpose of this article is to make you aware of many of the changes; we're not getting into the weeds of details here. My apologies if it already looks weedy for those who do not work in the commissioner's office.

Voter Registration

Effective July 1, 2017

- Political parties and candidates must submit voter registration applications to the county commissioner within seven days of receiving them from the voters; within three days of the pre-registration deadline, the applications must be submitted within 24 hours of receipt. There had been no deadline prior to HF 516.
- Voter registration of a registered voter shall be canceled if the voter's name is on the jury declination list due to non-residency of Iowa or non-citizenship of the United States.
- A first-time voter who did not include a driver's license, nonoperator ID or a SSN on the voter registration application must provide proof of identity and of residency when voting. Residential lease and property tax statement have been added to the list of allowable proof of residency documents for this type of voter.

Regarding Election Day Registration (EDR)

- Veterans ID card will be allowed to establish identity and residency.
- Proof of residency documents must be current within 45 days of the election, and residential lease dates must include the date of the election.
- EDR attester must show identification – the same as required for voter identification.
- EDR voters must be verified against the felon database which means that in the counties without e-pollbooks, all EDR voters will vote provisional ballots. In counties with e-pollbooks, only a voter appearing in the database can be challenged.
- Deadline to send EDR acknowledgment to voter has been shortened from 45 days to 21 days.

Effective January 1, 2019

- A person may register beginning at 17 years of age. The previous age limit had been 17 and a half.
- A 17-year old registered voter may vote in a primary election if he will be 18 by the general election; the voter must be 18 to vote in all other elections.



Heidi Burhans

Madison County Auditor

hburhans@madisoncoia.us

Legislative Session in Review

Voter Identification

Effective July 1, 2017 with soft rollout until January 1, 2019

- Precinct Election Official shall verify a voter's identity before furnishing a ballot to the voter.
- Voter identity documents include driver's license, nonoperator ID, U.S. passport, U.S. military ID or U.S. veterans ID.
- Voters without a driver's license or nonoperator ID will receive a voter ID card. Such current active voters will receive this ID from the Secretary of State; after that initial issuance, commissioners will issue this ID to future registrants.
****Issuance of the new voter ID cards is based on promulgation of the rules. During the soft rollout period, if a voter cannot provide an ID, he must sign an Attestation Form which will be exclusively repealed July 1, 2019.**
- A voter new to the precinct must provide proof of identity and residency to update his registration address at the poll. Previously only a voter new to the county had to provide such proof.
- If a voter does not provide an ID at the poll and subsequently votes a provisional ballot, he must present an ID to the commissioner by the deadline or the provisional ballot will be rejected.

Absentee Voting

Effective July 1, 2017

- Commissioner may dispute an absentee ballot request form if the signature appears to have been signed by someone other than the registered voter in comparing it to the signature on record of the registered voter.
- An absentee ballot affidavit shall be considered defective if the signature appears to have been signed by someone other than the registered voter in comparing it to the signature on record of the registered voter.
- Each political party may appoint up to five observers to witness the reviewing of absentee voters' affidavits. Previously only one observer per party was allowed in the room.

Effective January 1, 2018

- 120 days prior to the election is the first date allowed for absentee ballot requests to be submitted to the commissioner. If such request is received more than 120 days out, the commissioner must return it, along with notice of the acceptance date, to the voter.
- 29 days prior to the election is the first date allowed for absentee ballots to be issued to voters.
- Deadline to submit request for an absentee ballot to be mailed will align with pre-registration deadline of 10 or 11 days prior to the election. Previously, this deadline had been four days prior to the election.
- Voter verification number will be required on the absentee request form. This number is the voter's driver's license or nonoperator ID number or the number assigned by the Secretary of State. If the voter verification number is missing from the form, the commissioner is to obtain it from the voter by the best means available. Voter verification number is not required for voters residing in health care facilities.

Other Changes

- Straight Party Voting has been eliminated.
- Ballot Selfies are allowed as long as they do not interfere with the orderly operation of the poll and will not be used for election misconduct as detailed in Iowa Code §39A.
- Revolving Loan Fund will be established July 1, 2017, allowing the Secretary of State to make interest-free loans to counties for purchasing or upgrading e-pollbooks and related technology.
- Commissioner will file a certification within 20 days following a general election that the county met election requirements including equipment testing, PEO training, polling place accessibility, publication schedule, and complied with administrative rules.

What Voters May Experience This Fall

In the 2017 school, city and special elections this fall, voters may be asked to show their ID if the rules are finalized by that election. If a voter cannot provide an ID, he will need to sign an attestation form and will be gently reminded of the law change. Voters also will experience no change in absentee deadlines and will be allowed to take ballot selfies to document their excitement.

Legislative Session in Review

County Home Rule

In 1978 the voters of Iowa approved the 37th Amendment to the Iowa Constitution calling for County Home Rule. The amendment and its legislative establishment changed the operation of county government from Dillon's Rule to Home Rule. Under Dillon's Rule counties only had powers expressly granted or clearly implied in state law, while Home Rule grants counties authority to act on local affairs in any way not inconsistent with state law (with a few exceptions). Section 39A of the Iowa Constitution grants this authority and Iowa Code Chapter 331 lays out the specifics. In describing the powers of the counties, Iowa Code §331.301 states in part:

A county may, except as expressly limited by the Constitution of the State of Iowa, and if not inconsistent with the laws of the general assembly, exercise any power and perform any function it deems appropriate to protect and preserve the rights, privileges, and property of the county or of its residents, and to preserve and improve the peace, safety, health, welfare, comfort, and convenience of its residents.



Lucas Beenken

Public Policy Specialist

lbeenken@iowacounties.org

Since its legislative implementation taking effect July 1, 1981, counties have used Home Rule authority to make decisions at the local level to provide services and improve the lives of their citizens. This has not come without challenges however. There have been a fair number of Supreme Court rulings and a large number of Attorney General opinions regarding Home Rule authority. Additionally, the Iowa Legislature can limit local control or put in place legislation that would put certain decisions made at the local level in conflict with state law. This state power was quite evident during the 2017 legislative session as over a dozen bills were introduced that would circumvent local control, pre-empt action taken at the local level, take away local decision making, or otherwise turn local decisions into state mandates. I would like to share with you several examples from this past session to serve as a reminder to be vigilant and to remind your legislators that local decisions are best made at the local level, and that counties should maintain the right to decide what is best for their jurisdiction and their citizens.

HF 295 This bill is probably the most blatant circumvention of local control as it was known as “the pre-emption bill,” and it took aim at undoing actions that had already been taken at the local level. Most notably, it prohibits local governments from raising the minimum wage in their jurisdiction and nullifies the ordinances adopted in Johnson, Lee, Linn, Polk and Wapello counties. The bill also prohibits local governments from regulating certain consumer merchandise. ISAC was opposed to the bill and spoke out against it during subcommittee meetings, at the public hearing, and to individual legislators. Unfortunately, HF 295 was signed by the Governor on March 30.

HJR 7 and HR 11 HJR 7 calls for an amendment to the Iowa Constitution that would allow the General Assembly to reorganize counties and to locate or change county seats. HR 11 calls for the establishment of an interim committee to study local government services and to make recommendations for efficiencies to be gained. Neither resolution was considered by the full House.

HF 528 This bill would eliminate the county compensation board and place its former duties with the board of supervisors. ISAC supports retaining the compensation board because it serves as a valuable information gathering asset, it provides the proper checks and balances, and it lends itself to a system that is fair and equitable. The bill passed the full House and Senate Local Government Committee, but was not brought up for debate on the Senate floor.

HF 486 This bill would require counties with a population over 130,000 (Polk, Linn, Scott, Johnson, Black Hawk) to adopt and maintain supervisor district plan three, which sets up equal-population districts and each district elects one member. The bill also prohibits the voters of the county from petitioning or holding a special election to choose their own district plan. ISAC is opposed to this egregious disregard for the will of the voters. The bill passed out of committee but was not considered on the House floor.

Legislative Session in Review

HF 291 Known simply as “the collective bargaining bill,” HF 291 was likely the most visible piece of legislation to the public this session and arguably the most divisive. ISAC has a long-standing policy statement supporting a careful review of the current law and an open process to make any necessary revisions. At the same time, we oppose changes that would shift the balance significantly in either direction. While reducing the number of mandatory topics of bargaining is acceptable, the prohibition on discussing certain topics contained in the bill is not. These permissive topics of bargaining could be used by counties to offer additional benefits to attract workers or save taxpayer dollars by offering benefits in lieu of wage raises, so this bill took a tool away from local governments. HF 291 was signed by the Governor on February 17, and see more on the next page.

SF 438 This bill banned all levels of government from entering into project labor agreements, from requiring certain information from bidders on public improvement projects, and from imposing certain other requirements on the bidders. This again takes away a tool counties had the option of using and takes away a component of the local control of public improvement projects. SF 438 was signed by the Governor on April 13.

HF 517 This bill was the omnibus firearms legislation that also made a lot of newspaper headlines this session. Of concern to counties is new language dealing with the prohibition of regulation by political subdivisions. Prior to the bill’s enactment counties were prohibited from regulating the ownership, possession, legal transfer, lawful transportation, registration, or licensing of firearms. Relying on a 2003 Attorney General opinion, we do not believe this language was intended to prevent a county from prohibiting weapons in buildings or on property controlled by the county. The bill added language stating an individual adversely affected by a county regulation may file suit for a declaratory order or injunctive relief for damages. While the exact meaning of *adversely affected* and whether that applies to weapons bans in public buildings would likely need to be determined in court, this language opposes local control of public buildings and property. HF 517 was signed by the Governor on April 13.

This is not an exhaustive list of legislation that circumvents local control or takes away local decision making, but it illustrates a few examples where this year the state got too involved in local affairs. ISAC strongly disagrees with this approach. On some of these issues we had a clear policy statement guiding our opposition, while on others it was the overarching principle of County Home Rule that drove it. Regardless, we oppose any state action that interferes with a county’s ability to exercise any power and perform any function it deems appropriate. This authority is clearly laid out in Iowa Code.

We would like to take this opportunity to once again thank you for your support during this legislative session, and for your help in advocating on behalf of county government. Please continue to stress to your legislators the importance of County Home Rule and urge them to let local elected officials make local decisions.

Legislative Session in Review

Employee Handbooks after the Collective Bargaining Bill

House File 291 made numerous changes this session to Iowa's collective bargaining laws. It will certainly change union negotiations and the way union dues are paid by county employees. But have you thought about whether it might impact wording in your employee handbook? This is a good time to take a look at your handbook in light of these changes.

1. What employees does your handbook currently cover? Will this change as a result of HF 291? How do you go about including additional employees?

When reviewing your handbook, take a close look at what employees it covers. Does it expressly exclude union employees? Does it make union employees subject only to specific provisions? Does it describe the union employees by each department or does it lump them all together? This last question is important because HF 291 did not make as significant of changes to unions which include 30% public safety officers (sheriff's deputies would fall in the definition of public safety officers). You may now need to treat sheriff's deputies that are in a union differently than other county employees that are union members in your employee handbook because their union agreements will now likely cover different policies. You do not want a group of county employees that previously had things like vacation time addressed by their union agreement now in limbo because the union agreement can no longer contain vacation provisions, and they are not covered by the county employee handbook's provisions.



Kristi Harshbarger
General Counsel
kharsbarger@iowacounties.org

That being said, if you have employees that were previously excluded from all or some of the county employee handbook's provisions because such topics were addressed in union agreements, you need to think carefully about how/if you can make those employees subject to provisions in the county employee handbook. While there are a lot of practical administrative reasons to want everyone working for the county to follow the same procedures, county government is unique in that it is not a top down management structure. County government is set up as a horizontal infrastructure, as opposed to a vertical infrastructure, and it involves getting several quasi-independent offices and departments to work together. There is an Iowa Attorney General opinion (2000 WL 33258481 (Iowa A.G.)) and case law (see *McMurry v. Lee County Board of Supervisors*, 261 N.W.2d. 688 (Iowa 1978)) that limit a Board of Supervisors' ability to impose personnel policies on employees of other elected officials, and there are arguments that could be made to say the same is true of various county departments that are governed by quasi-independent county boards. The only way Boards of Supervisors can accomplish county-wide policies is to work with the elected officials and departments to have them either adopt the same policies or agree to comply with the same policies. There are lots of good policy reasons for a county-wide employee manual, but the only way a Board of Supervisors can accomplish that is by achieving consensus among the elected officials and the other county departments with quasi-independent boards. And of course, always involve your county attorney in this process.

2. Are there provisions in your handbook that were designed to treat union and non-union employees the same that can or should now be revisited?

As mentioned above, employee policies are easier to administer if everyone that works for the county is operating under the same set of rules. For that reason, you might have provisions in the county's employee handbook that weren't exactly ideal, but you had them that way so that they would match the policies that were negotiated in your various union agreements. After HF 291, the only unions that will be able to negotiate on most of the employee policy-type provisions will be ones that have at least 30% public safety officers. Thus, you may want to consider if you now have more flexibility to address some of those employee policies without running into the issue of having different policies for union versus non-union employees.

In conclusion, HF 291 made dramatic changes to how collective bargaining occurs for public employees. This article is an attempt at getting you to think about one small impact of the bill by taking the time to look at your county employee handbook. But, HF 291 will impact your operations in many ways beyond this. For this small task and the larger tasks ahead as a result of HF 291, you should consult with your county attorney, any attorney you may work with for union negotiations, and watch for trainings on HF 291 and collective bargaining from ISAC or your affiliate.

Farewell from Deb and CM&MHDS

I have been lucky enough to work at ISAC Case Management & Mental Health Disability Services (CM&MHDS), formerly known as County Case Management Services (CCMS) since January of 1994. During this time frame, we have seen multiple changes within the service community and targeted case management. The last five years have offered nearly continual change. Although the Iowa Code Chapter 24 never changed, just about everything else did!

This included changes in waivers and the addition of ISIS, the addition and ending of the Adult Rehabilitation Option, Habilitation Program, Integrated Health Homes, Consumer Choice Option and Consumer Directed Care to name a few. The most recent, and biggest change, is the switch from County Case Management to Managed Care Organizations (MCOs). Throughout all of the ongoing changes though, case managers throughout the state continued to do their jobs with respect and compassion for the individuals they served.



Deb Eckerman Slack
CM&MHDS Manager
deckerman@iowacounties.org

Due to the change to the MCOs, the CM&MHDS membership has decreased to the point that the Program will close. The closure will take place officially on June 30, 2016, which will also be my official last day of employment with ISAC. I have thoroughly enjoyed working at ISAC and with counties across the state. I continue to be appreciative of the dedication that case managers had to their jobs and to the clients they served.

I would also like to thank the CM&MHDS Board of Directors for their continued support and dedication to the Program and the citizens that they represented. I would like to take the time to give special thanks and appreciation to Jack Willey, Jackson County Supervisor, a long-time board member, and current President. His first priority was always the individuals we served and what was in their best interest. He was also very informed of all the changes and obstacles case managers faced and supportive and encouraging to the staff of CM&MHDS. I would also like to give a special thank you to Ellen Gaffney, former Buchanan County Supervisor, who was also a long-time board member. She too always had the clients and case managers as her first priority. I cannot express enough how much admiration I have for these individuals and their passion and commitment to their constituents.

I am unsure what my career future looks like at this point, but I do know that I will find something that I am passionate about and will allow me to hopefully make a difference in at least one person's life. I appreciate my years at ISAC and the knowledge that I gained in regards to county government. I wish you all the best in the future! Below is a letter that I sent to current CM&MHDS members regarding the closing of the Program

Dear CM&MHDS Member,

As you are aware, AmeriHealth Caritas has announced that they will be taking all case management duties in-house, with the exception of DHS and Polk County case management at this point. They have not given an exact timeline at this point, but they have a target date of June 30, 2017 as the end date for all other case management agencies.

Due to the decrease in Member Counties, it is with regret that the CM&MHDS Board of Directors has voted on a resolution of dissolution to the CM&MHDS 28E agreement, effective June 30, 2017. The program cannot sustain fiscal viability with the decreased membership.

It is with regret that this program is closing, as it has been a great resource and networking opportunity for agencies across the state that provide Targeted Case Management. I have truly enjoyed my 13 and a half years with ISAC/CM&MHDS and working with all of the incredible people who provided TCM to individuals in our state that need services. I have always had such great admiration for the dedication that case managers have for the individuals we serve. I wish all of you the best in your endeavors. Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions.

ISAC Brief

ISAC HIPAA Program

ISAC offers its members a program to help counties and Mental Health and Disability Services (MH/DS) regions with compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). The ISAC HIPAA Program is for any county or MH/DS region that would like basic consultation, assistance, and training on general HIPAA topics and issues. The ISAC HIPAA Program offers many benefits: annual 60-minute “HIPAA 101” training via webinar for employees in your county/region, annual day-long in-person training in Des Moines for up to five persons from your county/region that frequently work with HIPAA and PHI, access to all memos and other information previously generated through the ISAC HIPAA Program, access to all memos and other information generated through all member consultation hour questions as a part of the current year of the ISAC HIPAA Program, up to five hours annually for consultation on HIPAA questions, quarterly newsletters, and a webinar series about various topics. ISAC’s Compliance Officer will collect all questions generated from the ISAC HIPAA Program and prepare responses or submit them to Alissa Smith, partner with the Dorsey & Whitney law firm.



Beth Manley
Compliance Officer
bmanley@iowacounties.org

The webinar series was a new addition to the program this year. Topics covered included: HIPAA Compliance Vendors, Risk Assessments, Cybersecurity, Compliance Committees and Hybrid Entities, Uses and Disclosures of PHI, Business Associates, and Employee Training for Non-Clinical Staff. Topics for next year’s program have not been determined but suggestions from members are always welcome.

The new year of the ISAC HIPAA Program will begin July 1, 2017 and run through June 30, 2018. There is a yearly fee to be a part of the ISAC HIPAA Program and returning members receive a discounted price.

Contact Beth Manley at bmanley@iowacounties.org or 515.244.7181 if you have any questions.

Employment

Osceola County Attorney

The Osceola County Board of Supervisors in Sibley is seeking to appoint a full-time County Attorney (Elected Position) with the appointment becoming effective on July 22, 2017. The chosen candidate must reside in Osceola County by July 22, 2017, and the position requires a valid license to practice law in the state of Iowa. The opening is due to retirement.

An office is provided in the Osceola County Courthouse. Duties include prosecution of all criminal offenses, handling all juvenile matters, involuntary mental health and substance abuse committals, all county civil matters and as set out in the Iowa Code; including Iowa Code §§ 331.751-331.759. Benefits include: health insurance, life insurance, Iowa Public Employee Retirement System (IPERS), and FLEX plan.

Eligible candidates must submit application, cover letter and resume by June 30, 2017; all to be submitted to:
Osceola County Board of Supervisors
%Barb Echter, Osceola County Auditor
300 7th Street
Sibley, IA 51249

Application forms can be obtained from the auditor’s office, 712.754.2241 or bechter@osceolacoia.org.

Osceola County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Veteran’s preference is provided if applicable.

Summary of ISAC Board of Directors Minutes - Friday, April 7, 2017

ISAC President Peggy Rice called the meeting to order and led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance. Meeting minutes of the February 9 ISAC Board of Directors, March 9 ISAC Legislative Conference General Session, and March 9 ISAC Executive Committee were passed unanimously.

The ISAC board meeting recessed and reconvened at the conclusion of the ICTS board meeting.

Jamie Cashman and Lucas Beenken gave an update on the legislative session.

Brad Holtan presented the financial report as of February 28, 2017 and demonstrated a dashboard that's used to prepare graphs and charts to show financial and other information graphically. The financial report was unanimously accepted.

Brad gave an update on the ISAC Scholarship Golf Fundraiser being held on August 2 at Toad Valley Golf Course. Sponsorships and golfers are currently being accepted.

Kristi gave an update on legal matters, including an update on the State Elections Administration Training (SEAT) 28E and various pending court cases that could impact counties.

Bill Peterson summarized the process that ISAC went through to decide to contract with IP Pathways to provide network administration services for the organization. Bill reviewed the contracts and arrangement with IP Pathways. The contracts were unanimously ratified.

Jeanine provided an update on the agreement between ISAC and the Iowa Precinct Atlas Consortium (IPAC). The Board was provided with the latest draft of the agreement, but there may still be changes to timing, transition and process for sharing of duties between ISAC and Cerro Gordo County.

Brad gave the Board an update on the contractor ISAC retained to do performance testing on ISAC's Event Management system. Next steps are to conduct load testing and stress testing.

Bill updated the Board on the process for how the online voting will work for the 2018 ISAC Legislative Priorities.

Robin showed the Board the current research tools on ISAC's website and highlighted updates to the Tableau software.

Melvyn and Grant updated the Board with highlights from the latest NACo board meeting. Bill provided the Board with registration information for the NACo Annual Meeting in Columbus, Ohio and reviewed the ISAC policy related to Board members attending NACo conferences.

Kelsey reviewed the Legislative Conference Survey, despite low attendance and low survey results. Kelsey summarized the conference app analytics. Because usage has decreased, ISAC will use the app at the 2017 Annual Conference but not at the 2018 Legislative Conference. Kelsey discussed the results from the Affiliate Leadership and Preferred Vendor Meeting. Affiliates really seemed to appreciate learning about the "how and whys" of ISAC conference planning.

Beth reviewed the agenda for the ISAC in-person training for the HIPAA Program on April 13 at the Courtyard by Marriott in Ankeny.

Robin reviewed the agenda for the Smart Connections Conference on April 27 at the Holiday Inn Airport in Des Moines.

Kelsey provided the updated Annual Conference agenda, including the inclusion of County Night at the Ballpark on the evening of Thursday, August 24.

Kelsey shared the tentative agenda for the ISAC Board of Directors Retreat on September 27-29.

President Rice adjourned the meeting following reports and inquiries from board.



RSVP Today!

THE STEPPING UP INITIATIVE

What? Stepping Up: A National Initiative to reduce the number of people with mental illness in jails.

The number of people with mental illness in U.S. jails has reached crisis levels. In counties across the nation, jails now have more people with mental illness than psychiatric hospitals.

Stepping Up asks communities to come together to develop an action plan that can be used to achieve measurable impact in local criminal justice systems of all sizes across the country.

As of May 2017, 41 Iowa Counties had signed a resolution and decided to take action in their communities.

**Iowa Stepping Up Summit
October 24, 2017
Hy-Vee Hall, Des Moines**

This summit will feature keynote speakers and breakout sessions that are action oriented and will conclude with a planning session of each county team. Programming will be pertinent to communities at all levels - just signed the resolution to those that have programs in place.

Who?

County officials and employees from every Iowa Stepping Up county

- A group of five team members from each county is recommended. Each team member should represent a different agency/office. (e.g. sheriff, supervisor, county attorney, community services, etc.)

Others are encouraged to attend as well - partners, legislators, and non-stepping-up county officials and employee.

RSVP today to rbennett@iowacounties.org. Please include all team member names, email addresses, and titles. Registration will open in August 2017 with priority given to those who have RSVPed.

When?

Tuesday, October 24, 2017 | Tentatively 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Where?

Hy-Vee Hall | 730 3rd Street | Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Questions? Contact Rachel Bennett at 515.244.7181 or rbennett@iowacounties.org.



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2017 Calendar

June 2017

- 1-2 CSN 3.0 Training
(Storm Lake)
- 7 ISAC Leadership Institute
(North Iowa Area Community College, Mason City)
- 8 ISAC Leadership Institute
(Iowa Western Community College, Atlantic)
- 15 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting
(ISAC Office)
- 21-23 Records Summer Conference
(Okoboji)

July 2017

- 12-14 ISACA Conference
(Isle Casino and Hotel, Waterloo)
- 21-24 NACo Annual Conference
(Columbus, Ohio)

August 2017

- 2 ISAC Scholarship Golf Fundraiser
(Toad Valley Golf Course, Pleasant Hill)
- 22 ISAC LPC Retreat
(Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center, Des Moines)
- 23-25 ISAC Annual Conference
(Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center, Des Moines)

September 2017

- 14 ISAC LPC Meeting
(ISAC Office)
- 17-20 ISSDA Jail School
(Holiday Inn Airport, Des Moines)
- 27-29 ISAC Board of Directors Retreat
(Humboldt County)

October 2017

- 17-19 Veterans Affairs Fall Conference
(Embassy Suites Downtown)

November 2017

- 16-17 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting
(ISAC Office)

December 2017

- 3-6 ISSDA Winter School
(Holiday Inn Airport, Des Moines)

If you have any questions about the meetings listed above or would like to add an affiliate meeting to the ISAC calendar, please contact Kelsey Sebern at ksebern@iowacounties.org.

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County Risk Management Services, Inc.
representing ICAP and IMWCA

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"Solutions," Inc.
St. Luke Health Resources
The Schneider Corporation
Tyler Technologies
Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield of Iowa

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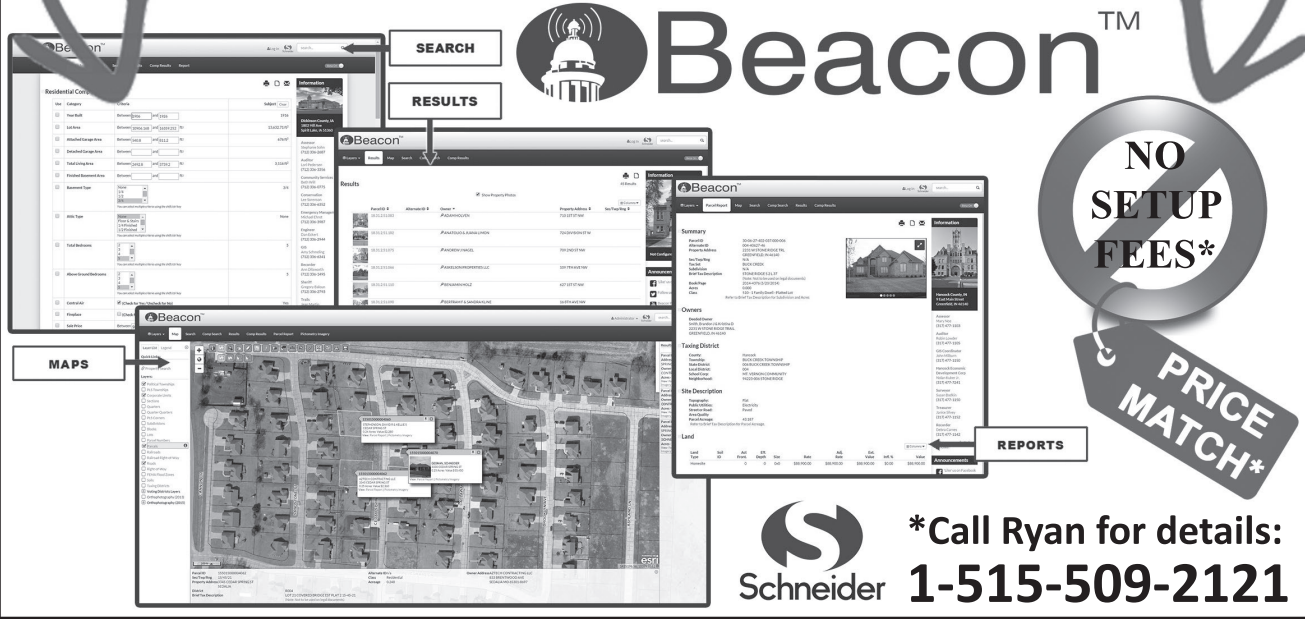
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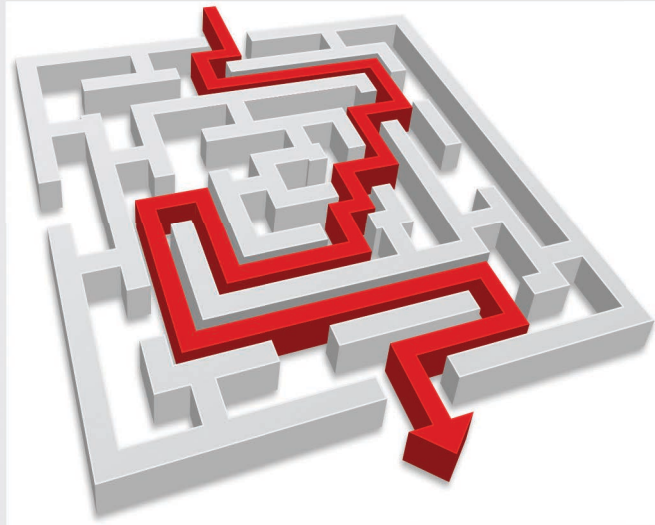
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