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magazine



February 2023  
Pipelines

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# The Iowa County

February 2023 \* Volume 52, Number 2

The Iowa County: The official magazine of the  
Iowa State Association of Counties  
5500 Westown Parkway, Suite 190  
West Des Moines, IA 50266  
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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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\*\* 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 members are elected and appointed county officials from all 99 counties. *The Iowa County* (ISSN 0892-3795, USPS 0002-150) is published monthly by the Iowa State Association of Counties, 5500 Westown Parkway, Suite 190, West Des Moines, IA 50266. Periodicals postage paid at Des Moines, IA 50318. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to [rbennett@iowacounties.org](mailto:rbennett@iowacounties.org). Subscriptions: \$25 per year.

# Role of County Inspector in Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Cases

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## Under Iowa Code Chapter 479B

As many of you are aware, there are three CO2 pipelines proposed in Iowa. These cases will be heard by the Iowa Utilities Board (IUB) as hazardous liquid pipeline cases under Iowa Code chapter 479B. If the projects proceed, affected counties will be called on to perform important functions. Notably, each affected county will be required to designate a county inspector to inspect construction and restoration activities for compliance with Iowa's agricultural land restoration standards.



**John S. Long**

Attorney

Office of Consumer Advocate of Iowa

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This article is intended to provide a summary of the county inspector process based on rules and interpretation provided by IUB. IUB may impose more stringent or detailed requirements in the restoration plan applicable to each pipeline.

The Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) is a division of the Iowa Department of Justice tasked with representing the public interest of Iowa in all matters before IUB. OCA asks counties affected by the proposed CO2 pipelines, as well as counties affected by the Dakota Access pipeline, to contact OCA with concerns regarding the county inspector process. OCA hopes to use input from affected counties to help it formulate recommendations to the IUB intended to avoid unnecessary problems or difficulties for counties.<sup>1</sup>

The county inspector has an important role in ensuring that the applicable agricultural restoration standards are followed. The applicable standards are established by: 1) IUB's agricultural restoration standards set forth in chapter 9 of the IUB rules; 2) the specific land restoration plan adopted by IUB for a particular pipeline in that case; and 3) any agreement with affected landowners. It is worth noting that the county inspector is expected to ensure compliance with the particular terms of any agreements between a landowner and the pipeline company regarding to the restoration of land. This will require the county inspector to be familiar with any agreements between the landowner and the pipeline company prior to inspection of that parcel.

The statute does not include county or local ordinances in the list of items in the applicable standards. It is not clear at this time what role, if any, the county inspector should have regarding compliance with county or other local ordinances related to pipelines. It is possible that IUB could incorporate county ordinance requirements related to restoration of agricultural lands in the land restoration plan adopted for a particular pipeline in IUB's decision on particular pipeline cases. The county can designate as its inspector any licensed engineer who is familiar with the agricultural restoration standards. This can be the county engineer or an independent licensed professional engineer.

Although IUB's rules encourage each county to designate its county inspector early in the pipeline permit process, a county is only required to designate a "county inspector" prior to commencement of construction of a pipeline in that county. A pipeline company cannot begin construction until it has obtained a permit from IUB. A county should feel free to designate a county inspector as soon as it is ready. However, county officials should understand that a county is only required to designate an inspector prior to commencement of construction activities.

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<sup>1</sup> This article should not be interpreted as an endorsement of the proposed pipeline projects. OCA has not concluded its investigations and has not taken a position on the merits of any of the CO2 pipeline projects.

# Role of County Inspector in Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Cases

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In general, a county inspector is entitled to be on-site to inspect and observe all stages of construction and restoration in the county. To facilitate this, IUB rules require the pipeline company to keep the county inspector continually informed of its work schedule. However, the pipeline company need not delay construction due to a county inspector's failure to be on-site if proper notice to the county inspector was given.

If the county inspector observes a violation of the applicable standards, the county inspector is to follow the notice of violation process set forth in IUB's rules. In general, the county inspector is to first give verbal and then written notice to the pipeline company. If the county inspector is unable to reach an agreement regarding corrective action with the pipeline company, the county inspector shall issue a stop work order applicable only to the activity and location of the violation.

If the county inspector issues a stop work order, the county inspector shall provide the county board of supervisors with notice of the violation. Once the county board of supervisors has been notified, the pipeline company may not resume construction until the board of supervisors has responded, or after one business day after the county inspector notified the county board of supervisors. Upon receipt of notification of a violation from the county inspector, the county board of supervisors is to decide whether or not to proceed with the notice of violation. If the county board of supervisors decides to proceed, it is to file a petition with IUB requesting an order requiring corrective action from the pipeline company.

IUB rules establish a special case for stopping construction during wet conditions. IUB's rules prohibit construction activities during wet conditions. Wet conditions are defined as "adverse soil conditions due to rain events, antecedent moisture, or ponded water, where the passage of construction equipment may cause rutting that mixes topsoil and subsoil, may prevent the effective removal or replacement of topsoil and subsoil, may prevent proper decompaction, or may damage underground tile lines." IUB's rules give sole authority to the county inspector for the decision to halt construction due to wet conditions. OCA believes that work stoppages related to wet conditions are independent of and need not follow the notice of violation procedures discussed above. However, counties should be aware that there appears to be some ambiguity in IUB's rules on this point.

Iowa law provides that "the reasonable costs of the inspection" will be paid by the pipeline company. This would include the costs of retaining an outside engineer or, if the county designates a county engineer as county inspector, the cost of the time the county engineer spends on the inspection. To OCA's knowledge, no Iowa court has construed this provision by explaining when "construction" of the project is deemed to begin or when a county may begin assessing inspection costs to the pipeline. OCA believes that this provision should be liberally construed and will advocate for the ability of counties to recover all costs reasonably associated with the inspection process in a timely fashion, including reasonable preparation work.

Finally, the county inspector has an important role in allowing landowners to start the process to obtain damages. Iowa law provides that a county compensation commission is to determine damages payments owed to a landowner from construction. Damages can include any harm suffered by the landowner resulting from construction of the pipeline including: crop loss; costs for fertilizer to restore damaged land; loss of trees; costs or losses in moving or relocating livestock; or damage to farm equipment. Iowa law provides that a landowner may not begin the damages claim process by requesting a compensation commission<sup>2</sup> until 90 days after the county board of supervisors has determined construction in the county to be complete for purposes of damages claims. Under IUB's rules, the county inspector is to prompt the county board of supervisors on this issue by issuing a recommendation that the county declare construction to be complete when final restoration has been completed and vegetation across the project has reached 70% of its growth. County officials should be aware that under Iowa law, no one in a county can begin the damage claims process until after the county has certified completion of construction.

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<sup>2</sup> This discussion relates only to compensation commissions for damages. Compensation for any interest in land obtained through eminent domain is separate and does not depend on the declaration of completion of construction in the county.



# Role of County Inspector in Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Cases

OCA understands that county governments will be required to fulfill statutory obligations, including the county inspection process, if the pipeline projects proceed. OCA hopes that the explanation of the county inspector process presented in this article will be the start of further discussion. Please contact OCA with any questions or concerns at [IowaOCA@oca.iowa.gov](mailto:IowaOCA@oca.iowa.gov).

IUB has posted presentations with information about the role of counties and county inspectors in hazardous liquids pipeline cases to its website. OCA provides links to IUB rules and IUB presentation materials regarding the county inspector process below:

[County's Role in IUB Pipeline Permit Process Presentation](#)

[IUB Pipeline Procedures Presentation](#)

[IUB Instructions for County Inspectors](#)

[Iowa Administrative Code 199 – Chapter 9](#)

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# Carbon Pipelines and Eminent Domain in Iowa

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## Introduction

There are currently three companies seeking approval from the Iowa Utilities Board (IUB) to construct pipelines for the transport of liquified carbon dioxide from ethanol plants in Iowa to storage facilities in other states. These projects are proposed to pass through dozens of Iowa counties and would impact thousands of individual landowners.



**Timothy J. Whipple**  
Special Counsel  
Ahlers & Cooney, P.C.

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The driving force behind these projects is climate change policy. Since 2008, federal tax law has provided tax credits for the sequestration of carbon. Known as “45Q Credits” after the relevant tax provision, the credits were created to encourage the private sector to reduce the amount of carbon released into the atmosphere. In the recently passed Inflation Reduction Act, Congress significantly increased the value of these 45Q Credits.

Iowa is a leader in the production of Ethanol, a process that creates a great deal of carbon dioxide as a byproduct. The lucrative 45Q credits create an enormous incentive for any company that can successfully store carbon, but pipelines are required to transport it to the storage sites. Without the 45Q credits, it would not make economic sense to transport carbon such long distances.

Because these pipelines must cross private land, the developers are requesting the right of eminent domain in order to build them, a controversial and politically volatile request.

## The Federal Constitutional Standard

Eminent domain is not a recent concept. The power to take one person’s property for the use or benefit of the public has long been considered one of the inherent powers of government. It originates in the idea that the sovereign ultimately controls all real property within its jurisdiction and that private landowners hold their property subject to the government’s sovereign power.

Because the power of eminent domain has such dramatic impacts on private property, restrictions have long been placed on its use. The primary restriction is the “Takings Clause” of the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution. The Takings Clause requires two primary things: (1) that the taking be for a “public use;” and (2) that the owner must receive “just compensation” for the property. The federal Takings Clause also applies to state and local governments.

The United States Supreme Court has considered the issue of eminent domain many times. In the landmark case of *Kelo v. City of New London*, the Court discussed the federal constitutional requirements for determining “public use.” The Court noted that there are two opposing rules involved in making the determination. On the one hand, the Court said, it is clear that the government may *not* take one person’s property for the “sole purpose” of transferring it to another person. On the other hand, the Court also said it is “equally clear” that the government *may* transfer property from one person to another if future “use by the public” is the purpose of the taking.

The *Kelo* case, however, couldn’t be resolved neatly under either of the two competing rules. In *Kelo*, the City of New London was proposing to use eminent domain to redevelop an economically distressed area. Under the first rule, the City would have been forbidden if its purpose was to confer a private benefit on a particular private party. The City also would have been prevented from taking the property under the “mere pretext” of a public purpose.

Similarly, under the second rule, if the City had intended to make the private parties benefitting from the taking operate like common carriers, offering services to the public at large, it would just as clearly have been a public use. The problem was, as the court noted, the City of New London was not planning to dedicate the condemned property *entirely* for use by the general public.

# Carbon Pipelines and Eminent Domain in Iowa

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After a lengthy discussion of its historical precedents, the Court declined to make actual “use by the public” the constitutional standard for a taking, noting that it had long ago rejected such a rigid requirement. Since the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when the Supreme Court began applying the Fifth Amendment to the states, the constitutional requirement for “public use” has been found to be met as long as there is a legitimate “public purpose” for the taking.

The *Kelo* case therefore turned on the question of whether the City’s economic development plan served a “public purpose.” And, the Court explained that its prior eminent domain cases had defined that concept broadly due to a longstanding policy of deferring to “legislative judgments” in the area of public use.

“Viewed as a whole,” the Court said, “our jurisprudence has recognized that the needs of society have varied between different parts of the Nation, just as they have evolved over time in response to changed circumstances. Our earliest cases in particular embodied a strong theme of federalism, emphasizing the ‘great respect’ that we owe to state legislatures and state courts in discerning local public needs.”

In other words, the Supreme Court is unwilling to place obstacles in front of state legislatures in the form of rigid judicial interpretations of the Constitution, and it has instead preferred to allow a broad range of purposes to meet the “public use” test. However, after announcing that it wouldn’t adopt a strict federal standard, the Court in *Kelo* went on to state that “nothing in our opinion precludes any State from placing further restrictions on its exercise of the takings power.”

Even before the *Kelo* case was decided, many states had imposed “public use” requirements that were stricter than the more flexible federal minimum standard, and many states since then have imposed additional restrictions in the wake of the *Kelo* decision. These additional restrictions on the use of eminent domain can take the form of either state constitutional requirements or state statutory requirements. Iowa has both.

## **The Iowa Constitutional Standard**

Like the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution, Article I, section 18, of the Iowa Constitution also contains a “takings” clause, and like the Fifth Amendment, it also requires that private property not be taken “for public use” without “just compensation.”

The Iowa Supreme Court is the final authority on the interpretation of the Iowa Constitution, and while it generally considers Federal interpretations of the Takings Clause to be persuasive, it is not required to interpret the Iowa Takings Clause in the same flexible way as the Supreme Court interprets the Federal Takings Clause.

The Iowa Supreme Court recently considered the issue of constitutional authority for eminent domain in the case of *Puntenney v. Iowa Utilities Board*, that involved an oil pipeline being built by Dakota Access, LLC. In considering the issue, the Iowa Supreme Court thoroughly reviewed the *Kelo* case and decided not to follow the majority opinion, which had found economic development to be a valid public purpose. Instead, the Iowa court announced that Justice O’Connor’s dissenting opinion, which a number of other states follow, was the better interpretation for purposes of the Iowa Constitution because it provides stronger protection against the abuse of eminent domain.

Nonetheless, the Iowa Supreme Court still upheld the use of eminent domain for the oil pipeline because it was “a common carrier akin to a railroad or a public utility,” a position that Justice O’Connor’s dissent had also approved.

## **The Iowa Statutory Standard**

Assuming the federal and state requirements of “public use” are met, IUB is authorized by the Iowa Legislature to grant eminent domain to a pipeline company if IUB determines that the pipeline will “promote the public convenience and necessity.” IUB treats this determination as a balancing test, “weighing the public benefits of the



# Carbon Pipelines and Eminent Domain in Iowa

proposed project against the public and private costs or other detriments as established by the evidence in the record.” IUB will also consider “public benefits outside of Iowa” when making the determination for an interstate oil pipeline.

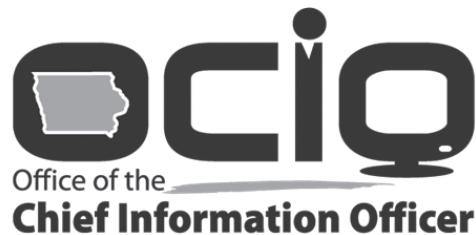
In the process of granting eminent domain, IUB considers each exercise of eminent domain individually, on a landowner-by-landowner basis. Thus, landowners and other parties can object to each exercise of eminent domain individually, and IUB may agree with such an objection even when it finds that, on the whole, a pipeline promotes the public convenience and necessity. In several instances in the Dakota Access case, IUB sustained such objections in whole or in part.

In one instance, IUB required that the pipeline be relocated to avoid additional buildings that were being constructed at a turkey farm. In response to another landowner, IUB ordered the preservation of certain fruit trees that were roosting places for several species of bats. IUB also refused, on legal grounds, to allow the condemnation of property that was owned by governmental entities such as counties.

## Conclusion

In summary, then, as Iowa debates the use of eminent domain for carbon pipelines, counties should note that: (1) Federal standards for eminent domain are flexible; (2) Iowa standards are somewhat stricter; and (3) IUB will determine the public convenience and necessity of a pipeline by weighing its costs against its benefits and individually granting eminent domain on a case-by-case basis.

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# 2023 ISAC Board of Directors Sworn in on January 20

Linn County Sheriff Brian D. Gardner will serve as the 2023 President of the Iowa State Association of Counties (ISAC). President Gardner began his term on January 1, 2023. He and other members of the ISAC Board of Directors and Executive Committee were sworn in by former Linn County Recorder and ISAC Past President Joan McCalmant during the Association's January board meeting.

Sheriff Gardner began his career with the Linn County Sheriff's Office in 1980 as a communications operator. He became a reserve deputy sheriff in 1981 and began working as a full-time deputy sheriff in 1982. Following many promotions and holding a large number of positions within the office, he was elected Sheriff in 2008, assuming the position on January 1, 2009. He was reelected Sheriff in 2012, 2016 and 2020, and is currently serving his fourth term in office.



Sheriff Gardner is a lifelong Linn County resident and is a Kennedy High School graduate. He received an Associate of Science degree in Law Enforcement from Kirkwood Community College in 1991, a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Mount Mercy College in 1995, and a Master of Public Administration degree in Criminal Justice from City University in Bellevue, Washington in 2004. He is a graduate of the 80th basic class of the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy in 1982, the 199th session of the FBI National Academy in 1999, and the 99th session of the National Sheriffs' Institute in 2010. He has been an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) since 1981 and a Certified Credible Leader (CCL) since 2017.

Sheriff Gardner is currently Chairperson of the Linn County Emergency Management Commission, the Chairperson of the Linn County 911 Service Board, the Chairperson of the Linn County Radio System Governance Board, and the Chairperson of the St. Luke's Hospital/UnityPoint Health Child Protection Center Advisory Board. He is a Past-President of the Iowa State Sheriffs' and Deputies' Association (2015) and is a former Chairperson of the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy Council (2016–2020). He is also a member of numerous professional organizations and serves on several local boards and committees.

Members of the 2023 ISAC Executive Committee are: President – Brian Gardner, Linn County Sheriff; 1st Vice President – Barry Anderson, Clay County Supervisor; 2nd Vice President – John Werden, Carroll County Attorney; and 3rd Vice President – Linda Zuercher, Clayton County Treasurer. Executive committee members are chosen by the ISAC Board of Directors and serve a one-year term.

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# 2023 ISAC Board of Directors Sworn in on January 20

There are 22 county officials that comprise the 2023 ISAC Board of Directors including seven new members who are highlighted in the listing below. Board members are chosen by their affiliate and serve on the ISAC Board until they are replaced by their affiliate. The primary responsibilities of board members include developing and monitoring the ISAC strategic plan, setting legislative priorities, and recommending ISAC's budget. Board members include:

**Assessor** – Carissa Sisson, Franklin County

**Auditor** – Rhonda Deters, Grundy County \*NEW MEMBER\*

**Community Services** – Danelle Bruce, Pottawattamie County

**Conservation** – Mike Miner, Mitchell County \*NEW MEMBER\*

**Emergency Management** – AJ Mumm, Polk County

**Engineer** – Wade Weiss, Greene County \*NEW MEMBER\*

**Environmental Health** – Sandy Bubke, Monona County \*NEW MEMBER\*

**Information Technology** – Micah Van Maanen, Sioux County

**Planning and Zoning** – Brian McDonough, Polk County

**Public Health** – Kevin Grieme, Woodbury County

**Recorder** – Mary Ward, Cass County

**Supervisor** – Mark Campbell, Webster County \*NEW MEMBER\*

**Supervisor** – David Muhlbauer, Crawford County \*NEW MEMBER\*

**Veterans Affairs** – Patrick Sweeny, Polk County \*NEW MEMBER\*

**Past President** – Carla Becker, Delaware County Auditor

**Past President** – Melvyn Houser, Pottawattamie County Auditor

**Past President and NACo Board Representative** – Richard Crouch, Mills County Supervisor

**NACo Board of Directors** – Grant Veeder, Black Hawk County Auditor





# NACo Leadership Development: Learn from the Best

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**We would like to acknowledge and congratulate the September NACo Leadership Academy graduates from Iowa.**

They join over 5,000 graduates and current participants from across the country benefitting from the 12-week online program enabling existing and emerging county leaders to achieve their highest potential.

**Angela Walker** – Public Health Nurse, Pottawattamie County

**Barry Anderson** – Supervisor, Clay County

**Becky Lenihan** – Finance and Tax Officer, Pottawattamie County

**Breanna Case** – Operations Specialist, Webster County

**Candy Heyer** – Epidemiologist, Pottawattamie County

**Ines Beltre** – Employment Manager, Johnson County

**Jana Lemrick** – Human Resources Director, Pottawattamie County

**Jerry Walker** – Adair Supervisor, Adair County

**Justin Schultz** – County Supervisor, Pottawattamie County

**Loni Kuhlmann** – Executive Director, Woodbury County

**Lorri Greiner** – Nurse Coordinator, Mills County

**Samuel Samara** – Network Infrastructure Manager, Scott County

**Stephanie Lientz** – Zoning Division Manager, Linn County

**Valerie Ramsey** – RN, Mills County



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# NACo Leadership Academy Alumni Profile

## Sean Snyder

Winneshiek County Iowa, Emergency Management  
Coordinator and Director of the Winneshiek County 911  
Communications Center



Number of years in your role:  
6.5

Don't miss this in my county:  
Visiting any of our local parks and recreational areas.

My biggest challenge:  
Development of a long-term recovery coalition.

My motivation for signing up for the NACo leadership Academy:  
To learn more about what it takes to become a better leader.

My favorite part of the NACo Leadership Academy:  
My breakout groups discussions within our cohort.

My favorite leadership rule of the NACo Leadership Academy:  
You bring your own weather.

My leadership oath:  
Develop the leaders within the organization, support the future leaders, and hire great leaders.

In my spare time I:  
Spend time with my wife, grown children, and friends.

I'm most looking forward to:  
Applying the lessons learned from the HPLA academy.

# My Commitment to Iowans

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## Traveling to All 36 Counties in the 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District

Iowa represents the very best of the Midwest and our nation's rural values. We help our neighbors, serve our communities, feed and fuel our country and the world, and raise our families to respect and carry on our proud traditions. We are also home to 99 counties each with rich histories, thriving communities, and hardworking, honest people. From the world's largest popcorn ball in Sac County to beautiful West Okoboji Lake in Dickinson County, every community contributes an important chapter to Iowa's story.

When I was elected to represent Iowa's 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District in Congress, I promised that I would visit every county in my district – 36 to be exact – at least twice a year. To date, I'm proud to say that I've delivered on that promise by making more than 160 stops – and counting – to family farms, cooperatives, local manufacturers, rural hospitals, schools, and universities on my biannual 36 County Tour. It is what Iowans expect and deserve from their elected officials.



**Congressman Randy Feenstra**  
Iowa's 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District  
[feenstra.house.gov](https://feenstra.house.gov)

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Honoring my commitment to my constituents, I have prioritized listening to Iowans and transforming our shared ideas into meaningful policy that benefits not only our great state, but also our nation. Stemming from conversations at the annual Farm Progress Show in Boone to discussions at local high schools, we have introduced legislation to help farmers purchase cutting-edge precision agriculture technologies, brought transparency and fairness to the cattle market, equipped our rural communities with the resources they need to combat the opioid epidemic, and made E-15 available year-round permanently to lower gas prices. But our work is only just beginning for Iowa.

Our nation's debt stands at an alarming \$31 trillion, China is redoubling its efforts to purchase American farmland, and our farmers are grappling with high input and energy costs. That's why I recently kicked off the third iteration of my 36 County Tour to hear directly from Iowans on these pressing matters. In my experience over the last few years, the best policies are not written behind closed doors by bureaucrats in Washington, D.C.; they're brainstormed by farmers, producers, business owners, and students in classrooms, corn fields, and coffee shops in our rural communities and down our main streets. Together, there is much we can achieve for our state and the good people who call it home.

Meeting with Iowans and taking their suggestions and concerns back to Congress is the most important part of my job. I was elected to represent the interests, values, and priorities of every community in every corner of every county that I serve. It is a responsibility that I take seriously and is an honor that I cherish. I encourage you to contact my office online at [Feenstra.House.Gov](https://Feenstra.House.Gov) or by phone at 202.225.4426 to share your thoughts with me, because we are government – together.

God bless,  
Randy Feenstra  
Member of Congress



# Center for Infrastructure and Economic Development

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It's been said, "that information is power." That is especially true when it comes to renewable energy in Iowa.

By acting on sound and reliable information, individual Iowans, business leaders, farmers, government officials, and more have contributed to making Iowa a national leader in renewable energy. Today, over 62% of our state's power (12,696 MW) is coming from wind and solar energy.

According to American Clean Power, investments in renewable energy in Iowa total over \$23 billion. These sources of energy are responsible for more than 5,300 high paying jobs and generate over \$58.8 million in local and state tax revenues every year. The revenue stream of Iowa wind turbines alone accounts for over \$70 million in annual lease payments to Iowa farmers and landowners.

With so much at stake and so much more opportunity ahead, it is important that Iowans, and all Americans, have access to the very best renewable energy information available. That is precisely why the national Center for Infrastructure and Economic Development (The Center) has been recently established.



**Rand M. Fisher**

State Director, Iowa  
Center for Infrastructure and  
Economic Development

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The mission of The Center is focused on the important role that independent, unbiased, and impartially provided information can, and needs, to play in providing more affordable, sustainable, and reliable energy for our nation and the world. At The Center, we believe best policies will be those that balance citizen concerns, energy needs, and economic benefits.

Given Iowa's leadership role in where renewable energy special resources are being devoted, our state will play a key role in standing up the services and support The Center intends to make available nationally.

In Iowa, we are already at work reviewing local ordinances, zoning requirements, and other public policy. Special attention is being given to a variety of matters including landowner rights, setbacks, buffering, beneficial land use, and facility decommissioning. These issues and others are important to public safety, the adoption of best practices, and public acceptance of a strategically important and vital industry.

In the months ahead, The Center will focus on outreach, networking, and additional policy research. Meeting the information needs of local government officials and their citizens will be front and center. We will also be naming and bringing together an Iowa Advisory Council to provide local input, identify issues, and garner policy insights. Working with Iowans from throughout the state, we look forward to standing up the Iowa office of the Center for Infrastructure and Economic Development.

Information is power, and in this case, a special commitment to clean renewable power. You can learn more about The Center and be in touch at [www.centerforlocalpolicy.org](http://www.centerforlocalpolicy.org).

*This introduction to the Center for Infrastructure and Economic Development has been provided by Terry Branstad, former Iowa Governor and Ambassador to China, who is serving as National Co-Chair and Iowa State Chair, and Rand Fisher, State Director.*

# December Board Minutes Summary

## Summary of ISAC Board of Directors Minutes – Wednesday, December 21, 2022 (via Zoom conference call)

President Crouch called the meeting to order and asked Brian Gardner, Chair of the ISAC Nominating Committee, to report on the December 12, 2022, meeting of the Nominating Committee. Brian reported that the committee met virtually to discuss the nomination for the position of ISAC 3rd Vice-President and to recommend the slate of 2023 ISAC Officers. After discussion of eligible candidates, the Nominating Committee recommended and the ISAC Board unanimously approved the following slate of officers for 2023:

- President – Brian Gardner, Sheriff, Linn County
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President – Barry Anderson, Supervisor, Clay County
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President – John Werden, County Attorney, Carroll County
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-President – Linda Zuercher, Treasurer, Clayton County

President Crouch thanked everyone for their service on the ISAC Board this past year and for the opportunity to serve as President. The meeting was adjourned.

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# 2023 ISAC

## Spring Conference

March 9-10 | Des Moines

Join us March 9-10 for the 2023 ISAC Spring Conference! This is the Association's annual business meeting where the ISAC budget is approved by the membership and the ISAC scholarship award winners are recognized.

The conference will also feature educational tracks, networking opportunities, and time to meet with your affiliate.

Registration and additional information can be found at [iowacounties.org](http://iowacounties.org).

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## 2023 Calendar

### February 2023

- 2 Statewide Supervisors Meeting  
(Embassy Suites Des Moines Downtown)
- 11-14 NACo Legislative Conference  
(Washington Hilton, Washington, D.C.)
- 21-24 ISSDA Spring Jail School  
(Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport)
- 22 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting  
(Virtual)

### March 2023

- 9-10 ISAC Spring Conference  
(Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center, Des Moines)
- 28-29 Public Health Conference of Iowa  
(Scheman Conference Center, Ames)

### April 2023

- 16-19 ISSDA Spring Civil School  
(Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport)

### May 2023

- 3 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting  
(ISAC Office)
- 9-12 Treasurers May School (Pella, Iowa)
- 17-19 Western Interstate Region (WIR) Conference  
(Washington County, Utah)

### June 2023

- 15-16 Records Summer Conference  
(Burlington, Iowa)
- 20-23 ISACA Summer Conference  
(Hilton Garden Inn West Des Moines)
- 28 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting  
(Virtual)

### July 2023

- 12 ISAC Education Foundation Golf Fundraiser  
(Toad Valley Golf Course, Pleasant Hill)
- 21-24 NACo Annual Conference  
(Travis County/Austin, Texas)

### August 2023

- 23-25 ISAC Annual Conference  
(Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit Union Convention Center, Des Moines)

### September 2023

- 20-22 ISAC Board of Directors Retreat  
(Linn County)

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](mailto:ksebern@iowacounties.org).

### 2023 ISAC Preferred Vendors

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#### Elite Preferred Vendors

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#### Endorsed Platinum Preferred Vendor

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Delta Dental

Heartland Business Systems  
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MidAmerican Energy  
Neapolitan Labs  
Northland Securities, Inc.  
Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO)  
Schneider Geospatial  
Tyler Technologies

#### Gold Preferred Vendor

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Cost Advisory Services, Inc.  
Cott Systems  
CTC Disaster Response  
The Center for Infrastructure and Economic Development  
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Auditor, Adams County

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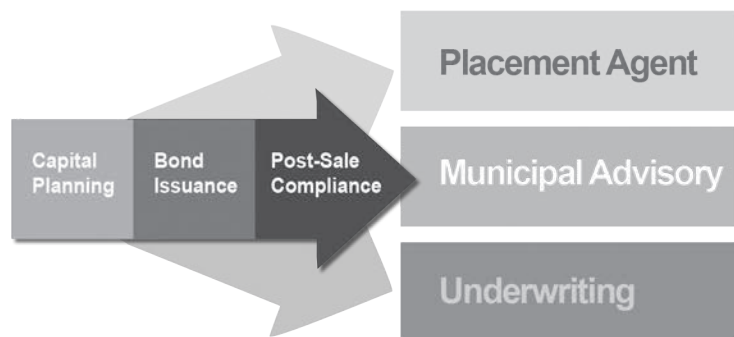
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- 29 participating counties



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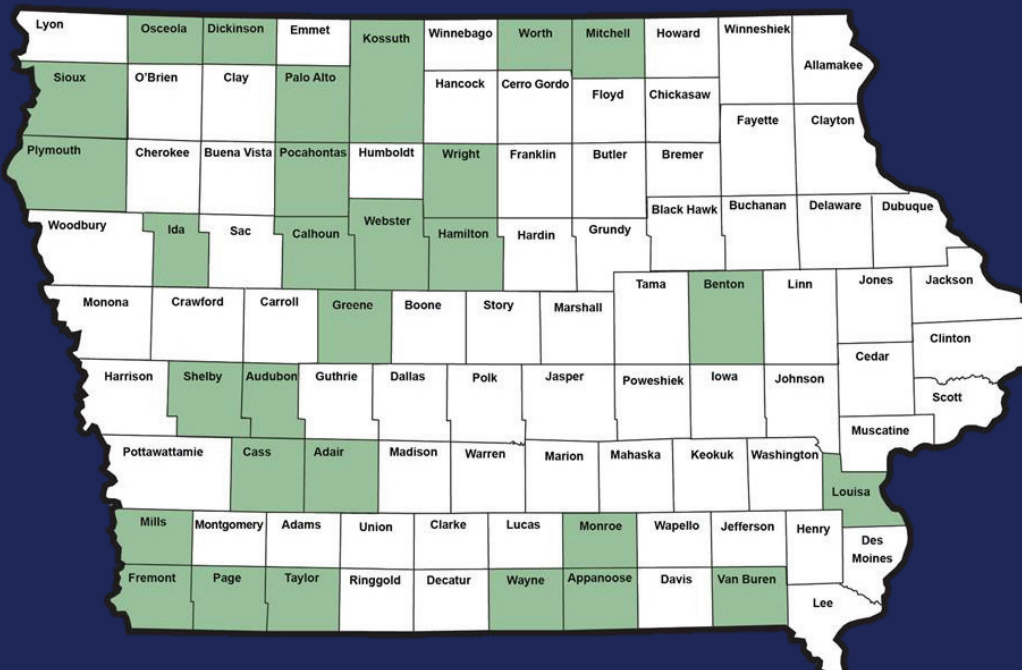
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