

# The Iowa County Magazine



April 2024  
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# The Iowa County

April 2024 \* Volume 53, Number 4

The Iowa County: The official magazine of the  
Iowa State Association of Counties  
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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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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.

# 2024 ISAC Scholarship Awards

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ISAC received yet another round of outstanding scholarship applications for the 2024 program year. We would like to thank the volunteers on the 2024 ISAC Scholarship Selection Committee for their time and effort reviewing the applications and interviewing the finalists.

District 1 – Jamie Johll, Webster County Engineer  
District 2 – Shanna Eastvold, Winnebago County Recorder  
District 3 – Sheri Neddermeyer, Crawford County Treasurer  
District 4 – Rob Haley, Ringgold County Sheriff  
District 5 – Christy Bates, Keokuk County Auditor  
District 6 – Jim Irwin Jr., Clinton County Supervisor  
ISAC Board of Directors Representative – Linda Zuercher, Clayton County Treasurer and ISAC 2nd Vice President



**Katie Cook**

ISAC Member Support Coordinator  
[kcook@iowacounties.org](mailto:kcook@iowacounties.org)

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The recipients of the 2024 ISAC Scholarship awards are highlighted below. They are another incredible group of hardworking and accomplished young adults. We wish them the best in furthering their education and all their future endeavors.

Congratulations to the scholarship recipients and their families!

## **District 1 – Libbie Keith**

Libbie's parents are Angela and Craig Keith. Craig works at the Jasper County Sheriff's Office. Libbie plans to attend Morningside University and study elementary education.

## **District 2 – Nicholas Sisson**

Nick's parents are Carissa and James Sisson. Carissa is the Franklin County Assessor. Nick plans to study business analytics/management and marketing at the University of Iowa.

## **District 3 – Emery Blankespoor**

Emery's parents are Leah and Tim Blankespoor. Tim works for the Lyon County Secondary Roads Department. Emery plans to attend Iowa State University and study animal science with the intent to go into the pre-veterinary science program.

## **District 4 – Karissa Richey**

Karissa's parents are Kristina and Stephen Richey. Kristina works for Pottawattamie County Community Services, and Stephen works for the Adams County Secondary Roads Department. Karissa plans to study speech and language pathology at the University of Northern Iowa.

## **District 5 and Mike Bollard Award – Taylor Bartholomew**

Taylor's parents are Michelle and Scott Bartholomew. Scott works for the Washington County Secondary Roads Department. Taylor plans to attend Drake University to study pre-pharmacy.

## **District 6 – Morgan Schulte**

Morgan's parents are Chris and Kelly Schulte. Kelly works for Linn County Community Services. Morgan plans to study kinesiology and exercise science at the University of Northern Iowa.

# 2024 ISAC Scholarship Awards

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## **District 1 Runner-up – Madison Babington**

Madison's parents are Jill and Patrick Coons. Patrick works for the Hamilton County IT Department. Madison plans to attend Iowa Central Community College and study nursing.

## **District 2 Runner-up – Kierra Dodd**

Kierra's parents are Aaron and Shayna Dodd. Aaron is the Franklin County Sheriff. Kierra plans to study agricultural business and accounting at Iowa State University.

## **District 3 Runner-up – Ayden Socknat**

Ayden's parents are Nicholas and Rebecca Socknat. Nicholas works in the Woodbury County Secondary Roads Department, and Rebecca is the Plymouth County Emergency Management Coordinator. Ayden plans to attend Western Iowa Tech Community College and study police science.

## **District 4 Runner-up – Joseph Bragg**

Joseph's parents are Jake and Justine Holloway. Jake works for the Shelby County Secondary Roads Department. Joseph plans to study civil engineering at Iowa State University.

## **District 6 Runner-up – Alexa Higginbotham**

Alexa's parents are Melissa and Tim Higginbotham. Melissa works in the Linn County Attorney's Office. Alexa plans to attend Iowa State University and study marketing and finance.

## **Past Presidents Award – Jasper Goodson**

Jasper's parents are Kristi and Spencer Goodson. Kristi works in the Davis County Auditor's Office. Jasper plans to study electrical utility technology at Des Moines Area Community College.



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◆◆◆ THE 19TH ANNUAL ◆◆◆

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**DRIVING RANGE SPONSOR - \$250:** SIGNAGE AT THE DRIVING RANGE; LISTED IN PROGRAM, WEBSITE, AND MAGAZINE.

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**EAGLE LEVEL - \$300, BIRDIE LEVEL - \$200, PAR LEVEL - \$100:** LISTED IN PROGRAM, WEBSITE, AND MAGAZINE.

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# 2024 NACo Legislative Conference

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The 2024 NACo Legislative Conference was held on February 10-13, 2024, in Washington, D.C. The conference consisted of four days of informative committee meetings, seminars, the SuperBowl, and a visit from the President of the United States.

In addition to the educational sessions, one of the greatest benefits would be the connections attendees are able to make with one another. Each session and the social gatherings in between gave countless opportunities to connect with other county colleagues attending from various parts of the United States.

The first committee meeting for Ag and Rural Affairs had six Iowa county officials in attendance. Some topics discussed consisted of rural development, workforce, and community colleges. The topic of rural development had the most discussion points, including EMS services for counties, access to county programs, and providing better resources and guidelines for county residents. We discussed the challenges of rural development, one being how to promote broadband infrastructure availability in the rural areas of America. The overall consensus among those in attendance is to continue to provide programs and assistance to the more vulnerable and lower income areas and to have the availability of funds to assist is necessary. Several felt as though there are communication gaps in providing the funding from the federal government to the states, and they were not always shared as intended with the communities that need it most. The group discussed proposed plans of action to bridge the communication gaps between the states, communities, and citizens.

COVID-19 continues to have effects on the workforce. Many small businesses are either no longer in business or still working through the trials of overcoming the financial strain that was placed upon them. In addition to that, filling the available job openings in the workforce continues to plague each state, county, and city. Devising plans to help fill the empty workforce positions were discussed and worked through. A portion of that discussion related to the availability of community colleges for a secondary educational opportunity. Providing financial assistance to those that are interested in furthering their education benefits not only the student, but also the workforce. It would be an immediate expense to provide; however, the revenue created by the economic growth would soon be realized.

Discussions continued with rural development to which the United States Secretary of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack, presented the proposed Precision Ag Program. The Precision Ag Program is designed by the Precision Ag Connectivity Task Force. It provides recommendations and advice to the FCC in addition to consulting with the Secretary. The intentions of the program will be to establish connectivity between the Task Force and farmers. Current farming practices are becoming more technology-based, and the Task Force seeks to collect data from local farmers concerning production. The Task Force wants to know the amount of crops planted, harvested, and sold to be used in further studies. Iowa has a higher



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# 2024 NACo Legislative Conference

percentage of farmers in the United States using precision farming in their practice at approximately 54%. A main initiative from the Task Force is the need to preserve prime farmland for farming purposes. As populations increase and available farmland decreases, farmers are using technology to produce higher yields on fewer acres. Preserving farmland concerns include location, weather patterns, and markets. The Task Force intends to continue partnering with farmers as these programs grow.

The conference led into other sessions including the Resilient County Commission, of which I am a board member. I felt this session on a more personal level when other jurisdictions started discussing the challenges of when natural disasters have affected their communities. My relation to the subject came from personal experience in 2019 with the greatest flood in Southwest Iowa. During this session, constituents were able to converse about their individual events that affected their community and the steps taken for recovery. Different circumstances can affect available resources for recovery actions.

Other breakout sessions comprised of an AI (Artificial Intelligence) demonstration and how this technology can be used, including how AI affects the algorithms. Have you ever noticed that after doing a Google search you may receive advertisements for that type of product on Facebook? Pepsi-Cola presented how they are using technology to create a lighter plastic bottle for their products that will reduce waste and make recycling more cost effective.

Overall, the conference was highly informative and enjoyable. I appreciate the Iowa Congressional delegation and their staff members who made themselves available to conduct discussions pertaining to local concerns. I would also like to thank the ISAC staff that traveled with our group, and the many Iowa delegates who made the trip. It's always an honor to represent Iowa at NACo.

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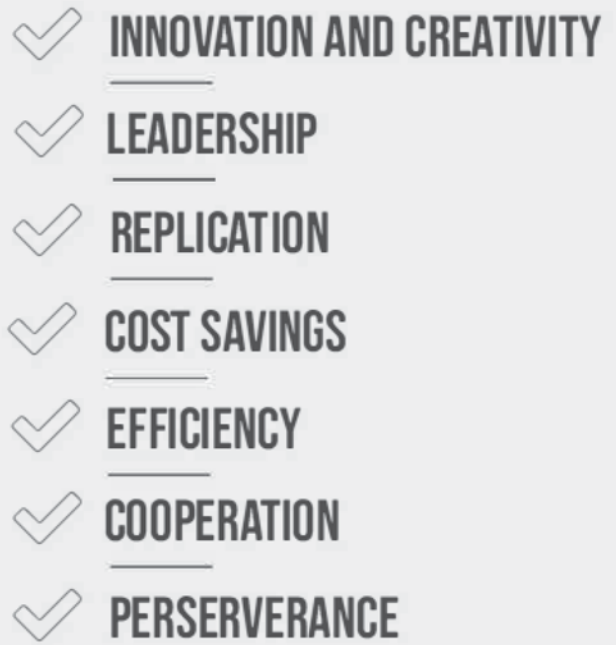




## ISAC EXCELLENCE IN ACTION PROGRAM

A competitive awards program that seeks to identify and recognize innovative county government employees, programs, and ISAC affiliates.

The ISAC Excellence in Action Award Committee will rate each nomination based on the following seven attributes: innovation and creativity; leadership; replication; cost savings; increased efficiency; cooperation with others; and perseverance. Awards will be presented at the 2024 ISAC Annual Conference General Session on August 21 in Des Moines. Winners will also be recognized on the ISAC website and in a news release.



- Attach a narrative of the program or individual (three page limit). Criteria and guidelines are included on the next page.
- Return all nominations by June 1, 2024 (postmarked date) to:

**Iowa State Association of Counties**  
**Attn: Jacy Ripperger**  
**5500 Westown Parkway, Suite 190**  
**West Des Moines, IA 50266**

- OR email your application form (containing all the information on the form below) to [jripperger@iowacounties.org](mailto:jripperger@iowacounties.org).

**Please fill out each field completely:**

Please indicate nomination type: Program: \_\_\_\_\_ Individual: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of program/individual: \_\_\_\_\_ County or affiliate: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of nominator: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominator's email: \_\_\_\_\_

## CRITERIA

### **Programs nominated must be innovative and do one or more of the following:**

- Offer a new service to county residents, fill gaps in the availability of existing services, or tap new revenue sources.
- Improve the administration or enhance the cost effectiveness of an existing county government program.
- Upgrade the working conditions or level of training for county employees.
- Enhance the level of citizen participation in, or the understanding of, government programs.
- Provide information that facilitates effective public policy making.
- Promote intergovernmental cooperation and coordination in addressing shared problems.
- Provide a model from which other counties or affiliates may learn.

### **Nominated individuals must demonstrate innovative thinking and do one or more of the following:**

- Ability to offer new and innovative ideas or methods to citizens, staff, or stakeholders.
- Improve the administration or enhance the cost effectiveness within their county or a specific county program.
- Upgrade the working conditions or level of training for county employees.
- Enhance the level of citizen participation in, or the understanding of, government programs.
- Provide information that facilitates effective public policy making.
- Promote intergovernmental cooperation and coordination in addressing shared problems.
- Provide exemplary leadership from which other counties, officials, and/or affiliates may

## JUDGING

The Excellence in Action Award Committee will rate each application based on the following seven attributes: creativity; innovation; cost savings; replication; leadership; increased efficiency; cooperation with others; and perseverance.

## GUIDELINES

- Nominated programs must have become operational after January 1, 2023.
- Individual nominations should reflect the individual actions of the last 24 months.
- Nominations must be made using included application form.
- A detailed narrative of the county program or individual's actions must be included (one page minimum; three-page maximum).
- Please include two pictures to accompany your narrative.

## AWARD PRESENTATION

Awards will be presented during the 2024 ISAC Annual Conference General Session on August 21 in Des Moines. Winners will also be recognized on the ISAC website and in a news release sent to local or statewide media. When appropriate, an ISAC staff member will also attend the board of supervisors meeting to present the award.

## QUESTIONS

Contact:

Jacy Ripperger  
jripperger@iowacounties.org  
515.244.7181

Lucas Beenken  
lbeenken@iowacounties.org  
515.244.7181

# Financial Peace of Mind - Brought to You By IPAIT

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**“Your first line of defense in cybersecurity is your people.”**

**– Jeh Johnson, Former United States Secretary of Homeland Security.**

IPAIT participants should have received an email notification with some exciting news about PMA’s investment into better online technologies for our clients. With that, comes added security for users, and it is more important than ever to make sure you are educated on the topic.

Every staff and faculty member at any entity represents a potential entry point for attackers to gain access to data and systems.

Criminals are rapidly becoming more advanced in their technologies, strategies, and funding. With the emergence of AI, attackers leverage this tool to hack passwords faster than ever before as well as create targeted phishing and malware attacks that fool traditional antivirus software with more success than ever before.

According to Cisco, the most common types of threats are:

- Malware
- Phishing attacks
- Man-in-the-middle attacks

Malware, or malicious software, is created by criminals with the intent to steal, damage, or control sensitive information on personal and business devices. Cyber criminals utilize numerous methods to trick individuals to download these programs into their network. Once installed into the network, the program can operate undetected to perform its intended criminal task within the system. The most common examples of malware are viruses, worms, ransomware, spyware, adware, and Trojan viruses.

One of the fastest growing cyber threats are phishing attacks. A phishing attack occurs when a fraudulent email is sent to appear as if it originated from a reliable source, such as your bank, a vendor, or an employee. The goal is to trick the recipient into providing sensitive information, such as bank account information, credit card numbers, or log in credentials.

A man-in-the-middle attack occurs when a hacker inserts themselves into a two-party transaction, such as connecting a device to a public Wi-Fi network. By doing so, the victim’s device passes all its data through the attacker in connecting to the public network. This allows the attacker to filter, sort, and steal any data from the victim.

It is more important than ever for organizations to protect information, devices, and networks by keeping security software, web browsers, and operating systems up-to-date with the newest versions and enhancements.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has provided a few suggestions to stay protected:

1. **Train employees in security principles regularly.** Establishing basic best practices and policies is one of the first lines of defense against cyberattacks. Require employees to use strong passwords, outline expectations for appropriate internet use, and establish rules and procedures for handling sensitive information.
2. **Provide firewall security for your Internet connection.** A firewall guards an organizations private network from unauthorized access by outsiders. Many operating systems have firewall features, and free versions can also be available online.
3. **Create a mobile device action plan.** The use of mobile devices and personal devices can present particularly challenging security management. If mobile and personal devices are used for business, require employees to password protect and encrypt any business information on their devices. Security apps installed on these



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# ISAC Spring Conference Educational Seminars

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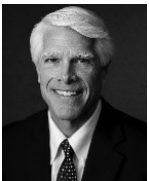
devices are an efficient and effective way to manage these challenges.

4. **Make backup copies of important business data and information.** Automatically and/or routinely backing up critical documents and files is an effective way to prevent critical data loss due to an attack.
5. **Secure your Wi-Fi networks.** Setting up routers to not broadcast the network name and password protecting the network are the most effective means to secure your Wi-Fi network.
6. **Employ best practices on payment cards and business operations.** Work with your bank to ensure that trusted and effective anti-fraud systems are in place to protect your information. It is also a best practice to ensure devices used to process payments and business transactions are not utilized to surf the web.
7. **Limit employee access and authority.** It is important to evaluate what data and security access is needed for an employee's job. Only allow access to data and information that is required to perform the roles of employee positions. Employees should also not have authority to install software on devices without system administrator credentials.

Training all employees to remain vigilant and follow thorough procedures is the best way to protect your county from a cyber threat.

**With rates being as high as we have seen in decades (IPAIT daily rate 5.10% as of March 25, 2024), it is more important now than ever to make sure your funds and systems are secure!**

To learn more, contact an IPAIT representative. Scan or click the contact information below:



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## About the Author:

Caleb Walter is a Vice President of Investment Services at PMA Financial Network, LLC. He is a native of Southeast Iowa and has a B.S. from the University of Northern Iowa. Caleb holds Series 6, 50, 63, 65, and 7 FINRA investment licenses and has worked in the financial industry for over 12 years.



# Iowa Needs a Groundwater Plan

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Several factors, some natural and some self-imposed, are leading to the recognition that the state of Iowa needs a plan to safeguard groundwater reserves in the future. Natural factors include droughts that occur on average about once per decade in Iowa. The current drought was preceded by droughts in 2012, 2000, 1988-89, and beyond. Less rainfall during drought reduces recharge to shallow groundwater, lowers water table levels, and reduces groundwater entering rivers and streams. Drought conditions increase the demands for agricultural crop irrigation and many communities find that water use increases during drought from lawn watering and other outdoor water uses. In addition, new factors include increasing pumping demands from a rapidly urbanizing population, ethanol plants and other industrial facilities, data centers (requiring vast quantities of cooling water), animal confinements, and other users. These new demands are challenging urban and rural water systems to keep groundwater supplies on pace with demand.



Keith Schilling, PhD  
State Geologist and Director  
Iowa Geological Survey  
University of Iowa

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Groundwater in Iowa is not evenly distributed, and there are water-rich and water-poor areas of the state. Northeast Iowa is relatively groundwater-rich because the bedrock aquifers in the area consisting of fractured carbonate rocks can store, transmit, and yield large quantities of groundwater for use. Groundwater in this area is rapidly replenished with rainfall and snowmelt. On the other hand, western and southern Iowa are relatively groundwater-poor, as the bedrock is either too fine-textured and more resistant to hold water, or the aquifer is capped by hundreds of feet of clay-rich glacial soils that limit precipitation recharge. In these areas, water suppliers often focus on extracting groundwater from shallow sands and gravels that occupy river valleys (alluvial aquifers) or pumping from deep bedrock aquifers like the Cambrian-Ordovician aquifer (aka “Jordan” aquifer). Both aquifer types are vulnerable to drought and overuse. Water levels in shallow alluvial aquifers are rapidly lowered during drought when pumping continues despite precipitation recharge. Water levels in deep bedrock aquifers decline because new and increasing demands exceed recharge.

A groundwater plan is needed for Iowans to sustainably balance groundwater use with recharge. Think of a groundwater supply like your checkbook. You get paid regularly, and from this weekly “recharge” to your bank account, you pay your mortgage and bills and occasionally go out to eat. It is important to have your checkbook balanced so that your expenses do not exceed your income and you fall into debt. The aquifers that contain our groundwater supply are like your checkbook. They receive recharge from precipitation, they build up their water levels, and from this supply, we can withdraw water from the aquifer “bank” to meet societal needs.

A groundwater plan would produce a water budget for the major aquifers of Iowa. The budget would tell us how much water is recharged to the aquifers, how much groundwater they contain, how much water is discharged to streams and leaked to lower aquifers, and how much water can be sustainably withdrawn without depleting them. For alluvial aquifers, creating a water budget would include mapping the horizontal and vertical extent of the sand and gravel deposits in the state. The Iowa Geological Survey (IGS) conducts this type of work using a combination of geophysics, drilling, and landscape analysis of glacial and post-glacial sedimentology. Although some mapping of alluvial deposits is done at local scales for water supply systems, there is a need to do this on a statewide basis where local interests can be put in the context of statewide needs.

There is a need for the state of Iowa to fund the research, mapping, and analyses needed to improve our understanding and management of Iowa’s groundwater resources. A groundwater plan led by the Iowa Geological Survey (IGS) would balance the current and future needs for groundwater extraction with long-term sustainability for future generations.

# Iowa Needs a Groundwater Plan

IGS is part of IIHR—Hydrosience and Engineering based at the University of Iowa College of Engineering. Dating back to 1855, IGS staff collect, preserve, and interpret geologic and hydrogeologic data, helping to understand and improve water resources in Iowa. Learn more or contact the IGS at [iowageologicalsurvey.uiowa.edu](http://iowageologicalsurvey.uiowa.edu).

## 2024 Calendar

### April 2024

- 3 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting  
(ISAC Office)  
14-17 ISSDA Spring Civil School  
(Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport)

### May 2024

- 1 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting  
(Virtual)  
8-10 Western Interstate Region (WIR) Conference  
(Mariposa County, California)

### June 2024

- 11-13 ICRA Summer School  
(Okoboji, Iowa)  
18-21 ITAG Conference  
(West Des Moines Sheraton)  
18-20 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting  
(ISAC Office)  
26-28 ISACA Summer Conference  
(Embassy Suites Des Moines Downtown)

### July 2024

- 12-15 NACo Annual Conference and Exposition  
(Hillsborough County/Tampa, Florida)  
17 ISAC Scholarship Golf Fundraiser  
(Toad Valley Golf Course, Pleasant Hill)

### August 2024

- 21-23 ISAC Annual Conference  
(Veterans Memorial Community Choice  
Credit Union Convention Center, Des Moines)

### September 2024

- 17-20 ISSDA Fall Jail School  
(Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport)  
24 Leadership Seminar  
(West Des Moines Marriott)

### October 2024

- 2-4 ISAC Board of Directors Retreat  
(Clay County, Iowa)  
6-9 Assessors Fall School  
(Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport)

### November 2024

- 13 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting  
(ISAC Office)

### December 2024

- 3-6 ISSDA Winter School  
(Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport)  
4-6 78th Annual Iowa County Engineers Conference  
(Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit  
Union Convention Center, 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](mailto:ksebern@iowacounties.org).

### 2024 ISAC Preferred Vendors

#### Endorsed Elite Preferred Vendors

County Risk Management Services, Inc.  
representing ICAP and IMWCA  
Assured Partners

#### Elite Preferred Vendors

IP Pathways  
Murphy Tractor and Equipment Co.  
Summit Carbon Solutions

#### Endorsed Platinum Preferred Vendor

Iowa Public Agency Investment Trust  
(IPAIT)

#### Platinum Preferred Vendors

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Purple Wave Auction, Inc.

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Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield of Iowa  
Ziegler CAT

#### Silver Preferred Vendors

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UMB Bank

#### Endorsed Preferred Vendors

National Association of Counties  
(NACo)  
Nationwide Retirement Solutions  
Professional Development Academy

# Preferred Vendor of the Month: Summit Carbon Solutions

As the CEO of Summit Carbon Solutions, I am happy to share with you the significant strides we are making through our proposed carbon capture, transport, and permanent sequestration pipeline project. This is more than just a pipeline. Our mission is to revolutionize the way we approach the decarbonization of the biofuels sector, emphasizing not only technological innovation but also economic stability for rural Iowa.

In recent months, we have announced partnerships with the two largest biofuels producers in the world, POET and Valero. These partnerships signify an understanding in the agricultural sectors of just how important this project is for the future of ethanol and energy in our country.

Our pipeline directly supports the ethanol industry, a sector that utilizes two-thirds of the state's corn production. The impact of our work extends far beyond the immediate benefits of carbon capture. By significantly reducing the carbon score of Iowa's ethanol, we are not just enhancing its access to current markets, we are also unlocking an extraordinary opportunity for our local corn farmers. This advancement paves the way to a 35-billion-gallon sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) market, presenting an unprecedented opportunity for growth and stability in our agricultural sector.

This breakthrough comes at a crucial time. With corn surplus surpassing 2.2 billion bushels and prices experiencing a significant downturn, the necessity for creating new demand channels cannot be overstated. The SAF market is not just a temporary solution; it represents the potential to invigorate Iowa's rural economy for decades to come. Through our expansion, which will see an increase in jobs, more ethanol produced, and a significant impact on corn usage across our Iowa counties, we are setting the stage for a future where our community thrives on innovation and progress.

Our commitment to this project and to the communities we partner with is unwavering. We recognize the importance of collaboration and engagement with local communities as we work through the permitting phase and move into the construction and operations. Building strong, respectful, and mutually beneficial relationships is at the core of our approach. We are determined to ensure that every stakeholder's voice is heard and that we progress not just as a company, but together, as a thriving partnership.

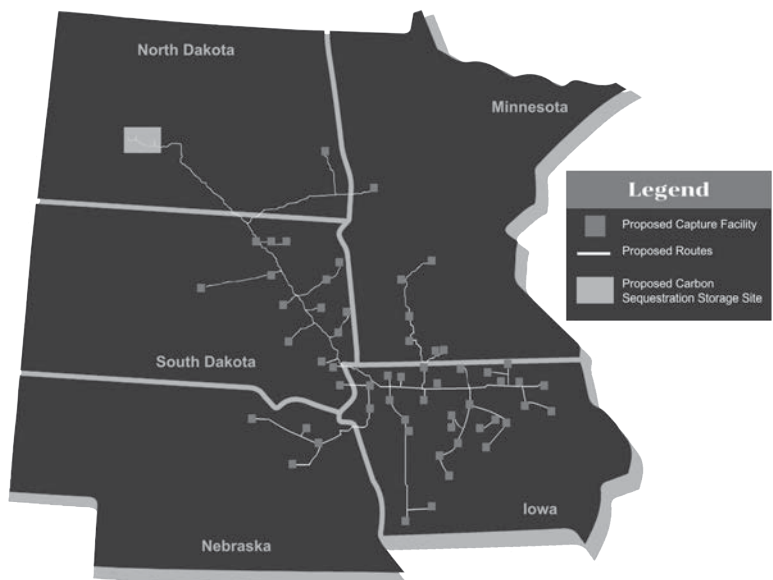
We know this is a huge undertaking, but the potential rewards are even greater. We are not just investing in technology; we are investing in the people of Iowa, in our shared economic prosperity, and in a vision of a future that sees growth in rural Iowa and generational farming.

At Summit Carbon Solutions, we are committed to this vision. We believe in the power of our project to transform the ethanol industry, to open new markets for our farmers, and to lay the foundation for a resilient rural economy.



**Lee Blank**

CEO, Summit Carbon Solutions  
[summitcarbonsolutions.com](https://summitcarbonsolutions.com)



# ISAC February Board Minutes Summary

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## Wednesday, February 21, 2024

President Barry Anderson called the meeting to order and led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance. President Anderson then swore in ISAC Board Members who were absent from the January 17, 2024, ISAC Board Meeting.

The meeting minutes of the January 17, 2024, ISAC Board of Directors meeting passed, and the meeting minutes of the January 31, 2024, ISAC Executive Committee meeting passed with one abstention.

Katie Cook provided the Board with the results of the ISAC Scholarship Selection Committee. Brad Holtan gave highlights of the financial report dated January 31, 2024, and the report was approved.

Rachel Bennett reported that nominations are now being accepted for the 2024 ISAC Golden Eagle. The deadline for accepting nominations is May 31, 2024, and the Golden Eagle will be honored during the 2024 ISAC Annual Conference General Session.

Kristi Harshbarger gave an update on legal matters including new opioid settlement payments.

Katie Cook provided the Board with an updated project cost report for the ISAC office remodel that was approved by the Board.

President Anderson, Rachel, and Board members who were in attendance of the 2024 NACo Legislative Conference gave an overview of the conference including meetings, featured speakers, and events. Overall, it was a successful and educational conference.

Courtney Biere, Kelsey Sebern, Jacy Ripperger, and Rachel gave an overview of the County Day at the Capitol, the HR Seminar, the ISAC Spring Conference, and exhibitors and sponsors.

Rachel shared that the 2024 NACo Annual Conference is being held July 12-15, 2024, in Tampa, Florida. Registration is currently open.

Brad Holtan highlighted the FY 2024 budget projections and presented the proposed ISAC budget for FY 2025. The following FY 2025 budget decision points were included in the presentation:

- No increase in dues
- No increase in the Annual Conference registration fee
- No increase in the Spring Conference registration fee
- Recommended salary increases of 3% and associated benefit changes
- Approval of transfers from the Building Development Fund office remodeling and updates
- Approval of transfers from the Depreciation Fund to pay for ISAC network replacements and upgrades.

Other items of note included another \$25,000 being set aside for a compensation study. Also, the budget assumes \$295,000 in funding for ISAC TSB. The board recommended the budget as presented to the membership. \*The membership approved the budget on March 14 during the ISAC Spring Conference General Session.

Staff members were dismissed, and the ISAC Board met with the ISAC Executive Director in an Executive Session. President Anderson adjourned the Session, and upon return of the staff, the Board adopted the proposed timeline and process for the recruitment and selection of the ISAC Executive Director. President Anderson appointed the following Board members to be part of the Search Committee: Barry Anderson, John Werden, Linda Zuercher, Mark Campbell, Brian Gardner, Grant Veeder, Carissa Sisson, and Josh Busard.

Jamie Cashman and Lucas Beenken reported on the status of ISAC's legislative priorities and other legislative issues facing counties.

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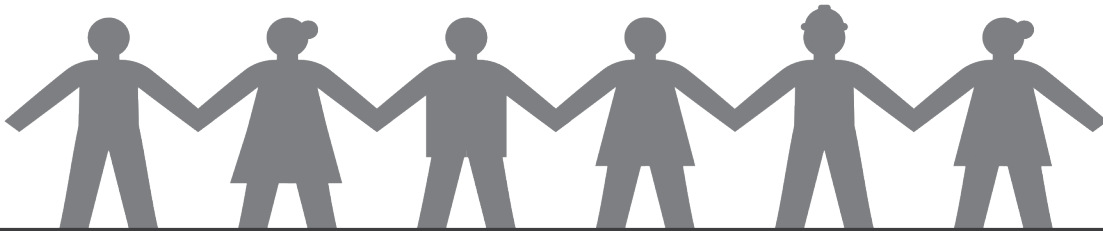
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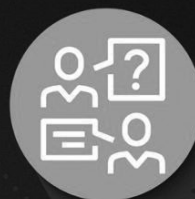
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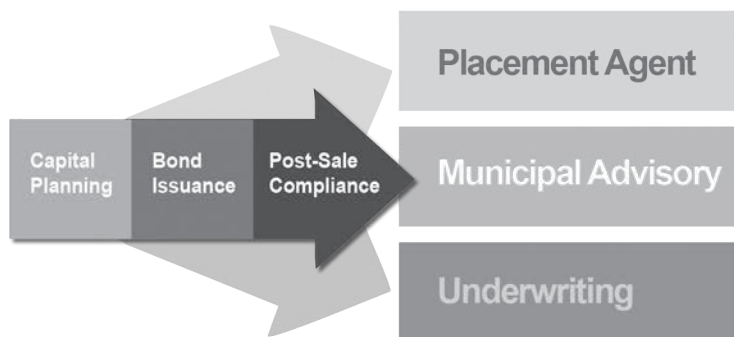
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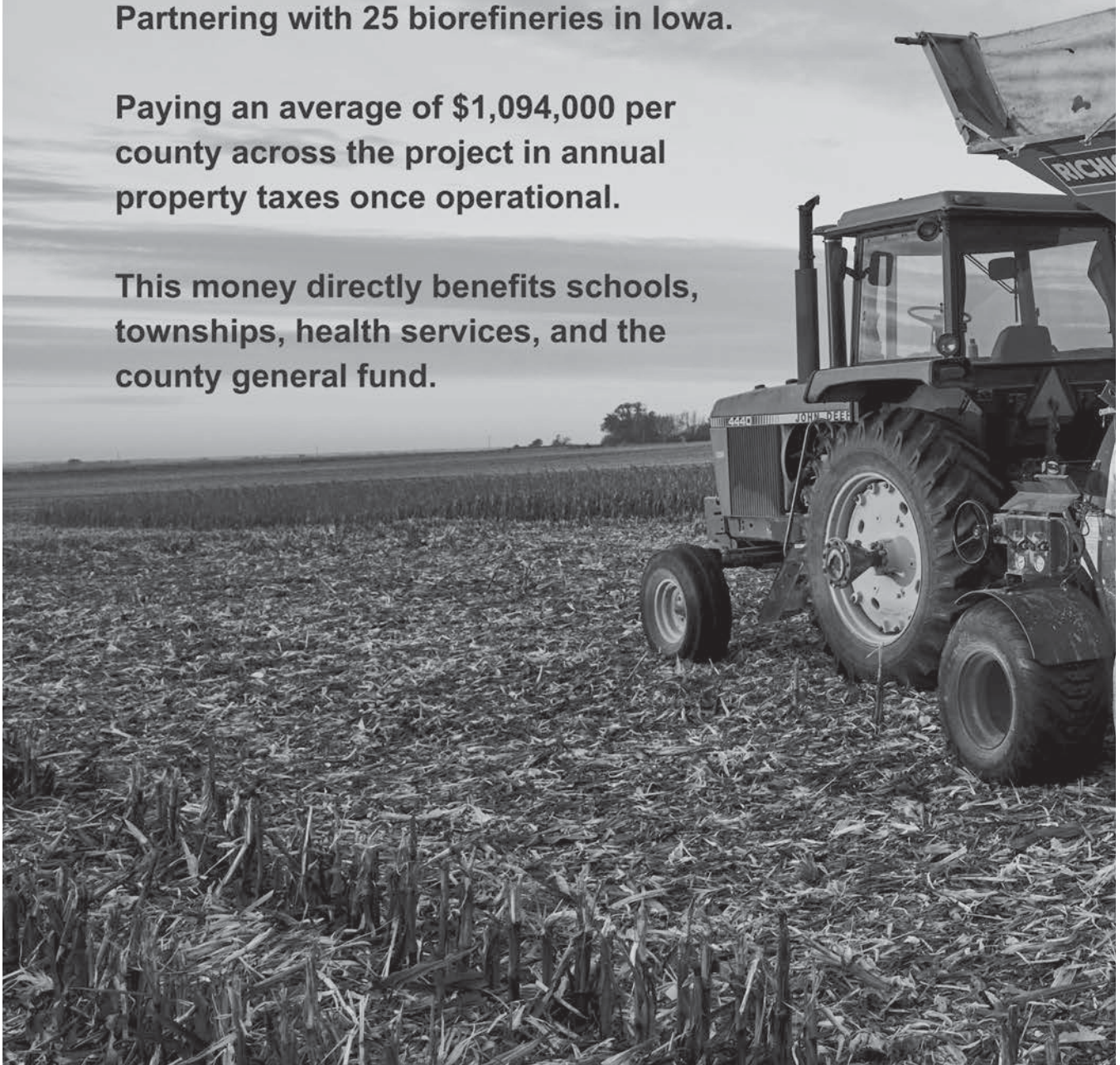
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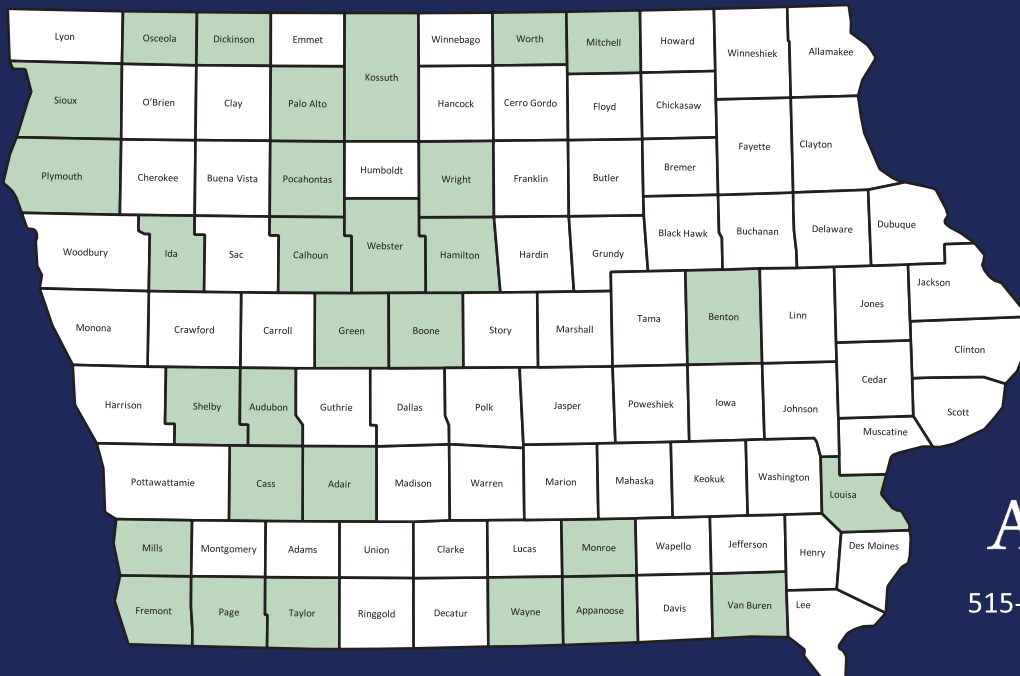
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