

YOU'RE ALMOST DONE WITH A LANDSCAPING PROJECT. YOU'VE ONLY GOT 5 YARDS OF ROCK TO PUT IN 3 BEDS. BUT THE NEWBIE ACCIDENTALLY TORE A HYDRAULIC HOSE, LEAVING YOU WITH 5 YARDS OF ROCK TO SHOVEL BY HAND. THAT'S WHEN YOU CALL YOUR ZIEGLER REP. HE LINES UP YOUR REPAIR BY 2 PM SO YOU CAN COMPLETE THE PROJECT ON TIME.



### The Iowa County

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#### ISAC's Mission

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

#### ISAC's Vision:

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

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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.

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#### **Kicking Off the ISAC 99-County Tour**

Soon the ISAC Team will be embarking on a 99-County Tour, and we are eager to get started! As we began the planning process, there were three goals identified to guide us in our efforts:

- Engage and connect with county officials, professionals, and all county employees;
- Educate counties on the programs and services offered by ISAC; and
- Seek feedback from counties for continuous improvement.

Leading a membership organization means there is a never-ending list of ideas and opportunities to consider. With 99 counties, 16 affiliate organizations, over 870 elected officials, and 15,000+ county employees, there are endless ways to fulfill the ISAC mission to promote effective and responsible county government for the people of Iowa.



Andrea Woodard
ISAC Executive Director
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Engaging with members in a meaningful way has been top-of-mind since I joined ISAC last summer. Outside of the ISAC Annual and Spring Conferences, what could possibly be a better way to spend time with as many members as possible than a road show across the state? We've heard from many of you already and scheduling will begin soon.

Here is what you can expect from the ISAC Team when we're visiting your county:

- An invite to join ISAC Team Members for a presentation specific to your county. We'll talk about the ways
  in which your county is engaged with ISAC and then we will touch on the programs and services offered by
  ISAC YOUR membership organization. We're doing our research, and the topics most important to your
  county will be covered with the experts available to answer your questions.
- We'll keep our presentation and remarks short because while connecting and educating is important, what we really want is to hear from you. We hope you'll bring your ideas, your questions, and yes, we also want your constructive feedback for ways ISAC can improve to better serve you in meaningful ways that ultimately serve the people of lowa.

A 99-county tour would not be complete without a courthouse photo, a short visit to an iconic spot in each county, and a visit to the best local ice cream shop. The team is also excited to share more about our travels on social media. We encourage you to follow along with the #99countytour on Facebook and Instagram.

The Team is excited to travel the state, visit with members, and better understand what we can do to serve you. We hope you'll keep the feedback coming throughout the year, but during and after the visit, we will ask for your input verbally and through surveys. Did you hear about an idea in another state that would fit well in Iowa? Is there something we're doing that no longer fits the mission? Let us know — we want to hear it!

What I'm truly excited about is what will come from the 99-County Tour. In addition to connecting with each of you, I am eager to take your guidance and develop a plan for the future of ISAC. As a member-driven staff and a member-driven organization, we can best capture the outcomes of the tour through honest and candid conversations. We will keep the ISAC Board and ISAC membership updated as we go, and you can expect a report-out at a future ISAC conference.

In the February edition of the Iowa County Magazine, I challenged each county, county official, and department leader to participate in at least one way with ISAC over the course of 2025. If you haven't identified that event or program, we're coming to you! Yes, this effort will take us well into 2026, but it is our hope you will embrace the visit and provide valuable feedback. Help us ensure ISAC continues to be your go-to resource for everything related to lowa county government.

#### **Legal Team Update**

#### Reintroduction

This August, I'll be celebrating 10 years at ISAC and would like to reintroduce myself as I'm taking on a new role as ISAC's General Counsel. I was hired in a compliance role in 2015 to help lowa counties and the Iowa County Technology Services 28E (ICTS) navigate the requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). While I still manage the ISAC HIPAA Program and help ICTS with compliance with state and federal privacy and security laws, I have taken on a bigger role in providing general legal support to ISAC and its members.

I enjoy a challenge, and this job certainly never lacks in that area. Each day brings new opportunities to learn and grow. I graduated law school with a concentration in health law and certainly didn't see myself working with legal matters related to secondary roads, local elections, or property tax, but I am so grateful I've been



Beth Manley
ISAC General Counsel
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given this opportunity. I truly enjoy connecting with each of our members and enjoy helping our members make a difference in their local communities. I've grown both personally and professionally during my time at ISAC, and I am excited to continue growing in my new role as General Counsel.

#### **New Assistant Attorney**

ISAC has a new staff member joining the Legal Team this month. With over 15 years of public service experience, Lynsey Pierce brings a deep commitment to the promotion of effective and responsible county government for the people of Iowa in her new role as ISAC's Assistant Attorney.

Having grown up in rural Nebraska and Iowa, she understands the worth held by small communities and the benefit of community action and involvement. Her parents demonstrated the value of community engagement through small but meaningful acts of service in their community. Lynsey's passion for government was ignited by an influential high school government teacher, which led to her enduring interest in law, and all things local, state, and federal government.

Lynsey attended the University of Northern Iowa, where she studied Political Science and Public Administration. After graduation, she earned a Juris Doctorate from Oklahoma City University. Before joining ISAC, Lynsey served as an Attorney Advisor for the Social Security Administration in St. Louis, Missouri, and West Des Moines, Iowa. At this position, she worked with state agencies and federal administrative law judges in the adjudication of disability claims. Other experience includes serving as an Assistant District Attorney for the State of Oklahoma, specializing in juvenile justice law as well as youthful offender cases, juvenile mental health cases, adult criminal matters, and diversion programs. She is licensed to practice law in both the states of Oklahoma and Iowa.

Outside of her professional life, Lynsey enjoys spending time with her husband Chad and children Brooks, Georgia, and Lillian. She enjoys reading, gardening, thrifting, and decorating her home in Waukee, Iowa.

#### **Legal Services**

ISAC's Legal Team has two full-time attorneys that are here to be an educational resource for all lowa county officials and professionals. We provide education and information on a wide variety of legal questions, particularly when referred to us by your county attorney. Our team researches and responds to member questions, gives presentations at ISAC and member events, works with ISAC's 16 affiliate organizations on their governing documents and other legal needs, and oversees any litigation assistance provided through ISAC's Litigation Committee.

We are here to serve you, so please reach out to Beth Manley (<a href="mailto:bmanley@iowacounties.org">bmanley@iowacounties.org</a>) or Lynsey Pierce (<a href="mailto:lpierce@iowacounties.org">lpierce@iowacounties.org</a>) with any legal questions or opportunities for us to provide training and education.

#### **Legislative Session Comes to a Close**

The Iowa Legislature adjourned the 2025 session of the 91<sup>st</sup> General Assembly early on the morning of May 15. While less than a week removed as I write this, I wanted to take the opportunity to reflect on some legislation that saw activity this year and themes that developed.

Last November's elections brought new faces to the Capitol and Republicans expanded their majorities in both the House and Senate. This was the ninth session of the trifecta with both chambers and the Governor's Office under Republican control, but even so, there was plenty of disagreement and need for compromise. This extends to the work ISAC does on behalf of county government and officials.

One example of this give and take came with discussions on election and recount reform proposals. County auditors had ideas, legislators had ideas, the Secretary of State's Office had ideas, and other stakeholders had a strong interest. Ultimately compromise was reached between chambers and among interested parties, and the final bill addressing recount reform was sent to the Governor for final approval.



Lucas Beenken ISAC Public Policy Specialist Ibeenken@iowacounties.org

The Senate Local Government Committee provided plenty of opportunities to work through ideas. This committee considered several bills preempting local control on various topics. While in the past ISAC may have simply registered Against and spoken in opposition to these types of bills, this session we made an effort to understand the issues trying to be addressed in an attempt to identify unintended consequences and keep the impact minimal. The focus shifted to making the bill(s) "workable" rather than just trying to fight them all.

Similarly, we tried to take an optimistic and helpful tone when the conversations shifted to property tax reform this year. Going into session we knew three things to be true: 1) property taxes would be a major issue to be worked on, 2) one size fits all, doesn't fit, and 3) county officials are generally not pleased with HF 718. To their great credit, legislators and particularly Sen. Dan Dawson made it a point to release proposals and amendments throughout session to keep stakeholders informed and engaged. County officials appreciated the time to analyze the legislation and begin to evaluate the impact it could have. They could then share feedback, questions, and concerns with legislators and ISAC. Again, this was an opportunity for collaboration to ensure the proposed changes would be workable at the county level not only fiscally, but perhaps more importantly, administratively. Perhaps it was all of the time and feedback, along with the complexity of the system, that led to the realization that more work would need to be done in the interim before getting to a final product. ISAC believes the current system is in need of major overhaul and we stand ready to continue working with legislators in that endeavor.

As we dive into the work of the interim, I'm optimistic about the continuing occasions for partnership and collaboration among state and local governments. We know more work needs to be done to get to a final product on property tax reform. We believe a natural extension of improving the system and implementing growth limitations on local governments would be continued discussions about reducing costs and diversifying revenue. I consider

#### **Legislative Session Comes to a Close**

these two and property tax limits to be the three legs of a stool. ISAC has been engaging with the Governor's government efficiency task force and we're hopeful their findings will be helpful to county government. We're also continuing our analysis of unfunded/underfunded mandates. Notably, legislators have been pretty good about not adding to the list, and we're looking for champions to begin eliminating some.

Finally, we will continue to work with legislators on diversification of revenue. Currently, county supervisors generally only have the property tax levy to turn to as the cost of providing services increases. In recent years, we've submitted proposals to modernize fees for service at the county level. We're so appreciative that legislators understand that the cost of providing services increases over time and with no fee adjustment, in decades in some cases, the services are largely subsidized by property taxes in most counties.

So, on that note, let's keep working together. I hope county officials and legislators continue to strengthen a partnership rooted in service to shared constituents. The people of lowa will be the beneficiaries.





#### **Stronger Together**

#### **Strategies for Sustaining County Services in Tight Fiscal Times**

Over the past decade, Iowa's local governments have faced significant fiscal challenges due to legislative changes like SF 295 (2013) and HF 718 (2023), which have impacted their ability to raise revenue to deliver essential services. Urban counties, benefiting from larger and more diverse tax bases and population growth, have more fiscal flexibility, while rural counties, often grappling with population decline and stagnant property values, face sharper fiscal stress. This has made it difficult for rural counties to sustain vital services such as road maintenance, mental health care, and emergency response, especially as the administrative burden of complying with complex levy limits falls more heavily on their limited staff. This article is a discussion of a set of pragmatic strategies to sustain county services in the near and long-term future and is based



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on a presentation I made at the 2025 ISAC Spring Conference entitled 'Budgeting After HF 718'. In addition to being a source of educational resources and data-driven products, ISU Extension and Outreach, Community and Economic Development (CED) also has the capacity to assist in facilitating some of the strategies. Counties could also tap into the technical expertise that the area Councils of Government (COG) might offer.

#### **Strengthen core services**

Prioritize core services like law enforcement, emergency management, roads, and public health, and evaluate outcomes using performance-based or participatory budgeting to make transparent decisions about which services to maintain, reduce, or defer. Public safety and legal services, being mandated and high-cost, cannot be easily cut, so counties could explore new or revised user fees, seek state and federal grants, and consider cost-sharing arrangements with other governments. Roads and transportation, critical for economic activity, especially in rural areas, require creative funding strategies such as infrastructure grants, local option sales taxes, and public-private partnerships. Public health and human services, essential for vulnerable populations, can be supported by maximizing Medicaid reimbursements, pursuing grants, and partnering with nonprofits. Tourism and economic development offer potential for new revenue streams, especially for urban counties, while rural counties may need to diversify beyond agriculture to stabilize their finances. Efficient administration, including consolidating offices, reducing staff where feasible, and selling or leasing surplus properties, are worth exploring to manage limited resources.

#### Engage residents in a meaningful way

Engaging residents often is crucial for building trust and support for difficult fiscal decisions. Transparent communication, public forums, participatory budgeting exercises, and citizen advisory committees could help prioritize spending and foster civic ownership. Targeted meetings on specific issues, and materials like "Meeting in a Box," would allow residents to self-guide in conducting meetings on targeted topics that can reach a broader cross-section of the community. Counties could also leverage state initiatives, such as Iowa's Rural Innovation Grants and broadband expansion programs, to fund resident-driven projects and to facilitate virtual engagement. Continuous feedback loops, including publishing real-time results from engagement sessions and creating advisory committees, could ensure ongoing community input on key topics including county revenues.

#### **Explore cost sharing and collaboration**

Rural counties could explore cost-sharing and collaboration through inter-county or regional partnerships for services like IT, emergency communications, and public health. Formal agreements under lowa Code Chapter 28E allow counties to pool resources and deliver services more efficiently, as seen in shared public health services, joint

#### **Stronger Together**

law enforcement arrangements, and regional housing inspections. Sharing equipment and facilities, regionalizing services like 911 communications and mental health, and consolidating administrative functions can also reduce costs. Participation in regional or state purchasing cooperatives can also secure better pricing on supplies and insurance. Some of the best practices for advancing collaboration that could be adopted include: starting with small pilot projects; engaging leaders and the public early; documenting clear roles and cost-sharing formulas; and leveraging state or federal incentives for regionalization

#### **Diversify revenues**

While property tax remains the major revenue source, counties should cautiously diversify revenues by optimizing user fees, pursuing grants, and considering local option sales taxes where permitted. Reviewing and adjusting user fees to cover full costs, seeking intergovernmental grants, and judiciously using economic development tools like tax increment financing (TIFs) and urban renewal areas can help stabilize the tax base. Local option sales taxes, though requiring voter approval, can be targeted to specific community priorities, while public-private partnerships may offer additional resources for infrastructure and amenities if carefully evaluated for long-term impacts.

#### **Develop long-term financial plans**

Regularly updating long-term financial plans is essential for sustainability, resilience, and credibility with residents and state partners. This includes using realistic and multiple projection scenarios and aligning spending with community values and legal obligations. Counties should integrate cost containment measures, shared services, and technology improvements into their forecasts, synchronize capital improvement planning with long-term financial planning, and ensure adequate reserves for emergencies. Debt capacity should be reassessed considering new revenue realities, and transparency should be enhanced through updated financial dashboards and public reporting. Recognizing urban-rural divides in revenue flexibility, anticipating state policy changes, and factoring in demographic shifts should be key considerations.

#### Using data in decision making and peer-learning

Finally, county leaders must stay engaged with state policy changes, advocate for flexible fiscal tools, and use data to track community change and assess performance. Resources like ISUEO's <u>Annual Fiscal Condition reports</u> provide valuable benchmarks for revenue and expenditure trends. By engaging constituents more deeply in fiscal planning and decision-making, counties can foster greater understanding of what is feasible, encourage debate on priorities, and strengthen the sense of community belonging.

In summary, sustaining county services in tight fiscal times requires a combination of strategic prioritization, community engagement, collaboration, cautious revenue diversification, and proactive financial planning. Finally, learning from peers continues to be a great way to track efficiencies and implement ideas that have worked and are highly recommended. By testing and adopting these strategies, counties can build consensus for revenue solutions while maintaining essential services. Making residents an active part of the budgeting process, counties can educate them of the true situation and seek inputs on major decisions. This engagement-first model helps align fiscal decisions with community values while also strengthening the social infrastructure that is so vital for the future of communities.

This article does not represent the views of Iowa State University. Any viewpoints expressed in the article are those of the author.

#### **Preferred Vendor of the Month: Community State Bank**

Building Better Banking: When Relationships Matter More Than Transactions In an era of digital banking and automated services, there's something refreshingly different about Community State Bank (CSB), which serves the Des Moines metro area. While other institutions might greet you with chatbots and automated phone systems, CSB has spent over five decades proving that personal relationships still matter in banking, especially when it comes to public funds management.

"Banking shouldn't be just about numbers on a screen," said Crystal Edwards, CSB's SVP Treasury Management. "It should be about understanding the unique challenges each client faces and finding creative solutions to help them succeed." This philosophy has set Community State Bank apart in an increasingly impersonal financial landscape. While larger banks often take a one-size-fits-all approach, CSB's team takes the time to understand the intricate needs of each organization they serve. They've built their reputation by asking the right questions — what are your specific challenges? How can we help streamline your operations? What financial goals does your organization have?



Crystal Edwards SVP, Treasury Management Community State Bank cedwards@bankcsb.com

The impact of this relationship-first approach extends far beyond basic banking services. When county treasurers work with CSB, they gain more than just a place to store funds— they find a partner invested in their success. This partnership has proven particularly valuable during budget planning seasons, when organizations need insights and flexibility to maximize their interest income and operational efficiency.

But perhaps what truly sets CSB apart is their deep understanding of the public sector's unique challenges. They know that public funds require special handling, specific compliance requirements, and careful attention to regulatory details. Their 50 years of experience in this sector means they're not just bankers—they're specialists who understand the intricacies of public fund management.

The Bank's commitment to personalized service extends to every interaction. Whether you're making a routine deposit or planning a major financial initiative, you'll work with dedicated team members who know your name, understand your organization's history, and can make decisions quickly to meet your needs.

By putting people first, CSB has earned a loyal following among public organizations throughout Central Iowa. Clients often speak of the peace of mind that comes from having a financial partner who truly understands their needs and advocates for their success.

As banking continues to evolve, CSB remains committed to proving that the most powerful banking technology isn't found in software or apps, it's found in the human connections that help organizations thrive. For over 50 years, they've shown that when it comes to public funds banking, relationships aren't just nice to have—they're essential for success.

Whether you're managing a county's finances or overseeing a public organization's budget, the question isn't just where you bank, its whether your bank truly



understands and advocates your needs. At Community State Bank, public sector organizations find more than a financial institution, they find a trusted partner committed to their success, one relationship at a time.

#### **Preferred Vendor of the Month: Community State Bank**

#### **About Community State Bank**

Established in 1902 as the first bank in Ankeny, CSB has grown to one of the largest community banks in central lowa today. With the benefit of regional resources through its parent company QCR Holdings (QCRH), Inc., CSB offers a unique banking model of big bank capabilities with a community bank experience. In addition to strong support of the local community, CSB meets the unique needs of each client with expertise in: consumer banking; mortgage; commercial lending; treasury management solutions; financial advisory services; and trust and wealth management services.

Community State Bank has been an ISAC Preferred Vendor since 2017. As an Elite Preferred Vendor, they are proud to help support the ISAC mission to promote effective and responsible county government for the people of Iowa. CSB and Crystal Edwards have worked with ISAC for over seven years through partnerships and valued relationships.

#### **Meet the New ICACMP Team Member**

Hi! I'm Rachel Schaapveld, the newest team member of the Iowa County Attorney's Case Management Project (ICACMP). I started my professional career as a 911 Dispatcher in college for the University of Iowa Police Department. I quickly learned that I really enjoyed working in public service. As my family grew, my career has too. After I was a dispatcher, I spent a few years as a Community Service Officer for the Iowa City Police Department, and most recently, I was a Legal Assistant for the Johnson County Attorney's Office in the Simple Misdemeanors Division. I worked diligently to get the division to a place where it was running as seamlessly as possible for magistrate court. While I've really enjoyed my last few years with that office, I knew that long term — my family would need another change. I was ecstatic to learn the ICACMP Team was expanding, and I'm thrilled to be able to continue my career in public service in a different capacity.

I am fortunate to have a great little family rooting for me on the home front. I've been married to my husband, Mark, for almost 10 years. We both share a passion for public service, as he is a police officer for the Iowa City Police Department. Together we have three lovely (and sassy) girls; Stella (7), Everleigh (5), and Iris (3) who keep us on our toes. Stella and Evy are in the West Liberty School district and participate in the Dual Language Program. Mark and I have been trying to brush up on our Spanish to keep up with them. They are the lights of my life, and I love watching them learn and grow with such gusto for life.

When we are not herding children, we also have a menagerie of pets to care for. We are a family of animal lovers and started our zoo well before having kids. We currently have two dogs, three cats, and an axolotl. Including a cat named Pancake who was "rescued" while Mark was on duty – but that's a story for another time. I love being able to share my love of animals with our girls and if our neighborhood's association would allow it, I would totally have chickens and goats.

In my free time, I like to read or go exploring new places with our family. Mark and I used to visit breweries and wineries in our spare time before children and maybe someday we will get back to that. We also both used to be avid bike riders and have participated in several bike races, including RAGBRAI. I hope to eventually start riding again and maybe even share that passion with the girls as well.

I'm so thrilled to be joining such a welcoming and fantastic team at ISAC. I cannot wait to be a part of the future of ISAC and the upcoming endeavors. I might be five counties away from our West Des Moines office, but I'm always available if anyone needs anything. Thank you for the warm welcome!

#### **Private Well Grants**

#### What is Private Well Grants?

Private Well Grants (PWG) is a grant program with the goal of protecting groundwater across the state of Iowa. It has been managed by Iowa Health and Human Services since 2006. PWG is funded by a combination of Pesticide Dealer Fees, Fertilizer Sales Fees and Pesticide Registration Fees. These fees come together into the Groundwater Protection Fund. Two percent of that fund is funneled to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources for efforts relating to groundwater protection. Thirty five percent of those DNR funds are received by counties through PWG. PWG is an annual contract and only a Local Board of Health is eligible to apply for Private Well Grants Funding. In FY25, all 99 counties in Iowa were awarded funding. The original award amount for each Iowa County was \$50,505.

#### How are these funds used?

Private well activities that are reimbursable under this program are well water testing, well and cistern plugging, well reconstruction, shock chlorination and well assessments. The table below shows the rates at which these activities can be reimbursed. There is also a budget for training, supplies and promotional costs.

Activity	Payable to Well Owner	Administrative Expenses to County	Maximum Unit of Reimbursement
Well Testing	Acutal Cost of Nitrate, Bacteria, Arsenic or other water test analysis	\$125	Actual cost plus \$125
Well Plugging	Actual cost up to \$700	\$100	\$800
Cistern Plugging	Actual cost up to \$400	\$100	\$500
Well Reconstruction	Actual Cost up to \$2000	\$400	\$2400
Shock Chlorination	Actual cost up to \$400	\$100	\$500
Well Assessment	Actual cost up to \$600	\$100	\$700

Item	Description	Maximum Budget
Training*	Actual Costs related to training event, including registration, miles, lodging and meals.	\$3000
Supplies	Actual Cost	\$1000
Promotional	Actual Cost	\$3000



#### **How are Funds Reimbursed to the County?**

Pending an approved application, the FY26 (beginning July 1, 2025) award amount that each Iowa County will receive will be \$50,505. When completing budgeting activities, it is important to remember that PWG is a pass-through grant. The funds that are expended by the County are reimbursed back to the County at the rates in the chart on page 1. The County will receive and maintain part of those funds for administrative costs, the other part will be paid to the well owner for the activity completed. For example, if a well reconstruction is completed by a well owner and the cost of that well reconstruction is \$1850.00, the County will reimburse the well owner \$1850.00 for properly reconstructing the well. The County will then submit a claim to the PWG program for \$2250, \$1850 to reimburse what was paid to the well owner and \$400 to be paid to the County for the costs incurred for administrative activities associated with that well reconstruction. Ultimately, the goal of the PWG program is to positively impact groundwater protection efforts across the state. PWG completes a reallocation of funds mid-contract year. If PWG in one county is utilizing an excess of funds for

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Health and Human Services

Groundwater Protection through the well activities listed, they will have the option of receiving more funds partway through the year. Counties who underspend will have funds reallocated to the counties who have overspent. Historical spending, factors into reallocation eligibility.



<sup>\*</sup>Training eligible for reimbursement under PWG must be related to Groundwater protection this includes the topics of onsite wastewater and private wells.

#### **ISAC May Board Meeting Minutes Summary**

#### Wednesday, May 7, 2025

President Linda Zuercher called the meeting to order, led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance, and introductions were given. The Board approved the recommendation of the Nominating Committee to appoint Brad Kunkel, Johnson County Sheriff, as ISAC 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President. All ISAC Board members absent from the January and February meetings were sworn in as well as the newly appointed representative from the Iowa County Attorneys Association, Inc., Rachel Zimmermann Smith. Several sets of ISAC-related meetings were approved.

Jose Garcia and Josh Paulson discussed the process for the upcoming FY 2025 audit. Staff were dismissed so that Board members could raise any issues of concern prior to the start of the audit scheduled for August 2025. Brad Holtan gave an overview of the financials dated March 31, 2025. He recommended that ISAC write off up to \$300,000 for the Technology Service Bureau (TSB). Following discussion the Board approved the financial report which included the recommended write-off of funds. Brad then reviewed the quarterly investment report for informational purposes.

Beth Manley reported that the legal team will add two employees in May and June, an Assistant Attorney and a Law Clerk. They come with ample experience. She also gave an update on the IRS Private Letter ruling. The Litigation Committee met and moved forward with the writing of a Friend of the Court Brief with the lowa League of Cities related to an open meetings case. The Board ratified the Committee's decision.

The ISAC Board meeting was recessed and reconvened following adjournment of the IGBP and ICTS Board of Directors meetings. Brandi Kanselaar, Beth, and Brad reported a list of the various future users of CSN following the elimination of the MH/DS regions. There have been a number of past and future transfers of data to Iowa Health and Human Services. The Board discussed related topics thoroughly.

Rachel Bennett reported that the Golden Eagle Committee will not be chosen until following the deadline. Andrea Woodard updated the Board that the compensation study report results have been received by ISAC. Meetings with staff and managers will be held moving forward with any changes being effective July 1, 2025. She gave an overview of the four areas that have come out of the SWOT analysis as priorities moving forward.

Kelsey Sebern and Jacy Ripperger reported that we've received excellent reviews related to the 2025 ISAC Spring Conference and the ISAC Legislative Reception. Brad gave an overview of the 2025 ISAC Scholarship Golf Fundraiser and made a call for more golfers. Kelsey presented and the Board approved the recommended 2025 ISAC Annual Conference agenda.

Jamie Cashman and Lucas Beenken gave an overview of the status of the legislative session including ISAC's Top Legislative Priorities, Legislative Objectives, and other bills of interest to counties. Property tax was amply discussed.

Andrea and Rachel reported that the NACo ISAC Board Representative is a three-year term and that during this meeting a representative will need to be appointed. Two Board members expressed interest, but one conceded. Richard Crouch was approved to serve another term in the position.

President Zuercher gave an update on the process for the ISAC IPAIT Board member appointment. The Iowa State County Treasurers Association will make a recommendation to be approved by the ISAC Board via an email or Zoom vote. President Zuercher gave a listing of updated committee assignment for the remainder of 2025. Committees will be evaluated prior to 2026 to determine if changes are needed.

Andrea reviewed her 2025 goals and the status of each. She gave staffing updates as well as more information related to the 99-County Tour. She concluded her report with ideas for the October Board Retreat.

#### 2025 Calendar

June 2025

ICIT Conference 4-6

(The Meadows Event and Conference Center)

18 ISAC Scholarship Golf Fundraiser

(Toad Valley Golf Course, Pleasant Hill)

ICRA Summer School 18-20

(West Des Moines, Iowa)

25-27 ISACA Summer Conference

(Hilton Gardin Inn West Des Moines)

**July 2025** 

11-14 NACo Annual Conference and Exposition

(Philadelphia, Pennsylvania)

August 2025

20-22 ISAC Annual Conference

(Veterans Memorial Community Choice Credit

Union Convention Center, Des Moines)

September 2025

ISSDA Fall Jail School

(Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport)

October 2025

ISAC Board of Directors Retreat 1-3

(Carroll County)

Assessors Fall School 5-8

(Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport)

November 2025

19-20 ISAC Board of Directors Meeting

(ISAC Office)

December 2025

**ISSDA Winter School** 2-5

(Holiday Inn Des Moines Airport)

3-5 79th 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.

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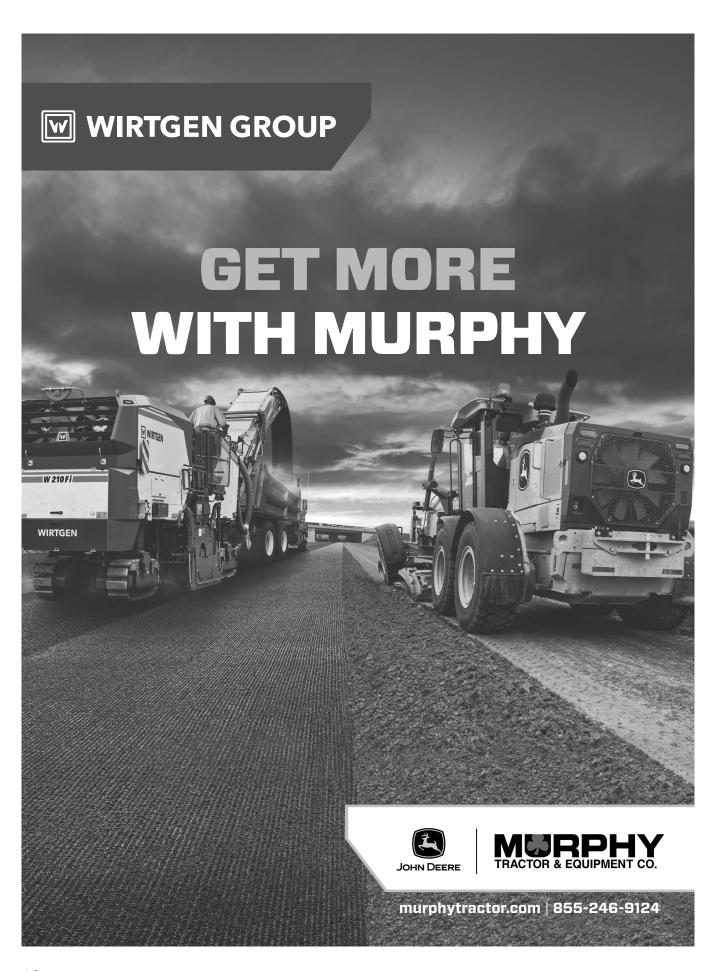
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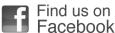
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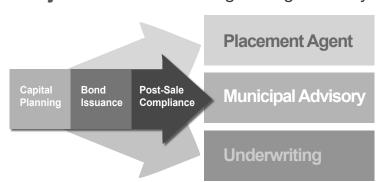








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- · Group disability products



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