

2023/2024 – CONFERENCE BOARD MINUTES – 1ST MEETING

The Kossuth County Conference Board met Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. in Kossuth County Board Room.

The members present were:

Board of Supervisors: Carter Nath, Jack Plathe, Joshua Waechter, Kyle Stecker and Roger Tjarks

Mayors: Rick Murphy – Algona, Tom Johnson – Bancroft, Christy Skilling – Burt, Kevin McPeak – LuVerne, Dave LaGue – Titonka, Craig Larson - Wesley and Marilyn Schutz – West Bend.

School Board: Alicia Brass – North Iowa, Gene Miller – North Union and Chris Montag – West Bend.

Also in attendance were Judy Samp – Assessor, Christopher Lawson – Deputy Assessor and Nancy Dixon-Knecht – Clerk.

The first item on the agenda was to approve the minutes from the March 8, 2022, meeting. There was a motion by Mayor, Kevin McPeak and second by Mayor, Marilyn Schutz to approve the minutes as presented. On a voice vote, the motion was carried.

Supervisor, Kyle Stecker made a motion to open the public hearing. Mayor, Christy Skilling second the motion. On a voice vote, the motion was carried.

Assessor, Judy Samp, spoke briefly on happenings of the office and her expectations for the coming year. Assessor Samp then reviewed the Annual Report and the proposed Commercial Review Revaluation. She explained the proposed budget for 2023/2024 Assessment Expense Fund. The proposed salary for the Assessor at \$97,881 with the Deputy Assessor at 80% (\$78,305), Clerk – Nancy Dixon - Knecht at a 8.7% increase to \$51,340 and Field Appraiser - Brandon Ostwald at a 8.7% increase to \$45,551. The members broke into their respective voting groups for discussion.

Mayors were recommending an 8.7% increase for Staff and 7.5% for Assessor, School Board 8.7% increase for Staff and 6% for Assessor and Supervisors 8% increase for Staff and 8% for Assessor. Supervisor, Roger Tjarks made a motion of 8.7% increase for Staff and 7.5% for Assessor (Assessor \$95,657, Deputy \$76,525, Clerk \$51,340, Appraiser \$45,551). The motion was seconded by Mayor, Kevin McPeak, roll call vote 1, motion carried (3-0).

Mayor, Tom Johnson made a motion to approve the Commercial Review Revaluation. School Board, Gene Miller seconded the motion. Roll call vote 2, motion carried (3-0).

Mayor, Kevin McPeak made a motion to approve the proposed budget with the amended salaries. Supervisor, Carter Nath seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion was carried.

Assessor, Judy Samp explained the purpose and need for Outside Legal Counsel. Motion by Mayor, Kevin McPeak, to allow for the use of Outside Legal Counsel. Second by Mayor, Marilyn Schutz, voice vote, motion carried.

Assessor, Judy Samp explained that the Board of Review term of Linda Zwiefel expired 1/1/2023. Motion by Supervisor, Jack Plathe to reappoint Linda Zwiefel for a 6-year term, expiring 1/1/2029. Seconded by Mayor, Christy Skilling, voice vote, motion carried.

The next item on the agenda was to set the date for the Public Hearing on the proposed budget. Mayor, Rick Murphy made a motion to set the Public Hearing for February 28th, 2023, at 12:00 p.m. Mayor, Marilyn Schutz, seconded the motion, voice vote, motion carried.

Mayor, Kevin McPeak, made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mayor, Marilyn Schutz, seconded the motion. On a voice vote, the motion was carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

Roger Tjarks, Chair of the Conference Board

Judy Samp, Clerk