



Annual Report

2009



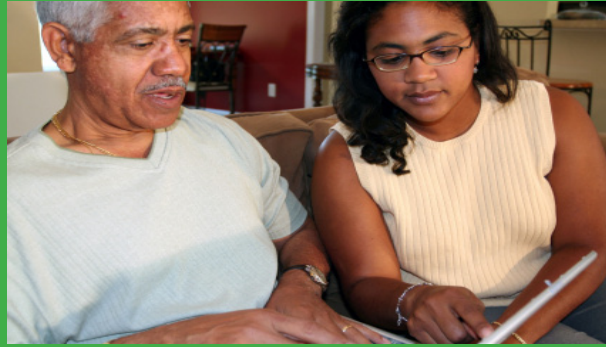
# 2009



## **Our Mission:**

Polk County exists to serve the public. We are committed to service excellence, fiscal responsibility and enhancing the quality of life. We will be the most effective, productive, and responsive local government in Iowa.

# Annual Report



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## Credits

Ami Anderson / Board of Supervisors  
concept, design, layout, data gathering, and general support

Sue Elliott / Board of Supervisors  
data gathering, verification, and general support

Randy Summy & Ty Stamper / General Services  
printing

## Message from the Chair

July of 2008 began as we continued in our efforts to provide assistance to our citizens affected by the June floods. The Polk County Board of Supervisors provided \$275,000 in gaming revenue to the Polk County Housing Trust Fund for the Home Restoration Program to aid flood victims within Polk County. Several Polk County Departments and staff provided valuable assistance to our citizens as they attempted to recover from the devastating effects this flooding had on their property.

During FY 08/09, the Board also provided grants to many deserving organizations within Polk County through our Community Betterment and Community Development Grant Programs. This funding is available through monies Polk County receives from Prairie Meadows gaming revenues. The Betterment Grant Programs are designed to provide financial support to non-profit organizations that provide cultural, recreational, educational and human needs services to our citizens. This year's awards includ-

ed a \$500,000 grant to Des Moines Area Community College for the new health science facility.

The Iowa Events Center continues on its track of success providing quality entertainment to our community. This past fiscal year the Iowa Events Center hosted 573 events and brought a profit of \$77,114 to Polk County. Wells Fargo Arena also experienced greater attendance than budgeted. Concerts included Keith Urban/Taylor Swift, Coldplay, Metallica, Rascal Flats, Slipknot, Toby Keith and many more. Other successful events included the Gymnastics Superstars event featuring Shawn Johnson and Walking with Dinosaurs.

The Board, facing \$15 - \$20 million in renovation costs at the Polk County Convention Complex, engaged Economic Research Associates to study the need for additional meeting and ballroom space at the Iowa Events Center. The physical separation and age of the Polk County Convention Complex from the rest of the Iowa Events Center has been found to be a hindrance

in attracting conventions. An expansion of meeting and ballroom space at the Iowa Events Center will reduce operating costs by \$500,000 annually, provide an opportunity to grow business and bring new regional conventions. After receiving a conceptual design of an expansion of meeting and ballroom space at Veterans Memorial Auditorium, the Board moved forward in May of 2009 in issuing a request for proposal for architectural services for a full house expansion of meeting and ballroom space at the Iowa Events Center. The Polk County Convention Complex will continue to operate until the new meeting and ballroom space is complete in 2011.

In June, 2009, Polk County received a written proposal from DM Hockey LLC, owners of the AHL Iowa Chops. This offer proposed that the Board accept \$700,000 in settlement of a non-relocation agreement between Polk County and DM Hockey. The Board deemed the proposed settlement unacceptable. The Board of





Supervisors entered into a non-relocation agreement with DM Hockey Holdings, LLC in good faith. Polk County has honored this agreement and expects DM Hockey to honor its part of the agreement by either playing hockey in Des Moines or paying the County the full agreed upon amount to relocate. The Board believes along with the AHL and Global Spectrum (private management firm that operates the Iowa Events Center) that AHL hockey can be successful in Des Moines. We have received much public input expressing support for the continuation of AHL Hockey at Wells Fargo Arena. Polk County has been in contact with the AHL regarding this situation, will continue to work with the league to ensure AHL hockey stays in Des Moines and move forward in a manner that is in the best interest of the citizens of Polk County.

The Board continued in its support of affordable and safe housing ensuring transitional housing is provided within the community by expressing its intent to convey the former

Polk County Interim Jail located at 2 SW 9th Street to the Greater Des Moines YMCA for the continuation of the men's transitional housing program.

An agreement with all libraries in Polk County was also approved in FY 08/09 ensuring quality library services for unincorporated residents.

Following the failure of the April, 2008 courthouse annex referendum, the Board committed to reviewing possible alternatives in providing relief for the courts. In May 2009, the Board engaged the services of the National Center for State Courts to review Polk County's court function and space issues. In hiring the National Center for State Courts, it was the Board's intent to look for alternative ways that Polk County could provide space for the courts as well as review areas that would lower costs while still delivering service. We look forward to receiving the

National Center for State Courts recommendations that are due at the beginning of 2010.

The Polk County Board of Supervisors is pleased to provide this Annual Report for FY 2008/09. We continue in our commitment in being fiscally responsible and operating efficiently in providing quality services. Thank you for your continued interest and support.

**Angela Connolly, Chair**

Polk County Board of Supervisors



# Board of Supervisors





**Robert Brownell** was elected in 2000 and is serving his third term. He represents the 1st District which is made up of Clive, West Des Moines, and southwestern Des Moines. Brownell's experience in government began as a city councilmember in Clive, elected in 1985. He was elected as mayor in 1993 where he served until his election to the Polk County Board of Supervisors in 2000.

Brownell was raised in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He attended Missouri Military Academy in Mexico, Missouri, and graduated from Kennedy High School in Cedar Rapids. He obtained his undergraduate degree from the University of Northern Iowa cum laude in English and Education. He has attended Drake University for post graduate work. Brownell served as Branch Manager for Yellow Transportation in Des Moines for 15 years. Prior to Yellow he held several management positions with Roadway Express across the Midwest.



**E.J. Giovannetti** was elected in 2002 and is serving his third term. He represents Polk County's 2nd District which consists primarily of Ankeny, Grimes, Johnston, Sheldahl, and Urbandale.

Giovannetti's experience in government began on the Planning and Zoning Commission in Urbandale in 1973. He was appointed mayor in 1977 and served in that position through 1997. Giovannetti has been in the private practice of law with Hopkins & Huebner, P.C. since 1970. Prior to that time, he served as Assistant Attorney General, Counsel for Legislative Research Bureau, and Deputy Industrial Commissioner, all with the State of Iowa.

Giovannetti currently serves as Chair for the Polk County Housing Trust Fund. He also serves on the board for Choose Des Moines Communities, Des Moines Arts Festival, Downtown Events Group, Mid-Iowa Development Fund, Central Iowa Drinking Water Commission, and Endow Urbandale. Giovannetti is also a liaison to the Polk County Board of Health and an alternate to the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). Most recently Giovannetti was elected as Chair to the Mid-Iowa Association of Local Governments (MIALG).



**Tom Hockensmith** began serving his second term as Polk County Supervisor in January 2003. He represents Polk County's 3rd District, which includes the cities of Alleman, Altoona, Bondurant, Elkhart, Mitchellville, Pleasant Hill, Polk City, Runnells, and the northeast section of Des Moines. He served as the Chair of the Board of Supervisors in 2005 and 2007.

Hockensmith's previous professional experience includes positions as a policy advisor for Iowa Governor Thomas J. Vilsack, a union representative for American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) and as an electrician for the Iowa Department of Transportation.



**John F. Mauro** began serving his fourth term as a member of the Board of Supervisors for Polk County's 4th District. John previously served the citizens of Polk County for two consecutive terms after being elected in 1990. John served as Chair of the Board of Supervisors in 1993, 1996, 2004, and 2008.

John is a native of Des Moines and was born and raised on Des Moines' southside. He has been a self-employed businessman and has owned his own insurance agency for many years. John and his wife Grace have been married 45 years. They have three sons and seven grandchildren.



**Angela Connolly** was first elected to represent Polk County's 5th District in 1998. Connolly is serving as Chair of the Board of Supervisors for 2009. She previously served as Chair in 2000, 2003, and 2006.

Before joining the Board of Supervisors, Connolly spent 19 years working at the Polk County Planning & Zoning department.

She has been active in many civic and community activities including the Metropolitan Planning Organization, Metropolitan Advisory Council, Convention and Visitors Bureau, Health Services Board of Directors, Des Moines Neighborhood Resource Office, Greater Des Moines Sports Authority, Greater Des Moines Partnership, NAMIWalks Advisory Council, Riverfront Development Authority Board of Directors, Polk County Housing Trust Fund, Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority, and Metropolitan Planning Organization Transit Roundtable.



**John Sarcone** graduated cum laude from Rockhurst College in 1972 with an A.B. degree in History and was a member of Alpha Sigma Nu, the Jesuit honor society. In 1975, he graduated from Drake University Law School and was admitted to the Iowa Bar in June 1975.

Sarcone assumed the responsibilities of County Attorney in January 1991 and was re-elected in 1994, 1998, 2002 and 2006. He was President of the Iowa County Attorneys Association in 1998, and is currently a member of the Board of the Iowa County Attorneys Association. Sarcone was the Iowa State Director of the National District Attorneys Association from 1998 to 2000, and is currently a Vice President of the NDAA Board of Directors, serves on the Executive Committee of NDAA, and is the co-chair of the NDAA Legislative Committee.



**Jamie Fitzgerald** was unanimously appointed Polk County Auditor and Commissioner of Elections by the Board of Supervisors on January 2, 2007, to fill the unexpired term of the office.

Prior to his appointment, Jamie was First Deputy Auditor for four and a half years under Auditor Michael Mauro. During this time, Jamie directed many technological upgrades in the office, including recording Board of Supervisors' meetings for the website, overseeing the creation of a biweekly newsletter, and automating the transfer index. As Auditor, Jamie has implemented efficiency and conservation measures which have cut printing in the administrative department more than 25 percent. This was accomplished by putting all Board agendas, minutes and summaries online and by scanning tens of thousands of historical documents, saving addition storage and staff resources. He has also championed a transparent open government office by inviting candidates, the media and public to his office for election demonstrations, tours and explanations of the voting process.

Prior to his Auditor office service, he worked for the Iowa Senate Democratic Research Staff in various capacities, including as a research analyst. His duties included staffing a variety of standing and budget committees, responding to constituent requests, and analyzing and advising Senators on amendments and bills.

Jamie received his Bachelor of Arts from Iowa State University in 1994 and an Associate of Arts degree from Iowa Central Community College in 1992.



**Julie Haggerty** was sworn into office in January 2007. She is a life-long resident of Polk County, a graduate of Dowling Catholic High School, attended Arizona State University, and is a recent graduate of the Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute.

Haggerty began her career in the Polk County Recorder's office in 1974, where she worked for twelve years, and the last three as First Deputy Recorder. For the next twenty years, Julie was the business manager for her family's business, a local printing company that operated on the city's southside over 45 years.

Since taking office, Haggerty has extended her office hours and established a same-day recording policy. She has also brought services to the citizens of Polk County by launching Passport Saturdays in libraries and senior centers. As an elected official she has been given the opportunity to serve the residents of Polk County in many ways. She has been able to share her knowledge of county government with students in schools and meet with members of the Citizen's Academy and other civic groups. She is presently serving on the Miracle League steering committee, helping build a baseball field near Principal Park for kids with disabilities.



**Mary Maloney** has served as Polk County Treasurer since 1989, recently re-elected to her fifth term.

Maloney is a 1977 graduate of Iowa State University with a degree in Economics. She brought a financial and computer background in business to Polk County.

Significant technological changes have been made to the office in the last eighteen years; the Treasurer received an "Innovations in Government Award" in 1997 for many of these improvements. Maloney kicked-off an eGovernment initiative in 2002, during her presidency of ISCTA, which received two national awards.





**Bill McCarthy** was elected Sheriff in November 2008. Prior to becoming Sheriff, McCarthy served for two years as Chief Deputy. Sheriff McCarthy's law enforcement career began 39 years ago as a Police Officer with the Des Moines Police Department. He held positions as an Investigator, Sergeant, Lieutenant, Captain, Assistant Chief and served as the Des Moines Police Chief until his retirement in February 2006.

He has earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice and a Master of Public Administration Degree from Drake University. He is a graduate of the Police Executive Research Forum's and Harvard's Senior Management Institutes for Police and the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Program and is a certified Polygraph Examiner.

Sheriff McCarthy served five years as President of South Des Moines Little League. He has also administered the

Police Athletic League, providing over a number of years a variety of youth sporting activities for hundreds of low-income children in the Des Moines inner city and was instrumental in reopening the Westside Boxing Club and establishing the Eastside Boxing Club.

He is a member of the Community Coalition Against Substance Abuse and has served on many community, school, state and federal task forces dealing with adolescent shelters, school dropouts, youth groups and drug violence. He has served on the Attorney General's Task Force on Juvenile Justice and was appointed by the governor to serve on various committees and councils, including the highly quoted Task Force on Disproportionate Representation. He participated in the President's White House Policy Council meetings on youth gangs and violence, helping to shape the President's initiative on federal juvenile legislation.

Sheriff McCarthy continues to be active in many civic and community organizations.

# Elected Officials

## Community Betterment Grants

Accent Neighborhood Association  
AID Greater Des Moines, Inc  
AIDS Project of Central Iowa  
Amanda Cares, Inc - Amanda the Panda Family Grief Center  
American Cancer Society  
American Legion Post #731  
American Lung Association of Iowa  
Ankeny After Prom  
Ankeny Area Historical Society  
Ankeny City Band  
Ankeny Community Chorus  
Ankeny Community School District Foundation  
Ankeny Little League  
Ankeny Mayor's Youth Council  
Ankeny Tennis Boosters  
Art Stop  
Beacon of Life  
Beaverdale Fall Festival  
Beaverdale Little League  
Beaverdale Neighborhood Association  
Bellizzi MacRae American Legion Post 659  
Bernie Lorenz Recovery  
Best Buddies Iowa  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Iowa  
Big Creek Historical Society

Bondurant Soccer Club  
Bondurant-Farrar Education Foundation  
Bondurant-Farrar HS After Prom  
Brook Run Neighborhood Association  
Capitol Park Neighborhood Association  
Central Iowa Shelter & Services  
Central Iowa Youth Basketball  
Child Abuse Prevention Council  
Chrysalis Foundation  
City of Clive- Parks and Recreation Department  
City of West Des Moines Park and Recreation Department  
Civic Center of Greater Des Moines  
Clive Historical Society  
Clothes Hanger c/o Central Place Family Resource Center  
Cross Ministries  
Dallas Center Grimes HS After Prom  
Dallas Center Grimes Soccer Club  
Des Moines Area Interfaith Hospitality Network  
Des Moines Area Youth Track Club & Youth Development Inc  
Des Moines Arts Festival  
Des Moines Fairground VFW Post 738  
Des Moines Golden K Kiwanis and Kiwanis Foundation  
Des Moines Neighborhood Resource Office  
Des Moines Pastoral Counseling Center  
Des Moines Public Schools Library Support Group  
Douglas Acres Neighborhood Association  
Dowling Parents Guild

# Grants to Community



Downtown Urbandale Neighborhood Association  
 East Des Moines Girls Softball Assoc  
 East Des Moines Swim Club  
 East High School Post Prom Committee  
 Easter Seals Iowa  
 Eastern Polk Regional Development, Inc  
 Eastside Softball Club  
 Employee & Family Resources, Inc  
 Fairground Neighborhood Association  
 Fairground Neighbors for Community Improvement  
 Fairmont Park Neighborhood Association  
 Grandview Little League  
 Greater Des Moines Community Foundation  
 Greater Des Moines Convention & Visitors Bureau  
 Greater Des Moines Music Coalition  
 Greater Des Moines Soap Box Derby Association  
 Greater East Side Development  
 Grimes Boy Scout Troop 111  
 Grimes Chamber & Economic Development  
 Grimes Softball Association  
 Heart Connection Children's Cancer Programs  
 Heartland Youth Choir  
 Highland Park Community Action Association  
 Highland Park Little League of Des Moines  
 Hoover High School Cheerleaders  
 Hoover High School ELL Program  
 Hoover High School Library  
 Hoover High School Post Prom  
 Hoover-Meredith Learning Community Foundation  
 Hospice of Central Iowa  
 Iowa Friends of Foster Children Foundation  
 Iowa Homeless Youth Centers  
 Iowa National Bar Association  
 Iowa Sister States  
 Italian-American Cultural Center of Iowa  
 Johnston (Station) Historical Society  
 Johnston After Prom Committee  
 Johnston Band Parents Association  
 Johnston Chamber of Commerce- Green Days Festival  
 Johnston Partnership for a Healthy Community Coalition  
 Johnston Soccer Club  
 Keep Ankeny Beautiful (Youth in Parks Program)  
 Keep Iowa Beautiful  
 Kiwanis Riverview Nature Island  
 Lincoln High School Senior Celebration  
 Little All-American Football League  
 Living History Farms  
 Make-A-Wish Foundation of Iowa  
 Mentor Iowa  
 Midwest Educational Resources Development Fund, Inc  
 Minority Communications Inc  
 Mitchellville Community Center  
 National Black Child Development Institute- DM Affiliate  
 New Horizons Adult Day Center  
 North Des Moines Girls Softball  
 North High School Drama Department  
 North High School Girls Athletics  
 North High School Library  
 North High School Post Prom  
 North Polk Community Schools Foundation  
 North Polk HS Post Prom  
 North Polk Music Boosters  
 Northwest Soccer  
 Northwick & Bloomfield Acres Neighborhood Association  
 Oak Park Neighbors  
 Oakridge Neighborhood Services  
 Orchard Place  
 Pleasant Hill Little League  
 Pleasant Hill PTO  
 Polk City Development Corporation  
 Polk County Historical Society  
 Prevent Blindness Iowa  
 Primary Health Care, Inc

Rebuilding Together Greater Des Moines  
 River Bend Neighborhood Association  
 Rock In Prevention, Inc  
 Roosevelt High School  
 Roosevelt High School Senior Celebration  
 Runnells Area Park Co (RAPCO)  
 Runnells Community Library Foundation  
 Runnells Elementary PTA  
 Runnells Little League  
 Runnells Pride and Beautification Committee  
 Salisbury House Foundation  
 Saydel Community School District  
 Saydel High School After Prom Committee  
 Scarlet Pride, Inc  
 South Central Iowa Federation of Labor Park  
 South Des Moines Girls Amateur Softball Association  
 South Side Rails  
 Southeast Polk Dollars for Scholars Chapter  
 Southeast Polk High School Post Prom  
 Special Olympics Iowa  
 St. Paul AME Transformation Center  
 The Arc of Iowa  
 The Homestead  
 The Optimist Club of Urbandale  
 Union Park Neighborhood Association  
 Urbandale American Legion Post 663  
 Urbandale Caring Corps  
 Urbandale Little League  
 Urbandale Parks and Recreation  
 Urbandale Post Prom  
 Valley High School After Prom  
 Waterbury Neighborhood Association  
 Watrous South Neighborhood Association  
 West Des Moines Community Schools Foundation  
 West Des Moines Dollars for Scholars  
 West Des Moines Girls Softball Association  
 West Des Moines Historical Society  
 West Des Moines Human Services  
 West Des Moines Little Pro Youth Football League, Inc  
 Wildwood Hills Ranch  
 Young Women's Resource Center  
 Youth Homes of Mid-America

## Community Development Grants

Beaverdale Mainstreet Project  
 City of Des Moines -Gaming Payments  
 Civic Center of Greater Des Moines  
 Des Moines Art Center  
 Des Moines Community Schools (East High School/Williams Football Stadium)  
 Drake University (Literacy Program)  
 Eddie Davis Community Center  
 Greater Des Moines Baseball Company  
 Greater Des Moines Foundation (Sculpture Garden)  
 Hansen House  
 Highland Park Little League  
 Iowa Asian Alliance  
 Iowa Cubs Foundation  
 Latino Resources  
 Iowa Legal Aide  
 Mosaic  
 North Des Moines Girls Softball  
 Partners Unlimited  
 Polk County Schools-Gaming Payments  
 Polk County Suicide Prevention Coalition  
 Primary Health Care Inc.  
 Runnells Area Park  
 United Way-ISED  
 Urban Dreams

## Economic Development Awards

Terrus Real Estate Group  
 Southeast Polk Community School District

## Iowa Events Center Expansion

Since opening the Iowa Events Center (IEC) in 2005, the future of the Polk County Convention Complex (Plex) has been under review by the Board of Supervisors. Due to the age, condition and cost of renovating the Plex, the Polk County Board of Supervisors engaged Economic Research Associates (ERA) to provide an assessment regarding whether or not there was a need for a possible expansion of a meeting and ballroom space at the IEC. To strengthen the convention and hospitality industry in Des Moines, ERA's assessment advised that the expansion must occur to protect our investment, that the Plex is no longer the most competitive venue for conventions in Iowa and that the expansion will provide an opportunity for additional regional/national conventions.

## Courthouse Space

A referendum to construct additional court space failed in April 2008. The referendum considered an Option 5a courthouse plan to address the current and future space needs of the courts. The Option 5a plan includes the full use and renovation of the historic courthouse and construction of a new court facility on County owned land immediately south of the present courthouse site at a 2009 construction cost not to exceed \$127 million. By state law, Polk County is responsible to provide space for its state courts. Polk County's Courthouse was originally built in 1906 with four courtrooms.

The National Center for State Courts was engaged by the Board of Supervisors in May of 2009 to perform a review of court function and space issues. The result of this study will provide the information that will allow the Board to identify future courts space needs. The final report is expected to be complete by January of 2010.

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## Budget & Strategic Planning

The financial condition of Polk County government remains strong. Growth in the tax base and continued revenue from Prairie Meadows has allowed the County to continue to reinforce its fiscal condition. This situation has enabled the County to decrease the tax levy rate while still undertaking new projects and serving a key role in area development efforts.

In November 2008, Polk County reaffirmed its AAA bond rating from Standard & Poor's Ratings Service. The rating service cited the County's strong fund balances, conservative budgeting practices, low debt burden, and steady economic growth as the basis for the rating. The AAA bond rating is the highest rating available, and distinguishes Polk County as having an extremely strong capacity to meet its financial commitments.

Despite uncertain economic times, it is estimated the County will continue to maintain healthy fund balances throughout the upcoming fiscal year. Estimated General Fund ending balances are projected at 24 percent of expenditures, a percentage that falls within the County's adopted financial policies. Nonetheless, the County is closely monitoring the financial situation and reviewing the effect of the economy on budget projections. We are committed to responsible fiscal management and will adapt as needed to continue serving the community in a cost-effective manner.

## Gaming Revenue Use Summary

<u>Direct County Uses</u>	<u>FY 2008/09</u>
Pay off Events Center Bonds	12,554,822
Pay off Sewer Bonds	1,194,972
Prairie Meadows Property Tax	4,391,952
Capital Improvements	3,884,564
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Revenue Sharing with City & Schools	2,472,086
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Community Grants, Economic Development & Operations	11,004,212
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Total	35,502,608



## Housing

In response to the devastating floods that occurred in June of 2008, Polk County approved the expenditure of \$275,000 in gaming revenues to the Polk County Housing Trust Fund for the Home Restoration Program to aid flood victims in Polk County. The Home Restoration Program provided immediate needs assistance to flood affected homeowners, expedited the rehabilitation of homes damaged by flood waters, provided financial assistance to cover shortfalls in available FEMA benefits, provided technical assistance in bid and contractor procurement, ensured personal and emotional needs were addressed by appropriate professionals and provided a lead safe environment for homes with children under the age of six. Polk County received a \$3 million Lead Based Paint Hazard Control Grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The three-year grant provided funding to conduct lead repair work in 206 housing units in Polk and Dallas Counties. The program will involve assisting low income families with children under the age of six. Although this project encompasses all of Polk County,

special targeting has been placed on zip code areas with very high socioeconomic and environmental risk factors. This grant is the largest ever received by the Polk County Health Department and allows us to leverage existing resources and commitments to address lead poisoning in our community by repairing more homes. But most importantly, will allow us to significantly reduce the number of children who are lead poisoned. Polk County participated in assisting the community in resolving a need for transitional housing by selling the property located at 2 SW 9th Street, formerly known as the Interim Jail, to the YMCA of Greater Des Moines for the men's transitional housing program. The YMCA will move forward with this project once additional funding has been received.

## Library Funding

Polk County entered into a new agreement in April, 2009 with the Polk County Library Association regarding future funding of Polk County libraries. The agreement includes a formula based on circulation that was agreed upon by the libraries and provides a standard for funding this important community resource for the next few years.

# Polk County Initiatives & Budget



# **Elected Offices & Departments**



## Board of Supervisors

Elected to represent one of five districts in Polk County, members of the Board of Supervisors establish local laws and policies, manage the County's budget, allocate funding, and prioritize County initiatives. Their mission is to effectively represent the interests of Polk County citizens and provide leadership in the greater community of Polk County. The Board of Supervisors convenes each Tuesday morning at 9:30 a.m. in room 120.

Robert Brownell - Supervisor, 1st District	515.286.3115
E.J. Giovannetti - Supervisor, 2nd District	515.286.3119
Tom Hockensmith - Supervisor, 3rd District	515.286.3116
John F. Mauro - Supervisor, 4th District	515.286.3118
Angela Connolly - Supervisor, 5th District	515.286.3117
Ron Olson, County Administrator	515.286.2125
Sue Elliott, Project Manager	515.286.3128
Deb Anderson, Budget Officer	515.286.3016
Shelly Poole, Strategic Planning Specialist	515.286.3991
Ami Anderson, Administrative Secretary	515.286.3301
Paulette Stodgel, Administrative Secretary	515.286.3121
Fax Number	515.323.5225

[www.polkcountyiowa.gov/supervisors](http://www.polkcountyiowa.gov/supervisors)

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## Attorney

The County Attorney is responsible for the prosecution of criminal offenses occurring in Polk County. The County Attorney also provides legal counsel to the Board of Supervisors and any of its departments or boards in civil matters.

The County Attorney handles all juvenile matters including delinquencies, child in need of assistance, and termination of parental rights. Child welfare mediations are also handled in this office. The Restorative Justice Center (RJC) provides Polk County citizens and businesses the opportunity to receive justice in non-traditional law enforcement situations.

The County Attorney's Office has a Collections Unit, responsible for collecting outstanding court costs and fines, once they become delinquent. Parallel with the collection of delinquent court debt, the Unit also works closely with the Polk County Sheriff's office in the collection of jail room and board fees.

General Information	515.286.3737
Criminal Division	515.286.3737
Intake and Screening	515.286.3880
Domestic Abuse	515.286.3880
Drug and Gang	515.286.2121
Major Offense	515.286.3680
Juvenile Bureau	515.286.2035
Restorative Justice Center	515.286.3057
Civil Division	515.286.3341
Fax	515.286.3428

[www.polkcountyiowa.gov/attorney](http://www.polkcountyiowa.gov/attorney)  
Polk County Attorney: John Sarcone

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## Auditor

The Polk County Auditor performs a wide variety of functions and duties which include: preparing and certifying tax levies, keeping real estate transfer records, maintaining financial records (including budgeting), clerking the Board of Supervisors meetings, maintaining the Geographic Information System, and is the Commissioner of Elections.

General Information	515.286.3079
Accounts Payable	515.286.3414
Accounts Receivable	515.286.3419
Beer/Cigarette Licenses	515.286.3079
Central Accounting	515.286.3075
Dog License	515.286.3076
Election Office	515.286.3247
Mapping	515.286.3091
Payroll	515.286.3067
Property Descriptions	515.286.3097
Tax Department	515.286.3097
Fax Number	515.286.3608

[www.auditor.co.polk.ia.us](http://www.auditor.co.polk.ia.us)  
Polk County Auditor: Jamie Fitzgerald

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## Recorder

The Polk County Recorder's office core mission is to serve the citizen's of Polk County by: preserving a true and reliable account of all real estate transactions and vital human events, along with collection of revenue taxes on required real estate transfers, providing public access to entitled records, both historic and current, issuing user permits and registrations for recreational vehicles and boats, along with collection of related taxes on behalf of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, maintaining title and lien records for recreational vehicles and boats, recording documents on the day received, and reviewing and accepting passport applications.

General Information	515.286.3160
Passports	515.286.3160
Real Estate	515.286.3160
Trade Names	515.286.3160
Boat/Snowmobile/ATV Registration	515.286.3162
Imaging	515.286.3175
Military Records	515.286.3175
Uniform Commercial Code	515.286.3182
Vital Records	515.286.3781
Fax Number	515.323.5593

[www.polkcountyiowa.gov/recorder](http://www.polkcountyiowa.gov/recorder)  
Polk County Auditor: Julie Haggerty

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## Sheriff

The Polk County Sheriff is the Chief Executive Officer of the largest Sheriff's office in Iowa with over 360 employees and an annual budget of more than \$40 million. The Sheriff's office is a full service law enforcement agency with Patrol, Criminal Investigations, Civil, and Jail Divisions.

Bill McCarthy	515.286.3800
Chief Deputy	515.286.3245
Administrative Services Division	515.286.3800
Civil Division - Civil Manager	515.286.3944
Field Operations Headquarters - Chief	515.286.3815
Community Relations Unit Information	515.286.2179
Metro S.T.A.R	515.248.6062
Jail Division	515.286.3804
Central Booking	515.286.3061
Interim Jail Facility - General Information	515.286.3061

[www.polkcountyiowa.gov/sheriff](http://www.polkcountyiowa.gov/sheriff)  
Polk County Sheriff: Bill McCarthy

## Treasurer

The Treasurer's office receives, disburses, reports and invests all funds payable to Polk County. The Treasurer's office also issues vehicle titles and registrations, collects property taxes, and manages the annual tax sale. The Treasurer implemented online payment services through the Iowa Tax and Tags website, [www.iowaTaxandTags.com](http://www.iowaTaxandTags.com) at no out-of-pocket expense and with no additional staffing for online payment of property taxes and vehicle registration renewals. These online applications offer enhanced customer service to citizens and businesses and greater investment opportunity for the County.

General Information	515.286.3041
Tax Division	515.286.3060
Vehicle Division	515.286.3030
Cash Management	515.286.3035
Fax	515.323.2225

[www.polkcountyiowa.gov/treasurer](http://www.polkcountyiowa.gov/treasurer)  
Polk County Treasurer: Mary Maloney

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## Community, Family & Youth Services

This department offers congregante meals, preventive health services, advocacy and counseling, activity centers for Polk County's elderly, transportation and home delivered meals for both the elderly and disabled, counseling for crime victims, family support services for families in transition from public assistance to self sufficiency, child care resources, emergency financial assistance for individuals/families who are disabled or in crisis, 24-hour juvenile intake, youth detention, and a youth shelter center.

Adult Services	515.286.3484
Child & Adult Care Food Program	515.286.2136
Commodity Supplemental Foods	515.286.3655
Crisis and Advocacy Services	515.286.3600
Family Enrichment Center	515.286.3406
General Assistance	515.286.2088
Senior Services	515.286.3679
Youth Services Division	515.286.3344

[www.polkcountyiowa.gov/CFYS](http://www.polkcountyiowa.gov/CFYS)  
Director: Brian Boyer

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## Conservation Board

From parks and preserves to forests and fairways, the Polk County Conservation Board maintains more than 12,000 acres of land and more than 40 miles of trails. Polk County Conservation also provides educational programs on conservation practices and environmental issues, as well as numerous outdoor recreation opportunities. Nearly 1.4 million visitors annually camp, fish, boat, hunt, hike or ride on PCC lands.

Administration	515.323.5300
Environmental Education	515.323.5359
Parks Advocacy Unity	515.323.5366
Jester Park	515.323.5366
Easter Lake Park	515.285.7612
Yellow Banks Park	515.266.1563
Thomas Mitchell Park	515.967.4889
Chichaqua Bottoms Greenbelt	515.967.2596
Fax Number	515.323.5354

[www.leadingyououtdoors.org](http://www.leadingyououtdoors.org)  
Director: Dennis Parker



## General Services

The General Services department provides building maintenance, construction oversight, purchasing, printing, mail processing and other related services for the County. The employees in the department support the activities of other County offices and departments in delivering services to the public.

Administrative Division	515.286.3215
Buildings & Grounds	515.286.3228
County Information Desk	515.286.3000
Purchasing Division	515.286.3191

[www.polkcountyiowa.gov/generalservices](http://www.polkcountyiowa.gov/generalservices)  
Director: Mike Grimaldi

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## Health Department

The Health department is responsible for preventing or controlling epidemics and the spread of disease in our community; responding to and recovering from disasters, promoting healthy behaviors, educating and empowering individuals about personal health issues, monitoring the community's health status, mobilizing partnerships to identify and solve health problems, developing health policies and plans, enforcing health laws and regulations, linking people to needed health services and assuring the provision of health care, providing a broad spectrum of clinical and preventive health services to the general population, and encouraging independent living through home health care.

Administration	515.286.3798
Diabetes Prevention and Care	515.286.3798
Disease Prevention	515.286.3890
Employee Health Service	515.286.3798
Health Education	515.286.3895
Immunizations - Childhood	515.286.3798
Immunizations International Travel	515.286.3748
Mammography Information	515.286.3642
Public Health Laboratory	515.286.3774
Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic	515.286.3798
Women's Reproductive Services	515.286.3798

[www.polkcountyiowa.gov/health](http://www.polkcountyiowa.gov/health)  
Director: Terri Henkels

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## Health Services

Polk County citizens with a mental illness, mental retardation, or a developmental disability receive needed services through county funding. Because of the high unemployment rate for persons with disabilities, Polk County Health Services initiated a multi-stakeholder group to develop strategies for helping consumers obtain employment and become more self-sufficient. That group was instrumental in the initiation of three additional skills training programs for persons with disabilities in the County. Information about this and other activities of PCHS is available at [www.polk.ia.networkofcare.org](http://www.polk.ia.networkofcare.org).

General Information	515.243.4545
Fax Number	515.243.8447

[www.polkcountyiowa.gov/HealthServices](http://www.polkcountyiowa.gov/HealthServices)  
Director: Lynn Ferrell

## Human Resources

The Human Resources department strategically partners with all County offices and departments to provide comprehensive human resource services so that County operations, projects, and programs can be safely, effectively, and efficiently administered to nearly 1,200 employees and the general public. The major functional areas of Human Resources are employment, labor relations, classification/compensation, benefits, employee development and administrative support.

General Information	515.286.3200
Job Line	515.286.3831
Benefits	515.286.3203
Employment	515.286.3204
Labor Relations	515.323.3033
TDD	515.286.2003

[www.polkcountyiowa.gov/humanresources](http://www.polkcountyiowa.gov/humanresources)

Director: Tony Bisignano

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## Medical Examiner

The Polk County Medical Examiner is charged by Iowa Code 331 to investigate any deaths which occur in the public interest. This includes deaths due to violence, deaths due to diseases potentially causing a public health hazard, child deaths, deaths occurring unexpectedly or from an unknown cause, and deaths unattended by a physician in the past 30 days. The office is also responsible for investigating all requests for cremation.

Main Office	515.286.2102
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Medical Examiner: Dr. Greg Schmunk

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## Public Works

The Development Services Division is responsible for building inspection, environmental health inspections and correcting health nuisance violations. The division also administers the Weatherization, Emergency Repair and Rehab programs. The Air Quality Division continues to monitor Central Iowa air quality and work with area industries to maintain national air quality standards. The Planning Division adopted a new zoning ordinance and zoning map implementing the recommendations of the 2030 Comprehensive Plan for Polk County. The Engineering Division was involved in several road construction projects. The Secondary Road Division continues to maintain over 750 miles of roadways in Polk County.

Director	515.286.5511
General Information	515.286.3705
Air Quality	515.286.5304
Building	515.286.3352
Code Enforcement	515.286.5518
Environmental Health	515.286.3376
Housing Services	515.286.3726
Planning/Zoning	515.286.3358
Secondary Roads	515.286.3705
Tax Deed Property Management	515.875.5518
Weed Commissioner	515.286.3005
Weatherization	515.875.5521

[www.polkcountyiowa.gov/publicworks](http://www.polkcountyiowa.gov/publicworks)

Director: Larry Land

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## Veteran Affairs

Honorably discharged wartime Polk County Veterans and their families may receive assistance with shelter, utilities, food, transportation and prescriptions. Burial assistance may also be available. In cooperation with the Des Moines Park Department, Veteran Affairs maintains the graves of more than 31,700 Polk County Veterans. For veterans' graves Polk County Veteran Affairs provide flags and markers.

Director	515.286.3673
General Information	515.286.3670

[www.polkcountyiowa.gov/veteranaffairs](http://www.polkcountyiowa.gov/veteranaffairs)

Director: David DeBolt

