

# Budget Hearing Presentation

December 3, 2019



Blue Earth County





# Welcome

The purpose of this hearing is...

1. To explain the proposed budget and proposed tax levy for 2020.
2. Obtain public feedback on the proposed County budget.





Market values shown on your Truth-In-Taxation notice are final and are NOT a subject for the hearing tonight.

Values for the 2019 assessment (taxes payable in 2020) were discussed and established at the local Boards of Review and the County Board of Equalization held earlier this year.

The Assessment Cycle:

- Sales October 2017 through September 2018 to set 2019 market values for taxes payable in 2020.





# Budget Development Timeline

- April County officials begin work on budget
- Jun-Aug. Budget work sessions
- Sept. Proposed budget announced  
Preliminary Levy set
- Nov. Truth-in-Taxation notices mailed  
Budget work session
- Dec. Budget hearing  
2020 budget adopted at Dec. 17 board meeting





# Property Tax Statement

## Levy Authorities

- Blue Earth County
- Cities or Townships
- School Districts
- Region Nine Development Commission
- State of Minnesota

Proposed property tax statements include taxable market value for taxes payable in 2019 and 2020. They also show tax dollars paid in 2019 and an **estimate** of tax dollars payable in 2020.





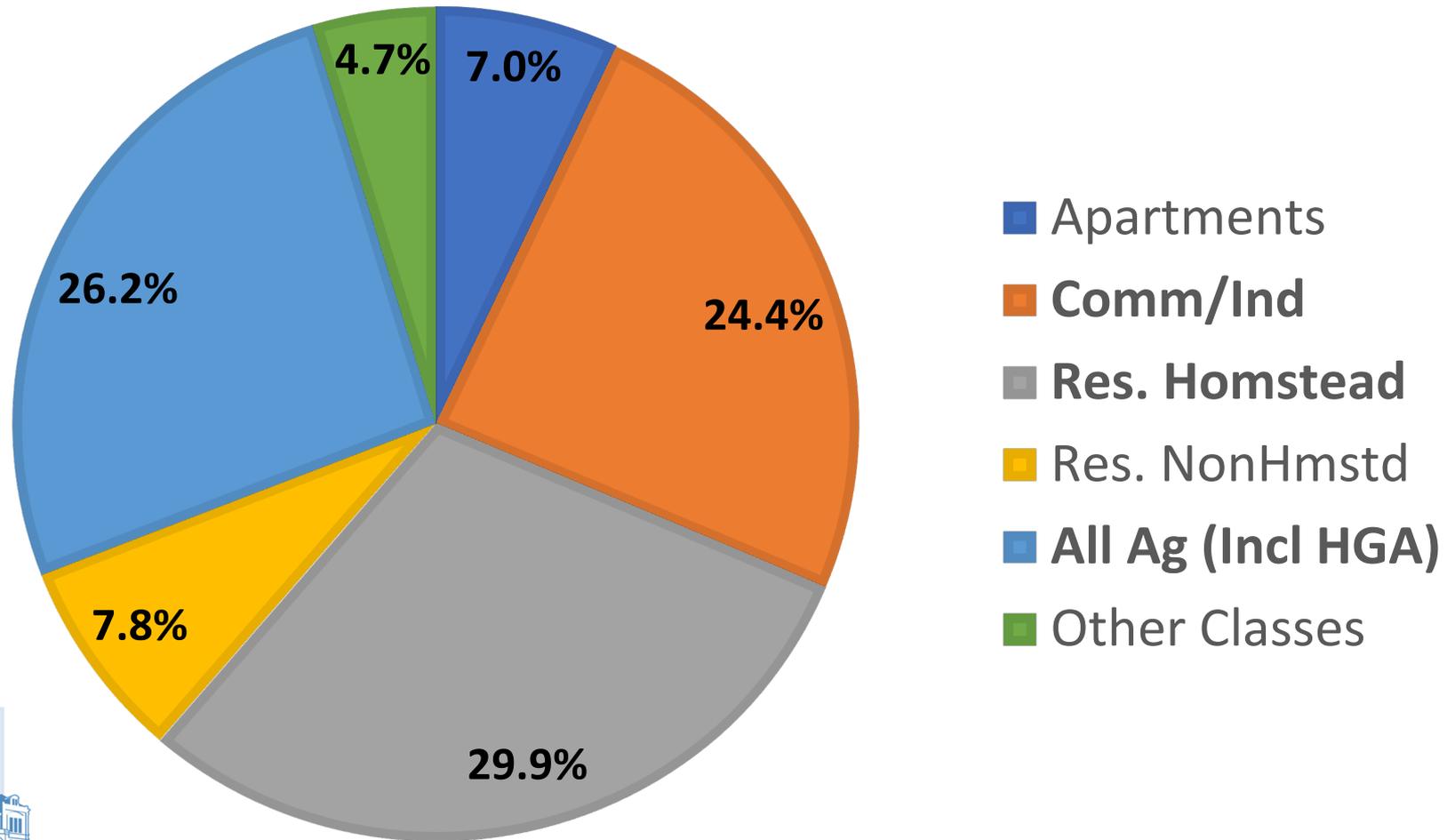
# Budget “Fast Facts”

A significant portion of the County’s budget is used to provide programs and services mandated by the state or federal governments.

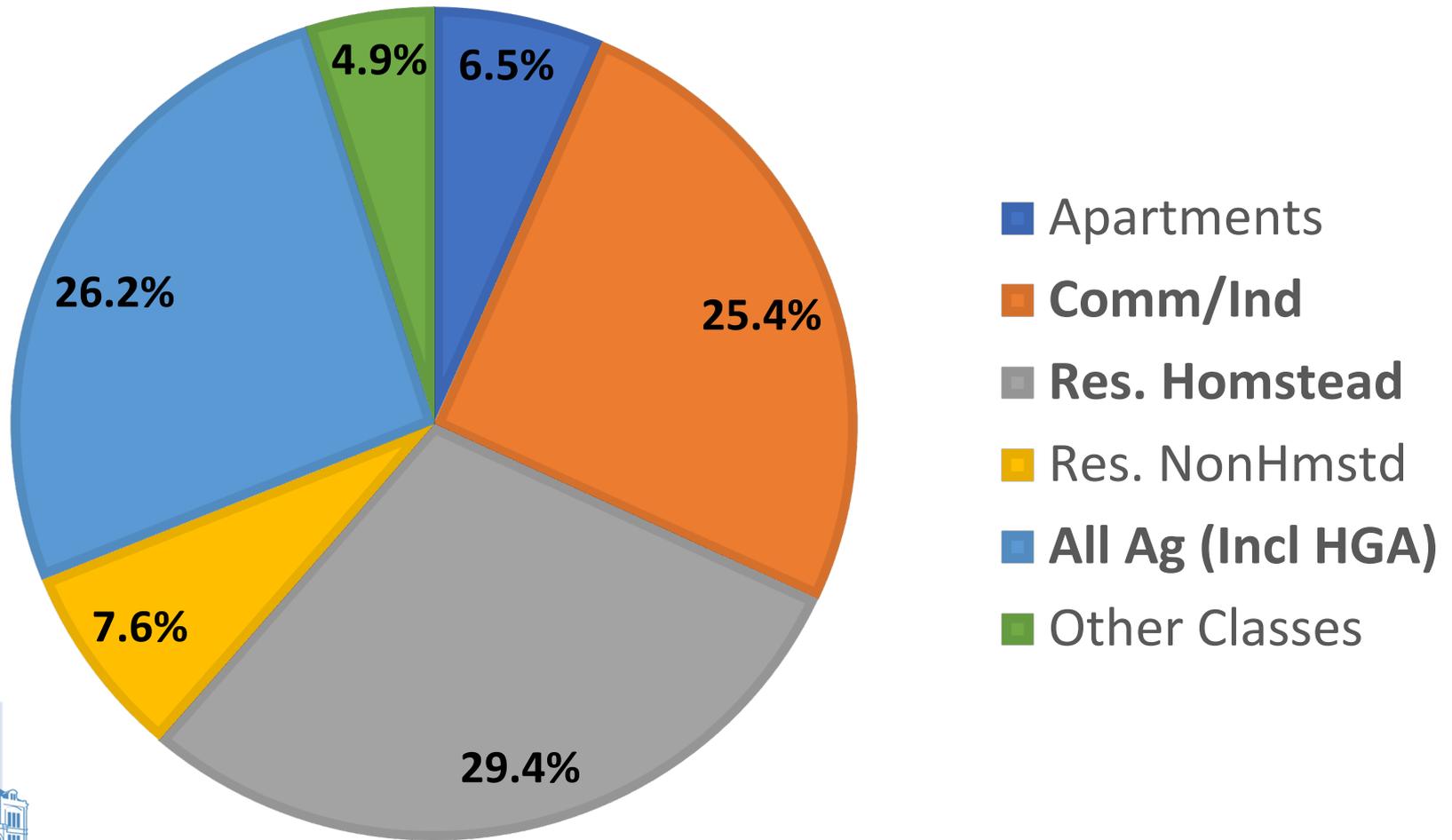
Blue Earth County’s 2020 preliminary tax levy was set at a 6% increase over 2019.



# 2020 TAXES PAYABLE NTC BY MAJOR PROPERTY TYPE



# 2019 TAXES PAYABLE NTC BY MAJOR PROPERTY TYPE





# Changes in Assessed Values Impact Tax Statements

Changes between Pay 2019 and Pay 2020  
Estimated Market Values\*

<b>Residential Homestead</b>	<b>Increased</b>	<b>5.9%</b>	
Commercial/Industrial	Decreased	1.4%	
Apartments	Increased	1.4%	
Agricultural	Increased	6.9%	

\*Countywide changes – excluding new construction amounts



# Impact of 6% Levy Increase on the County Portion of the Tax Bill

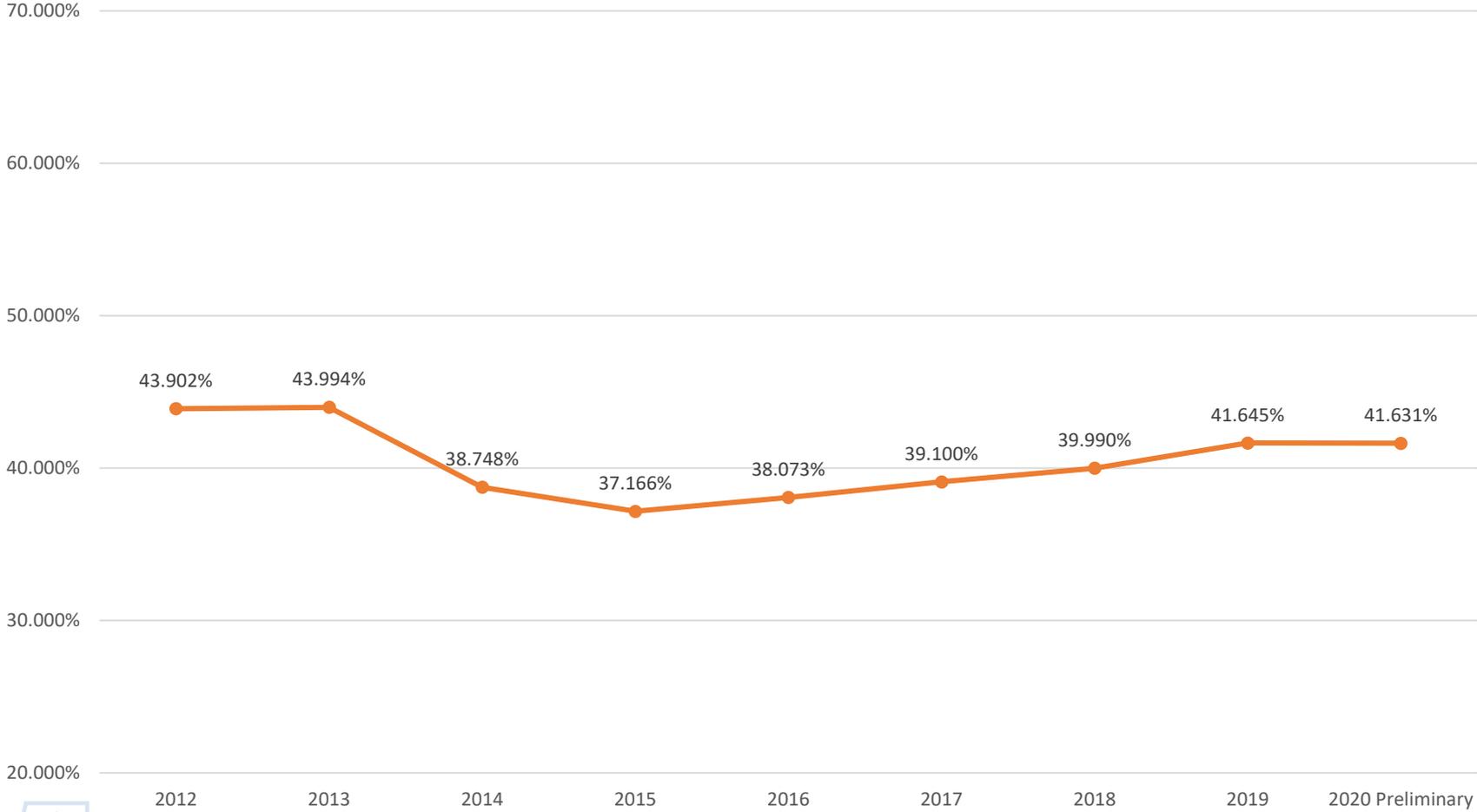
Average impact assuming valuation changes based on market conditions (excluding new construction)

Type of Property	Value Change	Market Value	Annual Cost Change
Residential Homestead / Ag Homestead House, Garage & 1 <sup>st</sup> Acre	5.9% increase	\$76,000	\$12 Increase
		\$206,000	\$59 Increase
		\$300,000	\$92 Increase
		\$450,000	\$126 Increase
Agricultural Non-Homestead Land	6.9% increase	\$270,000	\$84 Increase
		\$566,600	\$180 Increase
		\$1,000,000	\$319 Increase
		\$2,700,000	\$856 Increase
Commercial/Industrial	1.4% decrease	\$150,000	\$6 Decrease
		\$300,000	\$8 Decrease
		\$665,000	\$14 Decrease
		\$1,500,000	\$32 Decrease



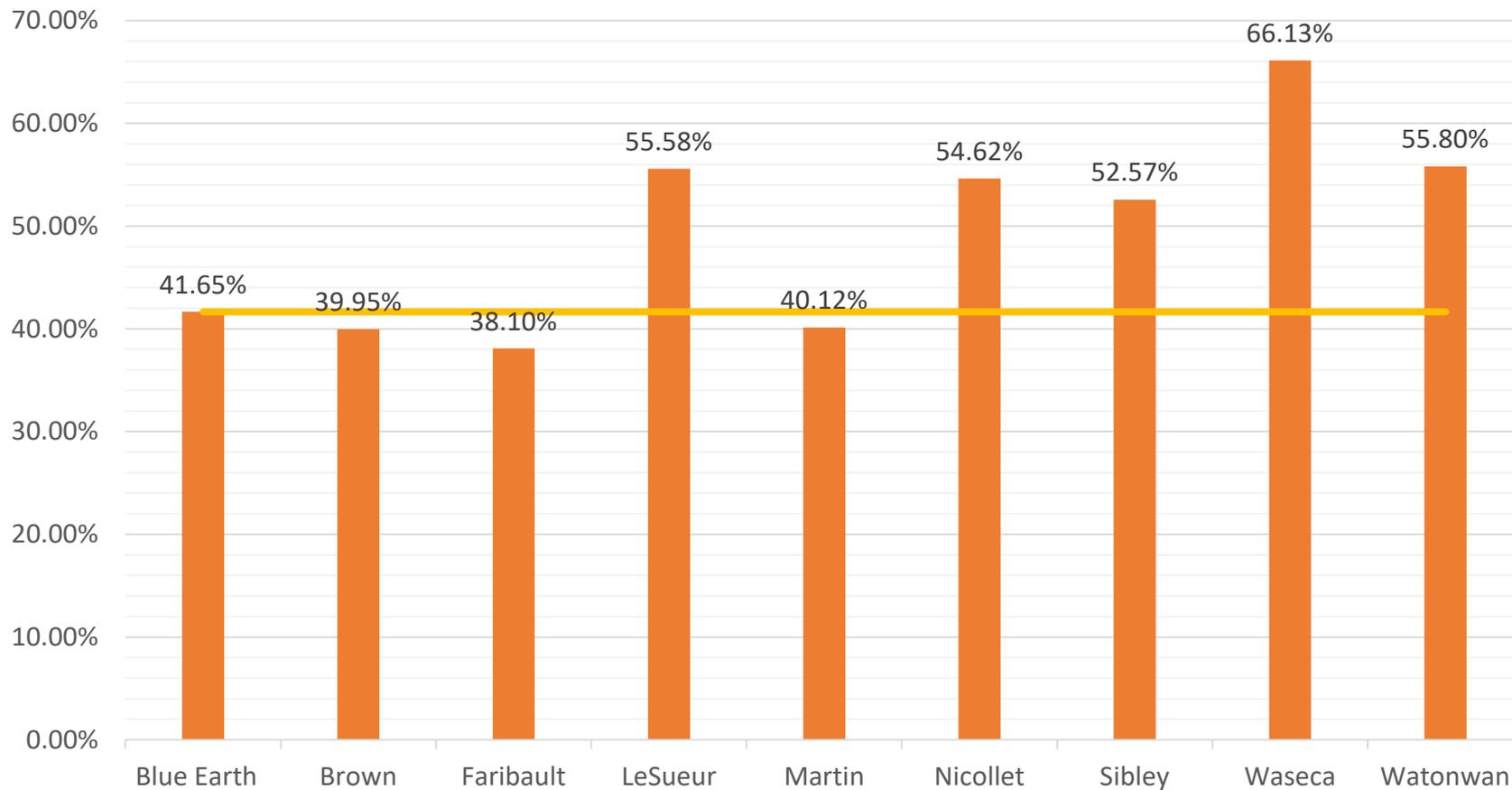


# Blue Earth County Tax Rate 2012 - 2020





## Blue Earth County Comparison of County Tax Rates - 2019





# Blue Earth County Comparison of Per Capita Levy Rates (2019 Levies)

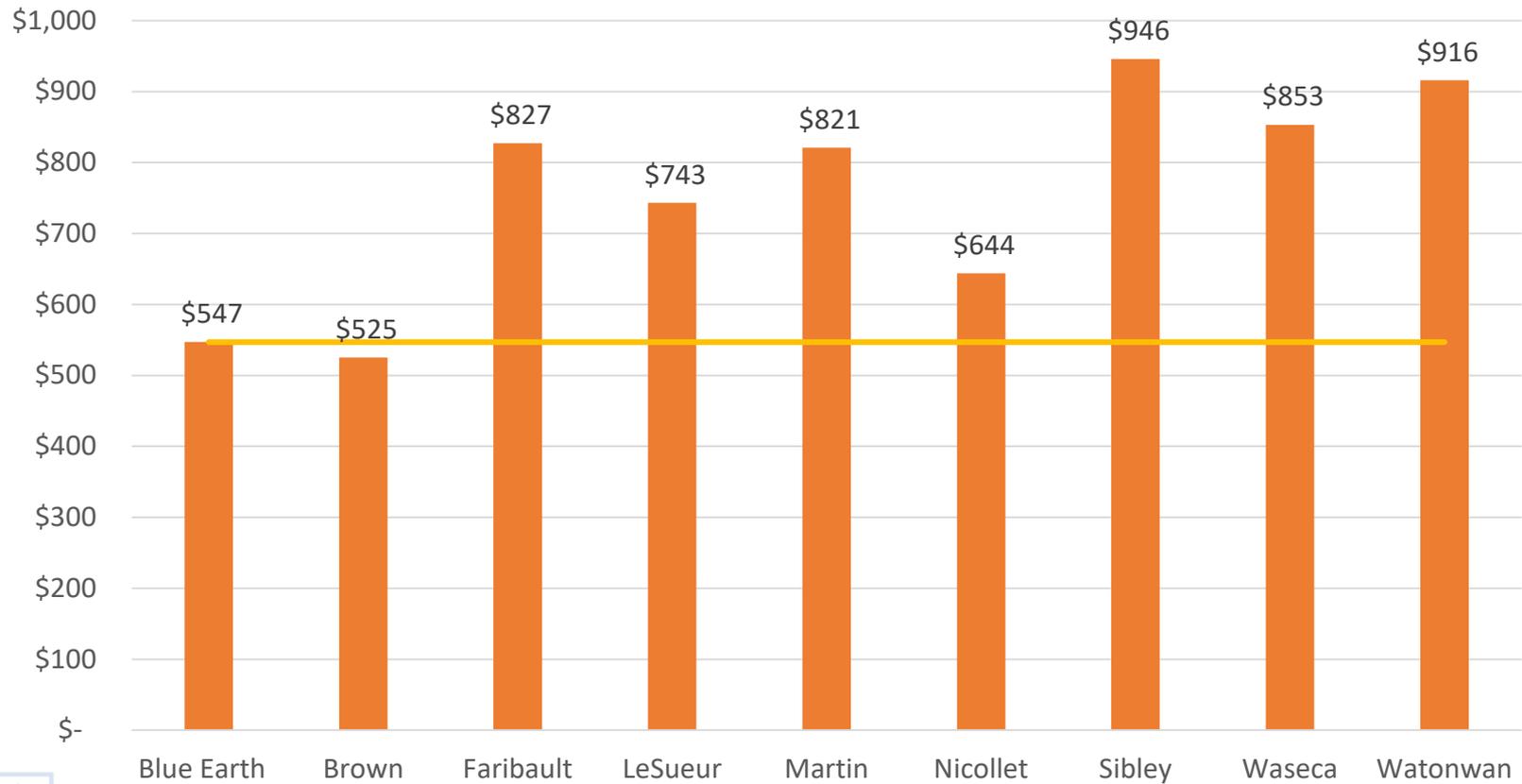
Blue Earth County ranked as one of the counties with the lowest 2019 levy per capita @ \$547 (Ranked 72<sup>nd</sup> out of 87 counties)

Lowest per capita preliminary levy = Dakota County @ \$333  
Highest per capita preliminary levy = Cook County @ \$1,817





## Blue Earth County Comparison of Levy Per Capita (2019 Levies)





# About Blue Earth County

Mission: To deliver essential services to County residents effectively and efficiently.

Service Values to the Community:

Agility  
 Effectiveness  
 Efficiency  
 Empathy  
 Equal Access

Ethical Behavior  
 Respect  
 Transparency  
 Accountability





# Priority Areas

## Public Safety

including probation, prosecution, jail staffing and dispatch

## Core Human Services

including mental health and child protective services

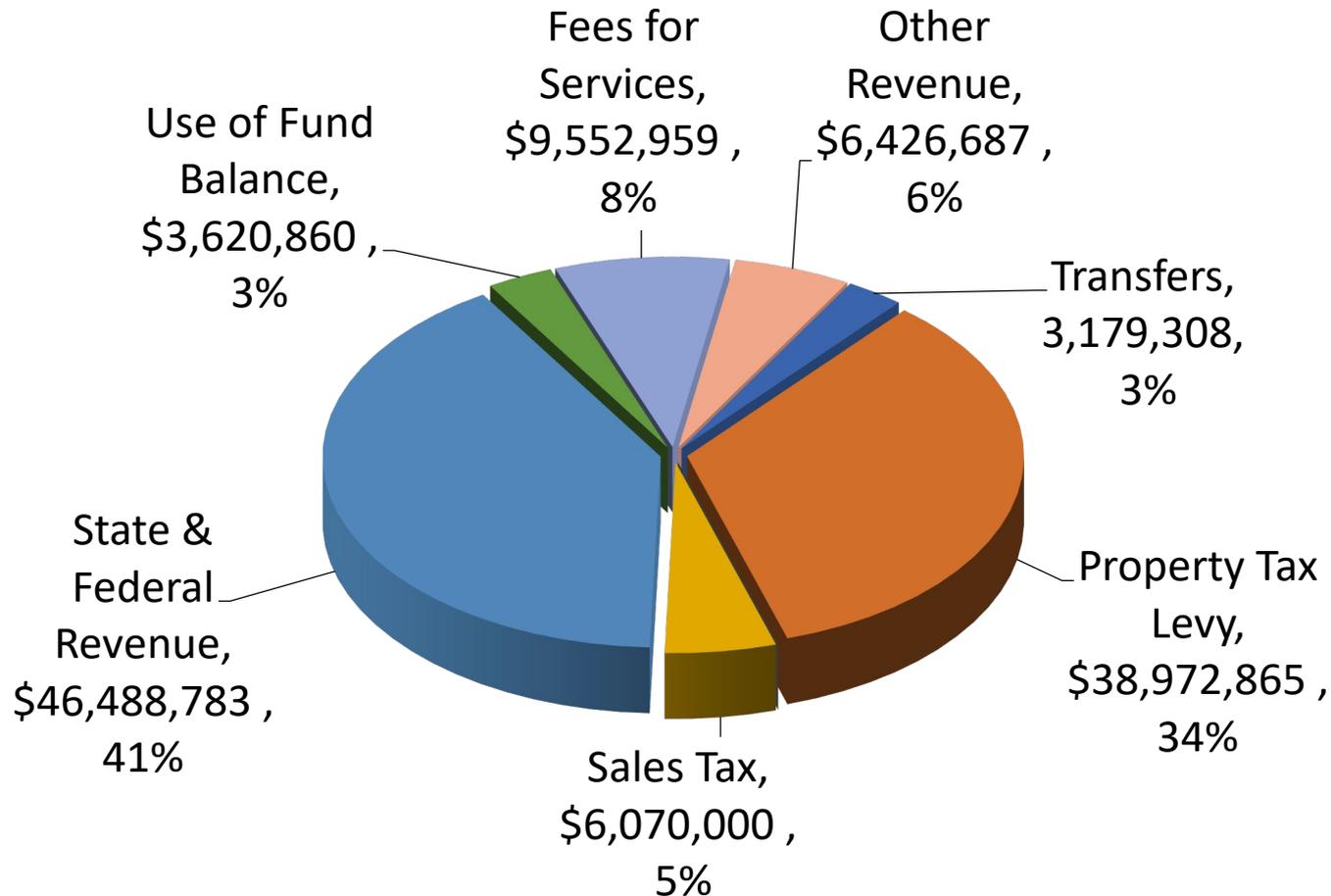
## Transportation Improvements

## Technology



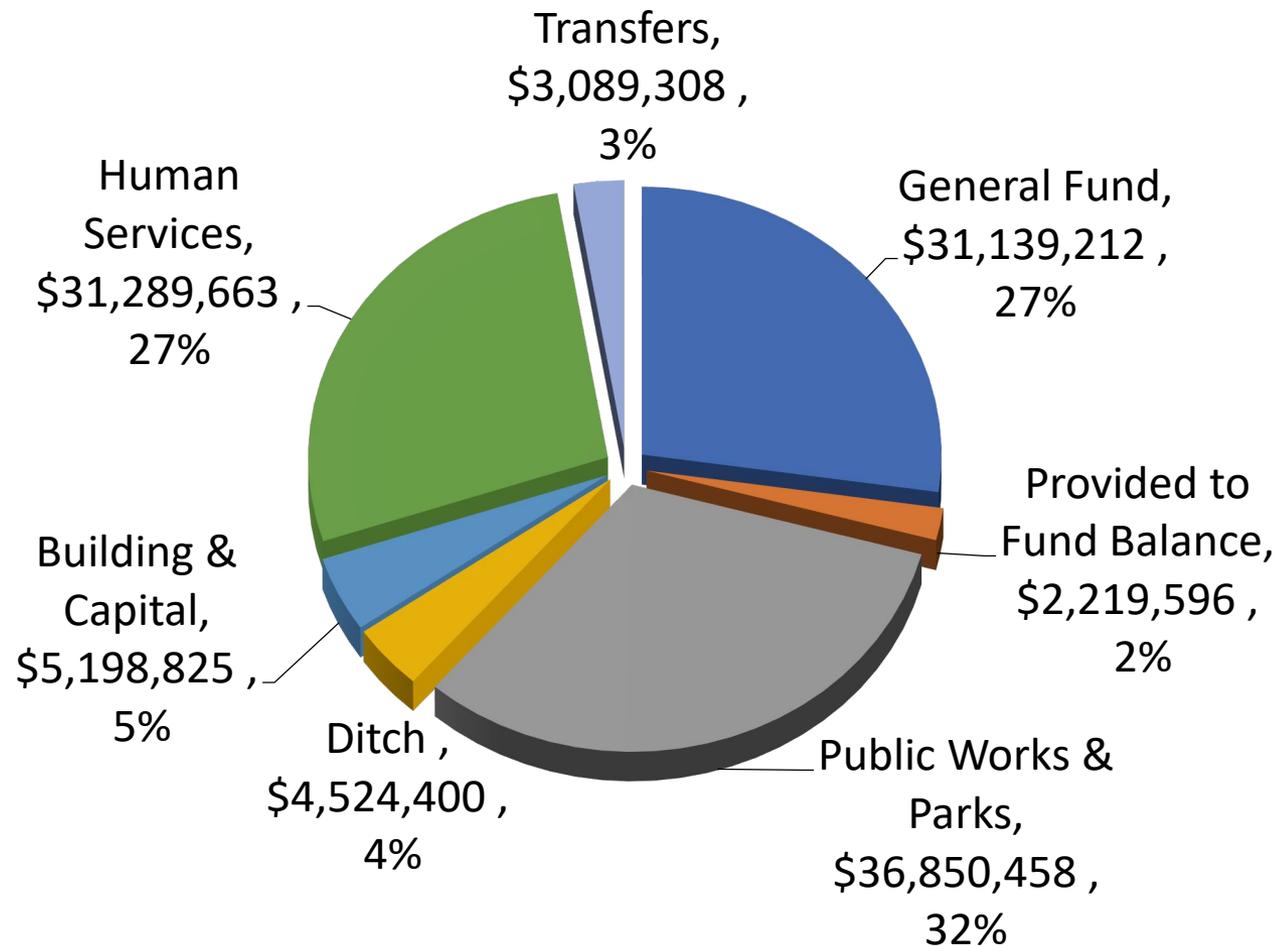
# 2020 Budget: \$114,311,462

## Revenue, Transfers In & Other Financing Sources



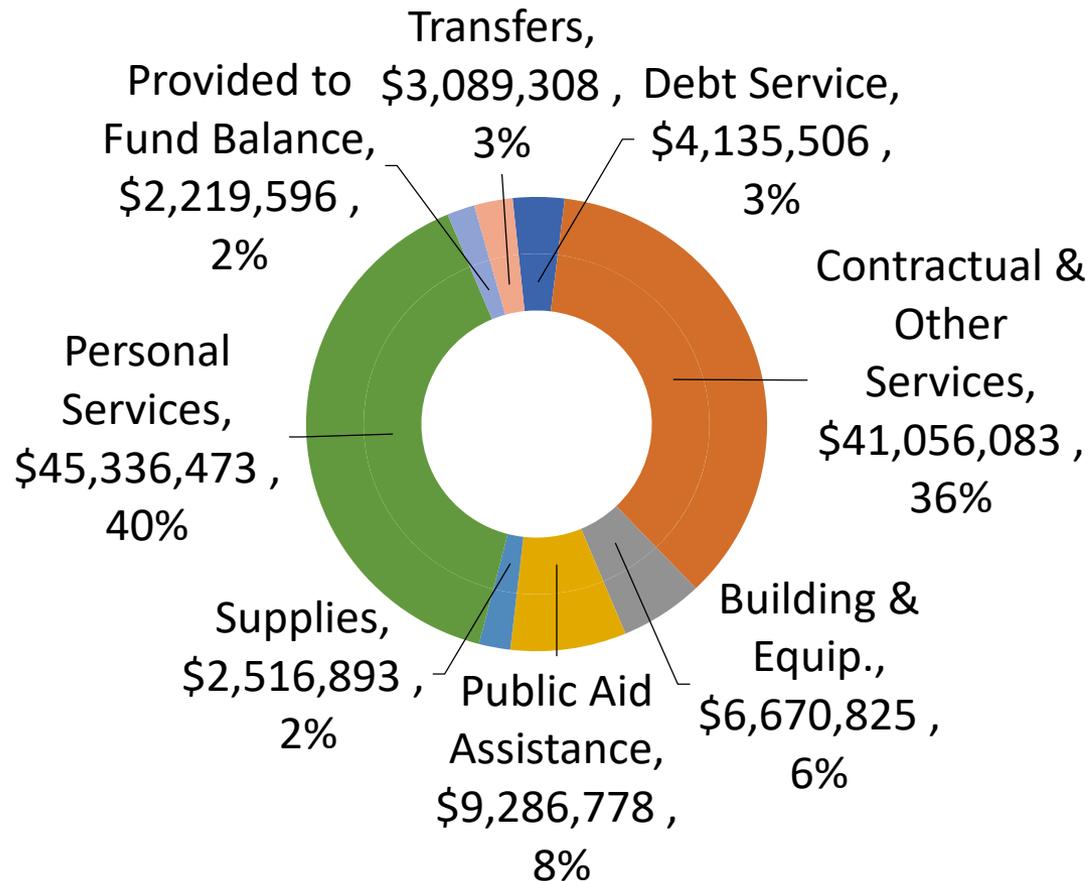
# 2020 Budget: \$114,311,462

## Expenditures, Transfers Out & Other Financing Uses



# 2020 Budget: \$114,311,462

## Expenditures, Transfers Out & Other Financing Uses





# Significant Changes to the 2020 Budget

- Completion of the Government Center renovation.
- Additional staffing added to departments (Information Technology, Human Services, and Community Corrections).
- Increases in staff wages and health insurance costs.
- Public Works projects (CSAH 10, Stadium and Pohl Roundabout, CSAH 27)





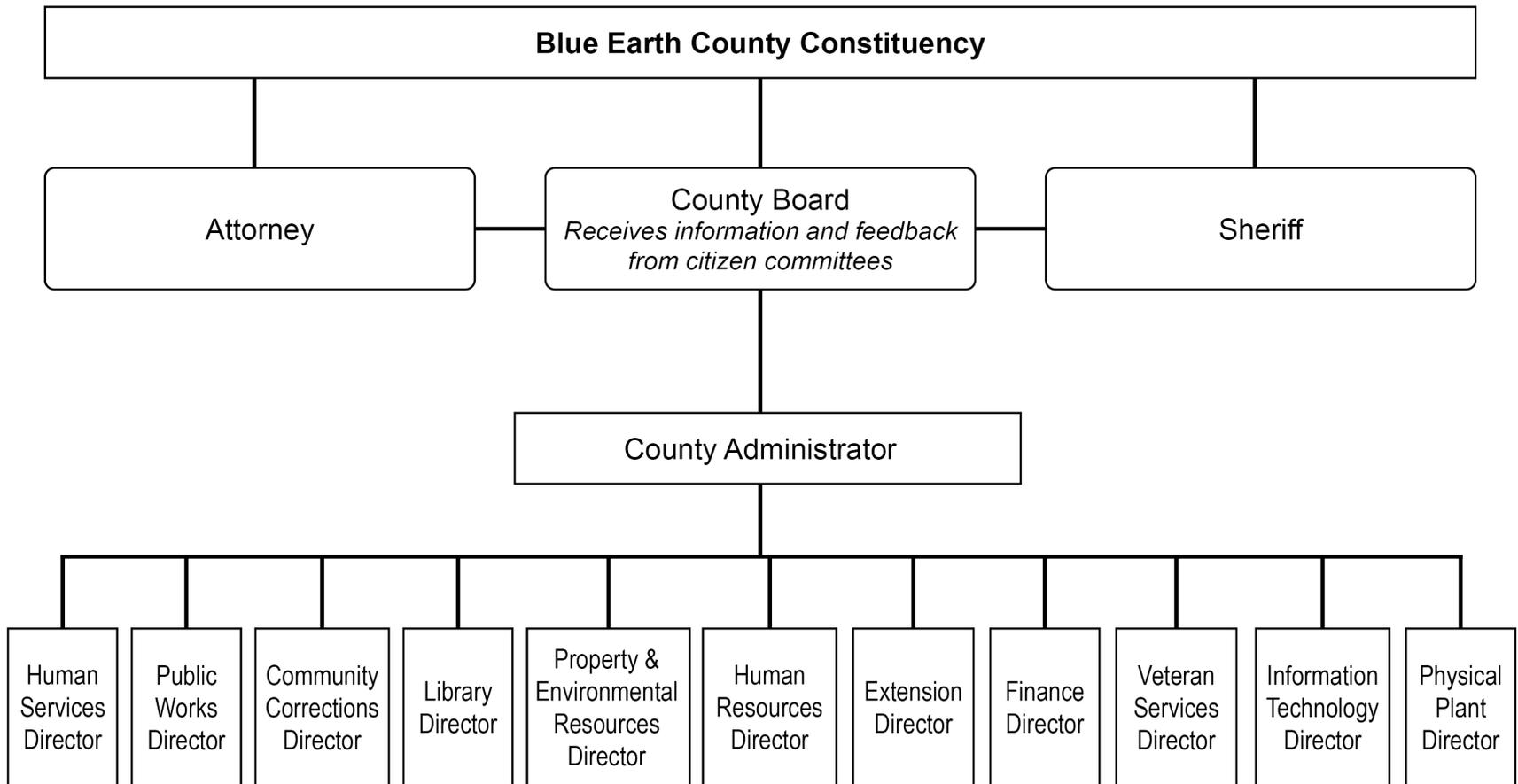
# Major 2020 Capital Purchase Initiatives

- \$750,000 Courthouse Stone Repair
- \$700,000 Tax System Upgrade
- \$330,000 Tandem Trucks
- \$250,000 Data Center and Data Closet Floor Switches
- \$200,000 Front End Loader
- \$200,000 Motorgrader
- \$185,000 Sheriff Squad Cars
- \$180,000 Loader Mounted Snowblower





# Blue Earth County Organizational Chart





# Financial Management Gets Good Grades

Current credit rating by Standards and Poor's Global Rating is AA+.

“Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting” from the Government Finance Officers Association each year that it has been eligible.

Each year that the County has been audited by the State, it has received an unqualified opinion, which affirms the County's accuracy.





# 2019 General Fund Service Examples

## Property & Environmental Resources

79,917 tons of solid waste accepted at the Ponderosa Landfill

77,100 tons of materials recycled

106 tons collected at the HHW (4,411 households served)

898 pounds of pharmaceutical waste collected and destroyed

Records and assessing for 33,780 parcels with 4,036,277 property website requests

9,751 documents recorded

2,697 passport applications





# 2019 General Fund Service Examples

## Sheriff's Office

22,290 Sheriff's Office responses to calls for service

Average daily jail population: 123

911 dispatch calls received: 135,827

Number of jail bed days: 44,275

## Probation

7,226 community service crew hours by the sentence to serve program

2,098 adult and juvenile offenders on probation

388 pre-sentence investigations provided to district court

5,990 drug tests collected





# 2019 General Fund Service Examples

## Library

2,625 Summer Reading Participants

701 patrons visiting Blue Earth County Libraries per day

389,244 materials circulated over a 12-month period at all Libraries

## Public Works

23 miles of maintenance overlays

73 miles of maintenance sealcoats

6,654 of camping nights

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## Veteran Services

\$29,407,000 in Federal benefits administered to local veterans (2018 numbers)

334 veterans were transported to the VA for health care





# 2019 General Fund Service Examples

## Human Services

2,325 adults and children receiving case management services

2,575 child support cases

8,746 financial & medical assistance cases

85 children in foster care

313 child protection reports investigated

89 adult protection reports investigated

1,413 clients currently receiving medication management

3,555 SNAP participants

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## License Center

63,338 vital statistics, driver's license, DNR and motor vehicle transactions



# Ongoing Opportunities for Citizen Input

- Participation on citizen committees
- Citizens Academy
- County website
- Social media
- County Board meetings
- “County Communicator” citizen newsletter
- Open houses, public events, informational meetings and annual County fair booth



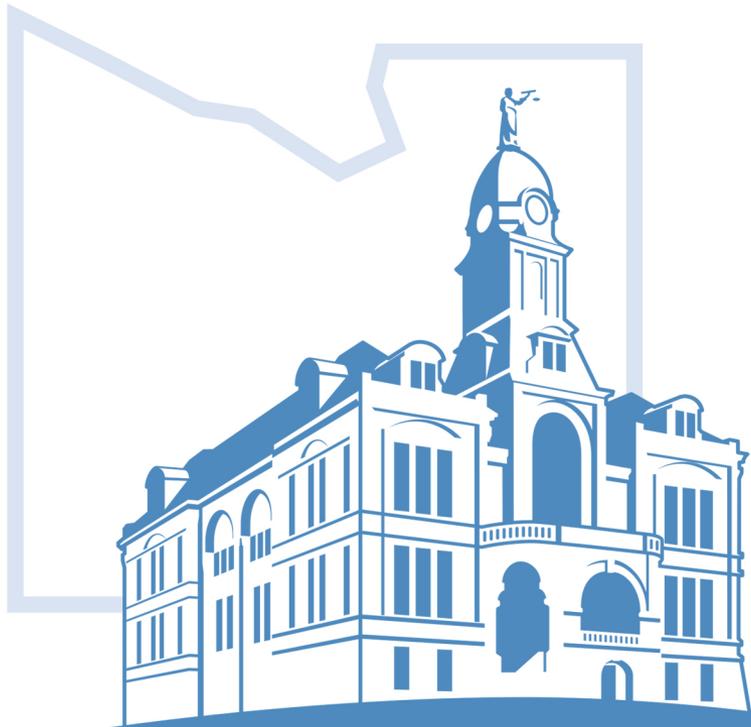
# Questions and Answers



Please come to the podium and give your name and address.



# Thank You for Attending!



Blue Earth County