

## **MINUTES OF WATAB TOWN BOARD OF EQUALIZATION – APRIL 11, 2017**

The Watab Town Board of Equalization was called to order at 2:30 p.m. at the Watab Town Hall by Chairman Craig Gondeck. Others presents were Treasurer Maureen Graber, Clerk Pat Spence, Supervisor Lloyd Erdmann, Supervisor Todd Waytashek, County Assessor Brian Koester, Tim Jacobs, and Tina Diedrich-VonEschen.

Brian Koester explained market trends and the need to keep the Benton County sales ratio to assessed valuation between 95 and 100%. Currently, it is at 98.5%, so no adjustment is needed. Residential sales values have increased, while agriculture values are flat with the volume of sales down. Excess farmland in Watab is still valued at \$5,000 per acre due to residential activity. Foreclosures are also continuing to drop.

There were no requests for adjustments to assessed values in writing prior to the Board of Equalization, and no one came to the meeting to request a change in value.

The board discussed Watab assessments for 2017. Tina said that she will be hiring Steve Behrenbrinker to assist her with the assessments. In 2016, they assessed what had to be done; for 2017 she will choose the quintiles with Brian Koester and notify the Town Clerk of what quintiles will be reviewed.

The Board of Equalization was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Clerk Pat Spence