SCOTT COUNTY NEWS RELEASE March 29, 2011

Scott County, Iowa receives Sunshine Review Award

The Scott County Board of Supervisors announced today that www.ScottCountyIowa.com has received a "Sunny Award" recognizing the best state and local government websites in America for exceeding transparency standards. The recognition is presented by Sunshine Review, a national non-profit organization dedicated to state and local government transparency.

Scott County is the first and only Iowa county or local government with an "A" grade; a distinction received by only 100 of the more than 6,000 government websites ranked nationally by Sunshine Review.

"Sunny Award winners deserve recognition for making information available to citizens and for setting a transparency standard that all governments can, and should meet," said Mike Barnhart, President of Sunshine Review. Mr. Barnhart continues, "Access to information empowers every citizen to hold government officials accountable. Official accountability is the cornerstone of self government and liberty."

Scott County Chairman of the Board, Tom Sunderbruch, commented, "I'm pleased to accept this award on behalf of Scott County. Scott County strives for transparency and this award recognizes the hard work and dedication of Scott County employees in delivering information to County residents efficiently through the county website."

Sunshine Review, <u>www.sunshinereview.org</u>, since its inception in 2008, has analyzed the governmental transparency websites of all fifty states and 6,000 local governments. Grading takes into account the proactive disclosure of information regarding budgets, meetings, elected and administrative officials, permits and zoning, audits, contracts, lobbying, public records, and taxes, as well as the ease of use and availability of information.

Scott County, Iowa can be found online at http://www.scottcountyiowa.com. For more information about this award, contact Mitch Tollerud, Scott County Webmaster at (563) 328-3251 / mtollerud@scottcountyiowa.com or Matt Hirst, Scott County Information Technology Director at (563) 328-3261 / mhirst@scottcountyiowa.com.

Bringing state & local government to light.

4 March 2011

Tom Sunderbruch Scott County 600 W. 4th Street Davenport, IA 52801

Dear Tom,

Congratulations, the Scott County website is a Sunny Award winner!

The Sunny Award is presented by the Editors of Sunshine Review to honor the most transparent government websites in America. Your website scored an "A" transparency grade on Sunshine Review's Transparency Checklist.

This year, only 100 of the more than 6,000 government websites ranked by Sunshine Review earned a Sunny Award.

We hope the Scott County website will continue to serve as an example of transparency in the future. Again, congratulations on your award.

Sincerely,

Mike Barnhart

President Sunshine Review mbarnhart@sunshinereview.org 3901 Courland Circle

Alexandria, VA 22305

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Sunshine Review is about state and local government transparency, engaged citizens, and holding government officials accountable. The Sunshine Review wiki collects and shares information about state and local transparency using a 10-point Transparency Checklist to evaluate 6,000 state and local websites. Sunshine Review is a 501 c-3 non-profit that collaborates with individuals and organizations across America to promote state and local transparency.







Scott County

In recognition of being one of the most transparent government websites in America by scoring in the top 100 among more than 6,000 state and local websites analyzed by Sunshine Review's Transparency Checklist.

Mike Barnhart, President, Sunshine Review